



ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Background

The six hectare former Brompton Gasworks site, now known as the Bowden Heritage Precinct, is being cleaned up and redeveloped after standing dormant and fenced off for many years. Renewal SA purchased the site in 2010 with a vision to revitalise it as part of the 16 hectare Bowden Project by transforming it into a lively, pedestrian friendly neighbourhood.

Once remediation is complete the focus will turn to the delivery of infrastructure and public realm elements which include the public open space located within the Heritage Listed Brompton Gasworks; bounded by the retort house, railway corridor, purifying house and Chief Street. In preparation for this Renewal SA engaged the services of design firm ASPECT Studios to assist with establishing design principles and options.

Renewal SA, with the support of ASPECT Studios, has planned a comprehensive engagement process for delivery over a period of 12 – 18 months across the following three stages:

1. Developing the design principles for the public open space
2. Developing public open space concept design options
3. Refining a preferred public open space concept design

This approach to engagement was developed in consultation with the City of Charles Sturt, while the two Hindmarsh Ward Members were briefed ahead of engagement commencing with the broader community.

This report covers the first stage of engagement in which the focus was on what will make a great public space. The thoughts and ideas shared by participants during this stage will be used to help ASPECT Studios to develop guiding principles for the next stages of planning.

Throughout the first stage of engagement there were opportunities for the community to provide input and share ideas both online and face-to-face. On Saturday 23 November 2019 a community drop-in session was held at Plant 19 behind the Bowden Display Centre. Meanwhile, the Ideas Wall opened for comment on 1 November 2019 and closed on 10 January 2020.

BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT

An invitation to participate in the engagement process was emailed to some 40 key community groups and individuals, along with those community members who had registered to receive email updates. Newsletters containing an invitation to participate in the engagement process were also letterbox dropped to some 2000 addresses (including residential, commercial & other community) in the local surrounding area. Additional copies of the newsletter along with a poster advertising the drop-in session and Ideas Wall were made available at the following locations:

- Civic Centre and Green St Community Centre
- Hindmarsh Library
- Bowden Display Centre
- Bowden info & Sales Centre
- Plant 4
- Local Foodland outlet

The drop-in session and Ideas Wall were also promoted online via websites, EDMs, internal social media channels and by the City of Charles Sturt.

Participants were encouraged to think about:

- *What would encourage you to visit this space?*
- *What kind of activities would you want to do here?*
- *What examples of great public spaces can you share?*
- *What would you like to see here?*
- *What don't you want to see here?*

Drop-in Session

Summary

On Saturday 23 November 2019 a community drop-in session was hosted at Plant 19 behind the Bowden Display Centre. The session was an opportunity for the community to learn about and take part in the first stage of the engagement process for designing the public open space for the State Heritage Place, within the broader Bowden Heritage Precinct.



BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Attendees were given the opportunity to meet team members from both Renewal SA and ASPECT Studios and to share their ideas on what will make a great public space by responding to the following six statements:

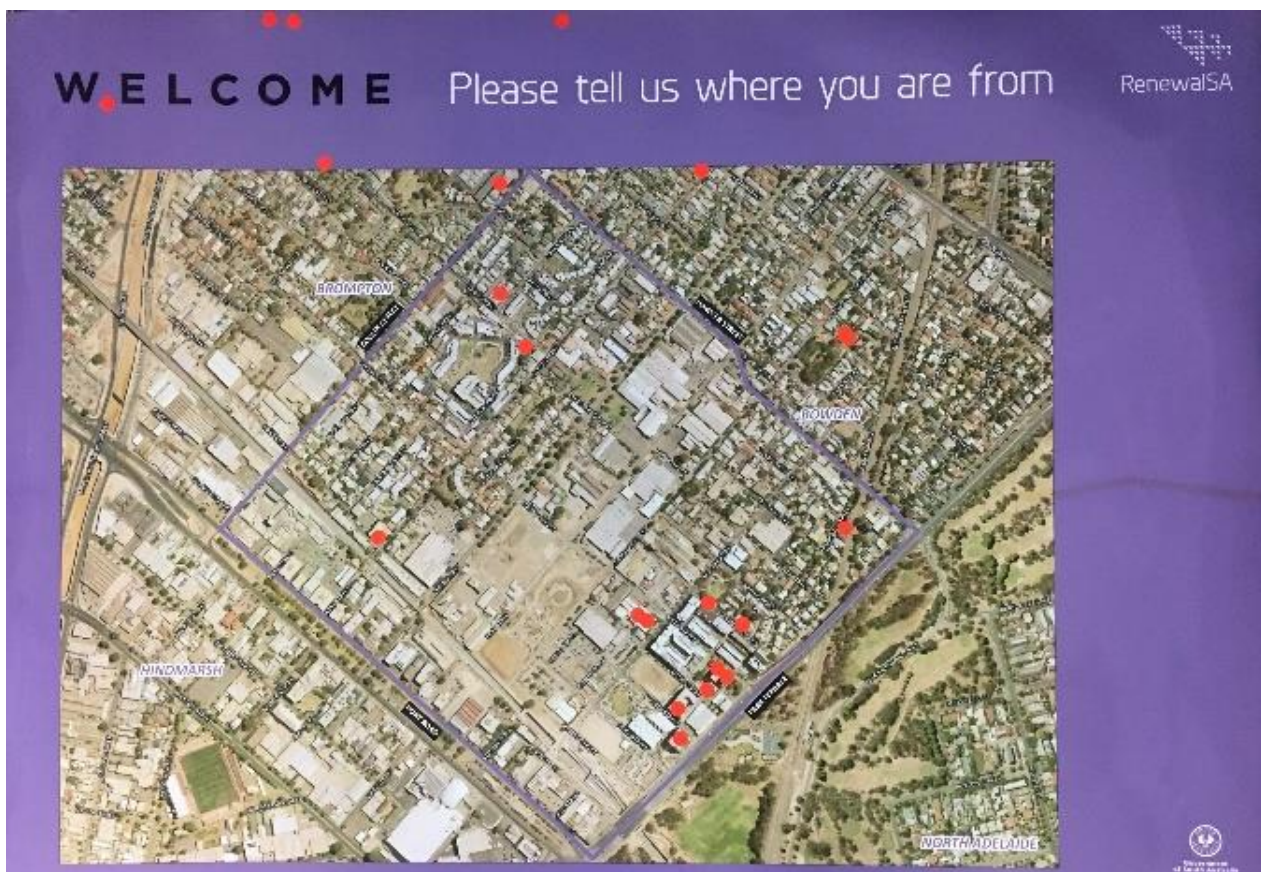
- *Share something that you like about a public space*
- *Share some of your favourite places with us and tell us what makes them great*
- *Tell us what would encourage you to visit this space and what activities you would like to do there*
- *Tell us who you would visit this space with*
- *Tell us how you would travel to this space*
- *Tell us what you DON'T want to see in this public space*

Attendees could respond to these statements either by writing their responses on the physical wall or by using the online Ideas Wall through the designated iPad. All responses written on the physical wall were later transcribed and posted on the digital Ideas Wall where they could be viewed and liked or disliked by the broader community.

Participation

In total approximately 30 community members attended the drop-in session, contributing a total of 127 comments to the physical ideas wall.

Attendees were asked to provide an indication of where they were from by placing a sticker dot on an aerial map of the surrounding area. The resulting map is pictured to the right, the total number of attendees is higher than the total number of sticker dots due to families and groups using one sticker dot to represent all members at the same address.



Attendee Feedback

Attendees at the community drop-in session were given the opportunity to provide feedback on how they found the drop-in session by placing a completed post-it note on the dedicated board under the question *"How did you find today's drop-in session?"* In total 6 comments were received; these comments have been transcribed below:

- Excellent. Like set up & information given – well done
- Interesting THANK YOU
- Great to have the face to face session. Could a board go up @ plant 4? Until Jan 10th?
- Some great conversation & some [token] 'tick-box' 'consultation'
- Fun thank you
- Thanks – great to have opportunity input!

Attendees were also given an opportunity to provide further feedback or comments by placing a completed post-it note on the dedicated board under the question *"Do you have any further comments?"* In total 2 comments were received; these comments have been transcribed below:

- Some clearer information about what will be in spaces in broader precinct i.e.- the other big green space. When feedback on that? Does it have a reference name?
- Aside from info boards and a chat how can we help shape the design and hold accountable – make the consults actually pay dividends



BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT



Social Pinpoint Ideas Wall

Summary

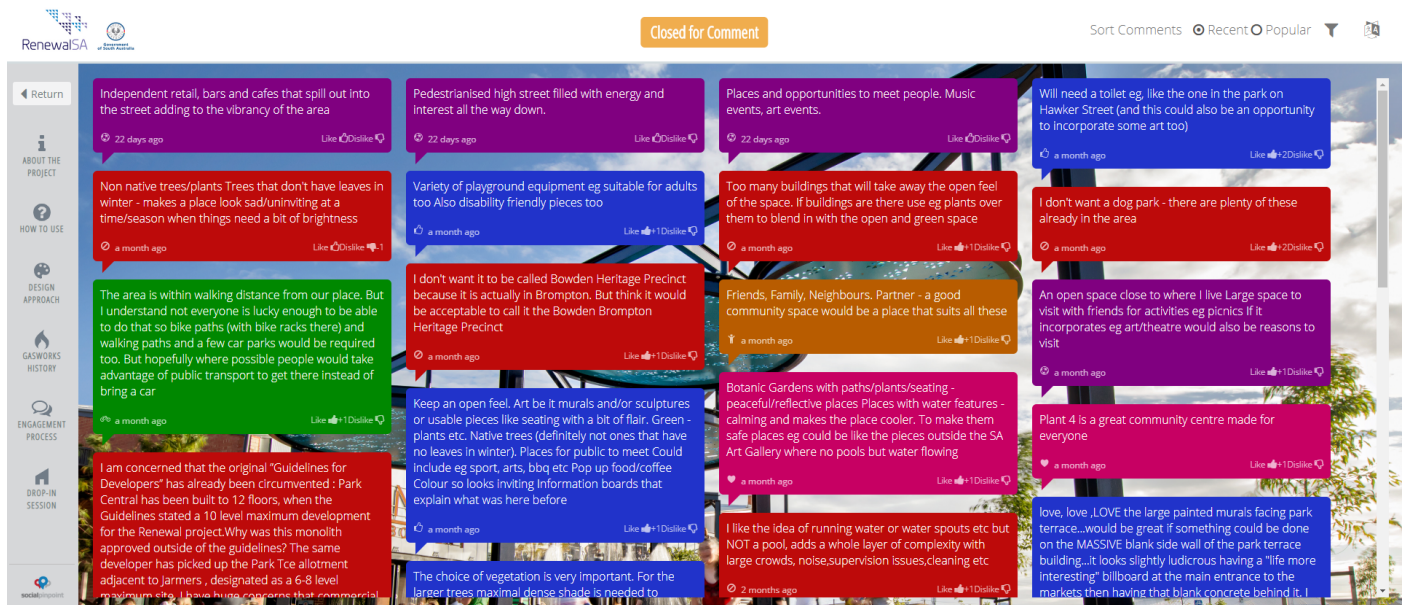
Social Pinpoint is an online engagement platform accessible from both desktop and mobile devices. The digital Ideas Wall provided participants with an overview of the relevant background and engagement process and enabled them to share their thoughts by responding to the same six statements as were featured at the drop-in session:

- *Share something that you like about a public space*
- *Share some of your favourite places with us and tell us what makes them great*
- *Tell us what would encourage you to visit this space and what activities you would like to do there*
- *Tell us who you would visit this space with*
- *Tell us how you would travel to this space*
- *Tell us what you DON'T want to see in this public space*

The digital Ideas Wall was open for comment between 1 November 2019 and 10 January 2020.

Participants could add as many comments to the wall as they wished. All text comments were immediately visible on the wall for everyone to read, however participants' identities were not displayed publicly. Participants could like or dislike others' ideas and could also supplement their comments with photos and weblinks. All comments were reviewed by Renewal SA engagement staff; however no comments required moderation.

The digital Ideas Wall was able to be translated in more than 100 different languages using the embedded translation function powered by Google Translate.



Community members who did not wish to use Social Pinpoint were able to contact the Renewal SA Engagement team to discuss alternative means of providing feedback. As a result, two email submissions were received.

BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT



Participation

In total the digital Ideas Wall was visited by 176 unique users with 56 unique users contributing a total of 111 comments across the six categories. Users were given the option to subscribe for updates with 27 community members opting to join the mailing list.

Participants were not limited to a maximum number of comments and were free to post as many as they wished, the maximum number of comments received from one individual was 11.

Users were asked to identify the suburb in which they reside, with the greatest number of comments generated by residents from Bowden and Brompton. A full summary of users' residency data is outlined in the table below.

Postcode/Suburb	Number of Comments	Number of Individual Users
5007 (Bowden, Brompton, Hindmarsh, Welland and West Hindmarsh)	6	5
5008 (Dudley Park, Renown Park, West Croydon, Devon Park, Ridleyton, Croydon, Croydon Park)	3	3
5063 (Parkside, Fullarton, Frewville, Highgate, Eastwood)	1	1
5033 (Cowandilla, Marleston, West Richmond, Richmond, Hilton)	5	2
Adelaide	1	1
Albert Park	1	1
Athol Park	1	1
Bowden	24	10
Brompton	11	8
Croydon	6	3
Croydon Park	3	2
Devon Park	2	1
Hove	1	1
Kilburn	6	2
McLaren Vale	4	1
Moving to Bowden in December	2	1
North Adelaide	7	2
Northfield	1	1
Ovingham	2	1
Prospect	8	2
Renown Park	10	5
Tennyson (but moving to Brompton)	2	1
West Croydon	4	1
TOTAL	111	56

Results

Methodology

All comments received during the drop-in session were transcribed and shared on the digital Ideas Wall.

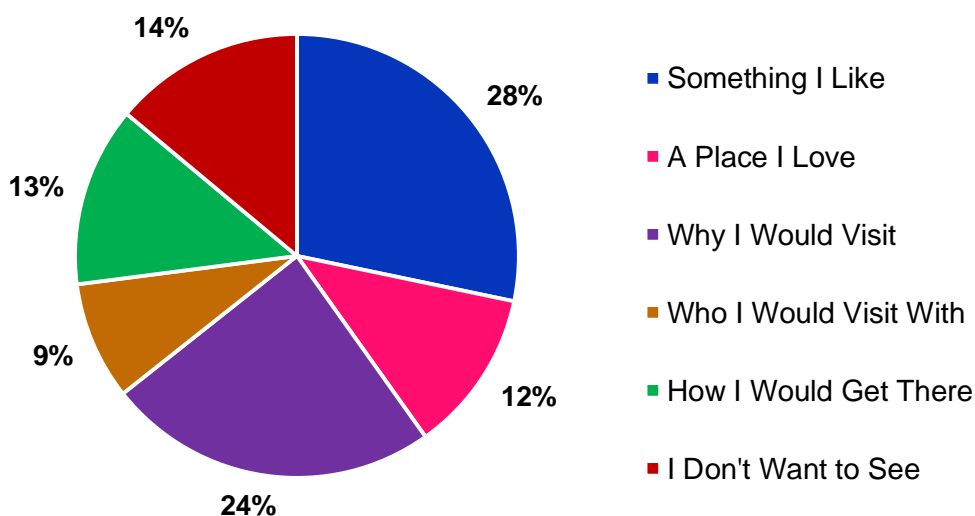


The overall sentiment of each comment was determined by subtracting the total number of dislikes from the total number of likes. The higher number the more positive the overall community sentiment towards the comment.

Two members of the Renewal SA Engagement Team reviewed and coded each individual comment, along with two email submissions, according to the themes present. The themes and coding outcomes were discussed between the two raters and a consensus was reached.

Distribution of Comments

A total of 238 comments were received from approximately 90 community members across both the digital Ideas Wall and drop-in session. The distribution of these comments across the six prompt statements is demonstrated in the graph below.



BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT



Comment Popularity and Sentiment

Community members were able to 'like' and 'dislike' other comments that had been shared on the digital Ideas Wall. Summarised below are the top five comments that received the most 'likes' and 'dislikes'.

Top 5 comments with the most 'likes'

Comment	Likes	Dislikes
Public spaces that are flexible, allowing different activities to occur are exciting, as there is a sense of an evolving space. Like the Hart's Mill in Port Adelaide, with it's Laneway Music Festival and so many other events. Like Plant 4, which hosts different events constantly. Music festivals make public spaces come alive!	13	4
A cafe, and a small dog park for all the furry friends in Bowden	10	2
I think it would be very worthwhile to establish an off-leash dog park in Bowden. They do not do permanent damage to where they are established, they have low upkeep costs, they encourage neighbourhood closeness and promote healthy dog ownership. There is so much open space around Bowden, and so many dog owners who would appreciate a small space to take their dog off-leash and socialise. I think everyone could agree, the better exercise apartment dogs get, the better behaved they will be.	10	0
The public spaces that I like to spend time to have lots of greenery, with shady trees, understorey plantings and places to sit and meet people.	8	1
I like how friendly people being in my hood and I like that the park is beeg	6	1

Top 5 comments with the most 'dislikes'

Comment	Likes	Dislikes
I love skateboarding and parkour with friends if these things could be integrated that would be perfect for us. Thank you.	1	6
Something like the Walkerville YMCA - lots of connected spaces which can be booked for different purposes, like sports groups, fitness for seniors, youth support, vacation care, new parent groups and other community groups.	6	5
Hello, I have been thinking for a while about a space for someone to open the equivalent of "The Grounds of Alexandria" which is in Alexandria, Sydney. This space is a mixture of different businesses all run under the one "The Grounds" banner. It is a place that has beautiful gardens, great cafe and restaurants as well as a function centre and florist. I hope that you can engaged the people from this place in Sydney to get ideas and try to replicate something that would bring people to Bowden	3	5
Explore the possibility of designing a community garden and or a hub or both set in an open park like setting that is sustainable using grey water, solar and wind energy and allows both young and old, guest speakers and the community in general to come together and learn in and interact with each other.	3	5
We could incorporate nice public spaces like gardens and parks into any plan, but I think it would be great for the area to retain a significant function linked to its heritage, while still being forward-looking - perhaps a small-scale plant producing renewable energy back to the grid or to supply potential tenants?	3	5

BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT



The overall sentiment of a comment was determined by subtracting the total number of dislikes from the total number of likes. The higher the number the more positive the overall community sentiment towards the comment.

Top 5 comments with the most positive sentiment overall

Comment	Sentiment
I think it would be very worthwhile to establish an off-leash dog park in Bowden. They do not do permanent damage to where they are established, they have low upkeep costs, they encourage neighbourhood closeness and promote healthy dog ownership. There is so much open space around Bowden, and so many dog owners who would appreciate a small space to take their dog off-leash and socialise. I think everyone could agree, the better exercise apartment dogs get, the better behaved they will be.	10
Public spaces that are flexible, allowing different activities to occur are exciting, as there is a sense of an evolving space. Like the Hart's Mill in Port Adelaide, with it's Laneway Music Festival and so many other events. Like Plant 4, which hosts different events constantly. Music festivals make public spaces come alive!	9
A cafe, and a small dog park for all the furry friends in Bowden	8
The public spaces that I like to spend time to have lots of greenery, with shady trees, understorey plantings and places to sit and meet people.	7
One of the things I would like would be small shops that have a good cause. I like shops that sell unique items made out of different thing that are better for the environment. Sadly recently Oxfam closed down recently all over Australia. I think that this would be a great space for new shops like that.	5

Top 5 comments with the most negative sentiment overall

Comment	Sentiment
I love skateboarding and parkour with friends if these things could be integrated that would be perfect for us. Thank you.	-5
Hello, I have been thinking for a while about a space for someone to open the equivalent of "The Grounds of Alexandria" which is in Alexandria, Sydney. This space is a mixture of different businesses all run under the one "The Grounds" banner. It is a place that has beautiful gardens, great cafe and restaurants as well as a function centre and florist. I hope that you can engaged the people from this place in Sydney to get ideas and try to replicate something that would bring people to Bowden	-2
Explore the possibility of designing a community garden and or a hub or both set in an open park like setting that is sustainable using grey water, solar and wind energy and allows both young and old, guest speakers and the community in general to come together and learn in and interact with each other.	-2

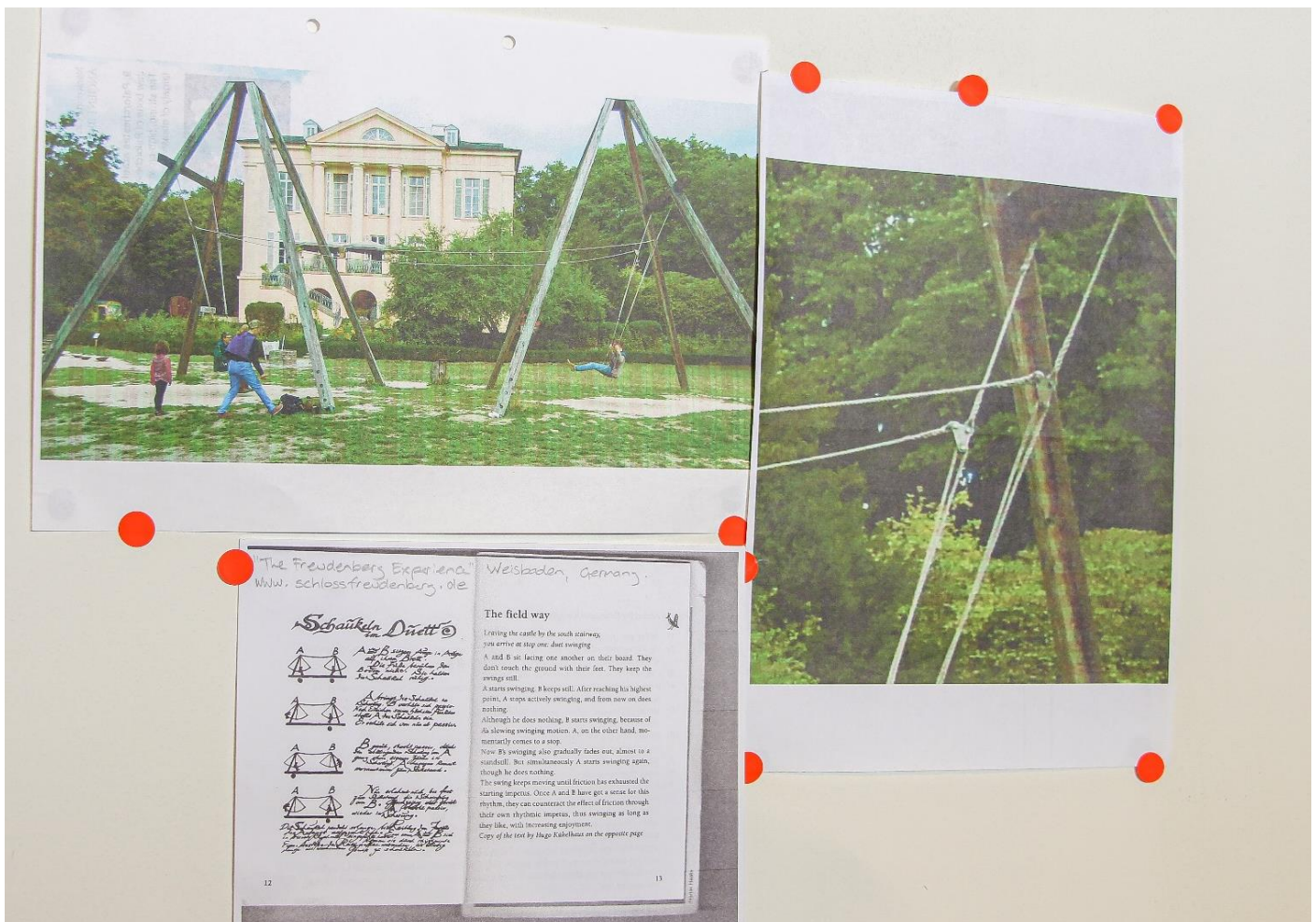
BOWDEN HERITAGE PRECINCT STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Top 5 comments with the most negative sentiment overall

Comment	Sentiment
We could incorporate nice public spaces like gardens and parks into any plan, but I think it would be great for the area to retain a significant function linked to its heritage, while still being forward-looking - perhaps a small-scale plant producing renewable energy back to the grid or to supply potential tenants?	-2
I personally don't want to see any clubs/bars in public spaces due to the concern of safety and their own safety. I also don't want any live music or near housing.	-2

Picture Comments

Despite the digital Ideas wall allowing for the inclusion of photos and links this feature was not used. However, three photos were shared at the drop-in session these are captured below.



Comment Themes

In total 39 key themes were identified across the 238 comments and 2 email submissions, with most comments relating to multiple themes.

Theme	Frequency	Summary of Key Trends
Recreation Facilities	64	Overwhelmingly comments advocated for the inclusion of a wide variety of recreation facilities that are accessible and inclusive. The strongest trend was for the inclusion of playgrounds and play spaces that can accommodate people of all ages and abilities; many of these comments specifically advocated for nature/creative play spaces and adult friendly equipment. Multiple comments advocated for facilities that incorporated water (pools/spouts/ponds), an outdoor movie theatre, outdoor gym equipment (noting one comment opposed this), parks and sports grounds. Comments included references to a broad range of specific sport facilities including: handball courts, table tennis tables, basketball courts, a surfwave, an obstacle course, rock-climbing walls, a trapeze, the local ice rink and trampolines. Also included were suggestions for skate/bike parks, parkour and YMCA style facilities; however these were controversial or unpopular. One comment advocating for a flexible space that enables a wide variety of activities to occur was highly popular. A number of local and international examples were provided including: the Freudenberg experience (Germany), Pt Malcolm Reserve Playground (Adelaide), the Tarot Gardens (Rome) and Questacon (Canberra).
Flora	53	Overwhelmingly comments advocated for the inclusion of a diverse and interesting array of well-kept greenery, lawn areas and shady trees. Specific preferences flagged the inclusion of native species, evergreen trees, edible trees and places suitable for nature play. Places such as the Botanic Garden along with overseas equivalents were often cited as examples. Additionally, an email submission included suggestions for the integration of edible and sensory landscapes along with green walls and green roof spaces.
Social	52	Largely comments indicated that people would visit the space with friends and family. Comments advocated for a place that encourages and enables people to meet and socialise that is welcoming to a diverse range of people. A comment suggesting than an off-leash dog park would encourage neighbourhood closeness was highly popular.
Amenities	46	The inclusion of basic public amenities was a key trend throughout the comments. The most frequently referenced amenities were seating, shade and bike facilities (lockers and racks). Other frequently suggested amenities included toilets, pet facilities, along with space and infrastructure (such as power) to enable a diverse range of community activities.

Theme	Frequency	Summary of Key Trends
Atmosphere	41	The feel of the space featured prominently throughout the comments. Largely, comments endorsed an atmosphere that is relaxing and peaceful, as well as enjoyable/fun, exciting/vibrant and welcoming/comfortable. Other trends included a feeling of openness, exploration and community. One highly popular comment highlighted that spaces should be flexible to accommodate a range of uses. Some examples included: Plant 4, European Squares, Parks, Libraries and the Botanic Garden.
Open Space	33	Comments advocated for the inclusion of open space and parks suitable for various uses along with a feeling of openness.
Cycling	26	Comments suggested that cycling was a highly popular mode of transport to the space. There was also a large number of suggestions for the inclusion of bike amenities such as separate paths, secure bike racks and good lighting. One comment advocated for the retention of the Bike Kitchen.
Food and Beverage	24	The overwhelming majority of comments advocated for the inclusion of food and beverage offerings in a pleasant and social environment. Most comments focused on café offerings, with a suggestion for a dog friendly café proving highly popular. A smaller number of comments suggested restaurants or pop-up vendors (i.e. ice cream truck). The suggested inclusion of bars was somewhat controversial.
Sport	23	Comments advocated for the inclusion of sports amenities/facilities suitable for both adults and children; however the specific suggestions were wide and varied (bike track/skatepark/soccer/handball/gym equipment/cirkidz/YMCA/parkour/rock climbing/ice skating/table tennis/ basketball/indoor/outdoor). One comment advocated against a skate park, while comments suggesting skate parks, parkour facilities and YMCA type venues were controversial.
Art	21	Overwhelmingly comments supported the inclusion of public art (permanent and changing), sculptures, murals, art events and galleries. Some comments suggested the inclusion of art that reflect the area's history. Suggestions for art locations included public spaces, on buildings, walls or seating.
Built Environment	21	Comments relating to the built environment varied considerably. The most prominent trend was a general preference for less concrete. Some comments focused on maintaining the heritage features of the site, some suggested buildings needed to connect/blend with the site, some raised concerns over building heights and some expressed aversion to design that will make the space feel small or encourage loitering/antisocial behaviour. One comment advocated for innovative architectural design features, another mentioned tunnels and another objected to the use of gabion walls. Additionally, one email submission included comments advocating for a seamless link between the public realm and surrounding areas, the inclusion of gasholder style features into new structures, as well as the retention and showcasing of underground elements.

Theme	Frequency	Summary of Key Trends
Water	20	Comments suggesting the inclusion of water largely focused on pools, water features (spouts) and ponds (lakes/wetlands). Other comments suggested a bird bath and surf wave. Concern was raised about water that could become stagnant while comments suggesting a public pool and a wetland area were somewhat controversial.
Dog Park	19	Overwhelming comments were in favour of the space being dog friendly (facilities/amenities/cafes) and advocated for the inclusion of dog facilities such as a dedicated dog park somewhere within the project area. A small minority of comments were opposed to the idea of a dog park, citing the size of the space and the availability of existing facilities as their reasons for opposition.
Walking	19	Comments largely indicated that visitors would consider walking to the space. There were also some references to walking paths and tracks and a preference for key attractions to be within walking distance.
Safety	17	Comments largely focused on safety in general with specific comments relating to lighting, bike security, water security and dog security. A small number of comments objected to bars/clubs, a public pool and a skatepark for safety reasons.
Accessibility	17	Comments advocated for the space to be inclusive and to feature activities that could be enjoyed by a wide range of people of all ages. Several comments advocated for the shared public spaces (including, green/open/play places) to be accessible for everyone with a particular focus on wheelchair accessibility and the provision of ramps, elevators & public amenities. One suggestion for a YMCA type facility was controversial.
Heritage	15	Comments largely advocated for maintenance and recognition of the site's Industrial and cultural history and heritage. Some comments raised particular concerns about the loss of "Brompton" from the naming. One comment suggesting that heritage should be at the centre of any redevelopment was somewhat controversial; so too was a comment suggesting that the inclusion of a small-scale plant producing renewable energy could link the site to its heritage. Additionally, one email submission included comments advocating for the story of the Brompton Gasworks to be told boldly including through videos, signage and art.
Car Parking	13	Comments indicated that visitors would consider driving to the space. Several comments supported the inclusion of car parking (including on street parking); however one comment was opposed to car parking.
Public Transport	11	Comments indicated that participants would access the site via public transport where it is available.

Theme	Frequency	Summary of Key Trends
Events	11	Comments were largely in favour of the space being suitably adaptable to host a wide range of activities and events inclusive of day/night activities, indoor/outdoor activities, festivals, outdoor performances, music, art, markets, walks and community friendly events. One comment advocating for an evolving space like Hart's Mill and Plant 4 that constantly hosts different events, including music festivals was highly popular.
Adaptability	11	Comments consistently advocated for a space that is adaptable and dynamic, enabling a wide variety of uses. Specific references were made to art that changes regularly, along with the inclusion of non-commercial/ free spaces.
Retail	10	Comments were in support of including retail within the space. There was a trend towards a preference for smaller independent offerings and opposition to commercial franchises. Specific examples included Plant 4, supermarkets, food and beverage offerings and suggestions for a high street / small mall precinct, while one comment advocated for the bike kitchen to retain its space in the broader development. One comment suggesting the inclusion of small shops that support a good cause (such as Oxfam) was particularly popular.
Maintenance	9	Comments largely indicated a preference for the space to be clean and adequately maintained, with several comments noting a specific preference for the absence of litter, weeds and vandalism.
Live Entertainment	9	Largely comments were in favour of including a flexible space that accommodates live performances, events and festivals (music/art/theatre/circus). A comment opposing live music near housing and the inclusion of clubs and bars was somewhat unpopular.
Sustainability	8	Comments supported the inclusion of sustainable lifestyle learning opportunities, community garden facilities, water efficient plantings, renewable energy, and water recycling. Several comments were somewhat controversial, including a comment that suggested a small-scale renewable energy plant and two comments that suggested the use of grey water.
Performance Space	8	Comments supported the inclusion of flexible indoor/outdoor performance spaces for music, theatre, festivals and other community activities.
Plant 4	8	Largely comments provided Plant 4 as an example of something participants liked or a place they loved, with comments focused on the variety of retail it offers, the range of events it hosts and the way in which it encourages the community to come together. One comment indicated that they did not want to see a replica of Plant 4.

Theme	Frequency	Summary of Key Trends
Community Garden	8	Comments advocated for the inclusion of a community garden space. Specific suggestions incorporated the inclusion of shared and individual plots and space for kids to learn about composting and gardening. One comment also suggested the use of grey water, solar power and wind energy, along with hosting guest speakers; however this comment was somewhat controversial. Additionally, an email submission was received which requested the inclusion of a second community garden site, with capacity for individual plot hire, in the broader precinct; potentially incorporated into an open space planned on Fourth Street.
Workshop	7	Comments advocated for a variety of spaces (indoor and outdoor) that could be used for meetings, learning or the delivery of workshops. One comment specifically suggested a tool-cop style workshop.
Markets	7	Comments supported the inclusion of markets in the space. Some comments indicated a preference for farmers markets or markets featuring local providers and produce.
Lighting	7	Comments largely focused on suggestions for the inclusion of lighting within the precinct for both safety/security and to enable night activities/events. Some comments also suggested the inclusion of sensitive plantings to enable natural light and a feeling of brightness during winter.
Naming	6	Comments consistently expressed concern for the loss of recognition of 'Brompton' within the Gasworks site within the Heritage Precinct and emphasized the need to include Brompton within the naming of future spaces. Additionally, one email submission included comments advocating for the State Heritage Site to be referred to as the Brompton Gasworks site.
Wildlife	5	Some comments indicated an attraction to places with wildlife such as Monarto Zoo and Torch Lake Michigan while others supported the inclusion of plantings and features (such as bird baths) that encourage birds and other wildlife.
Theatre	4	Comments suggested the inclusion of an outdoor theatre space.
Vandalism	4	Comments strongly indicated that participants did not want to see vandalism and advocated against spaces and facilities that encouraged such behaviour.
Solo	4	Comments indicated that some visitors to the space may come alone and advocated for spaces that can cater for individuals as well as groups. One specific comment suggested a preference for a space that welcomed lonely and isolated people.

Theme	Frequency	Summary of Key Trends
Wayfinding	3	One comment wanted 'Brompton' recognised in wayfinding and expressed concern over loss of Brompton Heritage recognition, while the other flagged a need for wayfinding to the place and other interesting local points of interest. Additionally, one email submission included comments advocating for the installation of temporary wayfinding and signage to communicate the cultural and historical significance of the site.
Height	2	One comment questioned adherence to developer guidelines regarding building heights and another expressed an opposition to 'big things'.
Adaptive Reuse	2	One comment advocated for adaptive reuse "heritage charm with state-of-the-art facilities... without an exorbitant cost". Additionally, one email submission included comments advocating for the adaptive reuse of retained buildings for community purposes.