

Neighbourhood Scans ...the story so far

What is a Neighbourhood Scan?

Neighbourhood Scans seek to identify opportunities to make small, public space improvements that enable residents to be active more easily where they live.

The scans explore routes that include paths, parks, green spaces and play areas within the local areas to fully understand how easy it is for residents to walk, wheel and be active.



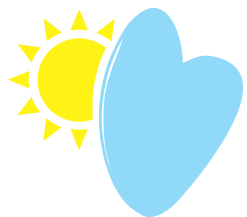
Over six weeks in June and July 2025 we walked and wheeled **18 different routes** across **Somercotes, Ironville and Riddings** *speaking to the community along the way.*

What did we hear?

Through community conversations and guided walks we engaged with **183 people**. Four main themes came through strongly.

1. **Community pride**
2. **Infrastructure and accessibility**
3. **Community safety**
4. **Traffic and parking**





Community Pride

"We have a fantastic community spirit – our green spaces are great for the local kids to play outside"

Across all communities there was a strong sense of community pride with the community mentioning:

- regular bin emptying
- litter picks
- well maintained park areas
 - a local bus service
- places for children to play
 - the local heritage

Infrastructure and Accessibility

"I struggle to walk far, so need either a bench or low wall to rest on. Not having one on our street prevents me from getting the bus"

The community had concerns about:

- dropped kerbs not being fully accessible for wheelchairs/mobility scooters
- poor pavement conditions and lack of suitable crossing points
- insufficient waste bins in key locations
- lack of benches for people with mobility issues

The positives mentioned were about:

- streets that feel well maintained and tidy
- in some places pavements are wide enough to enable safe wheelchair/pram usage.

Community Safety

"If we had more lighting when it's dark I would walk more"

Issues were raised about:

- groups on e-scooters riding around causing a level of anxiety
- suspicion of substance misuse in public spaces
- loud music and antisocial gatherings
- safety fears about lack of lighting

Traffic and Parking

"Vans and cars blocking the pavement make it impossible for me to get past safely on my mobility scooter"

Community members are concerned about:

- school-time parking blocking driveways and causing traffic issues
- high-speed driving through residential areas
 - inconsiderate parking on double yellow lines and corners
- extensive pavement parking blocking access for pushchairs and wheelchairs

What are our next steps?

We will be sharing detailed insight with a variety of agencies to -

- address and influence improvements for change
- influence future policy and strategy documents and their implementation.

