

Executive Summary

- A high level of return was achieved, 8% of the 6000 print, demonstrating a high level of public interest in this project.
- The return was well spread across the demographics of the local population as defined by the Census 2001 for Bishops Ward.
- All of the specific questions were scored an average of more than 2.5 by all groups indicating that more than 50% of people felt that the issue caused concern.
- The two most important issues for all respondents were 'too much clutter on the pavements' and 'not enough trees and plants'. In the additional comments the clutter specifically related to large rubbish bins and large traffic signs obstructing views. These two issues were also marked quite highly by those living and/or working in The Cut.
- The two most important issues for those living and/or working in The Cut were inadequate lighting and security. It is natural that those who spend more time in The Cut should rate these issues more highly than those who pass through and should perhaps therefore be given more weight over this issue particularly.
- The lowest importance was given to 'not enough seating' by all groups. The question did not differentiate between public seating and private restaurant seating. In the additional comments it appears that the main reason for the low score is that respondents believed the question to relate specifically to an increase in public seating and this would encourage an increase in street drinkers congregating. Private seating controlled by the restaurants/bars would appear to have had a more positive audience.
- Over half of all respondents, including those living and/or working in The Cut scored 'vehicles travelling too fast' and 'vehicles using The Cut as a rat run' quite highly. But there was concern that reducing traffic flows too much in The Cut would cause 'rat running' on surrounding streets less able to cope.
- Parking arrangement was scored relatively lowly by both all respondents and even lower by those living and/or working in The Cut. This reflected concern from businesses that if parking was too severely restricted it would affect their footfall and from local residents that they should have priority areas.
- A number of responders were keen that the improvements to the footpath should be effected with good quality materials that will stand the test of time and deal with the current poor drainage along The Cut.