

**New Walk Conservation Area Management Plan  
Representations Received During Consultation: 25th July and 6th September 2019**

The Council directly all properties in the Conservation Area with a letter detailing the public consultation. The consultation material was available online and at the City Council Customer Service Centre on Granby Street. In addition, meetings took place with representatives of key buildings within the Conservation Area, such as the Places of Worship. The first of the two public meetings was combined with the Castle Ward Community Meeting, with a further meeting arranged in advance with the ward councillors. Several engagement events took place, including: two public meetings on the 25th July and 27th August at Holy Trinity Church; two consultation sessions on New Walk itself on 8th August and 23rd August; an exhibition at St Stephen's United Reformed Church on 30th July.

The following table summarises responses relating to proposed capital works on Museum Square.

**001: Bakim Dayaram (New Walk Museum Operations Manager)**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	Owing to the ongoing antisocial activity (substance and alcohol misuse), the design needs to work towards designing out opportunities for such activity by opening up views to enable good natural surveillance. Park benches need to be designed so to prevent misuse (e.g. skateboarding etc).	Noted.
9.0	The park is very popular with museum visitors and in particular school visits who use the space for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sit down packed lunching;</li> <li>- Children's' play.</li> </ul>	Noted.
9.0	Support introduction of features of ecological value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bird bath;</li> <li>- Bird boxes.</li> </ul>	Noted.
9.0	Consider introducing responsible dog ownership measures (signage /	Noted.

	bins / etc).	
9.0	Mixed views on lighting the area more: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Works both ways – attracts anti-social activity;</li> <li>- While also offers a safer route / environment;</li> <li>- Enables natural surveillance.</li> </ul>	Noted.
9.0	Circular path under the central tree – suggestion for a resin bonded path would prevent it from becoming muddy and often slippery in the winter period. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Also a non-slip surface treatment to prevent slips owing to slippery residue during damp / inclement weather conditions;</li> <li>- Also will help as children often run round and round, hence prevent the ground from churning up.</li> </ul>	Noted.
9.0	During 2008/09 plans were drawn up as part of the Contemporary Art gallery development for the Museum Square being developed into part sculpture park (almost an extension of the Museum); therefore suggestion to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reintroduce railing around the perimeter similar design to rest of New Walk;</li> <li>- Close off at night to curtail evening anti-social activity;</li> <li>- Create a more closed / intimate space for use during day time.</li> </ul>	Noted.
9.0	Museum often uses the space to extend exhibition related events / activities. Hence designing the space so there is sufficient amenity space for such uses would benefit the area.	Noted.

**002: Manjit Kaur (70 New Walk)**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
All	I write to you to express my observations and comments regarding the proposed plans for New Walk, I am largely in agreement with these plans, it surely is an exciting prospect for residents, those that work here and	Noted. An additional CCTV camera has been provided, on Princess Road West.

	visitors alike. That said, I would like to see plans and reassurances that the project will encompass CCTV, better lighting and improved maintenance schedules to ensure that the area continues to be maintained to the standard and that repairs and cleaning are done as priority.	
9.0	One of the key areas of concern for me is Museum Square as it's right outside our doorstep, the rise in anti-social behaviour in this area is astonishing. I moved here nine years ago and since that time there has been a drastic change in this area. The square attracts a large number of drug users so we are constantly having to see either a group of addicts splayed across the benches or individuals who are so intoxicated they seem fixated in the same position for several hours. This is an area that attracts a lot of children due to the museum and it is distressing not just for the children but for the parents to have to explain what these people are doing. I would suggest that a simple solution would be to replace the existing wooden benches with metal benches with a bar through the middle, this is not only in keeping with the rest of the benches on New Walk but I believe this would act as a deterrent as the wooden benches are easy to sleep and lay on, the metal benches would not be.	Noted. Single seats are now being considered to prevent sleeping on benches and the location of them needs to be mindful of the residents each side. Therefore, they will be situated on the Museum side and the offices side, rather than New Walk and Princess Road West, which are the residential sides.
9.0	I have also seen on regular occasions that the large oak tree in the centre of the square is often used by drunken students as a challenge for them to climb, not only is this incredibly dangerous but I find it terribly disrespectful especially due to the usual damage to this tree of broken branches. I would advise you rethink the placement of benches around this tree, as this would simply provide such people a leg up to destroy this tree further.	Noted.

9.0	I would like to see museum square retain its more formal presence, as such I feel that wild flowers would be inappropriate.	Noted. The draft proposal for wildflower planting has not been included in the final design. Any shrub planting that is undertaken will be sympathetic to Historic format and ensuring visual lines into the sites are maintained, they will also be good for pollinators (i.e. bee & butterfly friendly).
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**003: Rosy and Roger Dickinson (9 New Walk)**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	We fully support the proposals for the landscaping of the open spaces on New Walk.	Noted.

**004: Dennis and Wendy Allum (60 New Walk)**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	<p>Whilst agreeing with most of the points made about the refurbishment of Museum Square, I should like to make the following points –</p> <p>I would not wish to see a lighting scheme which included lamps within the grassed area of the Square, as this will simply encourage “loitering and antisocial behaviour”, but I should like to see pea lights in one or more of the small trees to enhance the Square and Museum and the repair to the corner lamp will greatly help.</p>	Noted.
9.0	<p><b>Conker Sculptures</b> – whilst a lovely idea I don't feel this is practical or would endure</p> <p><b>Wildflower planting</b> – nice idea but concerned any lack of</p>	Noted. The draft proposal for wildflower planting has not been included in the final design.

	<p>maintenance might make this “formal” square look unloved.</p> <p><b>Resin re-surfacing</b> – is that practical bearing in mind the roots. Would pea gravel be more appropriate?</p> <p><b>Circular arrangement of benches</b> – whilst an attractive idea, the centre of the Square is often a vulnerable place for young women in particular and benches could increase the problem. Benches would also need to be outside the ring of the tree canopy as, in the Autumn, we observe people pulling the branches of the tree down to the point of breaking to acquire conkers and the benches would give them extra opportunity.</p> <p><b>Railings</b> – As a personal preference I should also like to see railings around the Square on both the north and west sides - this would also prevent forced access through the planting.</p>	<p>The final design is for resin bound gravel paths with an area of loose gravel in the centre around the trunk of the central horse chestnut tree.</p>
9.0	<p>It would also be very helpful if the canopy of the large Horse Chestnut Tree could be raised as this would make it so much better/safer for night-time pedestrians crossing the Square.</p> <p>I welcome a better surface area around the central tree as this often progresses to a mud bath and even now, there is no grass.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
9.0	<p>In favour of the smaller trees on the Northern boundary being removed as this would deliver natural light for pedestrians and those hell bent on ASB may not be able to easily hide from the CCTV situated on the corner of Museum Square and New Walk. Too often bushes in our parks are seen to be perfect for toilet activities and the run parallel with Museum Square [Northern Border] is a regular haunt.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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**005: Philip Draycott (87 Regent Road)**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
9.0	<p>I walk through Museum Square daily, and use the city end of New Walk just as frequently.</p> <p>We both approve of all your proposals, except for the circle of wildflowers in Museum Square.</p> <p>I often see children picnicking and running around Museum Square. Often they are taking a break from a visit to the Museum and need to let off steam. This central bed would deprive them of grass to run about on. We both therefore think it is a bad idea and we oppose it.</p>	<p>Noted. The draft proposal for wildflower planting has not been included in the final design.</p>

**006: Friends of New Walk**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
9.0	<p>Museum Square is a formal square and the informality currently proposed is inappropriate. This is a formal square with railings and hedges and should remain so with formal routes through it. Unfortunately the Square is a focus for loitering and anti-social behaviour and we would not wish to see a lighting scheme that encouraged such behaviour during the hours of darkness. The proposal to repair the decorative lamp column at the corner of the Museum is very welcome.</p>	<p>Noted. The draft proposal for wildflower planting has not been included in the final design.</p>
9.0	<p>Benches around the trees and their potential users could be a threat to vulnerable people using or crossing the Square.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

9.0	Railings along the north and west sides of the Square would prevent the observed problem of access through the planting beds on these sides of the Square.	Noted.
9.0	The visual and ecological benefits of wildflower planting are acknowledged, but we would consider that the formal nature of Museum Square should be the prime consideration. There is some scepticism of the value of wildflower planting and conker sculptures in this space.	Noted. The draft proposal for wildflower planting has not been included in the final design.

#### 007: From Consultation Portal

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	I overlook museum square where drug dealing and drug taking is rife and prostitution happens as well as other anti-social behaviour. The area outside my window is regularly used as a male urinal. The shrubs and vegetation does not help as people can hide in the greenery.	Noted.
9.0	I like the proposed designs for the squares and the openness and changes suggested.	Noted.

The following table summarises responses relating to proposed capital works on De Montfort Square.

#### 008: Various respondents

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	The electricity sub-station harms the appearance of De Montfort Square. It should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Removed;</li> <li>➤ Painted;</li> <li>➤ Landscaped.</li> </ul>	Noted. Western Power responded to enquiries to detail that the facility could not be removed as it is operational, while the finish of the units mean they cannot be painted a uniform colour.  The draft plan for De Montfort Square

		includes more robust planting to screen the compound.
9.0	Feedback from the consultation events was broadly supportive, particularly of aspiration to add formal walls and railings to all sides.	Noted.

#### 009: Friends of New Walk

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	De Montfort Square should be treated to the formalities of The Oval with railings, hedges and formal routes through it. The idea of breaking through the hedge by the statue is inappropriate. More thought should be given to the boundaries while hedging and planting should be reassessed.	Noted.

#### 010: From Consultation Portal

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	It is pleasing to read that the three open spaces along New Walk are to be upgraded. De Montfort Square is currently the 'poor relation' of the family and I feel the installation of railings and access points along the New Walk border would raise the image in particular. It would be good to provide a couple of Access Points to the Square along the Princess Road East elevation to encourage use from those properties opposite.	Noted. The Council has amended the design of the first phase of works to De Montfort Square to include a new access off Princess Road East.

The following table summarises responses relating to proposed capital works on The Oval.

#### 011: Friends of New Walk

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	The play space on The Oval is entirely inappropriate. This is a secluded "square" and should remain so. It is a tranquil space like Postman's	Noted. Any new play provision is likely to be considered for the other sites rather

	Park in the City of London: a place for reflection and thought.	than The Oval.
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**012: Various respondents**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
9.0	Feedback from the consultation events was broadly supportive, particularly of enhancing entrances into the space. Some specific comments about making the space more attractive for children, particularly from local nurseries.	Noted.

The following table summarises responses relating to proposed capital works on the wider Management Plan.

**013: Various respondents**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
16.0	The primary management issue with New Walk is cycling on the pedestrianised route and more should be done to reduce this.	

**014: Various respondents**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
8.0	A number of respondents questioned the use of the current bound gravel surface and/or the maintenance regime of it.	

**015: Various respondents**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
General	Concerns were raised about prostitution around De Montfort Street, Princess Road East and New Walk.	Noted. The City Council works proactively with partners to try and manage this

		<p>problem. Recent work has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Working with the Police to identify curb-crawlers using CCTV and writing to car-owners' home addresses.</li> <li>➤ Working with prostitutes/sex workers about health issues, helping move them out of prostitution</li> <li>➤ Street sex workers are supported with a panic attack alarm and assisted with further outreach work via New Futures.</li> <li>➤ Temporary CCTV has been installed to deter sex workers from the area.</li> <li>➤ Identified an individual engaging in prostitution, drawing men to a particular address and evicted her (and offered assistance in moving away from this lifestyle).</li> <li>➤ Recently got the phone box removed from De Montfort Street.</li> </ul>
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**016: Various respondents**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
General	Concerns were raised about illegal drug use in the area, particularly around Museum Square and De Montfort Square.	<p>Noted. The City Council works proactively with partners to try and manage this problem. Recent work has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Used PSPO (public spaces</li> </ul>

		<p>protection orders) to give police extra powers to deal with those taking NPS or drinking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increased lighting in the area to deter ASB such as drug taking in the area.</li> <li>➤ Moved benches particularly associated with problem.</li> </ul>
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**017: Various respondents**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
General	Concerns were raised about wider antisocial behaviour and homelessness.	<p>Noted. The City Council works proactively with partners to try and manage these problems. Recent work has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Liaising with provider of food van for vulnerable people to relocate.</li> <li>➤ Supporting rough sleepers and removing tents from area.</li> <li>➤ Cutting back vegetation and removing some poorer tree specimens on Museum Square to improve passive surveillance.</li> <li>➤ Improving lighting provision.</li> <li>➤ Vetting social housing tenants and evicting those where appropriate.</li> <li>➤ Distribution of leaflets and arrangement of meetings with</li> </ul>

		partners.
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**018: From Various respondents**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
General	A number of Council owned residential properties either display maintenance issues relating to the buildings or gardens (specific examples were provided).	<p>Noted. Housing repairs have been scheduled for the identified property.</p> <p>There is a new Estates Programme of works that deal with front garden maintenance issues. The team responsible can deal with urgent/one off request but most are dealt with through the revised programme. Works have been actioned for the garden identified.</p>

**019: From Various respondents**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
8.0	There are not enough litter bins on New Walk. Some should be larger or emptied more frequently.	<p>There are currently over 30 litterbins on New Walk that were strategically placed along its full length and are subject to a programme of regular waste removal. From testing, placing larger or more litterbins does not encourage people to use them more and littering is primarily an education issue. However, the Council will review the provision and look at the</p>

		location of bins to see if any could be moved to areas where litter is more of a problem.
8.0	Leaf litter is a problem on New Walk, particularly in the southern half.	During the Autumn period, New Walk is swept 5+ days per week to keep on top of the leaf fall. Additional sweeping takes place throughout the year, but the Council will regularly monitor the situation.

#### 020: Friends of New Walk

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
General	We hope our comments are helpful in developing policy to fulfil to our shared interest in the quality and the future of New Walk. The Friends are particularly keen to work with the Council and other partners to maintain and improve what is the jewel in the crown of the City's Conservation Areas.	Noted.
General	Some cross-references are already out of date, e.g. the next round of tree planting in October 2018 to March 2019 in 8.0.	Noted. Text has been amended.
General	Information relating to costs, funding and exact dates for delivery are not tightly detailed.	Noted. Additional information has been provided where available.
General	The issue of student housing, currently the major determinant of the changing character and appearance of the area, is mentioned in the Character Appraisal, but not addressed in the Management Plan. Please see the comments on the Character Appraisal 8.0 above. The Management Plan should contain an explicit policy commitment to address this issue and the impact that it has on the character of the area.	This is detailed in Section 6.0.
1.0	The first sentence as drafted is imprecise. The whole city is arguably a	The first sentence does not refer to 'historic

	'historic area' and certainly the term implies a wider definition than simply 'conservation area'. As the document is about a conservation area perhaps this paragraph should say so specifically leaving the question of what is or is not a 'historic area' for discussion elsewhere.	areas'. That wording is used in a subsequent sentence as a way of describing conservation areas, which are 'historic areas'.
2.0	Historic England advice is now advice not guidance i.e. it carries less weight than the NPPG.	Noted. Text has been amended.
5.0	It would be helpful to cite the legal requirement under section 72 of the 1990 Listed Buildings Act to preserve or enhance etc rather than, or as well as, the more general aspiration that 'development should be in keeping with local character'. The correct formula is partially used in Action G13.	Noted. Text has been amended.
7.0	The New Walk Specification of Works document appears to be of key importance and we suggest that the Council considers attaching it as an appendix to the Management Plan. The problems of maintaining a consistent surface are well known and of long standing.	Noted. The broader point regarding the surface on New Walk is addressed above.  The 'New Walk Specification of Works' is several hundred pages long and would be an inappropriate addition for the tightly drawn Conservation Area Management Plan.
10.0	These comments refer to City Council drawings NW/L/01-06 and the accompanying CGIs. Improvements to these spaces are clearly to be welcomed. All the hard and soft landscaping needs to be assessed properly in accordance with the period of the Walk's formation. At present, this does not appear to be the case with a modernity that is potentially inappropriate in such a historic setting. And this of course should apply to both the formal spaces as well as the smaller more causal spaces, such as those at the southern and northern ends of New Walk.	Noted.
10.0	The planters on the road bridge and planting beds on the railway bridge	Noted. These points will help guide

	<p>clearly suffer from litter dropping and maintenance problems. We would support a radical redesign of this space including reconsideration of the location of seats at the pinch point in New Walk and the provision of smaller planters and beds.</p>	<p>developing plans for the space.</p> <p><a href="#">This area will have new design Plans relating to its design, safety and planting</a></p>
16.0	<p>FoNW has been very active in public art projects, raising some £100,000 and providing pro bono professional services, and there are some concerns about this section. Certainly if the Council considers that the FoNW projects have given rise to management issues we would have been pleased to discuss these before they were expressed in a public document.</p> <p>The Management Plan for sculpture is promised in 2019, which suggests that it will be produced imminently. In the past FoNW has supplied lists of suggested sites for public sculpture and lists of commemorations. Can we assume that this information will form part of the Management Plan, which is soon to be published? The framework for new public art installations seems unduly complex. In practice projects come forward infrequently, so the stipulation that there should be no more than one every 24 months seems unnecessary. Indeed more frequent appropriate installations should be applauded. The framework also seems to make no provision for private philanthropic donations, which is where the bulk of such proposals are likely to emerge.</p> <p>The attention to the lamp column on Museum Square is welcomed. The resolution of the issue of the Statue of Religion is also important. The FoNW would be interested to know what is proposed for the site of this very significant work of art.</p> <p>Overall FoNW considers that section 16.0 needs more careful thought</p>	<p>Noted. The reference to ‘management issues with a number of pieces of public art installed on New Walk’ reflects a number of items that the Council was involved in installing and which have subsequently been removed (not pieces relating to the Friends of New Walk).</p> <p>The Management Plan for <u>existing</u> pieces of public art is currently being produced and will be consulted on in 2020/21.</p> <p>The Council considers the new framework for progressing public art proposals strikes the right balance between supporting high quality new pieces and providing sufficient time for rigorous processes to audit potential artwork.</p> <p>The New Walk Arts Partnership is due to have its first meeting this year and will take forward potential projects.</p>

	and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss ways to reconcile the Council's aspirations with our long-established interest in public art in New Walk.	
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**021: From Consultation Portal**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
General	I found it to be a thoroughly well thought out document and I look forward to seeing more about the open spaces upgrades as times passes by.	Noted.
7.0	It is a great shame that in the Holy Trinity area so much uPVC has been used and the traditional sash windows replaced with top-hung windows.	Noted. The Council will proactively monitor the area and enforce existing restrictions. The Council will remind property owners that they can access grant funding for repairing existing timber doors and windows, as well as reinstating traditional features.
7.0	Satellite dishes on the front elevation of properties need to be removed - perhaps cable tv could be the answer.	Noted. The Council is in the process of getting unauthorised satellite dishes removed, with several cases already resolved. For those satellite dishes that are not possible to remove via planning enforcement, the Council will explore a pilot project to fund removal.

**022: From Consultation Portal**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
7.0	All railings should be retained as they help give New Walk its unique character. There are a number of properties that did not participate in	Noted. The Council will proactively monitor the area and enforce existing restrictions.

	the upgrade some 15-17 years ago and ways to encourage them to do so now should be explored.	The Council will remind property owners that they can access grant funding for reinstating traditional railings.
7.0	I applaud the Enforcement Strategy and fully support the move that railings should not be used as 'advertising sites' for banners and posters. Furthermore, other signage, particularly of business premises, needs to be reviewed as to suitability of style in a conservation area. A-Board use also needs to be closely monitored as some breach the Guidelines on a daily basis.	Noted. The Council is in the process of getting unauthorised signage removed, with several cases already resolved. The Council will continue to monitor the area for new breaches.
7.0	The subject of secondary glazing is raised as an option but I wonder whether less obtrusive treatments might also be considered given the need to be more energy conscious.	Noted. The Council continues to monitor the availability of new materials and systems that may increase the performance of energy efficiency. Where products are compatible with protecting the heritage significance of a property, they will be approved.

#### 023: From Consultation Portal

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
General	Respondent supports Holy Cross Priory Church in their endeavours to keep their windows and building secure.	Noted. The Council is working proactively with the Church to identify security grilles that are compatible with protecting the heritage significance of a property.

#### 024: From Consultation Portal

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
General	The Council needs to be more critical in appraisal of demolition/building works to try to save the appearance of New Walk, and minimise disruption, as has occurred at 138-142 for over 3 years - and is still continuing despite numerous complaints.	Noted. The Council uses those powers available to it for controlling the form of development in the Conservation Area and intervenes in cases where works do not conform to agreed plans. The particular case was assessed in terms of relevant legislation and guidance and interventions were made as appropriate. Following the employment of a new contractor, the property has now been redeveloped and works on site are complete.

#### **025: From Consultation Portal**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
General	Work represents a detailed and sensitive look at the building stock, and visual environment.	Noted.
General	The documents provide coverage of many of the causes of threats to the integrity of the area, but provides limited focus on private sector landlords, who potentially fail to maintain properties and/or dispose of waste responsibly. Some landlords use conservation area restrictions as an excuse for not maintaining building features properly (e.g. windows in disrepair).	Noted. Where surveys of the area reveal neglect of properties the Council will seek to utilise any regulatory powers, such as Section 215 Notices, to ensure works take place.  A letter will be sent to all properties reminding them that grants are available for repairing building features and that high standards of maintenance are desirable.
General	Mandatory upgrades of features, such as doors and windows, should be	Noted. Although the legislation relating to

	required. Where properties have a change of use to a HMO, upgrades should take place to improve the environmental performance of the property in question.	conservation areas does not provide for such interventions, the Council will endeavour to use those wider powers it does have to enforce standards on HMO properties.  The Council has previously made an Article 4 Direction controlling change of use from single residential dwellings to HMOs for the Holy Trinity character area.
General	The negative impact of the Motor Car could be mitigated by gradually phasing out driveable roads through the area. Roads should gradually move to becoming cycleways/footpaths, and parking permit charges should be tripled. The cost of motorised selfishness should become prohibitive. This should be part of a citywide plan to remove the car from the city	The Council is currently investing significantly in enhancing the quality of pedestrian and cycle routes in this part of the city. It is beyond the scope of the conservation area documents to consider city-wide transport strategy, but a balance is required in terms of provision. Comments relating to the cost of parking permits have been forwarded to the relevant department and will be considered as part of the next strategic review.
17.0	Higher standards for public art are good. There should be a mandate that the artists are from the Leicestershire area.	Noted. This point will be passed onto the new panel that will assess public art proposals in the area.

**026: From Consultation Portal**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
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General	Hopefully the work can start and be progressed soon. It will enhance the tourist attractions offered by Leicester.	Noted.
General	Wheelie bins on pavements makes pedestrians walk in road in my area - on several streets in the Holy Trinity area you can't walk down one side of the street at all at any time. Bins are out continuously.	Noted. A number of people raised this point at the various consultation events. The Council has carried out a series of surveys that confirm the problem and material has been passed to the City Wardens team for actioning.
General	The grilles recently put up by Holy Cross Church on New Walk are unsightly and hopefully will be replaced very soon.	Noted. The Council is working proactively with the Church to identify security grilles that are compatible with protecting the heritage significance of a property.

#### 027: From Consultation Portal

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
General	Thank you for the very interesting documents.	Noted.
General	Regarding the potential redevelopment of the Fenwicks car park site: 4 storeys is still quite high for that space; 3 or less would be better.	Noted. The site is adjacent to development that varies in scale between 2-4 storeys. Any development proposal will be subject to strict assessment in terms of the impact on the wider townscape, including high quality verified visuals, and the approved scale will have to preserve or enhance this part of the Conservation Area.

#### 028: From Consultation Portal

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
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General	I like the extent of the New Walk Conservation Area. This is a beautiful part of the city and covers a large area. Though I would include the frontages along London Road in the New Walk area.	Noted. The area to the east is part of the South Highfields Conservation Area, but development proposals in it are considered in relation to the setting of New Walk where relevant.
General	The biggest problem for the New Walk area has always been its under-utilisation. With so many fine buildings and pedestrian domination - the area should be full of life with restaurants, cafes and bars. But this has largely never happened. Like the Greyfriars area, it has lots of potential.	<p>Noted. The Council has surveyed the area to identify vacant properties and provided design guidance on sites that have the potential to be used more intensively.</p> <p>The new public art steering group will explore opportunities to better animate the spaces.</p> <p>There is a concentration of commercial uses at the western end of New Walk and the Council actively works with those businesses to support the offer.</p> <p>The Council has recently managed the Greyfriars Townscape Heritage Initiative, which has focussed several million pounds of investment into that area, including a more diverse range of uses, including new bars, pubs, cafés, a boutique hotel and monastic community.</p>
General	Much of the development to the north-east of the Conservation Area, such as the court, is of low design quality.	Noted. Although located outside the Conservation Area, new development

		proposals in this area will be considered in terms of their impact on the setting of New Walk. .
General	I would lump New Walk in with the southern parts of the Greyfriars area and market it as "New Town" or "Georgian Town" with signage. In conjunction with promoting an Old Town identity in the rest of Greyfriars, Castle Precinct, Jewry Wall, St Nicholas and The Lanes.	Noted. The Council has broader work on place marketing and the heritage strand is central to this. The new public art steering group will explore opportunities to improve legibility between heritage attractions in the city centre.

#### 029: From Jeremy Webster (Attenborough Arts)

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
General	New Walk is a great linear urban feature in the city you should make more of in terms of orientation around the city	Noted. The City Council is currently developing a public art project to improve legibility in this part of the city. The concept will be taken to the new Public Art Steering Group this year.
17.0	New Walk offers the potential for an alternative cultural quarter: > Make New Walk more of a spectacle- invest in small tree lights to either light the whole route or specific places on the route. This would be incredible for photo/Instagram images of the city. > Create spaces for more sculpture to create a sculpture walk. > Create dedicated busking places. > Install power points in the greenspaces to encourage a grassroots approach to events and happenings in the greenspaces.	Noted. These ideas will be taken to the new Public Art Steering Group for further evaluation.

**030: From Mags Lewis**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
16.0	I use my bike as a mobility aid, as I am disabled, and the only safe route for me into the city centre includes a section of New Walk. The new cycle lanes on London Road may not be wide enough for disability bikes. Bollards, cobbles or other barriers will make it unsafe to cycle there. Criticising bikes on New Walk risks harming people with mobility issues who use bikes.	

**031: Manjit Kaur (70 New Walk)**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
8.0	The resin based surface isn't proving to be fit for purpose. It isn't lasting, cannot be maintained and cleaned well, warm and cold weather conditions cause it to deteriorate. I would like to suggest cobble stones or stone sett based paving is considered, whilst it will be initially more costly it will surely in the long run prove to be more efficient.	Noted. The bound gravel surface was chosen as it was a more modern way of maintaining the historic aesthetic of New Walk as a gravel laid promenade. The cost of replacing the surface with stone setts would be prohibitively expensive and change the character of the area. The maintenance regime for the bound gravel surface has been refreshed and all future works will be inspected for quality control purposes.
16.0	I would like to suggest sections of cobbles to effectively create rumble strips that would act as deterrents to the persistent cyclists who continue to flaunt rules on cycling.	Noted.
General	The area needs greater maintenance, with some items having long lasting	Noted. A series of repairs have recently

	issues of disrepair.	taken place to items, such as the ornate lamp column on Museum Square and the railings on the railway flyover.
General	The area would benefit from more extensive street lighting and CCTV.	Noted. Some additional provision has been added recently and the existing provision remains under review. However, additional provision has to be balanced against the harm to the character of the area from additional street clutter and the potential impact on wildlife.

**032: Rosy and Roger Dickinson (9 New Walk)**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
6.0	We understand the recent spate of successful change of use applications for many of the buildings in the Conservation Area enabled by the recent changes to planning law (permitted development etc.) is part of the reason for the review of the appraisal and Management Plan. We very much welcome this; we are very concerned that the character of the area is being altered irrevocably by the resulting development. We fully support the idea of using the Local Plan Development Review to challenge future applications for the conversion of offices to student accommodation on the grounds that Grade A office spaces will be lost.	Noted.
9.0	Trees are a particular concern. Serious consideration should be given to replacing some of the more mature specimens. They have outgrown and outlived their role as markers of the lining of the Walk and, judging by the lack of attention they have received from Trees and Woodlands in recent years, the problems they create seem to present a significant financial	Noted. The Council is currently undertaking a survey of trees on New Walk and assessing the needs for active intervention. A new specification for tree pits has been agreed as part of the development of the

	challenge.	new Conservation Area Management Plan.
12.0	We very much welcome the idea of a New Walk Heritage Warden who could monitor and address conservation-specific concerns but we also think the City Wardens could play a greater and more proactive role to help preserve the character of the Conservation Area (e.g. monitoring the siting and management of commercial and domestic waste bins).	Noted.
General	Given the renewed interest in New Walk as a conservation asset, is it still the best place in the city centre for the Job Centre?	The merits or otherwise of the current use of the building in question is beyond the scope of this project.
General	Could the Council offer some strong incentives to urge developers to come up with some imaginative and sensitive proposals for the use of the old Fenwick car park?	Noted. The Council has provided some additional design guidance for the space in the new Conservation Area Management Plan, while further detail is provided in documentation relating to the emerging Local Plan. The Council has supported De Montfort University in using the space as a case study for student design projects and will endeavour to share these with any development team.
General	We would welcome more consistent and prompt enforcement of the existing rules about the display of outdoor advertising and propose that these be extended to include shop windows and all types of building uses.	Noted. The Council is in the process of getting unauthorised signage removed, with several cases already resolved. The Council will continue to monitor the area for new breaches. Some advertisements within shop windows are permitted development.
General	We very much welcome the proposals to work with Holy Cross Catholic	Noted. Any publicly funded improvement

	Church to improve the landscaping around the church (including restoring walls and railings), but this raises the question of ongoing maintenance. Whatever is agreed here, a binding commitment on both sides to regular maintenance of the space is essential.	works will come with a requirement for ongoing maintenance.
General	Is it time to upgrade the benches and refuse bins in the Conservation Area and explore the options for new designs?	The street furniture has been assessed as part of the project and while a number of benches on the associated public open spaces are to be upgraded, it is not considered a judicious use of resources to replace those items on New Walk. However, benches have recently been repainted.
General	The 'triangle' at the Kings Street junction with New Walk, and the planting there, need a re-think. The space also needs much more frequent and more meticulous attention by Cleansing, especially at weekends.	The space is subject to a regular programme of cleaning and the new arrangement of hard landscaping is considered to be functioning acceptably at present. However, this will be monitored.

**033: Dennis and Wendy Allum (60 New Walk)**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
All	This is an easy and interesting read and I generally agree with the points and issues.	Noted.
2.0	More explanation relating to the significant change of use from office space to student flats would be helpful. If further student accommodation is to be approved in this area, greater concern must be given to Space Standards and the well Being of Students.	Noted. This section just lists policies directly relating to heritage and conservation areas for brevity.  As detailed elsewhere, further work on

		internal space standards and managing change of use are proposed through the emerging Local Plan.
4.0	I think this is a very positive step as many say “oh I didn’t realise” e.g. organising cycle workshops on New Walk/ A Boards.	Noted. The work done recently is only the start of a more proactive approach to informing property owners of the responsibilities relating to being in a conservation area.
6.0	In light of the current concerns regarding environmental issues – heat loss etc – I should like consideration to be given to enable newly developed double glazing to be installed into existing traditional window frames.	Noted. The Council continues to monitor the availability of new materials and systems that may increase the performance of energy efficiency. Where products are compatible with protecting the heritage significance of a property, they will be approved.
8.0	More consistent collection of leaf fall is required in the southern part of New Walk.	Noted. Additional collection has been requested and the condition will be regularly monitored.
8.0	The rain water drains on New Walk need to be cleaned regularly as, at present, many are blocked. Leaf currently falling and the weather conditions we appear to be experiencing more regularly mean that blockages are a major problem. They are also areas of pooling around the drains. Timetabled cleaning.	Noted. A drainage survey has recently been completed by the Council and management proposals will be taken forward.
10.0	Waterloo Way Bridge/New Walk  I agree with most of these points and this area is in desperate need to refurbishment and/or dramatic change.	Noted. These points will help guide developing plans for the space.  <a href="#">This area will have new design Plans relating to its design, safety and planting</a>

	<p>I think the planters should be severely reduced in size as they are currently litter receptacles rather than flower/shrub containers. However, the “beds” over the railway lines give an opportunity for a rethink as the area they encompass is of considerable size and presently offer areas of opportunity for “dens” etc. It is quite obviously necessary to “place a barrier” between New Walk itself and the bridge walls but these areas, I should have thought, could be radically reduced and yet still be a feature. I should also like to see the seats removed from the bridge as these are frequently not resting places but areas for antisocial behaviour at a “pinch point” on New Walk. This area must again have a regular maintenance plan as the current once a year clear up (approx) is insufficient.</p>	
10.0	<p>Waterloo Way</p> <p>I don't disagree with suggestions but would not wish to see this become overgrown with wildflower planting as it is one of the first sights seen by visitors arriving at the Station and walking towards New Walk and the Museum or obviously when they leave.</p>	<p>Noted.  <a href="#">This area will have new design Plans relating to its design, safety and planting</a></p>
10.0	<p>Top Triangle (opposite Victoria Park)</p> <p>Absolutely agree and would hope that this will be as well maintained as the beds adjacent to the Gate Houses opposite on Victoria Park. Again timetabled maintenance/inspection (even if it's half yearly)</p>	<p>Noted.  <a href="#">This area will have new design Plans relating to its design, safety and planting</a></p>

12.0	Residents and Offices should also be encouraged to play their part in the maintenance of New Walk – cleaning their railings and walls, repainting at regular intervals, removal of litter and rubbish etc – and have pride in their surroundings. If New Walk is perceived to be “a jewel” it needs to be “loved” and visitors will, hopefully, develop similar pride and concern for this area.	Noted. The Council will work with Friends of New Walk on exploring the potential for new initiatives.
General	Wheelie bins on pavements are frequently left out continuously in certain parts of the Conservation Area.	Noted. The Council has carried out a series of surveys that confirm the problem and material has been passed to the City Wardens team for actioning.

**New Walk Conservation Area Character Appraisal  
Representations Received During Consultation: 25th July and 6th September 2019**

**034: From Consultation Portal**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
9.0	Where New Walk's sections A, B and C are described, 44 Princess Road East is shown on the map as belonging to "A", however it is written up under the "B" section.	Noted. The map in the final document has been corrected.
Various	Number 46 Princess Road East was constructed in 2014 but is only	Noted. The base ma layer has been

	shown as a dashed-line outline on the maps.	updated for the final document.
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**035: Friends of New Walk**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY</b>
Various	We welcome the Character Appraisal. It would benefit from further proofreading and checking of syntax, but in our opinion is generally a comprehensive account of the special character of the conservation area. We also note that where paired photographs are used 'left' and 'right' are consistently reversed in the captions. Page and paragraph and figure numbers would greatly help readers navigate and comment on the text of both documents.	Noted. The final document has been revised, with corrections made to typos and page numbers added.
7.0	In the paragraph under the Combe Map it would be useful in identifying character to list the other conditions on building permissions, for example the requirement to build a boundary wall and railings.	Noted. The Character Appraisal is a document that summarises the broad historic development of the Conservation Area and has to balance the need for brevity against more detailed historic information. The following sentence of the document details the requirements relating to boundary treatments.
8.0	Student housing requires further analysis in this section. It is the primary driver of change in the New Walk area and the primary agent in changing the character of the area. Student housing extends far beyond the two examples cited. See also our comments on the Management Plan. The Local Plan identifies New Walk as a key office area for the economic success of the whole City. This importance and the mix of uses helping define the character of New Walk needs to be underpinned by the Appraisal.	Noted. Section 8 is a descriptive section on the current mix of uses in the area and the former makeup of the area. Reference to current changes towards greater proximity of student flats will be added.
9.0	We appreciate that not every building can be mentioned but 3, 5 and 7	Noted. The properties are attractive and

	Salisbury Road would be worth citing as a group with 1a and 1b.	have group value. Reference added and marked as buildings that have positive contribution on page 28.
10.0	Footnote 7. M Taylor (one of our Trustees) was the author of the 1993 The Quality of Leicester not the editor.	Noted. This error has been corrected.
14.0	This section deals mainly with Holy Trinity and Regent Road areas. More explicit reference to New Walk would be helpful.	The section details a range of issues that relate to all parts of the Conservation Area, as well as more localised issues.
18.0	FoNW firmly believes that New Walk Place should be included in the conservation area. The new space is clearly visually and functionally integrated into the space of New Walk and King Street itself and features such as the walkway leading to Welford Road help to integrate New Walk and King Street into the surrounding street scene in a way that never applied to the previous development on the site. New Walk Place is now clearly a positive part of the character and appearance of the conservation area and a component of its special interest. It is one of the sequence of four spaces, offline to New Walk that are an important part of the character of New Walk. It is respectfully requested that the Council give further consideration of the boundaries to include New Walk Place within the conservation area.	Noted. It is acknowledged that the demolition of New Walk Centre and the redevelopment of the site has created a new area of hard landscaping that has a more dynamic relationship with New Walk. However, as the additional planning controls relating to conservation area designation would provide limited practical benefit to a space like this, it is not considered to be a judicious use of resources to extend the Conservation Area at this time. No new development is likely to be forthcoming on the modern space in the foreseeable future, but its location adjacent to the Conservation Area would require any proposals to be sympathetic to the setting of New Walk in any case.

**036: Dennis and Wendy Allum (60 New Walk)**

SECTION	RESPONDENT'S COMMENTS	LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S REPLY
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All	This is an easy and interesting read and I generally agree with the points and issues.	Noted.
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