



Go Vocal Summary

Bethnal Green Round 2

June 2026

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This summary captures the conversations we have had with the community and stakeholders in the second round of community conversations. Your feedback is invaluable.

Bethnal Green PDC – Resident Feedback Summary

Overview

Feedback from residents and stakeholders from the second round of community conversations is mixed but broadly supportive in principle, with a constructive tone overall. While there is recognition of the potential benefits of the scheme, responses highlight key concerns around community assets, infrastructure capacity, and place identity, alongside requests for greater clarity on design and delivery.

What residents welcomed

- General support for the principle of the scheme, particularly where it contributes to new housing and wider estate improvements
- Strong interest in enhancing design quality and placemaking, including:
 - Incorporation of public art
 - Involvement of local artists and community-led design input
 - Improvements to public realm (lighting, pavements, landscaping, EV infrastructure aesthetics)
- Appreciation for the opportunity to link the scheme with wider estate improvements and create a more cohesive environment
- Openness to constructive engagement, with many responses framed as suggestions rather than objections

Key questions and concerns raised

Preservation of the Bethnal Green Weightlifting Club

- The most significant and consistent concern
- Viewed as a vital community hub

Infrastructure capacity

Concerns about additional pressure on:

Schools

GP surgeries

Local services and amenities

Community displacement and transition

Questions around:

- Relocation of existing gym users
- Impact on temporary housing tenants
- Continuity of existing community functions

Place identity and design quality

- Desire to avoid generic development outcomes
- Strong push for:
 - Local artistic identity
 - Distinctive, community-informed design elements
 - Meaningful public realm features

Clarity on planning, layout, and delivery

Requests for clearer information on:

- Site planning approach
- Parking strategy and involvement of planners
- Layout of different areas of the site
- Treatment of corners, entrances, and public spaces
- Integration with wider estate improvements

Sentiment summary

Positive: General in-principle support and enthusiasm for improved design, placemaking, and community involvement

Neutral / constructive: A high volume of questions and seeking clarification, indicating engagement rather than opposition

Negative: Focused and strong concerns, primarily centred on the loss of the weightlifting club and pressure on local infrastructure

You said, we heard

You said: The scheme risks feeling generic and disconnected from local identity

We heard: There is a clear opportunity to incorporate local artistic input and distinctive design features to strengthen sense of place

You said: Community assets are at risk, particularly the weightlifting club

We heard: The Bethnal Green Weightlifting Club is highly valued, and its retention or meaningful replacement is critical to acceptance

You said: Local infrastructure may be under pressure

We heard: Further work is needed to demonstrate capacity, mitigation measures, and coordination with local services

You said: More clarity is needed on how the site will be planned and delivered

We heard: Stakeholders would benefit from clearer explanations of layout, phasing, parking strategy, and integration with the wider estate

You said: Public realm and environment should be improved

We heard: There is strong interest in higher-quality placemaking, including public art, lighting, landscaping, and more engaging shared spaces