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Active Design



CREATING ACTIVE ENVIRONMENTS
THROUGH PLANNING AND DESIGN

Active Environments – Sharing the Learning
Mark Furnish – Planning Manager, Sport England

16th October 2025

Uniting the Movement Strategy (2021)

- Active Environments is one of five big issues that underpin Sport England's 10-year strategy.
- The places and spaces around us can have a positive or negative impact on how, when and where we move.
- We want to encourage the design of environments that support and encourage physical activity in our everyday lives.



FIVE BIG ISSUES



RECOVER AND REINVENT

Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.



CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.



POSITIVE EXPERIENCES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.



CONNECTING WITH HEALTH AND WELLBEING

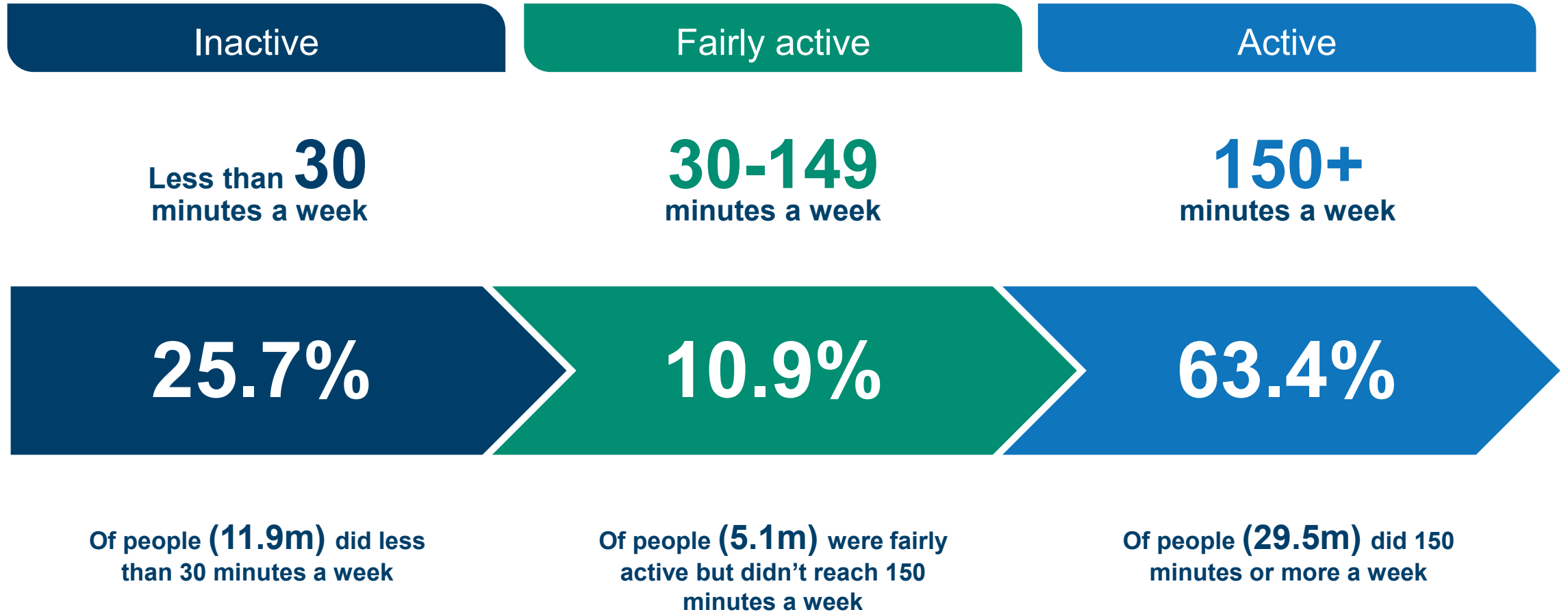
Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.



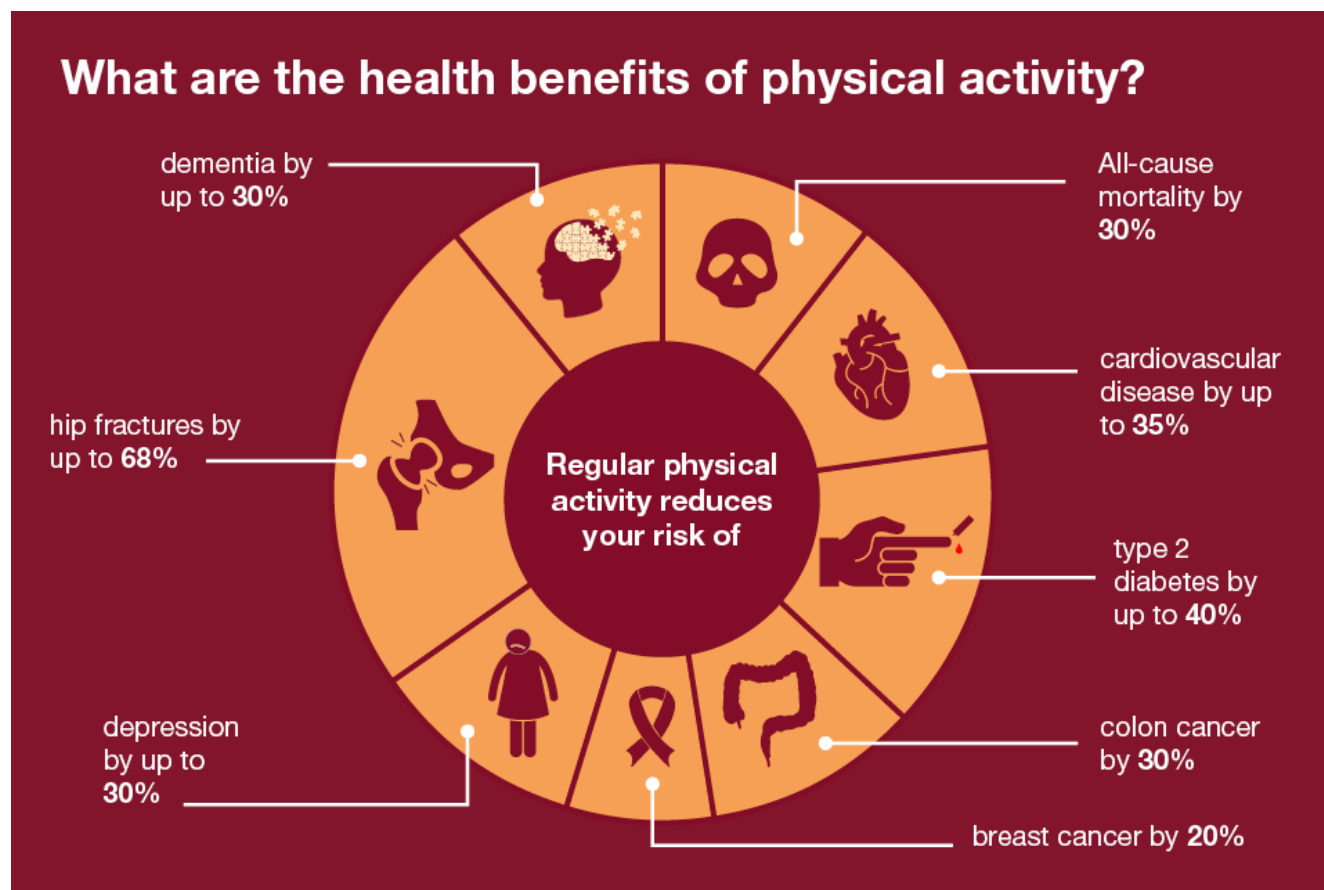
ACTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

Physical activity levels



Impact of physical activity on our health

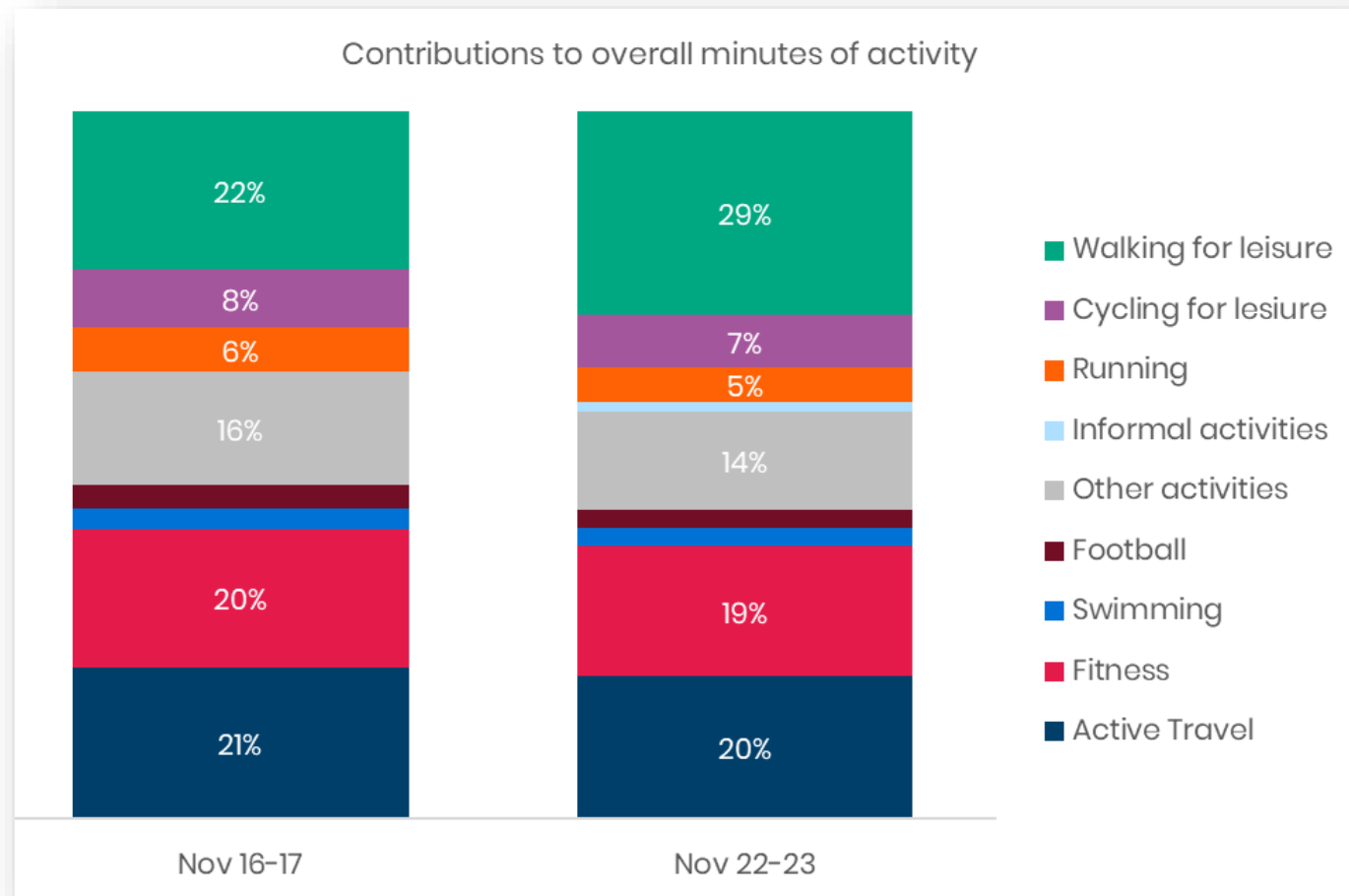


- Physical inactivity is a leading cause of many non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer and lung illnesses.
- Inactivity is associated with 1 in 6 deaths in the UK and is estimated to cost £7.4 billion annually. (OHID, 2022)
- Chris Whitty: "If you look back over the last 150 years, more has been done for public health by **proper planning** than almost any other intervention except perhaps vaccination." (TCPA Conference November 2022)

(OHID, 2022)

The importance of Active Design and physical activity

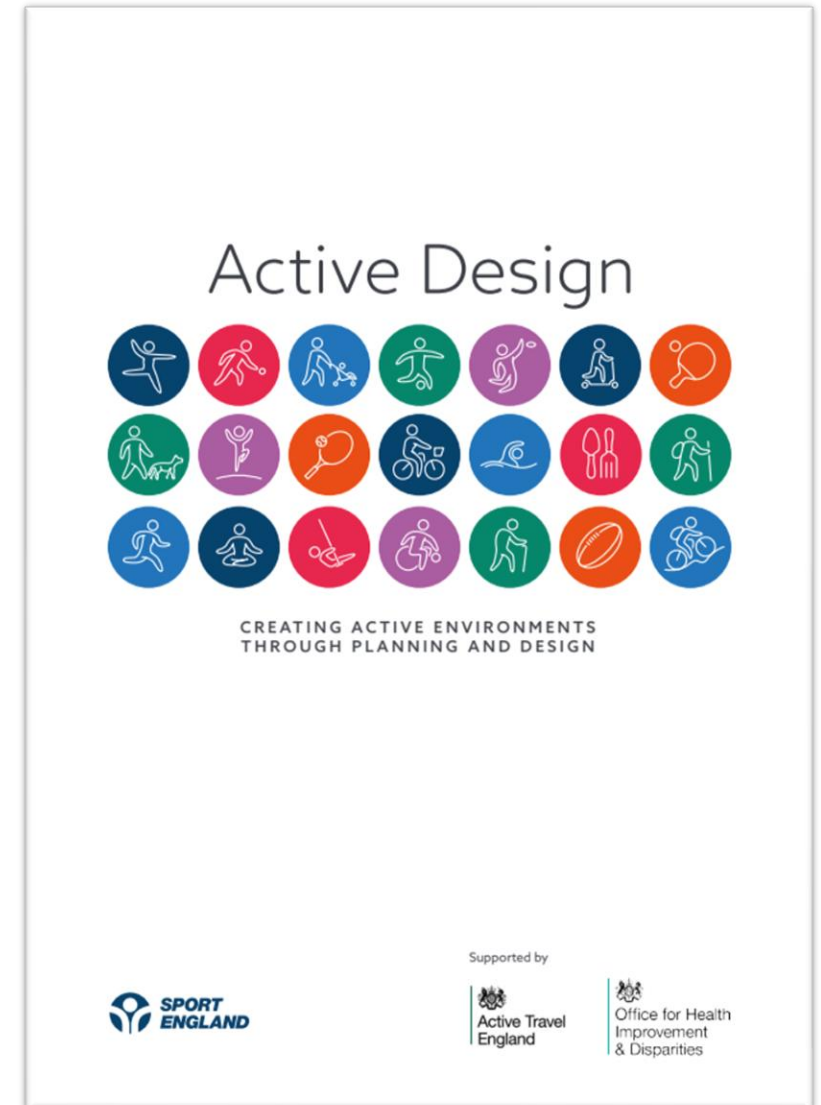
- Walking, cycling, running and fitness make up 80% of all minutes of activity taken per week.
- Opportunity to improve health and wellbeing by increasing physical activity through everyday habits.
- Wider benefits of active design:
 - Creates environmentally friendly and sustainable places
 - Increases social inclusivity
 - Increases economic productivity



(Sport England's Active Lives Survey)

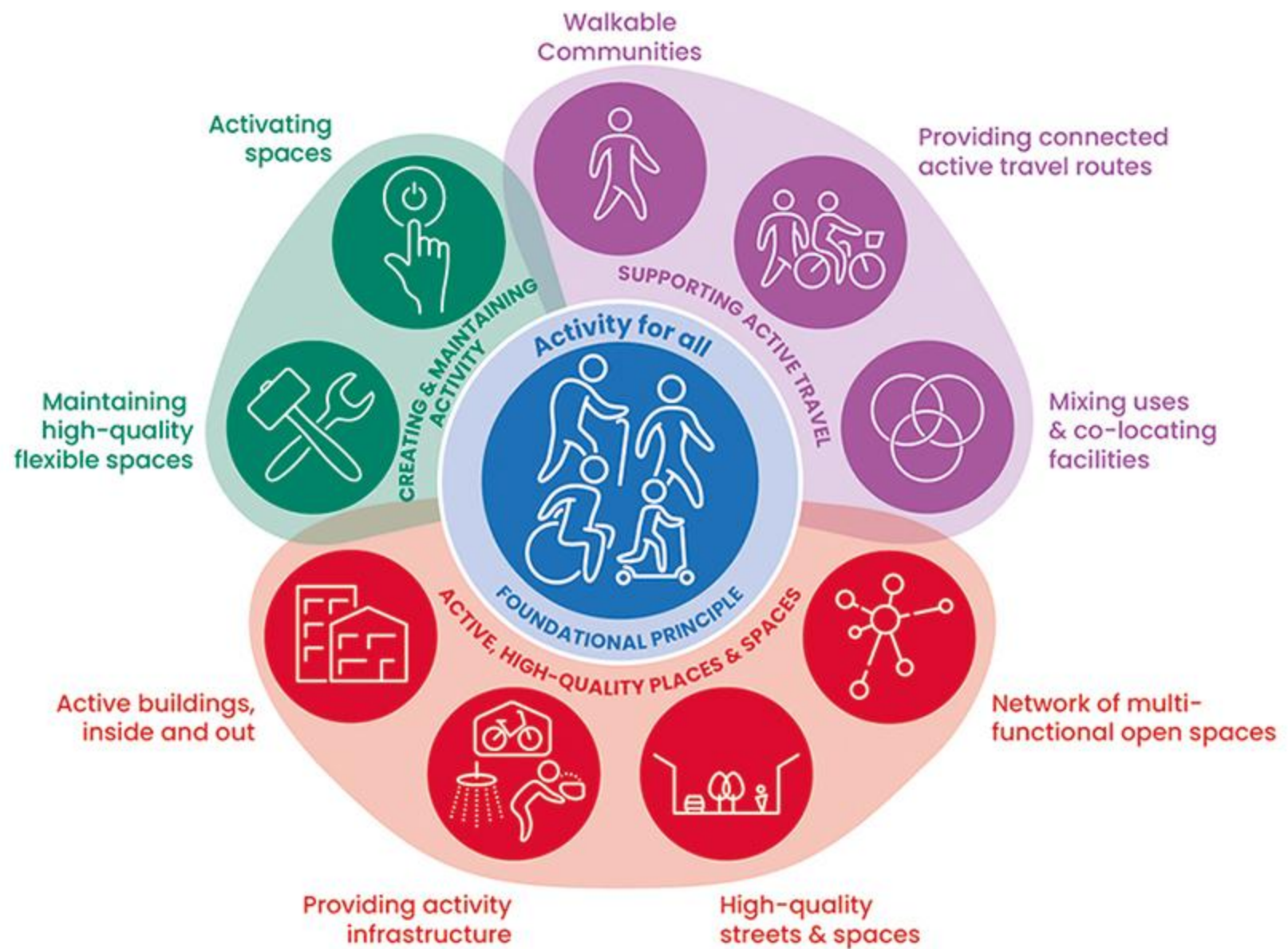
What is Active Design and why have it?

- Our local environment can play an important part in encouraging us to be active.
- Active Design sets out how the design of environments can help people to lead more physically active lives.
- It focuses on the creation of spaces and places that support and encourage people to move more helping those involved in designing spaces to create active environments.



What is Active Design?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruWWSYqGAow>

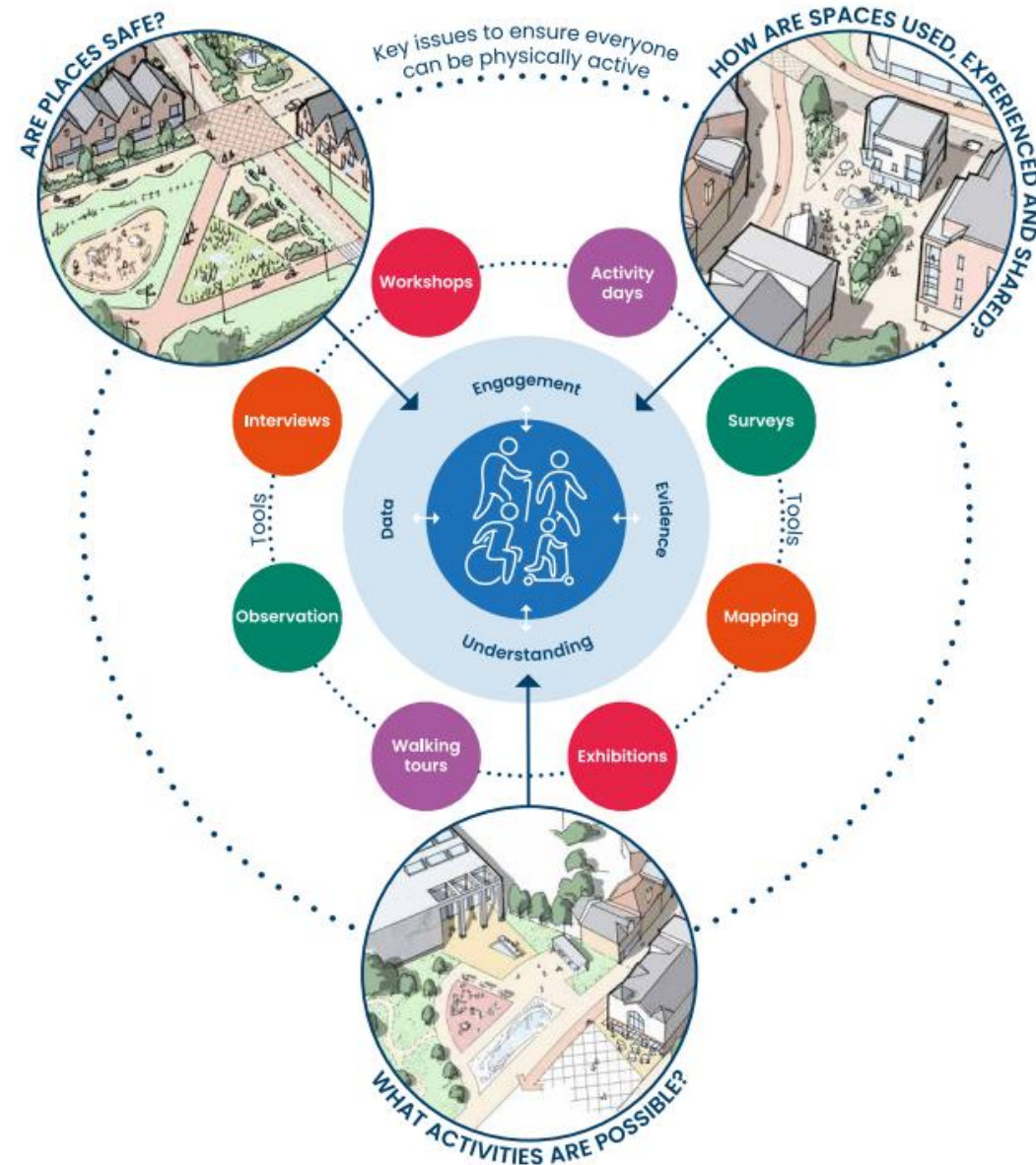




FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLE

Activity for all

- Supporting physical activity for all.
- Must consider issues that affect physical activity participation.
- We must therefore understand the needs of all individuals.
- We can do this through an effective consultation process.



Theme 1: Supporting Active Travel



Walkable communities



Connected walking & cycling routes



Mixing uses & co-locating facilities

- ✓ Compact, walkable, linked communities that are centred around people being active.
- ✓ All environments should support physical activity for everyone.
- ✓ People are more likely to combine trips and use active travel where they have multiple reasons to visits.



Theme 2: High-Quality Active Places



Network of multi-functional open spaces



High-quality streets & spaces



Providing active infrastructure



Active buildings, inside & out

- ✓ Ensuring a space is safe and feels safe is an essential part of securing design quality
- ✓ Active routes which are attractive will be used by more people
- ✓ Streets and places are not simply movement corridors



Theme 3: Creating & Maintaining Activity



Maintaining high-quality
flexible spaces



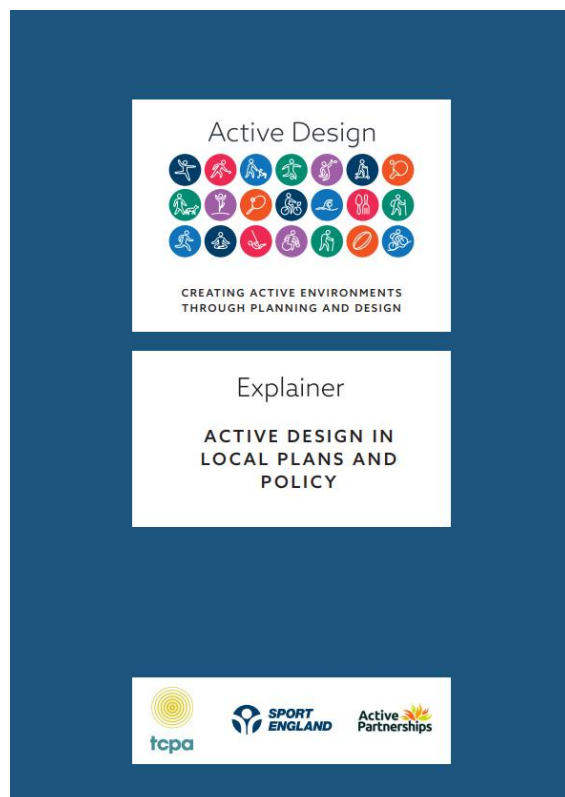
Activating
spaces

- ✓ Spaces and facilities should be effectively maintained and managed
- ✓ Multi-functional spaces allow for physical activity to be delivered alongside other priorities
- ✓ High-quality, flexible spaces are those that can be adapted easily



What's New

TCPA Explainer



Tending Colchester Borders Garden Community Development Plan Document

(adopted Jun 2025)

GC Policy 3: Place Shaping Principles

Part I: : Creation of a Unique and Distinctive Place

The Garden Community will be a unique place with a distinctive character that takes a positive and innovative approach to architecture, urban design, landmarks, and public realm provision. It will adopt a landscape led approach to design and build, follow healthy new towns principles, in accordance with **Sport England Active Design principles, and achieving Active Design**, and secured by design certification.

cont.

GC Policy 6: Community and Social Infrastructure

Part E: Health

The Garden Community will create an active environment that promotes health and wellbeing and builds a strong community. The conditions for a healthy community will be provided through the pattern of development, good urban and public realm design, access to local services and facilities, opportunities for local employment, high quality open space and landscape design and safe places for active play, biodiversity and food growing, and which are all accessible by walking, cycling and public transport. Proposals **must** take account of the healthy new towns principles, the developing integrated neighbourhood model of working, as well as **Sport England's Active Design principles**.

GC Policy 7: Movement and Connections

All proposals **must** have regard to **Active Design principles** and the Building for a Healthy Life process when designing the public realm and streets and undergo a Building for a Healthy Life/Streets for a Healthy Life review.

LATTON PRIORY STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK

(adopted Jun 2023)

Mandatory Spatial Principles

Active Design Principles - To create a truly sustainable, healthy and socially integrated community, **Active Design Principles** promoting physical activity and well-being will be embedded at the heart of the new neighbourhood at Latton Priory. The

Essex Design Guide 2018 places a strong emphasis on the importance of establishing

Active Design Principles early on in the masterplanning process. These principles echo urban design best practice and these active principles have been a key component in establishing the design principles for Latton Priory. The objective of these principles is to create an environment through design which encourages activity in daily life. This includes providing an environment which promotes and encourages sport and children's play and other active leisure activities such as food production. It also encourages active living by promoting sustainable, active, modes of transport. Creating high quality, safe streets and spaces is a key component of design to encourage active living

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE DESIGN GUIDE SPD

(adopted Aug 2023)

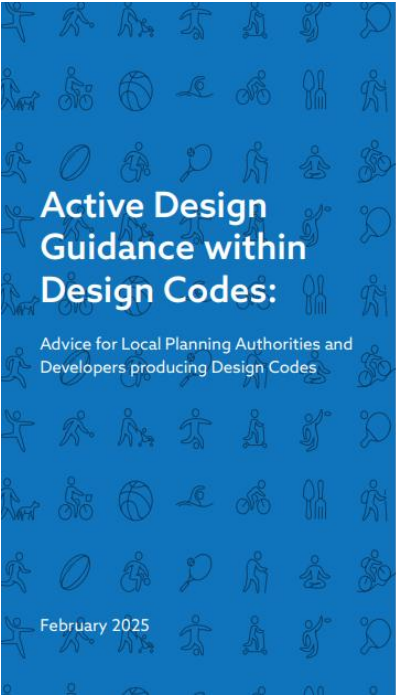
10.3 Health and Wellbeing

10.3.1 ...Health and wellbeing play a large part in the success of development no matter the size, location, or use. Integrating health and wellbeing principles can be through the physical design as well as provision and management of sites.

10.3.3 The Council encourages active travel as this increases regular activity. Access to safe and attractive routes for walking, wheeling and cycling is important in giving people the opportunity to be active regularly, which is necessary for good physical and mental health. By applying **Active Design principles** to built and natural environments, active environments can be created that encourage people to be active through their everyday lives.

What's New

Design Code Guidance



10 ACTIVE DESIGN: DESIGN CODE GUIDANCE

BEST PRACTICE DESIGN CODE EXAMPLE:

03/ Movement
Site-wide street network

The active travel strategy combined with the vehicular movement strategy form the basis of the street network, as shown opposite. The street network is well connected, allowing for access and servicing but without allowing vehicles to dominate the network. Modal filters are used to provide social, safe streets without the need for cul-de-sacs that limit active travel permeability.

03/ Movement
Site-wide vehicular movement

Key street types	Priority of modes	Adaptable standards
S1 Latton Avenue inc local high street	- Primary active travel route - Bus route - Primary vehicular route, except on STC	Yes
S2 Local streets	- Primary active travel route - Secondary vehicular route	Yes
S3a Neighbourhood streets on key green edge inc greenway	Tertiary vehicular route and service loop	Preferably
S3b Neighbourhood streets	- Non-designated active travel route - Tertiary vehicular route and service loop	Preferably
S4a Spur streets (with modal filters) on key green edge inc greenway	- Tertiary vehicular route – no through route - Limited service access	No
S4b Spur streets (with modal filters)	- Non-designated active travel route - Tertiary vehicular route – no through route - Limited service access	No
S5 Greenway	- Primary active travel route - No vehicular movement	TBD
S6 Car-free play streets	- Primary or non-designated active travel route - No vehicular movement	No
S7 Car-free interface with green infrastructure, nodes and schools	- Active travel mainly for residential access - No vehicular movement	TBD

This example demonstrates how a code can be used to help encourage physical activity by setting clear and strict requirements for active travel. The map and accompanying key give a detailed visual overview of the site in relation to these requirements.

[Ref: Latton Priority Design Code \(2024\)](#)

What makes this a good example?

- ✓ Clear street hierarchy which prioritises non vehicular movement. Each street type has a defined role for active travel.
- ✓ Innovative exemplar requirements including car free play streets, car barns, restricted vehicular movement.
- ✓ Nodal points are coded for at key points throughout the movement network to assist with wayfinding and legibility and set the parameters for the architectural response to this.



What's New

Case Studies - Uppsalla, Sweden: Active Design at a city-wide scale



6 UPPSALA CASE STUDY

Key Active Design Principles

THEME 1 ACTIVE TRAVEL

See page 10

- Walkable communities
- Connected active travel routes
- Mixing and co-locating facilities

THEME 2 ACTIVE HIGH QUALITY PLACES AND SPACES

See page 14

- High quality streets and spaces
- Network of multi-functional spaces
- Providing Active infrastructure

THEME 3 CREATING AND MAINTAINING ACTIVITY

See page 18

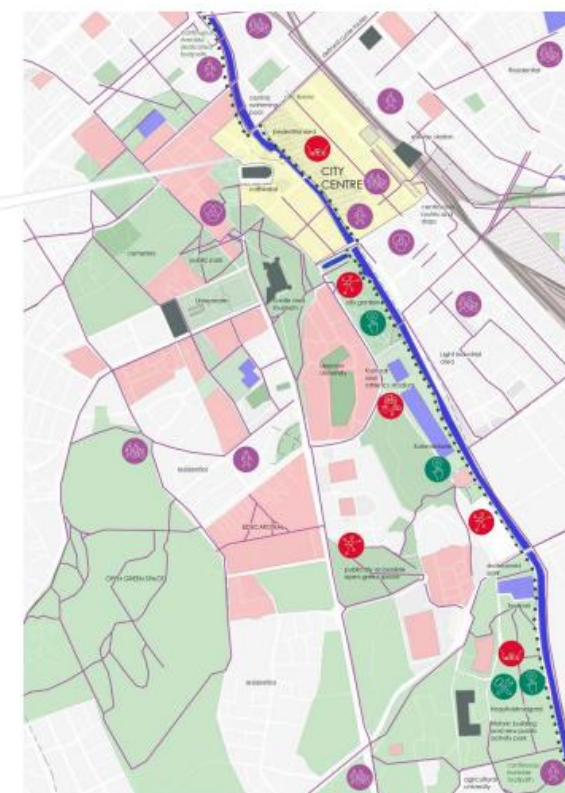
- Maintaining high-quality flexible spaces
- Activating spaces



- Retail and commercial
- Residential / mixed use
- Key buildings
- Cycle parking
- Public transport hub
- Residential
- Academic buildings
- Specific cycle ways

Active Design

7



What's New

Illustrative Places

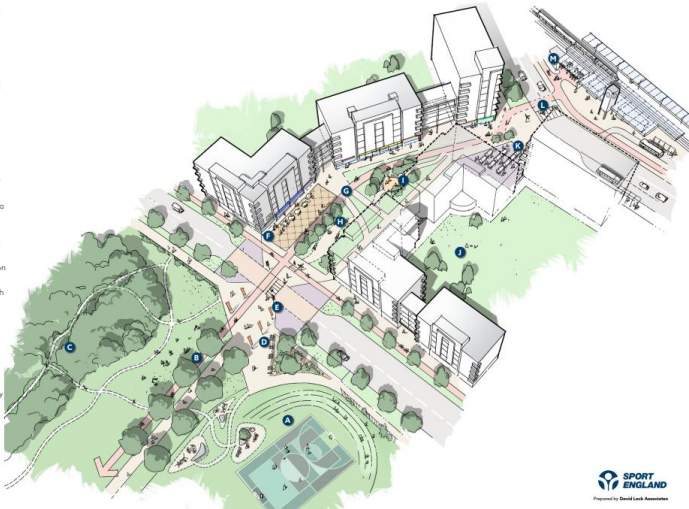
ILLUSTRATIVE PLACE 6 Urban Park

New development in an existing area can be an opportunity to enhance and improve existing assets for the benefit of all, through new active travel connectivity, extending and connecting green open spaces and investment in surrounding facilities.

Design Interventions

- 1 Open-sided informal physical activity space with seating, shelters and opportunity for play
- 2 Upgraded cycle path through existing park connecting to wider network
- 3 Variety of activity opportunities, including woodland walks and play-on-the-way features
- 4 Welcoming entrance to park with clear signage and wayfinding, ample cycle parking, sightlines, sense of security and openness, and opportunity for events and arts spaces
- 5 Traffic calming measures and a new crossing on a busy street next to the park
- 6 New indoor community space with facilities such as toilets, water refill, information, cafe and adjacent 'spill-out' public realm
- 7 Continuous new cycle link between railway station and park, through new linear park link
- 8 Regular and varied seating within linear park, with small gathering spaces
- 9 Informal children's play features and exercise facilities within linear park
- 10 Shared outdoor amenity space for residents of new apartments
- 11 New public space for events at gateway, encouraging use of new linear park connection
- 12 Improved walking and cycling crossings at railway station
- 13 Cycle hub at railway station providing secure storage, connected to active travel network

February 2025

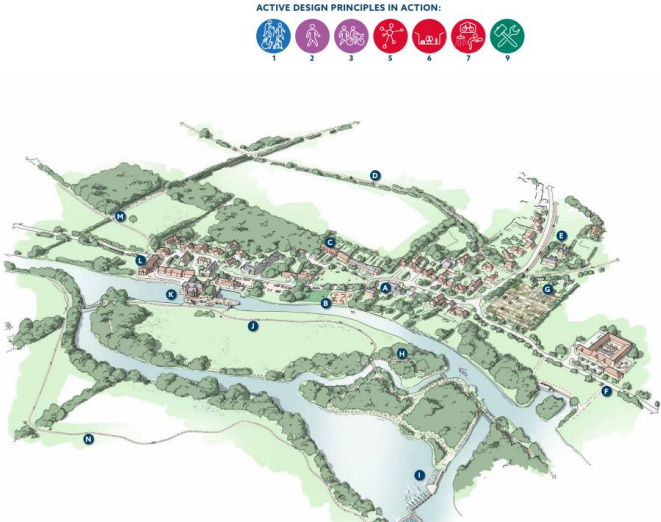


ILLUSTRATIVE PLACE 4 Rural Village

Villages and rural areas benefit from access to the countryside and open spaces for leisure and physical activity. With additional intervention, they can make this more accessible and useful for more groups, and create spaces for different types of physical activity.

Design Interventions

- 1 Traffic calming measures in village centre to create a more attractive place and an active travel friendly environment
- 2 Activity areas and play areas at heart of village
- 3 Accessible community facilities for classes and local events
- 4 Linked bridleway network away from vehicle traffic
- 5 Long-distance cycleway links to nearby towns and destinations provided in field margins
- 6 'Quietway' network of active travel priority routes on country lanes, retaining local vehicle access
- 7 Allotments and community gardens with local community shop selling produce
- 8 Volunteer-run local nature reserve with river restoration project
- 9 Community hydro power station completes walking loop by providing new bridge
- 10 Links to national or regional footpaths
- 11 Use of heritage asset to create a focus for heritage or nature trail
- 12 Traffic calming measures at entrance to village
- 13 Clear wayfinding on footpaths and around village
- 14 Walking loops with clear wayfinding and trails of different lengths marked

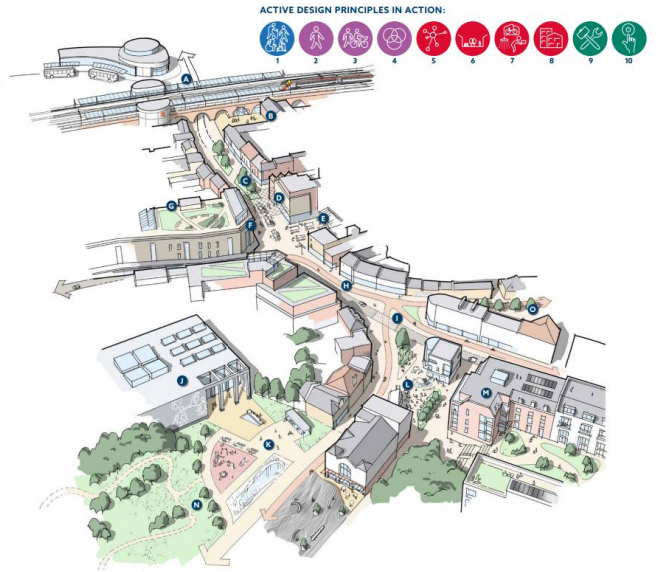


ILLUSTRATIVE PLACE 5 Town Centre

Town centres can bring together the local community, and form an essential part of a place's identity. Physical activity can be encouraged through simple changes that can work hand in hand with other priorities such as economic regeneration, building community inclusion and climate change mitigation and resilience.

Design Interventions

- 1 Public transport interchange with bus station and shops located close to train station
- 2 Bike hub at public transport interchange, with secure storage and maintenance facilities
- 3 Greening of streets, with integrated seating, opportunities for play and exploration
- 4 Shading or sheltering of streets to ensure continued use in hot and cold weather
- 5 Temporary space in vacant plot used to provide events space and outdoor physical activity opportunities
- 6 Former department store repurposed for community space, leisure facilities, residential use and employment co-working spaces
- 7 Roof terraces for co-working space to provide additional outdoor environment in town centre
- 8 Continuous, connected cycleway network running into the heart of the town centre
- 9 Traffic calming and wide pedestrian crossings to connect town centre streets together
- 10 Sports and leisure facility with frontage onto town park
- 11 Public realm connected with sports and leisure facility to extend activity out of building
- 12 Redesign of existing square to ensure it is flexible and can be used for a wide variety of events
- 13 Well designed urban living opportunities with reduced car parking needs and access to shared private outdoor spaces
- 14 Town park with a variety of natural habitats
- 15 Removal of vehicles on a secondary street to provide quiet cycling network



Contacts

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Welcome to Waverley, Rotherham

Active Environments, October 2025

Laura Colson – Harworth Group

Simon Hall – PWP Design



Harworth

1. Introduction & Welcome to Waverley



Harworth

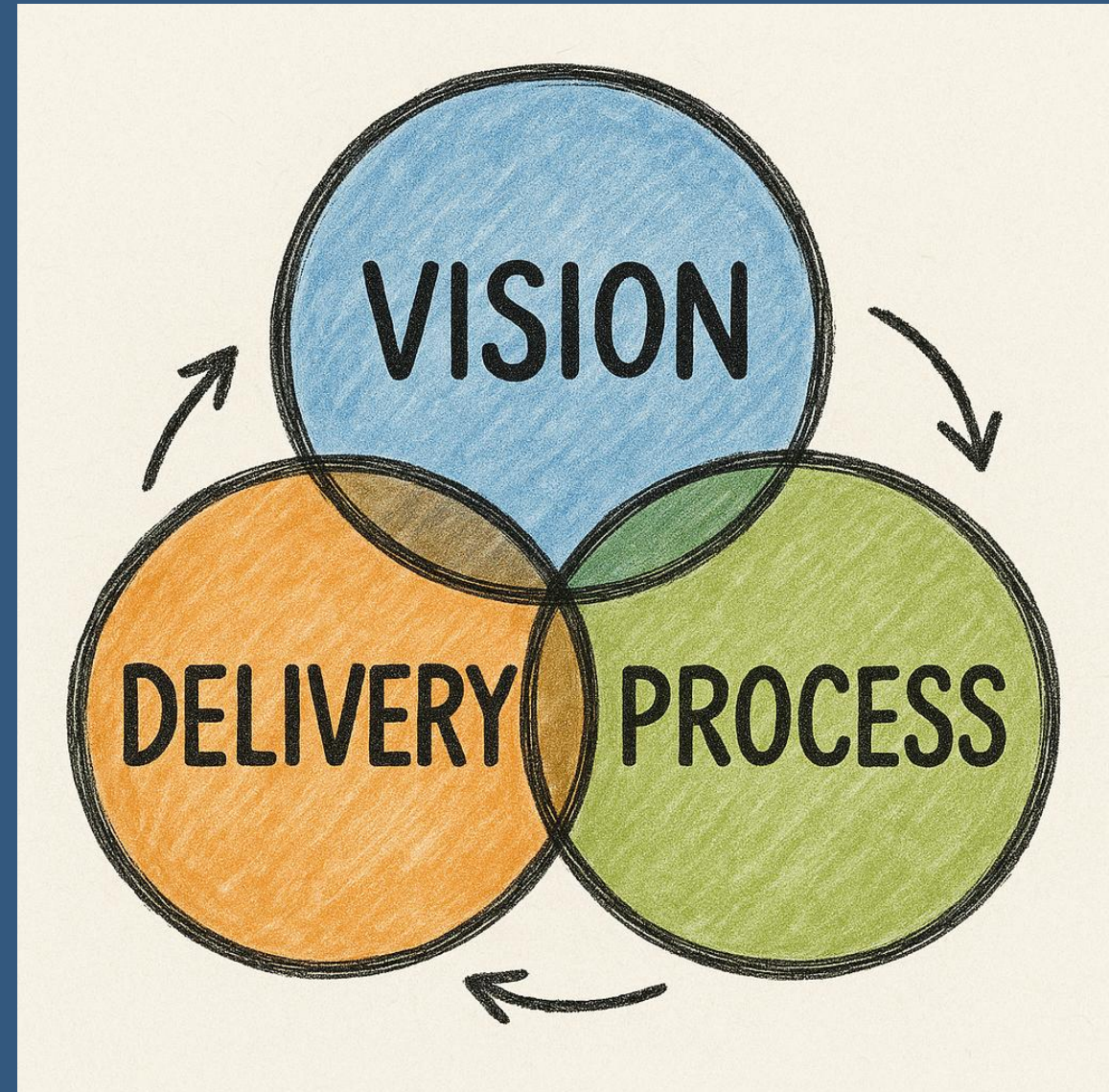
CREATING A WELCOMING, ACTIVE NEW PLACE

Working closely with a range of partner organisations, local residents and businesses, Harworth Group has created a brand-new place called Waverley.

A wide variety of quality new homes, the UK's leading Advanced Manufacturing Park and a mix of community uses including a new school, neighbourhood centre 'Olive Lane' and 300 acres of lakes and green spaces, it is an exemplar new development scheme and the best of brownfield regeneration.

A DEVELOPER'S AND A DESIGNER'S PERSPECTIVE

A strong client vision, a process of collaboration, challenge and trust through to delivery.





WAVERLEY

DELIVERING A NEW COMMUNITY Harworth

Harworth

One of the UK's leading land and property
regeneration companies



Introducing Harworth

Harworth

Who we are

Harworth is one of the UK's leading land and property regeneration businesses, owning and managing over **14,000 acres across around 100 sites** in the North of England and the Midlands.

Based in Rotherham, South Yorkshire, we also have regional offices in Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester.

Our purpose

Our purpose is **to invest to transform land and property into sustainable places where people want to live and work.**

We support new homes, jobs and communities across the regions, and deliver long-term value for all our stakeholders.

What we create

As a master developer, we create long-term value by acquiring and assembling sites that are **large, complex and often had former industrial uses, and transforming them into sustainable residential and employment spaces**, with a focus on placemaking.

Our values

Our sustainability framework, The Harworth Way, guides our approach to development and placemaking, **ensuring we deliver for the planet, our people and our communities.**

Our 'One Harworth' culture is underpinned by three values: taking pride in our people & partnerships, delivering creative solutions, and acting with integrity and trust.



26,639
homes in pipeline



38.8m sq. ft
of employment space
in pipeline



£4.8bn
of potential
Gross Value Added



42
Local authority
areas covered

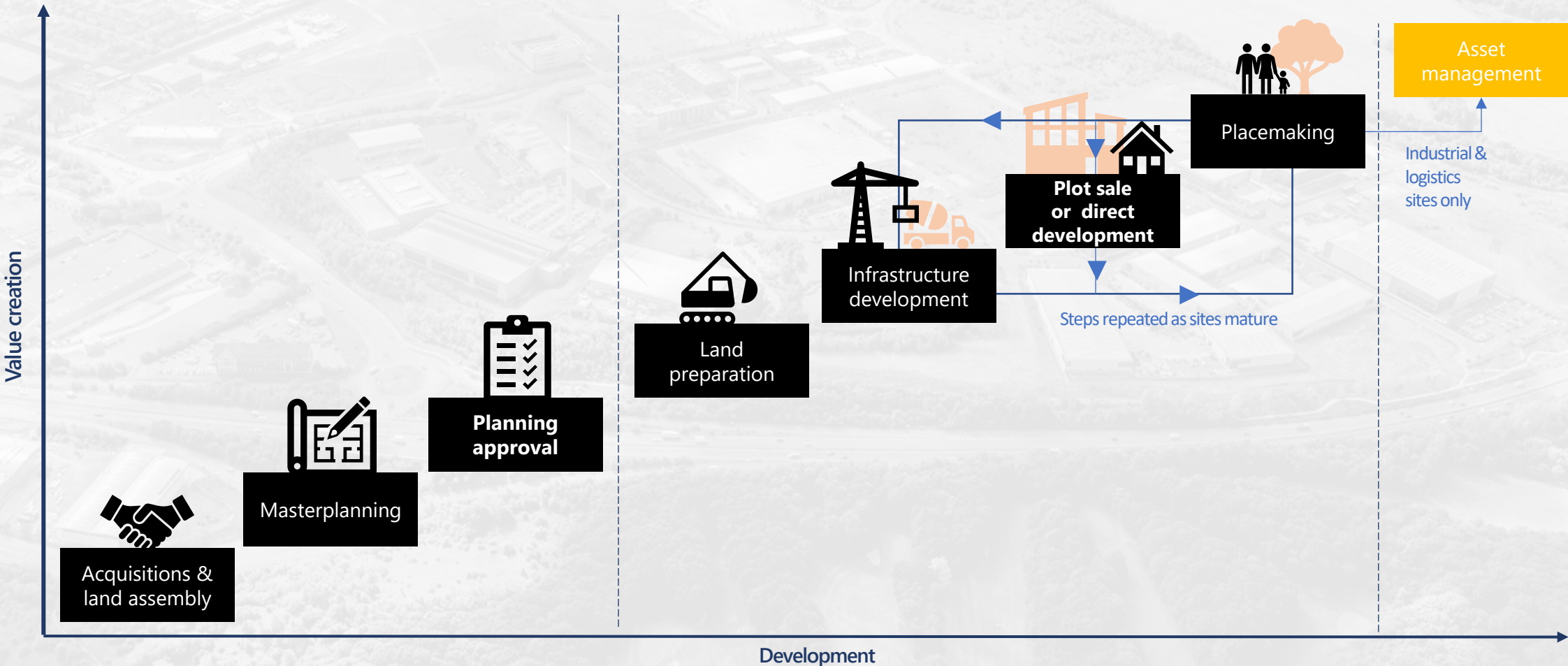


Net Zero
by 2030 for operations
by 2040 for all emissions

Our business model

Harworth

As a master developer, we create long-term value by acquiring and assembling sites that are large, complex and often had former industrial uses, and transforming them into sustainable residential and employment spaces, with a focus on placemaking.



Rotherham, South Yorkshire:

Waverley/AMP



advanced
manufacturing park



Harworth's flagship development has seen the transformation of the former Orgreave coal mining site into Yorkshire's largest ever mixed-use development.



3,890
Consented
homes



2.1m sq. ft
Consented
employment space



740
Acres



1990



TODAY

Rotherham, South Yorkshire:

Waverley/AMP



advanced
manufacturing park



- A 740-acre site located just two minutes from Junction 33 of the M1 and at the heart of the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority region.
- Following closure of the mining site in 1990, permission to remediate and restore the land was granted in 1995.
- Full remediation was completed in 2011, the same year that Harworth received outline planning permission for 3,890 homes at the site, to be built alongside its Advanced Manufacturing Park development.
- Harworth has sold land for almost 1,900 homes so far to a range of housebuilders, including Taylor Wimpey, Barratt, Harron Homes and Avant.
- The Advanced Manufacturing Park is a centre of excellence for high-end manufacturing, with occupiers including the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (a partnership between Boeing and the University of Sheffield), Rolls Royce, McLaren Automotive and the UK Atomic Energy Authority.
- The build-out of the site continues, including the delivery of 300 acres of green space set around two large lakes, a new hotel, and Olive Lane, a new mixed-use heart of the community.



Harworth, Bassetlaw:

Simpson Park

Simpson Park is on the former Harworth colliery site where mining operations had been active for over 80 years. The colliery was mothballed in 2006 before it was abandoned several years later and eventually demolished in 2016.



1,300
Consented
homes



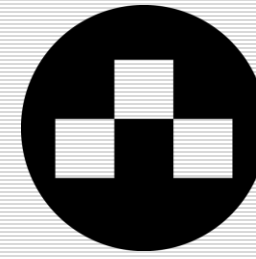
107
Acres



Harworth, Bassetlaw:

Simpson Park

- Outline planning consent was granted in 2011 for 996 houses and 40 acres of employment land.
- Coking works remediation began in August 2017.
- Phase 1 remediation, earthworks and infrastructure commenced in September 2018.
- Phase 2 remediation and earthworks commenced in December 2021.
- New outline consent secured in 2021 for 1,300 dwellings with no employment.
- Phase 3 remediation works commenced in October 2024.
- 2 deep mine shafts were filled and permanent caps installed in December 2024.
- Land for approximately 1,160 plots sold at year end 2024. 450 homes occupied.
- Phase 3 spine road opening in February 2025.
- Site wide open space delivery in Q3 2025.
- Only two parcels remain for development.



**SIMPSON
PARK**



Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire

Thoresby Vale

The former Thoresby Colliery which closed in July 2015 is being regenerated and transformed into a new sustainable community.



800
Consented
homes



250k sq. ft
Consented
employment space



450
Acres



Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire:

Thoresby Vale

- Acquired in October 2015 following closure of the colliery in July 2015.
- Initial years spent undertaking site safety and security works, including demolition of redundant industrial structures, whilst master-planning the site for future uses and preparing first serviced land parcels.
- Planning permission received in October 2017 for a new development of 800 homes, 250,000 sq. ft of employment space, community facilities, retirement village and a new primary school.
- Housebuilders on site Honey, Harron and Barratt David Wilson.
- 350-acre country park on-site opened summer 2024.
- 5G Innovation Hub set up with partners Nottinghamshire County Council and two local universities.
- Currently on-site delivering a new forest primary school.



**THORESBY
VALE**
EDWINSTOWE





WAVERLEY

DELIVERING A NEW COMMUNITY Harworth



- Orgreave Coking Works (1980's?).
- Photo is looking north west across the middle of the current Waverley development.
- Road shown is the approximate existing alignment of Highfield Lane.



- Extent of opencast in 2002.
- People on the right are stood on the High Wall.
- Mining trucks are 100T dump trucks for scale (circa 10m long & 5m high).

31/10/2002



- Aerial photos from around 2008 showing development platform following backfill of the opencast and creation of the lakes.
- First development of the AMP underway.







2. A Developer's Perspective



Harworth

Masterplan





WAVERLEY



WAVERLEY



- Current WIP Connectivity & Active Travel Strategy showing new footpath / bridleway proposals.
- Working with Mosodi on Active Travel across the development with walking buses for the school etc.

2. A Designer's Perspective



Harworth



Olive Lane









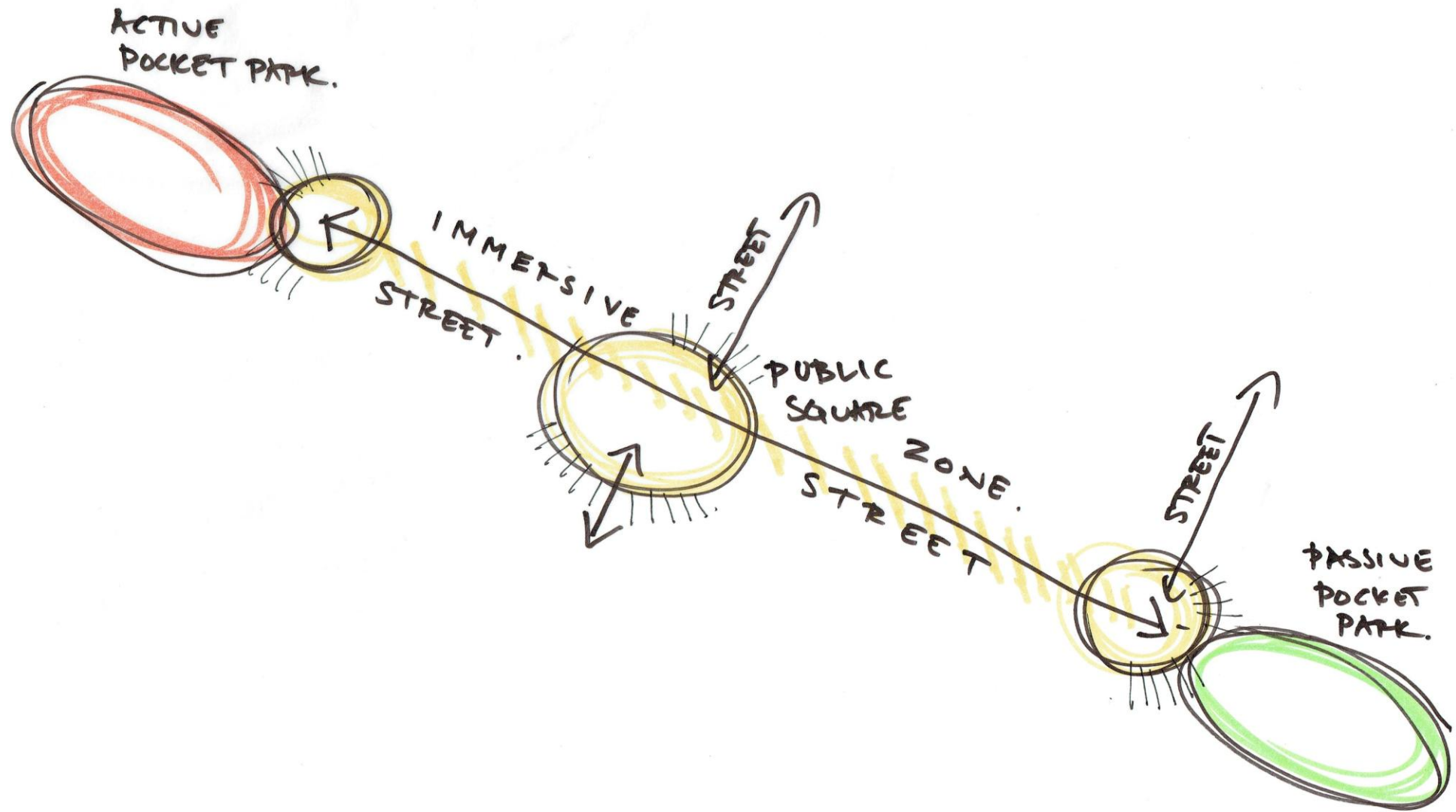
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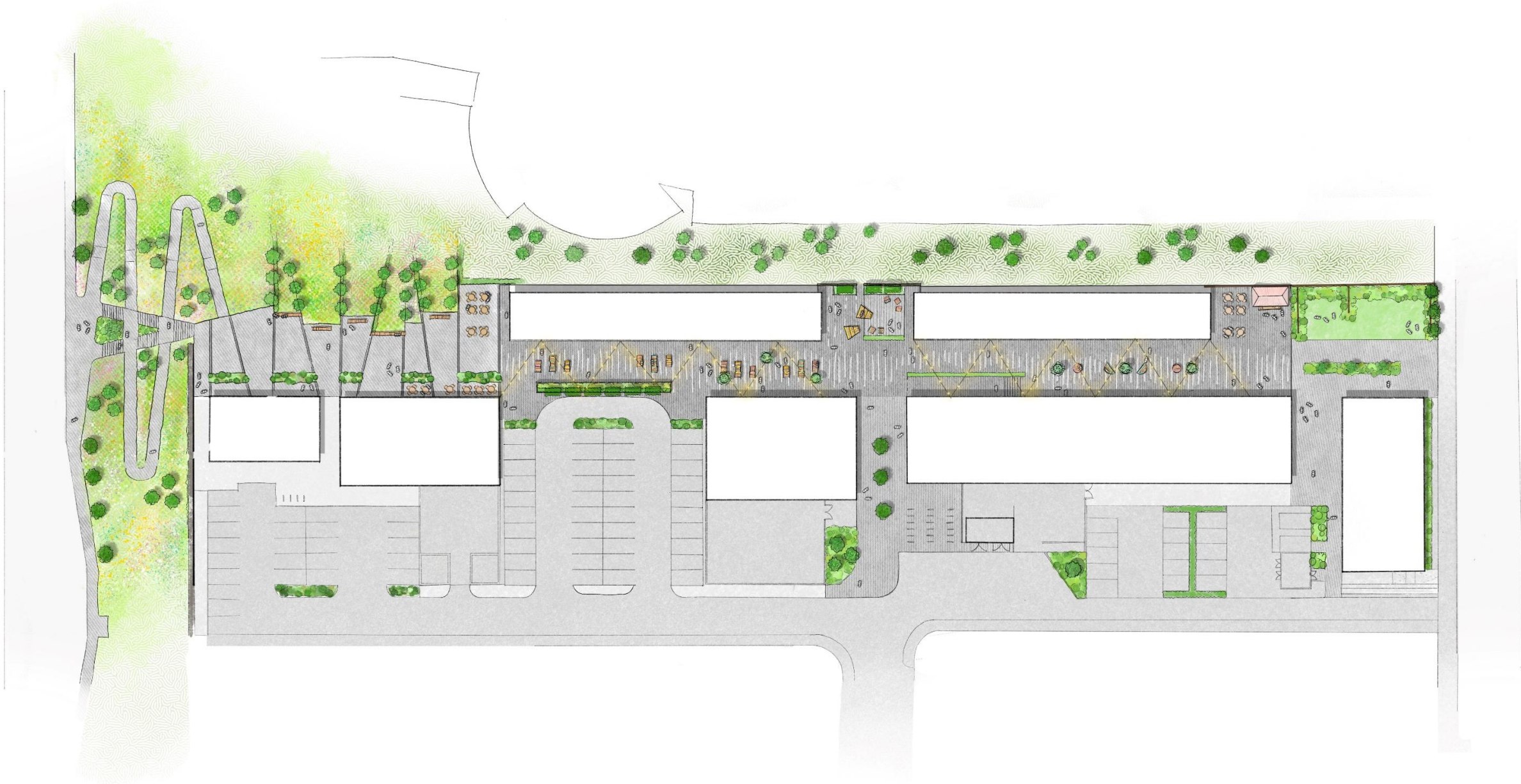
Harworth
harworthgroup.com

COMING
SOON

ALL COURT
Primary Group

Harworth
harworthgroup.com













WAVERLEY

OLIVE LANE

- Community Hub ↗
- Medical Centre ←
- Bus stop ↑
- ATM ↘
- Sunny Lane ←
- Highfield Spring ↑
- Stephenson Way ↓
- Highwall Park, School & Waverley Lakes →

TESCO

Highwall Park



- Leisure loop
- Greater diversity in the 2 play areas
- Inclusive MUGA
- Less formal park
- Introduced pocket park concept



3.1 ILLUSTRATIVE MASTERPLAN

The approach for the layout and appearance of Highwall Park is to create an attractive and distinctive identity that responds to the surrounding built form. A hierarchy of places, routes and character areas weave throughout the park with an cohesive design language and bold character.

The design should utilise and celebrate the site's unique natural assets such as the dramatic land form, existing watercourses and scrub land.

The park should cater for the whole community by providing a wide range recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

A high quality, green and biodiverse environment should be provided that has the flexibility to evolve and adapt in to the future.

The following pages break down the masterplan into a series of guidance principles which look to achieve the design code objectives in Section 2.0.



4.3 CHARACTER AREA - THE LAWNS

THE LAWNS

The Lawns are characterised by long stretches of open mown amenity grassland that provide flexible usage for a range of activities such as picnicking, ball games and dog walking.

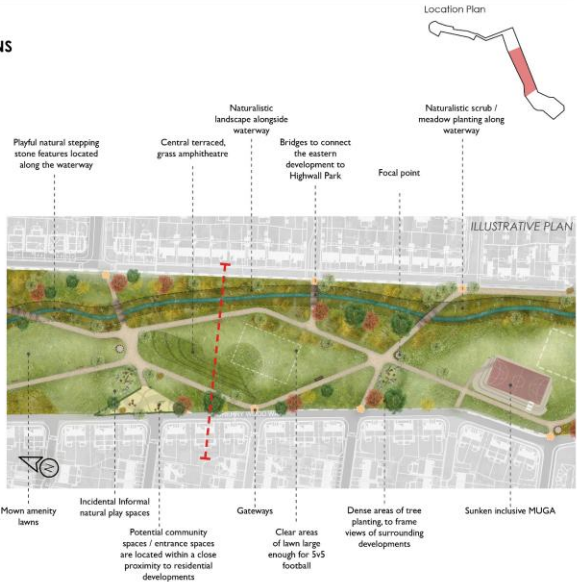
A continuous north-south ribbon on lawns should be provided to link between the wetland and the activity hub. There is an opportunity to provide grass areas which are large enough for activities such as 5-a-side football.

The waterway winds along the eastern edge of The Lawns. Final levels design to be lead by the project engineer and must meet Environment Agency requirements. Existing scrub land planting should be retained and enhanced along the edges of the waterway - details to be developed with an ecologist to provide maximum potential for new habitats.

An accessible and inclusive MUGA must be provided as part of Section 106. Landforms around the MUGA could include a terraced grass amphitheatre to maximise southerly views and create a dramatic use of levels.

Informal play opportunities are to be scattered through The Lawns, with the potential of some within the watercourse (such as boulder stepping stones). Subject to detailed Risk Assessments and community engagement.

Tree planting could be used to frame gateways and edges of the park.



3.2 CHARACTER AREAS

Four distinct character areas are to be created within the park, with the aim of providing a changing visual and physical experience as users move through the space.

THE RIDGE
Large swathes of native tree planting make use of the challenging steep topography.

ACTIVITY HUB
Central hub with a focus on play, fitness, activity and events.

THE LAWNS
Flexible open areas of grassland provide opportunity for relaxation and recreation.

WETLAND
Ecology focussed wetland landscape, providing opportunities for interaction, SuDS and education.

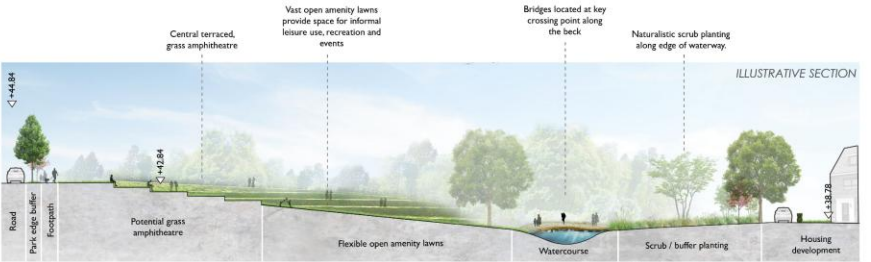
Section 4.0 explains the requirements for each character area in more detail.



Opportunity to create a graded landscape character



INDICATIVE CHARACTER AREAS



NOTE - Some tree planting is shown at mature size, not planted size







Forge New Homes







Welcome to Waverley, Rotherham

Thanks and please come & visit Waverley!

Laura Colson – Harworth Group
www.harworthgroup.com

Simon Hall – PWP Design
www.pwpdesign.co.uk



Harworth



Brought to you by



Sharing the Learning: Active Environments

Transforming Cities Fund

Saira Ali FLI FRSA

Team Leader - Landscape, Design and
Conservation

President Elect, Landscape Institute











Well Bradford







Bradford Transforming Cities Fund: Landscape Proposals



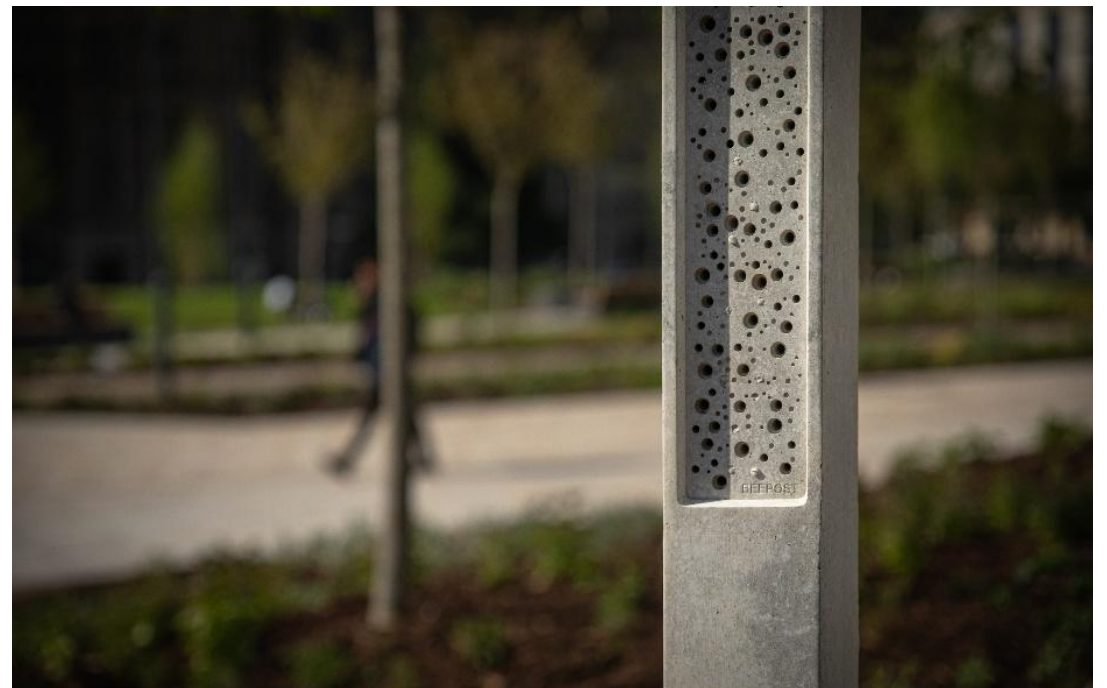


















Thank you

Dr. Saira Ali FLI

Team Leader - Landscape, Design and
Conservation





Q&A Session

Mark Furnish, Saira Ali, Simon Hall & Tom Hall





Comfort Break





Physical activity and health– *Active Environments*

“Where we live, work, travel and play has a major role in shaping our activity choices”
Sport England

16th October 2025

Tim Howells – Head of Public Health

Tim.Howells@bradford.gov.uk

What does the evidence say?

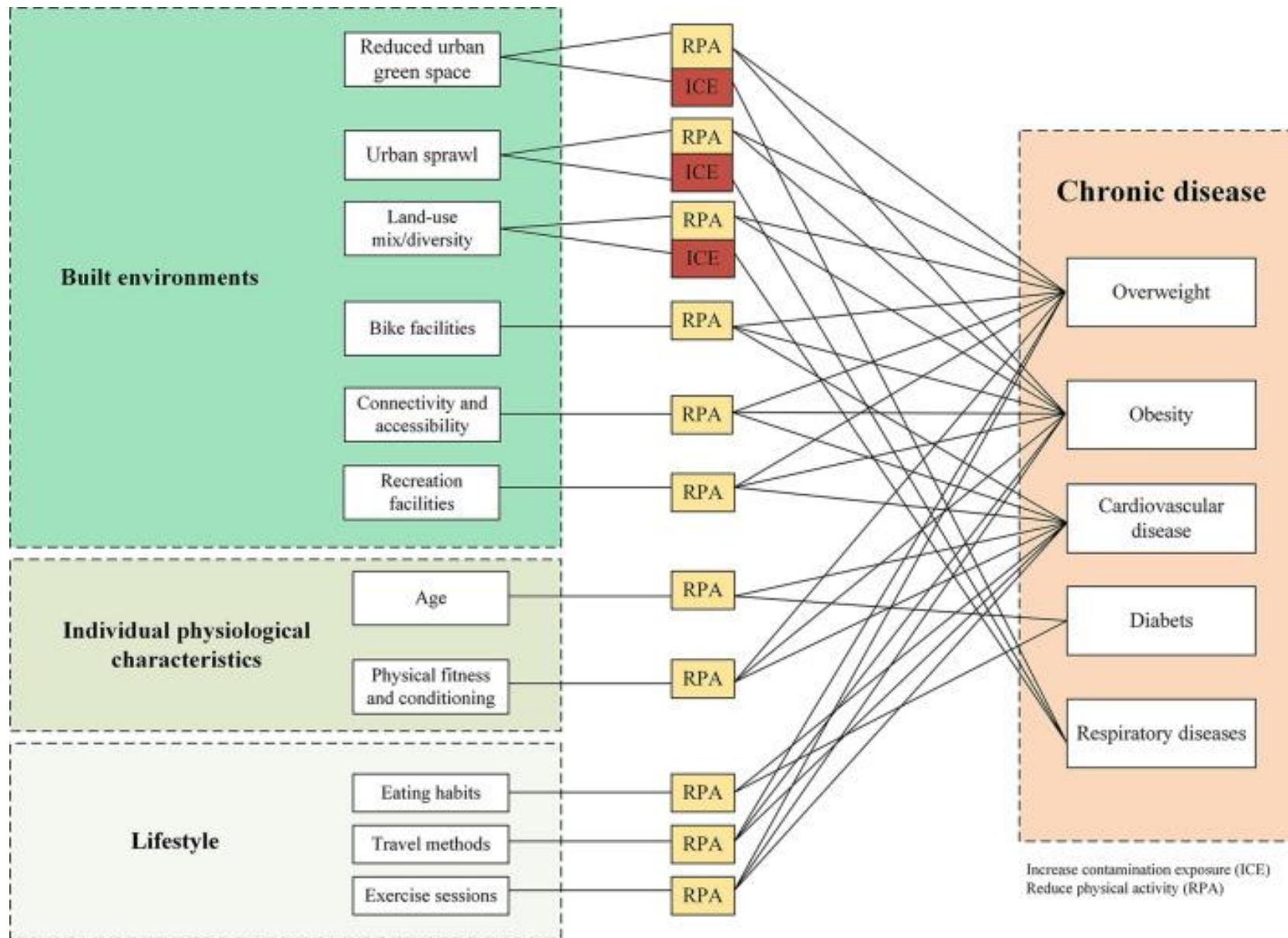
Built Environment & Physical Activity: Features like public transport stations, schools, sports facilities, and food markets encourage active lifestyles and improve health outcomes. These are cost-effective interventions for promoting public health.

Social Inequality & Health: Built environments can influence health disparities among social groups (e.g., children, women, elderly), necessitating inclusive planning and the importance of co-production.

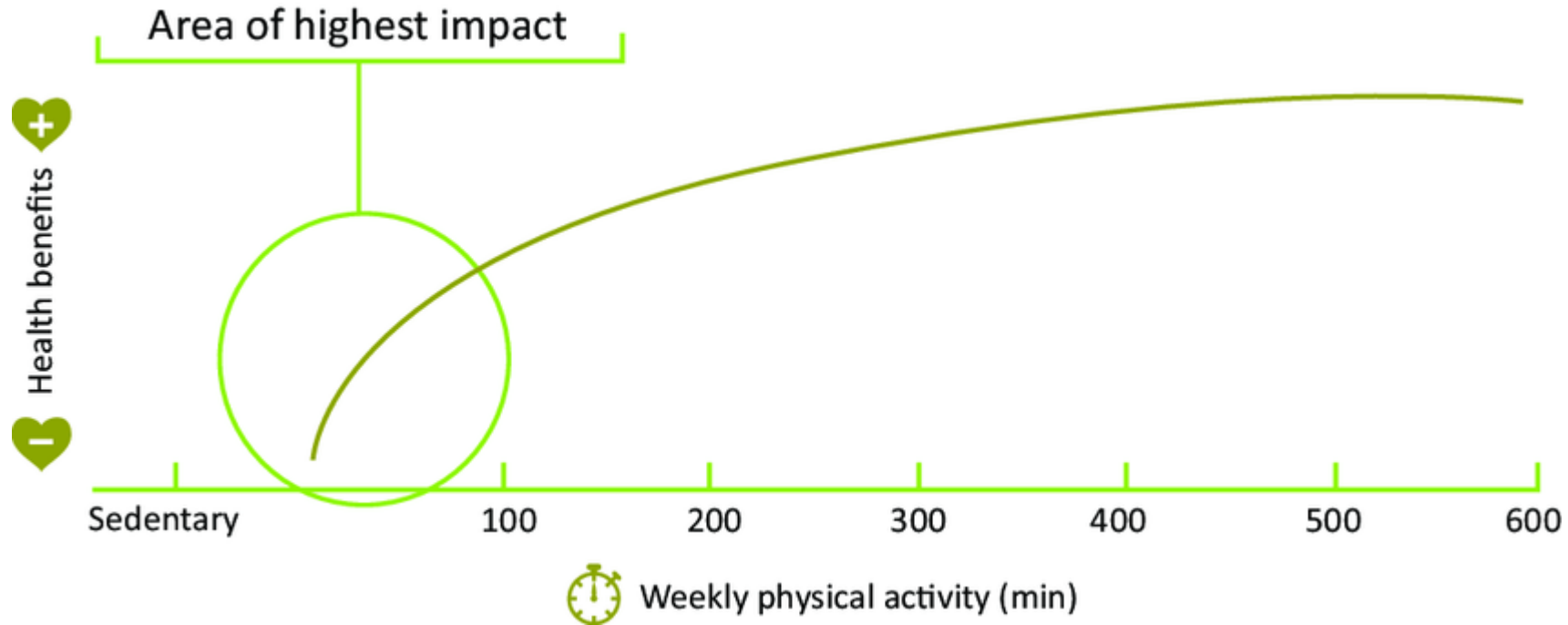
Pollution & Green Spaces: Reducing emissions from transport and industry, promoting clean energy vehicles, and expanding green spaces are vital for mitigating pollution and enhancing physical activity. High levels of air pollution generally discourage physical activity and specifically *‘those with respiratory disease, self-report a reduction in outdoor activities to mitigate the detrimental impact of air pollution’*.

Vulnerable Groups: Urban planning must consider the needs of vulnerable populations to ensure equitable health benefits. And e.g. Foster social cohesion and mental wellbeing via community-oriented spaces.

- <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9326484>
- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0013935119303421>
- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28829249/>

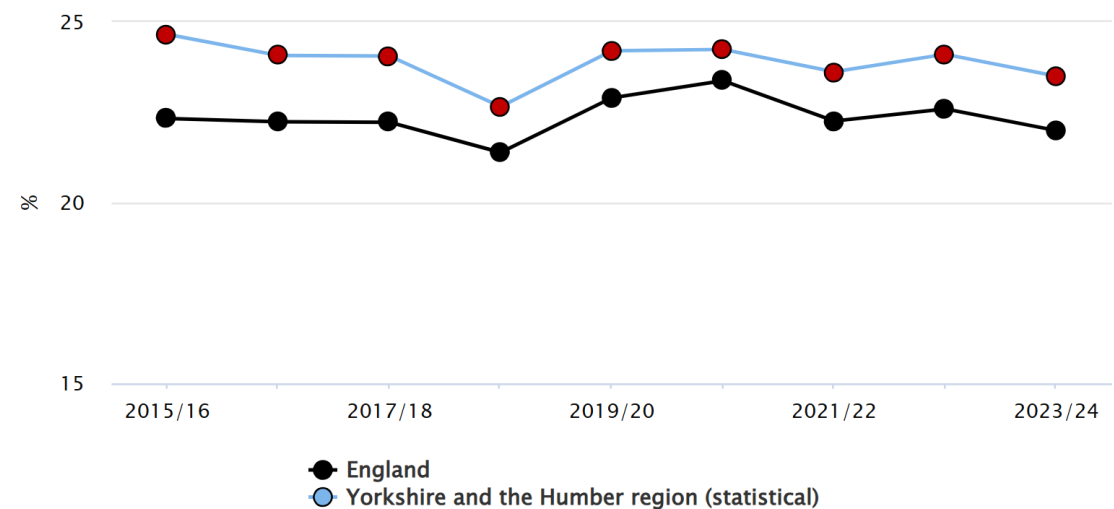


Physical activity or sedentary behaviour?



- 11.6% of deaths in the UK from sedentary behaviour
- 69,276 people
- ~£1b cost to the NHS

10 year ‘inactivity’ trend



Recent trend: Could not be calculated

Period	Yorkshire and the Humber region (statistical)					England
	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2015/16	●	-	24.7%	24.0%	25.4%	22.3%
2016/17	●	-	24.1%	23.4%	24.8%	22.2%
2017/18	●	-	24.1%	23.4%	24.8%	22.2%
2018/19	●	-	22.7%	22.0%	23.3%	21.4%
2019/20	●	-	24.2%	23.6%	24.9%	22.9%
2020/21	●	-	24.2%	23.6%	24.9%	23.4%
2021/22	●	-	23.6%	23.0%	24.3%	22.3%
2022/23	●	-	24.1%	23.4%	24.8%	22.6%
2023/24	●	-	23.5%	22.8%	24.2%	22.0%



Role of built environment and active design on Non-Exercise Activity Thermogenesis (NEAT)

‘unconscious’ activity or movement that is a byproduct of another task.

‘Every Move Counts’ – The Bradford Whole Systems Approach to Physical Activity

The nine key strategic themes:

- **1. Active Travel**
- **2. Built environment**
- **3. Greenspace**
- 4. Communities
- 5. Active Children
- 6. Health & Social Care
- 7. Sport & Active Recreation
- 8. Workplaces
- 9. Communication & Campaigns



Health, planning and design – Not a single topic issue

- It's not just physical activity and sedentary behaviour
- Using active design creates healthier communities – wider environment, improved air quality, social connection, mental wellbeing. Opportunity to tackle food deserts and swamps.
- Specifically on anxiety and depression (2024 -10yr longitudinal study*);
 1. The highest level of greenness of home surroundings was associated with 20% less anxiety and depression than the middle level; the middle level with 20% less than the lowest level
 2. Every 10% increase in access to green and blue spaces was linked with a 7% reduction in risk of anxiety and depression
 3. People in poorer areas benefitted more (10% reduced risk of anxiety and depression) from access to green and blue spaces than those in richer areas (6% reduced risk).
 4. Every additional 360 metres from the nearest green or blue space was linked with a 5% higher risk of anxiety and depression

Further reading

- Systematic review on active workplace design
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7764065/>
- Active design in affordable housing
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29868352/>
- Built environment and PA
- <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9326484>
- Air quality and physical activity;
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0013935119303421>
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28829249/>
- Mental wellbeing and green space
<https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S2542519623002127>



Brought to you by





VISION 2024



West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

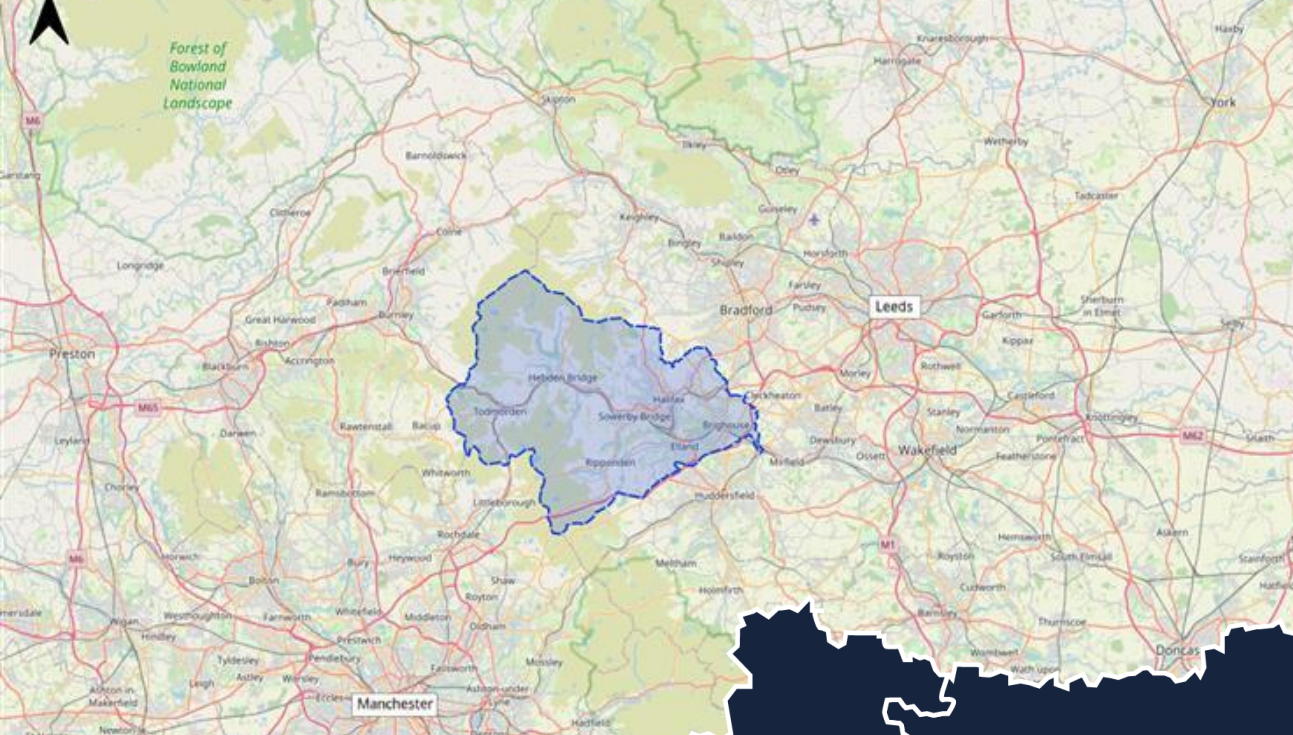
Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Calderdale
Council



Active
Travel
England

Creating Community-Led Neighbourhoods in Calderdale



West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority



Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Calderdale
Council

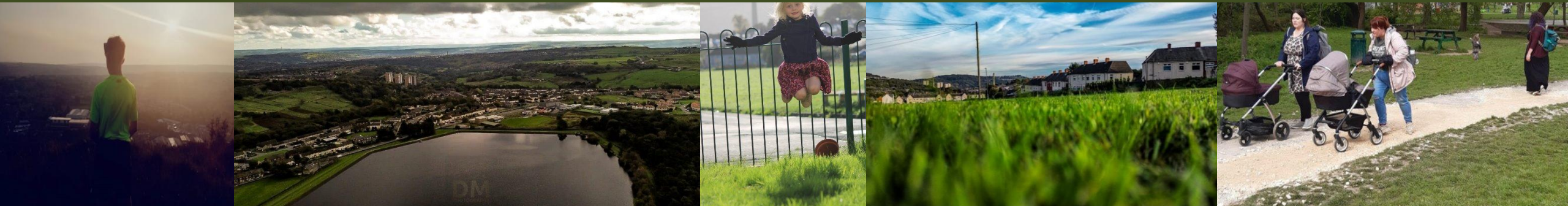
A vision for Calderdale, a future for everyone

#VISIONCDALE2024

Active Travel + North Halifax Strategy

‘Active Travel England funding is helping us deliver the North Halifax Strategy by creating safer, healthier connections for communities, while the Strategy ensures these investments tackle inequalities and are sustained for the long term.’

- Building Connections
- Reducing Inequalities
- Securing Lasting Change





Mixenden is a semi rural village approx. 3 miles from Halifax town centre

Traffic speeds, volumes and dangerous parking behaviours a barrier to travelling actively to school

Deprived area in Calderdale- 44.8% of children eligible for Free School Meals

School Route Audit Report

Ash Green Community Primary School, Calderdale

25 May 2022



We are Living Streets, the charity for everyday walking. Our mission is to achieve a better walking environment and inspire people to walk more.



Living Streets (The Parliamentary Association) is a Registered Charity No. 1109446 (England and Wales) and SC232862 (Scotland). Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered and Public Company. Registration No. 5096476. America House, 5 America Square, London, EC2M 3LL.

livingstreets.org.uk



Ash Green Primary
@AshGreenPrimary

What a brilliant start to the morning! It's fantastic to see our children are actively travelling to school! 🚲🚶 @We_Are_CAS @CdaleActiveEd @livingstreets



School Route Audit Report and meetings with residents fed into the design options and informed the design



A vision for Calderdale, a future for everyone

#VISIONCDALE2024



HAVE YOUR SAY ON PROPOSALS FOR SAFER SCHOOL STREETS IN MIXENDEN



Calderdale
Council

West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

Department
for Transport



We would like to hear your thoughts on proposals to make the area around Ash Green Primary School Lower Site safer and more attractive for people to walk, cycle, rest and play outside.

The project is being delivered by Calderdale Council with funding from West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

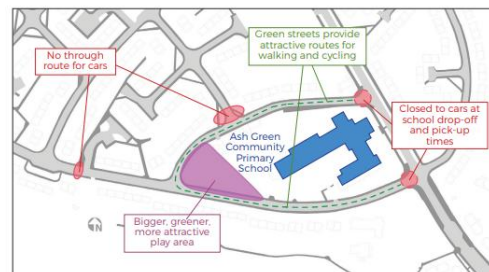
View the latest designs and tell us what you think:
www.calderdalenextchapter.co.uk/projects/ash-green

Join us at Ash Green Community Primary School (Lower Site) on Thursday 19 May 2022, 2-6 pm to find out more.

The consultation runs between:
Friday 6 May and Sunday 5 June 2022.

Your responses are really important in helping to shape the designs. Please take this opportunity to let us know what you think.

If you do not have access to the website, get in touch with our contact centre on 01422 288 002 and ask for a printed copy of the Ash Green consultation pack.



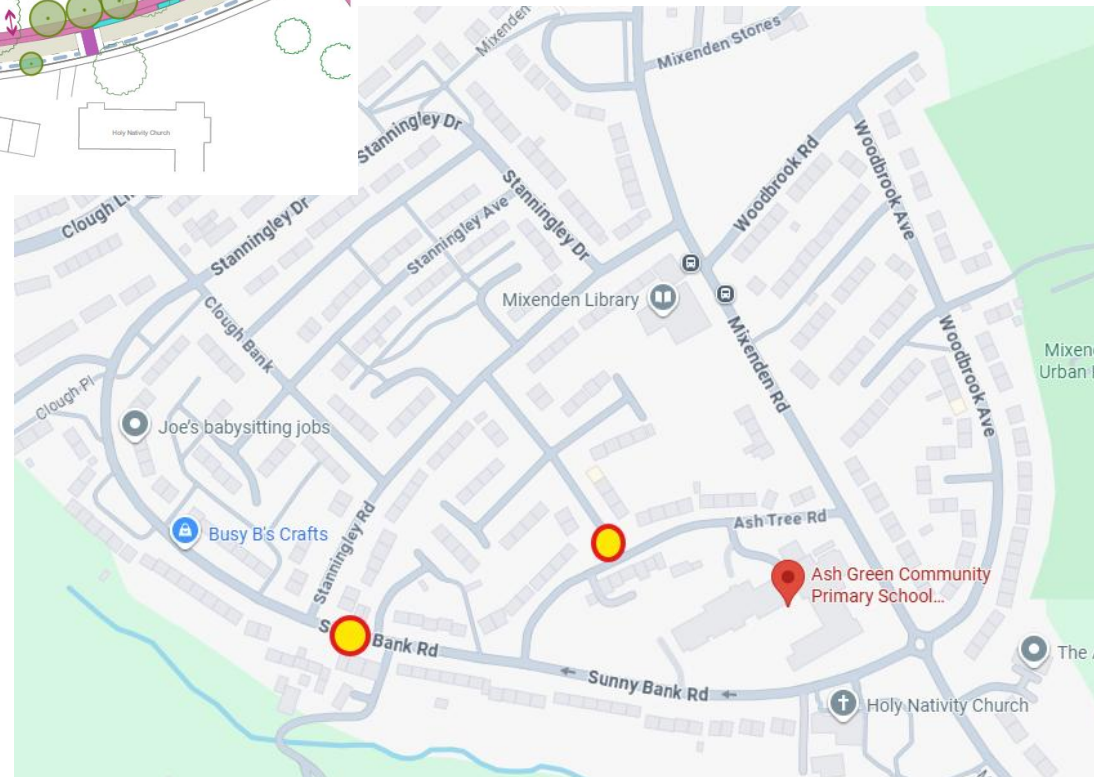
Calderdale
Council

West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

Department
for Transport



Well attended consultation events and co design sessions with residents, pupils, councillors and stakeholders. Designs underwent changes as a result of these sessions.



One way system, narrower carriageway and formalised parking;

Pavement improvements including widening and pencil bollards;

7 new raised table crossings to reduce speeds and aid crossing;

2 modal filter road closures to prevent through traffic;

Rain Gardens for sustainable drainage;

Tree planting and green space improvements.

Working with **Marshalls** as a pilot for their new rain garden kerb stone



Calderdale's first highways retrofit rain gardens



Two volunteer planting days held

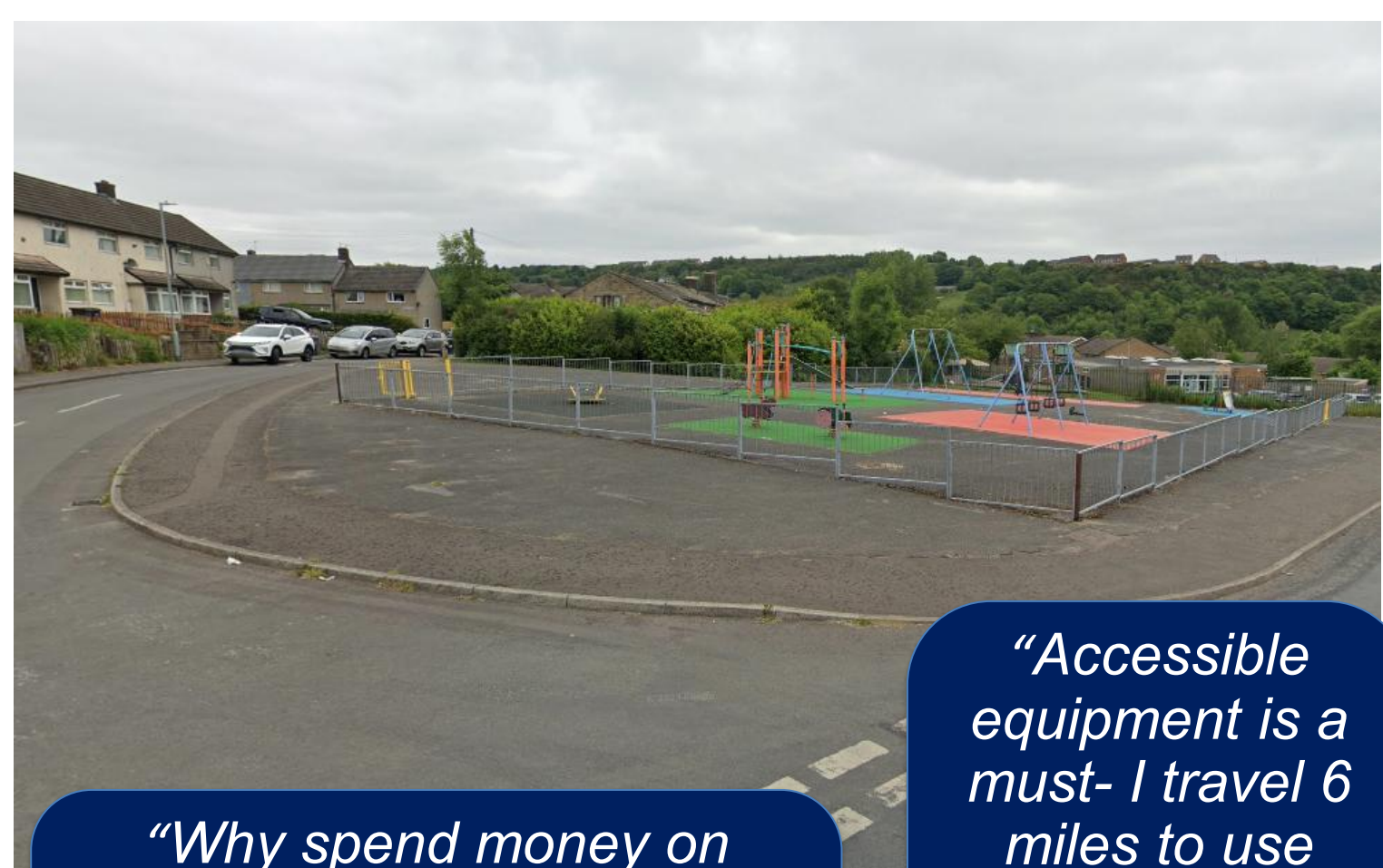


Working with **Yorkshire Water** to model the impact of the nearby CSO



Working with the school to gain education in SUDs via '**Slow the Flow**' workshops





96% of consultation responses expressed a need for new play facilities at SunnyBank playground

“Investment and improvement will mean a sense of worth is greatly improved. When we get looked after like we deserve to be looked after, we look after ourselves!”

“More green space please- this playground is all tarmac- and has nowhere to sit”

“Why spend money on improving the road to make us more active when the basic playground is lacking?”

“Accessible equipment is a must- I travel 6 miles to use accessible equipment at another park with my son”

Sunnybank Play Area

Calderdale Council

KOMPAN
Let's play

You and Me
Parent Toddler Swing

Play for all



Funded by
UK Government

New
playground
funded by:

- UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund)
- Calderdale Council
- Active Calderdale

Calderdale
Council



West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Inclusive Play
for the whole
community. All
ages, all abilities.
Let's play
Together

All of our play equipment is designed with
inclusivity in mind. Please scan to listen and read
more about how we design our products.



Inclusive Stairs
with pull me up
hand grips on
floor and sides



Supernova

3D
Creatures



Sensory
Rain Wheel

Existing
Seesaw

3D Ladybird

3x Slides

Braille/ Sign
Language
Play Panel

Music
Play Panel

Active Play

Hammock

Existing Slide

Wheelchair Roundabout

Shop
Panel

3D Croc

7x Swings

Communication
Board

Inclusive
Stairs

Wheelchair
Picnic Bench

Hopscotch

Rain Wheel

You and Me
Swing Seat

Inclusive
Swing Seat with
handles and support

110
PLUS
USERS

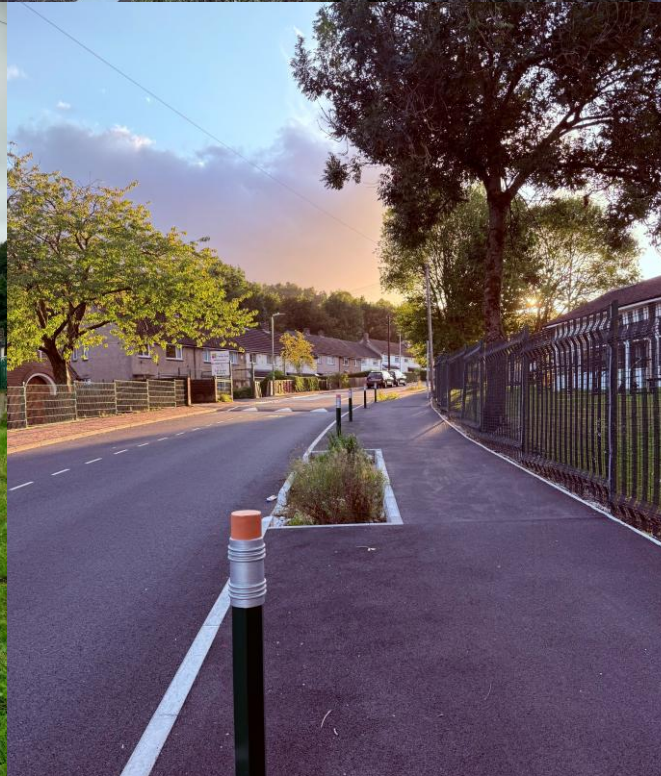
35
PLUS PLAY
FEATURES

AGE
0-14
RANGE



Welcome to the new play area at Sunnybank. The play zone is for everyone, featuring both accessible and inclusive play equipment. Children can progress naturally from left to right, with both challenging and fun equipment.

High Capacity
Group Play/
Multi User
Role Play
Tactile Play
Sound play
Climbing
Sliding
Rocking
Spinning
Gliding
Swinging
Hop and Crawl
Inclusive



‘The Ash Green playground and safer street project has transformed that part of Mixenden and made the area surrounding our Lower Site a massively safer space. From the outset, the work we did together with children, staff, Calderdale officers and contractors set out to be child centred and consultative. Open evenings allowed children, families and residents feel part of driving the design. To then have the children involved in planting up the rain gardens they had designed whilst contractors narrowed roads and built an amazing new playground, was wonderful to see. The wider pavements and one-way system were immediately embraced by the whole community and has led to quieter roads, safer places to cross and more children coming on foot or on two wheels!’

Mungo Sheppard, Head at Ash Green School



‘The opening of the playground in September 2024 was one of the best attended community events of my time here with literally hundreds of children bursting on to the new and improved equipment! Since then, the playground has continued to be a hub for the community every afternoon, all weekend and in the day for families with infants. Our children have taken pride in keeping the area tidy and being taken there at lunchtimes and as a reward. It’s a lovely and safe place to play.’



Mungo Sheppard, Head at Ash Green School





Opening event held in September 2024.
In collaboration with Active Calderdale, WYCA and other local partners.
Over 500 attendees on the day.
50 bikes given away in 18 minutes and more repaired !





MIXENDEN ACTIVITY CENTRE



MORE SPORT & LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES



When we
move
we're
stronger



PARKS & GREEN SPACES



WILD WALK

Use the blue route for the Wild Walk

Kestrel's Cafe

Are your eyes as sharp as a bird of prey? Then you can easily spot the food that kestrels like to eat.



L	K	L	R	M	S	L	G
C	R	R	W	N	O	A	B
H	U	K	A	E	X	T	D
G	E	I	S	L	Y	N	H
S	L	U	G	T	Y	X	L
W	O	R	M	E	C	K	B
M	V	J	W	E	R	H	S
B	N	T	A	B	F	V	G
BAT	MOUSE	SLUG	WORM	BEE	BEETLE	SHREW	SNAIL
MO	TH	SKYLARK	VOLE				

Welcome to Hounslow Heath - hectares of historic heathland in the heart of Hounslow. Get active outdoors and connect with the nature on your doorstep!



Stag Tag

Choose one person to become the male stag beetle by using their hands as pretend antlers. They then beetle around trying to tag someone else with their antlers. That person then becomes the stag and has to go catch someone else.



Hiding Hedgehog

One person pretends to be a spiky hedgehog and curls up in a ball. Without peeping she slowly counts to 20. The rest of the group pretend to be slugs (the hedgehog's favourite food) and slither off to hide. The hedgehog will then uncurl and find his food.

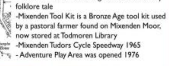
Help the heathlands! This habitat is even rarer than rainforest and supports so much wildlife - bees, adders, sphagnum moss and me - the Dartford Warbler!



MIXENDEN PARK CONCEPT PLAN

Our aim is to breathe new life into Mixenden Park by making it a place that everyone feels more welcome to enjoy the benefits of nature and have the opportunity to be more active in a safe environment. Initially this will be achieved by improving the path network to create a circular route around the entire site connecting the existing formal areas with the Hebble Brook bank area and improving the entrances with a new one proposed at the Addy. Following a series of community consultations, the size can be enriched with play, exercise and leisure opportunities that will cater for users of all ages and abilities (see items 01 to 06 below for examples of what can be included). Additions that will transform the Park into a vibrant, inclusive and engaging space for the local community and visitors while providing opportunities to explore local history and the natural environment.

MASTERPLAN



HISTORY HIKE

Use the orange route for the History Hike

Discover the hidden history of Hounslow Heath, from bronze boars to biplanes, batties to bloodshed!

START HERE

Can you find the 3 stolen jewels?

Those pesky highway bandits hid them in three of the waymarker posts...

Stand and deliver!

Choose a person in your group to play the part of Moll Cut-Purse. Run ahead and hide from your friends, then suddenly jump out and demand some treasure!

Face and chase

It is said that Claude Duval never used violence. Choose a person to be 'it' - they make the scariest face they can and try to catch the others. If caught, they make a scary face and become 'it' too.

Name Game

What would you call yourself if you were a highwayman or highwaywoman? Here's how:

Your age or Your house number + Sword or Pistol or String + Your nickname or Your pet's name = Your highway name!





Thank you!



Project Funded by:





Lunch & Networking





Doncaster Future Parks

How we are working, and what we have learned by working this way.





City of
Doncaster
Council



Population 308k

226sq miles

41st most deprived (out of 317)

Low Healthy life expectancy

The Challenge

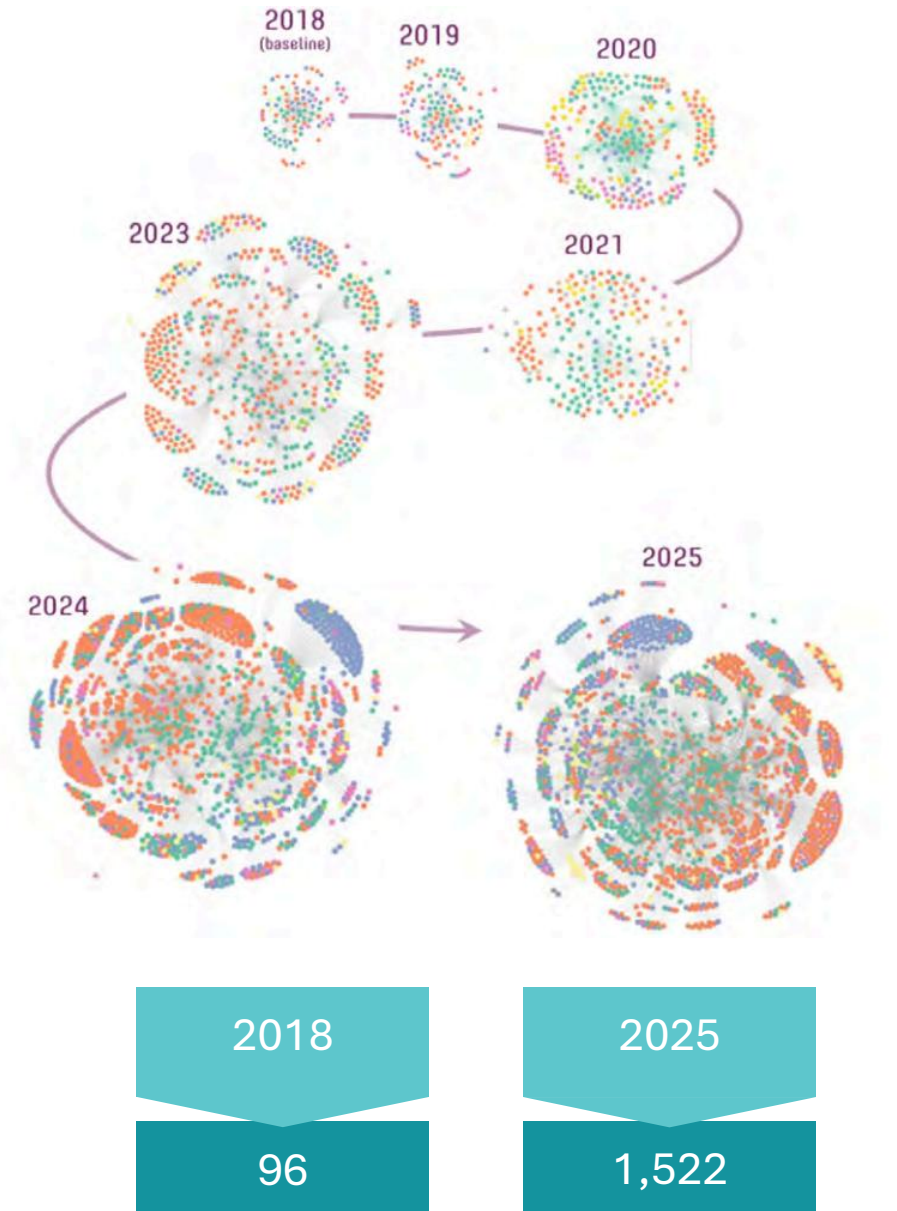
Inactive adults
30.3% (England 25.1%)

Inactive Children
29.1% (England 29.6%)



7 Core GDM Team members

Healthy, vibrant communities through movement, physical activity and sport.





Doncaster Future Parks





EMPOWERED AND ACTIVE
PEOPLE

-

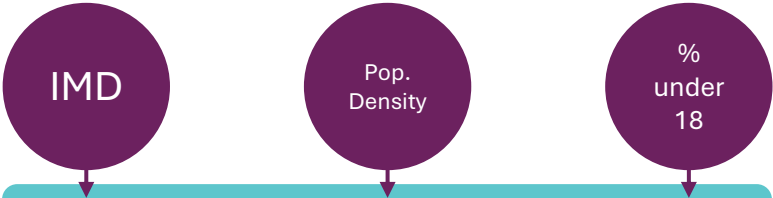
DISTINCT AND VIBRANT
SPACES

-

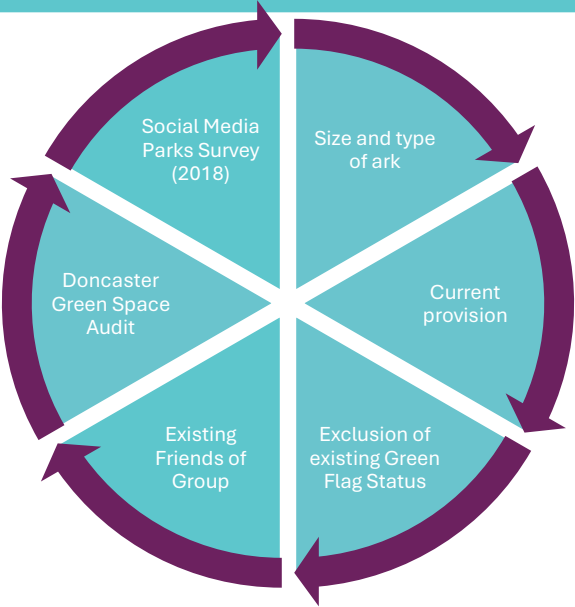
STRONG AND EFFECTIVE
PARTNERSHIPS



Priority Cohorts

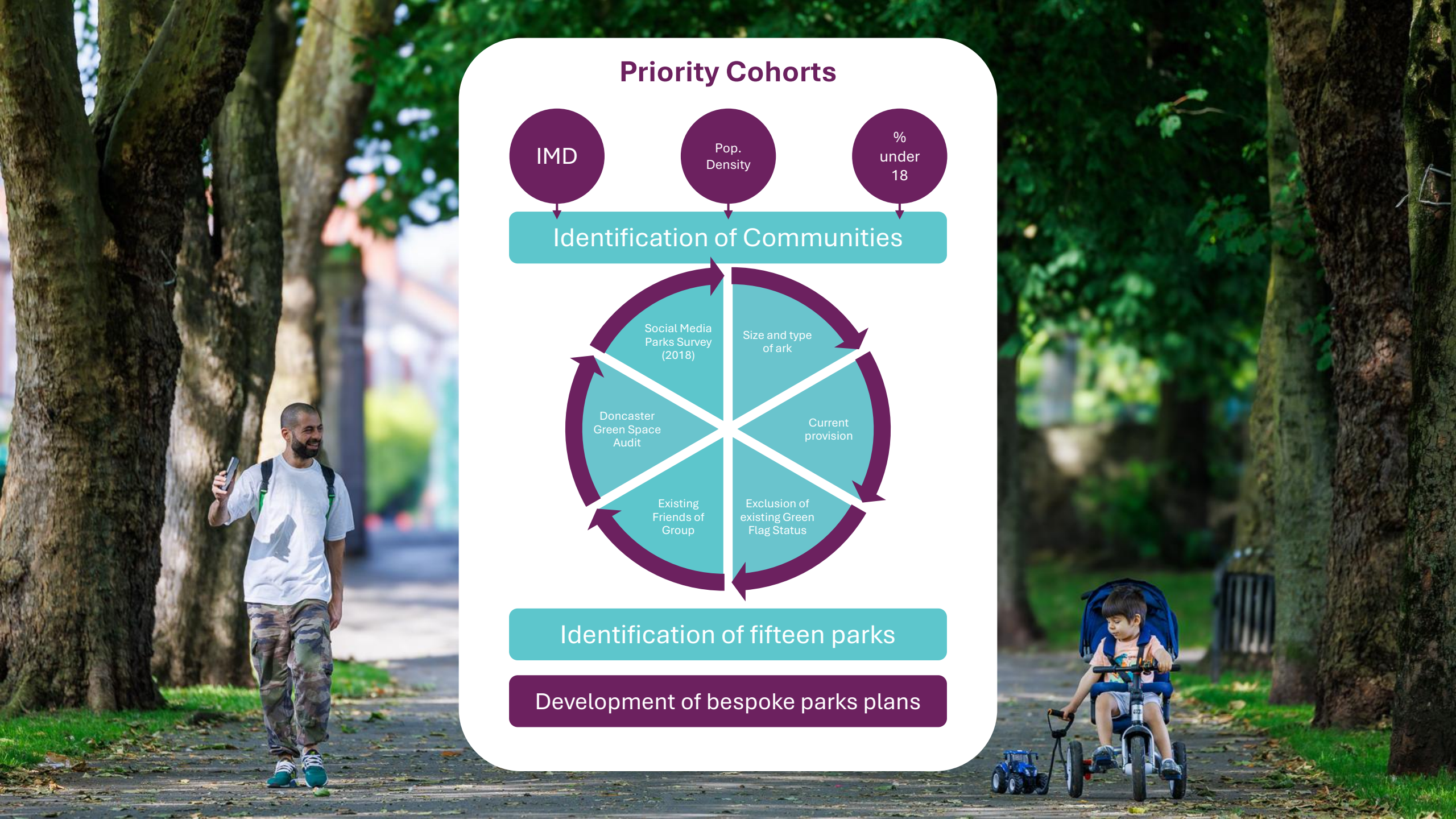


Identification of Communities



Identification of fifteen parks

Development of bespoke parks plans



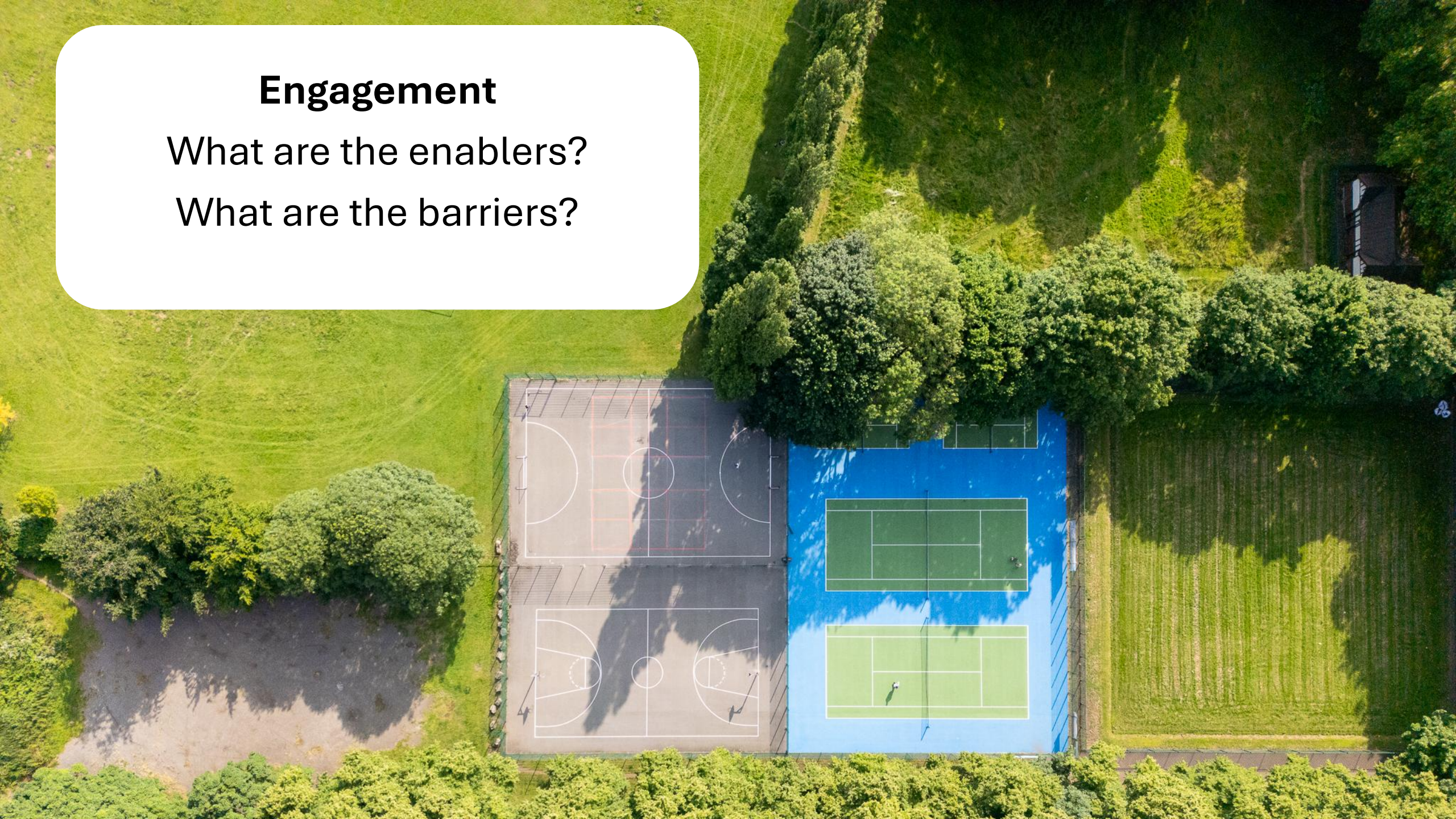
- Align work with national standards
- Application of design principles
- Quality and Value assessment
- Address the perception of safety
- Accessibility
- Active travel / urban connectivity
- Use of language and image in communication
- Collaborative partnerships
- CYP & Family
- Working with diverse stakeholders
- Political and public considerations



Engagement

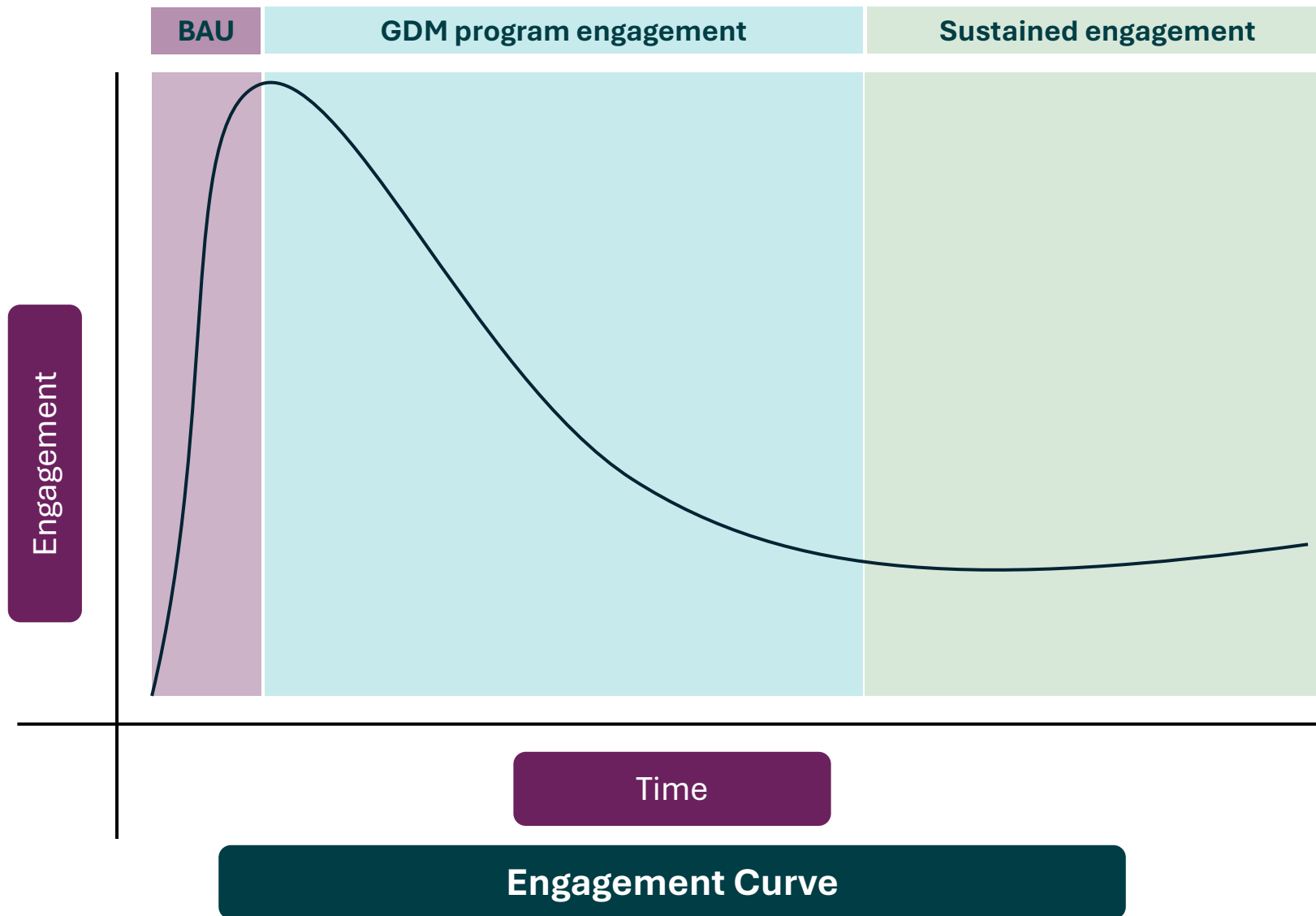
What are the enablers?

What are the barriers?

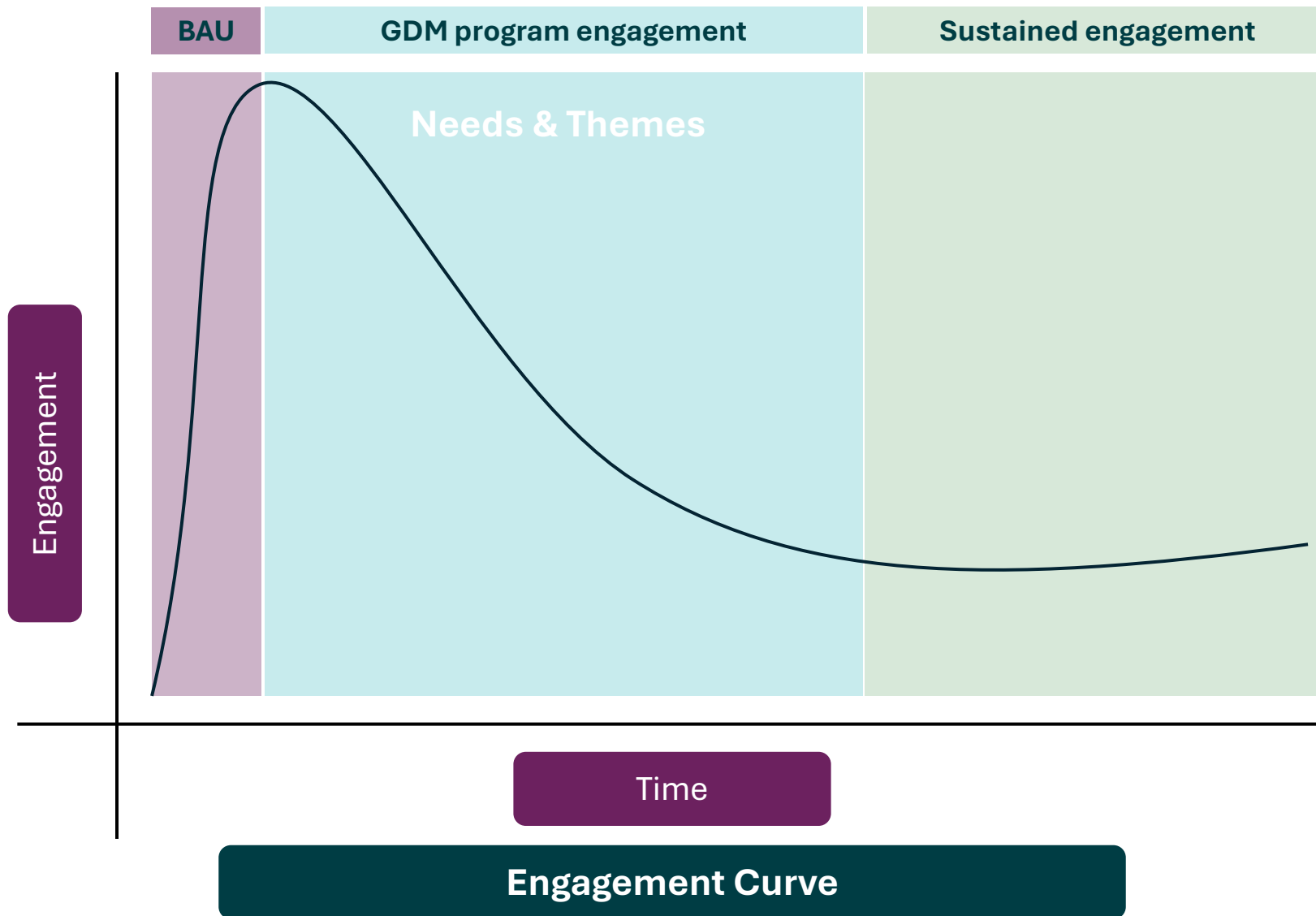


Methods of engagement:

- Established CDC channels direct
- Existing stakeholder networks
- In-person events
- Survey – boosted by social ads
- Translated into various languages
- Posters in park – QR codes
- Web Pages
- Post cards to residents
- Developed unique engagement experiences – digital trails
- CYP - young advisors / youth hubs/ schools / higher education
- Exhibitions
- New Stakeholders & unique user groups: Poké people, Partially Sighted Society
- AI









881/3509



Doncaster Play Parks Infrastructure Policy

City of Doncaster Council

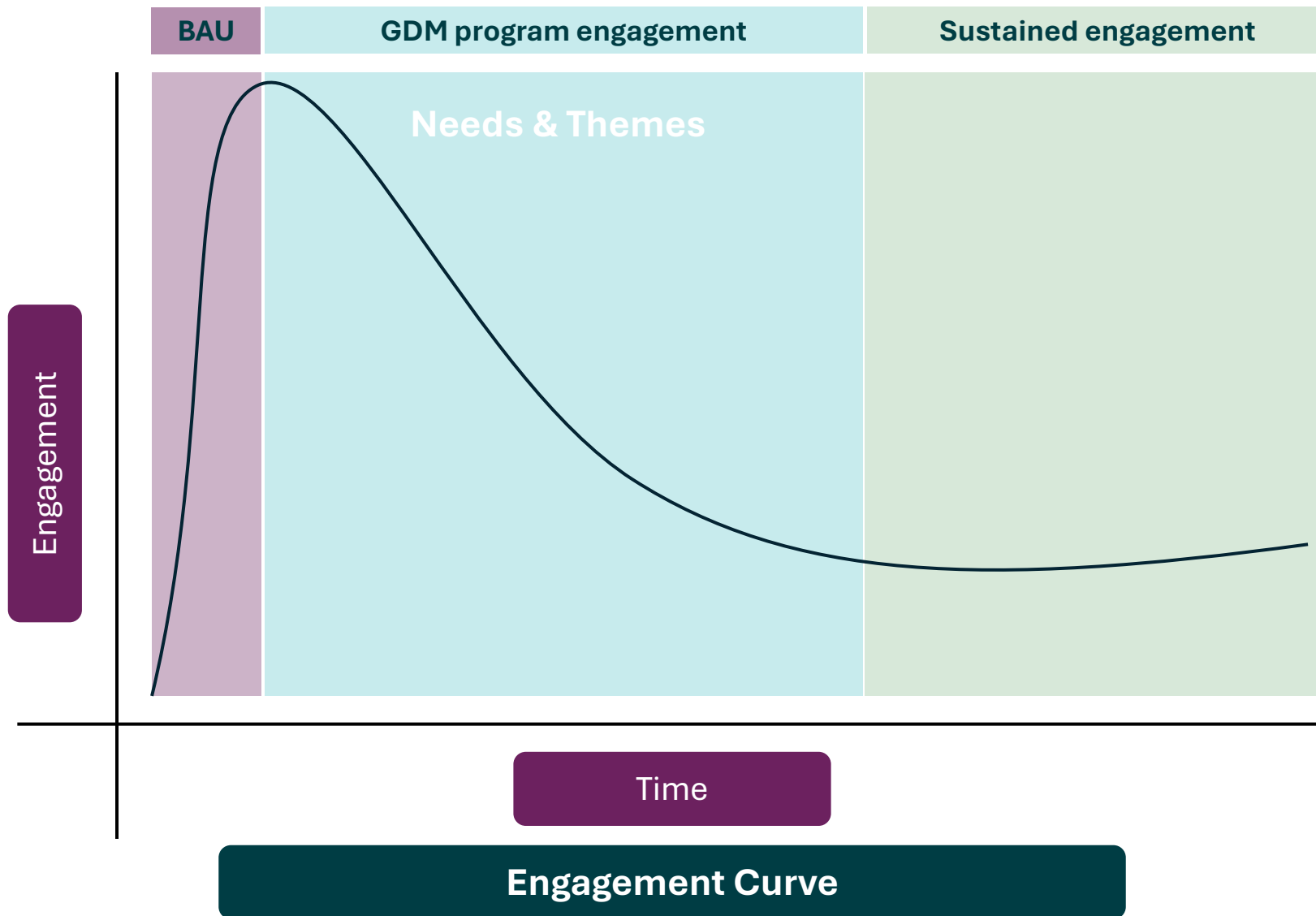
2023



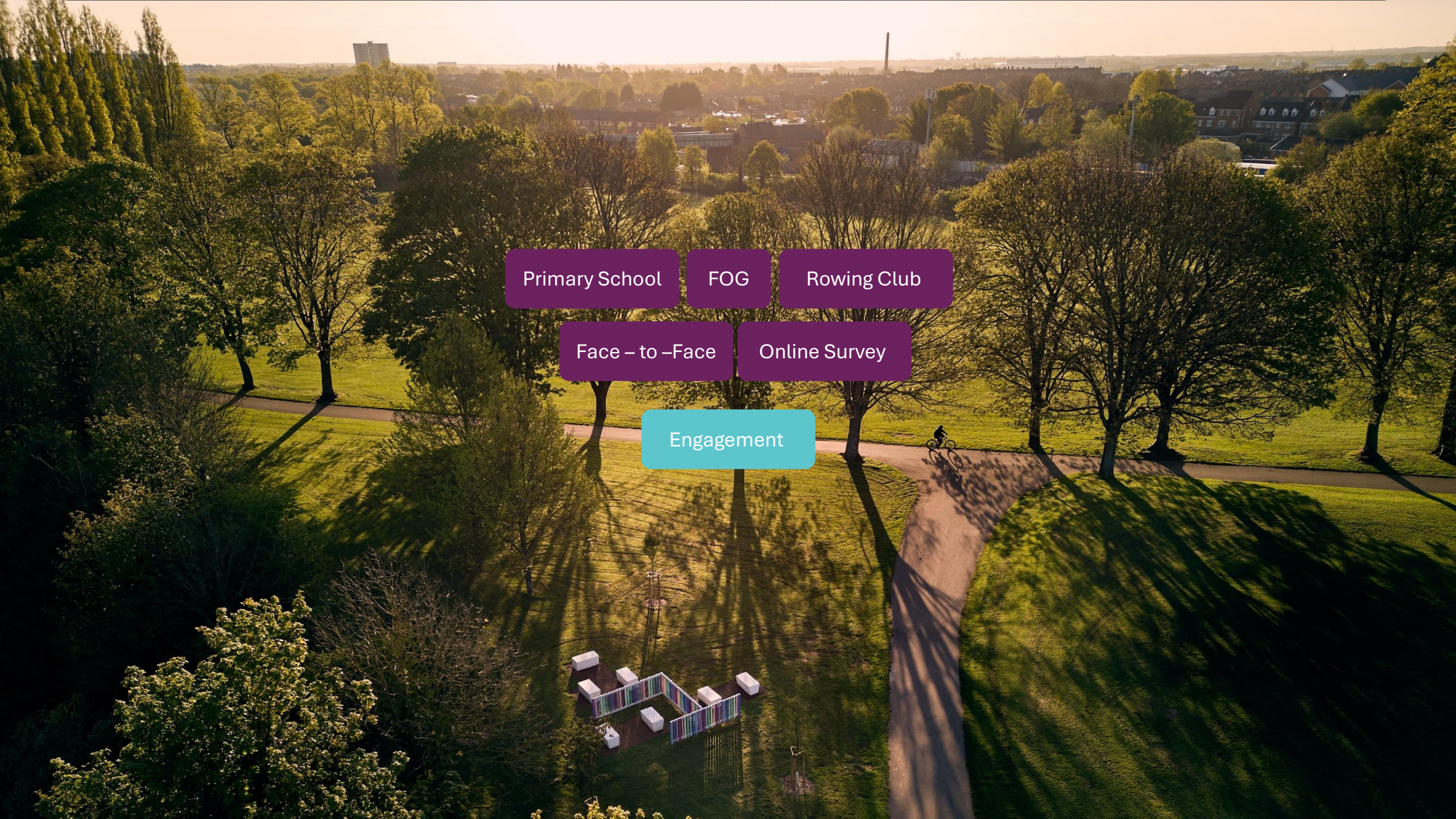
City of
Doncaster
Council



GET
DONCASTER
MOVING







Primary School

FOG

Rowing Club

Face – to –Face

Online Survey

Engagement

An aerial photograph of a lush green park with a winding path. In the foreground, there is a colorful outdoor furniture set consisting of white rectangular blocks and a low, multi-colored fence. The background shows a dense line of trees and a distant city skyline under a hazy sky.

Primary School

FOG

Rowing Club

Right Up Our
Street

Face – to –Face

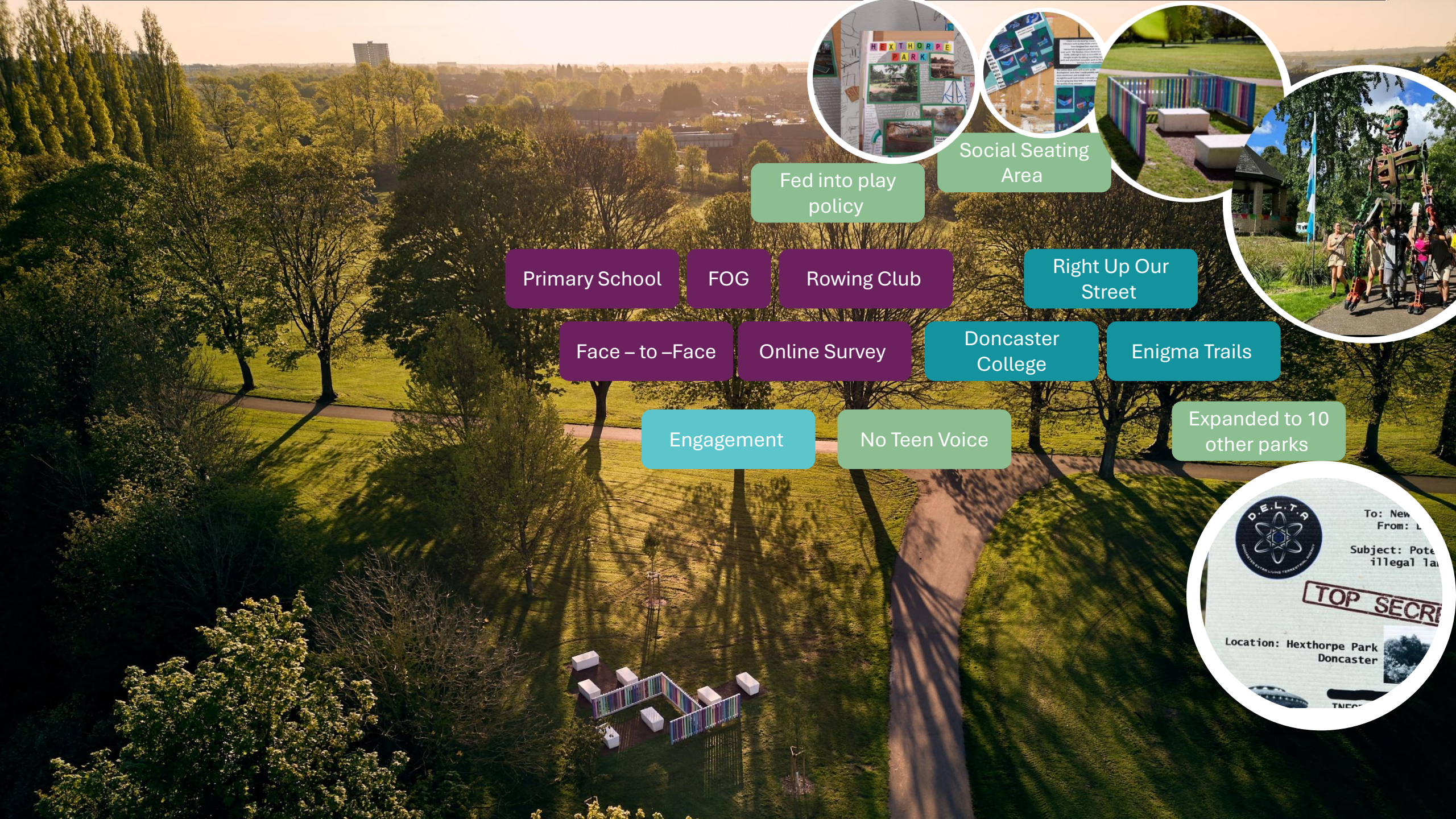
Online Survey

Doncaster
College

Enigma Trails

Engagement

No Teen Voice



Fed into play policy



Social Seating Area



Primary School

FOG

Rowing Club

Right Up Our Street

Face – to –Face

Online Survey

Doncaster College

Enigma Trails

Engagement

No Teen Voice

Expanded to 10 other parks





Fed into play policy



Social Seating Area



Primary School

FOG

Rowing Club

Right Up Our Street

Face – to –Face

Online Survey

Doncaster College

Enigma Trails

Engagement

No Teen Voice

Expanded to 10 other parks

Lawn Tennis Association

Pétanque

Pickleball

Free Tennis Coaching



Solar paths & bollards

Opened sightlines

Social Seating Area

Fed into play policy

Seating

Footpaths

Primary School

FOG

Rowing Club

Right Up Our Street

Face – to –Face

Online Survey

Doncaster College

Enigma Trails

Engagement

No Teen Voice

Expanded to 10 other parks

Signage & Interpretation

Crossing Point

Lawn Tennis Association

Pétanque

Pickleball

Active Travel routes

Free Tennis Coaching

Links to TPT



To: New
From: L
Subject: Pot
illegal la

TOP SECRET

Location: Hexthorpe Park
Doncaster

TNCO





- Do not build it and they will come – where is your evidence?
 - Evidence a need – not a want
- You said : We did – this is rubbish, it does not belong in sustainable placemaking
 - Cast the engagement net as wide as possible, dig for insight
- One element does not maketh the park – build layers of variety
 - More people doing more things more often – linger longer
 - Build in some feedback loops





@get-doncaster-moving





Brought to you by



Nature/Health conversation

“We need to talk about nature....”

Esther Smith

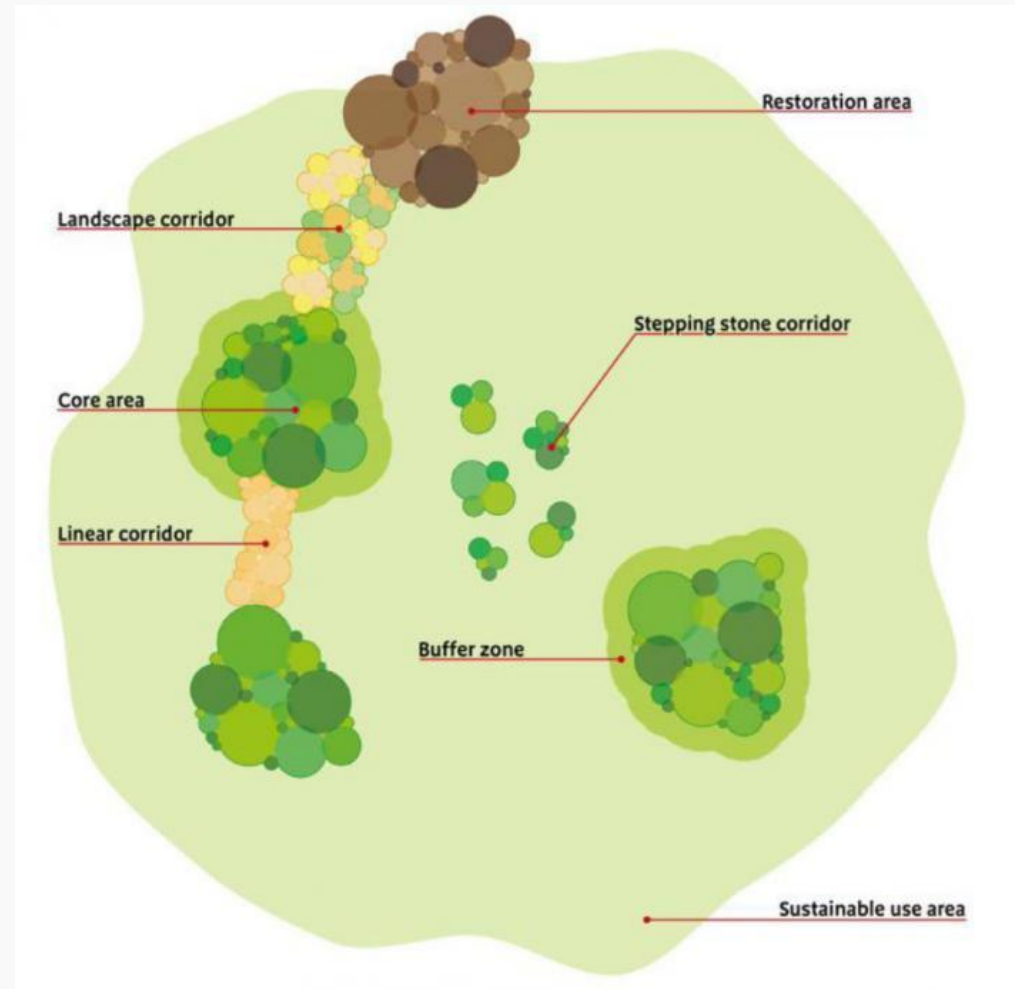
Senior Officer, Health and Environment, North East
and Yorkshire

What we'll cover



- Why nature and health?
- Nature connection and stewardship
- The strategic conversation
- The delivery conversation
- What could work for active environments?
- Over to you

We are on a mission for bigger, better, more joined up nature...including in urban areas



Nature and Health: the evidence

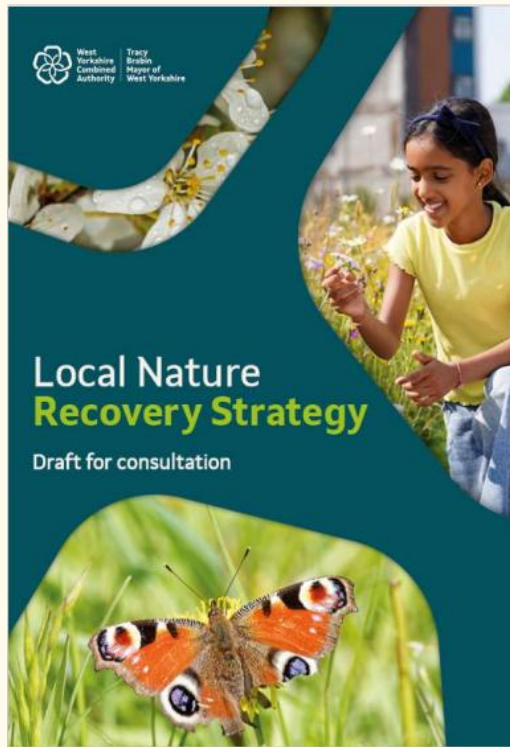
‘Our economies, livelihoods and well-being all depend on our most precious asset: Nature’
(Dasgupta Review, 2021).

“Nature is life. It underpins everything we do. It provides us with clean air, food, water and shelter. It regulates our climate and controls disease. Beyond this, it is central to recreational, cultural, social and spiritual aspects of human life. It is fundamental to our health and well-being.”

(Narrative review of reviews of nature exposure and human health Natural England, 2024)



Local Nature Recovery Strategies



Mayor's foreword

Nature is essential for West Yorkshire's people, wildlife and places. It underpins our region's growth, economy, health and security.

.....

Mission 2: A happy West Yorkshire – great places and healthy communities. Nature recovery can increase the number of residents with access to high-quality green spaces; the health and wellbeing impacts of this include activity levels and improved life expectancy..

Making Every Contact Count Nature and Greenspace



“Nature is good for you. There is increasing evidence demonstrating the links between exposure to nature and a range of health benefits. Spending time in the natural environment reduces anxiety, stress, fatigue and lowers our risk of depression. Being connected to nature and staying active can improve cognitive function and memory, and reduces risk of obesity, asthma, and heart disease. It can improve our concentration, enhance immune function, and reduce mortality.”

<https://www.mecclink.co.uk/yorkshire-humber/nature-and-greenspaces/> Link



**MAKING
EVERY
CONTACT
COUNT**

Health benefits from nature



Increased access to nature

- Physical health through increased exercise: obesity & diabetes implications
- Mental health through nature connection

Mitigation for climate-based health risks

- Infectious diseases
- Mental health
- Injury and death through extreme weather
- Health service delivery – impact on infrastructure

Clean air

- Cancer risk
- Child development

Flooding

- Vector borne disease
- Mental health
- Health service provision

Urban Heat

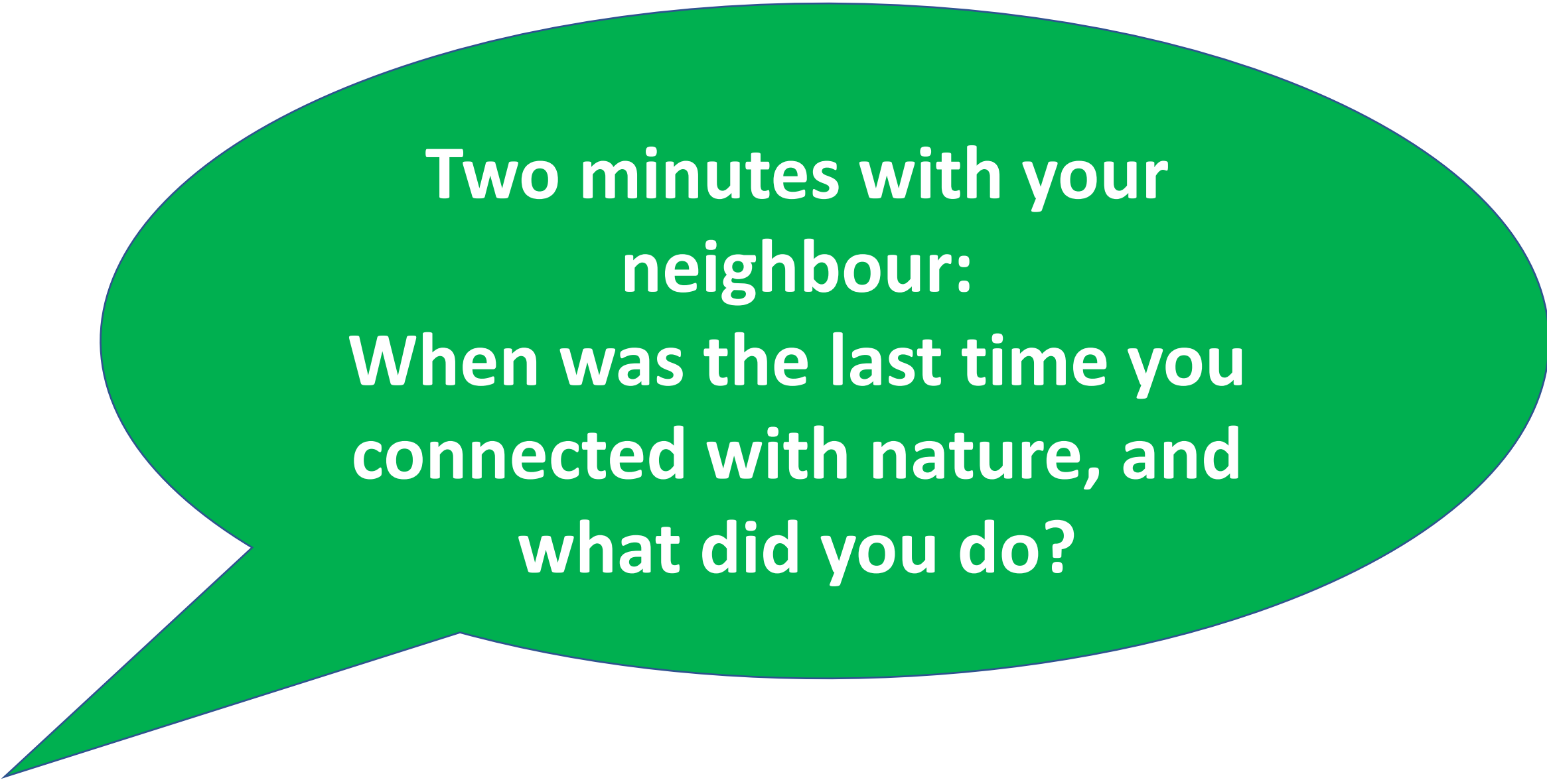
- Risk to vulnerable and oldest/youngest in population
- Health service provision

Nature and health inequalities

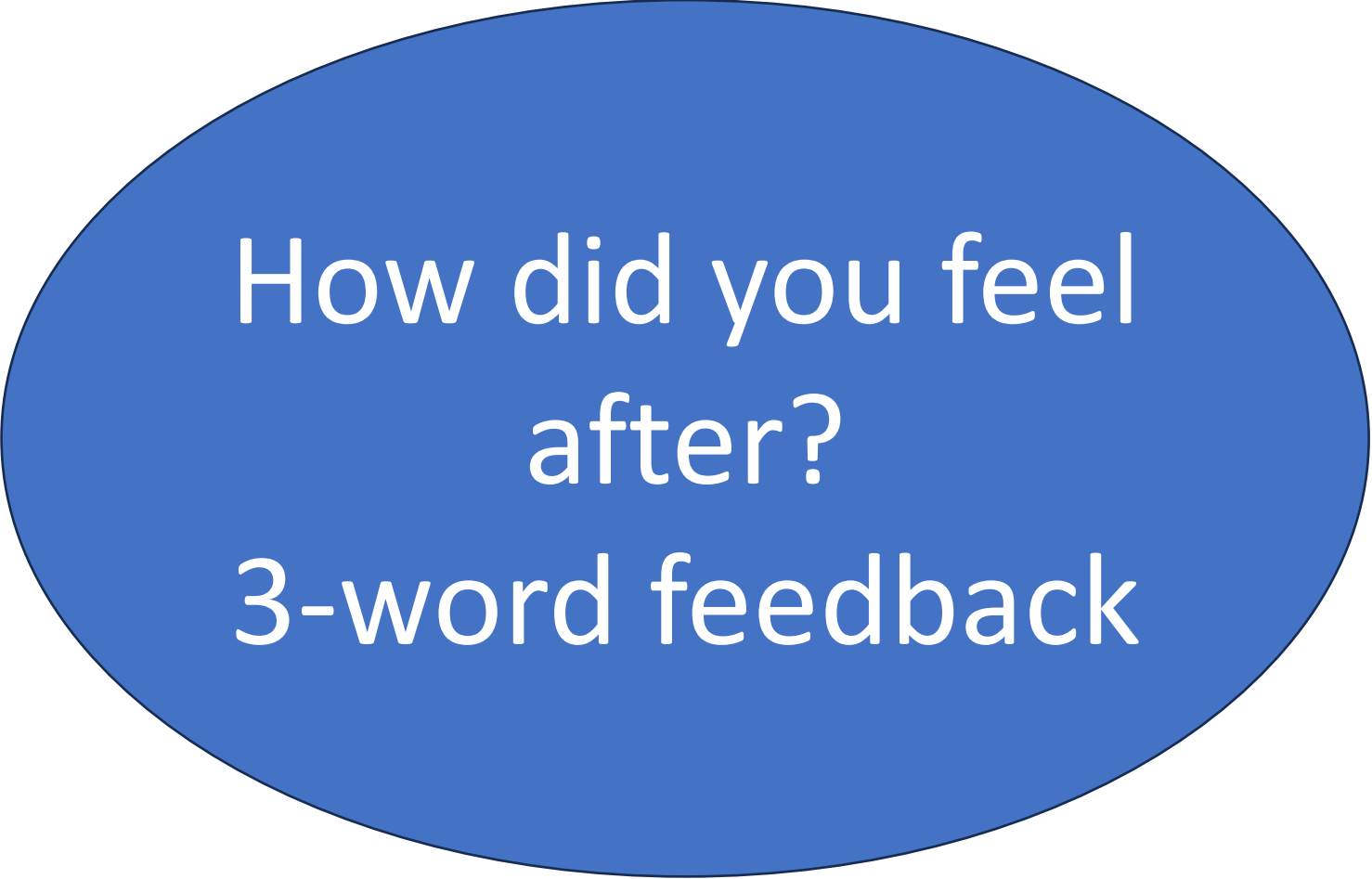


- [Marmot](#) review: “ - the more deprived the area the worse the conditions [of the environment].”
- “Kids round here don’t get to see the nature right next to them.”
- Dr William Bird: ‘Roaming zones’ for 4 generations in Sheffield:
 - Great Grandfather
 - Grandfather
 - Mother
 - 8 year old child
- Gender, disability and race/ethnicity aspects of access to nature.





**Two minutes with your
neighbour:
When was the last time you
connected with nature, and
what did you do?**



How did you feel
after?

3-word feedback

The importance of actively connecting with nature

[The Nature Connection Handbook](#)



The five pathways to nature connection

1



Senses

Exploring and experiencing nature through all the senses

2



Beauty

Seeking and appreciating the beauty of the natural world

3



Emotion

Noticing and welcoming the feelings nature inspires

4



Meaning

Celebrating and sharing nature's events and stories

5



Compassion

Helping and caring for nature



Nature Stewardship: Looking after nature is a special kind of resource

- Physical: whether pottering or hard graft
- Mental: relaxing, something bigger than yourself
- Social: it is *such a laugh*, shared purpose, gets you turning up
- Skills: confidence and work readiness as well as hard skills
- Environment: flood, heating, noise, air, carbon
- **Nature: helping it be bigger, better more joined up, tending for something sustainable with visible results**





Green Infrastructure Framework

Geography in Government Award 2022 Excellence in Geo-visualisation winner

[Home](#) [Green Infrastructure](#) ▾ [Map](#) [Mapping Guide](#) ▾ [Resources](#) ▾ [Contact](#)

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Creating healthier, more sustainable and resilient communities, bringing people together with nature. The Green Infrastructure Framework offers guidance and practical tools to support the development of high-quality green spaces.



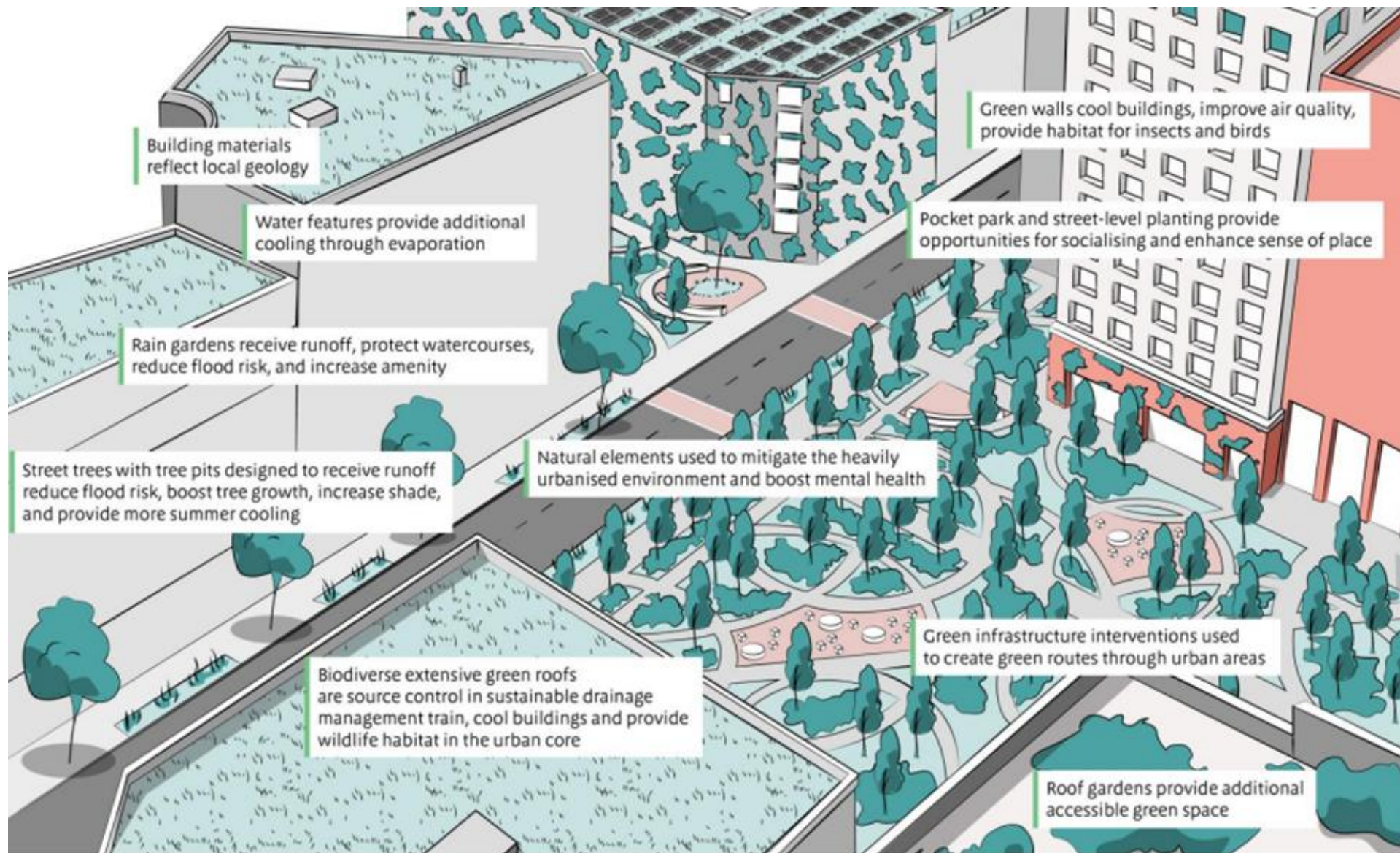
[Learn about green infrastructure](#)



[Read our principles](#)



[Navigate the Green Infrastructure Framework](#)



Building capacity in towns and cities



An investment of £15.5m across the UK to improve and create accessible green spaces, streets and neighbourhoods



Working to benefit millions of people living in urban neighbourhoods in the UK over the next decade



Enabling much needed capacity growth within local government and partners



Supporting the vision to improve thousands of green spaces for communities and wildlife



Put health at the heart of green space

12-02-2025

[Get started with](#)

local residents.

£800m

is saved in health
costs each year
thanks to urban
vegetation.

The saving is made because it
helps to remove air pollution in
towns and cities.

[See the ONS data](#)

-45%

is the reduction in
risk of poor health
by spending time in
nature.

People are less likely to suffer
health issues if they take just
two hours out to visit green
space each week.

[Read the report](#)

£185m

is saved in mental
health treatments
by regular visits to
woodlands.

This is because people who
visit woodlands often are less
likely to suffer from depression
and anxiety.

[See the stats](#)

£3.91

is the value gained
per £1 spent on
community sport
and physical
activity.

This return is due in part to
benefits it generates for
people and communities.

[Visit Sport England.](#)

Health, Nature and Environment Mapping Toolkit

Natural England, University of York, Bradford DCFT NHS, and Bradford Public Health

toolkit for the use of mapping tools to consider opportunities for health and nature recovery

ction

Nature and Health

"I want to understand opportunities and needs at a particular health or nature site, and see how this is related to the wider area."

"I want to understand the context and needs across a wide area, before identifying opportunities at particular sites."

Click on the statement boxes and then scroll using a mouse to zoom back out. Zooming out clicking on the home icon brings you back to this layer. Alternatively, use the arrows at the bottom of the screen will allow you to view slides in order as a presentation.

Mapping tools

- Green Infrastructure Map Click for how to use
- All England Strategic Landscape Mapping Click for how to use
- Tree Equity score tool Click for how to use
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy Data Viewer Click for how to use

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Bradford District Council, Bradford Metropolitan Council, Joseph Courtney, Palfrey and Alexis Percival.

This should be cited as:
Laura J. Harrison, Catherine E. Cowie, Emma Clarke, Nicola Kelly, Esther Smith and Piran C.L. White. (2025) A toolkit for the use of mapping tools to consider opportunities for health and nature recovery. Edited by Ruth Brearley and Lindsay Robinson. University of York, Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust and Natural England.



“There is a wealth of evidence about the positive impact of nature and green space on mental and physical health. By understanding which communities have low access to green spaces, and high health needs I can plan nature and wellbeing programmes for the communities that stand to benefit most. This toolkit supports me in making those decisions.”

Nicola Kelly, Public Health Specialist (mental health) for Bradford Council.

Introduction

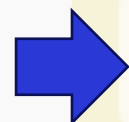
Links between nature, environment and health are not always well understood at both strategic and delivery levels and people from different remits can struggle to understand each other's priorities and language. There is an increasing number of mapped datasets around nature, environment and health, but these data can be challenging to collate without specialist skills. The wide range of mapping tools created for investigating some of these datasets for different purposes can also lead to confusion.

Aims

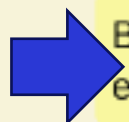
This toolkit aims to stimulate collaborative discussions and create a shared understanding of health and environment needs and opportunities. It supports the exploration and prioritisation of individual, organisational and partnership actions to create maximum multiple benefits for people and nature in a local place in England. It is especially aimed at those coming from a health or social perspective, and has been tested with colleagues from the NHS and Public Health.

The toolkit leads you through a series of publicly available mapping tools, with a limited number of suggested data layers. Prompting questions, provided at each stage, will guide you to consider needs and opportunities and what local knowledge could be combined with the mapped data to identify potential actions. It is important to refer to relevant local strategies, in particular [Local Nature Recovery Strategies](#) and the [Nature, Towns and Cities coalition](#). By the end of the toolkit you should be familiar with using some mapping tools and have identified some areas and options for further partnership work.

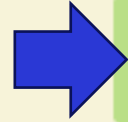
On each slide:



Boxes in white are instructions for selecting datasets.

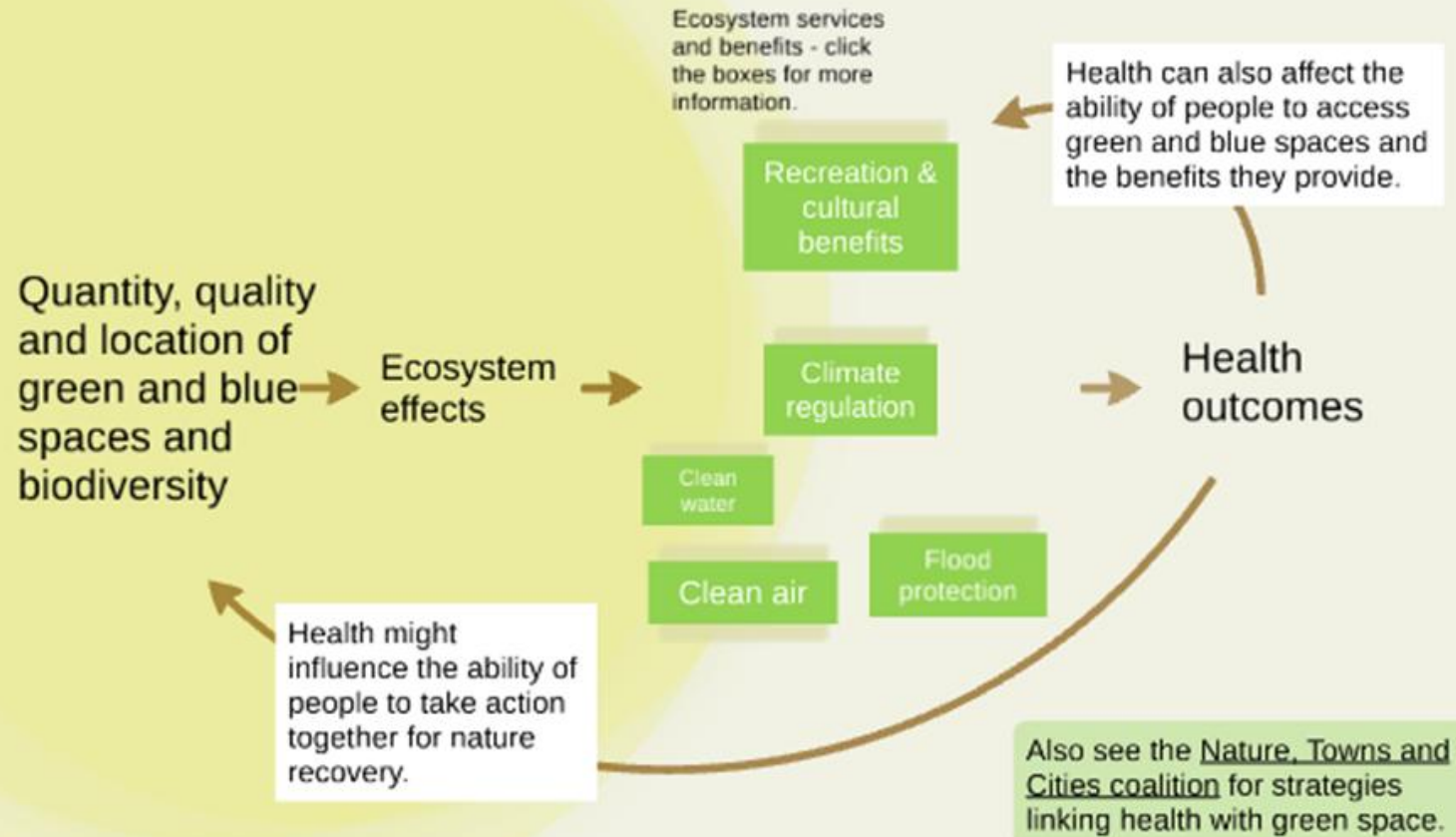


Boxes in yellow explain the datasets.



Boxes in green are question prompts.

Links between nature and health



Mapping tools

**Green Infrastructure
Map**
Click for how to use



**All England Strategic
Landscape Mapping**
Click for how to use



**Tree Equity score
tool**
Click for how to use



**Local Nature
Recovery Strategy
Data Viewer Click
for how to use**



Beyond data
tools: GIS



Work through these tools and suggested data

Worksheet

[Click to create a google doc copy for completion](#)



I want to:

Understand human and environmental needs.

Improve people's access to nature.

Respond to climate change and environmental hazards.

Improve sites for nature and people.

1. Health and green and blue space

2. Inequalities in access to green and blue spaces

3. Environmental hazards and nature based solutions

4. The quantity, quality and connectivity of sites for nature and people.

Click on the boxes and then scroll using a mouse to zoom back out. Zooming all the way out or clicking on the home icon will allow you to return to the top layer. Alternatively, using the arrows at the bottom of the screen will allow you to view slides in order as a presentation.

Layers

Info

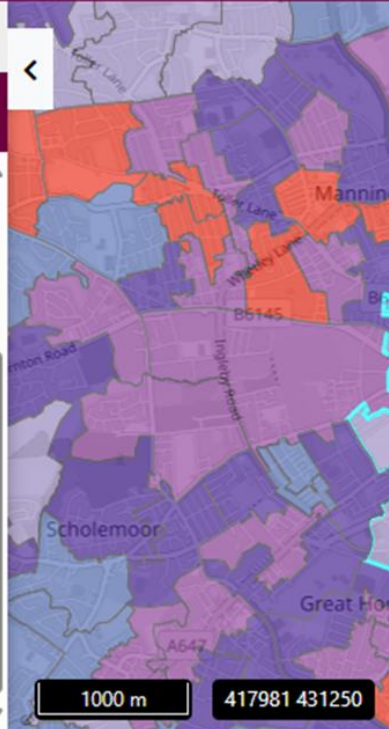
Info

Clear Selection

IMD Decile 1
42.92% covered by 200m buffer

Bradford 065C
Class L2
Population 1860
IMD Decile 3
0.00% covered by 200m buffer

Bradford 044A
Class M2
Population 2850
IMD Decile 3
13.14% covered by 200m buffer



Inequalities and access at different spatial scales

Use the Green Infrastructure Map
In Module 8 Accessible green
space inequalities and deprivation
Compare scales:

- doorstep (at least 0.5 ha greenspace within 200m)
- local (2ha within 300m)
- neighbourhood (10 ha within 1km)

L1 Areas in red are the least favourable scenario. They are the most deprived areas and low access to greenspace at that particular scale.

H1 High multiple deprivation (IMD deciles 1&2) and high access to greenspace at a particular scale.

L1	M1	H1
L2	M2	H2
L3	M3	H3

L3 Least deprived areas (IMD deciles 9&10) but low access to greenspace at a particular scale.

H3 Most favourable scenario. Least deprived areas (IMD deciles 9&10) and high access to greenspace at a particular scale.

All Layers

Reset Layers

- ☐ Natural Flood Management Priority
- ☐ Water Quality WFD Status
- ☐ Water Quality Management Area
- ☐ Rainfall
- ☐ Soil Drainage
- ☐ Population Density
- ☐ Nature Designation
- ☐ Ancient Habitat
- ☐ Cultural or Historic Importance
- ☐ Special Recreational Value
- ☒ Public Access

Opacity

- Accessible Green Infrastructure
- Public Rights of Way

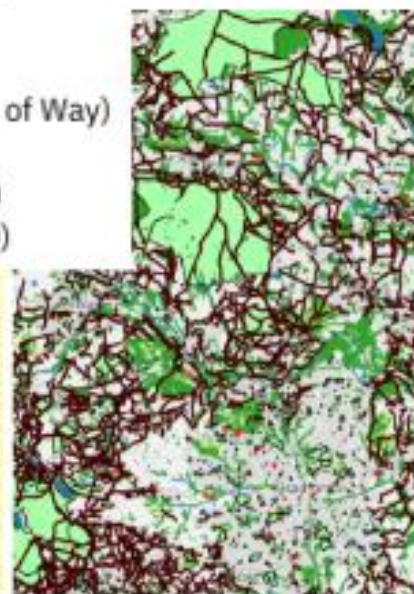
Active travel routes

Use the Green Infrastructure Map.

Select

- All green and blue infrastructure
- PROW network (module 3) (Public Rights of Way)
- Sustrans National Cycle Network
- Turn PROW density on and off (module 3)
- Turn public access on and off (module 20)

These layers can be useful to consider routes used to enjoy and access green and blue spaces and where there are barriers. However, they are less useful for urban areas. It is important to combine this with local knowledge to understand where and why people might not be using footpaths, such as safety concerns. Also note that agricultural land is not included as green infrastructure.



Are there opportunities to improve active travel along green/blue corridors?

(How) do challenges and opportunities for active travel within green/blue corridors differ between rural and urban areas?

Are there opportunities to improve the quantity and quality of green infrastructure along road networks?



Green Infrastructure Framework

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Layers

Info

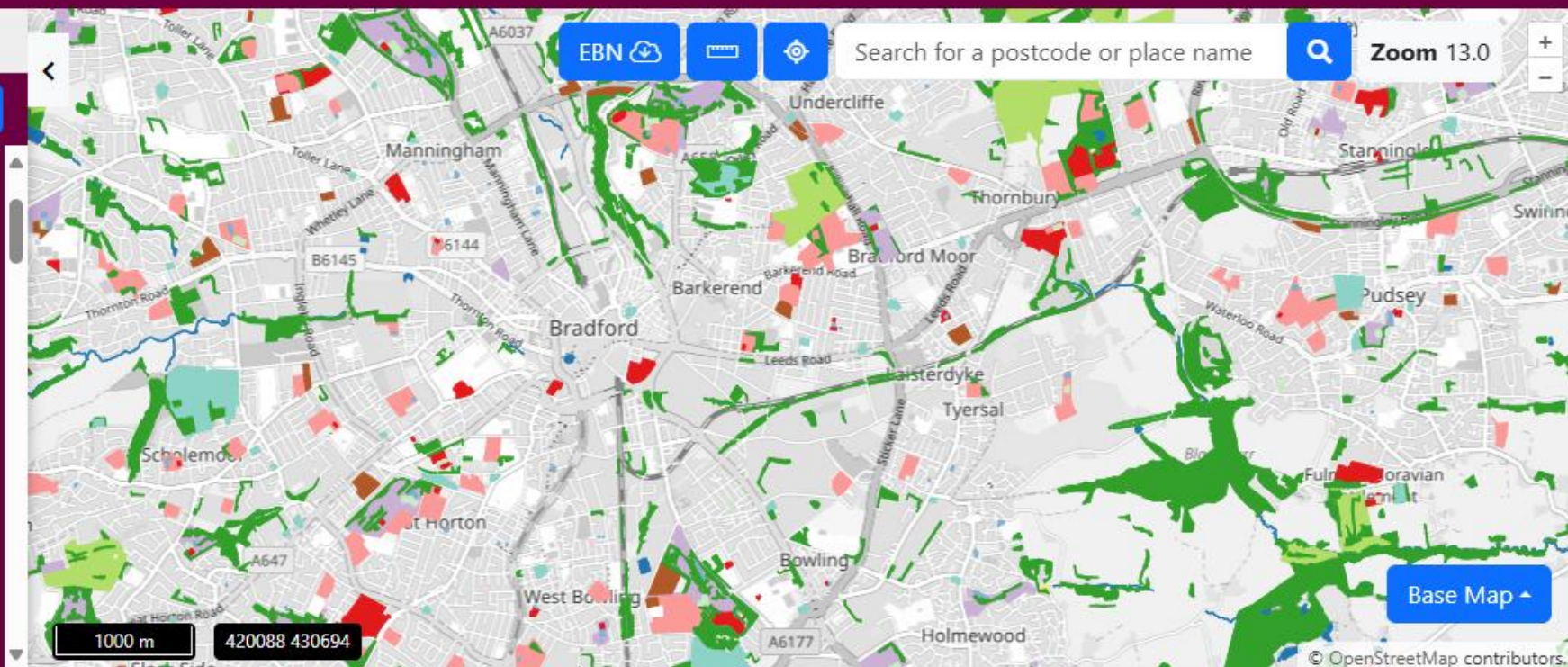
All Layers

Reset Layers

Opacity

Typology

- Public Park - General
- Public Park - Country Park
- Millennium or Doorstep Green
- Local Nature Reserve
- Playing Fields
- Other Sports Facilities
- Access Land (CRoW)
- Coastal Trail and Margin
- Woodland
- Water Courses and Surface Water Features
- Allotments and Community Growing Spaces
- Activity Spaces Provision
- Cemeteries and Religious Grounds
- Golf Courses



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Map colors based on [ColorBrewer](#), by Cynthia A. Brewer, Penn State

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Show desktop

Module 1: All Green and Blue infrastructure



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Layers

Info

All Layers

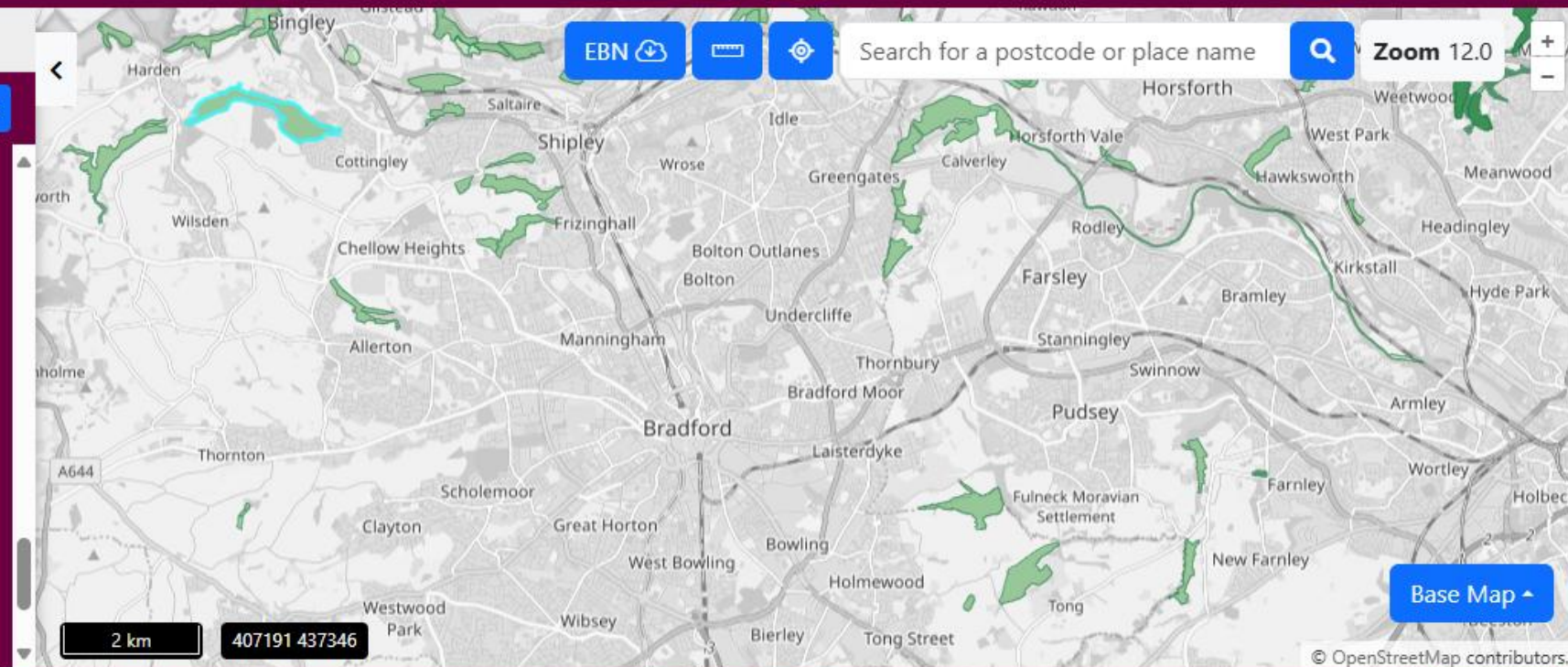
Reset Layers

Opacity



- ☒ SSSI
- ☒ Ancient Woodland
- ☒ NNR
- ☒ LNR

- ☐ Ancient Woodland Inventory (Revised)
- ☐ Historic
- ☐ Landscape And Access
- ☐ SAC, SPA & RAMSAR Sites
- ☐ Local Authority Districts
- ☐ National Character Areas
- ☐ Open Access Land
- ☐ National Trails



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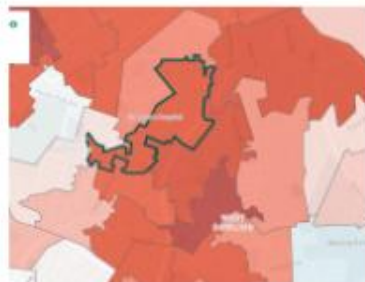
Module 18: Biodiversity (with ancient woodland)

Heat disparity in urban areas

Use the [Tree Equity score tool](#), if it covers your area.

Zoom into your area of interest, select layers and then select

- **heat disparity.**



This shows the variance in extremities of heat of urban Lower Super Output Areas from the local authority mean. It can be used alongside the tree equity score to highlight areas of particular need for improved green infrastructure as a heat mitigation measure.

Peat

Urban Areas

BASE MAPS

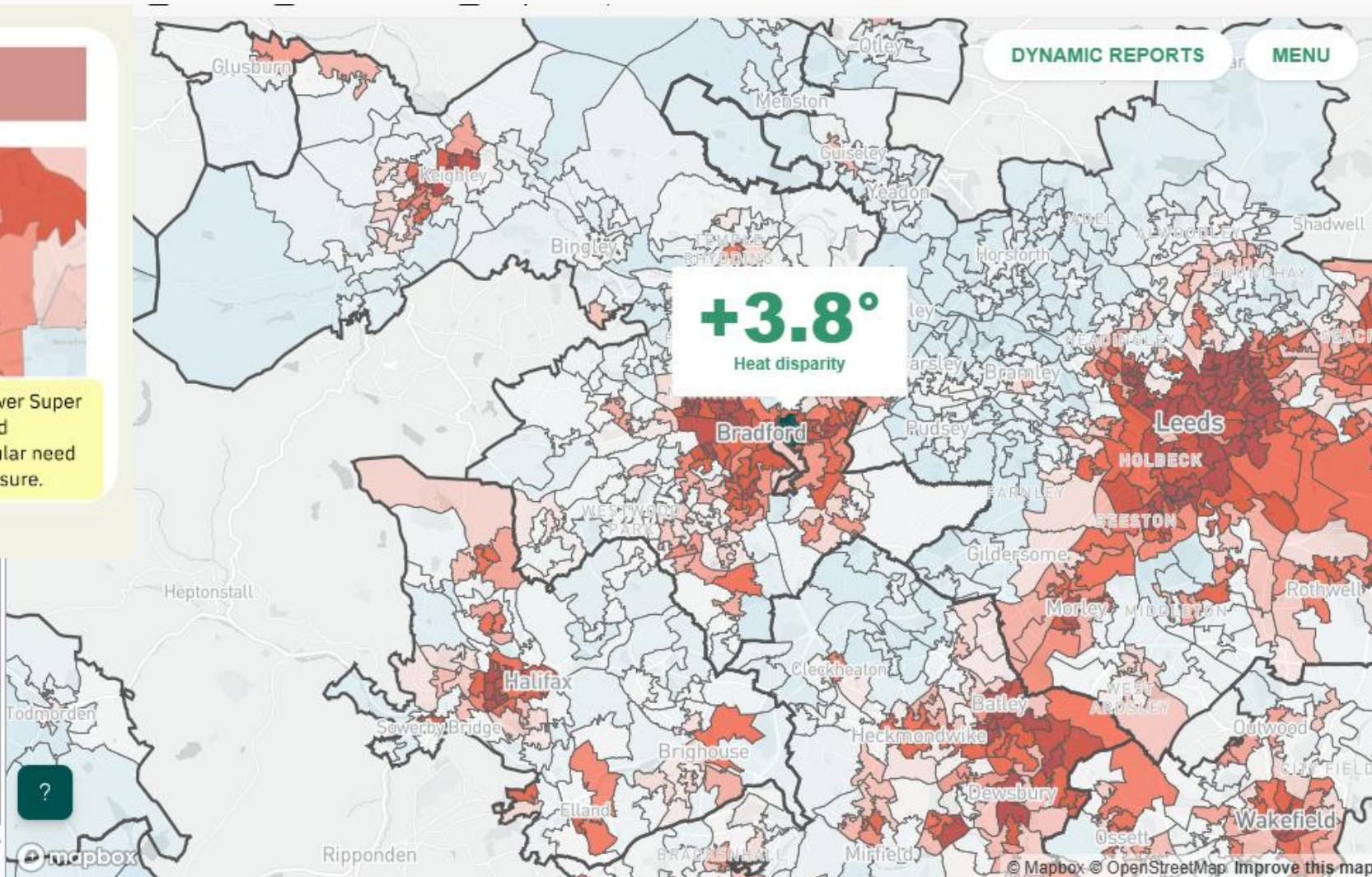
Default

Satellite

<-5°

>+5°

Heat disparity



After using the
toolkit, more
exploration...



What kinds of partners were already, or could be, engaging people with nature, and are these in areas with high or low access to nature?



Are the green spaces on the map safe and suitable, given feedback from our team about the areas in question?



Access to more detailed health data.



Test ideas for projects, using the maps as a visual aid.

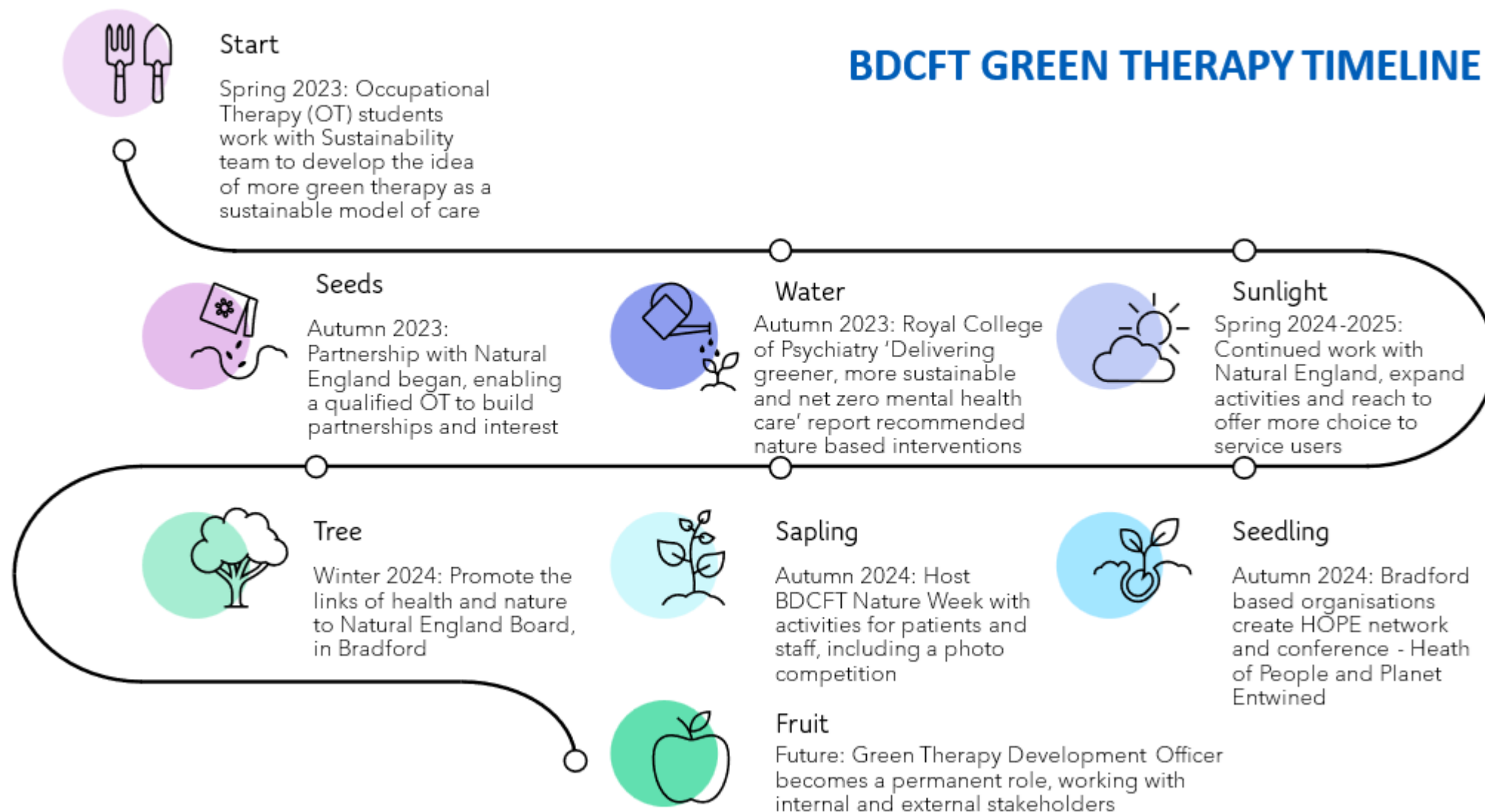


Results so far

- Informed a major community project for nature and mental wellbeing in Bradford
- Helps joined up discussions and look for win-win solutions.
- Evidence trail for decisions.
- Engaging with communities needs and strengths
- Galvanised a community project
- Informed funding bids

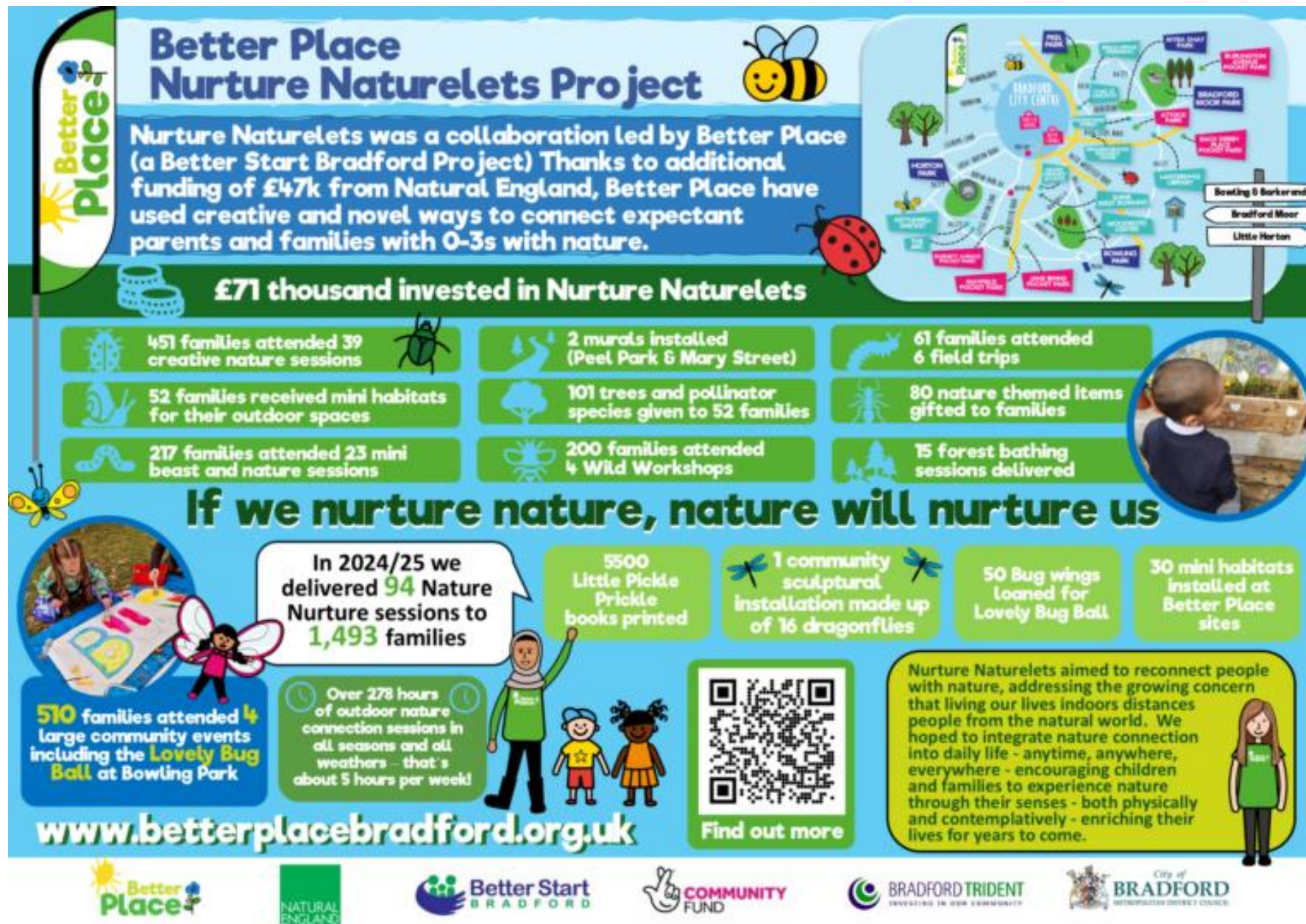


BDCFT GREEN THERAPY TIMELINE



What we have done so far...





[The Impact of Better Place Bradford's Nurture Naturelets project | Better Start Bradford](#)

Naturally Active Libraries Teesside

- You've Got This in South Teesside: one of 12 Sport England pilots nationally had 18 months work of funding for nature-based ways of getting people active,
- Drawing on Natural England's Culture Nature project to turn Libraries into Nature Hubs,
- Will enhance green space in deprived communities, creating sustainable activities across 9 to 11 sites.
- [Naturally Active Libraries Initiative - Tees Valley Wildlife Trust - RCVDA](#)



MECC: coherent approach with training, online resources and conversation starters with links to other issues.



What hobbies or interests do you have that connects you to nature?

What nature do you have nearby?

What benefits can you think of that spending in time in nature could have on your health and lifestyle?

What type of nature do you think you would enjoy most? (i.e gardening, animal interaction, green exercise)

How do you feel when connected to nature?

**MAKING
EVERY
CONTACT
COUNT**

Active Places and Nature: what could work?



Dedicated sports
facilities



Parks and green
spaces



Urban

Active Places and Nature: what could work?



Dedicated sports facilities

Hubs for onsite and offsite nature activities? Staff be trained in Nature Connection and Stewardship?



Parks and green spaces

Designed for activity AND nature? Sustainable activities to support nature and environment that keep people coming back?



Urban

Hubs linked through active travel/green corridors? Targeted new and better green spaces linked with health and nature strategies and co-designed with communities?

Over to you

- [Home - Nature Towns & Cities](#)
- [A Local Nature Recovery Strategy for West Yorkshire | Your Voice](#)
- [the-nature-connection-handbook.pdf \(wordpress.com\)](#)
- [Green Infrastructure Home](#)
- [MECC | Home \(meccgateway.co.uk\)](#)
- [Links between natural environments and mental health - EIN065 \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](#)
- [Links between natural environments and physical health - EIN066 \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](#)
- [NHS Bradford DCFT Green Therapy - short version on Vimeo](#)
- [A toolkit for the use of mapping tools to consider opportunities for health and nature recovery. University of York, Bradford District Care NHS Trust and Natural England. by Laura Harrison on Prezi](#)
- [Naturally Active Libraries Initiative - Tees Valley Wildlife Trust – RCVDA](#)
- [The Impact of Better Place Bradford's Nurture Naturelets project | Better Start Bradford](#)

Contact me



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Natural England



Panel Discussion

Tim Howells, Ella King, Ben Russell & Ester Smith





Feedback



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