

Consultation Report

Pauntley Street Environmental Improvements

Transport Projects and People-Friendly Streets.



1. Introduction and background

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 **Key activities and timeline:** This report presents the findings of a public consultation which was held to engage local people on environmental improvements at two sites on Pauntley Street in the Junction ward. The first is the footpath which runs parallel to Archway Road and the second is the car park towards the north of Pauntley Street. The consultation ran from 30 November to 28 December 2022 and comprised a survey and two drop-in engagement events on 30 November and 7 December 2022 where officers were available to speak with residents. The consultation was advertised via a leaflet drop and attracted 65 responses including 62 survey responses and 3 emails. Officers also met with ward councillors and the Archway Town Centre group to discuss the proposals and consultation approach.
- 1.1.2 **Background:** The consultation emerged as a result of the council's awareness of issues of air and noise pollution along the footpath running parallel to the Archway Road bus stand which was relocated as part of the roundabout removal at Archway in 2017 as well as incidents of fly tipping and antisocial behaviour at the car park.
- 1.1.3 **Scope:** To engage residents on the Pauntley Street footpath we invited comments on a proposal to install a 50m long, 2.2m tall living green screen comprising hedges of ivy and star jasmine grown onto frames in moveable surface planter boxes. The proposal was aimed at addressing residents' desire for greening to screen nearby properties from buses parked on the stands below the Pauntley Street footpath as well as vehicle traffic on Archway Road while preserving access to underground utilities along the footpath. To engage residents on improving the Pauntley Street car park, we posed an open question inviting ideas for improving the space.
- 1.1.4 **Key Findings:** In response to questions concerning the impact and design of the living green screen most respondents agreed that the planting will reduce the noise from road traffic on Archway Road, improve the air quality around Pauntley Street, and create a more pleasant environment around Pauntley Street. Responses also suggested that local people are in favour of using timber as a material for the planters, extending the green screen to cover the full length of the bus stand and reducing the vertical screen height to preserve sightlines. Findings in response to the open question regarding the car park suggested that respondents' priority for the space is greening and improved bin storage facilities.

1.2 Objectives

1.2.1 The consultation aimed to achieve the following objectives:

- To assess residents' support for installing a living green screen on the Pauntley Street footpath.
- To allow residents to raise concerns and/or objections about installing a living green screen on the Pauntley Street footpath.
- To assess residents' preferences for the design of the living green screen (primarily in relation to the material and colour palette to be used for the planters).
- To assess residents' preferences for the length and height of the living green screen.
- To collect ideas from residents for improving the space where the Pauntley Street car park is currently located.

2. Methodology

2.1 Pre-engagement

2.1.1 **Statutory consultees:** As part of the consultation, Transport for London was notified of the intention to install a living green screen on the Pauntley Street footpath. The scheme does not impact access for any emergency services; we did not therefore consult the emergency services.

2.2 Engagement

2.2.1 Responses to the consultation were collected through two engagement events as well as a survey which was accessible via the council's consultation page.

2.2.2 The engagement events and survey were promoted via a leaflet which was distributed to 450 local properties around the project site. Copies of the leaflet were also put up on a local notice board. Paper copies of the survey were also available at the engagement events and could be requested by email or post.

2.2.3 The distribution area for the leaflets is shown in the red polygon on Figure 1: Leaflet distribution area.

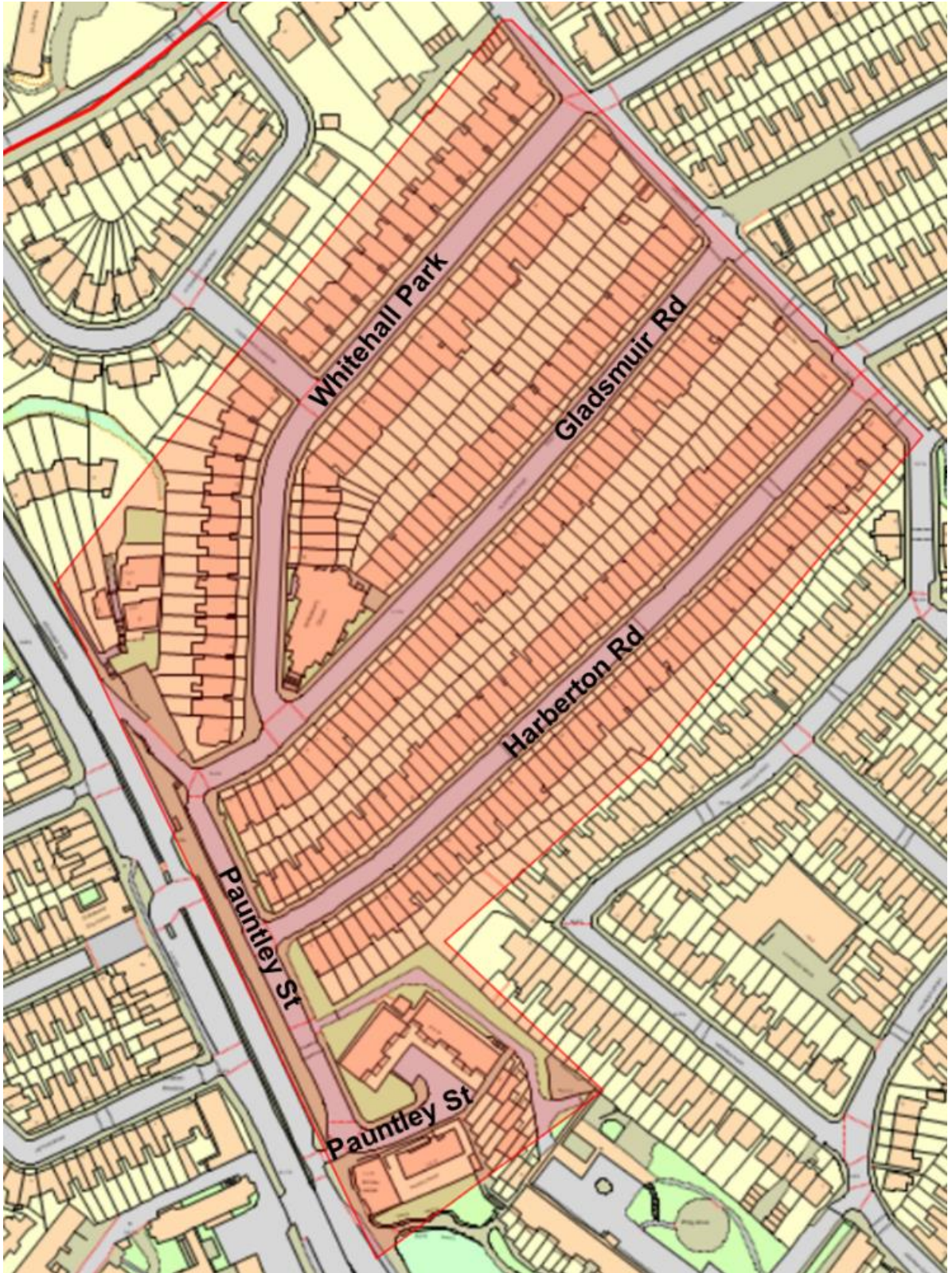


Figure 1: Leaflet distribution area

2.2.4 The survey attracted responses from residents living in a range of locations around Pauntley Street with most (29%) indicating that they live on Harberton Road followed by the larger Whitehall Park Conservation area (19%), Whitehall Park Road (14%), Gladsmuir Road (12%) and Archway Road above the car park (12%).

2.2.5 **Survey questions:** A summary of the survey questions is provided below.

Question 1: Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements below (options included: strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree, not sure/does not apply).

- Living green screens will reduce the noise from road traffic on Archway Road
- Living green screens will improve the air quality around Pauntley Street
- Living green screens will create a more pleasant environment around Pauntley Street

Question 2: If living green screens were to be installed on the Pauntley Street footpath, would your preference be for timber or steel planters?

Please select the option which applies to you (images were included to help respondents choose).

- I would prefer timber planters
- I would prefer steel planters
- I don't have a preference for the colour of the planter boxes
- Prefer not to say/Does not apply
- Other, please specify

Question 3: If living green screens were to be installed on the Pauntley Street footpath, what colour would you want the planters to be?

Please select the option which applies to you (images were included to help respondents choose).

- Neutral colour palette (black, white, or grey powder coated steel)
- Warm colour palette (red, yellow, orange, or brown- powder coated steel)
- Cool colour palette (blue or green powder coated steel)
- Corten or 'weathering' steel
- Timber
- I don't have a preference for the colour of the planter boxes
- Prefer not to say/Does not apply

Question 4: Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your preferences for the proposed Living Green Screen?

Question 5: We are aware of concerns over fly tipping and antisocial behaviour occurring at the car park on Pauntley Street and have identified the space as a potential site for future environmental improvements.

We would like to hear your views on what could be done to improve this space (open textbox provided).

The following 9 questions (questions 6 to 14) were asked to find out more about who responded to the consultation. Respondents did not have to answer the questions if they preferred not to.

Question 6: Which of these statements best describes you?

- I live on Pauntley Street
- I live on Harberton Road
- I live on Whitehall Park
- I live on Gladsmuir Road
- I live in the wider Whitehall Park Conservation area
- I am a regular visitor to Archway
- Other, please specify

Question 7: What is your postcode?

Question 8: Do you consider yourself as having a disability, long term illness or impairment that affects your day-to-day activity?

Question 9: What is your age?

Question 10: What is your age?

Question 11: What is your ethnicity?

Question 12: What is your sexual orientation?

Question 13: What is your religion?

Question 14: How did you hear about this consultation?

Question 15: Do you have any other suggestions for wider improvements to Pauntley Street?

2.3 Data contamination

2.3.1 There is no evidence to suggest that there was any data tampering or contamination to the consultation responses.

3. Findings

3.1 Pauntley Street footpath

3.1.1 Feedback in response to Question 1 concerning the impact of the living green screen suggests that most (75%) of respondents agreed that the planting will reduce the noise from road traffic on Archway Road, improve the air quality around Pauntley Street, and create a more pleasant environment around Pauntley Street. These findings are illustrated on Figures 2, 3 and 4.

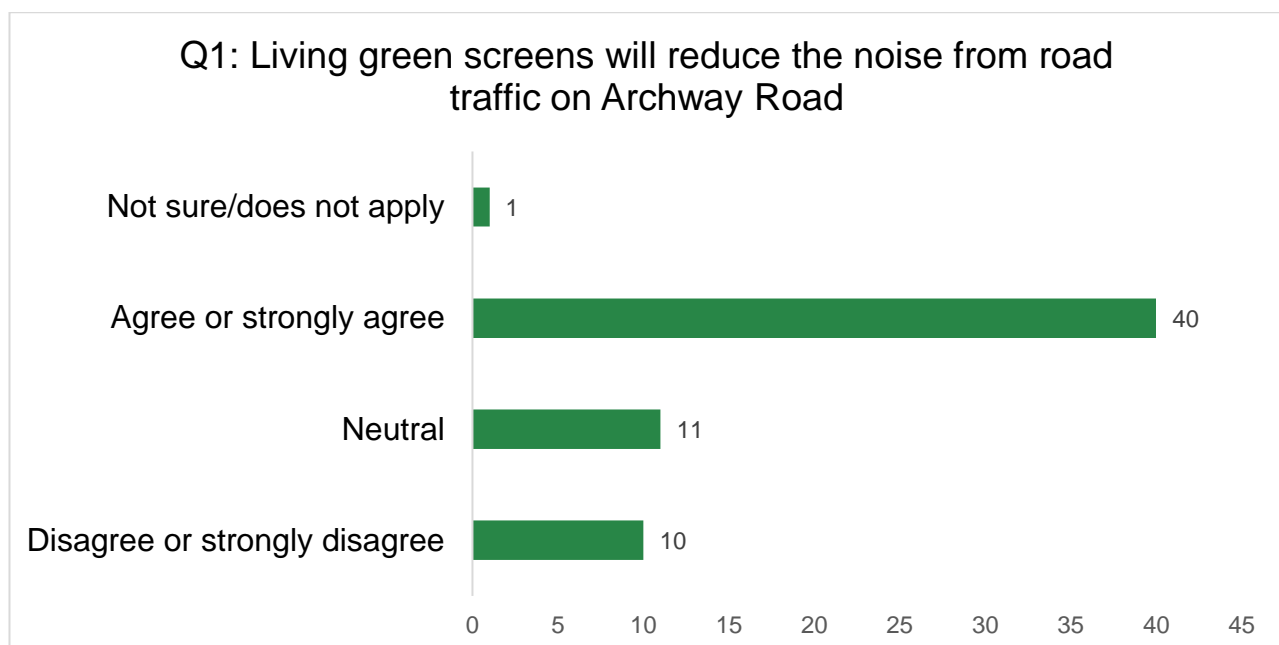


Figure 2: Responses to the statement "Living green screens will reduce the noise from road traffic on Archway Road."

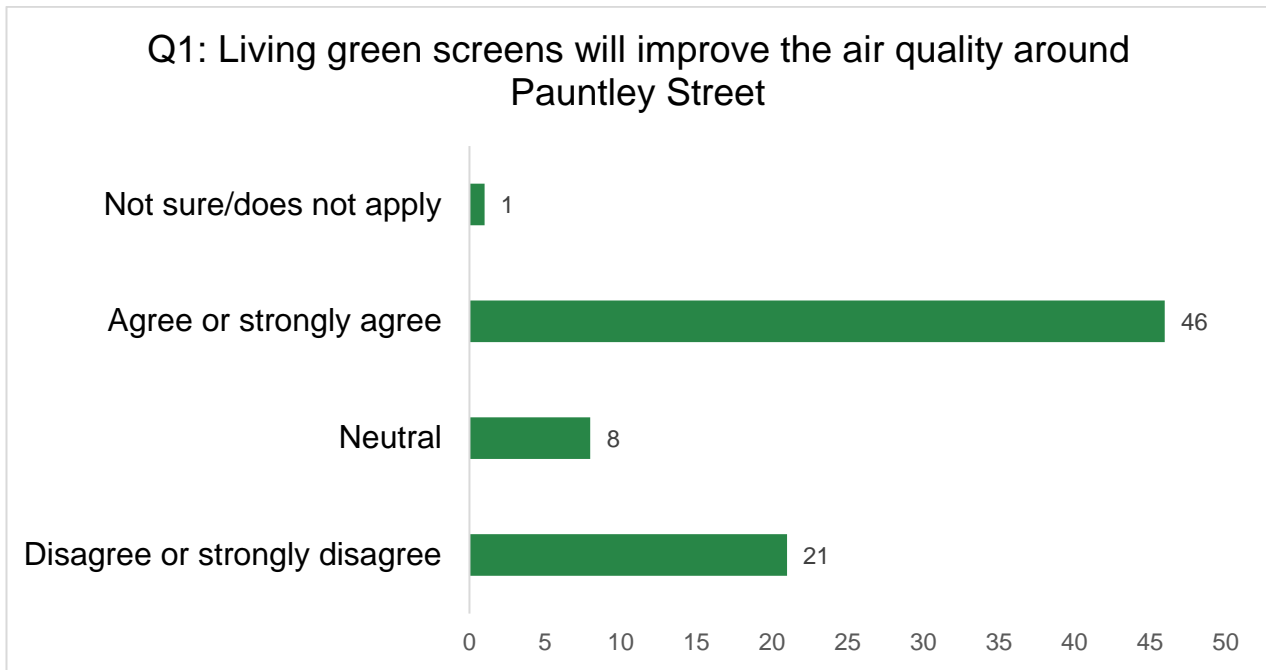


Figure 3: Responses to the statement "Living green screens will improve the air quality around Pauntley Street."

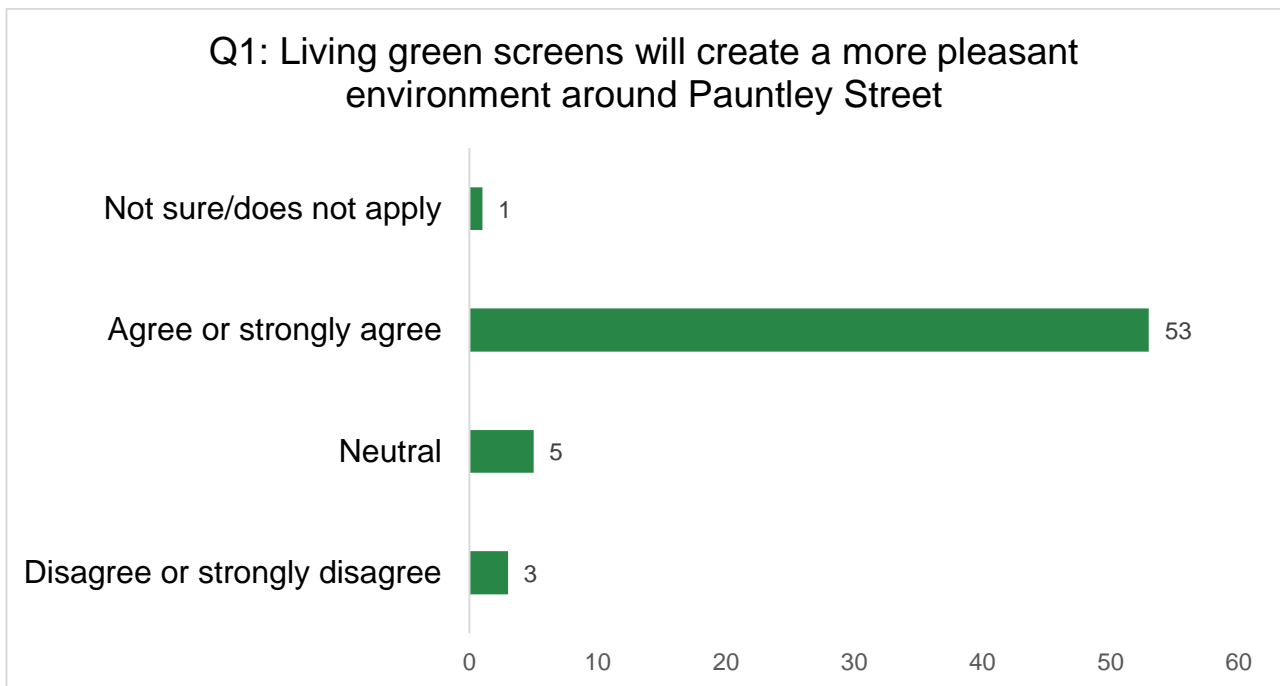


Figure 4: Responses to the statement "Living green screens will create a more pleasant environment around Pauntley Street."

3.1.2 Feedback in response to Questions 2 and 3 concerning the material and colour of the living green screen planters suggested that most respondents (60%) expressed a preference for timber over steel planters, while 19% had no preference.

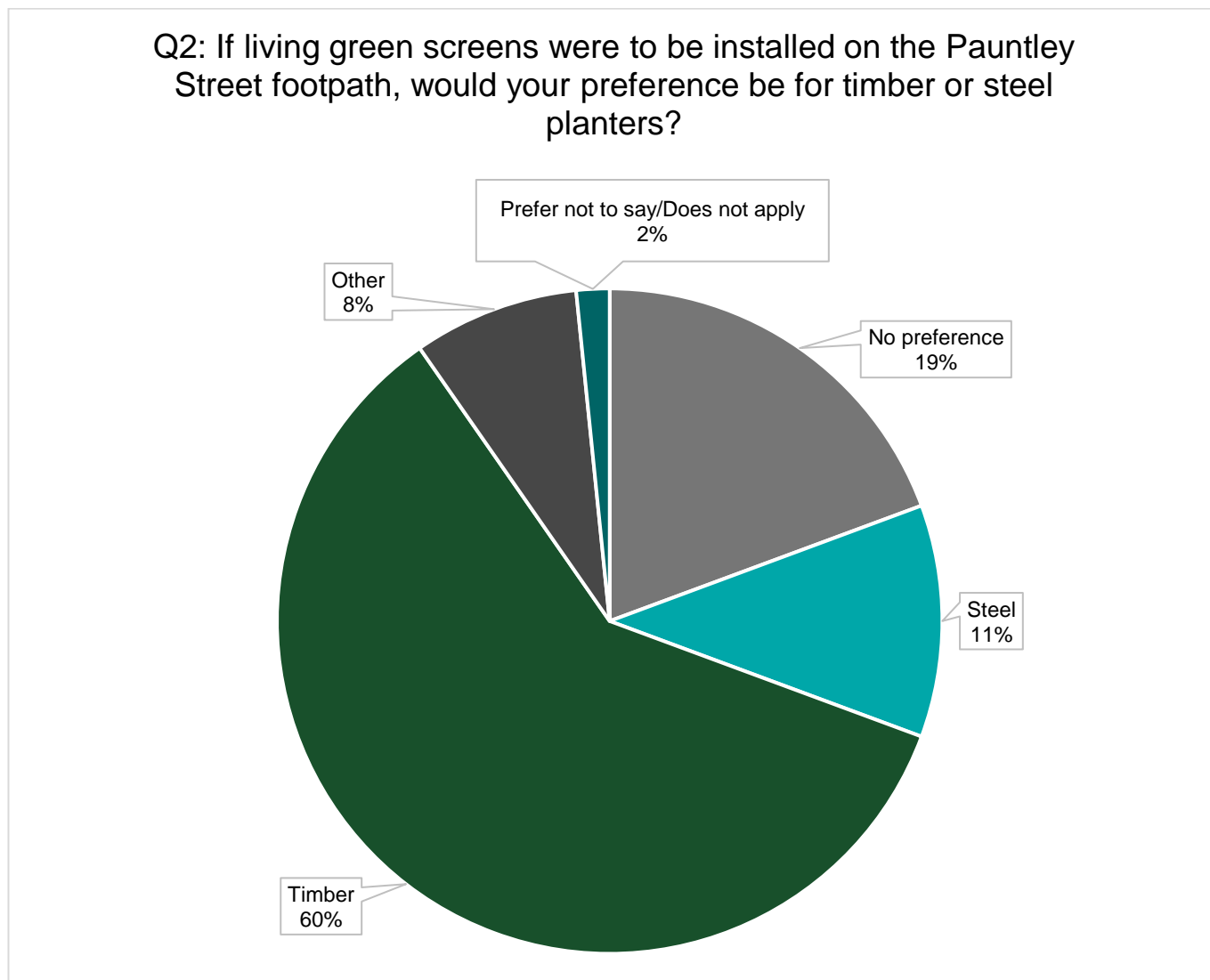


Figure 5: Respondents' preference for the material of the planters

3.1.3 Feedback in response to the open question 'Do you have any other suggestions for wider improvements to Pauntley Street?' (Question 15) suggested that most respondents were supportive of the proposal to install living green screens on the Pauntley Street footpath but had concerns over the length of the green screens in relation to the Archway Road

bus stands, the vertical height of the green screens from the ground and the bins on the southern end of the Pauntley Street footpath.

Green screen length

Many respondents said that they wanted the living green screen to cover the full length of the bus stands on Archway Road and were concerned that a 50m long living green screen would not achieve this.

Green screen height

Many respondents said that they were concerned about the living green screen being too tall and making it difficult for people on the footway to be seen.

Bins

Many respondents reported that the existing bins on the southern end of the Pauntley Street footpath look untidy.

3.2 Pauntley Street car park

- 3.2.1 In response to the open question asking for suggestions on what could be done to improve the space around the car park, greening and improvements to the bin storage facilities were the most popular suggestions. Figure 6 summarises the suggestions from respondents and shows that 19 responses mentioned a 'green wall with climbing plants' followed by 'trees and other planting' (14 mentions), as well as 'improving the bin storage facilities' (9 mentions).

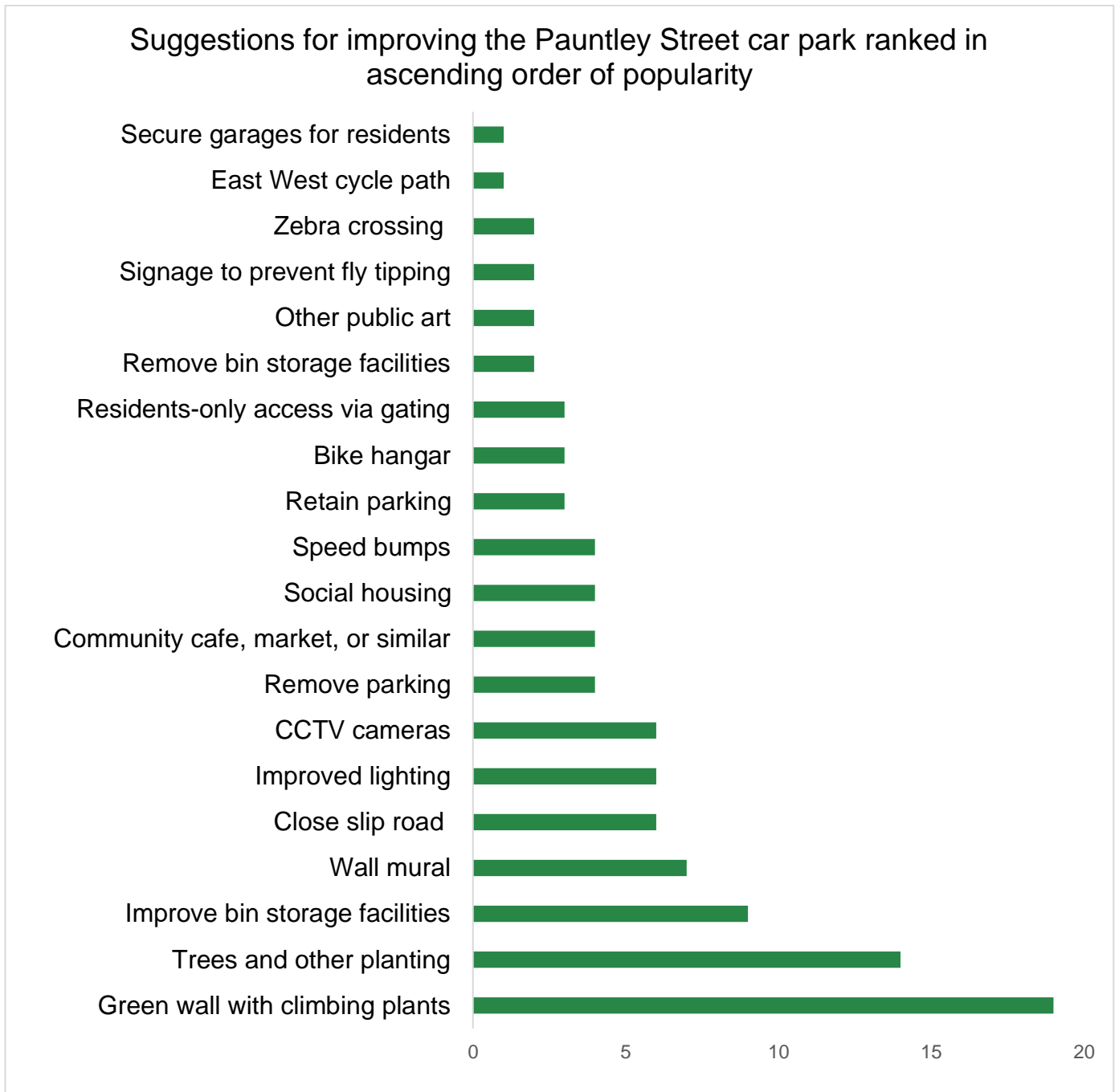


Figure 6: Respondents' suggestions for improving the Pauntley Street car park

4. Conclusion

4.1.1 Findings from this consultation suggest that most respondents were supportive of measures to green the Pauntley Street footpath.

- 4.1.2 Most respondents agreed that a living green screen on the Pauntley Street footpath will reduce the noise from road traffic on Archway Road, improve the air quality around Pauntley Street, and create a more pleasant environment around Pauntley Street.
- 4.1.3 Responses also suggested that local people are in favour of using timber as a material for the planters, extending the green screen to cover the full length of the bus stand and reducing the vertical screen height to allow people to see over them.
- 4.1.4 Finally, while a range of suggestions were put forward for improving the space around the Pauntley Street car park, greening interventions (including a green wall, trees, and other planting) and improvements to the bins were the most popular.