

Old Oak Common Public Realm You Said We Did Event Q&As

14 and 16 March 2022

1. **If we had to walk from Old Oak Common Lane to the entrance of the station, how many minutes would it take?**

From Old Oak Common Lane, the walk will be downhill, and the distance to the station entrance is approximately 330 metres. This equates to approximately 5-8 minutes' walk, depending on your walking speed.

2. **Is the café garden a retail space and is there planning permission for retail?**

As part of the design it is the intention to provide power connections within the public realm for café and retail units to plug into.

Any permanent cafés or other retail units proposed within the urban realm would be covered by the planning permission for the station. However, plans and specification of these buildings or structures would need to be approved by Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) (Schedule 17 approval).

3. **Is there space for a lido in the public realm?**

Unfortunately, there isn't suitable space for a lido in the area.

4. **What are the measures taken to reduce crime in the open spaces to allow for safe usage by the community?**

The design has clear lines of sight in the area with good lighting in place. In terms of security, there are barriers etc in place and the station is designed to the relative rail authority security standards.

In designing the landscape, we adopted a secure by design process, so that we do not create hiding spaces in the landscape e.g., ensuring the level of plants don't obstruct viewing areas.

A viewing corridor through the trees has been created to maximise surveillance and give then foresight, at this same time ensuring that they are not obtrusive. CCTV is provided throughout but is discrete.

British Transport Police will be located on the station premises and help points will be in place.

5. **Is there a dog park planned?**

We are very close to Wormwood Scrubs and there is a lot of public interface within the urban realm.

There is no specific dog park – we haven't discussed dogs from an operations perspective during design. There is an area for assistance dogs to excrete in, next to the cycle hub.

6. **Is there a car park anywhere?**

The intention is that people will cycle, run, walk, and use public transport to get to the station.

There is no car parking except two blue badge parking bays, about 60 – 70m from the station entrance.

There will be 550 cycle spaces throughout, 350 in the cycle hub and 200 elsewhere throughout the public realm.

A few parking bays are available for private cars for picking up and dropping-off passengers only.

7. **Are there electric charging stations?**

The blue badge parking bays can be facilitated to be electric charge points.

8. **Is there an outdoor amphitheatre planned for summer cultural events?**

There is not specifically an outdoor amphitheatre, but there will be the facility to host events via the pocket spaces, but anything more than that isn't specifically planned.

9. **Who will manage the outdoor spaces to activate it and bring it to life and bring the community in?**

We are working with Department for Transport and Transport for London and would like it to be operated holistically from a design point of view, if possible.

HS2's Art and Culture Team is developing an arts and culture strategy for the Old Oak Common Station site, which will include public art.

10. **Do the exotic trees support biodiversity?**

Native trees have been provided throughout the urban realm, including the common oak and field maple, to optimise biodiversity net gain and BREEAM targets. Non-native trees have also

been included to provide visual interest. This includes exotic oak trees which will form part of an oak arboretum.

11. **Thinking of the future and this being a mobility hub, how have you considered future modes of transport such as e-scooters and drone vehicles?**

We have allowed for 550 cycle spaces, which include spaces for non-standard bikes.

At the present time, only rental scooters can be legally ridden on public roads and public spaces and this rental programme does not currently extend to the area around the station site. If there was a requirement for e-scooter parking provision in the future, then space in the public realm could be adapted for this purpose.

Drone vehicles have not been considered but can be discussed in a few years.

12. **How are you considering water usage and water drain off and increasing the ground water levels?**

Water is a big issue for climate resilience and climate change.

The public realm at the front of the station entrance is effectively a roof garden so there is no natural groundwater.

Below the surface is a mass of concrete, so the planting design will allow the surface run off to help infiltrate and hydrate the soil.

A soil specialist was consulted in the design of the soft landscape to provide suitable conditions for successful plant establishment including optimal hydration of the soil. In addition, the design includes an automated hydration irrigation system covering all of the soft landscape areas.

13. **How have opportunities for biodiversity been addressed?**

The planting has been designed to optimise habitat opportunities across the site for insects and birds. This includes wildflower meadow grassland, foraging opportunities for pollinators, bird nesting boxes and green walls and an extensive habitat wall located in the Eastern Public Realm Area.

The Wetland Common Area includes a bog garden and pond with reedy edges.

To enhance the water feature further, ramps will be provided to the edges to enable amphibians and mammals to get into and out of the water.