

# Lower Lansdown and The Circus

In summer 2022 Sustrans delivered activities aimed at widening community engagement in Bath & North East Somerset Council's Liveable Neighbourhoods (LN) programme. There was a focus on young people and families at schools, as well as with community groups, ensuring that resident feedback is incorporated into the design process.

Many of the ideas from the groups and individuals we spoke to are presented in the informal report below.

You can view the council's co-design workshop and exhibition report for this LN area at [www.bathnes.gov.uk/yourLN](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/yourLN)

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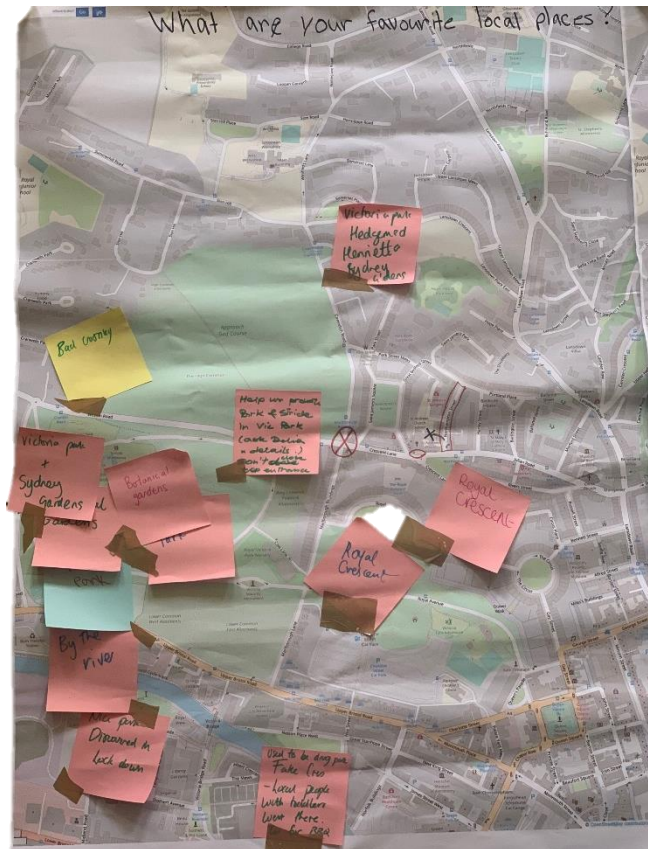
## St Andrew's Church School

On 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022, Sustrans officers delivered a pop-up engagement session at the St Andrews Church School with a stall set up at the Friends Summer Celebration. They engaged with parents and children throughout the event. Large maps of the local area were laid out on tables and attendees were invited to give their views on the following.

### Participants' Favourite Places

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Map 1. Participants' favourite places



- Victoria, Hedgemoor and Henrietta Gardens, Sydney Gardens
- Royal Crescent
- Botanical Gardens
- By the River
- Elizabeth/Riverside Park – ‘nice park discovered in lockdown’
- Norfolk Crescent Park – used to be a place with drug use but local people with toddlers went there for a BBQ
- Park and Stride in via park

## Participants’ Experiences of Travelling in the Area

Map 2. Participants’ experiences of travelling through the Lower Lansdown area



### Bad Experiences

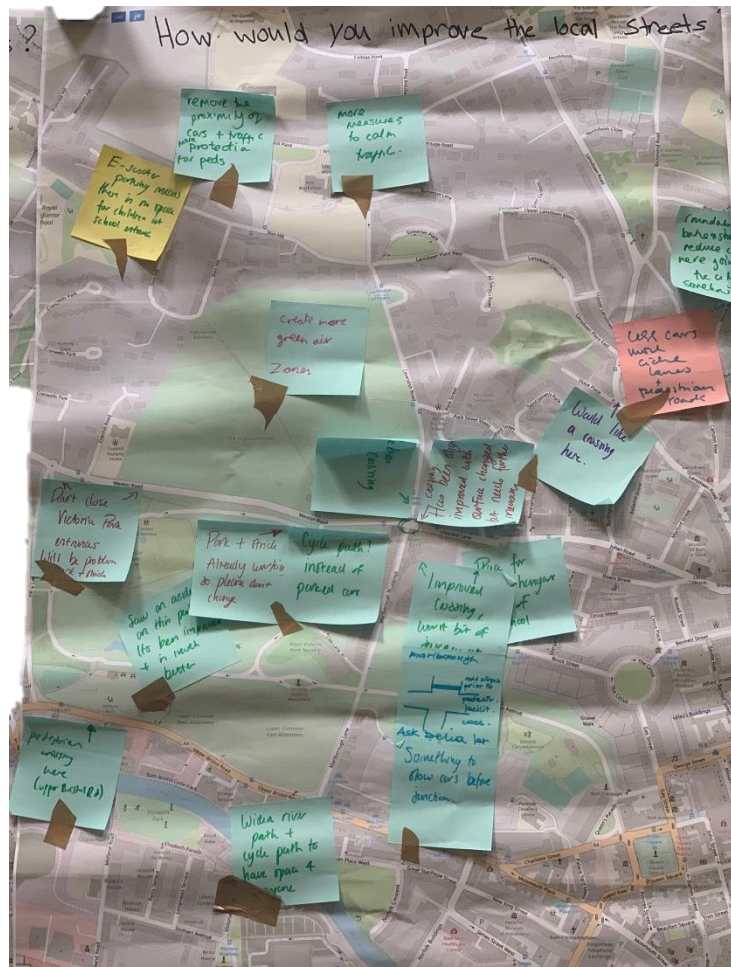
- The journey along Bath Road on Bus no. 3 is very congested and slow especially with the long-term bridge closure
- Traffic at the bridge closure makes car travel slow
- Cycling is too intimidating
- London Road and Walcot Road have intense traffic, and funnel cars into the city centre
- Sunday parking is a blocker to getting into the city centre, now have to pay for parking in order to attend church
- There are no traffic calming measures in very narrow roads where vehicles travel at high speeds
- The junction at Marlborough Junction is Horrible with kids – nearly impossible. A HUGE blocker to walking/cycling. (Several comments on this junction)
- Dangerous crossing, blind bend, no crossing (possibly referring to Marlborough Junction)
- Clarence Street, Perro Place are rat runs
- Voi Scooters park where kids wait for school
- People pulling in off Northampton Street in cars where kids are waiting for school
- Illegal parking on Northampton Street at pick up and drop off, making it unsafe for children
- Single occupancy cars
- Overgrown. Homeless people. Doesn't feel safe. (Possibly referring to Norfolk Crescent)
- Bath Road and La Famiglia Italian restaurant has a bad crossing - The cycle path drops off on Upper Bristol Road

### Good Experiences

- There is a quiet/peaceful back alley (possibly from Victoria Park over Midland Road Bridge)
- Saw an accident on this path, it's been improved and is much better

## Participants' Ideas for Improvements

Map 3. Participants' ideas for improvements to streets in the Lower Lansdown area



- Green Spaces could be incorporated throughout streets
- Cars go way to fast – introduce 20mph
- Close traffic close to the school at drop off and pick up times [School Street]
- Cycle painting should be incorporated
- Monitor (with cameras) speed on Weston Road coming into Marlborough [Buildings] Junction.
- Improve Marlborough Junction – Add pedestrian facilities - signalised? Zebra?

- Add something to slow the cars before [Marlborough] Junction
- The crossing at Marlborough Junction has been slightly improved but needs further measures
- E-bike cycle parking anywhere in the city
- Remove the proximity of cars and traffic and provide more protected space
- Provide more measures to calm traffic
- Create more green air zones
- Reduce the volumes of traffic entering the city at the Batheaston roundabout somehow
- Less cars, more cycle lanes and pedestrian roads
- Add a crossing where Hope Place meets Lansdown Road
- Don't close the Victoria Park entrances as it will be a problem for the park and ride
- The Park and Ride is already working so please don't change
- Cycle path (through Victoria Park) instead of parked cars
- Add a pedestrian crossing south of Victoria Park for access across Upper Bristol Road
- Widen the river path and cycle path to have space for everyone
- Place for cycle hangars in front of school

## Sustrans Officers' Reflections

Marlborough Junction received the most comments in the engagement with several suggestions for improvements including traffic calming, pedestrian crossing facilities.

There is high volume of car usage and the proximity of cars and the poor provision for people to safely walk cycle and wheel is a barrier to active travel.

The parks of Bath are highly valued.

The Park and Ride is a valued service.

Space for children to wait safely around the school, separate from cars and scooters needs to improve.