



Alfred Place – Responding to your comments

Over the summer of 2018 we asked residents, local businesses and people who use Alfred Place to share their views on the new designs for the space. This document shows how we are responding to the concerns and comments that were shared with us.

You said:

The space would attract litter

We did:

We were asked ensure there were enough litter bins

The design includes three litter bins spaced evenly throughout the space. In addition the West End Project has provided a new mobile street cleaning machine to patrol the area.

You said:

The park might not be easy to find

We did:

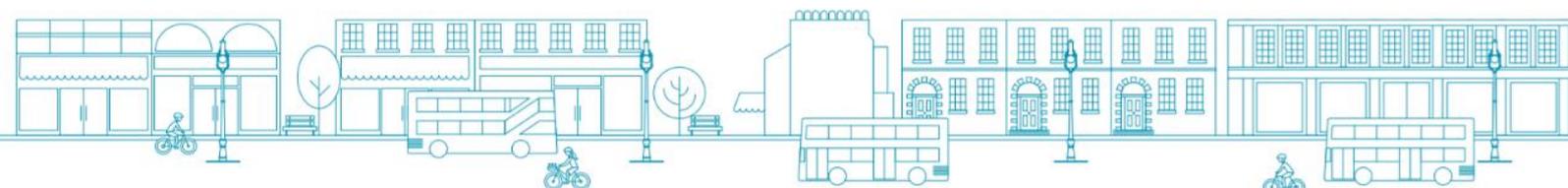
We were asked to make sure that you could see the new space when passing by. Alfred Place will extend to Store Street and Chenies Street to make sure the park is visible from areas with lots of pedestrians. The park will be signed locally on the Legible London signs and from Tottenham Court Road.

You said:

Ensure the selection of plants is diverse not just a meadow.

We did:

We were asked to consider providing a mixture of perennial plants and shrubs



The Landscape Architects have developed a planting concept with a rich and varied palette that will create a haven for wildlife, a green oasis in the city, year round interest and reinforce the character of the three areas - the 'Woodland Walk', the 'Playful Glades' and the 'Event Lawns'. The design is as follows:

The North, 'Woodland Walk': Introducing an intensive mix of evergreen and herbaceous flowering plants to evoke a distinctive woodland identity.

The Middle, 'The Playful Glades': Planting within the 'Playful Glades' character area will focus on providing a variety of experiences for children and reinforce a playful character - colourful, tactile, scented, mobile and seasonal

The South, 'Event Lawns': Large swathes of ornamental grasses planted in ribbons with specially selected evergreen and herbaceous perennials interwoven to add colour and seasonal interest. These provide semi-protection from the access roads to create a pleasant area for sitting.

Throughout all planted areas larger multi-stem flowering shrubs have also been specified.



You said:

Close the space

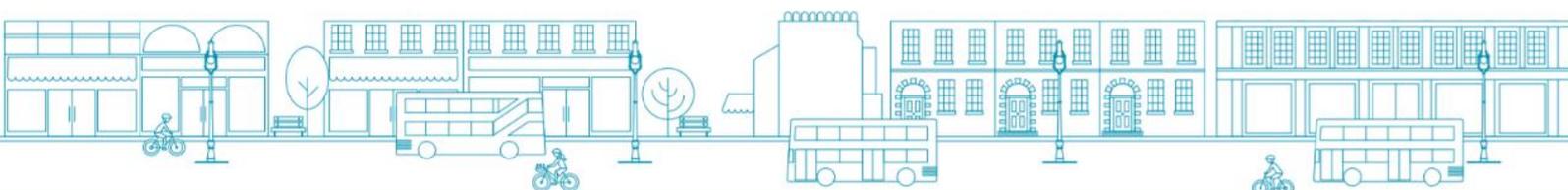
We did:

We were asked to securely fence the entire park with gates as response to concerns of anti-social behaviour.

After investigating the options we have not made this change for a number of reasons.

This proposal would require a complete reimagining of the whole space and such a radical redesign was not deemed to be viable. During the engagement we had a positive response to the creation of a welcoming and inclusive space so it was felt it was not appropriate to close off the space.

Anti-social behaviour issues are being addressed in the design of the space as a whole, and through wider measures across the area. Having a fenced off the park could have actually encouraged anti-social behaviour in a cordoned off space.



You said:

Consider if the play area will be well used

We did:

We were asked to think about if there was a need for a play space.

We consider play to be an important part of the space because there is a lack of play amenity locally and in the city generally.

The design will provide play equipment in a series of linked 'glades' for juniors and above, but also provides incidental play in the form of a long sculptural seat and stepping stones through planted areas.

You Said:

Address rough sleeping.

We did:

We were asked to consider that making rough sleeping less attractive in Whitfield Gardens would result in Alfred Place being used as an alternative.

While the design alone cannot counteract social issues such as homelessness we are working closely with the local policing team, community, businesses and other stakeholders to look at antisocial behaviour more broadly.

To respond to this concern we have carefully designing lighting to keep the area bright as well as ensuring that the space is open with good visibility and furniture that is less attractive for rough sleeping. In general terms Alfred Place is also a more open space than Whitfield Gardens which means any anti-social behaviour can be more easily seen and identified making it less likely to occur.

You said:

Take into account flooding and water run off

We did:

We were asked to be aware of water drainage in the garden.

The design of kerb edges allows water to run-off into the planted areas to ensure a more sustainable drainage solution.

You said:

Respond to concerns of vandalism.

We did:

We were asked to ensure that the materials we used could stand up to vandalism.

We can confirm that all the materials that have been specified are tough, durable and well suited to an inner city urban environment.



This includes Forest Stewardship Council (FCS) certified well-seasoned dense hardwood or engineered timber, which has a good resistance to burning for use on seat tops, for example. All fixings will be anti-vandal and tamperproof with no visible fixings on outside surfaces. Anti-graffiti coatings will be added to all furniture making it easier to clean and less attractive to graffitists.

Skateboarding deterrents will be in place for all raised edges to protect from damage and restrict this kind of activity.

