

Creating Walkable Communities – our system approach



June 2024



Our walking work is insight led – focus on places where inequalities and inactivity levels are highest

Our aim is to influence the decision makers and work together to build a network that encourages us all to walk more on an every day basis.

This is a long-term vision, working towards a future where all parts of the public sector, such as transport, housing, planning and education work together with the voluntary sector and communities to help make every day walking as accessible as possible.

Districts and boroughs from across Derbyshire feed into this approach and collaborate and share learning together.



Our approach to place-based walking

The approach we have taken to place-based working and a whole systems approach from strategic to delivery level:

•WD Pilots – place based approach – aim to increase levels of walking by adopting a systems approach to walking. These are test and learn pilots.

•Brought together different partners from across sectors for that place - from local councillors to community groups and residents.

Came up with a shared vision.

•Consortiums then formed and used local data and insight to agree a 'place' and theme.



Derbyshire

EREWASH 9TH JANUARY



What does our Pilot work look like?

- Now have 8 Pilots ongoing in our 8 Districts and boroughs.
- 4 have CVS leads, 4 have Local Authority leads. All have different representation at consortiums – including Local Cllrs, public health reps, local authority, NHS reps, PCSO's, community groups, leisure centre reps, friends of park etc
- Themes range from social isolation to employability and all link to how walking can create better connectivity / community empowerment / raise aspirations etc.
- Community engagement feeding into local boards and the WD strategic group
 / county wide systems.





Clay Cross Healthy Futures

10 April at 15:03 · 🚱

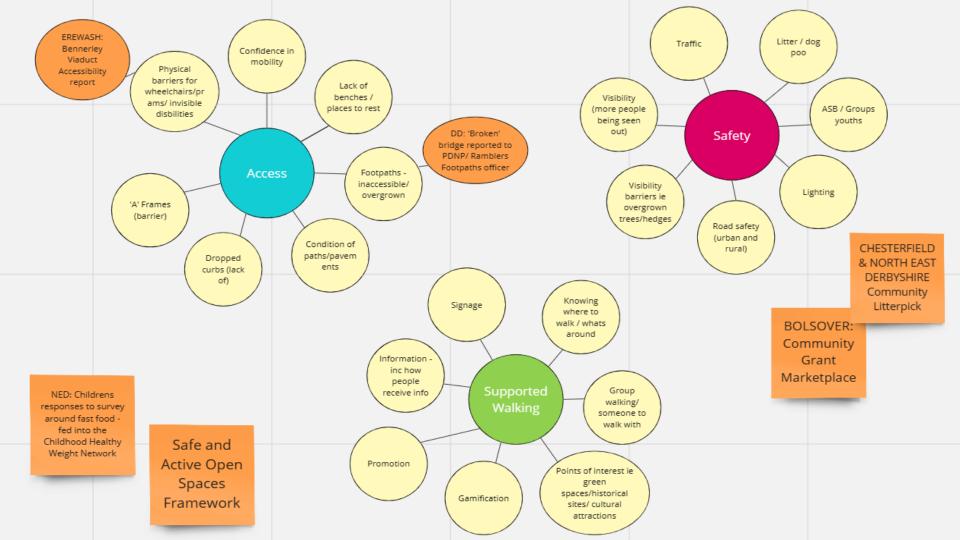
fantastic turn out for our first litter pick 🕎 🚮

naged to dodge the rain and collected over 20 rolley, traffic cone and plastic chair 😷

ou to everyone who came, it will hopefully be :ks 🙌

ou First Art, Rykneld Homes, Clay Cross Social 's Bakery, North East Derbyshire District Coun Centre Chesterfield Litter Picking Group and ' porting us





Who do we feed into?

Each place feeds into own strategic systems, such as local Health and Wellbeing Boards, Place Alliances etc

County wide systems feed into:

- WD Steering group who feed into own strategic systems (county wide Health and Wellbeing Board, cabinet etc)
- Childrens Healthy Weight Network
- Safe and Active Open Spaces Network.
- Walk Derbyshire Learning Network
- Talking Spaces and other local and national learning spaces

Evaluation Headlines

Our embedded PhD student has been talking to some of our stakeholders. These are some of the headlines so far:

New relationships have been formed and trust is building – new people and organisations have been brought into the work through our Pilot network.

Collaboration and support across districts and boroughs has increased

Seeing shift in conversations from a solution focus to community led exploration and an understanding that this engagement will take time.

Increased understanding across the system around how walking fits into other agendas.

Conversations have moved away from the money and more around the opportunity

Structured timescales for forming working relationships can be a barrier – some areas expressed that they would have benefitted from more time to allow the consortium to form and gain trust between members before choosing a lead applicant and submitting their Pilot proposals.

Whole system working takes time and cannot be rushed nor underestimated and needs buy in from all areas of the system – from residents to system leaders

Challenges and Successes...

- Can be challenges eg transport issue fed into team responsible for that area but response was that this is unlikely to change – what do we do when themes are brought into conversations that are outside of what we can achieve?
- Successes include:
- Collaboration with local housing group and litter theme introducing litter pick combined with engagement opportunities to understand what residents want and need in their communities.
- Community group funding for benches project when lack of rest spots came up as barrier to walking.
- Feeding into and influencing strategic Health Childrens Weight Network, Safe and Active Open Spaces Network and Derbyshire Active Travel Masterplans.

Key Learning

The below learning and principles will be relevant to all organisations, regardless of the activities they deliver.

• The value of giving time to develop trust and understanding between both communities and partners – this work takes time.

• Identifying a common purpose – people and communities must be the centre of the work.

• Open minded and ready to learn and adapt – this work is complex.

• Test and learn approaches help to increase understanding about what works and what doesn't.

•Authentic community engagement is an ongoing process.

• Investment should be guided by need.



More information about our Pilots and whats happening in each district and borough can be found here: <u>Walk Derbyshire Pilots - Walk Derbyshire</u>

Learning Network <u>Learning Network - Walk Derbyshire</u>

Talking Spaces: <u>Talking Space - Making Our Move</u>

- Building Confidence in Mobility
- Embedding walking into everyday lives: Learning from Local Projects