

Place-based regeneration & Inclusive mobility: Tools and lessons learnt

Mailys Garden

25th January 2024

Context

- Transport planner for 10+ years working in regeneration schemes. Project-based skills and knowledge development – public realm, active travel, urban freight etc.
- 'Make space on the streets for people to walk, cycle and enjoy city life': movement & place
- Currently work for [Project Centre](#) in Edinburgh with projects all over Scotland and North of England
- Volunteer role with [Women in Transport](#) for 7+ years, board member and Scotland chair since 2021. 1500 members nationally, c. 80 in Scotland.
- Mission is to advance women in the transport industry, through events, mentoring, networking, book club etc. Also influencing policy and research on our four strategic pillars
 - Women's safety
 - Decarbonisation
 - Inspiring the next generation
 - Intersectionality


Women's Safety In Public Spaces

September 20, 2023

The Scotland Hub of Women in Transport are delighted to bring to you a conversation between two key officers at the The City of Edinburgh Council, Judith Cowie and Angela Voulgari.

Judith Cowie is a Transport Officer in charge of Smarter Choices, Smarter Places and Angela Voulgari is the Lead Officer for Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee.

In this blog, Judith and Angela cover a range of topics related to Women's Safety in public spaces and transport networks. They explain their role, how they collaborate with stakeholders and key players within and beyond the city boundaries and what role groups like Women in Transport can play in order to empower women and inspire change.




Women's Safety in Public Space

Women's Safety in Public Spaces

A conversation between Angela Voulgari, Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee Lead Officer and Judith Cowie, Transport Officer, The City of Edinburgh Council

WOMEN IN TRANSPORT



Women in Transport Celebrates Scotland Hub Anniversary


March 20, 2023


Last week the Scotland Hub hosted celebrations at the Scottish Parliament for its second anniversary.

Launched in 2021 during the pandemic with over 100 people attending the online launch, the Scotland Hub has since grown from strength to strength, offering a diverse range of activities to members and contributing behind the scenes to regional programmes. Examples of activities include shared addresses with senior female leaders in the transport industry, writing, co-creating and publishing development research. Behind the scenes we continue to engage with a range of organisations to support growth across the industry. We have for instance contributed to the Women's safety and experience of personal safety after co-creating transport research commissioned by Transport Scotland and a guide by the Scottish Occupational Road Safety Association, the Road Safety Hub.

Last week we were thrilled to celebrate our second anniversary with over 60 guests and MGAs from across the transport industry. First, our sponsor National Gas MSP presented a welcome address and Women in Transport President, Jo Fidd presented information about Women in Transport and her presidential priorities in self-governing projects. Then Women in Transport volunteer Fiona Brown shared a panel discussion with a diverse range of speakers.

- Signalla Ismer - Founding Director, Women on Wheels
- Gannan McLaughlin - Engine Watch Rising Cabot
- Paul Lawrence - Executive Director of Place, City of Edinburgh
- Jenny Gilrath MSP - Minister for Transport, Scottish Government






Nov 27, 2023 - Blog, womenintransport, partner

"The wheels of change are turning" Lothian Buses' Managing Director talks about why representation of women

An Afternoon At Polmadie Depot

October 24, 2023

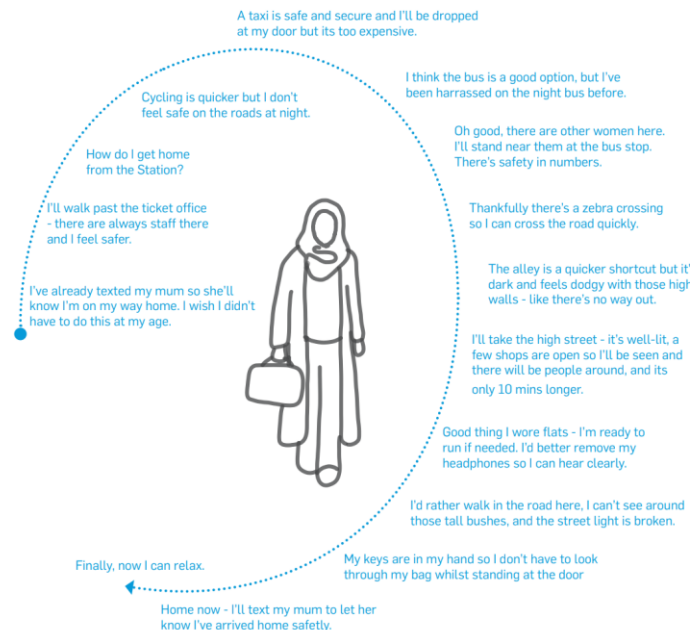
One of our Scotland Hub members, Kristin Lyons, tells us about her recent site visit at the Polmadie Depot, home of the Calsonic Sleeper. Our blog gratitude to the Alston and Avenon teams for welcoming us to their depot for an unforgettable afternoon.



The problem (I)

Movement

- 'When planners fail to account for gender, public spaces become male spaces by default'. Caroline Criado Perez, [Invisible Women](#)
- Transport/mobility is often considered neutral – this does not account for women's unique travel needs
 - Multipurpose trips (linked to care duties) v. limited off peak services designed along commuter corridors
 - 92% of women say that their biggest fear is being sexually harassed or assaulted when travelling, and 94% of women have felt threatened when using public transport.
 - The transport sector only has 21% of female workers which reinforces the imbalance in how transport and mobility is planned and designed



Atkins 2021

The Problem (II)

Place

- “There's nowhere for girls. There's literally not a specific place for girls. There's places where we go, but no spaces for us.” 17yo girl
- A well-known example of that is facilities and public spaces for teenage girls. The default play provision is ‘male’: skateparks, BMX tracks, football pitches, MUGAs.
- The charity Makes Space for Girls does an outstanding job at campaigning on these issues

Why does it matter?

- Successful, thriving places for existing communities
- Implications for health, sense of belonging
- UN Sustainable Development goal 5 is gender equality
- A myriad of positive snowball effects from considering barriers to women e.g. improved overall accessibility, more inclusive to minorities













[Photos: Addendum - What do teenage girls like and dislike about park play spaces and MUGAs.pdf \(whiterose.ac.uk\)](#)

The consequences!

If diversity and inclusion aren't enough, the following are also impacted -

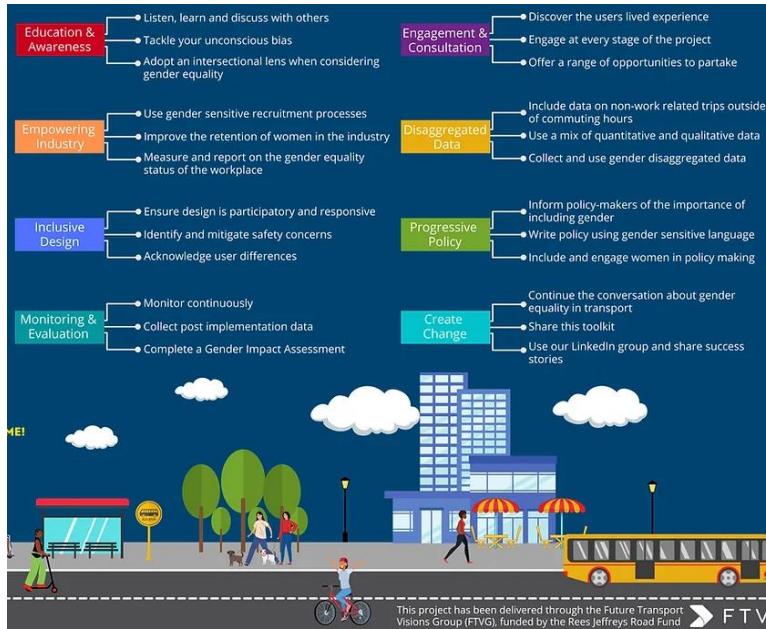
- Crime and ASB
- Sense of place, belonging and empowerment
- Health
- Climate change
- Access to opportunities and the economy

Demographic group	Do not associate cycling as an activity for people like them	Do not cycle but would like to start
Ethnic minority groups	 16%	 55%
More likely to be at risk of deprivation (socio-economic groups D and E)	 20%	 38%
Women	 17%	 36%
Disabled people	 23%	 31%
Older people (aged over 65)	 30%	 18%

Bikelife 2019

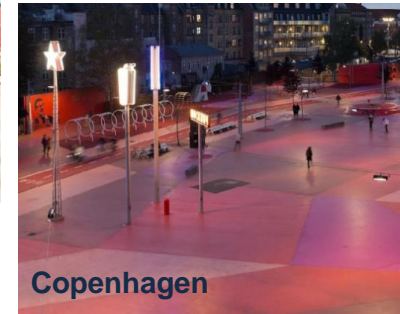
Scales of action

General tools



The interventions include

- better lighting
- more swings
- good quality toilets.
- wider entrances to play areas
- smaller, subdivided sports areas
- adding a second more open court
- seating areas which are arranged in groups
- circular paths around the edge of the park



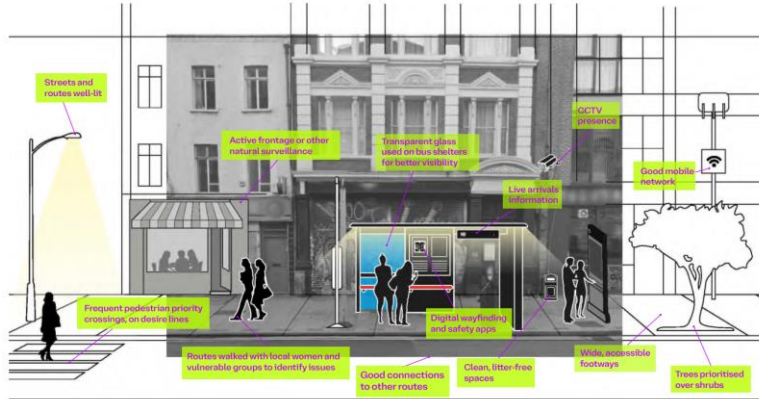
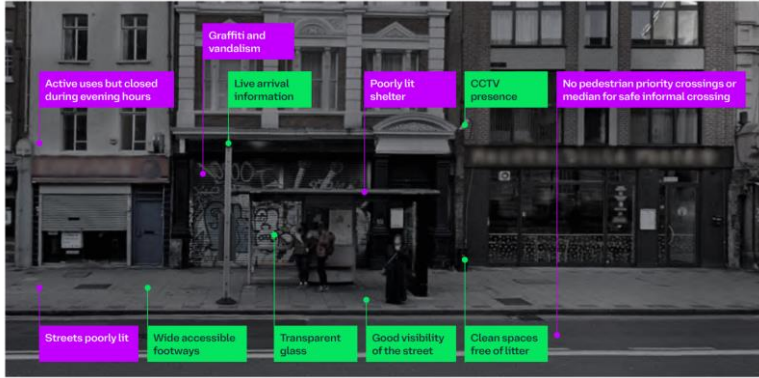
- [Gender Equality Toolkit in Transport - GET IT \(the-get-it.com\)](https://the-get-it.com/) (research project funded by the Future Transport Vision Group)

- [Resources Library \(makespaceforgirls.co.uk\)](https://makespaceforgirls.co.uk/) (campaign for better facilities and public spaces for teenage girls)

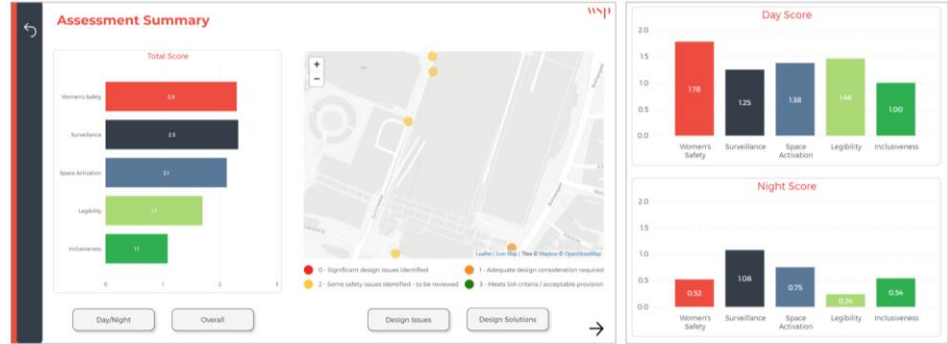
Scales of action

Place-based tools

Get home safe (atkinsrealis.com)

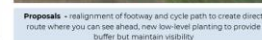


Advancing Safe Community Spaces for All | WSP



Case Study: Exeter, Devon Council

- Purpose of the scheme is to enhance the public realm
- Provide a new active travel route through a car park



Scales of action

Process-driven change



- [Inclusive Design and Co-production – Hammersmith and Fulham Town Hall - Access audit and disability consultants - Proudlock Associates](#)



- [Making Deptford High Street a welcoming space for everyone - Marston Holdings](#)

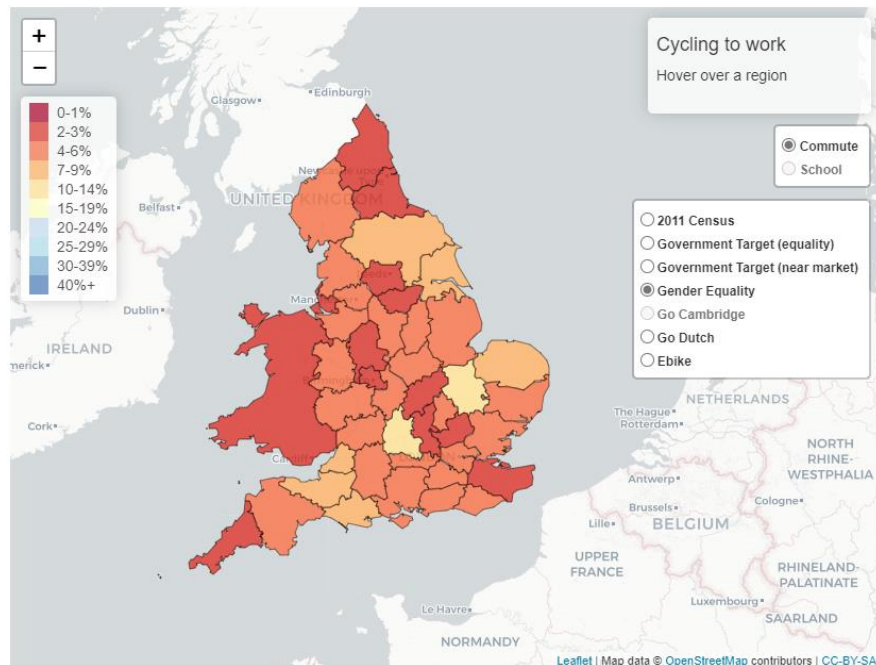
Lessons learnt

Key place-based interventions

- Landscape / Infrastructure design for safety, ambience and comfort
- Human presence & community feel
- TLC and 'cared for' environments
- Digital resources

Other

- Co-design!!!
- Include thinking from Day 1 e.g. Propensity to Cycle Tool 'Gender equality scenario'
- Think of own team and own biases



AOB

Any questions?

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