

Granton Gasholder Public Engagement Final Report

Edinburgh Waterfront, Place Directorate
01.03.2022

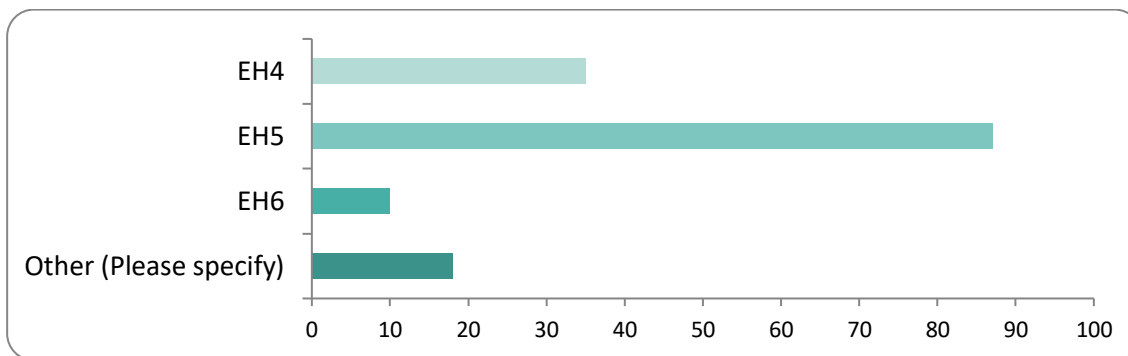
1. Introduction

- 1.1 In October 2021, the City of Edinburgh Council was successful in its bid to secure funding from the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund to restore the Granton Gasholder. The proposals include the restoration of the B-listed gasholder frame and creation of a publicly accessible space.
- 1.2 In February 2022, the Council undertook a public engagement exercise to share the vision and proposals for the future of the Granton Gasholder and gather views on how the space should be developed.
- 1.3 The public engagement exercise was hosted on the [City of Edinburgh Council's Consultation Hub](#) website for 2 weeks from the 14 – 27 February 2022, and an in-person event was held in Granton on the 17 February 2022.
- 1.4 Respondents were asked to input into the design of the publicly accessible space within the inner ring of the structure. Views were gathered on the early design concepts which proposed 6 zones within the inner ring of the structure, each with their own theme:
 - i. A Place to Relax
 - ii. A Space to Play
 - iii. A Space to Exercise
 - iv. A Space to Temporary Art
 - v. A Space for Permanent Art
 - vi. A Space of Events
- 1.5 The consultation was advertised via the City of Edinburgh Council's social media channels, 3,000 leaflets distributed to local households and on the Granton Waterfront newsletter which goes to over 500 people.
- 1.6 Overall there were 150 respondents to the online survey, and around 100 people engaged at the in-person event and 4 surveys completed in-person.

2. Responses

1: What is the beginning of your postcode?

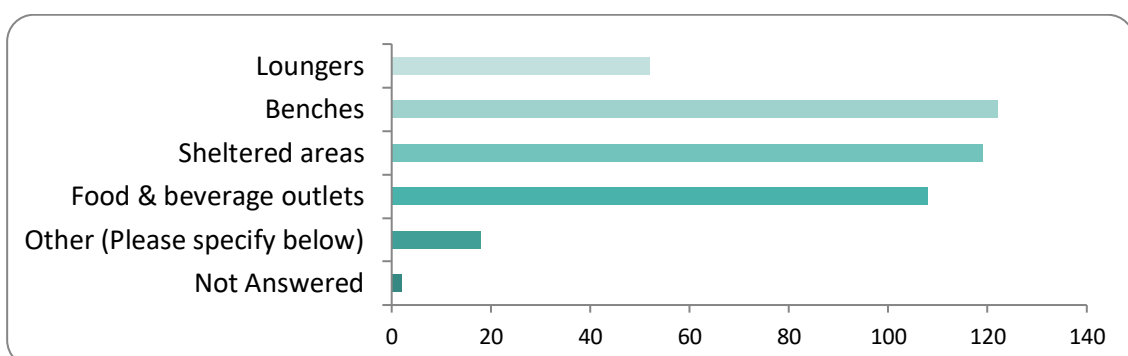
There were 150 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
EH4	35	23.33%
EH5	87	58.00%
EH6	10	6.67%
Other (Please specify)	18	12.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

2: What kind of street furniture would you like to see within the space?

There were 152 responses (148 online, 4 in-person) to this question.



Option	Total	Percent
Loungers	52	34.21%
Benches	122	80.26%
Sheltered areas	119	78.29%
Food & beverage outlets	109	71.71%
Other (Please specify below)	18	11.84%
Not Answered	2	1.32%

“Other” responses:

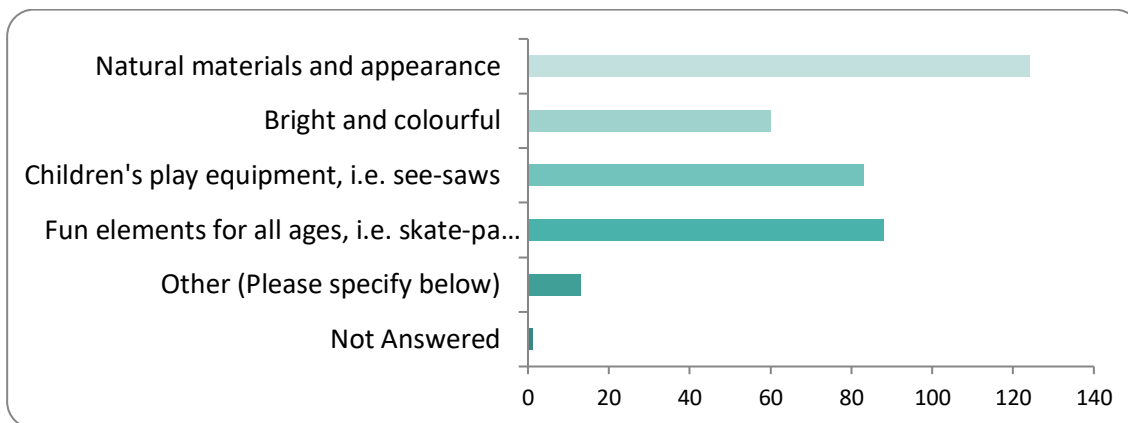
- Accessible for wheelchair users to sit within family and friend groups, not as an outsider on the end
- Street furniture that will weather well over the years - ie the materials chosen are considered for an area where there is rain, high winds and salt from the sea that effects long-term erosion of certain materials. Appropriate bins too - again think

about the elements and let's have bins that cannot easily have rubbish blow out, or seagulls get in

- More green to encourage return wildlife
- Dog park
- Playground
- Bins, including dog waste bins
- where's the wheelchair spaces in the drawing below? This area has a proliferation of residences for elderly and disabled frail people
- none leave it open
- What about wildlife
- Seats for disabled/older people.
- Places specific for children. Up high to climb up.
- Bins
- Bicycle parking
- Independent food carts
- Sustainable materials only
- trees. fruit trees. ponds. a landscape shaped by nature
- Just some lovely grassy areas too
- Child friendly / safe space
- None. Its going to end up wrecked and a motorbike play park
- Something immune to the inevitable vandals with spray cans
- Public toilets
- Terraced seating
- Cycle racks
- Hammocks
- Cycle racks, motion sensitive lighting
- Exciting restaurants and food trucks
- Bike station
- Public toilets
- toilets
- Family friendly cafe
- Toilets
- Traditional park furniture. Quality wooden benches, not metallic replacements as have been used recently

3: What kind of play equipment would you like to see within the space?

There were 153 responses (149 online, 4 in person) to this part of the question.



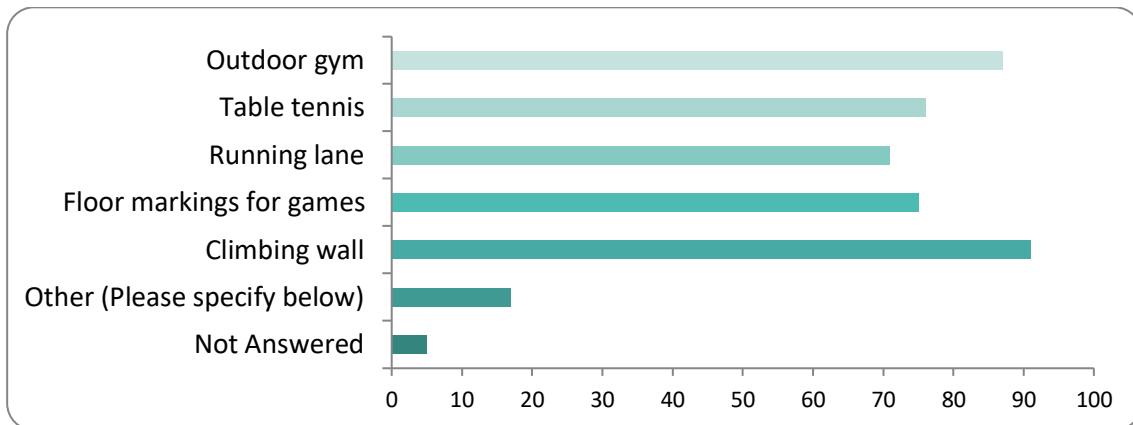
Option	Total	Percent
Natural materials and appearance	124	81.05%
Bright and colourful	60	39.22%
Children's play equipment, i.e. see-saws	83	54.25%
Fun elements for all ages, i.e. skate-park	89	58.17%
Other (Please specify below)	13	8.50%
Not Answered	1	0.65%

“Other” responses:

- Climbing/Bouldering
- wheelchair accessible stuff
- Include wildlife
- Adult exercise equipment
- Play equipment suitable for wheelchair users
- Spaces specific for young girls. Young girls disappear from park spaces at an early age. Make space for them!
- A playful space that encourages exploration, discovery. Natural play, sculpture that could be climbed on, interactive art. No more prescriptive off the shelf play park furniture please. All ages is really important, teens are often overlooked.
- Wooden adventure park
- Sustainable materials only
- Water play fountain
- Equipment that references the historic uses of the site - industrial, oversized.
- Interactive water or sand play. Climbing frames based on gasometer shape, trains
- How about grass and trees seeing as your taking all our green space.
- Outdoor gym
- Sand water play
- Table tennis table as installed near the playpark in the Meadows
- Labyrinth
- Multi-use Surfacing, use the structure
- Putting / crazy golf / dancing light fountains
- Splash pad (like what is at the kelpies beside the cafe)
- Outdoor gym equipment
- Café and pop up space – providing local employment

4: What kind of exercise equipment would you like to see within the space?

There were 149 responses (145 online, 4 in person) to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Outdoor gym	87	58.39%
Table tennis	76	51.01%
Running lane	71	47.65%
Floor markings for games	75	50.34%
Climbing wall	92	61.74%
Other (Please specify below)	17	11.41%
Not Answered	5	3.36%

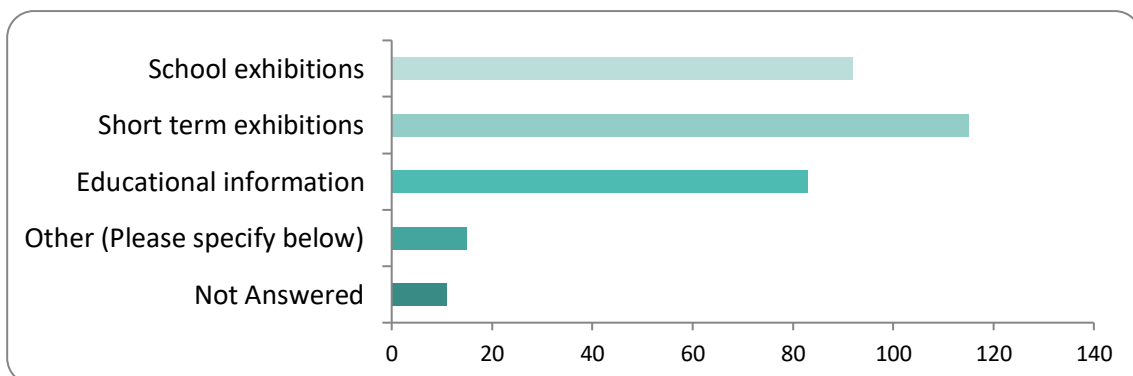
“Other” Responses:

- Not the Green outdoor gym, but similar to inverleith park stations. Also tennis courts please, simple benches will not be useful
- Exercise equipment is great in theory but the elements play a huge part and they won't be used most of the time if it's things like table tennis, outdoor gym etc. Is this really needed? The climbing wall is a good idea so other exercise equipment of that nature works.
- Safe outdoor reading area
- Football pitch and basketball court
- Cycle path
- Need I ask again, you include accessible facilities, be they wheelchair users, visually impaired, learning disabled, hearing impaired?
- none
- Bicycle tools and tyre pump station
- Outdoor gym equipment doesn't seem to get much use really, mainly by inquisitive children. A running lane sounds interesting but would it get wet and slippy?
- BMX or skate park ice rink
- Running lane
- Sustainable materials only
- bike lane down towards sea at gypsy brae
- Water play / fountain

- Chess board
- We have this at cramond beach and its never used
- Stocks where pavement and red light ignoring cycling criminals can be pelted with ordure
- Putting/pitch & put
- Boules lanes
- Love this rock wall picture. This would be great.
- cycle storage
- Vertical Cage Maze within the structure
- Basketball /football courts
- pitch and put
- Basketball courts
- Skate Park!
- Skate park
- Rollerhockey rink :-)
- Swings
- Trampolines embedded into the ground
- Open area for outdoor mat classes
- 5-aside football, basketball court, climbing frame, abseiling, pitch and put, lawn bowling

5: What kind of temporary art would you like to see within this space?

There were 143 responses (139 online, 4 in person) to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
School exhibitions	92	64.34%
Short term exhibitions	115	80.42%
Educational information	84	58.74%
Other (Please specify below)	15	10.49%
Not Answered	11	7.69%

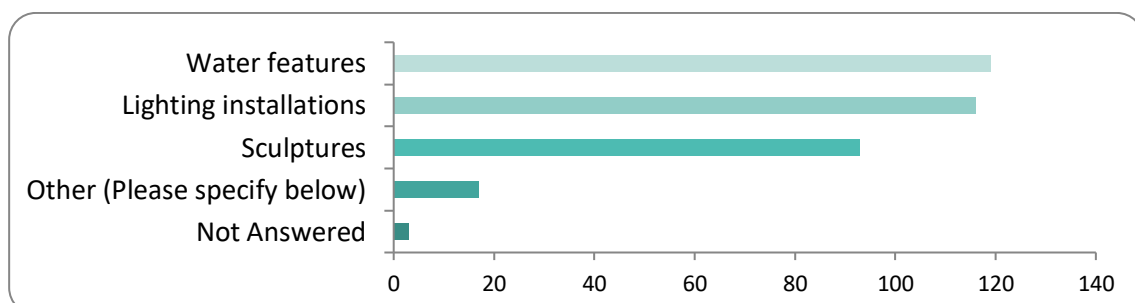
“Other” Responses:

- Please make the Arts Gallery plot further east all about art, as currently it is just a tyre burning lost land

- All kinds of exhibitions should be considered - it'd be good to rotate them out periodically in favour of new exhibitions. Keeps it interesting and vibrant.
- details relating to the wider ethnic community of Granton. As an example, Granton and surrounds has a large Eastern European Community, please don't ignore them
- History of Granton. Info about local wildlife
- Photography competitions - nature, travel etc
- Links to existing arts organisations like North Edinburgh Arts
- Piece of public art that would draw people to see it- or something that people can contribute to ie like the love padlocks. Not that but that idea.
- Sculpture
- Local Artists historical displays of Granton
- Future energy exhibitions (ie no more gas 😊)
- Impromptu street art
- Maybe make the kids appreciate it more if there art is up
- Sculpture competition to use redundant bricks from Granton Beach!!
- Sensory art
- Studios for local people and equipment
- Sculpture
- A free graffiti zone (better to encourage talent rather than have to clean it up) - <https://www.wallspot.org/en/about-us/>
- Pop up space with limited chance of damage. Definitely nota graffiti wall.
- High quality site specific art
- Curated Public Works of Art
- Graffiti Wall
- High quality sculpture
- This needs to be understood in terms of what the space will mean for the wider project. "The function of these key spaces will also be able to evolve over time as the new community grows across the Waterfront area" doesn't help, in fact it makes it worse. What you build FIRST as an open space SHAPES the area, not the other way round! Think bigger, this questionnaire is so basic and lacks vision it's painful to fill.
- community news

6: What kind of permanent art would you like to see within the space?

There were 151 responses (147 online, 4 in person) to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
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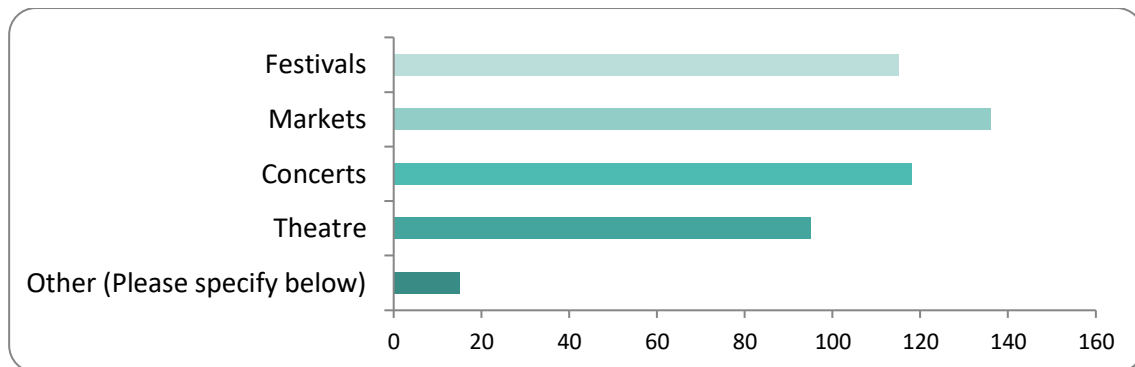
Water features	120	79.47%
Lighting installations	116	76.82%
Sculptures	93	61.59%
Other (Please specify below)	17	11.26%
Not Answered	3	1.99%

“Other” Responses:

- Something to highlight the transfer from fossil fuels to renewables
- Lights work well right now, but need to adjust lights to make it feel safe
- I'd love to see a gas themed display, perhaps, operated by means of solar or, renewable energies. Very fitting of a 'new' 21st Century environment
- Will need cctv
- Ask the local community what community campaigns and individuals they would want to be there
- Water for kids to play
- Green
- Mosaics
- Lighting installations might work particularly well in this setting.
- Water features that are playful for families to interact with
- Gardens/plants/flowerbeds
- Sustainable materials and powered
- pieces related to grantons history e.g. electric car and wire created
- a labyrinth - e.g. marked out in paving stone colours not with hedges.
- Such high insights for an area with kids that love to destroy everything. Buses first this when its completed
- It has been a mini dream of mine to see a miniature lighthouse made from reclaimed building materials serving refreshments, snacks and ice creams at Granton Beach
- Raised planted areas with a nod to the areas history
- digital displays
- Wind interactive sculpture
- Space for local artist to exhibit or be paid for commissions
- Story boards
- water features that can be paddled in
- Poetry in stone or metal panels
- Landscape inspired - like those at MoMA
- Sprinkler park(like in Bordeaux!) Never lighting- it breaks (remember the roundabout fiasco at the top of Leith Walk!)
- Place for sound art
- Using nature
- Art Celebrating famous Edinburgh residents (scientists, authors, sports etc)
- Remember It's Granton so things may get destroyed
- A botanic art installation, that respects and embraces the birds and insects that currently reside in this area, and is at the same time modern, positive, ecological, inspiring and futuristic. Think the Botanic Garden in front of Marina Bay in Singapore
- No more light pollution please
- Murals of local people

7: What kind of events would you like to see held within the space?

There were 154 responses (150 online, 4 in person) to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Festivals	115	74.68%
Markets	136	88.31%
Concerts	118	76.62%
Theatre	95	61.69%
Other (Please specify below)	15	9.74%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

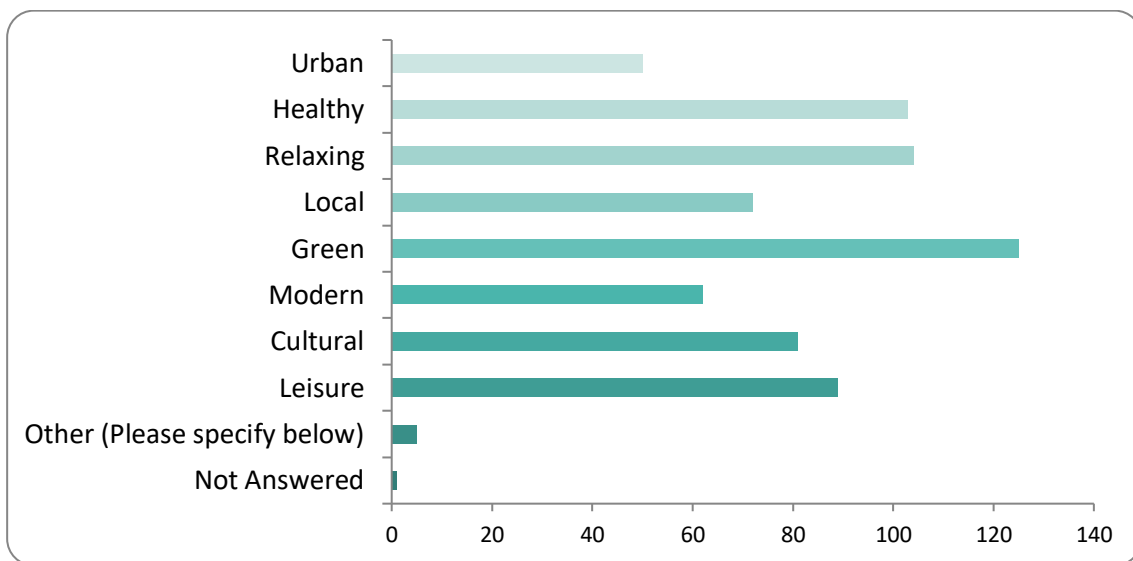
“Other” Responses:

- Sports competitions, runs
- Nothing. I prefer parks to be open to being parks all the time and not full of other things
- outdoor cinema. Official festival events to encourage these to take place out of the city centre.
- Local market
- Triggered community events celebrating Granton's diverse cultures (Saint's Days, Orthodox events, Asian celebrations etc)
- How does this fit in with exiting arts and event facilities?
- Local Schools and local Group
- Dance
- Nothing too noisy
- Sustainable (of course)
- community sports events e.g. table tennis tournament
- Community performance
- Local schools events
- Open air Festival space with separate food truck space (think Golden Gate Park:)
- Lantern event / carnival
- Only if services such as power and water are available and access good enough to ensure it's environmentally friendly and cost effective
- No over priced venders. This would welcome everyone from the area that can afford it.
- Sport (Roller Hockey)

- Classical Music, Ballet, International Cultural Dance Companies, Talks about living in harmony with nature, Botanical light and water shows, again like the Botanic Garden in front of Marina Bay Singapore. Also outdoors cinema. Events that do not attract the teenager drinking crowd that you can see in Portobello.
- Careful balance required. Events can be very disruptive for local residents
- Again, this is all well and good - but when will the tram get to this spot? When will the Waterfront pathways etc complete? All that is being built so far mainly is just housing, and again, creating bottlenecks and 'suburban isolation' as it's not integrated but done piecemeal. Can't the council think this through similar to the Dundee waterfront project and stop chopping this and repackaging the project?

8: What kinds of atmosphere, character, activities and uses would the space have?

There were 153 responses (149 online, 4 in person) to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Urban	50	33.56%
Healthy	103	69.13%
Relaxing	105	70.47%
Local	72	48.32%
Green	125	83.89%
Modern	62	41.61%
Cultural	81	54.36%
Leisure	89	59.73%
Other (Please specify below)	5	3.36%
Not Answered	1	0.67%

“Other” Responses:

- Maintenance needs to be considered in the planning.
- Accessible

- natural
- Has to be a space with includes the existing community
- we need to protect greenspaces, so much is built up already and so I think all the developments need to take into account the local wildlife that has been making its home there in the last years. Sustainable
- green space approaching coastal area
- Historic Industrial
- Lets try and keep it green seeing as theres a million houses being thrown up faster than pop up tents by the clowncil
- The Granton redevelopment is in reality looking very much like a warehouse zone for humans, so soulless, For it to reclaim any chance of being described as "a destination" that the council claimed it would be, the regenerated park needs to interlink with a much greater variety of domestic homes, (e.g more houses, less concrete) and include more small retail retail services.
- Hint of industrial
- With dedicated cleaning and maintenance services otherwise it will ruin Think Sustainability.
- Reuseable materials. Promote solar power. Or draw power in from the surrounding buildings
- Tree planting
- My suggestion is to make the gas tower framework into a winter garden like the one in Glasgow so people can use it in all weathers

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is evident that natural materials, sustainability, biodiversity and accessibility are of key importance to respondents.
- 3.2 It is recommended that these ideas and responses are incorporated into the design of the space where feasible.

4. Contact Details

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