



NATURALLY BIRMINGHAM: FUTURE PARKS ACCELERATOR

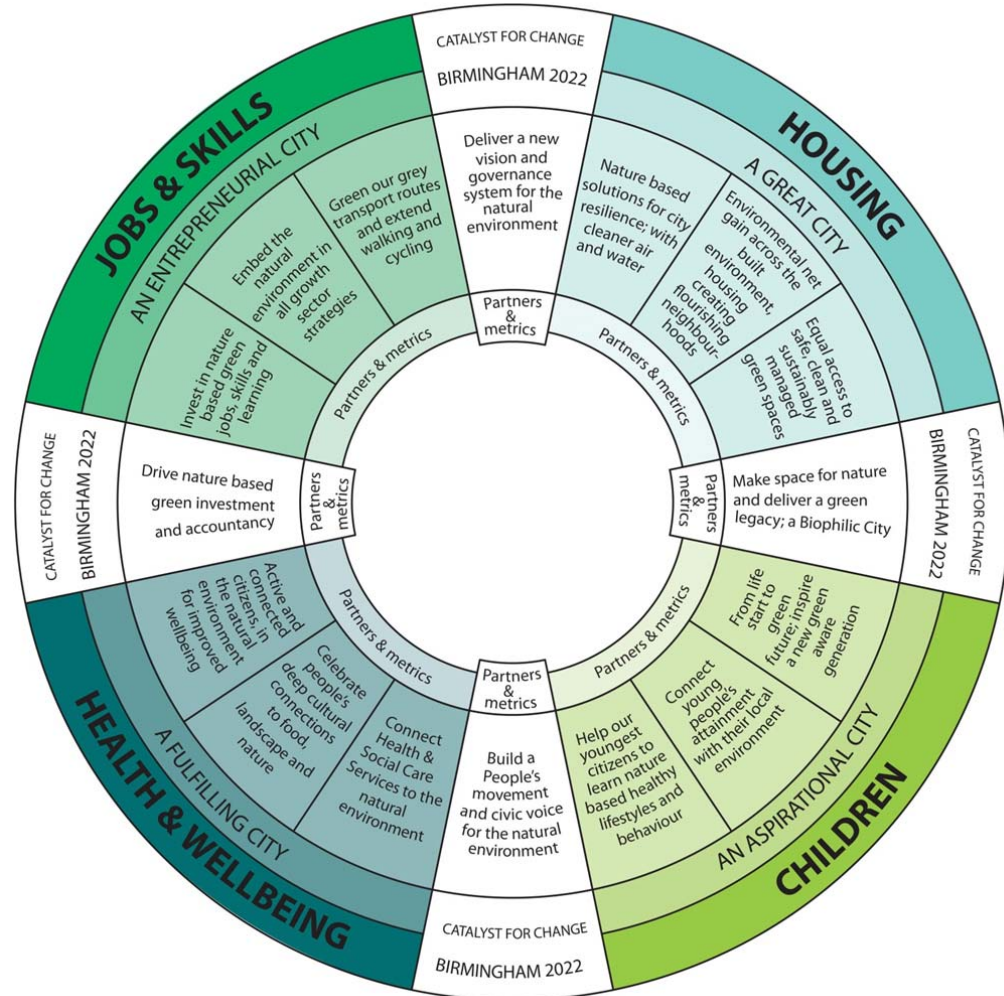
APPG Green Spaces –
March 2021

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Health

NATURALLY BIRMINGHAM'S VISION

- Funded by National Heritage Lottery Fund and National Trust
- One of 8 cities
- Embedding the value of green space – how?
- The city set key outcomes around Jobs & skills, Housing and the built environment, the future of children, and health & wellbeing (Council Plan 2018-2022)
- We want to embed the value of green spaces across all these sectors – working with the 2022 Games team to maximise legacy benefits from hosting them

Birmingham
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole
Bristol
Cambridgeshire
Edinburgh
Islington and Camden
Nottingham
Plymouth



A CRITICAL MOMENT IN TIME FOR CHANGE- BIRMINGHAM'S RESPONSE

Deprivation in Birmingham by Sub Domain



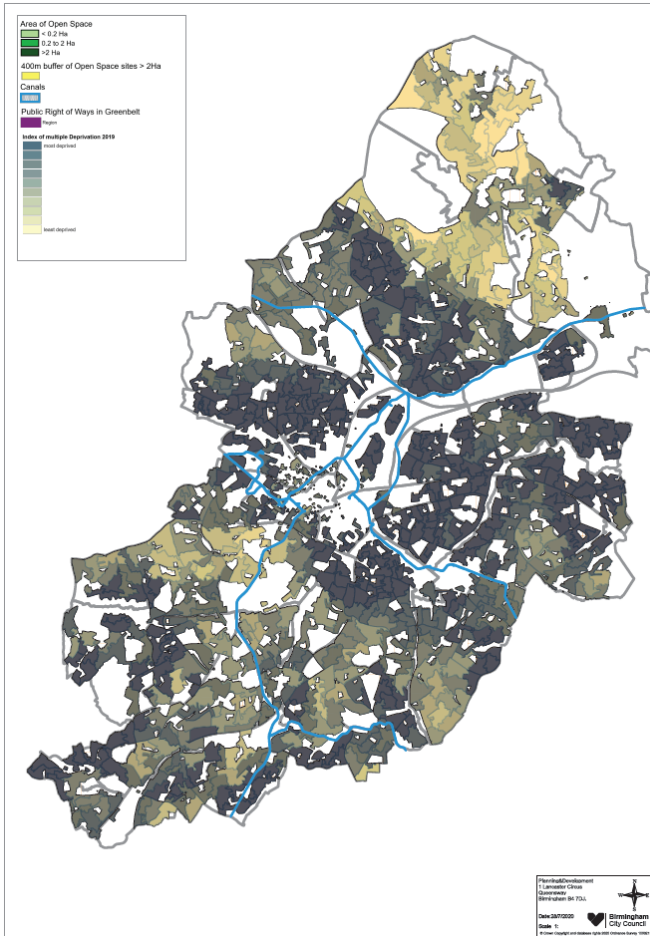
Living Environment:

- Quality of housing;
- Air quality;
- Road traffic accidents

Environmental Justice:

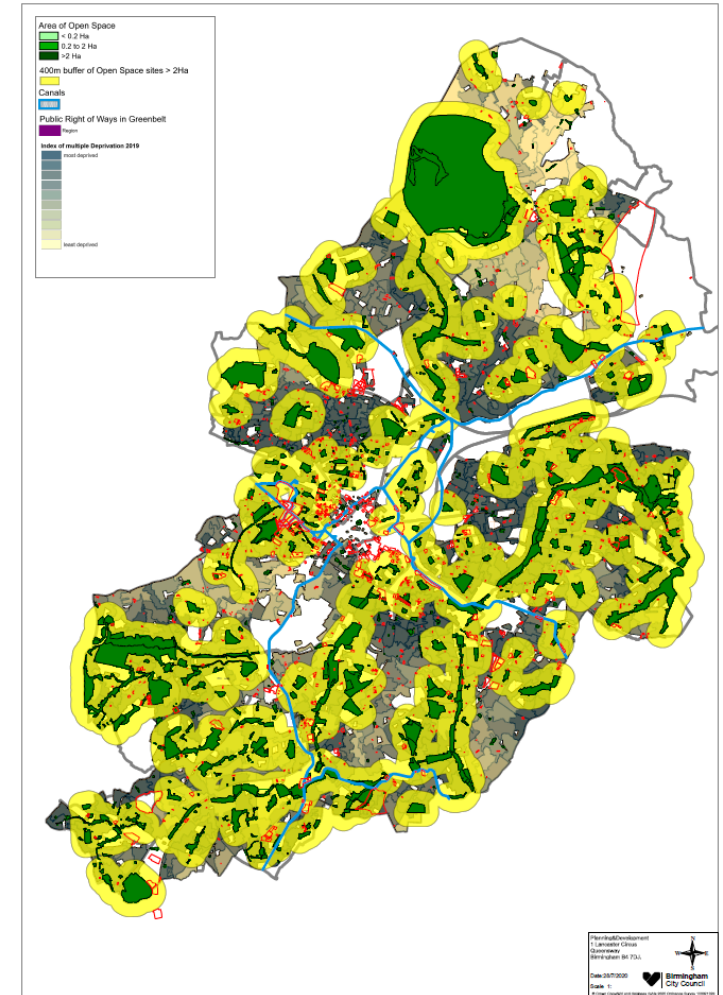
- Access to Green Space
- Urban Heat Island
- Flood risk

A CRITICAL MOMENT IN TIME FOR CHANGE- BIRMINGHAM'S RESPONSE

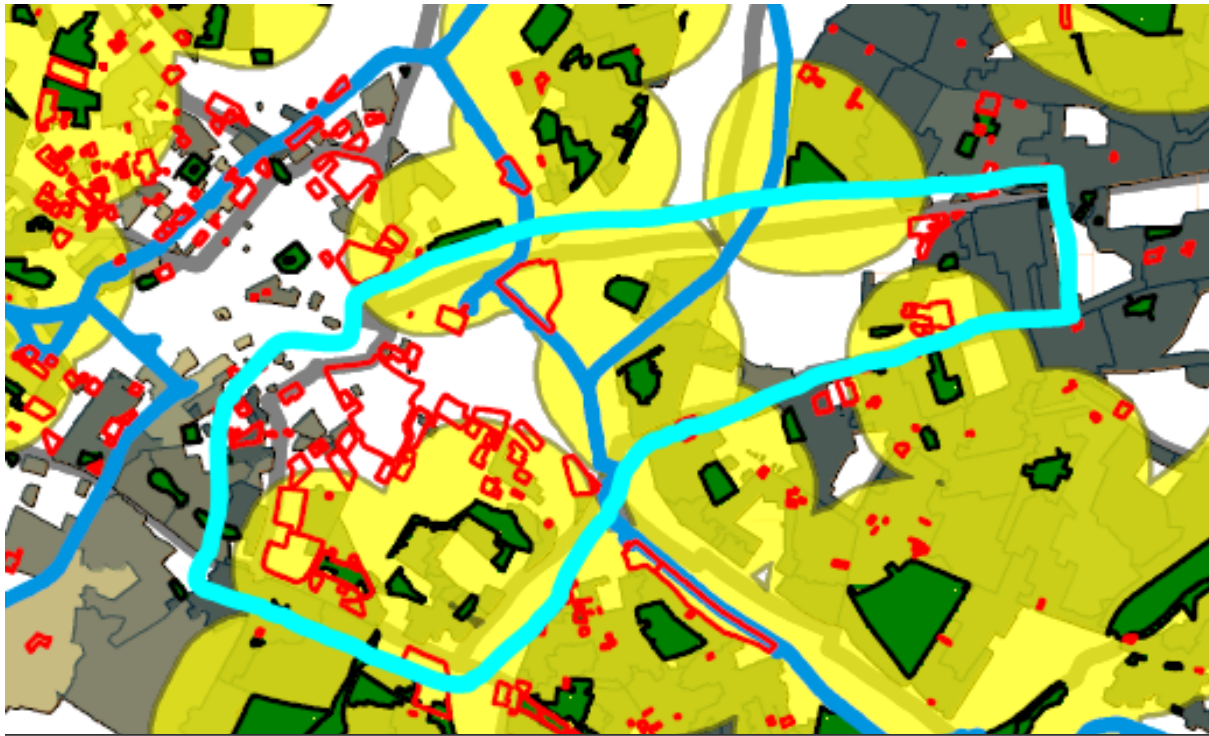


Map 1
IMD for Birmingham

Map 2
IMD plus green space, plus distance buffer, plus proposed housing (SHLAA-strategic housing land allocation assessment).



A CRITICAL MOMENT IN TIME FOR CHANGE- BIRMINGHAM'S RESPONSE



Bordesley and Highgate Ward

- 2018 to 2031 = -60% POS

| A | B | C | F | H | I | L | M | N |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Constituency | Wards | Canopy % (25% baseline target) | PPF+ POS Ha /1000 (Ward level) BDP Minimum threshold 2Ha. | 2019 Decile (1 = 10% most deprived nationally) | 2018 Mid-year Population estimates by ward | Projected Area population at 2031 | Revised PPF+POS/ 1000 if no change in supply | Percentage Change |
| Ladywood | Bordesley & Highgate | 9.66 | 1.02 | 1 | 15,760 | 38,604 | 0.42 | -59% |
| Ladywood | Ladywood | 14.6 | 0.75 | 2 | 28,420 | 46,635 | 0.46 | -39% |
| Sutton Coldfield | Sutton Walmley & Minworth | 19.2 | 6.85 | 7 | 15,980 | 23,863 | 4.59 | -33% |
| Ladywood | Newtown | 12 | 1.24 | 1 | 14,620 | 20,140 | 0.90 | -27% |
| Ladywood | Soho & Jewellery Quarter | 18.8 | 0.99 | 2 | 27,130 | 36,116 | 0.75 | -25% |
| Perry Barr | Perry Barr | 20 | 5.72 | 4 | 20,620 | 26,200 | 4.50 | -21% |

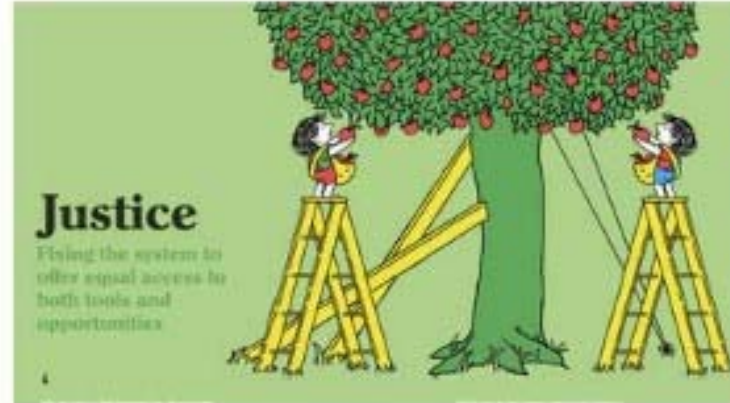
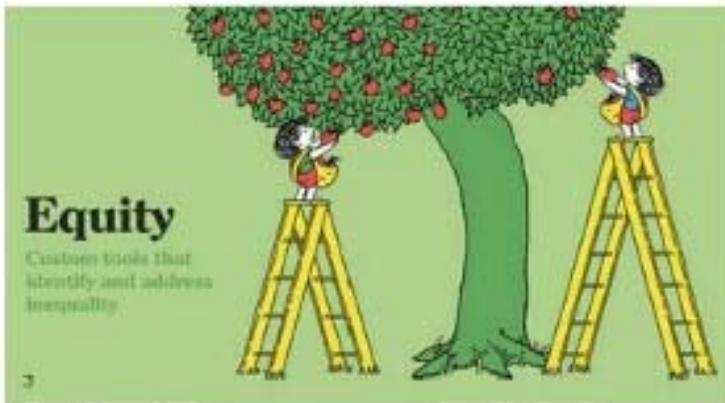
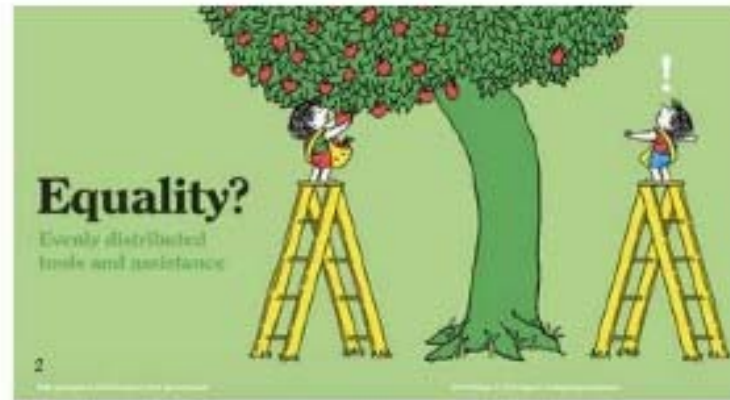
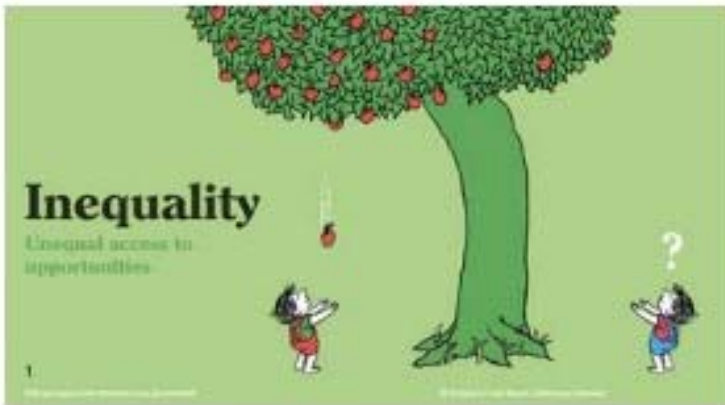
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT?

- People need to feel that they belong – they need to see others looking like them to engage in these spaces
- Diversity issues – being addressed by working closely through members in these diverse areas and BOSF – Birmingham Open Spaces Forum
- **CHILDREN'S PILOT:** People don't always see a park before them
 - Dawberry Fields impact – made the park mean more to people
 - A nature trail has encouraged more families to spend more time than ever in the park
 - Crowdfund - <https://justgiving.com/campaign/DawberryFields>
- **EMPLOYMENT PILOT:** Breaking down stereotypes of who works in a park
 - Our Naturally Birmingham Virtual Skills Showcase <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxRBfbavWeTOv9KrHzVchA>
 - Ward End Park – list of jobs you can do in that park
- **HEALTH AND WELLBEING PILOT:** People can be scared to leave their houses – support them slowly
 - Witton Lakes effect – virtual sessions
 - Lead up to physical sessions
 - Empower the community to do this for themselves
- **HOUSING PILOT:** Doesn't have to be a park to be a green space
 - Cornerway sheltered housing – tenants are so excited to have someone help make a bit of land as part of their home a communal garden

SO WHAT IS OUR VISION FOR BIRMINGHAM – A CITY OF NATURE

- The value of nature to be embedded and resourced within key departments of the Council – housing, children's, employment/ skills and Health and Wellbeing (HWB)
- To use nature to help break down silo working within the Council
- To support ALL of our communities to have better access to all kinds of good quality, green spaces
- To set up a new governance model for nature so that it is the first consideration in decision making, and not the last

WHAT JUSTICE LOOKS LIKE



ge credit: Tony Ruth for Design in Tech Report

WHAT ARE WE ASKING FOR?

- **Change to IMD** – we need access to green space and climate change reflected with IMD given the impact it has on health and wellbeing; to be used for calculating Post-Covid Recovery.
- Is this something MHCLG will consider?
- Maintenance – if we are to keep encouraging people to use these spaces, paths need to be rebuilt and grass replanted, and nature restored.
- Support for engagement – people need help to access and make the most of the green space that is nearest them
- Activities such as walking groups, developing nature trails, outdoor exercise all need funding
- Communities in some areas struggle to engage with their green spaces (often where least community support is available) – and this is particularly acute in some areas of multiple deprivation
- **INVESTMENT** is key – and not just to the parks service, but to other areas such as housing, employment depts, education sector and health sector to support this
 - The benefits for these other sectors are tangible and most importantly for quality of life in relation to city living. All sectors need investment but we need to be pushing for that funding to be targeted at green space

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

- **FPA Advisor** – Nick Grayson
- **Project Officer** – Dan Lloyd
- **Landscape Architect** – Rupri Chawlia
- **Comms & Engagement Lead** – Debbie Needle
- **Skills Lead** – Sophie Hislam
- **Children’s Lead** – Sam Hall
- **Housing Lead** – Louise Fletcher
- **Planning Lead** – Andrew Lindop
- **Principal Arboriculturist** – Simon Needle
- **Volunteering Development Co-ordinators** – Helen Harvey, Fredy Tematema
- **Project Website:** <https://naturallybirmingham.org/>

