
Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration
Swansea

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Stakeholder Meetings	3
3. Questionnaire Feedback	6
4. Design Commission for Wales, CADW and Pre-application	13
5. Conclusion and Next Steps	15
Appendix 1 – Webpage Images	17
Appendix 2 - Online Feedback Form Results	18

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report details the consultation activity undertaken by the applicant (Swansea Council - SC) with members of the public and local stakeholders in relation to proposals for the regeneration of Castle Square in Swansea.
- 1.2. A new regeneration scheme is proposed for Castle Square, to raise its quality and to make it more active, distinctive and vibrant.
- 1.3. The aim of SC is to bring about a revitalised public space with new uses to bring Castle Square in line with the wider programme of regeneration already taking place in Swansea, reinforcing the aim of making it an attractive city to live, work and visit. A modern, functional and well-maintained public space is needed, where people will want to spend quality time and relax, which can still accommodate a range of events and cultural experiences.
- 1.4. An initial concept scheme was been prepared for the Square, which took on board all these requirements. The plans for the square include:
 - A new welcoming space with more useable green space, and landscaping increased from 25% of the current area to more than 40% to bring in more character, colour and biodiversity.
 - A greater number of trees - with most existing trees remaining.
 - New food and drink units -cafes or restaurants set within an attractive new family friendly space, with canopies providing shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax.
 - The existing water fountain to be removed, and replaced with a fun water jets feature with mini-fountains rising from the paved area.
 - An upgraded paved area which is accessible to all and pedestrian friendly.
 - Improvements to make Caer Street and Castle Bailey Street to make them more pedestrian-friendly and improve connectivity with the city's castle and an improved Wind Street.
- 1.5. The amount of space for people to gather, sit out and relax would remain the same. It would remain a pivotal focal point for events and gatherings such as those held there before the pandemic.
- 1.6. Engagement and consultation with local stakeholders are a vital part of the planning process and, prior to submitting a planning application, SC has sought to engage meaningfully with a range of relevant parties in order to gain feedback and evolve the proposals.
- 1.7. Where appropriate, suggestions for improvements/changes will be incorporated into the final design.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- 1.8. As a result of COVID19, an online consultation took place between 4th March 2021 and 19th March 2021, along with five stakeholder meetings, targeted at local businesses, stakeholders and likely consultees of the planning application.
- 1.9. The consultation was undertaken during the COVID19 restrictions and therefore was undertaken in accordance with all relevant guidance.
- 1.10. This statement documents the meetings and feedback from the questionnaire by setting out the key conclusions and discussions.

Children and Young People

- 1.11. In December 2021, once Covid restrictions eased direct face to face consultation was undertaken using the council's consultation cabin set up in the Christmas market. Regeneration officers worked jointly with youth work co-ordinators to engage in conversations on the future of the Square. This raised a number of interesting points on safety and security in the space, use for learning ,culture, play and activity.
- 1.12. The scheme has been screened and assessed in terms of relevance to the Equality Act 2010, Socio-economic Duty and Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 .Consequently a full Integrated Impact Assessment report has been undertaken .

2. Stakeholder Meetings

- 2.1. This section documents the stakeholder and consultee meetings. The purpose of the online consultation was to give local stakeholders and likely consultees to the planning application an opportunity to view and comment on the proposals.
- 2.2. The consultation process plays an important role in ensuring that the local stakeholders remain well-informed of the proposals, to gain vital local knowledge and to help stakeholders to play an active role in the planning process.

Meetings

- 2.3. In March 2021, five meetings took place to explain the proposals with key stakeholders to gain their feedback. All meetings took the form of a video conference call, in accordance with COVID19 restrictions.
- 2.4. In attendance at the meetings were various stakeholders from within Swansea Council, as well as external key stakeholders from the business community, including the leader of the local business group, the Woodland Trust and Natural Resources Wales, Wales Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit (Wectu), Access Groups, Business Improvement District (BID) and GI Professionals.
- 2.5. Each meeting involved an overview of the proposed scheme followed by an informal discussion to allow the development team to answer any queries, to identify where support was being offered and to take on board any concerns and identify areas for further discussion/improvements.
- 2.6. The first engagement meeting took place on 3rd March 2021 with Russell Greenslade, the Chief Executive of the Swansea Business Improvement District (BID). Mr Greenslade represented the BID members, a number of whom will be interested in the changes proposed given the proximity of their businesses to Castle Square. The feedback on the proposals was broadly positive and support was offered, via the BID network, to advertise and encourage engagement in the survey (detailed in section 3). Mr Greenslade was keen to explore how interactive technology could be incorporated into the development to help local businesses understand footfall, demographics and visitor profiles to the area.
- 2.7. It was suggested that there is an appetite for the commercial units being proposed as a number of businesses have expressed an interest in the floorspace.
- 2.8. A meeting took place on 4 March 2021 with the Woodland Trust. The following points/issues were discussed:
 - Concern was expressed about the loss of trees unnecessarily. It was pointed out that the value of the current trees at Castle Square when assessed by SC's arboricultural officer was mixed although the aim is to retain as many trees as possible.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- The importance of public consultation was stressed as well as consultation with the Woodland Trust. An offer was made to establish a working group to comment on tree species and to help the public engage in the process. Further engagement on species types was welcomed, but it was also pointed out that input would be required on species that would be tolerant to the Sustainable Urban Drainage solution that would be required for the site.
- It was recognised that the landscape proposals are challenging given the gradient of Castle Square but they were considered a significant improvement.
- Opportunities to add further greenery were suggested. It was pointed out that the site is a sensitive archaeological area and Cadw has raised concern about connections with the Castle.

2.9. Further comments from Woodland Trust included:

- The landscape proposal was considered positive.
- It was confirmed that their remit is trees and protection. They understand that some removal is required for the bigger picture, taking a pragmatic approach.
- There is a need to ensure the planting beds and new trees are maintained for biodiversity increase and a need to secure long term upkeep and maintenance.
- On clarification on why the two trees were specifically identified for removal (the regeneration is dependent on making way for commercial units) it was viewed as acceptable. It was considered positive that the mature trees were remaining.
- It was suggested that the tree forum is good for tree planting knowledge and they worked with many local authorities previously. The Woodland Trust see it as a real opportunity to improve relationships with SC after previous issues on Wine Street.
- Further engagement was encouraged.

2.10. A meeting took place on 9th March 2021 with officers from Swansea Council responsible for Sustainability, Equality, SABS (drainage), Landscape and Nature Conservation. The Sustainable Places Officer from Natural Resource Wales was also in attendance. The following background was set out at the start of the meeting:

- Approximately 12 months ago, there was a different concept presented – one with a harder landscape design. Comments have been taken on board around need for more greenery, better Green Infrastructure (GI) and SUDs strategy.
- A new design was commissioned which has increased GI and SUDs.
- The latest proposals increase green space from 25% to 41% of the square.
- The concept has been approved by SC Cabinet to take forward to detailed design.

2.11. A discussion took place around the following:

- The need to consider how any SUDs structures would avoid DCWW easements and how they might link in with wider regeneration initiatives.
- The importance of incorporating SABS into the landscape design at an early stage was stressed.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- Positive feedback was given on the increase in green space being proposed. NRW identified that there are five principles for Green Infrastructure strategy that the landscape architect should take on board.
 - The importance of the choice of plant species to link to the Tawe and Waterfront wildlife corridors.
 - The need to look at the practicalities of raised planters and whether more rain gardens might be incorporated into the scheme.
 - The introduction of play space into the proposals was welcomed.
 - Careful choice of species in relation to the green roofs was discussed, along with their function.
 - Further engagement is to take place in respect of species mix and technical detailing on SABS design.
- 2.12. A meeting took place on 15th March with Swansea Disability Forum, SightLife, Guide Dogs Cymru and local ward members as well as project team members. Issues including tactile paving, hand rails, colours of paving were discussed. The design team took these comments on board and will try and incorporate them where possible.
- 2.13. A meeting was held with the South Wales Police Crime Prevention Design Advisor and the Wales Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit (WECTU) on 19th March 2021. The regeneration was broadly welcomed given the current problems with Castle Square. Existing issues of anti-social behaviour and rough sleepers were raised. Security of the performance area was raised as a potential issue.
- 2.14. The difficulties of designing an open and inclusive public space whilst minimising potential for anti-social behaviour were recognised. On the whole it was felt that the redesign will help to improve the area.
- 2.15. Welsh Government legislating for new laws on crowded places was raised. This was seen as a very exciting proposal but a question was raised over whether there will be protection from vehicle impingement and terrorism threats. A full security review is required to understand risks and how they will be overcome.
- 2.16. The use of curves, slopes and bushes increase the threats and there needs to be an understanding of how the project team aims to design out terrorism/crime. Help from experts to reduce the risk from crime would be welcomed.
- 2.17. Clarification was sought over whether the development is part of the CCTV area. Consideration needs to be given to potential for the area to be used for protests and gatherings and as such it is important to assess safety.

3. Questionnaire Feedback

- 3.1. Feedback from the public was gained via an online resource and questionnaire. The consultation website was available on the Swansea Council webpage at the following address:

<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/castlesquaredevelopment>

- 3.2. Images of the consultation webpage can be found at Appendix 1. The public were encouraged to view the proposals and provide feedback via a questionnaire. Publicity was provided by means of:

- Council website
- Social media
- Site notices and flyers sent to individual businesses by email addresses
- Web links sent to multiple stakeholder and interest groups
- Video clip played on the Castle Square TV screen to make people aware of the consultation.

- 3.3. Comments were submitted online via a feedback form or people had an option to email comments to a dedicated email address (castlesq@swansea.gov.uk). The consultation documents and feedback form were available in other formats if requested.

- 3.4. Questions on the feedback form were as follows:

- Q1: When you are in the City centre, how often do you visit or spend time in/around Castle Square?
- Q2: What was the main purpose of your visit last visit to Castle Square?
- Q3: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add more greenspace to Castle Square?
- Q4: Please explain your answer here.
- Q5: What sort of new greenspace would you like to see in the Square?
- Q6: New small cafes or restaurant units set within an attractive new family friendly space with canopies will provide shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax. Do you agree or disagree with the proposals to add café /restaurant uses in Castle Square?
- Q7: Please explain your answer here.
- Q8: A new water feature is proposed for Castle Square, which can be switched on and off to allow use of the space for events. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add a new water feature in the Square?
- Q9: Please explain your answer here.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- Q10: Do you have any comments that you would like to make in relation to the initial regeneration proposals for Castle Square?

3.5. 235 feedback forms were completed and the following tables show a breakdown of the data collected:

Q1: When you are in the City centre, how often do you visit or spend time in/around Castle Square?			
11 (4.7%)	Every day	53 (22.6%)	Few times a month
33 (14.0%)	1 - 2 days per week	72 (30.6%)	Less often
21 (8.9%)	3 - 5 days per week	29 (12.3%)	Never
16 (6.8%)	Weekends only		

Q2: What was the main purpose of your visit last visit to Castle Square?			
58 (25.0%)	Shopping at nearby shops	14 (6.0%)	Participating in an event or gathering
15 (6.5%)	Visiting Bars/pubs	1 (0.4%)	Watch the tv screen
26 (11.2%)	To relax/sit down	110 (47.4%)	Just passing through/part of journey
8 (3.4%)	Watching an event		

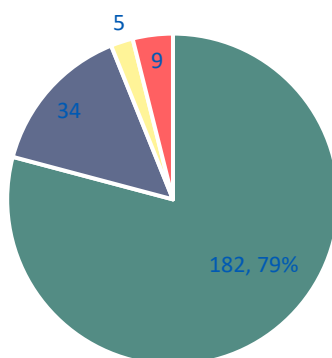
Q3: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add more greenspace to Castle Square?			
182 (79.1%)	Strongly agree	9 (3.9%)	Tend to disagree
34 (14.8%)	Tend to agree	5 (2.2%)	Strongly disagree

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Q3: Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add more greenspace to Castle Square?



■ Strongly agree ■ Tend to agree ■ Strongly disagree ■ Tend to disagree

Q4: Please explain your answer here (176 responses were received, the following selection gives a representative summary of the comments. The full list of comments can be found in **Appendix 2**).

- Nature needs all the help it can get. Also a teaching tool for children to have biodiversity in the city.
- Not enough open green spaces in Swansea Centre.
- Surrounding people with greenery improves mental wellbeing and is essential for improving the environment.
- The current space is dominated by hard surfaces, more greenspace will soften the environment.
- Yes I agree that green space would be nice. But then it's hard to maintain. And cost more in the long run.
- Your not dealing with the main issue of anti-social behaviour in the Square, it's a meet up for drunks etc.
- Used to be a pretty place. Now has a lot of hard surfaces. Not welcoming.
- The city is a concrete jungle, there is very little opportunity for people, specifically disabled to meet up and chat or to rest of just enjoy the surroundings.
- Please bring back more greenery, trees and seating, ideally like it used to be, a great open space where families can meet, how lovely it would be say at Christmas time where a big tree could go, lights strung up between trees, a true focal point.
- There's far too much concrete around and we need more green space and trees and plants planted.

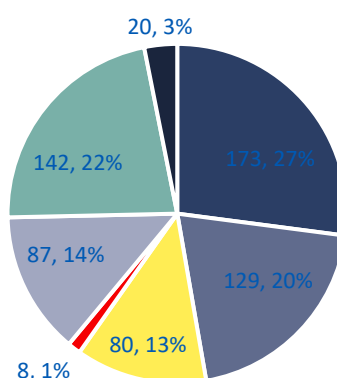
Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Q5: What sort of new greenspace would you like to see in the Square?			
173 (74.9%)	More trees and shrubs	87 (37.7%)	Formal planting
129 (55.8%)	More lawned areas	142 (61.5%)	Wildflower planting
80 (34.6%)	More accessible space	20 (8.7%)	Other write in
8 (3.4%)	Watching an event		
A representative summary of the 20 'write in' answers is provided below (The full list of comments can be found in Appendix 2).			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A mix of wildflower/ formal and trees and shrubs.• Benches under trees and picnic areas.• More child friendly and engaging.• People need a place to sit surrounded by life and colour, garden areas places to sit and eat .• Water features.• Seating and eating areas, possibly with parasols.			

Q5: What sort of new greenspace would you like to see in the Square?



- More trees and shrubs
- More lawned areas
- More accessible space
- Watching an event
- Formal planting
- Wildflower planting
- Other write in

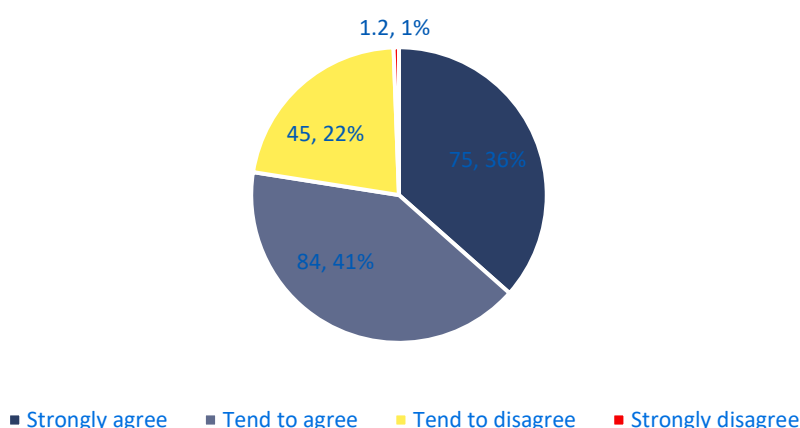
Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Q6: New small cafes or restaurant units set within an attractive new family friendly space with canopies will provide shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax. Do you agree?			
75 (32.8%)	Strongly agree	45 (19.7%)	Tend to disagree
84 (36.7%)	Tend to agree	25 (10.9%)	Strongly disagree

Q6: New small cafes or restaurant units set within an attractive new family friendly space with canopies will provide shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax. Do you agree?



Q7: Please explain your answer here (168 responses were received, the following selection gives a representative summary of the comments. The full list of comments can be found in Appendix 2).

- Already many, many cafes in the immediate area Not enough open green spaces in Swansea Centre.
- As long as they are individual local businesses, not chains like Costa or Gregg's etc. The current space is dominated by hard surfaces, more greenspace will soften the environment.
- Commercial food units will mean litter and also will be prohibitive for those who can't afford the food. Picnic area for people to bring their own food is needed.
- Cafes yes, restaurants no - we have enough of them elsewhere in the city.
- I really like this idea. Most European cities in The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany have squares like these (e.g. Grote Markt, Antwerp). Provides a purpose for the area, which is good.
- If done sympathetically and with respect for each other's space, it could feel like a desired cosmopolitan space.
- It will bring footfall to the area and a sense of security.
- There's far too much concrete around and we need more green space and trees and plants planted.
- Not everyone will invest the time to carry takeaway food to the square from elsewhere. On-site facilities would certainly interest me.
- Keep and restore traditional features while adding green space. Do not build modern structures.

Statement of Community Involvement

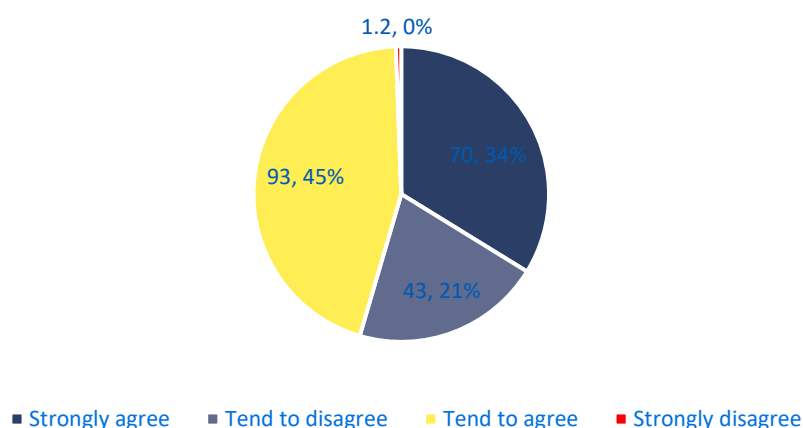
Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Q8: A new water feature is proposed for Castle Square, which can be switched on and off to allow use of the space for events. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add a new water feature in the Square?

70 (30.3%)	Strongly agree	93 (40.3%)	Tend to agree
43 (18.6%)	Tend to disagree	25 (10.8%)	Strongly disagree

Q8: A new water feature is proposed for Castle Square, which can be switched on and off to allow use of the space for events. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add a new water feature in the Square?



Q9: Please explain your answer here (159 responses were received, the following selection gives a representative summary of the comments. The full list of comments can be found in **Appendix 2**).

- A development of this nature needs a 'wow' element, something that draws people in.
- All depends on the design of it Commercial food units will mean litter and also will be prohibitive for those who can't afford the food. Picnic area for people to bring their own food is needed.
- Attracts tourists for photo opportunity and attractive to make passers-by way to stop I really like this idea.
- Do not see the point of allowing little children to get wet with nowhere for them to dry...under used feature this will be.
- Good if the rest is planned properly.
- It will depend on how it is maintained to avoid vandalism. Fountains that aren't always visible could work.
- Needed to allow flexible multi use. Old arrangements are poor and tired.
- The current fountain is way passed its sell by date and does not look good when in use.
- The ones I've seen in European cities are really nice.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- 3.6. The full set of responses are contained in **Appendix 2**.
- 3.7. The feedback from the survey indicates strong support for adding more greenspace to Castle Square with 94% of respondents agreeing with the proposal to do so. Comments in support of adding greenspace indicated that the existing hard surfaces are not welcoming. Some concerns were raised over future maintenance and over how existing problems of anti-social behaviour might be tackled.
- 3.8. In response to Q5 on the types of new greenspace that people would like to see there were generally high levels of support for all of the suggestions, with the exception of adding green space to allow for watching an event and for formal planting. The highest levels of support were expressed for more trees and shrubs, wildflower planting and more lawned areas.
- 3.9. Q6 gauged views on the proposal for new small cafes or restaurant units set within an attractive new family friendly space with canopies to provide shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax. 70% of respondents agreed with the proposal. Positive respondents felt that this would bring footfall and a sense of security and provide a cosmopolitan space. Some concerns were expressed that there are already too many cafes and not enough green spaces and others raised concerns about potential for increased litter.
- 3.10. Over 70% of respondents agreed with the proposal for a new water feature. Positive responses thought that it would provide an attractive feature that would draw people in. Some caution was voiced about potential for vandalism.

4. Design Commission for Wales, CADW, Pre-application and PAC

Design Review Panel

- 4.1. Early engagement with the Design Commission for Wales (DCfW) has been carried out. The design team presented to the DCfW on 12 August 2021, key feedback can be summarised as follows:
- The scheme would benefit from further exploration of the relationship between the site & its broader context, beyond the boundary line.
 - Exploration of alternative design concepts should be tested to ensure it is a space that can be properly used rather than simply entered and exited.
 - Explore the relationship with the Castle and other culturally significant associations of the site in more depth.
 - Accessibility & inclusivity: the design team were encouraged to further consider how the square will be used by different user groups – particularly children and older people - to ensure all feel welcomed and safe throughout the day and night and all through the week.
 - Review in more detail the proposed removal or relocation of the “Leaf Boat sculpture by Amber Hiscott.
 - Careful curation of businesses, including a focus on small scale local business is important.

CADW

- 4.2. Cadw have been consulted during RIBA Stage 3 design, and were involved in discussions during early Stage 1 development, as it relates to the setting of Swansea Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument and the Wind Street Conservation Area.

Pre-application

- 4.3. A thorough pre-application process has taken place with Swansea Council planning team as well as other internal consultees such as highways officers, tourism and leisure officers, design, heritage and conservation officers.
- 4.4. Formal feedback from the Case Officer was received in April 2022. The response confirmed that the development is acceptable in principle. This described the positive planning policy context as well as containing some consultation responses and information to support the planning application. A copy of the pre-application response can be found in Appendix 1 of the Planning Statement.

Pre-application consultation (PAC)

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- 4.5. PAC is a statutory obligation in Wales where application documents are made available to the public and consultees to comment on for 28 days prior to the formal submission of the planning application.
- 4.6. PAC will run from 26th April until 24rd May. Any comments received during this time will be reviewed and amendments made to the proposals where appropriate before the planning application is submitted.
- 4.7. The PAC documents will be available to view and download by visiting the following website: <https://sites.savills.com/castlesquareswansea>.
- 4.8. The planning application will be supported by a PAC Report which will fully explain the process and outcomes as well as summarise the comments received.

5. Conclusion and Next Steps

- 5.1. Feedback from stakeholders and a wider public audience has been sought on preliminary proposals for a new regeneration scheme for Castle Square, Swansea. The aim of the consultation has been to gain an understanding of how the space is being used at present and what, if any, problems can be identified with the existing space. The consultation has gauged public opinion on the proposed changes and sought feedback on where the scheme might be improved or tailored to better meet public expectations. The views of stakeholders and likely consultees to the planning application have also been sought to identify any key issues that need to be addressed in taking the design forward to a detailed planning application stage.
- 5.2. Whilst there has been a wide variety of responses to the public consultation what is clear is that there is a need to regenerate and rejuvenate the area and there is general support for proposals to do this, including strong support for additional greenspace and planting, and support for new food and drink outlets and a water feature. Some concerns have been expressed about how litter and anti-social behaviour can be addressed, but also recognition that the current square has similar existing problems.
- 5.3. Engagement with stakeholders identified areas that require further consideration in the design process, including:
- There is a need to ensure the planting beds and new trees are maintained for biodiversity increase and a need to secure long term upkeep and maintenance. Links to the Tawe and Waterfront wildlife corridors were suggested.
 - Further engagement was encouraged on tree species with the Woodland Trust.
 - There is a need to consider SUDS structures, how they address DCWW easements and how they might link in with wider regeneration initiatives. The importance of incorporating SABS into the landscape design at an early stage was stressed.
 - The need to look at the practicalities of raised planters and whether more rain gardens might be incorporated into the scheme.
 - Careful choice of species in relation to the green roofs was discussed, along with their function.
 - Further engagement with the security consultees was encouraged on detailed design to address potential issues of anti-social behaviour, terrorism, crime and crowd safety.
 - Need to consider tactile paving, coloured paving and other disability issues.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



- 5.4. The feedback that has been received so far has been used and will further be used to shape the proposals going forward and there will be further opportunities for engagement with the general public and local stakeholders through the planning application process.
- 5.5. The above is intended as a description and update on how the consultation process has been carried out thus far, and hopefully gives an indication as to the main issues raised by members of the community. As we hope the preceding section demonstrates, feedback from residents and local stakeholders is of great value to us and, as such, contact channels for the community engagement team will remain open. We encourage interested parties to get in touch with any further comments they have.
- 5.6. Effective engagement and consultation is an ongoing process that does not end with the submission of a planning application. Swansea Council, as the applicant are committed to continuing dialogue with local stakeholders.

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Appendix 1 – Webpage Images

Swansea Home > Business > City centre improvements

Castle Square

A new regeneration scheme is proposed for Castle Square, to raise its quality and to make it more active, distinctive and vibrant.

A revitalised public space with new uses will bring Castle Square in line with the wider programme of regeneration already taking place in Swansea, reinforcing the aim of making it an attractive city to live, work and visit. A modern, functional and well-maintained public space is needed, where people will want to spend quality time and relax, which can still accommodate a range of events and cultural experiences.

An initial concept scheme has been prepared for the square, which takes on board all these requirements. The plans for the square currently include:

- A new welcoming space with more useable green space, and landscaping increased from 25% of the current area to more than 40% to bring in more character, colour and biodiversity.

- Improvements to make Caer Street and Castle Bailey Street to make them more pedestrian-friendly and improve connectivity with the city's castle and an improved [Wind Street](#).
- The amount of space for people to gather, sit out and relax would remain the same. It would remain a pivotal focal point for events and gatherings such as those held there before the pandemic.

A new-look Castle Square could open as early as late next year.

Castle Square proposed view from Princess Way roundabout



Castle Square layout



If you have any queries please email castle@swansea.gov.uk

Statement of Community Involvement

Castle Square Regeneration, Swansea



Appendix 2 - Online Feedback Form Results

If you would like any more information about this consultation or would like this information in another format please e.g. large print advise us by:

e-mail: castlesq@swansea.gov.uk

website: <http://www.swansea.gov.uk/castlesquareddevelopment>

Castle Square Regeneration: Feedback Form :Have Your Say

The consultation on the initial concept plan will run until 5pm on the 13th March 2021, and will help to develop ideas for the detailed design of the scheme.

In summary, the regeneration of Castle Square will aim to provide :

- A new welcoming space with more useable green space and landscaping to bring in more character, colour and biodiversity.
- New small cafes or restaurant units set within an attractive new family friendly space, with canopies providing shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax.
- The existing water fountain will be removed, and it will be replaced with a fun water jets feature with mini-fountains rising from the paved area.
- An upgraded paved area which will be accessible to all and pedestrian friendly. The amount of space for people to gather, sit out and relax would remain the same.

You can find more information on the initial concept plan and the public engagement process here:
<http://www.swansea.gov.uk/castlesquareddevelopment>

When in you are in the City centre, how often do you visit or spend time in/around Castle Square?

Q1

11 (4.7%)	Every day	53 (22.6%)	Few times a month
33 (14.0%)	1 - 2 days per week	72 (30.6%)	Less often
21 (8.9%)	3 - 5 days per week	29 (12.3%)	Never
16 (6.8%)	Weekends only		

Q2

What was the main purpose of your visit last visit to Castle Square?

58 (25.0%)	Shopping at nearby shops	14 (6.0%)	Participating in an event or gathering
15 (6.5%)	Visiting Bars/pubs	1 (0.4%)	Watch the tv screen
26 (11.2%)	To relax/sit down	110 (47.4%)	Just passing through/part of journey
8 (3.4%)	Watching an event		

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add more greenspace to Castle Square?
182 Strongly 34 (14.8%) Tend to 9 (3.9%) Tend to 5 (2.2%) Strongly
(79.1%) agree agree disagree disagree

Q4 Please explain your answer here:
176 (100.0%)

40% green space isn't enough. It should be nearer 60-70% - greenery is healthier and also improves mental welfare
A green space with tress and flowers would make the space more approachable, and would actually make you want to spend time there
A tidy green space would make the place very welcoming
Adding more greenspace would improve the aesthetics of the area. if landscaped accordingly, during the summer the area could look really attractive with flowering plants etc
Agree somewhat but funds/cost must be considered in current climate.
Apart from the environmental benefits, the current design of the square is just another drab grey slab.
As much green space as possible please! Could be a lovely oasis and much needed biodiversity and carbon capture. Please not just 'hardy' species like on Kingsway which are no good for wildlife
At the moment it is a concrete jungle.
Better for the environment and mental well being
Better for the environment and nicer to look at.
Castle Square used to be a green space with a sad glass leaf. Then it became a sterile concrete space. I don't go there because it is so depressing and downbeat. I would like to see NO trees removed & more trees and shrubs aded
Central Swansea needs as much green space as possible, concrete is spoiling our landscape, bring back the green!!!
Concrete is a eyesore
concrete is ugly, provides no wildlife or beauty
Concrete sucks
Current layout has concreted over too much of the space
Currently has the appeal of a North Korean square
Currently there are no green spaces to sit down and enjoy in the city centre
Definitely needs a lot more greenery but it also needs to be maintained. Flowers are also needed to add colour... why not add a section that it is packed with daffodils for St David's day.
Defo needs more greenery. Its awful at the moment

Dislike the current square but feel no need to change it again
Do not want shops , tv etc - just return it to how it was before you made it into a concrete jungle
Don't want a concrete jungle
Enjoy green spaces rather than urban concrete
Green space is attractive, relaxing, and a relief from all the concrete in the town centre.
Green space is fine as long as there is hard standing for events. markets, rallies etc
Green space is vital for climate and well being
Green spaces are important as they soften an area making it a nice place to stop and meet people.
Green spaces are more relaxing and encourage you to spend time there.
Green spaces are needed to keep beauty within city areas and also help the environment flourish.
Green spaces if managed and looked after provide a better atmosphere than just the built environment alone
Greener is better. Not only does it help the environment, it brings positive mental health effects.
greenery improves health and happiness
Greenery is always pleasant.
Helps with people's mental well being and potentially physical well being too if people used it for exercise purposes as a green space.
Horrible as is
I am in favour of more green space, but do not see why 3 trees have to be removed from the northeast edge (opposite Pizza Express)
I do not think the plans offer enough greenery
I like the current scheme - lots of seating, open, easy to access
I like trees and green areas
I love the colour green and it's better for the environment
I remember the greenery that used to be there, it was much better than what it is now
I think castle square should go back to being the way it was in the 60s/70s with 100% green space and no more concrete or stripy floor like the supposed design.
I think it needs to go back to a green garden instead of a concrete eye sore
I think it needs to stop looking like a concrete wasteland
I think it would be a nicer area to hang out in if it were to be greener
I think there needs to be a lot more green space in the city, and the larger gardens were very popular.
I think there should be a lot more greenery there, including rewilding or planting pollinator flowers

I understand gaining green areas, but you need to address the shops that are not able to stay in the centre as business rates are too high. This will also cause possible antisocial behaviour at any time of the day which will deter people. There are too many pubs in that area and the restaurants are all fast food nothing really worth going to the centre for.
I would like something with the space of the current Castle Square, not enclosed like the old Castle Gardens
I would like to see more flowers there
I would prefer to be surrounded by a more life, rather than just dead stone. A mix would be welcome.
If Castle Square was changed back to Castle Gardens, it would restore faith in the Council. People might even stop complaining about the slip bridge for a while.
In a time when we need to reduce our carbon footprint, green space have the dual benefit of decreasing co2 and increasing tourism + beautifying the region
in my opinion Castle gardens were stolen from the people of Swansea, without any consultation. I don't know anyone who doesn't miss the green space. Please right a wrong and just turn it back into a park. No more concrete needed.
It desperately needs some attractive greenery
It is a concrete monstrosity at present + used to be a lovely rose garden/park
It is more important than ever to enhance green space around urban areas
It is necessary
It is so important to have more green space in the city centre as much as possible
It lacks colour. The city centre needs a bit of wow factor - a focal point for the city that residents can be proud of.
It needs to be greener, with good pollinating opportunities for bees etc, why not a community orchard?
It should never have changed from a green space from when I was a child growing up.
It should never have changed from a green space from when I was a child growing up.
It used to be lovely with all the greenery. It looks grey and bleak now, I no longer spend any longer than I have to there.
It used to be such a beautiful place to sit and while away some time. Now it's simply a dirty and often intimidating space with visible drug and alcohol abuse. Not pleasant at all
It was a far more pleasant, green area in the 1960s before the changes to concrete steps and awful boat.
It will look better and feel better to be there
It will make the area look and feel more appealing and hopefully introduce wildlife to settle there. (Other than gulls) the amount of concrete and steps is not acceptable at the moment and is a health hazard and dangerous.
It will make the city look and feel cleaner

It would probably look better, but as it's not a particularly safe place to be, I would worry about increased greenery obscuring views and making the area feel even less safe.
It's a concrete jungle at the moment and the fountain always looks dirty
It's a concrete monstrosity in it's current form
It's a paved area that looks unsightly
Its simply an unwelcoming concrete jungle and for this reason, I simply walk through. Visually it is cold, bland and completely uninteresting
It's unattractive at the moment.
its would benefit from having more colour and greenery to make it a more attractive area
Just for eco purposes, but a nice green area for families to relax, eat out, and more friendly than concrete slabs.
Keep and restore traditional features while adding green space. Do not build modern structures.
Less concrete more greenery is needed
Less space for events
Look better, cleaner air,
Looks more welcoming and prettier
love the trees
Mae angen llawer mwy o wyrddni yng nghanol Abertawe
Mixed greenery with cafe would be nice
More environmental friendly and also more attractive to the eye
More grass
More green space
More green space in the city centre would be fantastic - although from the pictures provided these green spaces look somewhat small; could they be expanded? There is a great deal of concrete in the pictures, which is off putting for small children. Play areas and trees are very needed in Swansea.
More green space needed to gather rainwater, reduce carbon emissions and it looks more pleasing
More green space to help combat air pollution and help with mental wellbeing is a must
More green space will make the area more inviting
More green spaces are always a good idea in my opinion, it would be nice to have somewhere to spend time when visiting the city centre
More thoughtful, usable green space is needed, but needs consistent active maintenance and monitoring by cctv.
More trees and plant are the answer to so many issues...
More trees, real grass, flowers are welcome
Most of the square is paved over at the moment.

Nature needs all the help it can get. Also a teaching tool for children to have biodiversity in the city.
Need colour infusion more friendly.
needs some colour and trees/shrubs would suit
Nevause nature
No trees please
Not enough greenery in the city. Entre
Not enough open green spaces in Swansea Centre
Not going to be green if you have two unnecessary business units on an already small space
Not sure. I love green space but a) the big screen events need space b) Existing space is good for stalls, festivals, rallies etc c) Green space may be harder to clear up especially after weekends when Wind Street and other activity spills over into Castle Square. I think that was part of the reasoning for the concrete area we have at the moment.
Only tend to agree as you could grow up the buildings with self watering stages of flowers
Please bring back more greenery, trees and seating, ideally like it used to be, a great open space where families can meet, how lovely it would be say at Christmas time where a big tree could go, lights strung up between trees, a true focal point.
Please do not the stripes. They're terrible. Give us a park. We've been asking FOR YEARS
Preferred the space when it was Castle Gardens
Seems to be less and less green areas and trees in the city centre.
Some greenery will look nice as long as it is upkeep.
Somewhere to have a relax and a coffee.
Surrounding people with greenery improves mental wellbeing and is essential for improving the environment.
Swansea looks so miserable and grey, especially with the weather and if you account for the fact that half the year the trees obviously don't have any leaves it just gets worse, if we had more bushes and greenery it would just bring some life back to the area
Swansea was always a green city - this council changes everything into concrete and then years later pays out a fortune to put something back, so this is just another scheme that may or may not be what we (the residents of Swansea) actually want.
The area needs more green space. But not your standard planting elsewhere in the city. It needs to have biodiversity at its heart....lots of nectar rich flowers.
The city centre desperately needs more green space accessible to people.
The city centre feels more like a concrete jungle currently

The city centre is a bit of a concrete jungle, more greenery to absorb rain, pollution and sound would be hugely beneficial.
The city centre is currently devoid of any green spaces, the existing space is unwelcoming & lacks a specific function
The city is a concrete jungle, there is very little opportunity for people, specifically disabled to meet up and chat or to rest or just enjoy the surroundings.
The city would be much nicer with more green space. It's been a proven factor to improve wellbeing and hopefully it'll draw custom to the area
The current lack of greenery is depressing.
The current layout is very harsh with so much paving. It doesn't feel like a destination, more a junction in the middle of the city
The current one is an awful concrete mess. The picture provided in today's online status is another awful concrete mess, yet the tag line said to introduce more green, but I saw barely any!
The current set up is a concrete cave for junkies to meet, fight, sleep and urinate.
The current space has been poorly maintained and not aged well. I actually think there's a good amount of green space there but it has been hidden by the overall design. More accessible, well maintained & diverse green area will certainly make it more attractive, but please use materials that are of a very high quality, can be well maintained and think about details - more unique (and not necessarily of modern design) furniture/lampposts/benches etc
The current space is dominated by hard surfaces, more greenspace will soften the environment
The original Castle Gardens was full of Green space and was relaxing to sit in. Now it's an eye sore of plain concrete
the present concrete is bleak
The square is the centre of the city, one side is retail and the other side is hospitality
The square is uninviting and does not tie the city to the area.
There is not enough green it's all concrete like it is now
There is too much concrete in Swansea. It is ugly and uncomfortable.
There needs to be balance between more greenery and a usable space
There needs to be more colour not just grass, people need colour, it lightens their psyche
there should be more green space and especially trees in the city centre
There's far too much concrete around and we need more green space and trees and plants planted.
There's always been way too much concrete for my liking
think it needs updating but don't like the design

This is quite a loaded question. The adding of more green space is desirable but it is clear that there is less gathering space and space for larger groups of people due to proposed cafes.
To improve the current Space and maybe it more family friendly
Too grey and concrete presently.
Too much concrete
Too much concrete at present so the area looks drab and dirty
Too much concrete currently
Trees are essential to life, I would always welcome more trees and green space anywhere and wish the plans for castle square went further like it used to be 30+ years ago.
Used to be a pretty place. Now has a lot of hard surfaces. Not welcoming.
We have enough accessible green space, we don't need more in the city centre.
We need as much green space and trees in city centre. Mature trees should remain and not be felled and replaced with immature trees
We need green space to fill all available spaces
We need more big trees in the city centre
We need more green space and less concrete
We need more green space in the city centre
We need more green space to sit around with a mini stage for people to perform music. That would be great
We need more natural beauty for mental health to give people somewhere green to go
we need more plants in cities to reduce the urban heat island, to create pleasant spaces to spend time, to show us the seasons changing, even in the heart of the city, to support wildlife
We need more trees to help us breathe !!
We need other colours round castle gardens to brighten it up so what is planned will be great as it is
We need somewhere to relax and enjoy a green space
With a climate emergency, Swansea needs to increase our green spaces, plus it is proven to help people's wellbeing.
with limited green space around the city centre, the castle square looks cold and uninviting, I remember it as castle gardens, it would be great if it was again a community garden / green space
Would be a nice relaxing break especially if shopping with children, green space for them
Would be more attractive
Would be more pleasant a lot of concrete at the moment
Would be nice spot in the city to relax and hopefully watch some events

Yes I agree that green space would be nice. But then it's hard to maintain. And cost more in the long run.
Yes more greenery is needed with nice places to sit and relax in nature
yes to more green space but NOT lawns (attracts drinkers) but GET RID OF THE TV! It's of no use and events have frequently disappointed (football was ruined by yobs and the Opera was ruined by a loud metal band at the office)
Your losing event space and at night drunk people are just gonna pull them pull
Your not dealing with the main issue of anti-social behaviour in the Square, it's a meet up for drunks etc

Q5	What sort of new greenspace would you like to see in the Square?		
	173 (74.9%) More trees and shrubs	87 (37.7%) Formal planting	
	129 (55.8%) More lawned areas	142 (61.5%) Wildflower planting	
	80 (34.6%) More accessible space	20 (8.7%) Other write in	
	56 (100.0%)		

A harden should be green an oasis of quiet tree flowers an lots of grass you are proposing yet another skate board park
A main tower clock could also add as a feature
A mix of wildflower/ formal and trees and shrubs.
As much green as possible to offset the unavoidable hard paving and steps
As much green as possible.
Benches under trees and picnic areas
castle square gardens used to be a haven in town that people used to visit for a sit down and to eat their lunch. not any more. people didn't like that some alcoholics gathered there and so it was made very uninviting
Concerned about damage, however
Do not fell the existing trees in castle gardens, please work around them and include in your development
Evergreen trees and plants as well as seasonal
Fruit trees so people can eat the fruit, native wildflowers and plants/trees/shrubs which are beneficial to the environment/wildlife not just looking green/pretty.
Green walls
Has anyone thought about the fact that trees produce leaves in autumn and are bare through winter - plus they could impair vision at events and proposed cultural experiences.
Have it like. It used to be before all the concrete was laid
I think given the climate in Swansea, some nice artificial grass would be nice so people can visit all year around

I wouldn't have too much lawn, it'll become a mudbath in winter with the amount of footfall in a relatively small area
I'd like to see tropical plantation and tall trees
If possible some form of living wall/ vertical farm
in my opinion Castle gardens were stolen from the people of Swansea, without any consultation. I don't know anyone who doesn't miss the green space. Please right a wrong and just turn it back into a park. No more concrete needed.
Innovative use of planting which can be affordably managed and maintained in the medium to long term eg "green" walls. Discourage/management of littering
Just more green, the city is currently so grey
Keep and restore traditional features while adding green space. Do not build modern structures.
Leave it alone
Maybe some palms to give some of the area some escapism
More child friendly and engaging
More flowers... Add a daffodils section for St Davids by the castle. Create a nice backdrop for photos. 1 or 2 blossom trees or something similar would be nice in the area.
More native plants than serve a purpose in the local ecology rather than generic ornamental shrubs that look like a computer generated city planning design.
More seating on the steps to rest and enjoy the space
More trees and shrubs
Natural seating areas
No lawned areas - in five minutes these areas will be trashed - please employ someone to do some formal planting of quality.
No mature or semimature trees should be lost
No mature or semimature trees should be lost
Not stripes and concrete
Opportunity for an enterprise to run a mini golf or similar family sports facility during the summer months
Parc bach
People need a place to sit surrounded by life and colour ,garden areas places to sit and eat .
Permaculture like in Gaia's Garden book would need less tending after it is set up and be sustainable.
pleasant seating areas
please don't put all the same trees and shrubs like you've done on the kingsway and other part. Add some colour. make sure the water from rain is recycled to water the plants. please consider flooding risks and slippery outdoor floors. Please consult with The woodlnd Trust, swansea community grouing network, coeden fach, the environment centre, the swansea tree forum and other green projects/ specialists.

Public art should be included, either commissioned murals or use some of the many statues etc in storage.
Public art should be included, either commissioned murals or use some of the many statues etc in storage.
Return to grass
Rooftop greenery, living walls
Seating and eating areas, possibly with parasols
Sensory garden, mixture of colour and textures, smells etc. Conker trees.
The current water feature has constantly been vandalised unfortunately so its not maintainable. People are more likely to respect natural areas
The proposed changes to Castle Square are over designed, over engineered and very formal. What will be the point of this expense if the amount of usable space will remain the same. Is there any need to remove the present fountain? Retail units or cafes could be fitted each side of it and with tables and seating around it. My main dislike however is that puzzling structure stuck in the air with an dark cliff-like face easrt to the castle casting shadow and little sun. Has the safety angle been considered for toddlers, drunks and daredevils. It is out of scale and not a friendly addition for bwest use.
There was green space but you removed it, not a great use of tax payers money
Trees
Trees and Shrubs that encourage pollinators and can be used as a space to educate people . Not more of that sterile spiky stuff the council puts everywhere. May as well be plastic. Get advise Fromm an ecologist
Trees, wild planting, naturally generated wild plants AND cultivated plants to make it look attractive but chosen to attract pollinators
Utilising edible plants in public areas, (fruit trees, herb borders) improves general biodiversity and would be available for those that may need it.
Water features
we have beautiful botanical areas in singleton park, it would be great to incorporate something similar into the heart of the city

Q6 New small cafes or restaurant units set within an attractive new family friendly space with canopies will provide shade and shelter for people to sit outside and relax. Do you agree or disagree with the proposals to add café /restaurant uses in Castle Square?

75 (32.8%)	Strongly agree	84 (36.7%)	Tend to agree	45 (19.7%)	Tend to disagree	25 (10.9%)	Strongly disagree
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Q7 Please explain your answer here:

168 (100.0%)

(a) Please do not build more retail units on this space - that's not what it's for and there are already countless unoccupied retail spaces nearby. (b) The inclusion of new retail units will compete with adjacent existing city centre businesses in the restaurant/cafe market. The redeveloped square allows these businesses to develop a takeout offer for people to consume in this space which would be beneficial to established businesses.
A fairly good idea for consideration.
A seating area where people could sit down with food they bought from nearby sellers would be fine, but I don't think Castle Square itself should be commercialised. The entire rest of town is commercial space, the Square itself should be kept free of that in my opinion
Agree if they are in keeping and add to the aesthetic. Signage should be in keeping
All development should be linked to entertainment.
Already lots of places to eat, pop up events might be nice
Already many, many cafes in the immediate area
Are there not enough restaurants and cafes, some struggling, in the town centre? Would rather use the space for greenery and flowers and discourage the begging herring gulls..
As above
As long as a litter control is in place
As long as it is a family friendly space to sit and relax
As long as mature trees aren't felled
As long as the units are well run, well looked after and the surrounding areas maintained this could be a great addition
As long as there are bins available and cafes clean their surrounding area
As long as they are individual local businesses, not chains like Costa or Gregg's etc
As long as they are maintained properly and not allowed to get shabby or for litter to collect around them, they could be very attractive. They should not sell alcohol, and it would be better if they were not cafe/restaurant chains, but rather local outlets with some individuality to them.
Bydd hyn yn hyfryd - ond mae angen dod a prisoedd rent neu rhywbeth i lawr, i gade pobl yna. Mae dre bron yn wag nawr (o rhan siopau ac ati)
Cafes and restaurants give a European vibe. They help to make the city become a place to go to have fun in a positive way, rather than just shop or loiter. It also helps support local business and creates an opportunity for creativity in the town
Cafes yes, restaurants no - we have enough of them elsewhere in the city.
Cafes yes, restaurants no - we have enough of them elsewhere in the city.
Castle Square is a prime opportunity to create a focal point for the centre. It would be great if McDonalds moved and that huge premises split in to several separate units for independent eateries who could make the most of the proposed new scenic seating area.
Commercial food units will mean litter and also will be prohibitive for those who can't afford the food. Picnic area for people to bring their own food is needed.

Concerned about litter
concerned it will reduce the space for participator events. at present Castle Square is the only suitable publically owned space for these. Concerned about loss of any trees
Covered area will provide shelttter
Depends what they are like + what food they offer
Don't think those type of businesses will thrive after COVID, as people are unlikely to return to offices like before.
Enough already in the area
Enough cafe and takeaway venues at present - no need to encourage others. Some spaces and shelters would be welcome provided they can be kept clean which again might be an issue given the type of night life being encouraged nearby.
Enough eating places already, no space in the square
Enough empty retail units nearby as it is
Enough food/coffee shops & take aways near by
Even more reason to attend and relax. New business opportunities.
Family friendly outdoor space is important
Give other businesses a chance
Good but can be open to abuse
Good idea but as long as it doesn't cause litter and there is no outdoor alcohol
Hopefully to encourage families with youngsters
Huge need to transform the personality of the area which is presently quite dark
I can only imagine they will be low quality with terrible food, like similar already in the area.
I feel that these will be misused by the negative acts of the people who currently meet in this area
I just worry that the area is already saturated with restaurants, bars and coffee shops. Also the shelter could attract trouble. Why not allow businesses in the area to use the space via an app
I prefer eating outdoors than indoors.
I really enjoy cafe culture when visiting abroad. This would be reminiscent
I really like this idea. Most European cities in The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany have squares like these (e.g. Grote Markt, Antwerp). Provides a purpose for the area, which is good.
I suppose it's OK, but cafe/restaurant units shouldn't be the focal point
I think it would be good but I think the general issue is the collection of chavvy teenagers who disrupt areas to the point where they're no longer inviting places to be
I think some areas would be ok but not too many. With McDonalds already a huge part of castle square, people eat there now so I think space for small vendors like burger vans, and the like would attract people and also be able to come and go like they do further down by M&S with the Thai van and donut van.

I think that people would enjoy the area more if it was returned to more of a park / gardens area . There are enough places for food establishments in empty buildings
I think the issue with the gulls would need to be considered though I on many occasions have had my food snatched from my hands by them in the past
I think the whole area should be kept as open space, and greenery added. there are already more than enough food and drink outlets around castle square and city centre, adding more would make it more difficult for existing businesses who already struggle for footfall eg 3lamps restaurant which is on castle square. also already number of fast food outlets eg mcdonalds , five guys, last thing we want is these units attracting burger king etc. There is an issue with seagulls and more food units will make this worse.
I would prefer that EVERYONE was open to use the space, not just those who can afford to buy things. The pull on parents is especially strong. At the moment they can sit somewhere open without having to look at those who are possibly more fortunate than themselves.
I would strongly agree if the cafe/restaurant is a local independent business
I'm wary of the area becoming somewhere people can't sit and relax in without feeling pressured into buying food, but it would be lovely to have more cafes and restaurants in swansea, I would prefer local businesses to be encouraged in rather than chains. I wouldn't visit chains.
Idea is good in theory but will the unit prices be affordable? There are lots of empty units in the city centre already will these just be more. There isn't a lot else going on in the city centre in terms of shops and attractions so not sure of people will need more restaurant choices.
If done sympathetically and with respect for each others space, it could feel like a desired cosmopolitan space.
If it is done, it should be up to the cafe/restaurant owners to maintain their space which will encourage cleanliness. It would need to be well managed and not allow fast food outlets that don't care about any litter from their establishment.
If its a family feel can we get rid of the trashy dancing girls at coyote please
Independent businesses should be encouraged
It depends on the cafés. People need a space to sit down which isn't overtaken by commercial interests.
It is a public space. Not for business. There are plenty of independent cafes in the city centre
It rains here constantly. The cafes we have are empty outside all winter. It's a waste. We live in Wales. It rains.
It should improve the environment and create jobs but increased litter will need to be considered
It will be draw people to the space.
It will be lovely to just relax and people watch
It will bring footfall to the area and a sense of security.
It will encourage people to spend time there and discourage antisocial behaviour.
It will end up a rubbish dump like the area is now from take away shops

It will help to give a reason to stop and spend time there, not just pass through.
It will increase usage of the space. And might be a pleasant place to sit - providing the vista is more than just a sea of concrete.
It will make Castle square more of a focus
It will take trade away from the smaller independent cafes in the surrounding area and there will be less room for green space
It would be nice to have a place for people to have lunch, may be an opportunity to help feed the homeless and also cater for events at the square.
It would give people a reason to be there. It's just pavement at the moment.
It's a good idea but green space is more important
It's a garden there are plenty of places elsewhere to shop
It's a public space ANY cafe etc will alter that over time
Keep and restore traditional features while adding green space. Do not build modern structures.
Make it more attractive for visitors, please add toilets,
Make rates realistic to avoid all the usual vacant buildings. Better still spend money on reducing rates instead of building work that is not essential
meet up and sit and relax with family friends
More litter, less space for non patrons.
More outdoor areas will be needed as people will feel more comfortable outside for a while after pandemic
More seating and relaxing areas
Much needed incity
Must offer healthy options and ensure no additional rubbish
Need to make sure these are not binge drinking venues but create a different culture in the city centre so all can enjoy
Needed to encourage usage and therefore deter asb .
Needed to encourage usage and therefore deter asb .
Needs more shade. Would be nice to sit down and enjoy the area
Nice idea to sit outside too
Nice to have an alternative family area.
Nice to make it a social space and make visit to town centre a more social activity
No need for another eatery, plenty already in Swansea that are accessible for all
No need to give any more of our land to James Morse thanks. Turn the tv off too. Just want a relaxing green space.
Not a quiet area if there are retail outlets.
Not everyone will invest the time to carry takeaway food to the square from elsewhere. On-site facilities would certainly interest me.

People come here to eat lunch, you would be taking business away from already struggling businesses in the city centre.
Permanent buildings are not needed. If they become untenanted the place will look messy and undesirable, as it does now. It would be better to accommodate mobile caterers instead, as they do in Clyne Gardens
Plenty of cafes in locality already
Plenty of coffee shops and cafes where you can get a takeout and sit in castle gardens, Cafe in castle gardens will take up space which could be lawn
plenty of space else where for cafes
preferably local business and not national chains.
Promoting cafe culture is good, can we keep it all non-smoking though please.
Provided it is not generic cafes. I would like to see more artisan based cafes.
Risks littering of takeaway containers. You'd have to provide tons of bins and empty them regularly. People will sit and relax if its a calm, inviting space.
Small temporary units like the christmas market are nice
Some local coffee shops would be great here (please support local and not chains)
Some tasteful cafes - Wind Street is 2 minutes away and is full of restaurants. Please do not turn this into a drinkers paradise. A better use is for people who are shopping in the centre and wish to have someone nice to go for a coffee or snack.
Something like Brixton boxcar village with trees and grass would be amazing
Swansea "weather" has to be taken into account
Swansea centre needs a boost
the area would need to be policed by rangers and police to deter the presence of some less desirable visitors.
The artists' impression in the Evening Post 24 Feb shows the cafe as being too prominent and dominating the Square. I suggest it is moved to one side rather than being central.
The city centre is struggling and current shops and cafes should be supported, empty shops should be offered to local businesses, use the area to sit outside and relax, not build more buildings.
The priority should not be more commerce but more about creating and opening up the existing space
The space has always been a place to gather and relax, adding a cafe & or restaurant units there would disrupt that space and make a feel like another street and not a focal point of the town.
There already are many cafes and restaurants in cent
there are already a lot of cafes in swansea
there are already cafes and restaurants around the square and down wind street

There are already well established coffee shops. Do you need to put more businesses out of business
There are cafes nearby and the space would look better just greened with seating areas with some shade.
There are empty units around swansea that need filling first. Otherwise you are adding to the problem of reducing open space and not solving the problem of unused units.
there are enoigh cafes and restaurants around. what about some small independent shops, or galleries- Macdonalds is there and that will set the tone.
There are enough cafes around the square. Picnic benches and a small park type area is suffice
There are enough cafes in the city centre already
There are hundreds of eating places in Swansea (see Tripadvisor) we don't need more.
There are lots of cafes and bars lose by so this shouldn't be the only focus.
There are many food outlets locally.
There are many food outlets locally.
There are plenty of accessible bars and cafes in the surrounding area.
There are plenty of ailing businesses in Swansea who after COVID need to get back on their feet. Swansea does not have the climate for 'continental' cafe culture and we need to recognise this...it's fine to have tables and chairs outside where possible but why develop something which will be used for such a limited time?
there are plenty of cafes around castle square, I think the area should be developed into a beautiful green space with community seating and benches for people to enjoy freely
There are plenty of places to eat in this area whom offer take aways. Surely securing their future should be the key. People just need a space to relax, have lunch a chat etc.
There is enough in the surrounding area like the cwtych for example.
There will be less room for green space then
There's a huge demand for cafes & coffee shops in the city centre
There's plenty of businesses that sell that stuff around the square, why put more people out of busiess
theres plenty of shops/units around the gardens, no need to build on the tiny bit of free space left.
These places should be classical areas, that won't date, like Italian piazza's , places like Bath and York have done well , highly modern designs date upset most and white looks dirty and cheap
This is the main focal point entering the city centre from the east and is often walked through by people who have parked in Parc tawe and the marina. This should generate more income for city as well as far more appealing.

This should help to naturally police the area, and make this part of town a bit more lively and atmospheric. Please get rid of the TV!!!
This will take up space for grass and plants. The concrete there is already unsightly and this will just bring the same issue as now in a few years.
This would be a fantastic opportunity to bring families back to the city
This would be more appealing to sit under
This would be perfect, imagine having deck chairs outside a cafe with family friendly atmosphere.
To avoid anti social behaviour after closing time, I would suggest canopies/umbrellas are taken down and not left permanently up.
Useful to have these things in close proximity of families/others who will use the space.
Want to keep it a public space without corporate branding and more grassy areas. There are already plenty of places doing takeaway food and drink all the way around the square.
We need a reason to stop and spend time
We need family friendly space and playground type activity in Swansea city centre as there is nowhere. it would be good if parents/carers could sit down enjoy their food and drinks while there is a play area very close by so they could watch from their tables.
Well, it would look more like 2021. Hold on they will close at 5.
Whilst sympathetic building design will be appropriate, the space should remain predominantly public open space with any construction not detracting from the openness of the space.
Why not.
Will be lovely in the summer, more jobs for locals to join the cafe or restaurant
Will be nice to have a cafe culture
Will create a friendly welcoming atmosphere
Will have more friendly feel than currently.
Will they include alcohol licence and these would reduce useable space as would take up room but you say the space is the same
With the already empty shop spaces and poor quality shops we should be enhancing the many cafes already present. Zinco lounge and Coffee #1 are family friendly, have outdoor seating and are metres away. Yes, provide space for sitting and shelter but it's clear you want to make the area exclusive to people paying for food and drinks. Focus on creating an accessible green space. So many empty large buildings that can be converted to cafes and restaurants with outdoor seating, like the plan for Wind Street.
With Wind St just a short walk away with empty spaces will they get filled
Would be nice to see something other than high street shops and restaurants
Would much prefer whole space to be public access. Canopies for shade and shelter yes- but without having to buy from a private business. There are enough cafes and takeaways nearby to cater for the square.

Would prefer more green space
Yes, having a cafe/bar in the middle would also turn away the rif raf for the caste centre. And could help bring people in, when there's sporting events on the big screen.
Yes, I love the outdoor dining that you get on holiday, so it'd be great to see more of this

Q8 A new water feature is proposed for Castle Square, which can be switched on and off to allow use of the space for events. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to add a new water feature in the Square

70 (30.3%)	Strongly agree	93 (40.3%)	Tend to agree	43 (18.6%)	Tend to disagree	25 (10.8%)	Strongly disagree
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Q9 Please explain your answer here:
159 (100.0%)

A development of this nature needs a 'wow' element, something that draws people in.
A water feature sounds lovely but removes a considerable amount of floor space which could be used for seating and outdoor eating. Considering the pandemic, more formal outdoor space to eat in the centre would be beneficial.
A water feature upgrade is necessary
Additional space when needed good idea. However flowing water is an asset that will ne lost
Again..can be vandalised
Agree, a good feature.
All depends on the design of it
Alot of money to spend on replacing something that is goodm
And for God's sake scrap the dreadful "sculpture" at the top of the current water feature. It is ugly and awful.
As long as I can get round easily in my wheelchair that's fine - great fun for children on the occasional hot day too!
As long as it maintained. Not like the current water feature.
As long as it's kept clean
As long as it's maintained properly. Nottingham has such a feature and it's very popular with children, particularly in the summer. Nice also has a fantastic feature (but then again, they have sunshine)
As long as it's small, tidy and traditional. Looked after regularly and not left in disarray.
As long as you can turn it off to use the space
Attracts tourists for photo opportunity and attractive to make passers by way to stop
Because it's a waste of money
Considering how people are suffering financially it's a slap in the face and shows the council is completely out of touch with the people
Could be good for wildlife
current feature nice but takes too much of this small space. Concerned any feature risk vandalism due to proximity of Wind St etc.

Depends on it's design, a natural design encorporating green foliage would be better, not the current monstrosity which such collects rubbish and looks awful
Do not see the point of allowing little children to get wet with nowhere for them to dry...under used feature this will be
Don't think it would add much aethetically
Everyone hates the concrete and big TV. It's bleak. I think this needs to be the priority rather than a water feature, although if you must have one I agree that the existing one must go
Floral clock please
Good if the rest is planned properly.
Great idea
have children been participants in the consultation on how they would like their space shaped and what it could look and feel like to be more welcoming?
Have not seen designs nor water usage stats for sustainability.
I have no reason to disagree
I like fountains and have always been disappointed that, instead of a fountain, the council installed a water feature. I like fountains to either shoot water into the air or to be part of an amazing bit of statuary..
I like the old water feature. Getting rid of that to build something new seems very expensive and unnecessary
I like the sound of a new interactive water feature. I think it would be nice for children to have something to do in castle square besides just run around. I can tell you that not many people really take much notice of the existing fountain any more except when someone dumps detergent in it yet again. It so often just has rubbish floating in it in any case.
I like the water feature as it is. I do not like the new idea.
I love the thought of a water feature that people can look at and enjoy as they sit
I think its unecessary and a waste of valuable space which could be used for something else.
I think that the existing water feature is very eye catching and doesn't need replacing
I think water sounds and looks nice
I would like to see a water feature remain in the square the present one is too big, but would prefer a running water type feature as it has very calming sounds for relaxingt
I would prefer to prioritise green space
I've seen these water sprinklers in hot countries they work well. Children love running through them to play and cool down. However based on the people who frequent this area currently I think you are asking for trouble. They'll be using them to shower for personal hygiene.
If it doesnt attract wildlife then its an added unnecessary expense
If it is jets coming out of ground, that is great fun for kids and I strongly agree with that
If it's like those fountains you see where kids can run through then yes
If kept clean, it could be an attractive, interactive feature.

I'm not that keen on the water feature, not sure what it would add to the area.
In theory, love it, would be good to see some examples, and would be good if it was actually accessible and not just for show
It is too cold for a "fun water feature" in Swansea. Max 10 days a year it would be warm enough.
It needs an upgrade to something more modern. The current fountain is unhealthy and dirty looking
It should be available to the public, like the Princess Di, or Kings x fountains. It should not result in the removal of mature or semi mature trees.
It should be available to the public, like the Princess Di, or Kings x fountains. It should not result in the removal of mature or semi mature trees.
It sounds lovely but after the yellow bridge that's recently been put into place, it does make me worry about what sort of water feature will be introduced. The yellow bridge really is not very nice. I'm sorry to say as I know it's been developed with good intentions, but it's so bright and looks like something that would be put up in the 90s. So quite worried about the design of the water feature
It will depend on how it is maintained to avoid vandalism. Fountains that aren't always visible could work
It will just be abused by people. Better to have raised beds with plants
It will.likely look grubby after a while like the current one. Not needed
It would be a lovely idea to have an elegant fountain that cooled people down in hot summer sunshine and had a soothing melody. But there is a huge television screen, with its attendant noise, and Macdonald's, so think it is unrealistic.
It's either there or not
It's fun
It's nice and relaxing and suited for a seaside town
Its nice to have a focal point to the gardens. Water has been a feature of the gardens for decades.
Its not the most important of criteria
I've seen these in other places such as Dorchester and the noise kids and drunk people make detracts from a potentially quiet area
Jets are fun for all the family, and as a performer, the additional space would be very useful.
Just a waste of money water feature. No one looks at it.
Just get rid. The existing one was a great idea but is always filthy. Invest in other things like good rates to attract occupancy!
Just make it purposeful not purely decorative and subject to vandalism.
Keep and restore traditional features while adding green space. Do not build modern structures.
Leave the fountain as it is
Look at the state of the fountain
love the sound of water trickling
Making full use of the are
Mature trees must not be felled

Money is better invested in the planting of a green space
more interest
Needed to allow flexible multi use. Old arrangements are poor and tired.
Needed to allow flexible multi use. Old arrangements are poor and tired.
Needs to be a green area
Nice idea to be able to turn on and off, but I like the current water feature too
No need for a water feature would prefer shrubs and flowers
No real benefit
No that should be grass for a garen plenty of other places for events a fountain would be nice but permanent
Part time water features would be ideal as they have a place there, but it would be handy to be able to turn them off for events - or on for events - however appropriate
Please make sure it is not slippery when wet (nor slippery when dry) or when icy in the winter.
Please, please, please don't install these. We're not a plaza in Tenerife in the mid-1980s and these will look utterly depressing for at least half of the year. Consider a seasonal water feature installation that could evolve and bring something different every year (eg. Jacob Hein's 'Appearing Rooms') and be something that the council could trail/promote each summer. Pavement jets just read as a lazy, uninspired way of deterring skateboarders.
Pointless
Present version dated and sad. Clumsy use of space as it stands. High maintenance. Dangerous?
Sadly the lovely feature has been vandalised previously it should feel safe and welcoming
Something modern, a nice copper feature would be nice
Something new and flexible could be good
Sounds sensible
Swansea needs something different in all areas to bring torists to Swansea
Tend to agree but last fountain did not have any reflection to Swansea history and the water looks very dirty after a short time
That would be an excellent utilization of the space, having the ability to turn the water feature on and off maximizes the use of the space.
The ability to switch off the facility to enable events makes it multifunctional, regular repair and maintenance of the feature will be critical.
The current fountain is way passed its sell by date and does not look good when in use.
The current one always looks dirty and takes up too much room
The current water feature has died a death and is an opportunity for people to act stupidly and jump in
The existing way feature is lovely
The fountain is the only part of the current castle square I actually like. Would be a shame to lose it as it references Swansea's link to the sea.
The last water feature was a target for antisocial behaviour.

The leaf is awful the fountain looks terrible and takes up too much space
The old fountain is dated and broken
The old fountain needs to go
The one there now is awful
The ones I've seen in European cities are really nice
the present waterfall is Ok. a fountain would be nice
The sound of water is very attractive but is the feature worth the money which is better spent on gardening maintenance.
The space should be accessible for gathering and not have to have pre arranged agreement fir access.
The square should be a place of tranquility, not a place for events when the greenery can be wrecked.
The water feature has always attracted youths and trouble!
The water feature has always attracted youths and trouble!
The water feature is totally unnecessary.
There is such a water feature in Bordeaux which seems very popular with children
There's a new fountain like that in New Zealand (mount Maunganui) and it's really nice. They have artificial turf, with lots of trees and seating. It's fun sitting there with food from local cafes and bakeries and watching the kids play
They have these in Spain and the children love them
this is hardly family friendly, as if you are out for food or shopping the last thing you want is your children getting wet by playing in the water so it may actually deter families, some play equipment would be more welcome, and what about green play feature eg a maze, bug hotel and educational green features.
This sounds good especially if it has an element of 'play'
This would be nice. You could also add a light show for the nights.
Though I've grown up with the water feature in Swansea centre, aesthetically, it's outdated and I would imagine not the most conservative use of water, space and power. A new water feature should look to be environmentally conscious.
Used with lighting and this could work well.
Very holiday vibe, bit of a pointless expense but will look good and appeal to young children. Speaking of water, maybe instead of giving it to the concrete you could provide a station where people can fill up their water bottler with pure water, drinking/bottle filling water stations!
Waste of money
waste of water
Waste of water resources
Water feature can be attractive and fun (eg as in SHEFFIELD Peace Gardens)
Water feature is a staple of a city centre.
Water feature should be in middle of gardens as it was
Water features add interest, movement and fun

Water features are a good focus and attraction, cooling the air on hot summer days.
Water features are always great fun for children, so would encourage it to be child-friendly, and involve an element of play.
Water features are nice, good for wildlife and insects and these don't have the drawbacks of having a reservoir which can become polluted or littered
Water features are very dated and not a useful use of space. Pop ups and people mingling is needed less ornate useless things
Water features as on the continent would give area an uplift
Water features can be both positive and negative. It can attract vandalism and idiots or it can be a pleasing soothing sound to the environment. I've seen many over the years become redundant because of costs and because of vandalism.
water features make a beautiful focal point and all ages including children can enjoy them
Water features surrounded with nature is what children want to play with and people want to look at, and is more beneficial to the environment.
Water features tend to be abused, used to dump litter, etc.
Water has calming effect and will add to the well-being of visitors
Water is a calming feature
Water is attractive but when children are with y for an event its better to have them off.
Water is calming but I do have some reservations about wastage
water is good to hear and see but a rockery waterfall and stream would be better than fountain. Peaceful
Water is very calming and and on and off feature would be an efficient use of space.
We do not have the climate for that type of water feature
We don't need water features coming out of the ground. This is wales not the continent.
What a waste of taxpayers money that stupid leaf design is! I could have done better for free!
What's wrong with a traditional fountain ?
What's wrong with the current one? Adapt it....
Why, its like the horse has bolted after the door is shut. Grappling to improve again.
Would be attractive!
Would like to see a permanent water feature
Yes there is a lready a feature there but good idea to make it more economic and 'green'
Yes!! I'm sick of drunk people going into the fountain. This water feature is more idiot proof
You are over complicating the scheme and if I am sitting having a coffee, I would not want a soaking from anybody running around in these proposed water jets. We have a beach 5 minutes away - no water please.
You will have drunk people swimming in the water feature and urinating in it too.
You'll have teenagers running amuck
You've spent enough money on this water feature without wasting more

Q10 Do you have any comments that you would like to make in relation to the initial regeneration proposals for Castle Square?
150 (100.0%)

A step in the right direction but please put it back like it was in the 80s and 90s. A proper simple park area, nothing fancy is needed.
Allow businesses within the area to use it via an app... Similar to what Cardiff did by Cardiff castle. Address the issue with seagulls. 100% keep the drug users and trouble makers away with a higher police presence. With an increase of inner city living, why not try and make it a place to visit in the night too... With night time showings on the TV and projections on to buildings like the castle. If shelters are used could they be locked at night? To stop people heading back from wind st spoiling it.
Allow outdoor space to remain to the space can continue to be an apitheatre for culture especially during stressful times such as covid
As Q9 - so much could be done within the city regeneration programme to involve children. The city centre is surrounded by residential areas who will be using the city centre.
Ask women what they want
At present it has no character and looks ugly
Bandstand for local talent, pop up shops mini eateries outdoor cafes outdoor seating for families to eat facilities for small children to allow families to gather, secutiry to stop drunks from taking over and use the space to actively encourage more music, art, cuisine, culture look what they're doing with shipping containers in London it costs a fraction and is a hub for people to go and meet and relax. Less ornate water features that age badly. Who needs monuments!? we need places which people can use and find interesting
Be more bold with your planting. Not the same old "car park shrubs" with little ecological value. Embrace perennials. Lots of flowers and sufficient staff and time to maintain it properly. Don't let it get tended to once a month. And please, please, please get rid of the awful TV! Thanks
Change the atmosphere and the previous pedestrians occupying the space eg homeless, macdonald take away users

consult with young people also, there aren't enough places for them to go to. it would be good to have a bike/scooter lockers and have a point for the santander bikes there. Have a legal flyposting area on castle square as one of the centre points of the city. Also some outdoor art, perhaps a sculpture that can be climbed or touched. perhaps a vertical green wall with fruits and vegs and herbs that can be picked. Make the buildings/cafes with sustainable material, have a green roof. Please look at what they have done in other cities in Europe and elsewhere. Speak to urban Foundry. Turn the big screen off or just have images, no sound unless there is a specific event being broadcasted. it's a lot of annoying background noise and total waste of electricity otherwise. Consider clever, agreeable, clever lightning for the night time.

Could the screen be hidden when not used I personally think it looks cheap and overbearing

Curious as the area is currently claimed by seagulls and anti social behaviour

Definitely more trees and other plants. No cafe or wavy lines on the floor!

Delighted you're making progress with plans to improve this space. Approve of what you're suggesting. I would encourage you to have a programme of events, music (including your buskers) etc throughout the year to make it even more attractive to stop and spend some time. Would love if local businesses are given the opportunity to fill the units

dislike the squiggly paving pattern

Don't get rid of the city's history.

Don't just rejuvenate it for the sake of covering what's already there. Make it a space that can be used by everyone.

Don't remove existing trees unless absolutely necessary

Funds must be considered, spaces for public are needed and can be good for mental health for example.

Give a free and accessible What's On in Swansea area which is free for all theatres and venues to advertise on.

get rid of that monstrous screen, that hardly anyone watches that is always on- very unsustainable.

Get rid of the concrete, concrete is so stark and unfriendly maybe more grass and flowers, benches for the elderly to sit and chat

Get rid of the wavy lines and the two units might be ok

Green areas, not loads of paving or concrete.

Having read the alord Mayor's comments in last night's paper that there is no memorial to all the civilians killed in the 3nights Blitz on Swansea during World War II, it would be nice if a memorial could somehwo be incorporated into the new development especially as it stands on the site of the Ben Evans department store which wasa Swansea landmark and completely gutted

How many existing trees will be removed- a design should incorporate them.

I am pleased that the Council are making this investment. I only wish the Council had the same ambition for other long neglected areas of the city.

I am pleased that there is a plan to make it more organic and a haven renamed CASTLE GARDEN.

I don't like the stripes in the proposal...and toooooo much concrete

I feel that the existing space currents links both the historic and commercial structures already in place

I hope the giant screen will be replaced in time with something bigger and better it would be strange to remove it when this area will be feeding in to the digital bridge and arena

I hope this will truly become a family friendly area, I remember feeding birds with my grandfather in the old castle gardens as a child, I hope there will be more of this again

I love the regeneration Swansea is going through at the moment, it'll be great to develop the tourism aspect of the area and make it an areas that thrives. I hope that with all of the changes those local to the area will benefit from, I especially hope that the council is conscious of those that are vulnerable and in need of support. A bright beautiful, wealthy looking city is certainly judged by how well it looks after homelessness for instance. This gold painted bridge, or some new benches and trees are not going to improve the image of the city, if we still have homeless people needing them for shelter and beds.

I really hope you take out the TV screen and return the square to a more natural feel. It is also a waste of energy because it is rarely watched Even if no regeneration takes place please remove the TV. I hate it tched

I remember the old gardens, they were lovely. What replaced them is shameful. Please make it an attractive, welcoming, living space. Not necessarily just for families but everyone, French style.

I think it is ab awful lot of money which could be spent on other mmore pressing problems in SwanseA

I think that you would be missing a trick if you didn't try to tie in a feature to link with the new bridge. Going forward I think all these projects should link to a theme to make Swansea instantly recognisable

I think the regeneration proposals are amazing. My only concern is that there needs to be more done to keep/discourage the drug users from being allowed to use the space as a hangout during the day
I think this is a communal space where events happen and making the actual space smaller by adding shops is a mistake. More seating and more events will bring people to town and buy more things
I would prefer to see it left as open space/or some sort of attraction or unique feature to be put here rather than a cafe.
I would prefer to see more green space than what is currently proposed
I'm just happy that the area is being transformed.
If it is protected and kept clean in all areas. Then how is it now then it will be fantastic for Swansea.
if the seagull issue can be addressed, street food huts and craft units would be a better and more different offer for castle sq, you need to offer people something different yet another cafe is not going to give people a reason to visit the city centre. Too much resources given to this area when other priorities eg what about our seafront? No play equip, no toilets, no food outlets.
It has to be back to a fully green space!
It has to be back to a fully green space!
It looks great, although something that could link the gardens to the castle would make sense. Possibly closing the road to traffic at events and weekends? There isn't a huge need to keep the road open a lot of the time, especially with the new car park being built. It would encourage people to appreciate the castle more and link the whole site further
It needs a ramped up warden presence people do not feel safe to congregate amongst less fortunate folks - solve that problem by improved facilities for transient visitors and socially deprived or disadvantaged or the issues will never be resolved - visiting Swansea has become like a post apocalyptic day out sadly - create places for the dispossessed and keep the public facing areas patrolled with wardens as they do elsewhere with fixed penalties for littering and anti social behaviour
It should have been left alone when it was castle gardens. This development is wasting money the authority doesn't have or could be spent elsewhere.
It would be a very welcome change from the concrete monstrosity that it currently is. It's dirty and attracts anti social behaviour and unsavoury characters. I'm afraid to walk my children directly through it.
It would be great if the development could be carbon neutral

It's Awful it won't do people's psyches any good, bring taste to this city not cheap architecture that's been done and failed. White abstract designs don't enhance anywhere think York or Bath !
It's great to see the area being invested in
it's 2021 people don't sit around, the area should be used to energise.
Just put it back to what it was. Turn the tv off.
Keep it simple and tasteful. Many Swansea residents just want a good shopping centre with quality cafes - not drinking dens.
Less built environment
Light built into the ground to give it a modern vibe. A modern blitz memorial. Activity space. More Morden sitting area.
Listen to people's views! We don't want another concrete square!
Listen to the people and design something that's going to last and not something to be dug up in again in 10 years
Looks nothing like a garden! The wavey patyern would make it very difficult for me with a visual disterbance to walk in the arew. Its too stark and open looks bleak just like what id there now. Look at theoriginal garden thats when it used to be used and people came into the city centre
looks very good
Love the odea of eco-roofing. Hate teh idea of expanding on teh current yob-friendly set up. You are basically making it a nicer home for shirtless drinkers unless you do something about that problem
Mae dre yn mynd mwy a mwy gwag, does dim pwynt gwario yr holl arian yma, ond dim rheswm gyda unrhyw un i ddod i dre. Bydde ni yn canolbwyntio ar llenwi siopau/adeilafai gyntaf. Helpu gyda rent/dod a rent lawr neu rhywneth.
Make it more family friendly and less concrete
make it nice not arty a home from home look
Make it user friendly for all ages. Lots of seating and safe areas. Ban skateboarding.
make it wheelchair accessible and disability accessible
Many artist impressions have swirling designs in the central pavement. That will look cheap and awful. Please make it neutral and one colour or better no colour just cobbles. It will age a lot better. Also keep the big screen but please turn the sound off unless used for an event. I have found it very disturbing hearing a loud tv blaring out every day. There is no need for it.
Mature trees must not be felled
maybe a general memorial can be put there in relation to the covid pandemic ?

Memorial statue/art installation to remember the people who lost their lives in Swansea during the WWII blitz. That was the initial reason for castle 'memorial' gardens in the first instance.

More green planting and canopy shade

More trees, canopies etc is great, but need to ensure good cctv coverage is maintained and included in the plans, not as an afterthought if asb and crime become problematic.

More trees, canopies etc is great, but need to ensure good cctv coverage is maintained and included in the plans, not as an afterthought if asb and crime become problematic.

My options will be completely disregarded and councillors will. Continue to wreck our once thriving and beautiful town centre

Need to consider over usage + size of space

No

No, however I think a nice upgrade on the lido would be nice in blackpill

Not sure if this will appear in a later question, but the Portugal-inspired pavement looks so good and I really hope this forms part of the final design!

Overall I like the scheme. The only thing that should be look at in the future is to work with the owner of the building in which McDonalds occupies to improve the aesthetics of the building frontage to bring it in line with what you're trying to achieve with the castle gardens project.

People of Swansea want the old style castle gardens, so just remove concrete, introduce lawns, shrubs and flowers so it will be like a park in the centre

Personally, I don't like the big screen. Its commentary spoils the peace of Castle Square.

Play facilities much needed- there is nothing in the city centre. Most European towns and cities have play parks for families in the centre.

Please bear in mind that white stone or sand stone is not a good idea due to our environment it gets dirty very quickly. Think about materials that age and weather well like slate for example.

Please can we have more high end shops. Names like Uniqlo and a small department stores like Hermes.

Please do it properly this time and just ensure that the plans are carried through to completion.

Please don't do half a job here. This is an opportunity to have a space which could change how the city centre is used. A space that can be used for road shows watching the big screen for national or local interest events. Something which brings people together

Please don't make it ugly or 'modern', it needs to be built to last the test of time and be accessible to all
Please don't make it some Magic Eye eyesore
Please ensure that any flooring pattern is suitable to visually impaired individuals e.g. dementia
Please give us something attractive and modern this time. Swansea always seems to miss opportunities to create beautiful regenerated spaces (for instance the awful new Copr Bridge). The current artist impressions for the new Castle Square don't look great, particularly the zebra floor.
Please make it less of a concrete jungle and more appealing to sit
Please make it more green
Please make sure it lives up to its name of Castle GARDENS
Please please make it more green!
Please please please actually listen to people instead of spending vast sums of money on ideas you think are modern.
Please remove the large tv screen
Please remove the tv screen it is horrible
Please take advice from your ecologists and don't muck it up. Please consider where the sun might be & don't put tables out in areas that never get any sun-as happened in Wind Street
Please think about materials being used. Go for very high quality and something that will be unique to Swansea. Think about introducing a bit of 'Welshness' to the area too. With the castle backdrop, we should definitely have the Welsh flag draped from lampposts around this area, and the roads around this area brought up to pavement level to make it feel like it connects seamlessly to wind street. Choose unique materials and furniture that will make this area unique and stand out for swansea. Think about the lampposts/bollards/benches/canopies. Wood tends to age terribly. The current lampposts and lighting there are awful - boring modern design. Think differently, make it an area that oozes Welshness and really shows off the castle with flags/lighting/grand street furniture and pedestrian friendly around the whole area. It could be a unique destination for Wales

Please, i would implore you to just remove the giant TV screen. If the thrust of this Castle Square regeneration project is about a return to more a naturalistic environ within the square, as it seems to be, then the giant TV looming over it all will be cast even further out of place. So much of our everyday lives is dominated by glowing screens of many forms in this day and age, im afraid that weve almost forgotten what its like to just sit and take stock of this life, or interact with our fellow human beings in public without some distracting display in immediate view. Personally, i also have some hearing loss which can make it difficult to talk to people if there is much background chatter going on, and i never appreciated how the castle square screen exacerbated this when its sound is activated. I think these days we all need rather less noise in our lives, and not more.

Put it back to how it was years ago. Much nicer then.

Really enjoy the events and music in the area, plans would compliment other businesses that offer outdoor seating

Restoring the space with comfortable seating and well thought out green space and planting should be a priority. The space should be accessible for gathering and not restricted with fountains and diminished gathering opportunities.

See above

Should keep the giant tv and use more for local films, tourism ideas for visitors, and very low cost adverts for local businesses (must be affordable)

Something has to be done with this bland area which invites only skateboarders

Something needs to be done. The old gardens were nice and imo should have been left as they were.

Sounds like your trying to make it too modern, get rid of the shop idea and focus on the green space and new fountain, just make it a nice place to sit, canopies are not necessary

Sounds promising as long as it's not taken over by druggies/drunks

Take the tv away or at least turn it on for specific events only so that the square is a quiet relaxing haven at all other times

The appearance of the scheme looks good with building and landscape form appropriate for its neighbouring environment.

The current square is unattractive but there's is no need to change it for another unattractive proposal

The flooring in the picture is not accessible (the pattern) for people with visual processing difficulties, balance issues and vertigo. I can imagine my mother falling over because of the pattern

The increase in green space is positive but Swansea must ensure that the trees, plants and shrubs are beneficial to the environment, pollinators and people and not just look green and pretty.
The large screen is very distracting when relaxing and socialising, and ruins the atmosphere
The permanent commercial plans are misguided
The place just needs to be super approachable (you want to spend time there) & needs to have some seating space, just like the current with its steps.
The plans look really lovely. The only thing that doesn't look very nice is the pattern of the floor. The waves are quite tacky, I think something like Cardiff has would be much nicer- just plain, clean stone. That way the space looks larger as it's not visually interrupted with wavy lines. I think with a plain coloured floor, one block colour, the space will look bigger and well designed
The square needs to be exciting and new in design to attract users. Plenty of rubbish bins a good idea..not everyone in Swansea likes to use them though.
The TV is tacky and incongruous. It's Castle Square, not Times Square. Why not emphasise the castle and trees and greenery? How many other cities have a castle slap bang in the middle of the centre?
The wavy lines on the floor aren't good. Would prefer a more green outdoor space. Concrete jungle springs to mind.
There is a need to deter beggars
Think green space should be main priority
This should be continued up the walkway in front of the Tiger Tiger store all the way up to where the gym starts....
Those wiggly lines in the concrete are awful
Toilets please.
Too much concrete. I would like to see something like Victoria Gardens in Neath - some nice lawned areas, plants and with ample benches
Too much hard surface, more trees needed, with space for roots to take drainage.
Too much hard surface, more trees needed, with space for roots to take drainage.
Too much stone and Concrete.
Trees are not needed, we just need more grass to sit on
Try not to go to modern, it's Swansea not Dubai. Please make sure that you are focusing more on how you can help people. A new green space would be lovely but doing for the environment and add useful features like a water station as suggested, look after the people of the city especially those who can not afford to look after themselves.

Try to do something about the rubbish around mc Donalds - maybe more recycling bins and penalties for dropping rubbish
Very exciting proposals! I just wish that McDonalds would move somewhere else, so that the area would be blighted by less rubbish and loitering.
We need a little platform / stage for singers and performances somewhere at the square. Will bring more people to come down each day and a place for singers to attract crowds
Whatever is decided upon it needs to be something which lasts. I feel that the present set up hasn't been in place for long.
Why are you keeping the large tv screen. I tell folk it was a gift from the Democratic Peoples Republic of North Korea.
Will regeneration of the Square discourage vagrants, beggars and anti-social behaviour? Will the new area be maintained to a high standard?
With McDonalds and the prospect of cafes/takeaways being proposed you will see an increase in littering. The existing bins in other areas of Swansea cannot cope with the amount of litter - just go to the Marina or the walk down to Mumbles and you will understand. What measures are going to be taken to address this issue. It's not being handled well at present.
Would be nice to see some local art work there.
Would love to see a large glass atrium/aviary to house tropical birds constructed in castle gardens.Would bring the whole thing together.
Would love to see some active spaces in the city centre for Parkour, Skateboarding as well as chill out zones and sensory areas.
Wouod be nice to have a space that's regular used for events especially local live music, perhaps a permanent staged area to help facilitate this could be incorporated?
Yes: NO loss of any existing trees. Good clean Public toilets should be available nearby. Lackl of these excludes many people from enjoying the area. Make the Castle more of a feature, it's dwarfed by BT tower and neglected as part of city's history.
You haven't stated how much this will cost or the financial benefits to the city
You must have more to offer all people than jets of water...it's not inclusive for people in wheelchairs so your excluding them

Further Information

Q11 Please tick the appropriate option below:

230 I am responding to this consultation as an individual

(99.6%)

1 (0.4%) I am responding to this consultation as a group/ organisation - please specify below

2 (100.0%)

If you would like to receive a response to your comments please provide your contact details below

- Q12 Name
84 (100.0%)
- Q13 Address
68 (100.0%)
- Q14 Contact Telephone Number
48 (100.0%)
- Q15 E-mail contact details
88 (100.0%)

About You

These questions are optional, but we need to ask them to understand if our consultation has reached the right people and to understand how different groups may be affected by the draft strategy allowing us to address this if we can. The personal information which you have provided on this form will be kept securely by Swansea Council for a fixed period after the end of the consultation and will not be made public or shared with any third parties. For further information on how Swansea Council handles personal data, please see our privacy notice at www.swansea.gov.uk/privacynotice

- Q16 Are you...?
81 (36.5%) Male
141 (63.5%) Female
- Q17 Is your gender the same as that which you were assigned at birth?
211 (99.1%) Yes
2 (0.9%) No
- Q18 How old are you ...
1 (0.4%) Under 16
17 (7.4%) 16 - 25
54 (23.5%) 26 - 35
51 (22.2%) 36 - 45
48 (20.9%) 46 - 55
32 (13.9%) 56 - 65
19 (8.3%) 66 - 75
6 (2.6%) 76 - 85
0 (0.0%) Over 85
2 (0.9%) Prefer not to say
- Q19 Would you describe yourself as...
Please mark all that apply

99 (44.8%)	British	3 (1.4%)	Other British (please write in at end)
136 (61.5%)	Welsh	7 (3.2%)	Non British (please write in at end)
11 (5.0%)	English	0 (0.0%)	Gypsy/traveller
2 (0.9%)	Irish	0 (0.0%)	Refugee/Asylum Seeker (please write in current/ nationality at end)
3 (1.4%)	Scottish		
Write in here			
20 (100.0%)			

Q20	To what 'ethnic' group do you consider		
197 (90.8%)	White - British	0 (0.0%)	Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi
12 (5.5%)	Any other White background (please write in at end)	0 (0.0%)	Any other Asian background (please write in at end)
0 (0.0%)	Mixed - White & Black Caribbean	0 (0.0%)	Black or Black British - Caribbean
0 (0.0%)	Mixed - White & Black African	0 (0.0%)	Black or Black British - African
2 (0.9%)	Mixed - White & Asian	0 (0.0%)	Any other Black background (please write in at end)
2 (0.9%)	Any other Mixed background (please write in at end)	0 (0.0%)	Arab
1 (0.5%)	Asian or Asian British - Indian	2 (0.9%)	Other ethnic group (please write in at end)
1 (0.5%)	Asian or Asian British - Pakistani		
Write in here			
13 (100.0%)			

Q21	What is your religion, even if you are not currently practicing?		
	Please mark one box or write in		
123 (58.0%)	No religion	2 (0.9%)	Jewish
71 (33.5%)	Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant, and all other Christian denominations)	1 (0.5%)	Muslim
5 (2.4%)	Buddhist	0 (0.0%)	Sikh
1 (0.5%)	Hindu	9 (4.2%)	Other
Any other religion or philosophical belief (please write in)			
16 (100.0%)			

Q22	Do you consider that you are actively practising your religion?
53 (26.0%)	Yes
151 (74.0%)	No

Q23	What is your sexual orientation		
13 (6.4%)	Bisexual	23 (11.3%)	Prefer not to say
11 (5.4%)	Gay/ Lesbian	6 (2.9%)	Other
151 (74.0%)	Heterosexual		
Please write in			
10 (100.0%)			

Q24 Can you understand, speak, read or write Welsh?

Please mark all that apply

39 (18.8%) Understand spoken Welsh
26 (12.5%) Speak Welsh
30 (14.4%) Read Welsh

20 (9.6%) Write Welsh
53 (25.5%) Learning Welsh
119 (57.2%) None of these

Q25 Which languages do you use from day to day?

Please mark all that apply

214 (99.1%) English
16 (7.4%) Welsh
11 (5.1%) Other (write in)

Please write in

9 (100.0%)

Q26 Do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?

By long-standing we mean anything that has troubled you over a period of time or that is likely to affect you over time. This could also be defined Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 as: "Having a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on your ability to carry out normal day to day activities."

53 (24.8%) Yes
161 (75.2%) No

Q27 Does this illness or disability limit your activities in any way?

44 (22.2%) Yes
154 (77.8%) No

Thank you for providing your comments on this form. Please be aware that your anonymised comments may be made public as part of the report on this consultation or as a result of a Freedom of Information request and you are advised not to put your name or other personal details into the text of your comment, including any detailed description of your personal situation which may allow others to easily identify you. Inappropriate comments which are considered abusive, racist, libellous or otherwise offensive will be removed before consideration of the survey responses.

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