Proposal: Bench and Seat Replacements in Baldock

In March last year, the feedback you kindly gave us at Baldock Community Forum and via your Baldock Councillors, helped us approve a new style of bench and seat for Baldock.

We'd now like your feedback on the proposed type and location for Baldock's new benches and seats before we progress to the next stage.

Before you complete the survey, **please read this** which gives you the background on our proposals. **Have your say by <u>completing our survey</u>** before midnight on the 4 March 2025.

If you'd like to send us any additional thoughts, please email: **towncentres@north-herts.gov.uk**





Funded by UK Government







New design style, approved 11th March 2024 Baldock Community Forum. Material: Cast Iron and Forest-Saver Recycled Plastic.

Why are we updating the benches and seats with a new design and proposing changes to some of the locations?

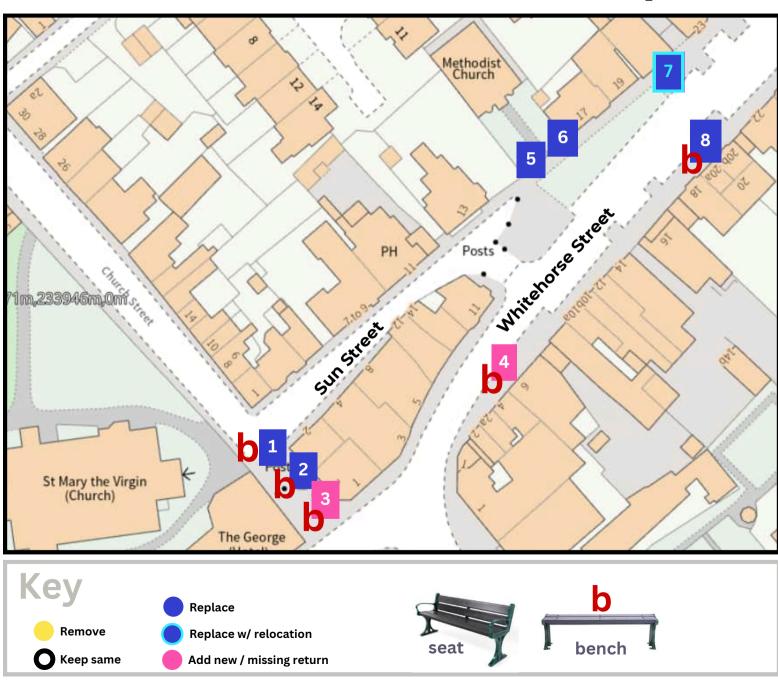
- The street furniture is in poor structural quality with mould and decay.
- North Herts' towns need street furniture solutions that are long-lasting with efficient maintenance needs, to provide quality seating and minimise upkeep costs.
- Locations have been assessed, results show that some of the town centre areas are too plentiful with seating options and some are lacking. This exercise aims to balance the benches throughout the town centre. Seats provide back support, while benches allow users more flexibility to sit bi-directionally.







Whitehorse Street Map

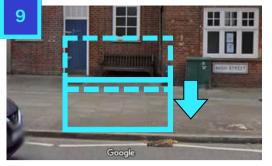


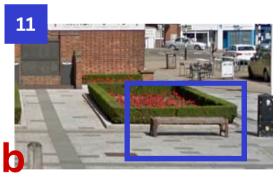


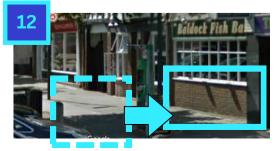




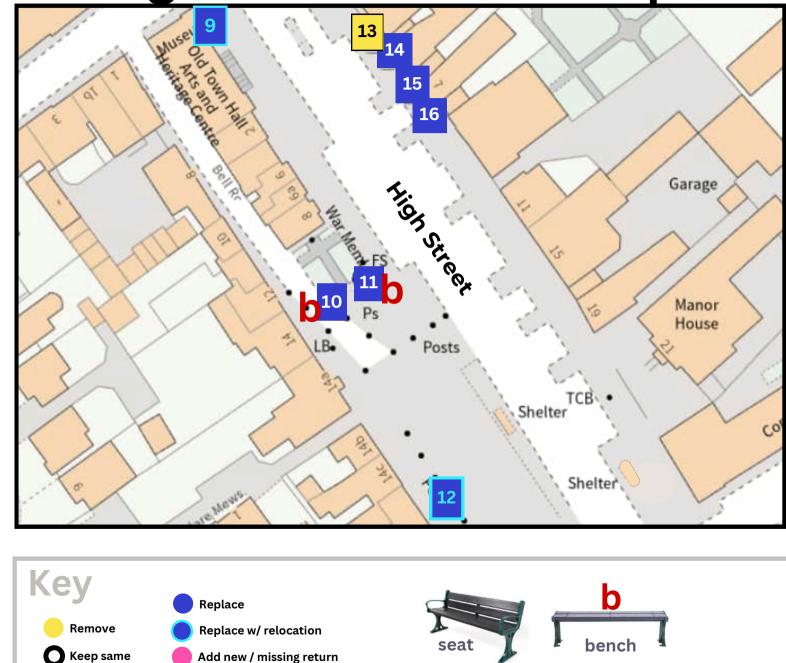


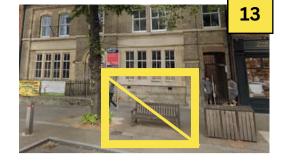






High Street (north) Map

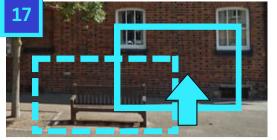






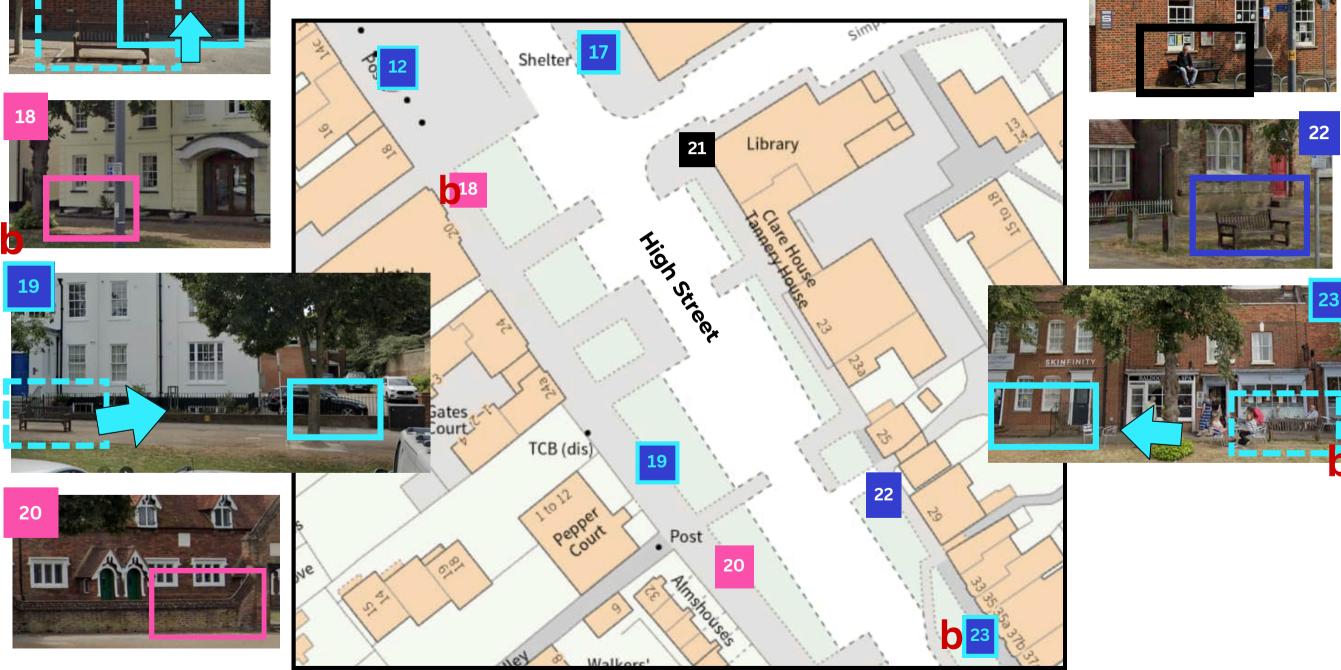






High Street (centre) Map

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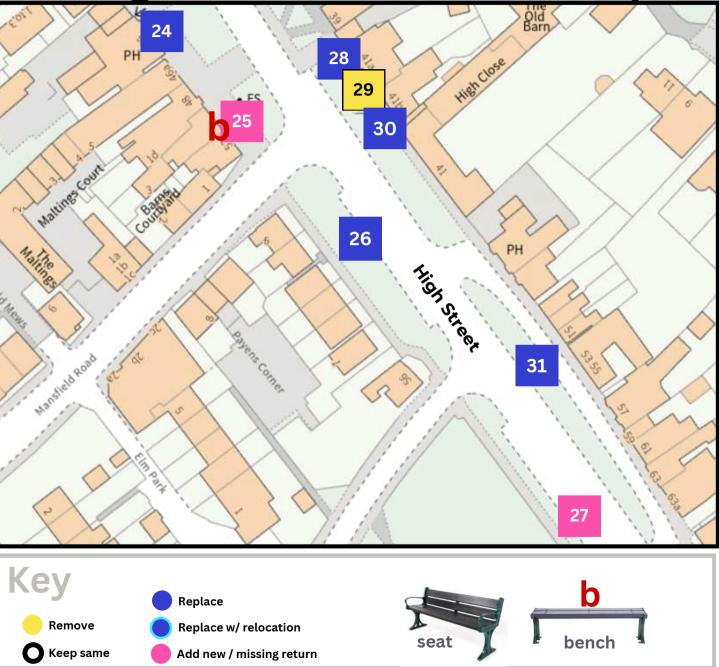








High Street (south) Map











Next Steps: Bench and Seat Replacements in Baldock

- Public open survey (07 Feb 2025 04 March 2025)
- Evaluate survey results
- Works to replace benches and seats based on public consultation (Spring 2025)



Summary



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Current	Proposed
5 Benches	10 Benches
20 Seats	19 Seats
25 total	29 total

This Programme is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. North Herts Council will receive £1.5m from this fund over the next 3 years. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund is a central pillar of the UK Government's Levelling Up agenda and provides £2.6bn of funding for local investment by March 2025. The Fund aims to improve pride in place and increase life chances across the UK investing in communities and place, supporting local business, and people and skills. For more information, visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus