

CROSS RIVER PARTNERSHIP

Delivering London's Future Together

Fortnightly newsletter

Tuesday 27th April 2021



CRP's Next Lunchtime Launch Spatial Mapping: Benefits for Air Quality, Logistics and Healthy Streets



Join us from **1:15pm – 2:00pm, Thursday 20th May**, to discuss the future of urban air quality interventions. [Sign up here!](#)

For CRP's fifth Lunchtime Launch event, we are excited to launch our new Urban Logistics Hub Webpage – an interactive mapping tool, developed as a result of our recently published '[The Potential for Urban Logistics Hubs in Central London](#)' study. This new tool will increase the number of sustainable last-mile deliveries in Central London, in turn reducing air pollution, congestion and carbon emissions, by supporting freight logistics companies who are actively searching to occupy a location, and supporting owners of sites looking to advertise their spaces to prospective freight companies.

We will also be joined by **Dr Rachel Aldred**, [University of Westminster](#), to discuss how spatial mapping and analysis can help identify equity and distributional issues related to neighbourhood interventions. Her recent research involves analysis of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods in London in relation to neighbourhood and population characteristics, including age, disability, ethnicity, deprivation, and car ownership, based on Output Areas of several hundred residents. The research highlights how London-wide impacts may mask wide diversity by borough, and the need to monitor such distributions at borough as well as city-level.

If you missed our most recent Lunchtime Launch, 'Earth Day: Successful and Sustainable Development in London' with [Midtown BID](#) and [The Northbank BID](#), please see the full recording [here](#), slides [here](#) and questions to some of the answers raised [here](#).

For further information about CRP's ongoing Lunchtime Launch programme, please contact CRP Project Officer [Rachael Aldridge](#).

[Register here for CRP's next Lunchtime Launch](#)

Exploring Solutions for Transport Challenges across Central London



Transport in a capital city is integral to a healthy economy and environment for us all to thrive. As transport continuously evolves, new challenges are highlighted through collaborative working with stakeholders and discussed in the [Central London Sub Regional Transport Partnership \(CLS RTP\)](#).

CLS RTP is a collaborative group of 10 borough transport representatives from [City of London Corporation](#), [London Borough of Camden](#), [London Borough of Hackney](#), [London Borough of Islington](#), [Kensington and Chelsea Council](#), [London Borough of Lambeth](#), [London Borough of Lewisham](#), [London Borough of Southwark](#), [London Borough of Wandsworth](#), [Westminster City Council](#) and [Transport for London](#). All partners have a common aim to reduce congestion and plan for future challenges of an interconnected transport area.

Over the past year, CRP have been busy working on delivering CLS RTP commissioned projects to address current and future challenges. Studies have ranged from [challenges of logistics space](#), to the [benefits of Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes](#), [the effect of noise from deliveries](#) and [Town Centre Futures](#) post-pandemic. All the studies have shown the impact a pandemic can have on the transport system. These studies will help to guide new solutions to common challenges for a green recovery.

CRP have created a consolidated document showcasing the main aims and findings for each study [here](#). Throughout 2020/2021, six studies have been completed, as well as an online resource campaign and an interactive tool.

CRP would like to thank [Transport for London](#) for the continued funding for the start of 2021/2022. We look forward to advancing previous projects and highlighting new challenges & solutions!

For more information, please contact CRP Senior Project Officer [Laura Jacklin](#).

[Read more about CLS RTP](#)

New CRP Board Co-Chair



It is with great pleasure that CRP can announce that [Councillor Keith Bottomley](#), CC of the

[City of London Corporation](#), is taking over from Councillor Wendy Hyde as Co-Chair of the CRP Board, with immediate effect.

Keith is already Vice Chairman of the City's Policy and Resources Committee, Chairman of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee, and Chairman of the Projects Sub Committee, Policy & Resources, so brings a wealth of experience and knowledge with him.

On behalf of the CRP Board, we would like to thank Wendy most sincerely for all of the guidance, advice and support that she has given us over the last five years. [Westminster City Council](#) continues to play the lead accountable body role for CRP, for which we are extremely grateful.

CRP look forwards to working with the Board over the coming year and beyond. For more information, please contact CRP Director [Susannah Wilks](#).

Clean Air Villages 4 Inception Meeting



CRP kicked off the first inception meeting for the [Defra](#)-funded [Clean Air Villages 4](#) (CAV4) this month, welcoming 25 new partners.

The programme will focus on tackling the challenges of freight and logistics across London and beyond, to improve congestion and air quality. The five project themes are Consolidation, Distribution, Mode, Technology and Policy.

Exciting planning is underway as the team starts to look at feasibility of river, rail and walking freight. CAV4 will look to find new innovative ways of moving goods across London in a green recovery for all.

For more information about CAV4 project delivery, please contact CRP Project Manager [Kate Fenton](#).

[Read more about CAV4](#)

CRP's Spotlight On: London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham



This week's focus is on CRP partner, the [London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham](#), who are set for a green recovery through the Hammersmith and Fulham Climate Alliance. We heard from [Emily Tulloh](#), Climate Emergency Community Engagement Lead, about the Council's route to net zero.

[Hammersmith & Fulham Council](#) has been supporting local businesses as restrictions lift: from our [Shop Local Shop Safe](#) campaign to distributing COVID-19 grant funding. Now, we want to help organisations build back cleaner and greener through the **Hammersmith & Fulham Climate Alliance**.

This will be a network of local organisations committed to reducing emissions to net zero by 2030. By connecting with others, organisations of all sizes will be supported reduce emissions, share experiences and collaborate on carbon reduction projects. The council has [set an ambitious target](#) of reaching net zero across the borough by 2030. But we need new ideas, new partnerships and new ways of working to usher in a sustainable future for generations.

That's why we need your input to design the Hammersmith & Fulham Climate Alliance. We're in our early stages of developing the Alliance, working alongside CRP and local BIDs. Now we need local organisations to share their experiences and help us shape the proposition.

There are many different ways you can get involved:

- Take part in a **45 minute interview**: sharing your hopes, fears, ideas and challenges of building a greener business
- Get involved as a **strategic partner**: taking part in co-production workshops, helping us design and shape the network

Please submit your email address through [this form](#) and we'll be in touch. We hope you can join us on the route to a green recovery!

Register your interest



Illuminated River Project Lights Final Bridges

Photo credit: Westminster Bridge, Illuminated River © James Newton

On Tuesday 13th April, [The Illuminated River](#) artwork on Blackfriars Road, Waterloo, Golden Jubilee, Westminster and Lambeth Bridges was unveiled! The illuminations now extend across nine Thames bridges in total, forming the longest public art commission in the world (3.2 miles in length).

Huge congratulations to [The Illuminated River Foundation](#) and [Sarah Gaventa](#),



National Walking Month

May is [National Walking Month](#)!

Walking has been one of the go to activities for most Londoners and has quickly become one of our solaces during the pandemic.

A [Transport for London report](#) found that 31% of Londoners preferred walking instead of using any other mode of transport last year while 57% of people now go on regular and longer walks for exercise than previously.

The benefits of a stroll have been tremendous, giving all of us that time

leading the collaborative network of more than 50 stakeholders and project partners who have shaped the amazing installations, from concept stages to the final switching on of the mesmerising lighting artwork. The project is the result of the most detailed and extensive pan-London planning processes the capital has ever seen without an Act of Parliament.

To celebrate the completion, a new public engagement programme for 2021 will be launched by the Illuminated River Foundation, with innovative evening activities created for different audiences (in line with potential tier restrictions).

CRP has enjoyed enormously advising The Illuminated River Foundation on strategic aspects of the project ever since the original idea first came about.

[Download the self-guided walking route](#)

[Visit the What's On page to book a free walking tour of the Illuminated River](#)



Clean Air Villages 3 Reflection

Photo Credit: London & Partners

The CRP team recently wrapped up [Clean Air Villages 3 \(CAV3\)](#) with a final steering group meeting. The CAV3 team and partners celebrated the achievements of the project, while acknowledging the added challenges of the pandemic. The entirety of CAV3 engagement was conducted virtually, and yet the team:

- Contacted 1,500 businesses
- Monitored 18 vehicles for EV suitability
- Implemented 7 cargo bike schemes utilised by pharmacies and food banks during the pandemic
- Launched an Air Quality Ambassador programme and a [LinkedIn Clean Air Community group!](#)

All in all, it was a challenging and remarkable year for the CRP team. We learned so much about what businesses need, not just to mitigate for poor air quality, but to thrive and survive. We're looking forward to providing more support and guidance in CRP's [Clean Air Villages 4](#) project – to help make London a safer, healthier city for us all.

away to get some fresh air and a change of scenery, rediscover our local neighbourhood and to clear our minds from the various daily stressors. As a result, the charity [Living Streets](#) who champion safe and pollution free streets have initiated the [#WalkThisMay](#) campaign to address the need for cleaner air on London's streets.

Similarly, CRP have developed resources and tools such as the [Walking Tube report](#) and [Clean Air Route Finder](#) that maps out walking routes in London with better air quality than those suggested by popular journey planners. These routes were monitored and mapped by [Tranquil City](#), an urban environmental research group, which found that by taking these routes, it would cut peoples' exposure to air pollutants by almost a quarter!

For more information, please contact CRP Project Officer [Anusha Rajamani](#).



CLSRTP Urban Logistics Map

CRP is pleased to announce that since launching the [Potential Urban Logistics Hubs in Central London](#) study, we have moved onto the next phase of creating an online tool to showcase the available sites for logistics operators to occupy for sustainable last-mile deliveries.

The study, commissioned by the [Central London Sub-Regional Transport Partnership](#), investigated the requirements that a logistics operator would need for a micro hub, and the availability of underutilised space across Central London that could be used for logistics purposes. 29 sites were identified in the study, including underutilised carparks and railway arches.

The next phase of work has been to create an online tool to showcase available sites that could have potential for being used for logistics purposes, the tool will filter sites and include necessary information on size, location and requirements for an operator.

CRP will be launching the new tool at [Lunchtime Launch 5](#), showcasing the sites currently on the map with how landowners and operators can get involved.

If you are an operator looking for space to have a micro hub, or a landowner who has under-utilised space, this tool will be invaluable to making efficient and green choices for logistics whilst improving air quality.

Please contact CRP Senior Project Officer [Laura Jacklin](#) for more information.

For more information, please contact CRP Project Manager [Kate Fenton](#).

[Read more](#)



EFLES April Update

[Electric Vehicle Fleet-centred Local Energy System \(EFLES\)](#), a CRP project in partnership with [UK Power Network Services](#), [Moixa](#) and [UPS](#), was featured in [Current+ Chats](#) earlier this week. Claire Thompson-Sage, sustainable development coordinator at UPS, discussed EFLES, barriers to transitioning to electric vehicles, and the need for flexibility among other topics.

Read the full article [here!](#)

For more information, please contact CRP Project Manager [Sefinat Otaru](#).

[Read more about EFLES](#)



Westminster Economic Model Business Survey

The coronavirus outbreak has significantly impacted residents and businesses within [Westminster](#) and throughout the UK.

12th April was a milestone for businesses in Westminster. The [Economic Model Business Survey](#) is open now, and asks a series of questions about how the lockdown has affected you. [Westminster City Council](#) hope to hear from a wide range of businesses, of all different types and sizes, and will use feedback to inform their approach to supporting the borough's recovery.

Please do take the time to respond, as your views are important to the council. The survey is open until 12AM, Sunday 9 May and will take around 10-15 minutes to complete.

[Click here to complete the survey](#)

WORKING WITH YOU
TO BUILD A CITY FOR ALL



Westminster City Council adopted City Plan 2019 - 2040

At a full council on 21st April 2021, [Westminster City Council's](#) City Plan 2019 - 2040 was formally adopted and will now become the city's new Local Plan.

The new City Plan will replace all current policies in Westminster's City Plan (November 2016) and saved policies in the Unitary Development Plan (2007). The [City Plan 2019 - 2040](#) outlines an ambitious strategy to make Westminster one of the best places to live, work and play. This plan will equip the city to adapt to changes which have been brought about in the last year with appropriate policies aligned to new government guidance and legislation.

The City Plan focuses on creating a city for all to enjoy with more affordable homes, sustainable developments which are conducive to their aim of becoming a carbon neutral city by 2040 and flexible policies which will enable Westminster to continue to be a city of unique character but a contemporary destination for residents and visitors alike.

[Read the full City Plan](#)



Changes to Planning Permitted Development Rights

In December 2020, the Government began a consultation on a variety of changes to permitted development rights. The outcome of several elements of that consultation have now been published and the associated amendments to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (GPDO) have been laid before Parliament in [the Town and Country Planning \(General Permitted Development etc.\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Order 2021](#).

In essence, the Government has reined back the proposals consulted on by adding floorspace limitations, vacancy and location limitations, having reflected on the consultation responses it received. And as with the permitted development rights for additional storeys to provide new dwellings, introduced in summer 2020, the



Bloomsbury 2030 - London's first traffic-free neighbourhood?

[London Car Free Day](#) are collaborating with the [Great Ormond Street Hospital \(GOSH\)](#) and [Bloomsbury Air](#) on a new project to reimagine the future of Bloomsbury as London's first traffic-free neighbourhood that places young people, environmental and social resilience, and active mobility at the heart of urban design. The project will bring together young patients at GOSH, artists, architects, planners and other community stakeholders to re-imagine what Bloomsbury could look like without traffic and an ambitious landscaping strategy through the 2020s.

What would it take to turn Bloomsbury into London's first traffic-free, landscaped neighbourhood? London Car Free Day are running an [online roundtable on 29th April 2021](#) to discuss how Bloomsbury could build on international examples including Barcelona's SuperBlock concept, Milan's conversion of road space into public plazas, and the traffic-free city centre ambitions of Paris, Oslo, and Edinburgh.

#Bloomsbury2030

bold press releases are not inaccurate, but do not flag the hurdles to be overcome before utilising these permitted developments becomes a viable option.

Notwithstanding, Class MA, which will allow very many properties within Class E to change to residential without consideration of impact on the High Street if the proposal is outside of a conservation area and limited consideration if it is within, will be among the most significant planning changes in a generation. Only listed buildings and their curtilage and properties in the most sensitive locations such as World Heritage Sites, National Parks and Areas of Outstanding National Beauty will be excluded from the new PD right. The legislation precludes or requires assessment of loss of retail and office in beautiful and heritage locations, but in no other retail or business destinations. The retail assessment required by the current Class M PD right will fall away.

Delivering housing and the reuse of redundant shopping space are known to be the Government's priority and the Class MA permitted development right emphasises this.

Please see the [Lichfields Planning Consultancy blog](#) for more details

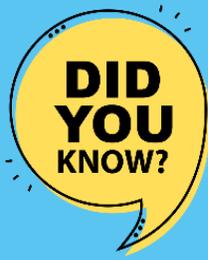
CRP's Staff Spotlight On: Ross Phillips



This week we are featuring CRP Project Officer [Ross Phillips](#).

I work across the [Clean Air Villages 4](#) and [Healthy Streets Everyday](#) programmes, so my role is extremely varied. I have worked on a delivery and service audit with museums, implemented a cargo bike scheme in Deptford, but also helped to produce guidance documents on parklets for business and community resilience, and analysed (a lot) of data for our Vivacity monitoring programme.

It's great to have a lot of variety in my role that touches on so many facets of air quality, sustainable freight and active travel, and seeing some of our work come to life, such as the cargo bike support of food banks and pharmacies in Deptford. I am excited to continue this into our future projects and continue supporting our partners with interventions to make London cleaner, greener and safer.



The Central London Sub-Regional Transport Partnership published the 'Enabling Last Mile Cycling Logistics' report in May 2020?

Click here to read the review and recommendations.

Dates for your Diary



28th April - 16th June. [London Rising: Online event series, unlocking London's potential post-Covid](#). Evening Standard.

29th April, 10am. [Get Ready for Business](#). London Business Hub.

29th April, 1pm. [Masterclass: The Social Media Refresh - for Hospitality Businesses](#). Wandsworth Enterprise Hub.

29th April, 3pm. [Bloomsbury 2030 Online Roundtable](#). London Car Free Day.

29th April - 27th May. [Free Illuminated River Walks](#). Illuminated River Foundation.

5th May, 1pm. [Health on the High Street](#). London Policy & Strategy Network.

20th May, 1:15pm. [Spatial Mapping: Benefits for Air Quality, Logistics and Healthy Streets](#). CRP Lunchtime Launch.

21st May, 1pm. [Network-H2 Webinar: Multi-modal transport, logistics and autonomy](#). Network-H2.

Cross River Partnership is an alliance of Angel London, Better Bankside BID, Brixton BID, Cadogan, Camden Town Unlimited BID, Cheapside Initiative, City of Westminster, City of London Corporation, Euston Town BID, Greater London Authority, Groundwork London, Hammersmith London BID, Hatton Garden BID, London and Partners, London Borough of Camden, London Borough of Islington, London Borough of Lambeth, London Borough of Lewisham, London Borough of Southwark, London Borough of Wandsworth, Midtown BID, Network Rail, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, South Bank BID, Team London Bridge BID, The Fitzrovia Partnership BID, The Northbank BID, Transport for London, Vauxhall One BID, Victoria BID.

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