Public Voice: Common Ground

Pilot Analysis
Sasha Gibb
February 2024

Summary

The pressures on our public realm, our communities, and the complexities of working cross sector to address them are universal. A 2019 survey involving 20,000 participants in England concluded that a minimum of 120 minutes per week of 'recreational nature contact' was associated with good health and wellbeing. In 2022, 98% pupils at Springfields School, St Helier had no access to green space at home.

A thriving public realm is somewhere people want to live, work, and spend time. It is good for the economy, community wellbeing and environment.

Public Voice: Common Ground was a pilot commissioned by the States of Jersey to understand how its public realm could be improved and how this might be delivered. The pilot and its' insight were presented as an example of innovative and best practice at the British Irish Council's 'Placemaking in Practice' symposium, Cardiff, September 2023.

The pilot developed from earlier research to improve Jersey's Public Realm that was part-sponsored by the government's Economy Department (Gibb 2022). This analysis illustrated St Helier as the priority, with a consensus for more green space, trees, and places to hang out with no agenda. The Public Voice: Common Ground pop-up sites were based on these priorities.

Purpose

- To deliver public realm improvement based on what's needed.
- To lead relevant public engagement that enables this.
- To facilitate co-creation and deliver value to all public realm stakeholders.

Public Engagement Methodology

The community engagement priority was to engage as many demographics as possible - particularly those not generally engaged with culture, politics, or community. This required a complex series of public engagement events working with many partners. For example, holding discussions in schools and engaging a GenZ marketing start-up to specifically enable an active youth voice.

A mixed method approach combined qualitative and quantitative data and analysed this in the context of specific environmental and community secondary data:

Online Surveys:

The survey was anonymous and self-completed in English, Portuguese and Polish. One aim of the survey was to reduce barriers and distrust. The researcher believed questioning participants regarding gender, salary or ethnicity was unnecessary and created resistance. Instead, the survey assimilates demographics data by understanding how, where, and how long residents have lived in Jersey.

Interviews and discussions:

The online survey was supported by face-to-face interviews and discussions. The discussions were interviewee-led, with reoccurring, open questions. This revealed a community-led set of themes that added richness and breadth to the data.

Temporary sites – a living lab approach:

Co-designed, co-funded, and co-delivered with partners across sectors, the temporary pop-up sites were designed to engage the public and show what is possible. Chalkboards asking visitor feedback were monitored daily. Changes in behaviour, site use and dwell time were also recorded.

Workshops and events:

Free community workshops and events were held at the sites. These engaged a diverse audience using art as a common language. All participants were on an equal footing, regardless of ability, age, language, or background. Shared activities nurtured positive wellbeing, community connection, and discussion. Making and creating slows down thinking and enables the mind to reflect differently to direct questioning.

When people are having a good time, they are more likely to stay. This allows more time to communicate. For example, a 10-year-old at a drawing workshop said he 'wanted more malls.' When we asked him to explain, he answered - 'we need to stop taking away all the fun stuff and putting up all these flats.'

The main workshops were:

'What does wonderful look like for St Helier?' at Children's Day, Howard Davis Park. A drawing workshop asking participants to imagine what would improve St Helier for its people.

Earthworks at the Pop-up Park, Weighbridge Pl. A 2-day clay workshop facilitated by London-based artist Jo Pearl. Local potters and the Jersey community built an imaginary clay scape of a St Helier where everyone wanted to live, work, and spend time.

Lé Galvaûdeux (Jèrriais for 'the wanderer'). A public art commission by Public Voice: Common Ground. A walk by Jersey artist Tim le Breuilly was illustrated by artist/ film maker Marc Medland. The walk inspired all to look at St Helier through new eyes. The artist gave a guided walk and print workshop, and all were encouraged to share what they discovered to Instagram.

In Jersey, community data had not been collected or analysed in this way before. The analysis is in the context of the 2023 Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) report, relevant government strategies and global research on public realm and placemaking.

Results

Over 2,100 (2%) residents voluntarily shared their experience and insight to Public Voice: Common Ground.

Having such unusually large community engagement illustrated the value of creating better public realm for people. Anonymised data enabled all views to have equal weight. Using a mixed and multiple methodology enabled a level of insight that would not be possible through a survey method alone.

Interviews and discussions engaged nearly 500 locals. These included students, mental health charities, youth services, Portuguese, business and disabled communities. This method had the impact of raising the percentage of youth engagement from 16% in the survey to 23% overall.

The pop-up park created a multi-use space with lawn and planting in a previous hard landscape. Total dwell time increased 5-fold in a 30-minute period. 97% said they wanted the grass to stay.

The pop-up perch created seating for 35 out of 4 car parking spaces. 98% of chalk board responses said they'd like to see more public places with seating like this in St Helier.

Over 160 islanders took part in the *Earthworks* workshops. This resulted in a lidar recording of the clay model, interviews, film, and photography. It led to further clay workshops and a proposal for a community pottery studio.

At Children's Day, 62 children and around 40 adults took part in the drawing workshop. The insight ranged from more ice cream to outdoor pianos, chess, and dog parks. The resulting drawings were exhibited in the high street and prompted further public engagement.

Online and in person communities developed from the events. These including an honorary, self-appointed site-guardian at the pop-up park and a film screening championing local film makers at the Perch. Hundreds of artworks were inspired by Lé Galvaûdeux, leading to public exhibitions at a pop-up gallery and in empty shops in the High St.

Together, all the findings collected by Public Voice: Common Ground provide a unique understanding of what matters to the community. After rigorous analysis, the re-occurring data themes revealed 4 priorities:

1. Green and wild space for the community.
2. Traffic and access
3. Social infrastructure- urban seating and places to come together.
4. Entertainment, culture, and community

These are evidenced further within this report.

Conclusion: from words to action

The pilot engaged and inspired through relevant, specific, and meaningful public engagement. It enabled co-operation between government, business, 3rd sector and community and delivered value through co-creation and shared resource.

It illustrated what is possible through temporary intervention, leading to further public realm investment by business and public sector.

It led to new cross department collaboration between government departments such as economic development, policy, infrastructure and environment. It served as a case study for more public seating trials in parking spaces and an intention to review the design of public green space by landowners. It has resulted in reassessment of the Percentage for Art policy and related SPGs and the creation of a *Public Art Commission* to advise government and business on public realm commissioning.

Most importantly, the project acted as a guide through the process of relevant, inclusive public engagement - identifying problems and supplying a basis for better decision-making regarding the public realm. It illustrated the value of effective methodologies of public engagement in creating spaces that enable communities to thrive, and cities to develop sustainably.

Public Voice: Common Ground site map by Marc Medland

Public Voice: Common Ground

Pop up Sites and Events

All year
Le Galvaudeux (the gallivanter or wanderer).
A walk through St Helier's public realm by artist Tim le Breuilly. Wander the route solo or visit the website for how to join Tim's group. All walkers are encouraged to sketch, write or record their experience and enter a competition to win a bookbinding course with Luddite Press. We want the things only you notice - all musings and discoveries should be posted to Instagram mentioning @publicvoicecommonground and @ludditepressci with the hashtag #legalvaudeux.

1 **Sat 22 July – Sat 16 September**
Pop-up Park at the Pétanque Pitch, Weighbridge Pl
Public park and pétanque. Enjoy the grass, bring a rug, a picnic or a pétanque set.

2 **22 July – 4 Aug**
Grow and Acorn edible planters at the Pop-up Park at the Pétanque Pitch, Weighbridge Pl and Pop-up Perch, Romerils carpark.
Planters made from ex-Parish wheelie bins by Grow and Mont à l'Abbé School. Recycled glass storage planters and seating by *Acorn*.

3 **28 July, 15.00 – 19.00**
Earthworks at the Pop-up Park at the Pétanque Pitch, Weighbridge Pl.
A clay-based free workshop with artist Jo Pearl. A drop-in clayground to spend time thinking, discussing and modelling ideas for how St Helier's public spaces could be improved. Not intended as an architectural masterplan, it will instead be an ideas-scape capturing hopes and suggestions. No pottery experience necessary, suitable for all ages. Free ice-cream for the first 100 makers.

4 **28 July, 17.45 – 18.30**
Brass Souls at the Pop-up Park at the Pétanque Pitch, Weighbridge Pl.
Enjoy the sound of summer with our local brass quintet specialising in trad, dixie and Latin jazz.

5 **29 July, 10.00 – 13.00**
Earthworks II at the Pop-up Park at the Pétanque Pitch, Weighbridge Pl.
If you missed us on Friday, join us for a second free clay-based workshop with artist Jo Pearl and the team. Bring a rug and a picnic and stay for the day.

6 **24 July – Autumn**
Pop up Perch, Romerils car park, Hue St.
Bring a sandwich, a coffee, a friend or just come and sit amongst the agapanthus in the heart of St Helier's old town.

7 **26 Aug, 11.00 - 4.00**
What does WONDERFUL look like for St Helier? Pop-up Park at the Pétanque Pitch, Weighbridge Pl.
Community drawing with Sasha Gibb and guest artists. Come and draw with us. All ages and abilities welcome.

8 **21 Sept, 20.30 - 21.30**
Film at the Perch, Romerils carpark.
Free outdoor screening of local short films. See website for details. BYO popcorn/ blanket/ umbrella.

Activities and discussions around public realm are recorded and inform the Public Voice: Common Ground commission and longterm improvements to our public realm. Please talk to us if you have concerns or would like more information about how your opinions are heard.
www.publicvoicecommonground.co.uk
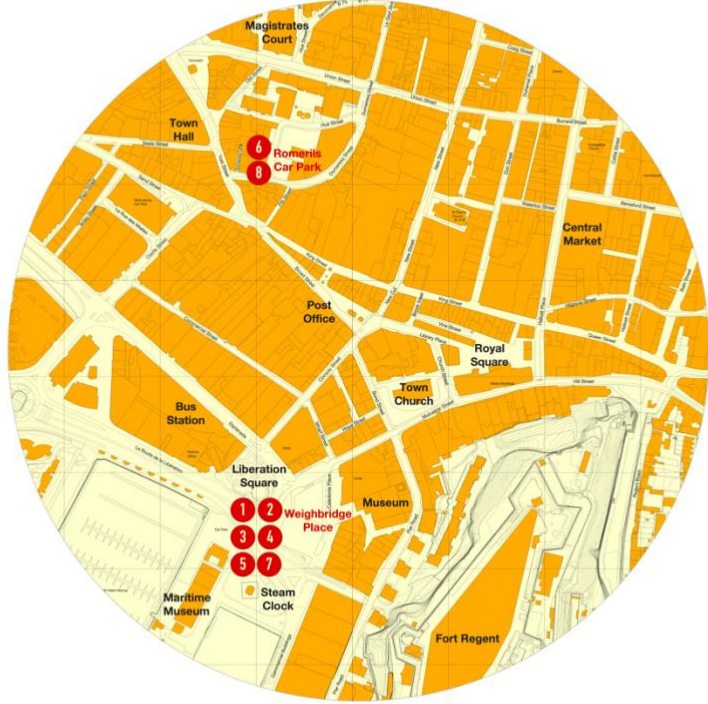
Public Voice: Common Ground

Your voice matters

Please reference Sasha Gibb, 2024 when using or sharing this analysis or get in touch for specific public realm consultancy, research or delivery.

Table of contents

Objectives

Mission:

To improve the public realm for people.
To make St Helier a place to live, work and dawdle.

Purpose:

- *To deliver public realm improvement based on what's needed.*
- *To lead relevant public engagement that enables this.*
- *To facilitate co-creation and value to all public realm stakeholders*

Pilot aim:

For community voice to impact improvements in the public realm. To enable better decision making by all sectors based on specific public engagement methodology and analysis.

To illustrate the value of a new commissioning process- commissioning based on solving problems, rather than solutions to problems that may not exist. This to include commissioning support to business and government departments through the creation of an independent *Public Art Commission*.

To illustrate the value of co-production, co-creation and co-delivery- creating momentum and enabling partnerships for longer term, sustainable public realm improvement.

For any of this to happen, the model needs to provide value for all of those with a stake in the public realm. Multiple stakeholders are affected by decisions regarding public realm- it cannot be delivered by one sector alone. Below is the Public Realm Ecosystem from the initial Public Realm Partnership research (Gibb 2022). Understanding the different value this work creates for each sector his has been the foundation of both the research and delivery of the pilot Public Voice: Common Ground.

The Public Realm Ecosystem
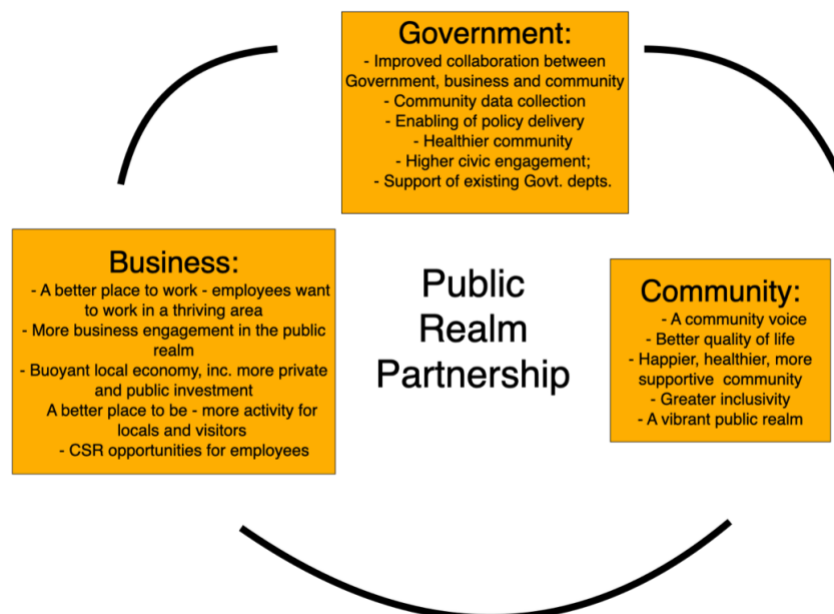
Project Outline

The mission for the pilot was: to illustrate what's possible; to listen to the problems regarding St Helier from those that live, work and visit; to enable improvement based on solving these problems (diagram below).

Illustrate and engage → Listen → Analyse → Commission

The outcome is to better support all members of the community through relevant and better public spaces. The bigger picture is to enable the partnership necessary to enable public voice to impact the public realm.

Aims and Delivery

The public realm research (SG 2022) illustrates an appetite for:
- a sustainable partnership model that unites stakeholders to tackle some of the problems affecting those that live and work in these areas.
- an entity to provide value for all stakeholders and enable a supportive ecosystem between government, business and community.
- the missing link between strategic vision and grass roots engagement.
- community voice to enable public spaces where people can thrive.

Priority 1 – St Helier

The project focuses on St Helier. St Helier, St Saviour and St Clement were highlighted as the key area of concern by public engagement in the public realm research (2022). 32% of the population live here.

Priority 2 – seldom heard communities and government strategies

The 2022 research and pilot are based on delivering government priorities across Island Plan (2024 – 27), Arts Strategy, Heritage Strategy, Carbon Neutral Road Map, Jersey's Performance Framework and Jersey's Better Life Index (2021).

Ministers, strategies, and Jersey Youth Parliament highlight the need to enable a more active youth voice.

1. Illustrate what's possible

Temporary, semi-permanent and long-term intervention are all important in creating a vibrant public realm (Gehl, 2010). Short-term intervention is generally less contentious, less likely to require planning permission and useful when society needs inspiration.

Purpose:
- temporary intervention to illustrate what's possible and its impact.
- workshops and pop-ups used for collecting specific community data regarding use of the public realm.
- create discussion through word of mouth and media.
- effective pop-up delivery by partner co-creation, co-production, and co-delivery.

Priorities:
- an area where people may not be the priority, don't linger or has little grass or trees.
- community engagement.

- use of private sites to reduce barriers, road closure or need for permission.

2. listen

A key objective of Public Voice: Common Ground is enabling community voice to inform public realm improvement. To do this, public engagement and data collection need to work differently. Community listening was achieved through:

1. Direct community engagement through talks and discussions with specific sectors
2. Public realm survey in 3 languages
3. Chalkboards at pop-up sites
4. Free art workshops and events.
5. Social media – website, Instagram, TikTok, fb and LinkedIn
6. Media and partner promotion
7. Posters, flyers and banners

Purpose:

- to listen.
- to enable community-led themes to emerge through open questioning methods.
- to gather specific *and rich data from all those with a stake in St Helier's public realm.*

Priorities:

- To engage with those not generally engaged with culture, politics or community.
- Youth
- Small, intimate discussions to gather rich and 'warm' data.
- Making art collectively to enable meaningful communication and engaging a mixed demographic.

3. analysis of data

Analysing such a broad and varied data set was always going to be challenging. Avoiding bias, whilst capturing the richness of such personal testimonials was a priority.

Purpose:

- To understand problems and opportunities in St Helier's public realm from those impacted the most.
- To look for codes and themes in qualitative, as well as quantitative data.
- To look at the data in the context of secondary community data such as VAWG heatmap, and Indicators of Deprivation.

Priorities:

- To deliver rigorous and unbiased analysis. To seek analysis partners to enable this.
- Qualitative data themes to include societal concerns such as tolerance and access.
- Data and analysis to support informed and longer-term decision making by government, business and third sector.
- To provide a conclusive analysis that positively impacts public realm commissioning and improvement.

4. completion of the public realm cycle – commission

The final stage is to commission public realm improvement based on the pilot data. This might involve landscape architects, urban planners, artists, architects, developers. The commission to represent community voice.

Purpose:

- an outcome offering value to the community based on authentic public engagement.
- to facilitate co-creation and value to all public realm stakeholders.

Priorities:

- to create a commission brief that provides value to all public realm stakeholders- business, parish, government, and community.
- this to be funded or co-funded by public realm stakeholders.
- Better commissioning in the public realm to be supported by government policy and the creation of a Public Art Commission to advise stakeholders and enable the best outcome.

Public engagement methodology

'Decisions are made for the status quo. They are made for the generation in charge and the finance sector, as they are the biggest employer. They are not made for the people.'   NFP Director, 2022

The community engagement priority was to engage as many demographics as possible - particularly those not generally engaged with culture, politics, or community. This required a complex series of public engagement events working with many partners. For example, discussions in schools and a GenZ marketing start-up to specifically enable active youth voice.

A mixed method approach combined qualitative and quantitative data and analysed this in the context of specific environmental and community secondary data.

Trust and civic engagement

'... a conversation with a 13-year-old as to why she should fill in a survey when it took 20 years to get a skate park is a difficult conversation'   (Jersey Youth Service volunteer)

Research showed previous community engagement regarding public realm was low. The St Helier Public Realm and Movement Strategy 2021 was based on 18 survey responses with 25 stakeholder interviews (GoJ 2021c). Jersey's overall Better Life Index 2021 was 6.4 (out of 10), ranking 24 out of 41 nations. below the OECD average, the UK and France. On both a national and regional level, Jersey ranked bottom for civic engagement (GoJ 2021a).

The pilot worked with community ambassadors, online and local media as well as a GenZ marketing company to support this. Although Portuguese ambassadors took the survey into their communities, survey responses were low. Interviews were carried out to better represent this group.

Participatory research was key in enabling better social impact.

Survey, interviews and discussions

The online survey was in Polish, Portuguese and English and shared through partner networks, community workshops, pop-up sites and online. All responses were anonymous, objective and allowed for optional opinion. Building on the 2022 research, 13 objective questions were reviewed, and an age demographic added.

Interviews and group discussions were held with nearly 500 residents. These included primary and secondary schools, university students and recent graduates, Jersey Employment Trust, Acorn Industries, MIND, Jersey Youth Service, Salvation Army, Creative Island Partnership, Portuguese, business, and disabled communities. Open questions were designed to start the discussion, however, priorities were led by the interviewee rather than the researcher.

These also took place at the pop-up sites and events.

Temporary Sites – A living lab approach

The temporary pop-up sites were designed to engage the public and show what is possible. Chalkboards asking visitor feedback were monitored daily. Changes in behaviour, site use and dwell time were also monitored.

Workshops and events

Free community workshops and events were held at the sites. These engaged a diverse audience using art as a common language. All taking part were on an equal footing, regardless of ability, age, language, or background. Making and creating together (even for the non-creative)

slows down thinking and enables the mind to reflect differently to direct questioning (Pearl, 2023).

The method of questioning was specifically designed to be open and encourage collective vision rather than self-focused.

The main workshops were:

'What does Wonderful look like for St Helier?', Children's Day, Howard Davis Park. A drawing workshop asking participants to imagine what would improve St Helier for people.

Earthworks, Pop-up Park, Weighbridge Place. A 2-day clay workshop facilitated by London-based artist Jo Pearl. Local potters and the Jersey community built an imaginary clay scape of a St Helier where everyone wanted to live, work and spend time.

Lé Galvaûdeux (Jèrriais for 'the wanderer'). A public art commission by Public Voice: Common Ground. A walk by Jersey artist Tim le Breuilly was illustrated by artist/ film maker Marc Medland. The walk inspired all to look at St Helier through new eyes. The artist gave a guided walk and print workshop, and all were encouraged to share what they discovered to the Public Voice: Common Ground Instagram.

Community making and data collection at the Earthworks workshops
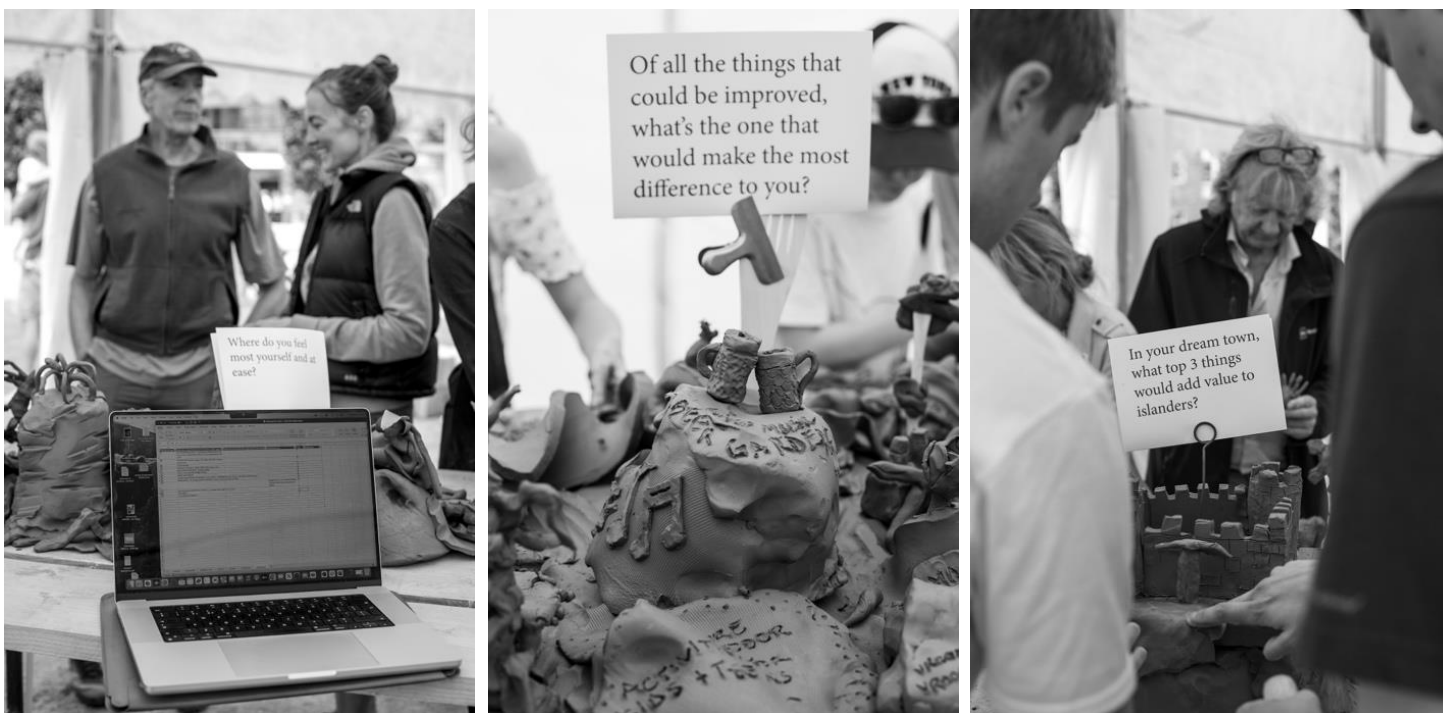
Social Media

Social media was used to direct residents to the survey, events and sites. It was also used for public engagement. The chart below shows total engagement across Public Voice: Common Ground TikTok, Instagram and fb over 8 months. Instagram generated 305 follows in this period and was an important platform for growing a community. In particular, the lé Galvaûdeux community, who shared over 200 images.

GenZ marketing start-up VIDA created content aimed specifically at engaging youth online.

Total engagement across TikTok, Instagram and fb for 8 months.
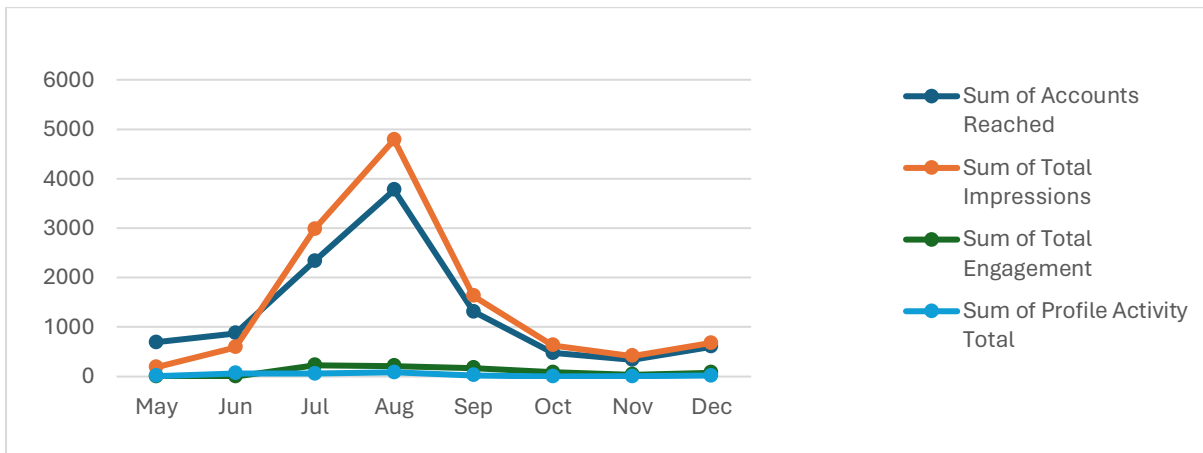
Instagram and TikTok content and analysis
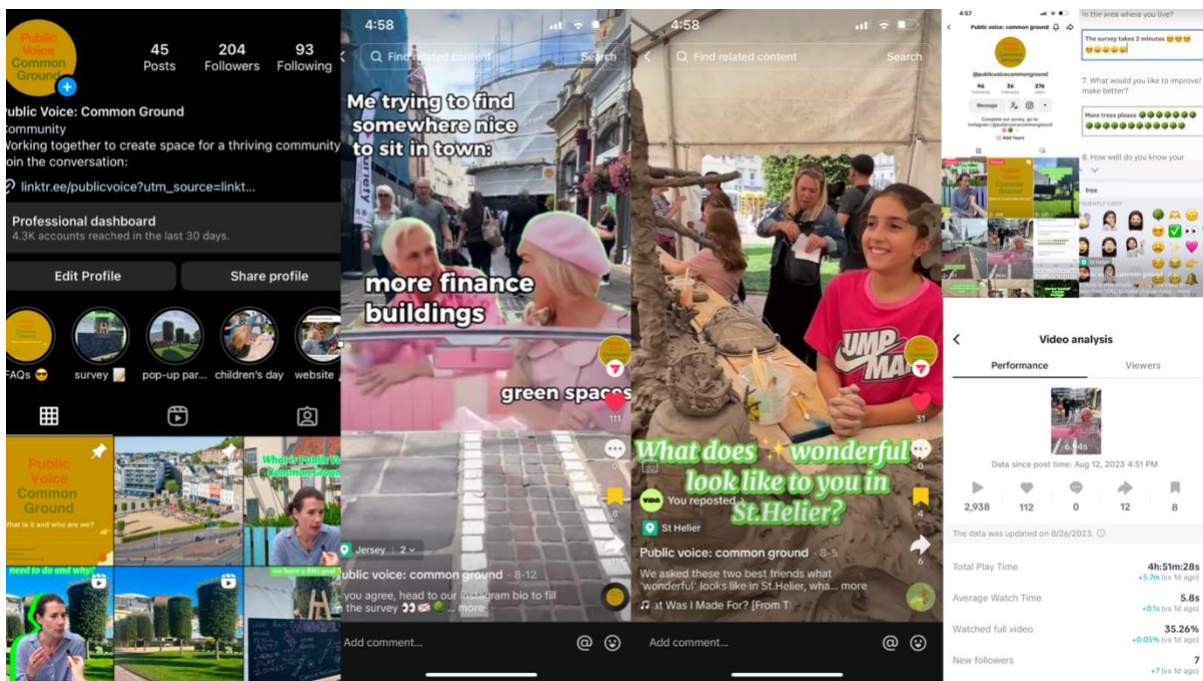
Secondary Data

In Jersey, community data had not been collected or analysed in this way before.

This data was analysed in the context of relevant secondary data. Published secondary data included Statistics Jersey, Gorvernment of Jersey (GoJ)'s St. Helier Open Space Audit Summary, 2024 Island Plan, Jersey Public Realm and Movement Strategy, Jersey Policy Forum, Sustainable Transport Policy, VAWG Report. It also included global urban design research from consultants and organisations such as Jan Gehl, Jane Jacobs, National Trust, Placemaking Europe and Arup.

Analysis

Introduction

Over 2,000 (2%) residents voluntarily shared their experience and insight to Public Voice: Common Ground.

Working with such large and diverse community data was important:
- It illustrated the support for the pilot objectives by islanders
- Enabled a more accurate view by engaging multiple perspectives
- Reduce the risk of data bias

Anonymised data enabled all views to have equal value. Using a mixed and multiple methodology enabled a level of insight that would not be possible through a survey method alone.

Together, all the findings collected by Public Voice: Common Ground provide a unique understanding of what matters to the community. The re-occurring data themes revealed 4 priorities:

1. Green and wild space for the community
2. Traffic and access
3. Social infrastructure – urban seating and places to come together4.
   Entertainment, culture, and community.

These themes are connected. Sub themes such as societal responsibility, safety, and access also reoccur across themes. Views are divergent and complex. Viewing what is important to islanders in context will help avoid looking for solutions in isolation.

How did the 4 themes emerge?

First we will look at the key findings from the survey, interviews and discussions and the themes that emerged. We will analyse the four most common themes in more detail, alongside the findings from the case studies, site and online data and specific testimonials from residents.

Public Survey

Who took part?

1,401 residents took the public survey. 1,382 responded in English, 14 in Polish, 5 in Portuguese.

Approximately 33% of Jersey's population live in St Helier. Most English-speaking survey respondents lived in St Helier. Polish speaking respondents lived in St Saviour, St Helier and St Clement. All Portuguese respondents lived in St Helier and St Clement (Q1).

Q1 Which Parish do you live in?
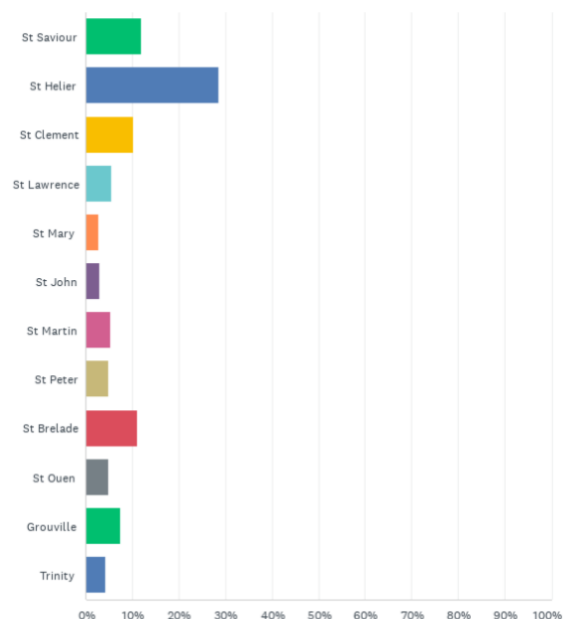
Whether you can buy or rent a house in Jersey is dictated by your residency status. Most English-speaking responders have either lived in Jersey all their life or for more than 5 years. 4 out of the 5 Portuguese responders also shared this status. 65% Polish speaking surveyees had lived in the island for more than 5 years, with the rest between 2 and 5 years (Q3).

Q3 How long have you lived in Jersey?
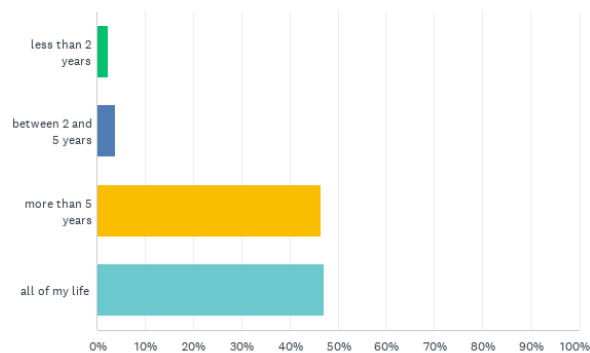
How do they live?

The majority of surveyees live in detached, semi-detached or terrace houses (71 %). Less than 25% live in a flat or apartment. Most Polish and Portuguese speakers taking the survey live in a flat or apartment. Although 20% of Portuguese surveyees are living with friends, family or in a hostel, it is important to remember this relates to one in five. 9 out of 1,382 English surveyees are living in this way.

The majority also have their own garden (75%). Most Polish speaking surveyees have shared or community space. The majority of Portuguese speaking surveyees either have a balcony or no outdoor space. 6.11% English surveyees have no outdoor space, compared with 22% Polish and 40% Portuguese (Q5).

Q5 Przestrzeń komunalna. Czy posesja, na terenie której mieszkasz oferuje którekolwiek z poniższych. Zaznacz wszystkie dostępne opcje:

Q5 Outdoor space. Does your home have any of the following. Tick all those that apply:
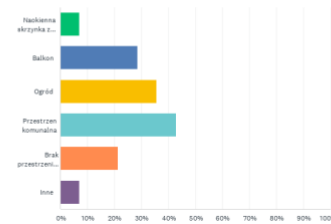
Q5 Espaço ao ar livre. A sua casa tem algum dos seguintes? Assinale todas as que se aplicam:
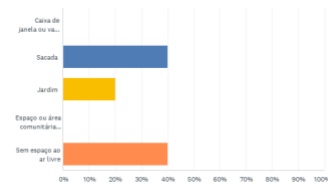
What do residents enjoy most about living in the area where they live?

Survey question 6 helped illustrate what residents value where they live. We will refer to this insight throughout the analysis. These responses were open text. 25 responders did not have a reason to enjoy where they lived, the rest broke down into 7 codes (chart 6.1). Most responses relate to convenience, accessibility, safety and connection (529). For these 529, accessibility breaks down into walking routes (48%), bus routes (42%) and cycle routes (9%). Those citing easy routes and access to town represent just under half of this group (chart 6.2).

All Portuguese responses related to amenities and being 'close to everything'. Over half of Polish responses related to accessibility to town, bus routes and shops. Just less than half related to quiet, the beach and green space.

Chart 6.1

Chart 6.2

- Sum of Surrounding Beauty
- Sum of Gardens/Parks
- Sum of Safety/Peacefulness
- Sum of Schools
- Sum of Town
- Sum of Community
- Sum of Walking Paths/Areas
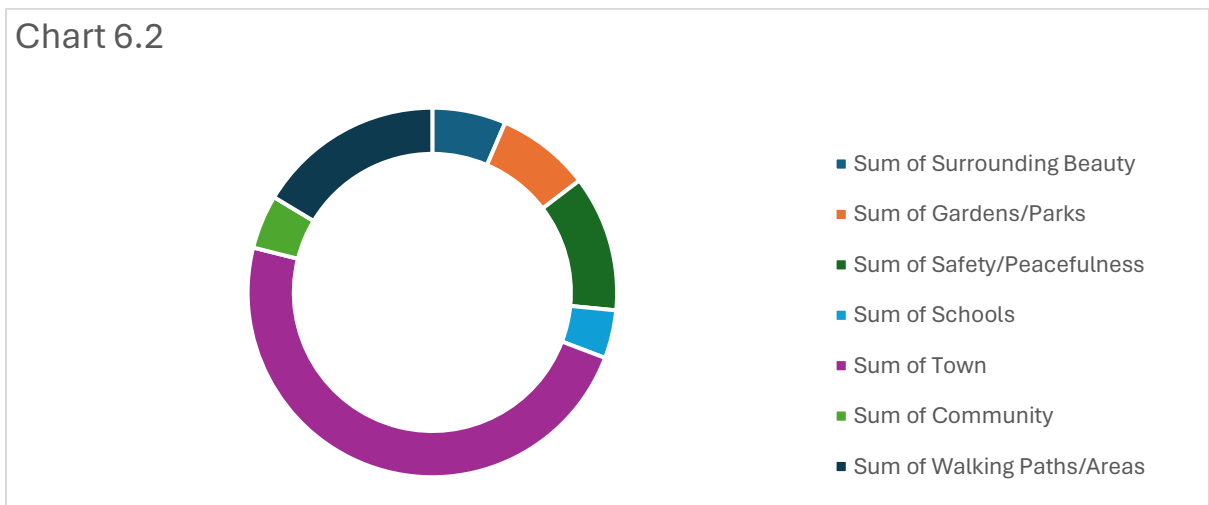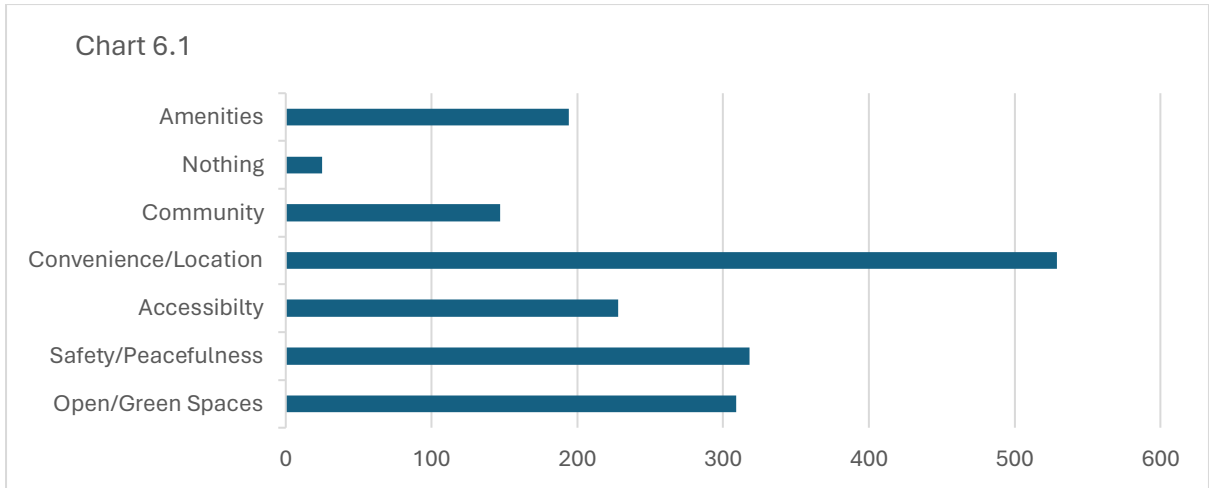
What would residents like to improve in the area where they live?

Question 7 asked the open question of what residents would most like to improve where they live. Out of 1218 responses, 495 are inputted in more than one category (chart 7.1).

Chart 7.1. What residents would most like to improve in the area where they live
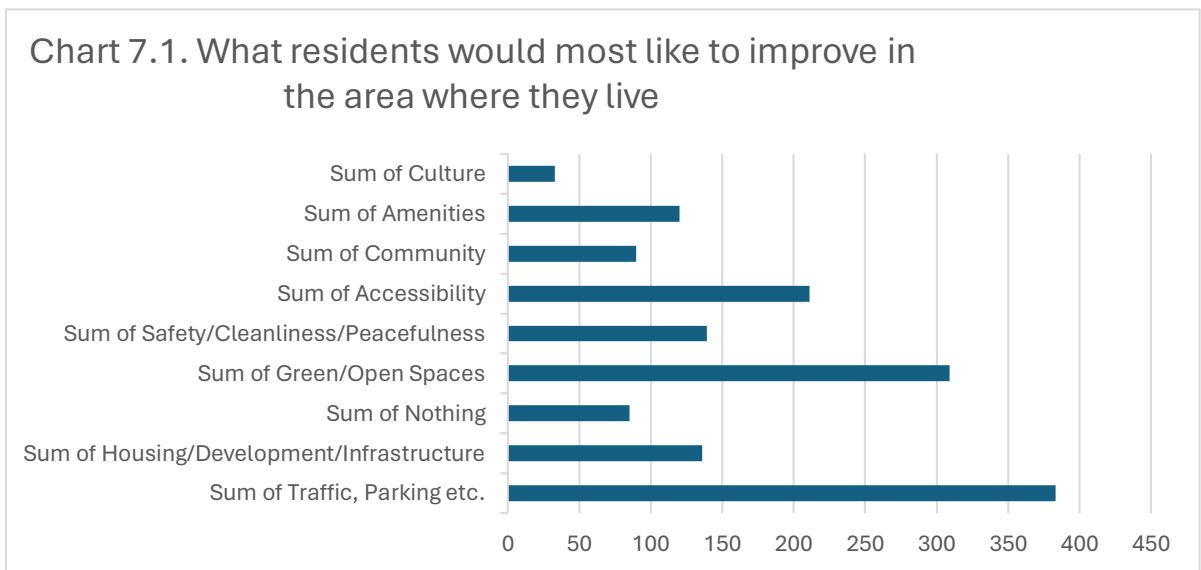
It is important to notice that 85 of these are very happy with the area where they live. However, the largest percentage relate to dissatisfaction with the quantity of cars, traffic and parking (31%). This was followed by a need for more green or open spaces (25%) and better transport links and accessibility (14%).

What does good public space feel like? If money was no object and you could do whatever you wanted, what would you do to our public spaces?

Question 11 asked islanders how they might improve our public spaces. They were invited to tick as many boxes as relevant. Out of 1,382 English speaking surveyees:

- 79% wanted more trees
- 71% wanted more spaces to hang out, sit or walk with no agenda
- 60% wanted more entertainment such as music, outdoor film, and performance.

10 out of 14 Polish speaking respondents prioritised more spaces to hang out with no agenda, 9 wanted less cars and 8 wanted more entertainment. 3 out of 5 Portuguese prioritised more trees, with 1 each prioritising less cars and more entertainment.

Q11 What does good public space look or feel like to you? If money was no object and you could do whatever you wanted, what would you do to our public spaces? Tick as many as apply.
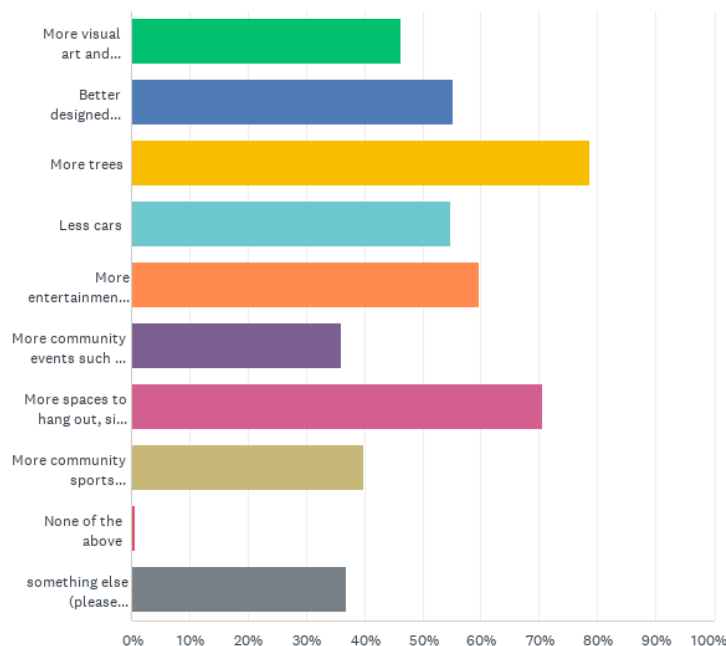
There were no omissions to this question, which prompted 509 additional suggestions. A few outliers called for the need for a spatial masterplan. The remaining priorities broadly fell into the following codes (chart 11.1):

- green space for the community
- seating designed for people
- spaces for entertainment, culture and youth
- transport and access.

Chart 11.1
- green space for the community
- seating made for people
- entertainment, culture and youth
- transport and access
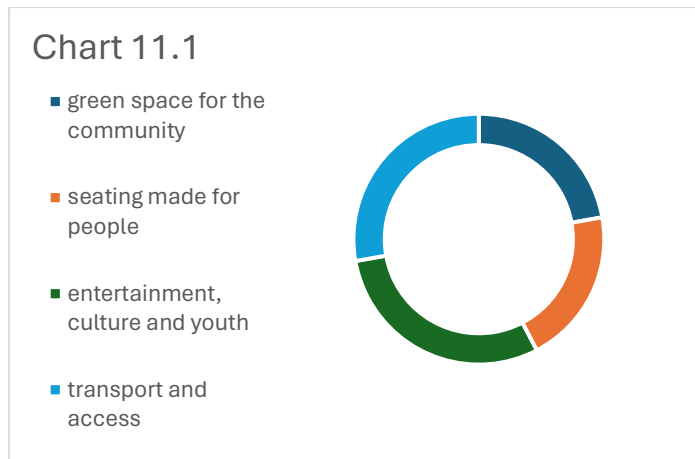
Interviews and discussions

Nearly 500 locals took part in interviews and discussions, many from groups not generally involved with traditional public engagement methodology. This had the impact of raising the percentage of youth engagement from 16% in the survey to 23% overall. Although we were told that many from the Portuguese community took the survey in English, Portuguese engagement through the survey was still low. Interviews with community ambassadors helped create a more accurate representation from this community.

Questioning was open. The themes that emerged were led by the interviewee, rather than the researcher.

These took place at workshops and pop-up sites, as well as offices and cafés. They included MIND, Jersey Employment Trust, Salvation Army café, Enable, Jersey Community Relations Trust as well as families, members of the Portuguese, disabled and business communities. The priorities relate to the survey but are more specific (Chart 7.2). The most common were:

- active travel – reduce car use, prioritise walking and cycling (17%)
- public spaces specifically designed for people and communities (16%)
- cultural community events and the enabling more of life on the street (both 12%)

Chart 7.2 what's needed, community interviews

- community gardening space & street planting
- social activity that doesn't involve alcohol
- community events that unite rather than segregate
- more sponteneity - support for al fresco performance and...
- better designed childrens play areas
- dog park
- free, safe, covered community space
- things going on at the weekend in St Helier
- central mkt open evenings eg. regional cooking
- free public spaces designed for people - eg volley ball nets
- more comfortable seating
- more planting, inc. micro parks & green space in 3 mns
- better, more regular, cheaper public transport
- more colour - houses, benches
- streets for people - reduce cars, prioritise walking & cycles

Approximately 150 of these discussions took place with younger residents and youth workers. These included primary and secondary schools, university students, recent graduates, and Jersey Youth Service. Chart 7.3 illustrates the key themes that emerged. The 3 most urgent were:

- Year round (ie protected from the weather), free communal spaces to meet (31%)
- More activities that don't cost money (19%)
- More and better public green space (15%)

Chart 7.3. What's needed, schools and JYS interviews

Category	Value
year round, free communal space to meet	21
cultural festivals & exhibitions that unite & celebrate diversity	2
more thought to new flats	3
places to walk dogs	1
wild spaces	3
better public transport	6
places with less traffic	3
more, better public green space	10
more activities for kids and all ages that don't cost money	13
a quiet place for all ages to come together and read	2
drinking fountains in Milennium Park	2

Case studies, online communities and behavioural change

A *pop-up park* was installed in a previous hard landscape and a *pop-up perch* in a car park. A community walk, *Lé Galvaûdeux* was commissioned encouraging locals to look at St Helier with new eyes. *Earthworks* workshops invited locals to make a joint 'clayscape' of a St Helier where they all wanted to live.

In the next chapters, we will look at the impact of the case studies, the data from the sites, online discussion, surveys, interviews and discussions within the context of the 4 themes.

Further specific engagement and analysis is needed for localised developments of a parish or neighbourhood.

1. Green and wild space for the community

'A good public space is safe, clean and green'.   Survey responder

Context

The National Trust's 2024 Policy Platform sets out the policies the trust believes all future governments should commit to. The top 3 are: to strengthen legal protection for nature; to grow a green workforce; to create and improve urban green spaces.

A 2019 survey by Exeter University involving 20,000 participants in England concluded that a minimum of 120 minutes per week of 'recreational nature contact' was associated with good health and wellbeing (Douglas and Douglas 2021). The 2018 St Helier Open Space Audit summary assessed available green space in St Helier and estimated a demand of up to 45% more public open space by 2035.

Research within the Jersey health and wellness sectors have shown an increase in mental illness, addiction and loneliness in the past 2 years. Clients at MIND explained the importance of the public parks for managing their own mental health.

We will look at the data relating to green space in more detail, as well as the pop-up park case study.

Public Voice: Common Ground and access to green space

The majority of English-speaking survey respondents have their own garden (75%). Most Polish respondents have shared or community space. Most Portuguese respondents either have a balcony or no outdoor space. 6% English respondents have no outdoor space, compared with 22% Polish and 40% Portuguese (Q5).

Which parts of Jersey do residents feel most happy or at ease?

'The beaches. The cliff paths. We're so lucky to have so much uncluttered space compared to beaches in the UK for example'

'It's all very easy. The safety is felt everywhere. I value fields where farmers have worked by hand… the wildlife in some is the richest anywhere. Especially with real ecological farming practices. With keystone species living with food production.'

'I don't feel unhappy in St Helier, apart from the traffic volume at times. I love walking and enjoy the beaches and country lanes.'

'Anywhere but town'   English speaking survey respondents

Question 9 asked survey respondents where they feel most at ease. Some specified a parish, some specified the type of space. 'Beach, coast and cliffside' was the majority theme (40%). This was followed by rural parishes and then countryside generally. Where a Parish was specified, St Helier was the most popular (123 responses). 60% of these responses specify the town parks, although none specified People's Park. St Ouen was the next most popular cited parish (107 responses).

57% Polish respondents live in town (St Helier, St Saviour and St Clement). Over half of these say they feel most happy and at ease at the beach, 16% like the town parks (Howard Davis and Coronation). St Brelades (16%), Gorey, St Ouen, Grouville, Samares Gardens, Five Oaks, Beauport and the cemetery are also favourites.

All 5 Portuguese respondents live in town. Of these, 3 feel happiest at the beach. One specifies 'outside St Helier, close to sea and gardens.'

Residents also talk about their desire for micro parks and access to green space in less than 3 minutes.

Which area do residents avoid or dislike?

International urban design consultant and architect Jan Gehl talks about the connection between designing for people and achieving a lively, safe, sustainable, and healthy city. Urban space needs to work at eye level and from a people perspective first, rather than designed from above. This is how towns and settlements have traditionally developed all over the world (Gehl 2010).

Less than 1% of areas avoided or disliked by survey respondents are rural. 78% relate to urban areas (chart 10.1). The majority of these relate to the Waterfront (34%), Cheapside (20%) and Georgetown (12%).

Chart 10.1. Which area do residents avoid or dislike?

- Urban Areas
- Rural Areas
- don't avoid anywhere
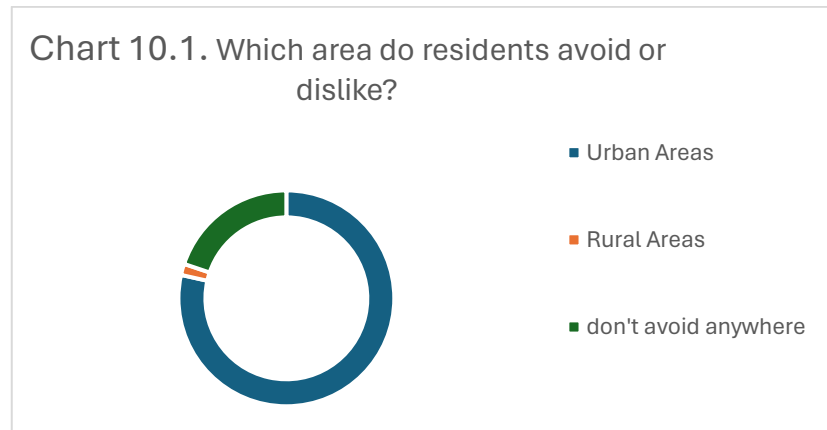
What do residents value about where they live? Chart 6.1

In Q6, 24% of English responses valued the peace and calm of where they lived. These qualities are associated with proximity to nature, a lack of urbanisation and heavy traffic. Research using functional magnetic resonance imaging by Yue, Vessel and Bierderman (2022) illustrate the positive impact of looking at natural views. These show that feelings of wellness occur due to triggering areas rich in opioid receptors in the brain. Coastal views caused the greatest measured response.

'Peace and quiet, sunrise, weather'

'It's quiet, close to the sea and woodlands.'

'Quiet, space, near park and beach'

English respondents

23% were coded under 'Open/Green Spaces'. These break down into specific values (chart 6.2). 86% of these relate specifically to wild spaces (173 to the countryside, 72 to the coast and 33 to walking paths). 4% relate specifically to town. The majority relate to convenience, accessibility, safety and connection. For them, accessibility breaks down into walking routes (48%), bus routes (42%) and cycle routes (9%).

Chart 6.2. Break down of open green spaces

- Sum of Coast/Cliffside
- Sum of Surrounding Beauty
- Sum of Countryside
- Sum of Town
- Sum of Sports
- Sum of Walking Paths/Areas
- Sum of Cycling
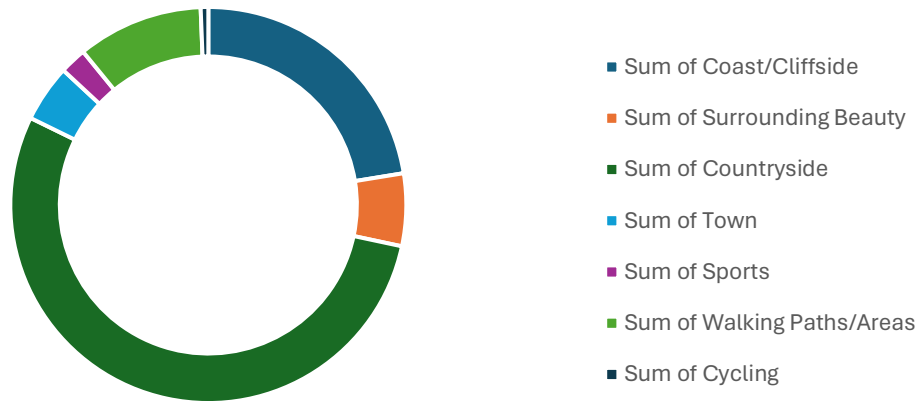
What would residents most like to improve in the area they live? Chart 7.1

Question 7 asked what residents would most like to improve in the area where they live. 56% survey responders wanted more green, natural, and open spaces. 4 out of 11 Polish responses relate to accessible green space, as do 2 out of 5 Portuguese. These priorities compare to specific themes of community, schools and JYS interviews (charts 7.2 and 7.3 in the analysis introduction).

Of these 309 responses, each response is coded into at least one of five specific types of green/ open space or purpose (chart 7.4).

Chart 7.4. What residents would most like to improve in the area where they live

- Sum of Social Events/Activities
- Sum of Countryside
- Sum of Beach
- Sum of Gardens
- Sum of Walking Areas
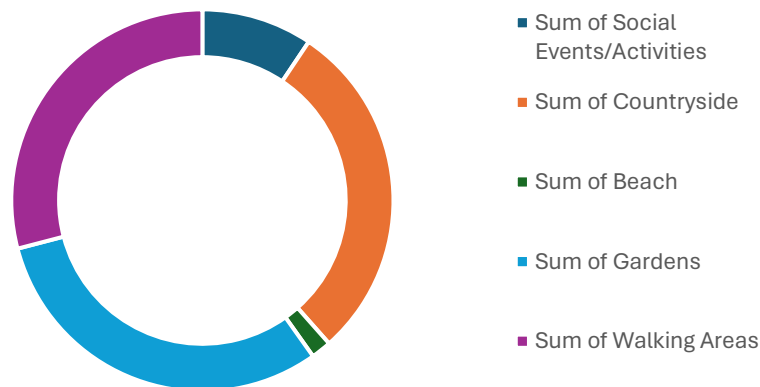
Millennium Park

Millennium Park, St Helier was designed by urban design consultants Burns and Nice following a petition signed by 16,400 residents. It is one of St Helier's hardest working, multi-generation, multi-use public spaces.

Local opinion varies regarding its success. Most of the year 11 and 12 students cite anti-social behaviour as a problem, older residents tended not to share this opinion. However, the most vocal support came from students, parents and teachers at Springfield Primary School. Although 98% pupils have no access to green space at home, a connection with the park permeates the entire school community. Many go there before and after school and use it as a place to meet other families. Despite a play area, skate park, café and pétanque pitch, one explained how she liked to take her younger brother and his friends to simply play on the grass.

Q11. What does good public space feel or look like to you? What would you do to our public spaces if money was no object?

'I want to have so many trees. If money wasn't a problem, I really wish every single apartment or house to have enough space to plant lots of trees and vegetables, fruits. That will be amazing'.

Out of 1,380 English survey respondents, the majority, 79%, wanted more trees, 71% wanted more spaces to hang out, sit or walk with no agenda. 10 out of 14 Polish- speaking respondents prioritised more spaces to hang out with no agenda. 3 out of 5 Portuguese respondents prioritised more trees. Of the 509 additional suggestions, 22% of these relate to a desire for more green space (chart 11.1 in the analysis introduction). The need for more and better green spaces was a recurring theme across the survey:

'Every other town I know has WAY more trees and green space than St Helier.'

'More rural public spaces as almost the whole of Jersey is private land, and one does feel hemmed in by the road network outside town. A connected network of small micro parks of one vergee or less would be amazing - just grass and trees, nothing fancy, like Adelina Woods.'

'There are no community garden spaces in St Helier where people can grow food or plants together. The open spaces are all public parks or concrete, there seems to be no willingness to provide spaces for people to build local communities. In England people feel able to approach local authorities to use neglected or unused spaces. That doesn't seem to happen here, it doesn't seem to be encouraged.'

'More natural and wild areas - we need many more trees in town and generally.'

'Wildflower areas, grassy areas, trees, green and prettier outdoor spaces outside the hideous buildings of steel and glass in town. More promenade style lights along the coast, with pretty walkways along with seaside style entertainment.

'Community fruit and vegetable growing. Planters available to St Helier residents interested in planting and maintaining flower tubs who have no access to gardening... More green space has to be provided when construction of buildings approved... include 'living' roof tops and walls in built up areas.'

Workshop interviews- 'What does wonderful look like for St Helier's public spaces?'

'we need to stop taking away all the fun stuff and putting up all these flats'.   Resident, aged 10

Over all workshops, a desire for more accessible green spaces in St Helier was the most common theme. Residents underlined the need for green spaces that are properly designed for a specific purpose. A desire for better designed, *specific* public green spaces is consistent with survey responders and those supporting the success of Millennium Park (chart 7.3 from analysis introduction):

1.	Communal green spaces	32%
2.	People come here to be with other people rather than just shopping	19%
3.	A dog park	9%

'Wellbeing spaces - yoga, meditation, more exercise in the park... more gatherings.'

'More parks and open areas, and more places to sit. More free events.'

'Better use of public spaces - more activities, seats, tables and benches'

Earthworks workshop

'More trees in St Helier. IN THE GROUND, allowed to grow big, like Royal Sq'.

'A giant square of grass is not a park - People's Park, who goes there? The plot along the avenue is a waste of space. Incorporate Jersey lilies and Jersey species.'

'Relating to autism and traffic noise - reducing this with hedges and planting. There's some hostile architecture in St Helier. Making spaces unfriendly for homeless people or skaters makes it less friendly for everyone.'

Lé Galvaûdeux print workshop

'more climbing fings'.

Resident, aged 8

'we need more than 1 skate park. We need an exercise space, running track, gym stadium. Less new buildings. More palm trees. A mobile gym group. An aquarium. Theme parks. Things to do for children. A lot of grass. More going on'.

Resident, aged 7

Children's Day drawing workshop

Wild spaces

'Fort Regent, behind the carpark there is a load of rocks and stuff, like a cave - wild spaces. Can we have them?'

Hautlieu Year 11 student

Many comments refer to the need for wild green spaces and areas managed by the community.

Even those too young to remember Fort Regent in its '80s prime, talk about the excitement of it being 'a little dangerous or a little wild'. One primary school student talked about how the land at the back of her house at Five Oaks was being developed. The hole in the fence that she used to crawl through had been filled and 'the new blank space didn't even have a goal post'. Having wild spaces to explore and discover is important whether in rural or urban locations. These comments are from children. The importance of spaces that don't always dictate and allow for exploration, fun and discovery are equally important for adults (Gehl, Jacobs).

'More gardens/green spaces (not parks), community growing spaces, permanent art installations...'

'Projects like 'Grow' - community garden for each parish to have a place where people can be together to work, nurture plants and grow food. Allotment spaces!'

'Bigger quieter spaces for kids to run wild. Places in town where adults can walk and feel they are in countryside not a townscape. Get rid of the dual carriageway between town and harbour. Knock down all the flats and office buildings that block town from the sea.'

'Somewhere for teens to be subversive...such as bunkers.'

Survey respondents

Dog Parks and dogs

'Areas where people can walk their dogs to leave the rest for people without dogs (I'm allergic, total nightmare). I'll avoid a park or beach if there are dogs off their leads.'

9% of workshop comments related to the desire to see better provision for dogs in St Helier. In survey question 6, 3 out of 11 Polish respondents were happy with where they lived. However, 3 related to either dog control or dog provision in St Helier. This was a low-level theme throughout the pilot. One survey outlier pointed out the need to keep dog friendly and dog-free areas separate.

Case study: Pop-up park at the Pétanque, Weighbridge Pl, St Helier

Jersey Development Company partnered with Public Voice: Common Ground, Antony Gibb Ltd, Bruce Labey, Matt Ryan, GROW and Acorn Industries to create a design that slowed people down and gave them a reason to stay. It needed to be a multi-use, multi-generation, accessible space that embraced the existing pétanque community.

The 2022 public realm research confirmed the public's need for more green space in St Helier (Gibb '22). In response, a temporary park was designed at Weighbridge Pl. The ground was previously granite and hoggin and well used by the pétanque community. The design incorporated the pétanque community's needs to create a multi-use space that gave all residents a reason to use it and stay. Turf was laid and planters with edible produce installed. The park ran from the end of July until late September and remained open day and night.

Weighbridge Place and the pétanque pitch - before
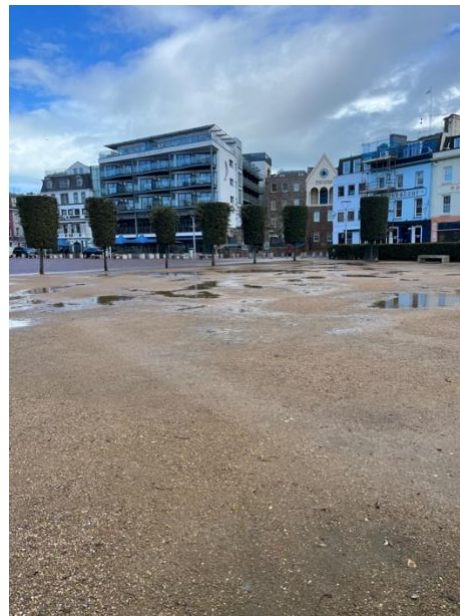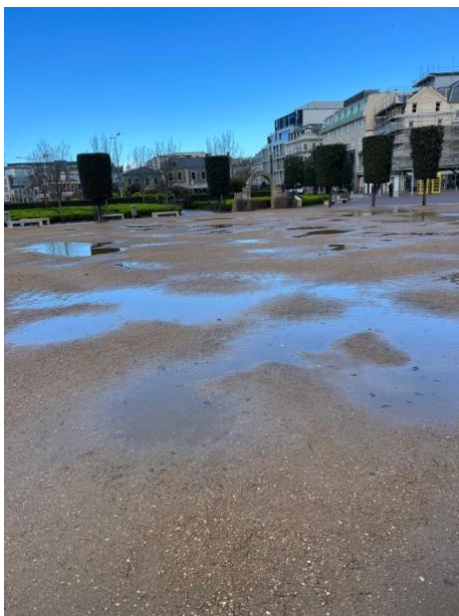
The site was used as a venue for the Earthworks workshops, a meeting place for the lé Galvaûdeux walkers, as well as a site for collecting community opinion and monitoring behaviour.
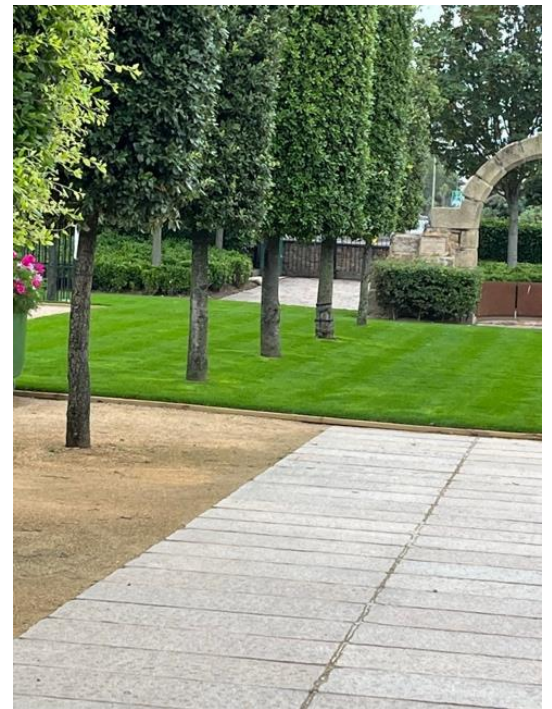
Behaviour change resulting from the pop-up park

Prior to installation, JDC asked for a disclaimer against responsibility for vandalism to the site. This is a quote from a volunteer, as well as visitors to the site:

'I have been photographing the easels at pop-up park daily. Despite being outside in a public space for 6 weeks, there has been no damage or vandalism to the easels, blackboards, or planters at all. Even the planters on wheels have not been moved.'

'...our dog was straining at his lead to get to the grass. There is not enough grass in St Helier;'

'our daughter was just lying on the grass like a snow angel';

'I saw a young girl dancing and doing handstands on the grass. She was there for over an hour and a half. It was lovely to see, she was in her own little world'.

The site was maintained by JDC, however, Toni, a local resident became the site's honorary site guardian. Despite little English, Toni watered the grass and planters, cleaned the chalkboards and tied them down in bad weather. He brought toys for the children, hung disco balls and Mexican hats on the blackboards. He generally spent at least 3 hours a day at the park.

Dwell time

Good urban spaces for meeting have opportunities for three basic human activities - seeing, hearing and talking (Gehl, 2010). Enabling this, through safe places to sit, perch and observe make successful public spaces.

The same time period on a sunny afternoon was monitored before and after installing the pop-up park. Dwell time broke down into the following activities:

Activities before pop-up park was intalled in a 38 minute time period

- ■ walking through without stopping
- ■ walk to the rue de fort railings and back
- ■ sitting/ stopping

activities after pop up park installed in a 38 min time period

- ■ lieing on the grass
- ■ sitting on existing granite bench
- ■ standing and chatting/ reading the blackboards
- ■ passing through at a slow amble whilst chatting

Total community dwell time was 168 minutes before and 503.17 minutes after installation in a 38-minute period. When asked if the grass should stay, 97% chalk board responses said yes (based on 178 responses). Charts below.

Dwell time before and after the park is installed

Should the grass stay?
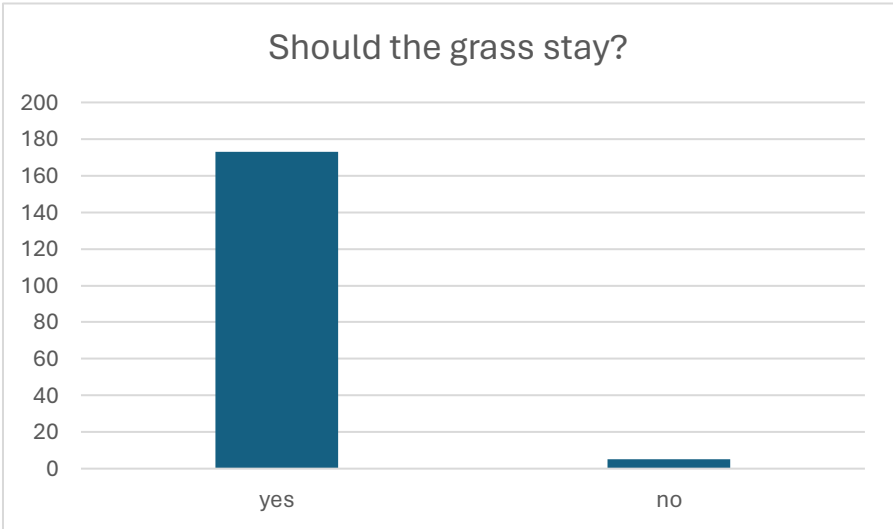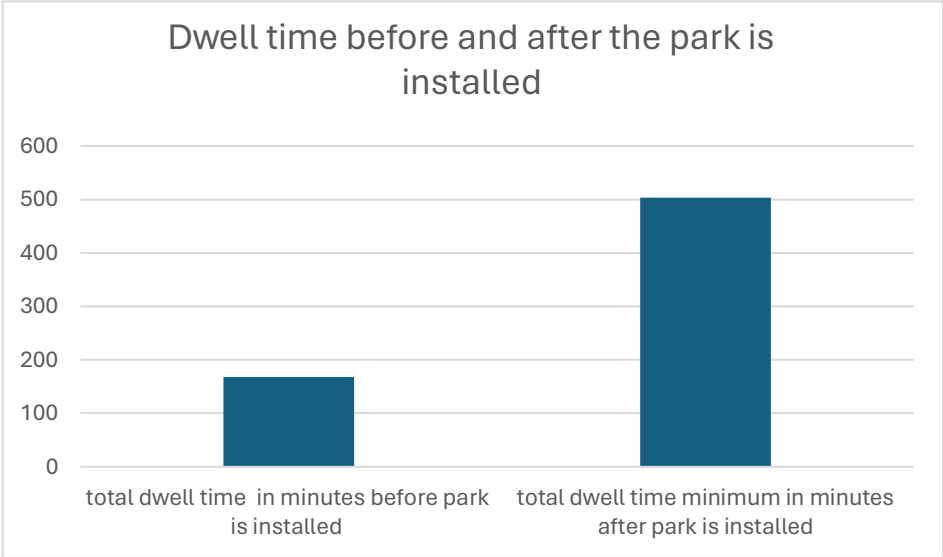
What next?

'Informal outdoor areas in St Helier, in which those who live in flats can find respite. Millennium Park is too formal... it could be more woodland like, informal paths, benches, patches of flowers. Perhaps there are opportunities to create corners of woodland in new developments, rather than percentage for art, percentage for nature, including provision for trees to grow to maturity...'

The research shows an appetite for more wild green spaces, as well as better designed, harder working green community spaces. Without proper commissioning based on specific community engagement, it is hard to deliver something of true value.

The consultant is working with GoJ to update the percentage for art policy and related Supplementary Planning Guidance. This will include the creation of a *Public Art Commission* to advise government and business on commissioning and improving Jersey's public realm. This will have the impact of enabling temporary, semi-permanent and permanent intervention, as well as landscaping, events, art, and design based on community engagement.

The research supports the findings of GoJ's St Helier Open Space: Audit Summary 2018 and helps to illustrate the *kinds* of green space residents value. It clarifies the relevance of enabling accessibility to Jersey's rural and coastal realm for all islanders and why government schemes such as Coronation Way have such great potential. Community opinion on accessibility will be looked at more in the next chapters.

Whether wild or formal, urban realm is at a premium. Co-production of intelligent design, resilient planting and urban planning needs to address environmental and societal needs to support healthy communities, a thriving public realm and sustainable economic development.

2. Traffic and Access

'Good public realm is a human right. It needs to be about people, not just buildings.
It needs green spaces... there needs to be a re-education back to walking and away from the car'.

St Helier resident and care worker

Context

In 2021 around one in ten people lived in a household with no car – this varied between 0.6% in St Lawrence to 36.5% in Canton de Bas de la Vingtaine de la Ville and 33.8% in la Vingtaine de Bas du Mont au Pretre (both St Helier). Across Jersey, the proportion of people in households with no car was only 0.4% lower than in 2011 (GoJ, 2021b).

Research shows a direct corelation between life quality and wellbeing when walking and cycling are part of daily life (UNESCO, Gehl 2010).

The 2024 Island Plan commits to improving public services by investing in long-term projects through a £113m capital programme in 2024. This includes infrastructure and public estate developments and discouraging unnecessary use of the car by raising vehicle emission tax to 30% (GoJ 2023). This commitment appears in the updated Sustainable Transport Policy (GoJ 2023). This is in the context of global issues such as obesity, poor mental health and climate change.

Infrastructure Rolling Vote and Public Realm

The Infrastructure Rolling Vote and Public Realm programme is the most significant programme of infrastructure investment in the Jersey Government Plan.

It is a programme of continual improvements to maintain key infrastructure such as roads, drains and sea defences. It includes urban renewal for St Helier.

Funding for public realm is included within the rolling vote, to allow for the continual improvement and safety of roads, paths and public spaces. Additional investment of £3m per year has been made to significantly improve public realm in St Helier, working in collaboration with the Parish of St Helier and other stakeholders. This brings the total amount of funding available for Public Realm of this Government Plan to £5m per annum.

Infrastructure Investment, taken from GoJ 2023.

Project Total	£'000	Spon Dept	Supp Dept	2024 Estimate	2025 Estimate	2026 Estimate	2027 Estimate
-	Infrastructure Rolling Vote and Public Realm	I&E	I&E	18,950	19,350	19,350	19,350
88,635	Sewage Treatment Works (M)	I&E	I&E	2,733	700	-	-
15,644	Liquid Waste Key Infrastructure (M)	I&E	I&E	5,171	10,473	-	-
845	Springfield Pitch & Floodlights	I&E	I&E	-	5	840	-
-	Shoreline Management Plan - Havre des Pas	I&E	I&E	-	-	-	-
-	Planning Obligation Agreements	I&E	I&E	-	-	-	-
-	Road Safety	I&E	I&E	-	-	-	-
-	Countryside Access and Signage	I&E	I&E	-	-	-	-
-	Other Infrastructure	I&E	I&E	3,190	2,818	4,305	3,230
105,124	**Infrastructure**			**30,044**	**33,346**	**24,495**	**22,580**

Table 25: Infrastructure | (M) indicates a Major Project

Public Voice: Common Ground survey findings

What do residents enjoy most about living in the area where they live?

Open-text survey responses to this question were grouped into seven themes (chart 6.1 from the analysis introduction). Most responses relate to convenience, accessibility, safety and connection. For them, accessibility breaks down into walking routes (48%), bus routes (42%) and cycle routes (9%) (Chart 6.4 below).

Chart 6.4

- Sum of Buses
- Sum of Cycling
- Sum of Walking Paths/Areas
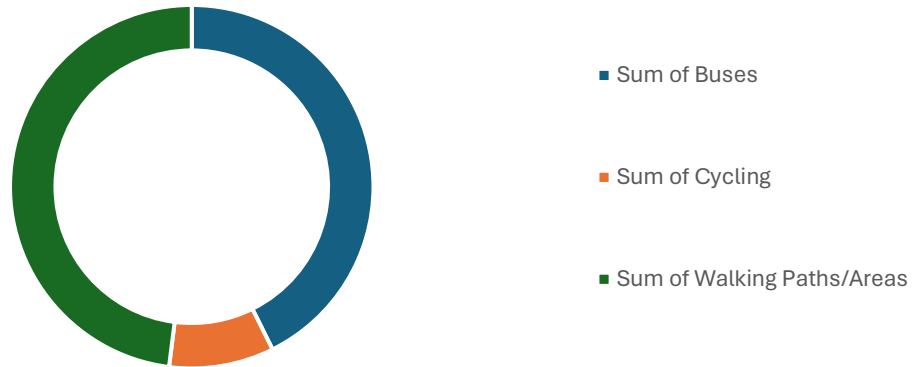
All Portuguese responses relate to amenities and being 'close to everything'. Over half of Polish responses relate to accessibility to town, bus routes and shops.

> *'Good bus route. Easy to get to town. Easy to get to beach.'*
>
> *'Quiet, good bus route, super walks, close to my family'*
>
> *'Convenience of being able to walk to cinema, arts centre, shops, library.'*

English surveyees

Of the 529 English responses themed under convenience/ location, 48% of these relate to accessibility to town, 16% to walking routes and 11% to safety/ peacefulness (chart 6.3 below):

Chart 6.3

- Sum of Surrounding Beauty
- Sum of Gardens/Parks
- Sum of Safety/Peacefulness
- Sum of Schools
- Sum of Town
- Sum of Community
- Sum of Walking Paths/Areas
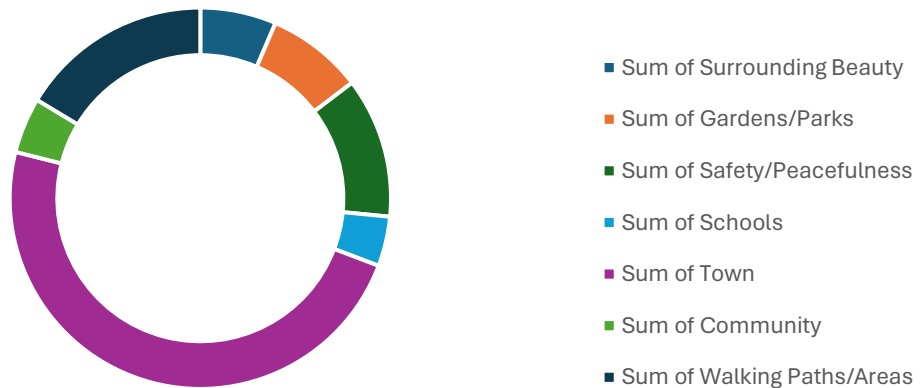
Concerns about the impact of traffic, in particular, noise pollution, air quality and islander wellbeing were consistent across community and workshop interviews. It was also a reoccurring theme across questions in the public survey.

One St Helier resident in his 80's explained how unsafe he felt as a pedestrian in St Helier. He explained that he regularly had to step into the traffic to allow others to pass on uneven and narrow pavements. A working mother of 2 was angry at the 'disgusting' car fumes she had to endure on her walk to work and that she was unable to cycle from her home with her family due to the dangers of too much traffic.

Attitudes to accessibility, including public transport, active travel and designing for less mobile residents have been included in this section. Some of these issues cross over into the chapter on culture and community.

Survey Q7 asked residents what they would most like to improve in the area where they lived. The largest percentage cited issues relating to cars, traffic and parking (31%):

'Less cars on my estate or better parking facilities. The estate was made when cars were smaller, and households rarely had one car let alone three'.

'Improved bus service…'

'Fewer cars, they take up so much space on the road.'

'Noise from traffic.'

'Slower traffic, so safe to walk.'

1 out of 5 Portuguese respondents specified reducing noise from cars and motorbikes. It was not mentioned by Polish respondents in this answer. However, 9 out of 14 wanted less cars when asked 'what would you do if you could do whatever you wanted to our public spaces'.

These priorities are consistent with themes from the community interviews (chart 7.2 in the analysis introduction). The most popular suggestion by this group was creating streets for people by reducing car dominance and prioritising pedestrians and cyclist in St Helier (17%).

'If we are to reduce car use, we need to make town safer/more accessible to access on bike/public transport.'

'A safe cycling path into town from the East.'

'Cycle routes/specific lanes that work by integrating with the roads/cutting across difficult areas to encourage cycling more like in the Netherlands'.

'I really want bus services more active than car. Because so many people using car because bus service is not sufficient. After 11 there is no bus! Sometime to go some places you have to wait more than one hour!'

What does good public space look or feel like? If money was no object and you could do whatever you wanted, what would you do to our public spaces?

Out of 509 additional suggestions to this survey question, over a quarter of these related to enabling more active travel and reducing car use in St Helier (chart 11.1):

'More cycle facilities… Too much respect is given over to cars in Jersey and it's about time Jersey understands that cars are a problem that are a blight on many people's lives.'

'Thanks to nature … the Island already has world class public spaces, e.g. the Coastal Park… town planning needs to step up its thinking. Improved Island wide public transport, ideally free. This would take traffic off the roads and help give all Islanders easy access to all our existing wonderful public spaces'.

'Better small scale (hoppa buses?) public transport'

'Integrated public transport and cycle infrastructure'.

'More space for pedestrians and cyclists, as currently cars take up most of the space.'

Workshop interviews

Free workshops took place in Howard Davis Park, the pop-up park, and the pop-up studio at Horizon East, Waterfront. These are all sites in St Helier. Most attendees lived in St Helier. All questions were open ended, however, the theme of reducing traffic volume and enabling alternative forms of transport in St Helier was a reoccurring theme across attendees.

If you could magic away one thing from the current St Helier, what would it be?

1. **noise and pollution from cars and traffic**   **40%**
2. over development   11%
3. finance buildings/ public drinking impacting family and cultural events   both 9%

'Remove cars'

'less cars, but better public transport'

'Less cars, more pedestrians'   Earthworks workshop

'Of all the things that could be improved, what would make the biggest impact to islanders?

Attendees to all workshops were asked what improvement they felt would have the biggest impact on islanders. Alternative transport infrastructure was the biggest priority for attendees at 27%.

1. **alternative transport, including less cars, better parking for those that need it, more regular and subsidised buses, more accessibility for bikes and EV infrastructure**
                                                                               27%
2. more free, multi-cultural and accessible arts, culture and events   15%
3. play areas and parks that are designed by experts   13%

'Free buses and more public parking for residence or more electric cars.'

'More sheltered areas for kids to play that can then be used all year round'.
                                                                        Earthworks workshop

'Cycle safety and better cycle routes. More bikes = more parking for disabled and those that need it. Bring in clamping.'   Lé Galvaûdeux print workshop

'We would like St Helier to be more accessible, vibrant and colourful. We enjoy public installations of art, music & activities that we can access easily and feel part of.'
                                                                Taking Part Making Art, Jersey Mencap

Mobility and barriers to access

Residents with reduced mobility stressed the need to understand who 'less cars' referred to and the impact of excluding cars for all. All who took part in the pilot felt unhappy at the shortage of disabled parking spaces and a lack of policing of these. Others talked about the need for better transport links in general and wondered why able-bodied residents were continuing to drive and park in St Helier:

'No matter how perfect public space is, it is only useful to people who live near it - unless you also provide the infrastructure to enable visitors from further afield to get there. If I wanted to visit the current project at the Weighbridge I would need to get there, for me that means driving and parking a car. St Helier is anti-car, so I feel unwelcome...'   Fb comment

'…due to the nature of the road where I live and my age, I need to use a car. The road to a bus stop is not safe e.g. narrow road with room often for 1 car, no pavements, no lights, and a poor bus service. I feel excluded from the library, the market, restaurants, any festive performances, museum and particularly the Arts Centre.'

'… it's becoming increasingly difficult to share town centre shops and facilities with less mobile or elderly people as disabled parking and drop-off places gradually phased out, e.g. hard to park on roads near Jersey Arts Centre, Société Jersiaise, or Jersey and Maritime Museums. Easier to go to a Garden Centre, easy-access tourist attraction or shop online!'

English surveyees

One interviewee explained how he drove to an event at JAC from St Brelade, only to drive home again as the disabled parking bays were occupied. A St Helier traffic warden employed additional back up to police the area behind the finance district and Sand St lay by as SUVs stopped illegally to pick up able-bodied partners from work.

The chart below shows priorities regarding access from community interviews and discussions.

Priorities regarding access from community interviews
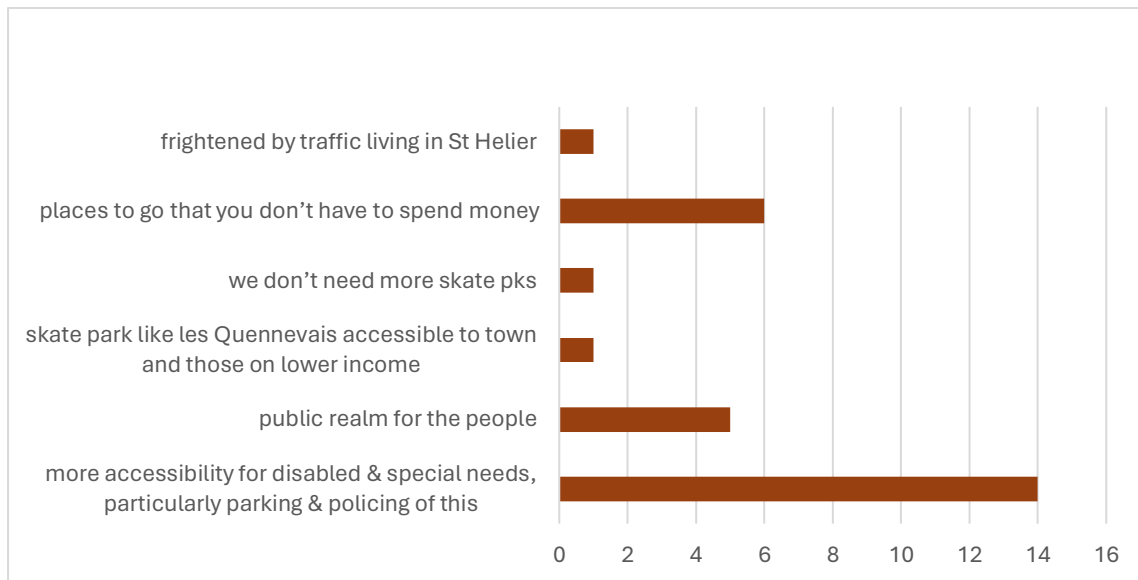
What next?

'A car free town'.

'I don't know how easy this would be to do, but I think closing the main part of town to cars etc and putting on a proper on/off bus, so can drop and then pick up with shopping. Drop off/pick up Beresford Street.'

'Close roads/ streets at weekends in St Helier to give residents more space to enjoy art culture sport and chat etc. This also applies to other high residential densities. Then perhaps more shops/bars & restaurants could have El Fresco?'

Public survey respondents

Many survey responses to Q11 referenced the car-free city models that have already been tested and proven in previously car-centred cities such as Ghent, Oslo, Madrid, Hydra, Amsterdam, Zermatt, Copenhagen and São Paulo.

Paulista Avenue – a model for St Helier?

In 2015, São Paulo removed cars between 7am and 2pm every Sunday from Paulista Avenue. Previously one of the most iconic central business streets in a city known for car culture, the move resulted in the area being transformed *all* week and locals that were originally sceptical wanting more streets converted. The streets have become a place for people – children play in the street, learn to cycle and cycling groups developed. Artists play music and families walk their dogs. A cultural centre opened in 2018.

> *'People did not understand that it could be used for leisure because São Paulo had not yet had this experience in other places'*   São Paulo resident

Despite fears of loss of revenue and visitors, 97% of visitors and 71% of residents support the São Paulo car ban. 76% believe the program should be expanded to other major streets in the city (next city, 2022).

Investing in St Helier

Point 5 of the Council of Ministers priorities for 2024 is 'invest in St Helier'. It is intended that this includes investment in a robust and sustainable public transport system, better lighting design, pavements, and accessibility.

A commitment to invest and co-deliver by government and parish cannot be underestimated. Government and parishes uniting to make St Helier a town for people should be built on a clear understanding of the needs of all residents through rigorous and effective engagement methodology.

To enable the design and delivery of new infrastructure, road traffic engineers, urban planners, landscape designers and specialists with experience beyond Jersey should work alongside local experts to enable the best solutions. Multiple perspectives and criticism are critical to the design process, fully understanding the problems and reaching a better solution.

Sustainable transport systems that enable safe, efficient mobility, encourage active transport and support the wellbeing of residents are absolutely possible. The delivery of this is outside the scope of this pilot. However, shining a light on the views of those most affected is designed to help decision makers and enable action.

3. Social infrastructure, seating and space for people

'When it starts raining there's nowhere to go. There are like clubs for rich people, the poor people have to stay at home'.   Le Rochier student, year 10

Context

'Social infrastructure represents the crucial organisations, places and spaces that enable communities to create social connections – to form and sustain relationships that help them to thrive'   (Barratt 2023)

Social infrastructure covers service and facilities that meet local needs and contribute towards a good quality of life. It includes health provision, education, community, play, youth, recreation, sports and faith. A key component is green infrastructure.

Research by The British Academy found that communities that entered the pandemic with established social infrastructure were more resilient and benefited from stronger community support. Spaces where people can come together with others who share things in common, as well as those with whom they have differences, play an important role in local economic and social success.

'Spaces to hang out with no agenda' was highlighted as a priority in the 2022 public realm research. It informed the second pilot case study- 'the pop-up perch'. We will look at the case study feedback in the context of community attitudes to social infrastructure, places to sit and what's needed in St Helier.

Places to sit

Survey

After more trees, 'more spaces to hang out with no agenda' was the second most popular priority for English and Polish respondents in improving St Helier's public realm (chart 11). 20% of additional comments to this question related to the need for better and more free public seating. This has been consistent across public engagement:

'Areas that provide seating are no good in the summer if there is no shade. This particularly applies to Castle Quay. Lots of benches but no shade. Few people seem to use the area when it's hot and sunny.'

'Public picnic benches where you can eat your own food or food that you have bought and want to eat outside. (This) can also build community by sharing tables and speaking to people you wouldn't normally engage with.'

'Places to eat lunch in town with benches that you don't have to pay.'

'More pretty flowered areas with lots of seating'.

'More places to just sit/ have a picnic'.

'Create a covered or partially covered outdoor area where the public can sit and eat at lunch times in all weather conditions… a space to bring different food and cultures to St. Helier. This could be surrounded by trees.'
                                                                                                    Qu 11, survey responses

Workshops

At the workshops we asked what 3 things would add most value to islanders? The three most common themes were:

1. more free social space inc. communal seating, hula hooping, chess, noughts and crosses, drawing, graffiti walls   34%
2. community and cultural events   15%
3. more green space   13%

'1. A central green space like Hyde Park - a cultural and green space in (the) same space 2. sense of municipal/ public good - making things good for the sake of being beautiful. Not about making money. 3. grass over more. Picnics in Royal Sq,'

'1. outdoor space for entertainment/ performance and encourage it more. People have more rights to stop it than to start it. 2. ease up on al fresco eating - be more like St Malo in Royal Sq. 3. sort the market out - open in the evening.'
<div align="right">Lé Galvaûdeux print workshop</div>

Interviews

Free, safe, covered community space was the 4th highest priority in community interviews.

What type of seating?

Many residents felt that there was both not enough seating and what there was was not designed for Jersey. The need for covered seating to provide protection from both winter and summer weather was universal across all groups.

'Covered parks/spaces in town to spend time when it's rainy or to hide from the sun…using the roofs of existing buildings or top levels of car parks (Sand Street, Minden Pl and Green Street) for roof gardens with fixed or mobile roofing… adding an extra level on top of some of these or other buildings.'

'Weighbridge Pl has no shaded seating at all. I was really hot last summer and struggled to find somewhere cool to sit. Please can we let trees grow naturally (not pollarded as Weighbridge Pl) or grow them in planters? This is good for trees, people and environment'.
<div align="right">*CIP workshop*</div>

Elderly residents talked about the need for seating with backs, the skate community pointed out that furniture designed to be unfriendly to skaters was generally unfriendly to everyone.

Many talked about the discomfort of the granite benches. Some urban consultants suggest that granite seating is unsuitable in the northern hemisphere as it is too cold (Gehl 2010).

Case study: Pop-up perch, Romerils car park, Hue St, St Helier.

<div align="right">*Site - before*</div>

In response to the need for more public seating, Public Voice: Common Ground partnered with Romerils, Bruce Labey and Antony Gibb Ltd to create temporary seating in central St Helier. 4 company car parking space were converted into flexible seating for around 35. The design made use of existing Romerils resources, such as pallets and planters planted with agapanthus. Acorn Industries made a planters growing tomatoes and Ransoms Garden Centre donated hardy structural bushes in pots. The design allowed for wheelchair access, turning and use.

Although a car park, the site is part of a natural and protected square. This includes a pub, café, retail as well as flats. We had allowed for vandalism, watering and cleaning in the maintenance plan.

Community chalkboards were installed on both sides of the site and monitored by Romerils staff daily.

Site -after installation.

Design drawings
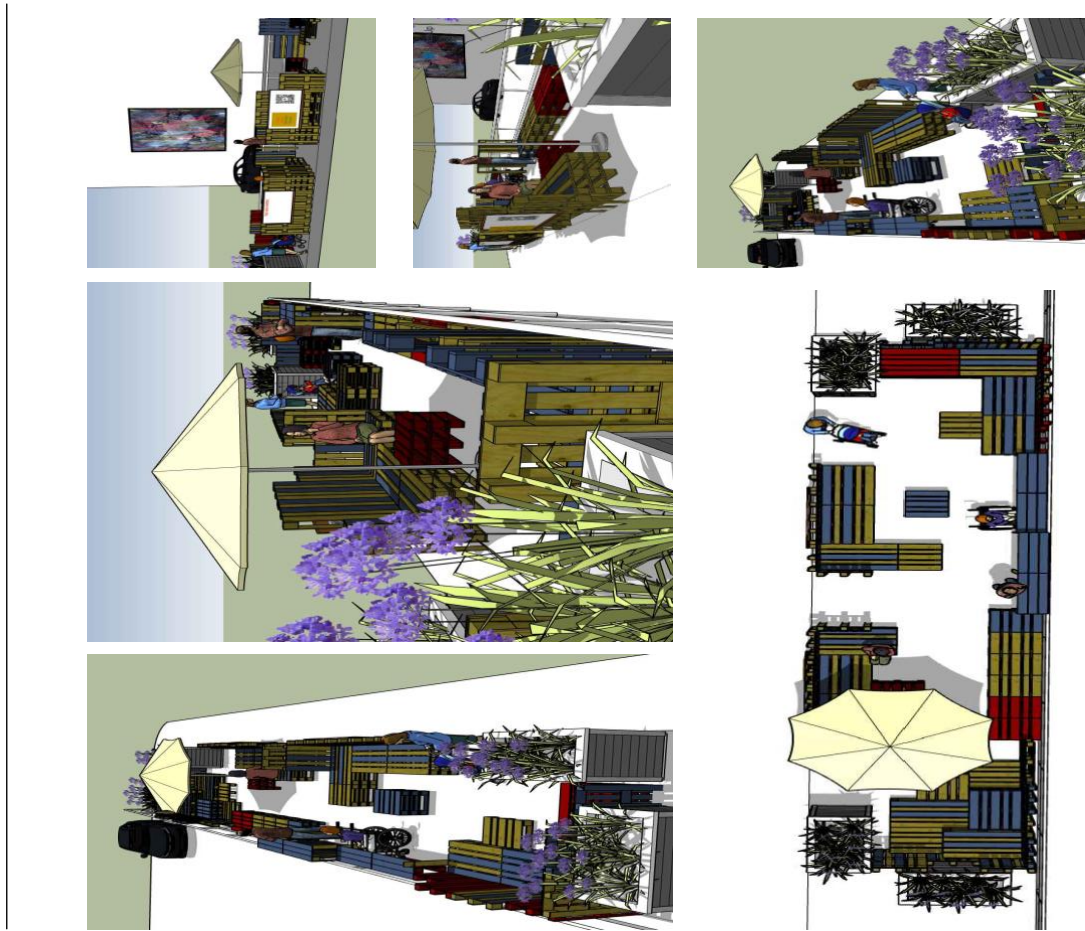
Behaviour change resulting from the pop-up perch

Unlike the pop-up park, the perch had no grass, it was next to a road and commercial delivery/ collection.

The site was used after dark as well as in the daytime. On the first evening one of the ledges was damaged - CCTV showed residents on top of this. If this site became permanent, spending more time with the residents *after* working hours may help create local ownership and a guardian mentality (such as Toni at the pop-up park). It was unclear whether the damage came from residents or visitors to the pub.

The site was compact and enclosed which allowed for safety rather than people watching in the daytime. People generally came to the perch for a purpose - to eat lunch, have a meeting, chat or read a book. A car park with no people became a safe and desirable place be.

Engagement with the chalk boards was different to the pop-up park. The boards were part of the structure of the site rather than free standing, the chalk was in a box rather than on view and the site was less open.

Although there was less engagement on the chalk boards than the pop-up park, there was more engagement online. Out of 28 chalk board responses, 98% said they'd like the space to stay or would like to see more spaces like this in St Helier (below).

The pop-up perch pilot has been used as a case study to enable further free seating in St Helier.
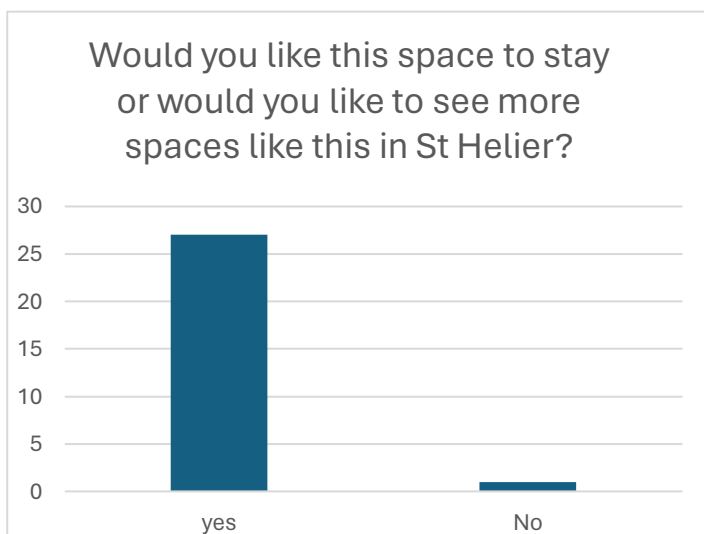
Film at the perch

'Film at the perch' was a free outdoor screening that partnered with 13th Parish Film to showcase 11 short films by local film makers. It was attended by an audience of 60 at the perch and more from neighbouring houses and

flats. Some bought their supper, some bought drinks and food to share. Many stayed on and chatted after the film had finished.

Film at the perch

Community spaces and youth

The need for non-transactional, safe and accessible public spaces was particularly acute amongst Jersey's youth. JYS, primary and secondary schools, post and undergraduates were asked what was needed and what they believed would make the biggest impact to islanders (chart below). Places that were free, accessible, and available all year round were the priority (31%).

What's needed?

Category	Value
year round, free communal space to meet	21
cultural festivals & exhibitions that unite & celebrate diversity	2
more thought to new flats	3
places to walk dogs	1
wild spaces	3
better public transport	6
places with less traffic	3
more, better public green space	10
more activities for kids and all ages that don't cost money	13
a quiet place for all ages to come together and read	2
drinking fountains in Milennium Park	2

Supporting communities through better social infrastructure

'If people my age had more to do, it would definitely lead to more respect for an area. They wouldn't be smashing up parks for toddlers'

Year 10 student

Discussing communities in more detail with this group produced further insight on the potential impact of more supportive public spaces and social infrastructure. 68% talked about age intolerance. This was not just between youth and the elderly, but amongst years ten, eleven, and seven. 51% of this same group spoke about having money versus no money as a major barrier to where they could go and what they could do:

'After covid we're all really awkward, because we haven't seen each other for like 2 years. It sets us back a few years. We all realise we like being alone'. 'Jersey kind of needs the option of some places to go by yourself and some places to go to socialise'. 'I think we can bring people together in festivals - at the Portuguese Festival, so many young people singing the songs. Festivals to celebrate diversity'.

Hautlieu year 11 students

'When it starts raining there's nowhere to go'. 'There are like clubs for rich people. The poor people have to stay at home'. 'There's a lot less for people who don't have money in Jersey'. 'I think this whole flat building is bad. You're removing all the attractions and what makes the island special'.

La Rochier year 10 students

'In the winter there is nothing to do. There's nowhere to go inside for free'. 'I like the Skate Pk, even tho I'm not a skater. I went to see what it looked like. People are doing stuff. We need more like this'.

Hautlieu year 12 students

Asked whether they felt happy being their age in Jersey, year 10s had this to say:

'I think the younger generation are growing up quicker due to social media and a lack of parenting. 'They're online much more than we were and are'. ' I was taught to respect old people. I don't see this now. 'It's more about having no respect for anyone than intolerance between sectors'.

The majority of the students we spoke with, although having become used to their own company, enjoyed being with older people and didn't want spaces or events that excluded others. Many however, did feel threatened by drinking and substance abuse in public spaces, particularly in the public parks.

Safety and community

Feeling safe is crucial for people to embrace city space (Gehl, 2010). Question 10 of the community survey asked residents which areas they avoided or disliked (chart 10.1 below). 76% of these relate to urban parishes, compared with 1% of rural parishes. Chart 10.3 below illustrates the most common themes cited by these 76%.

Chart 10.1
- Sum of Urban Parishes
- Sum of Rural Parishes
- Sum of Nothing
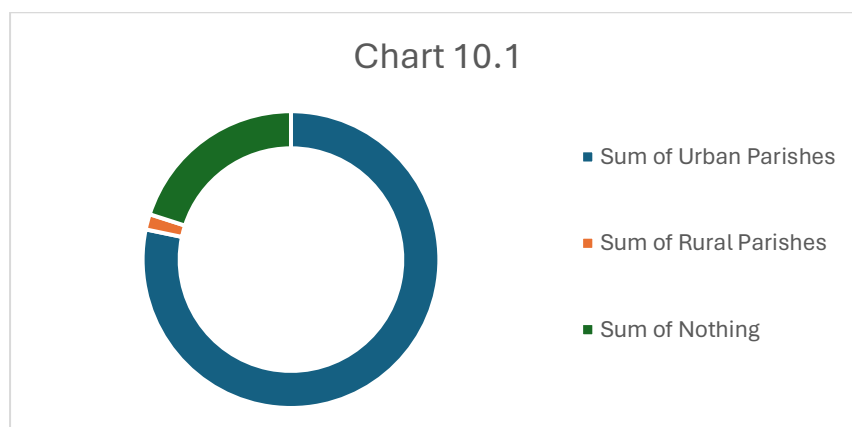
Safety, community and alcohol

'I don't feel safe at MacDonalds or the parks, because of older drunk people on Saturday and Friday nights.'

Hautlieu, Year 12 student

1 Polish survey outlier was 'ban drinking alcohol in front of the store'. This was not a priority theme in the English survey, however, it did exist in outliers. It was prevalent in interviews with schools.

Chart 10.3
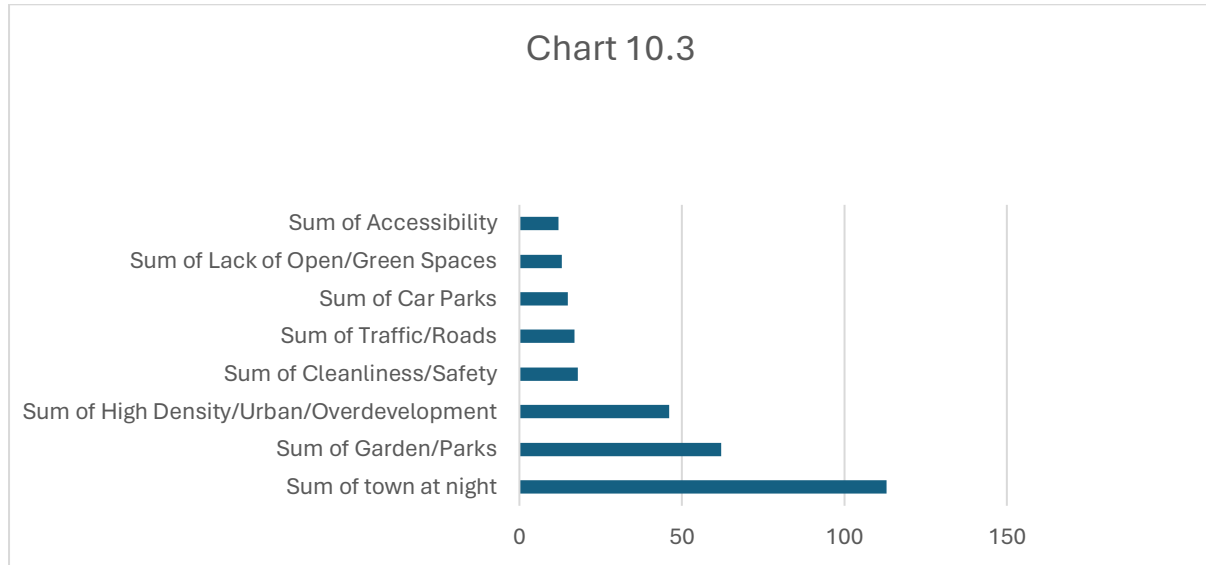
The Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) heatmap safety report was based on a survey of 279 women and girls (GoJ 2023). In the report, on street drinking was cited by 46% of respondents as the reason for feeling unsafe in St Helier (fig 14 below).
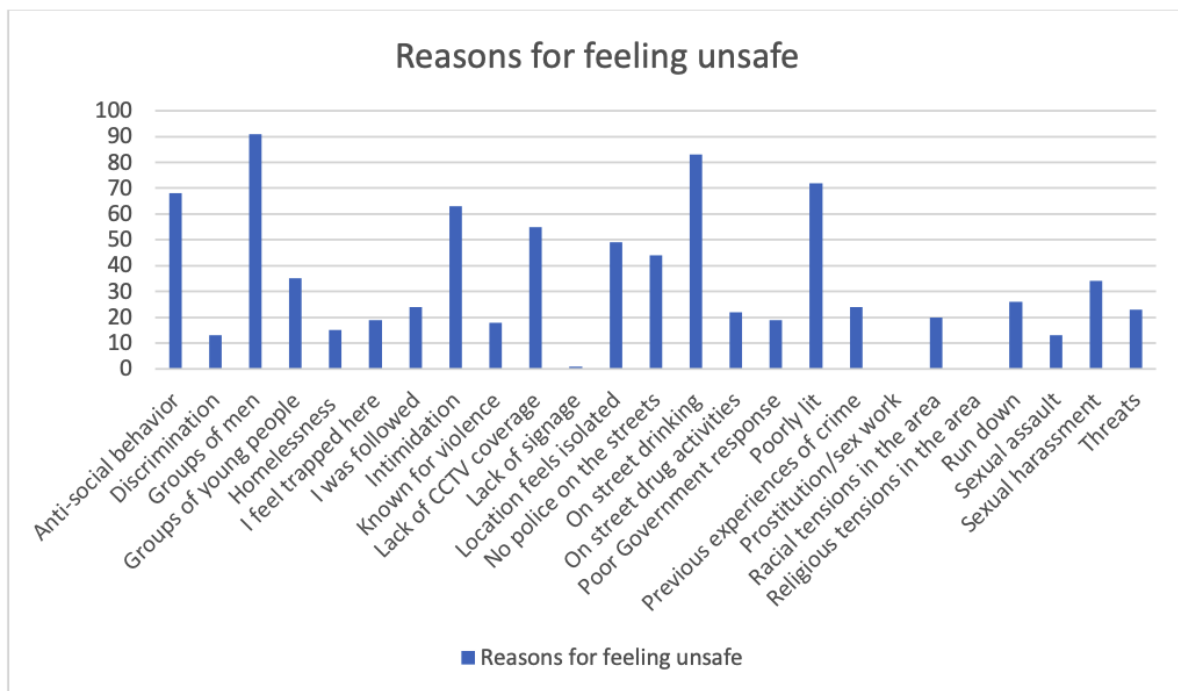
Figure 14: Responses given to question: "Specifically, why do you feel unsafe in this area? Select all that apply."

Over one third of areas where respondents felt unsafe were in St Helier (figs 20 and 21).

60% felt somewhat unsafe and 33% very unsafe at Parade Gardens. Reasons for feeling unsafe were on street drinking (100%), anti-social behaviour (93%) and groups of men (67%).

At Snow Hill, on street drinking was cited by 46% of respondents as a reason for feeling very unsafe (31%) and somewhat unsafe (7%).

At Belmont Rd, on street drinking accounted for 59% of the reason why respondents felt unsafe.

'The men that congregate outside Spearmel Stores, or on the low wall opposite the shop entrance will clearly be drinking spirits or cans and will make vile remarks at women walking past… Women will adjust their route to avoid this corner and shop entrance due to the alcohol consumption and intimidation …'

Figure 20: Overview of hotspots identified by respondents to the safety heatmap.
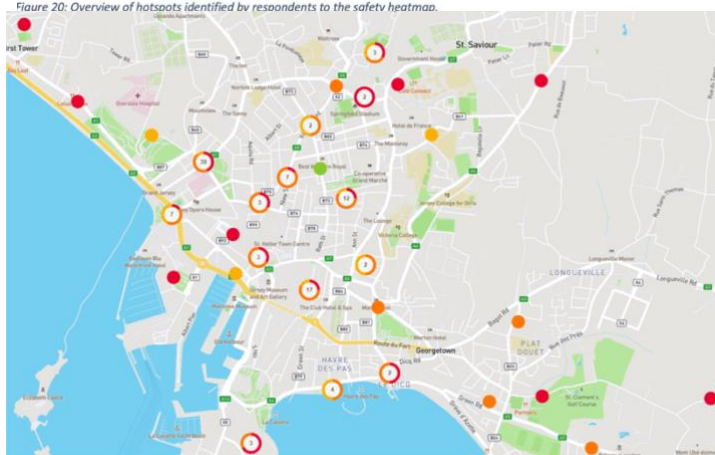
Figure 21: Overview of hotspots in St. Helier identified by respondents to the safety heatmap.

## Eyes on the street. Lighting and the VAWG report

The third highest reason women and girls reported feeling unsafe in the VAWG report was poor lighting (40%). Lighting design in St Helier does need updating, however, public realm research shows that greater impact on feelings of safety often come from 'eyes on the street'. A thriving public realm is busy, friendly and goes hand in hand with a supportive and happy community. Public places that are used and loved by all generations, demographics and communities are safer than those that are not (Gehl, 2010).

What next?

'Involving and listening to communities is paramount when it comes to designing and developing social infrastructure.'   (Barratt, 2023)

The British Academy Social Infrastructure research concluded that accessibility and inclusion are key to strong social infrastructure. As well as physical and financial considerations, psychological barriers are also important in whether a space feels safe and welcoming.

The research stressed the importance of understanding the different purposes that people use social infrastructure for. Simply building new facilities is not enough. Instead, decisionmakers need a deeper understanding of how communities think, feel and live. Allowing for maintenance is part of this.

'If every park had a drop-in centre, there would aways be a queue'   MIND client interview

Conversations with clients at the Jersey mental health charity illustrated human being's natural ability and desire to take care of one another. The emphasis in the public realm needs to be on creating multi-use, multi generation spaces that allow this to happen.

The pop-up perch and park case studies illustrate the impact of community spaces on behaviour. Although temporary and rudimental, they demonstrate that if you give people the spaces they need, not only do they look after them, they look after one another.

4. Spaces for entertainment, culture, and community

Context

'Whenever and wherever societies have flourished and prospered rather than stagnated and decayed, creative and workable cities have been at the core… Decaying cities, decaying economies, and mounting social troubles travel together. The combination is not coincidental.'   Jane Jacobs, 2011

The importance of prioritising streets for people was confirmed by locals in community interviews (chart 7.2, analysis introduction). This is corroborated by local government policies (health, sustainable transport, wellbeing, and island plan) and in the context of global issues such as obesity, poor mental health, loneliness and climate change.

The Jersey Art Strategy observed that although there was relatively good involvement in arts and culture for some, this hid significant levels of no access for others. These consultants observed that 'the voice of young people is not driving development as it should (GoJ 2023). In this chapter we look at attitudes to community, culture and inclusion and their role in creating a thriving public realm.

Access and inclusion

The survey asked how well residents knew their neighbours. Across all 3 languages, the majority knew 1 or 2 neighbours to say hello to and lived in a supportive and friendly community. Only English surveyees reported not knowing their neighbours at all (6%).

Discussing access with schools and youth service, 'having money versus no money' was seen as the biggest barrier to access and inclusion. Students explained the clear divide they saw between things to do if you have money versus if you do not. One 6th former explained that he lived by an M&S out of town, so had no need to go to St Helier.

35% loved the les Quennevais skate park despite not being skaters. 20% of those interviewed didn't have a car or the money to get there.

When discussing access in community interviews, 50% felt greater accessibility for disabled and special needs residents was needed. The second biggest concern (21%) was places to go where you don't have to spend money (chart below).
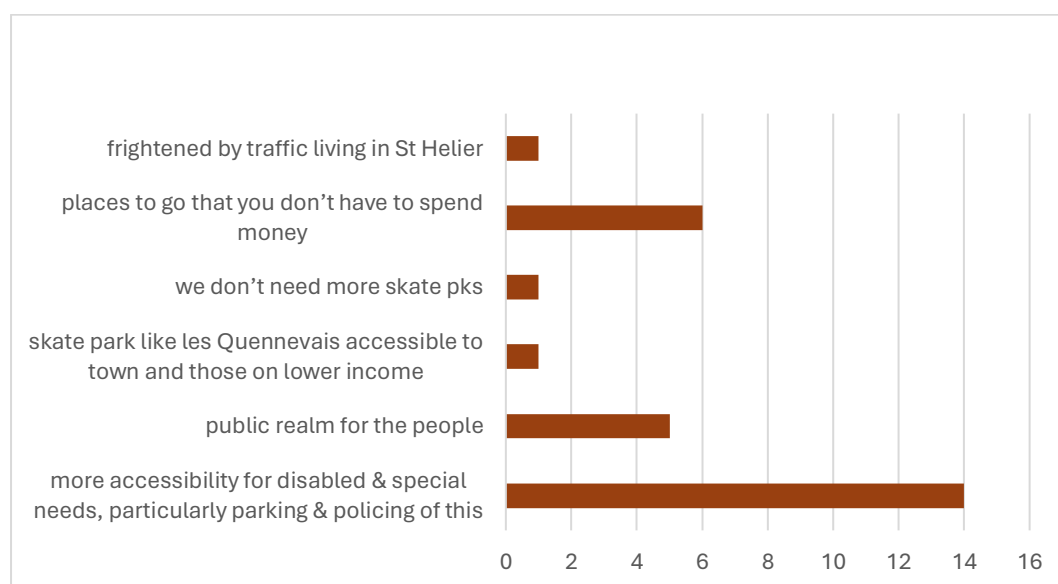
This compares with student interviews where the 3 most cited concerns were:
- Year round, free communal spaces to meet (31%)

- More activities for kids and all ages that don't cost money (19%)
- More and better public green spaces (15%)

Discussing tolerance with community groups, over 21% talked about social mobility barriers and marginalisation.

'I am Portuguese. I have been here for 10 years. I feel I am treated like I am not equal or worse. My Polish friend has left. He has 2 university degrees. He feels he is not treated as equal'.   Jersey resident

Portuguese interviewees observed that many in the Portuguese community do not feel or want to be part of the wider Jersey Community.

Some working with Portuguese communities reported historic rivalry between Portuguese and Madeiran residents. Others felt this divide was created by English speaking residents and that poverty and education were the cause, not nationality. Historic low civic engagement by Portuguese residents was generally felt to be related to being let down by the system, a lack of social equality and poor living conditions of registered residents.

Youth in Jersey

Interviews, discussions and survey

'More entertainment for teens - 20's. These are the people that have been let down'.   Survey respondent

35% of discussions with schools and youth services raised the issue of not enough to do for youth in Jersey (chart below). This is echoed in testimonials from St Helier residents and repeated in many of the survey responses from all generations.

What's it like for you in Jersey? How do you like St Helier?
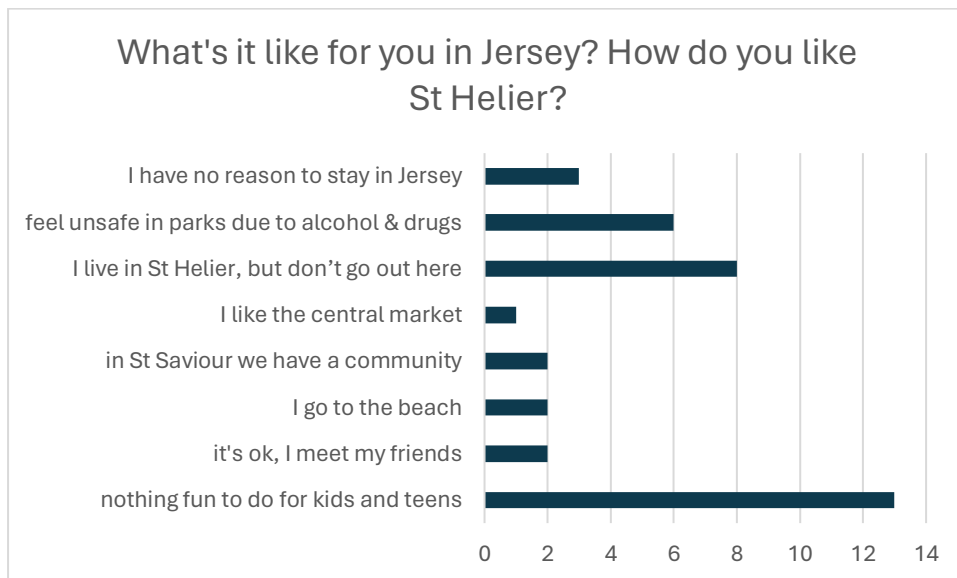
'There is nothing for us to do as St Helier residents at the weekend. We have to take a car and leave town at the weekend. We'd like to do things together in town. We also need to do something for our young people - they will leave and never come back. If the only hope is that they might get a job in finance, then shoot me now.'   Media professional and St Helier resident, 48

'More for young people to do - places to play, exercise and activities to do out of school... Given reports on the health and obesity of young people on the island we need safe spaces for the young to run around, exercise and socialise. Whether this is more playgrounds (or parkour type activities) or just a space for them to kick a football, this must be a priority for the island.'

'I believe that government owned and maintained facilities should be exploited more for the benefit of the community - for example, all school Astro turf facilities should be left open at weekends and summer evenings for general use.'
<div align="right">Survey respondents</div>

Skateparks, sports and playgrounds

'More skateparks. The les Quennevais one is amazing and complete proof of how fantastic these spaces are. I'm a mum and I'm there every day skating with my son who loves it. It's such a community and I've never seen so many parents on boards too! Everyone is so friendly and it's just a lovely atmosphere. More needed please!!! Pref In St Helier and out East.'
<div align="right">Survey respondent</div>

Jersey's first purpose-built skatepark opened at Les Quennevais in February 2023. Many were involved with its co-delivery across government, youth service and community. It cost approximately £1.9m and has widely been regarded as a success on many levels. In particular, in enabling an active, multi-generation community.

Although the park took many years of campaigning, it has led the way for further feasibility work for parks in St Helier and planning permission for an indoor site in a redundant church in St Ouen:

'The skatepark at Quennevais is a good model and this should be replicated in town and elsewhere – I'm not saying simply having more skate parks dotted around - I mean investing and prioritising space and resource to provide high quality facilities for children. For example, for a young person in town, where can they go to play a game of football, or basketball?'

'More and bigger skateparks.'

'Well-lit spaces to hang out, and free sports facilities that appeal to women and girls (ie not football and skateboard). Important to feel safe enough to spend time there.

'I have always skateboarded. The park in the west is great, but St Helier needs something. Even if it's small... just a place to hang with friends from multiple generations and do a common activity. Like the boules players have access to. Maybe even as part of a community garden where we can grow things, and have mini live music nights, and generally socialise and feel free. A garden, with access to an activity which gives me reason to be there.'

'There should be improved facilities for children and young people of all ages - not just a few playgrounds.'

'Traffic / parking free area for young children to play/ scoot.'
<div align="right">Survey responders</div>

Cultural events and alcohol

'We need to provide other things to do that don't involve booze. I have a bit of a problem with alcohol. There are very few public spaces, where we don't have to buy things. If the only public infrastructure where you can go and meet is a pub, you'll buy booze. We need to offer and support more contemporary culture, rather than events that are just a piss up.'
<div align="right">University student</div>

Drinking in Jersey remained higher than in the UK between 2000 and 2022. In 2022, alcohol consumption was 12 litres per capita (litres of pure alcohol per person over 15 years of age). In the UK it is 11.4. In 2022, 15% of all recorded crimes, 32% of assaults and almost one in four offences in St Helier's night-time economy involved alcohol.

For many interviewees from primary school age to the elderly, a desire for cultural events not involving alcohol was a priority:

'Accessible Arts, more dancing and not drink related. Islandness being a part of it - music, pop up festivals, accessing more islanders. More like Lunar New Year and the build-up to a celebration, dancing in town, seating in the markets, more areas people can go for cultural experiences and celebrating our diverse population'. Earthworks workshop attendee, 39

'I'd love to see more travelling exhibitions… often events are financed by alcohol sales e.g. Havre des Pas Festival. I'm not T-total but am sick of drunken aggression and horrible behaviour and how it pushes out families from enjoying spaces.'

'Jèrriais signage, poetry, words, ditons … recognition of Jersey's literature'.

'Events that don't necessarily revolve around drinking. We live in an island and it's expensive to get off… so community and events is so important! Would love to see more active spaces - climbing/bouldering, free camping/overnight spaces, enjoying Jersey's outdoor spaces and updating its indoor ones.' Survey respondents

Delivering events in the public realm

'People can feel isolated and compartmentalised in the spaces we have. I'd like to see more spontaneity, more enjoying outdoor living, more dancing on the street'. Government employee

Currently all busking licences and public events need approval from the Bailiff's Panel. This process currently does not seek consultation from cultural organisations. The public realm research (Gibb 2022) and the pilot highlight the value of all public realm stakeholders being involved in delivering relevant public realm. 2023 discussions revealed an appetite from residents for government and parish to take a more enabling and commissioning role, rather than the lead on community events:

'(We need) the best legal and compliance support for any event… Clear and well governed grants process based on merit and understandable criteria. Easy to obtain temporary events license. Basically, make it easy for people then see what needs to be done, therefore depoliticise art and culture.' English surveyee

'More outdoor space for entertainment/ performance and encourage it more. People have more rights to stop it than to start it. Ease up on al fresco eating - be more like St Malo in Royal Sq. Sort the market out - open in the evening.' Lé Galvaûdeux print workshop

'…open the central market one evening a month, with live cooking of local produce and live music. I live in St Helier and know it would be packed. Along the walk to St Aubin, I think there should be music, food, blankets, something to get people walking and outdoors.' St Helier resident

The pop-up perch and park case studies have illustrated the importance of community ownership and pride in creating a thriving and functioning public realm. For this to happen, the space and what goes on there needs to reflect its community:

'I'd love there to be more communal cultural events regardless of subject. I think (this is from a relatively uncultured outsider) that Jersey really lacks in its cultural arts game and that with a bit of imagination, certain public spaces in town could be used for all sorts of exhibitions and events either about Jersey, people who live here, discussions and debates or food or whatever really! It would be amazing to see free events in town for people to be inspired.'

'more festivals - Jersey needs to focus on its heritage (knitting, Jersey cows, Jersey Royals), its world class food (sea food, Royals again) and the creativity of its young people.'

'Town is like a graveyard at night. More needs to be put on to encourage people there - shops open in the evening, no cost parking, music, street entertainment.'

'We really enjoyed the Sundays when they made Waterworks Valley traffic free. Maybe more areas could be considered so people explore what is available rather than saying there is nothing to do.' English surveyees

Art as a common language

'Portuguese communities love to knit and crochet. Do this'. Portuguese resident, 49

The Government Art Strategy 2022-27 warns that relatively good engagement with the arts for some, hides significant levels of little or no access for others. It reports that 'the voice of young people is not driving development as it should' (GoJ 2022d). Cultural inequality has already been highlighted by residents in terms of access.

The pilot has shown the success of the pop-up spaces in enabling meaningful public engagement, uniting demographics and overcoming language barriers. We will look at 2 further case studies that enabled this through art workshops and events:

Art workshops and event case studies

1. Lé Galvaûdeux (the gallivanter or wanderer in Jèrriais).

Lé Galvaûdeux was a public art commission that developed from understanding the importance of active public space and walking for wellbeing. The result was a walk by artist Tim le Breuilly illustrated by Marc Medland that aimed to bring back the joy of discovery and walking in St Helier. It inspired walkers to see the town through new eyes and all wanderers were encouraged to sketch, write, film or record their experiences and post to Instagram.

Tim was inspired by the ideas of the 1960's French philosopher and filmmaker Guy Debord, The Situationists and the KLF:

'The Situationists were interested in reclaiming public space and finding new ways for people to experience the streets. Favoured techniques were to place a symbol over a map and then attempt to walk the symbol, or to attempt to navigate a city using a map of another city. Thinking about walking in this way can make it more ritualised. Robert Macfarlane refers to 'the thinking footfall - encouraging us to savour the moment, finding pleasure in the act of walking more slowly.'

Wanderers could take the walk at any time or join the artist for a guided walk. Tim held a free print workshop for all ages and abilities. This was an important opportunity to chat about ideas and aspirations for Jersey's public space.

What happened

- The walk explored parts of St Helier that many locals admitted to not having known existed.
- Most residents took the walk multiple times, taking dogs or introducing other walkers.
- Hundreds of artworks were inspired by Lé Galvaûdeux, leading to public exhibitions at The Horizon pop up gallery at the Waterfront and in empty shops in the High St.
- The work it inspired included poetry, photography, painting, etching, film and collage. One photographer exhibited over 200 images.
- Over 50 residents from 7 to 70 took part in the artist-led walk and workshop. Many more took the walk unguided or saw the work it inspired either online or exhibited in shop windows.
- Public engagement – locals contributed to the Public Voice: Common Ground research through the workshop, walk, social media and exhibitions. One 7-year-old boy told us he felt 'they never build things that are suitable for the island'.
- The findings provided a unique understanding of what mattered to the community.

Public Voice: Common Ground
LÉ GALVAÛDEUX

(the gallivanter or wanderer)

A walk for everyone created by Tim Le Breuilly
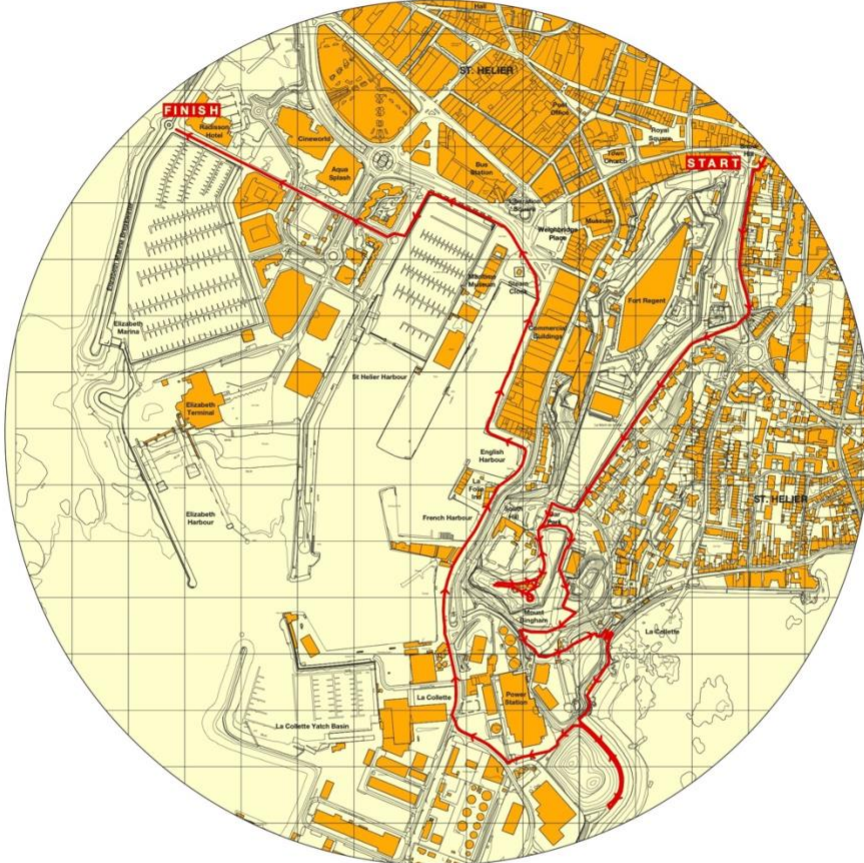
① Discover St Helier

Follow the route on the map and see St Helier with new eyes. The walk is 3 miles and takes around an hour. Digital map at www.publicvoicecommonground.co.uk events page.

Join the Lé Galvaûdeux wanderers and share your discoveries on instagram mentioning @publicvoicecommonground and @ludditepressci with the hashtag #legalvaudeux.

We urge you to record what only you notice through sketches, drawings, photos and recordings (visit Le Galvaudeux highlights at publicvoicecommonground for inspiration).

② Walk with Tim le Breuilly

Thurs 28 Sept, 5.30pm – 7.00pm

Start: 5.30pm pop-up park, Weighbridge Place
End: 7.00pm pop-up gallery, Horizon Building (opposite Cineworld)

③ Free pop-up print workshop

Sat 14 Oct, 10.00am – 2.00pm

Join us at a pop-up exhibition of some of the Lé Galvaûdeux highlights at the Horizon building. Share your thoughts on creating a St Helier where we all want to live and join Tim and Luddite Press for a free drop-in print workshop. All welcome.

Contact us at
www.publicvoicecommonground.co.uk
for more details.

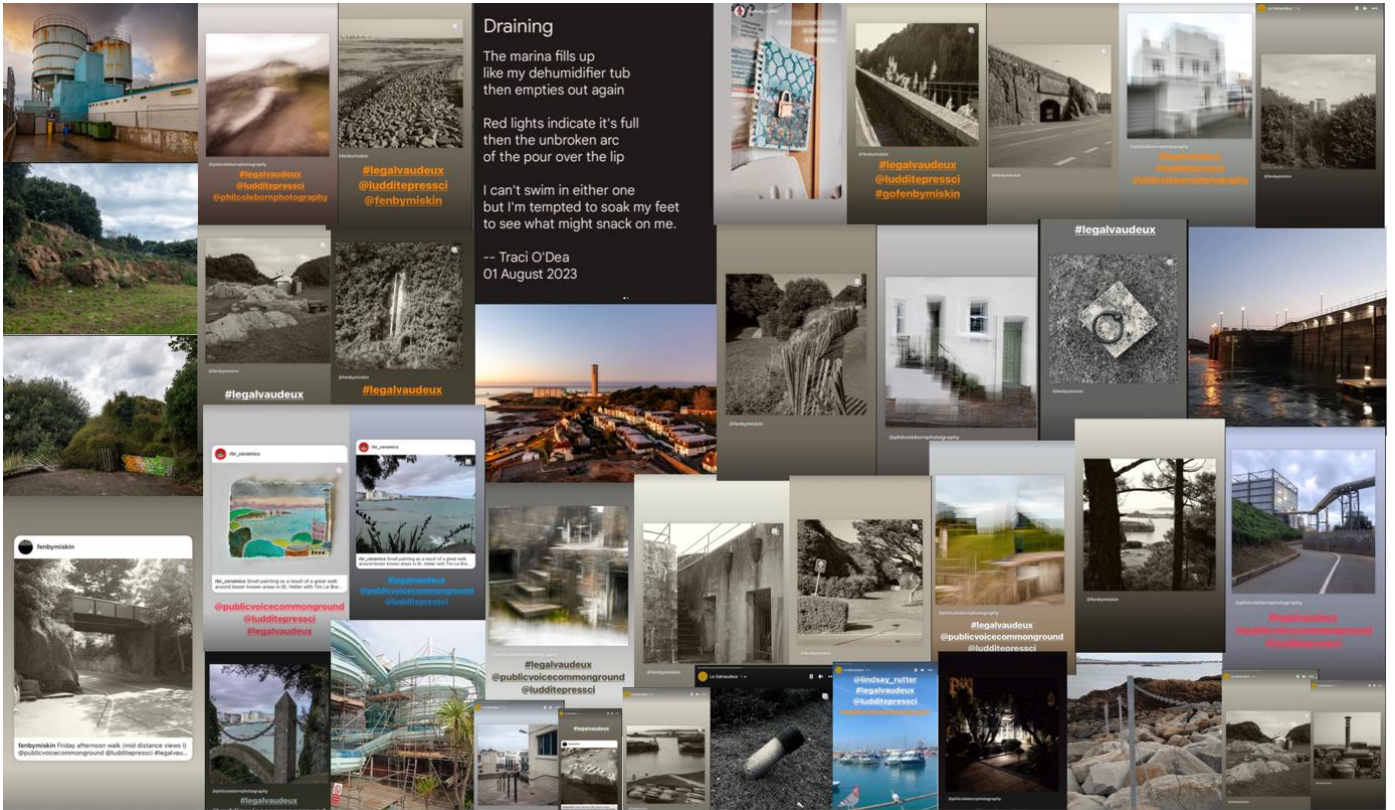Public Voice: Common Ground

Your voice matters

Tim le Breuilly at the Lé Galvaûdeux print workshop at the pop up studio, JDC's Horizon East, The Waterfront.

Some of the work posted to Instagram inspired by lé Galvaûdeux.
Lé Galvaûdeux artist-led walk

2. Earthworks

'Some families stayed all afternoon. Those with little or no English stayed the longest'.

Earthworks workshop facilitator

Earthworks was a series of free public engagement workshops designed to gather rich data regarding public realm improvement. The workshops were led by London artist Jo Pearl and Public Voice: Common Ground in partnership with Jersey Development Company, Creative Island Partnership and Government of Jersey.

Jo's previous career as architectural PR at Norman Foster and Partners gave her an important understanding of the role public engagement plays in creating a sense of place. Jo worked alongside local potters and the Jersey community to create a clayscape of a St Helier where they all wanted to live. Participants spent time thinking, discussing and modelling their ideas in clay. This resulted in a level of understanding that could not be achieved by survey alone.

What happened?

- Over 160 islanders took part in the Earthworks workshops.
- All ages and demographics came together in a large tent in the pop-up park.
- With art as the common language, all participants were able to communicate on an equal footing.
- Many residents stayed for hours. This enabled a depth of understanding that would not have been possible through survey method alone.
- Facilitators observed that those with the least English stayed the longest.
- The workshops resulted in a ladar recording of the model, interviews, film, and photography.
- It led to further clay workshops by Jersey artists and a proposal for a community pottery studio.
- The workshops and pop-up park were funded by Jersey Development Company
- The clay was donated to Highlands College, Harbour Gallery, local artists and potters and new enthusiasts.

The consultant believes creating a public environment with art as a common language (i.e., food, dance, music, visual art) is one way of addressing cultural inequality, bringing life back to the public realm and bringing communities closer together.

What next?

The success of the St Helier's 'Dreaming Trees' at Howard Davis Park is testament to the impact of inspiring, accessible, free, art events in the public realm. Bruce Labey, Parks and Gardens explained the delight of putting on an outdoor event in February, in the dark and drizzle that drew 30,000 residents. Co-delivered by government with business sponsorship, the free event is now in its second year and attracts all generations. It takes place over half term, includes education packs for schools and a quieter night for neurodiverse residents.

The event is magical, educational and entirely Jersey-centric. Residents talk of the excitement of getting dressed up to go out in the dark, seeing what they know in a new context and coming together with all demographics.

When preparing for 'Film at the Perch' one of the producers worried about potential complaints regarding film audio. As a result, the screening finished by 9.30pm and neighbours were invited well in advance. There were no complaints. Some neighbours opened windows and moved furniture to enjoy the show from sitting rooms on the first floor.

Global art consultant Tom Fleming compares the island of Malta with Jersey. Although Malta has its own transport and infrastructure problems, the community's relationship with the street is different. As with many Mediterranean towns, roads are regularly closed for festas and religious celebrations. Residents in Jersey talk about a desire for more life on the street and an easing of the controls that prevent this. Reclaiming the streets for people and creating public spaces where all can come together will require conscious commitment to enable this across public realm stakeholders. This will involve a change in priorities, systems, and distribution of control currently in place.

Residents have pointed out the impossibility of pleasing everyone at once. Engaging the public in the process whether events or installation planning is not only polite, it generally creates greater tolerance and less misunderstanding. This in turn leads to events that are successful and more fun for more people. Inclusive cultural events and activities are a vital element in all happy communities.

Delivery

The final survey question asked residents about delivery and funding. 85% of English-speaking surveyees, 78% Polish and 80% Portuguese believed this was the Government's responsibility (chart below).

If there was an accountable organisation whose role it was to listen to community needs and improve public spaces for those that live, work and visit, how should this be financed. Tick all those you think apply:

Answered: 1,350   Skipped: 32
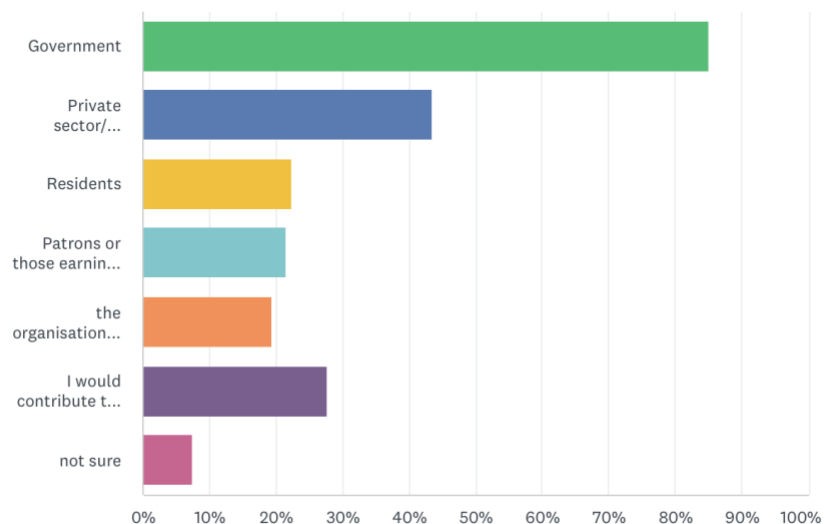
However, this question prompted 228 additional comments. These fell into 5 codes of government, parish, partnership, business and community. Here are some from each theme, see appendix 1 for a larger data set:

Government and Parish:

'If it's used by the general public, then it should be state funded.'

'Should be set up as social enterprise with support from parish'.

'Isn't this the government and Parish's job?'

Partnership:

'Any organisation would need a blend of the above, we cannot expect any one sector to truly represent or deliver what islanders need and want. Ideally these areas should become the responsibility of those who live and use them, an asset-based community development would probably give the best results. I'm not sure Jersey is able to do this as we have seen huge migration in and out of the island and I'm not sure if anyone really feels they own the space.'

'I think a public-private partnership would be a good idea, as it would be able to bring the interests of the residents to the forefront of government work. I think it would be useful to have the support of the private sector, and to be engaged with the needs of local businesses and industry.'

Business:

'Private business should have a clause whereby they do not pay corporation tax but have to contribute to the island in a cultural way - decided by a culture panel of residents or they have to contribute to some way of greening the island.'

Community:

'Everyone should contribute - that's what makes community.'

'Everyone should contribute to make the island better. I particularly like the idea of communities/residents contributing as it gives them a stake and a reason to use the space and keep it looking nice if in their area. '

What next?

Although it was felt that government and parish clearly have funding responsibilities, multiple stakeholders are affected by decisions concerning the public realm. Both the public engagement analysis and the co-delivery model of the pilot illustrate that this should not be delivered by one sector alone.

Assets and a shared vision

Government funding for the pilot was double matched by business and third sector funding, pro-bono expertise and volunteers. The pilot offered value to stakeholders, rather than relying on government funding alone. Many stakeholders worked for free in the interest of enabling long term change. This is not sustainable, however, achieved the objective of 'illustrating what is possible'.

Public Voice: Common Ground was a co-delivery model that relied on partnerships, individuals, and organisations. Cash was not the only asset. As well as cash, the assets leveraged by partners included expertise, marketing, connection, venues, materials and time. The pilot relied on having the right people involved, with a shared vision.

The co-delivery model not only delivered better results, it delivered superior value for money to government, business and community.

Challenges and opportunities

Islandness and the Parish System

Historically, the Jersey parish system has been important for sense of place, identity, representation in the States and the Island's power structure (Hargreaves, 2023). Kelleher describes the Parishes as Jersey's 'institutional lynchpin, retaining power in the 19th century in a society that was intellectually and culturally weak… small, previously isolated and ill prepared for cultural onslaught' (1994). The 2022 Island Plan sets out a new settlement hierarchy which 'better recognises and responds to the scale and character of different places' (GoJ, 2022b).

Hargreaves points out that for many, parish and community are seen as the same thing. In this research, most islanders used 'town' when referring to St Helier, rather than a parish within it. A new focus on co-operation and shared vision between Parish of St Helier and Government of Jersey will have a positive impact on the community, public realm and infrastructure.

Civic engagement

Jersey's overall Better Life Index 2021 was 6.4 (out of 10), ranking 24 out of 41 nations, below the OECD average, the UK and France. On both a national and regional level, Jersey ranked bottom for civic engagement. The Public Realm methodology focused on engaging all communities and worked with community ambassadors to enable this. Most ambassadors shared how challenging they found this. Rebuilding trust on an island scale is beyond the scope of this pilot. However, arm's length organisations and charities are already working at developing better relations with specific groups. Listening *and* delivering is key to maintaining trust. Enabling inclusive events and a more relevant public realm are a key part in bringing communities together and enabling better civic engagement.

Systems

Research for the FT illustrates concern with UK public sector systems and their ability to deliver (Harford, 2023). HBR discusses the scale of system challenges. It puts a figure of 94% on systemic problems in organisational and management practices, rather than problems caused by individuals (Prasiova, 2023). Inefficient and out of date systems are a universal problem. Creating systems that enable rather than stifle individuals, entrepreneurs and the human spirit will ultimately lead to more activity in the public realm. This is a global issue and was a theme throughout the Jersey research.

Partners and supporters

Public Voice: Common Ground was a co-delivery model that relied on partnerships, individuals, and organisations. As well as cash, the assets leveraged included expertise, marketing, connection, venues, materials, and time. The pilot relied on having the right people involved, with a shared vision.

It has been a pleasure working with you. Thank you all.

With particular thanks to:

Thomas Glover, Sean Madden, Kate Wright, Paul Milbank, Alec Gibb, Billy Gibb, Antony Gibb, Heather Lamy, Bruce Labey, Kevin Keen, Steven Jackson, Kate Marsden, Tim le Breuilly, Lindsay Rutter, Rod Bryans, Ed Sallis, Matt Ryan, Sheena Brockie, Michael Viera and Marc Medland.

Photography by Rod Bryans
Public Voice: Common Ground and Lé Galvaûdeux maps by Marc Medland

From words to action

The analysis illustrates the impact of a thriving public realm – on the economy, the environment and society.

Key reflections

Public engagement:

- Giving a voice to the Jersey community illustrates the priorities regarding public realm improvement.
- The work corroborates the findings of GoJ's St Helier Open Space Audit. It further illustrates what these public spaces might look like and what they need to achieve.
- It shows the importance of asking the right questions and involving the right team in creating a solution.
- It supports the need for better commissioning – based on problem solving, not on solving problems that might not exist.
- This model has delivered bespoke public engagement for St Helier. It illustrates the importance of diverse public engagement and is suitable for scaling and delivery elsewhere.
- The research shows divergent views and the need for different spaces – some to bring islanders together, some for reflection, some with dogs, some without, the need to enable active travel, as well as access for reduced mobility.
- It has shown the value of temporary intervention and start-up methodology in illustrating what's possible, gathering public opinion and creating case studies.

Co-creation:

- Basing public realm decisions on specific public engagement makes investment by private and public sectors less risky. Delivery is quicker, cheaper, and more likely to hit the mark.
- Public realm is about people - improvement cannot be based on one perspective.
- Managing diverse teams and cross-sector collaboration is not always easy and requires specific communication techniques.
- True collaboration takes time, trust and sometimes cultural change.
- Understanding multiple local viewpoints in the context of global issues and research from urban living experts has illuminated Jersey potential to lead the way in public realm improvement methods.

Behaviour

The case studies recorded impacts on behaviour. These include:
- The importance of rigorous public engagement as a basis for public realm intervention.
- The link between safe, green, accessible public space and health and wellbeing in St Helier.
- The relevance of a thriving public realm and 'eyes on the street' to perceptions of safety.
- The value of accessible, multi-generation events.
- When you listen and you give people the spaces they need, not only do they look after the public realm, they look after one another.

Lessons learnt:

- *Data analysis* The right data analysis partners are vital in delivering rigorous analysis. Working with JCRT has been a key part of this pilot. Partnerships with the Institute for Sustainability, University of Surrey and the Knowledge Transfer Partnership are being explored for future projects.
- *Communication* The value of consistent, specific communication across media, partners and public. Reliable marketing partners – for example, National Trust for Jersey sharing the survey with their database resulted in nearly 250 survey responses in one day.
- *Change management* Basing decisions on a diverse perspective may appear risky and to involve less control by some currently making decisions. More work is still needed in some sectors.

What's needed as a result?

- Relevant and specific public realm engagement.
- Decisions based on a diverse perspective.
- Allowing community needs to impact decision making at a higher level will enable better outcomes and may involve a change in mindset.
- Co-operation between sectors.
- Experts with global expertise working with local knowledge and perspective to deliver the best outcome for Jersey's people.

References

Arts Council England (2022). Arts, culture and wellbeing. Available at: https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/developing-creativity-and-culture/arts-culture-and-wellbeing

Arup (2022). Jersey public realm and movement strategy: How can we reduce carbon emissions through smart street design? Available at: https://www.arup.com/projects/public-realm-and-movement-strategy-for-st-helier jersey#:~:text=Arup%20has%20supported%20the%20development%20of%20a%20Public,healthy%20streetscap e%2C%20delivered%20over%20the%20next%2010%20years

Douglas, K. and Douglas, J. (2021). Green spaces aren't just for nature – they boost our mental health too. New Scientist (24 March 2021) Available at: https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg24933270-800-green-spaces-arent-just-for-nature-they-boost-our-mental-health-too/#ixzz7WCLD5Bue

Figueiredo. P (2022) Taking Back São Paulo's Streets, One Sunday at a Time. Next City, available online at: https://nextcity.org/urbanist-news/taking-back-saeo-paulos-streets-one-sunday-at-a-time

Gehl J (2010) Cities for People. Island Press

Gibb. S. (2023) Public Voice: Common Ground at 'Placemaking in Practice', British-Irish Council, Cardiff, 2023 available at: https://blog.gov.je/2023/09/19/public-voice-common-ground-at-placemaking-in-practice-british-irish-council-cardiff-2023/

Gibb. S. (2022) A consultancy proposal to improve Jersey's public realm through sustainable partnership with the arts. Available on request

Gov.UK (2022) Business Improvement Districts: Information and guidance on Business Improvement Districts. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/business-improvement-districts

Government of Jersey (2018). St. Helier open space: Audit summary. July 2018. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Planning%20and%20building/R%20St%20Helier%20Open%20Spac e%20Audit%20ND.pdf

Government of Jersey (2021a). Jersey better life index 2021. Statistics Jersey. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/R%20JerseyBetterLifeInde x%2020220412%20SJ.pdf

Government of Jersey (2021b). Indicators of Deprivation by Parish Vingtaines: covid recovery insights project. Statistics Jersey. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/R%20Census%202021% 20Indicators%20of%20Deprivation%20Report%2020221213%20SJ.pdf

Government of Jersey (2021c). St Helier public realm and movement strategy: Stage 3 report. March 2021. Available at: https://www9.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Planning%20and%20building/R%20St%20Helier%20Public%20Re alm%20and%20Movement%20Strategy%20-%20Stage%203%20Report%20ARUP.pdf

Government of Jersey (2022a). A heritage strategy for Jersey 2022 – 27. Government of Jersey, May 2022.

Government of Jersey (2022b). Bridging island plan. March 2022 – 2025. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Planning%20and%20building/P%20Bridging%20Island%20Plan.pdf

Government of Jersey (2022c). Carbon neutral roadmap. 10 March 2022. Available at: https://statesassembly.gov.je/AssemblyPropositions/2022/P.74-2022.pdf

Government of Jersey (2022d). The creative island – an arts strategy for Jersey 2022 – 27. Government of Jersey March 2022. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/ID%20Jersey%20Arts%20Strategy%20Consultation%20Paper.pdf

Government of Jersey (2022e). Vehicle transport statistics. Available at: https://www.gov.je/government/jerseyinfigures/traveltransport/pages/vehicletransport.aspx

Government of Jersey (2023). Proposed Government Plan 2024-27. Sept 2023. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/Government%20Plan%202024%20to%202027.pdf

Government of Jersey (2023) Alcohol Profile 2022. Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance Report. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/Alcohol%20Profile%202022.pdf

Harford T (2023) The data confirms we're stuck in a 'doom loop'. Tim Harford November 10 2023, Undercover Economist, 14/ 11/23 13.00 available at: https://www.ft.com/content/962c3194-4ac4-468d-bf1a-7c62abc8a401

Hargreaves P (2023) Jersey Parishes, Iconography and Island Senses of Place — Shima (ISSN: 1834-6057) Available at: https://www.shimajournal.org/article/10.21463/shima.185#gsc.tab=0

Healthy Streets (2022). Healthy streets design check England. September 2021. Available at: https://www.healthystreets.com/resources#healthy-streets-index (Accessed 23.8.22).

Hill. D. (2020). Slowdown landscapes: One-minute city—fifteen-minute city. Slowdown Papers. No 36. Sept 24, 2020. Available at: https://medium.com/slowdown-papers/35-slowdown-patterns-one-minute-city-fifteen-minute-city-5bfeeaaff01e

Jacobs. J. (2011). The death and life of great American cities. 50th Anniversary Edition. New York: Modern Library

Barratt. L (2023) 'Social Infrastructure' in two minutes. The British Academy. Available online at: https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/blog/social-infrastructure-in-two-minutes/

McLoughlin, R. (2022). Plan to double Town Park back on agenda. Jersey Evening Post, 23 July 2022, p. 2.

Place Making Europe (2022). Company website available at: https://placemaking-europe.eu/explore/

Public Voice: Common Ground (2023-34) website and social media sites: https://linktr.ee/publicvoice?utm_source=linktree_profile_share

Rogers, R. and Gumuchdjian, P. (1997): Cities for a small planet. London: Faber and Faber.

Shenton B (2023) We're on the road to nowhere... Jersey Evening Post, 11.23. available at: https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7130446714653560832/

Statistics Jersey (2019). Jersey resident population: 2019 estimate. Government of Jersey website. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/R%20Population%20Estimate%20Current%2020180620%20SU.pdf

Statistics Jersey (2021). Census 2021: Bulletin 1, population characteristics. Government of Jersey.

The Taskforce on Violence against Women and Girls (2023) It's a Hidden Problem: the issue of violence against women and girls in Jersey. Government of Jersey. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Caring%20and%20support/VAWG%20Taskforce%20Report.pdf

UD/MH - Centre for Urban Design and Mental Health (2022). Designing mental health into cities. Available at: https://www.urbandesignmentalhealth.com

Willie Miller Urban Design (2021). St Helier urban character appraisal review: 2021. Available at: https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Planning%20and%20building/R%20St%20Helier%20Urban%20Character%20Appaisal%20Review%202021%20WMUD.pdf

Appendices

Public survey, question 12, how should this be financed?

If there was an accountable organisation whose role it was to listen to community needs and improve public spaces for those that live, work and visit, how should this be financed?

Further community testimonials from the 5 key themes:

Relevant outliers

'Someone who listens.'

'If facilities are wonderful and successful, this a virtuous circle of finance and happiness!'

Government responsibility

'Majority government funding. If the organisation is improving standards of living through better provision of public services, then this should be financed by those who the public pay taxes towards. '

'Green bond, issued by gov and invested in by the public.'

'The government should spend more on the things that residents want, instead of things that they do not want or need like IFC6 and more office buildings.'

'Isn't the purpose of relevant government depts to listen to community needs and improve public spaces where they live work and visit ?'

'Government financed arms-length organisation.'

'The Government should have overall responsibility for this and act as a co-ordinating role for the whole island and work with organisations such as Heritage/The National Trust/Charities and Youth organisations etc. The Government should ensure that income is available though tax revenue from Companies based in Jersey and High net worth individuals coming to the Island.'

'A public realm improvement programme should be driven by Government's planning which is coupled with a funding stream from developer contributions, parish buy in and an option of crowdfunding to offer additional support. A partnership board should be set up with an MOU of how to work and how funding will be assessed and spent. The accountable organisation whose role it is to listen to community needs is the Government, we shouldn't be setting up additional bodies or organisations without looking at where the responsibility is at first and looking to improve that through better partnership working.'

'Government should fund it, but if it meant lots of government involvement + bureaucracy that slowed down the process maybe alternative funding should be looked at.'

'If course if tax was being used for this, that would be great. But at the end of the day, the government and those who are well off should really do more to make the island better. They're the ones with the most power to change things.'

'Ratepayers money should fund this type of organisation.'

'I think it's really important for government buy-in, both in terms of long-term strategy and consistency, and to feed into wider planning decisions. So perhaps community champions on a government board but accountability still sits with government.'

'Replace percentage for Art with percentage for trees/environment. Percentage for art is elitist and of no interest/recreational benefit to those most in need.'

'Should be by government grant with no strings attached so that there is no political or patronal influence. Stop hitting the relatively well off for everything - we've worked very hard for what we've got!'

'Government should be in charge of it and provide the baseline funding and administration of staff and equipment, but there should be a campaign to encourage private sector/business to sponsor outdoor events, community facilities and exhibitions.'

'The government should see it as an opportunity to create better, cross-cultural, inspiring events. Workshops (find someone's talent), debates (have important conversations), presentations (give someone who might be lonely a chance to meet other people and become part of a community). Honestly, the benefits are actually infinite and I struggle to see any downside apart From the fact that you can't please everybody. Who's to say that the people who attend these kinds of events won't end up taking up a new skill that ends with them being employed by the states of jersey? Don't jus look at the bottom line, there and countless hidden benefits here.'

'I think this really should be the core responsibility of the planning dept and the responsible ministers (planning, infrastructure, housing etc) - if government's role is not to listen to and respond to the needs of the community, what is it?'

'Definitely government, this will benefit all islanders and the government. The more we interact and have things to engage and inspire use to get out and about the economy and the healthcare system will benefit.'

'Government are the obvious answer but sadly they are followers not leaders.'

'Financed it needs to remain accessible for all so Government needs to support the financial side. But a diverse group representing the community should lead and ensure vision development and implementation, not just Government for that.'

'If it's used by the general public, then it should be state funded.'

Parish

'This is what the Parishes and Government is responsible and should be accountable for.'

'Surely, we should have this already within the parishes? If not then that's where I think it should sit. For St Helier improvements the other 11 parishes also making a financial contribution. St Helier Parishioners should not solely finance improvements. Jersey Development Company should definitely contribute and perhaps businesses making huge profits could contribute or sponsor certain areas.'

'Should be set up as social enterprise with support from parish'.

'Each parish should be responsible for providing bus shelters where possible, to encourage people to use public transport rather than drive into St Helier. The same applies to setting up picnic facilities in coastal areas near to where there are public toilets available.'

'Government don't have funds or resource to deliver , they have more important priorities. The parishes should lead on this.'

'All the parishes should contribute to it all in St Helier. We ratepayers always shoulder the cost despite everyone benefiting.'

'isn't this the government's and Parish' job?'

'It depends on the purpose of the organisation. Government would probably do better to have committees for each department that ensure that community needs are incorporated into all future decision making (rather than rely on isolated ministerial decision-making followed by half-hearted scrutiny). I also think that there is space for CSOs and / or parish groups to take responsibility for certain spaces (relying on a mix of Gov / parish funds, as well as the option of generating its own revenue) to manage and help create some of these public spaces in a way that encourages community-wide participation and VFM.'

'Parishes- funded by saving money by centralising services like rubbish collection and issuing driving licenses etc that could be more efficiently provided by one central authority'.

A partnership

'It has to be a combination working together with a single vision.'

'Combination of the above with the responsibility of delivery sitting with a new organisation which draws funding from most appropriate sources dependent on each aspect of the project.'

'Any organisation would need a blend of the above, we cannot expect any one sector to truly represent or deliver what islanders need and want. ideally these areas should become the responsibility of those who live and use them, to use an American term, asset based community development would probably give the best results, I'm not sure Jersey is able to do this as we have seen a huge migration in and out of the island and I'm not sure if anyone really feel that they own the space.'

'I think a public-private partnership would be a good idea, as it would be able to bring the interests of the residents to the forefront of government work. I think it would be useful to have the support of the private sector, and to be engaged with the needs of local businesses and industry.'

'Perhaps a collaboration between parish neighbourhood associations and government with room for private funding / fundraising to beautify and improve local areas for all residents.'

'To make the island a better place to live it should be financed by government but have independent residents involved. Some sort of resident contribution would be acceptable.'

'Combined approach that uses the public purse but includes sponsorship from corporate sponsors.'

'A financial 'Green' purse to be regulated and funded by all above who are willing to contribute.'

'Blended finance, with transparent governance.'

'Mixed funding would work well with the Government providing the seed funding which could be matched by private sector/business/patrons etc.'

'A combination of the above. Everyone already contributes to government finances which should provide the bulk of such funding BUT users of public spaces could also make additional contributions when using a public space. I would also suggest that government employees themselves may not automatically be the most appropriate for such an organisation.'

'Social enterprise working with government- self-sustaining but accepts charitable donations and government funding.'

'Anyone that has a vested interest in making the island better.'

'All of the above, to varying degrees, as part of our community.'

'Independent organisation similar to ArtHouse / NTJ with some government support, some individual backing and private sector sponsorship. I think the organisation could be concerned with Design for Community and Planning'.

I think if this were to be successful long term, I feel as many people from all areas would be able to chip in that would act like a safety cushion   Everyone can benefit from this regardless of background:)'

'I think many firms here make an incredible profit and don't give enough back to community (bar employment etc), and this could be a tighter ruling to help the island more. Government are ultimately responsible to help this. I'd happily contribute time, and some funding, but it should be a large community involved project.'

Business responsibility

'Private business should have a clause whereby they do not pay corporation tax but have to contribute to the island in a cultural way- decided by a culture panel of residents or they have to contribute to some way of greening the island.'

'Andium'.

'It could be funded by construction firms as part of their percentage for art commitment and supported by the States for upkeep.'

'The super-rich who come to live here should be paying much more into the community if they want the privilege of living here. So should the finance companies. It's all out of proportion.'

'There are so many volunteer organisations and businesses with 'corporate social responsibility' commitments that it should be no problem for these spaces to be maintained. Incoming wealthy residents should be required to adopt public spaces for a fixed amount per annum. Most contribute very little to daily island life and community wellbeing.'

'These costs should not be paid for by the general public, the private business sector and privileged HNW individuals should contribute much more to this island, and this would be a way for them to do that and show some investment in their surroundings.'

'Percentage for Art schemes seem like a good idea. Are they working? Could there be something like a Percentage for Public Space scheme to make sure that each time someone manages to take something that was previously of benefit to the wider community- ie the sale of a church, or sale of land that was otherwise formerly in public use, that individual has to give something back, which is of equal benefit to the community... by financing a renovation, or investing in sport/art, creating a grant, some kind of valuable contribution to reflect what has been lost.'

Community

'All the people in jersey.'

'Everyone should contribute that's what makes community.'

'It should be joint between everyone who lives here to have pride in their island. In the last couple of decades, it has got very drab with the loss of tourism and any new tourism needs a younger reason for people to come to. We shouldn't live in the past.

'Everyone should contribute to make the island better. I particularly like the idea of communities/residents contributing as it gives them a stake and a reason to use the space and keep it looking nice if in their area. '

'There's wealth on this island and not all is directed to a good life for all.'

'Engagement and enjoyment for all needs everyone to consider and partake… it could be a huge part of our natural and manicured infrastructure throughout the Island. We need to grow accountability amongst us all!'

'Those who benefit- which is all of us, should control the funding to keep out vested interests and monopolies.'