LADYWOOD ESTATE REGENERATION

Understanding Ladywood

Winter Community Events Overview

Summary of your feedback from the Winter sessions

Context

Berkeley St Joseph is committed to community engagement as we bring forward a masterplan for the Ladywood estate, in partnership with Birmingham City Council.

The regeneration of the Ladywood Estate is a major opportunity to deliver lasting improvements to housing, public spaces and community facilities.

Engagement to date includes:

- July 2025 workshops
- Stakeholder meeting attendance
- BCC drop-in surgeries
- Individual home visits, on request
- Updates to the Ladywood community website
- Online informative webinars
- An update letter sent to all addresses across Ladywood
- Invitations to attend a series of community events
- A dedicated project phoneline and email address

As part of the latest round of consultation, we ran a community survey and targeted surveys for young people, faith groups and local businesses, alongside a series of drop-in sessions and creative activities for young people, including an illustration evening and art competition. The team also attended local community events to gather feedback directly from residents.

Purpose of the workshops

To test and refine emerging masterplan principles across key themes such as green spaces, movement, building design and community facilities.

1. To update the community on progress since the first round of engagement and explain how earlier feedback is being taken forward.
2. To explain the masterplanning process.
3. To provide an opportunity for residents, businesses and local groups to ask questions about the process and speak directly with the project team.
4. To gather further feedback to help shape the next stage of developing the Ladywood masterplan.



Key Themes

Clarity and reassurance about homes
Many residents want clear information about what regeneration could mean for their homes, including reassurance around affordability, rehousing and timescales.

Better-quality homes
There was strong support for warmer, safer and more energy-efficient homes, alongside concerns about existing issues such as damp, mould and poor insulation.

Safety and everyday experience
Improving lighting, road safety and tackling anti-social behaviour were common priorities, particularly around streets, play areas and the canal.

Green space and outdoor facilities
Green spaces are highly valued and people want them to be safer, better maintained and more usable for all ages, including children and young people.

Community facilities and local identity
Residents value Ladywood's strong sense of community and want regeneration to support local shops, community spaces, faith buildings and opportunities to come together.

Better connections and access
People want Ladywood to feel easier to move around and better connected to public transport, local services and the city centre.

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Overview

In the first week of December 2025, the partnership ran a series of drop-in sessions and events across Ladywood.

The project team produced information boards which outlined our approach to developing a masterplan for Ladywood. At these sessions, the community was invited to view boards which outlined the current stage of masterplan process. This includes identifying areas in three categories (retain, refurbish, regenerate), and establishing a set of principles.

These principles have been drawn from the first round of engagement in the summer. Attendees had the opportunity to review the seven principles and discuss their priorities with members of the project team.

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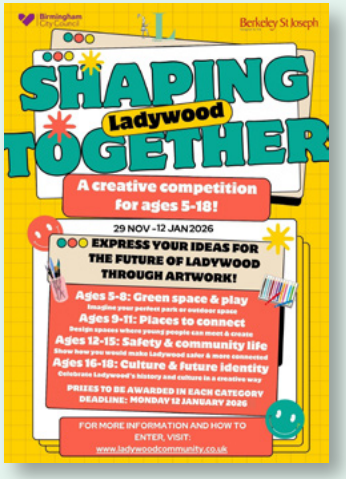
'Shaping Ladywood Together' Youth Competition flyer



Promotion

The sessions were promoted through a range of channels to reach different parts of the Ladywood community, including:

- **Resident letters:** Letters delivered to homes within the regeneration area
- **Flyers:** Flyers distributed locally and shared with community venues
- **Website:** Information published on the Ladywood community website
- **Local groups:** Direct outreach to local community groups, schools, faith organisations and youth groups
- **Events:** Promotion at earlier engagement events and through conversations with residents
- **Local networks:** Sharing information via partner organisations and local networks, including with Registered Providers

Principles

- Fair rehousing and security for existing residents
- Community life
- High-quality, energy-efficient homes
- Enhancing the canal
- Safe, well-designed public spaces
- Improving connectivity within Ladywood and beyond
- Connecting to nature

Attendance

173
pieces of feedback received from respondents

991
website views

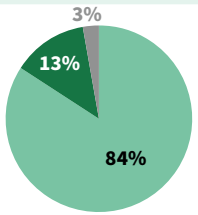
140
drop-in attendees

3,000
letters sent

Summary of your feedback from the Winter sessions

Proposed Masterplan Principle 1
Fair Rehousing and Security for Existing Residents

Provide all residents with a solution to stay in Ladywood, with clear communication, providing secure, high-quality homes.

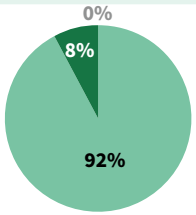


Residents told us:

- Residents asked for clearer information about demolition and rehousing, with a strong focus on fair, like-for-like homes.
- Homeowners wanted reassurance about property values, while social housing residents shared concerns about future rent levels.
- Affordability and long-term security were key priorities, with many residents keen to stay in Ladywood as the area changes.

Proposed Masterplan Principle 2
High-Quality, Energy-Efficient Homes

Provide new homes that are durable, spacious, low-energy and affordable to run.

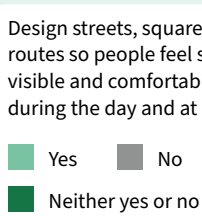


Residents told us:

- Many live with issues like damp and poor insulation in their current homes. Regeneration should address these issues.
- Residents said they want modern homes that are well built, comfortable and made to last.
- Affordability was a key concern, with residents keen for homes to be affordable to live in across all tenures.

Proposed Masterplan Principle 3
Safe, Well-Designed Public Spaces

Design streets, squares and routes so people feel safe, visible and comfortable during the day and at night.



Residents told us:

- Public spaces should reflect Ladywood's character and feel true to the local area.
- The masterplan should address safety, including improving lighting, building design and CCTV to help people feel safe.
- Better and safer play areas for children are needed
- Regeneration should improve road safety and access.
- Public spaces should be well designed, well looked after and feel welcoming at whatever time of day.

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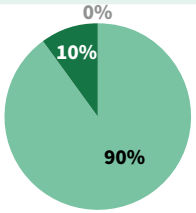
Proposed Masterplan Principle 4
Connecting to Nature

Increase and improve green spaces so that they are welcoming, usable and safe.

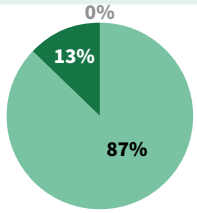


Residents told us:

- There's a strong sense of community in Ladywood, and good quality green spaces that everyone can enjoy can help improve this further.
- The masterplan could include community growing spaces, skateparks, play areas, splash pads and outdoor gym equipment for all ages.
- Desire for easy access to nature close to homes, not just large parks.
- Strong support for more greenery, trees and planting throughout the neighbourhood, supporting biodiversity and wellbeing.
- There was also support for biodiversity-led and more natural planting approaches, including wildflower planting and lower maintenance landscapes.

Proposed Masterplan Principle 5
Improving Connectivity within Ladywood and Beyond

Maximise connectivity within Ladywood and links to the city centre and surrounding areas with improved walking, cycling and public transport connections.

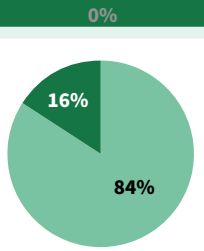


Residents told us:

- Better bus routes are needed to help people travel around the city, including to affordable supermarkets.
- Despite being close to the city centre, busy roads make it hard to get around. Residents want safer, more direct walking routes across Ladywood.
- Busy roads like Fiveways Island and Ladywood Middleway make it hard to get around at times.
- Some residents felt a tram extension or a new train station could bring real benefits to the area.
- Parking was a common concern, with the need to balance resident and commuter parking.
- Residents want safer, more direct walking and cycling routes across Ladywood, supported by secure cycle storage.

Proposed Masterplan Principle 6
Enhancing the Canal

Unlocking the canal edge for everyday use encouraging walking, leisure and community.



Residents told us:

- Residents value the canal but want it to feel safer and easier to use, with better lighting, clearer views and improved towpaths.
- There was support for canal-side spaces that encourage walking, sitting and spending time there during the day.
- Many residents liked the idea of better access to the water, including a pontoon and water-based activities.
- Some residents wanted reassurance about when improvements would happen and how they would benefit local people.

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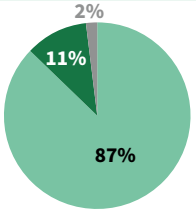
Proposed Masterplan Principle 7
Community Life

Create vibrant, inclusive places where people can meet, shop and take part in community life.



Residents told us:

- Residents share strong pride in Ladywood and want change to protect what makes the area special.
- The community wants a lively mix of local shops, cafés and places to eat that meet everyday needs.
- Many highlighted the need for flexible community spaces that bring people of different ages together.
- Residents also called for better community centres and youth facilities to support local life.
- Some people asked for temporary or "meanwhile" uses to bring early benefits while longer-term plans are developed.

What Young People Told Us

Young people shared their views through a dedicated creative illustration session and a targeted youth survey.



What we heard most often:

- Young people want affordable, energy-efficient homes and a neighbourhood they can afford to stay in as they grow older.
- Ladywood must be a safe place for everyone, with things for young people to do.
- Better lighting and visibility were raised by almost all respondents, with particular concerns around Grosvenor Street and the canal after dark.
- Strong support for outdoor sports facilities and community gardens cared for by local residents.
- Young people want Ladywood to feel welcoming, well looked after and somewhere they feel proud to spend time.

Listening to Local Organisations

Alongside community workshops, we held targeted conversations and designed surveys with the following groups.

Local businesses

Local businesses told us that safer, more attractive streets would help encourage people to use shopping areas throughout the day and evening. Priorities included better lighting and CCTV, improved planting and public spaces, and safer walking and cycling routes to help customers access local shops.

Faith groups

Faith leaders highlighted the importance of existing places of worship as centres for both worship and wider community activity. Many felt these spaces should be retained and supported, alongside interest in community-led green spaces such as allotments to promote wellbeing and connection.

Healthcare professionals

Healthcare professionals spoke about the link between the built environment and health. They spoke about how neighbourhoods can support healthier, more connected communities. They highlighted concerns around safety near busy roads and the canal, loneliness among older residents, and access to local services. They also stressed the value of green spaces and welcoming community hubs.