



Speeding up cycling culture

Research Document

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Introduction

This toolkit collects a selection of methods used by our team to work on a Service Design project with the Royal College of Art and the City of Bradford Metropolitan District. The goal was to create urban resilience to climatic change by better enabling city planners and local authorities to work with communities in the delivery of Blue Green Infrastructure (BGI).

This project runs in the context of Begin research project.

Begin is an EU funded Interreg project working with 10 cities across Europe in the north sea region.

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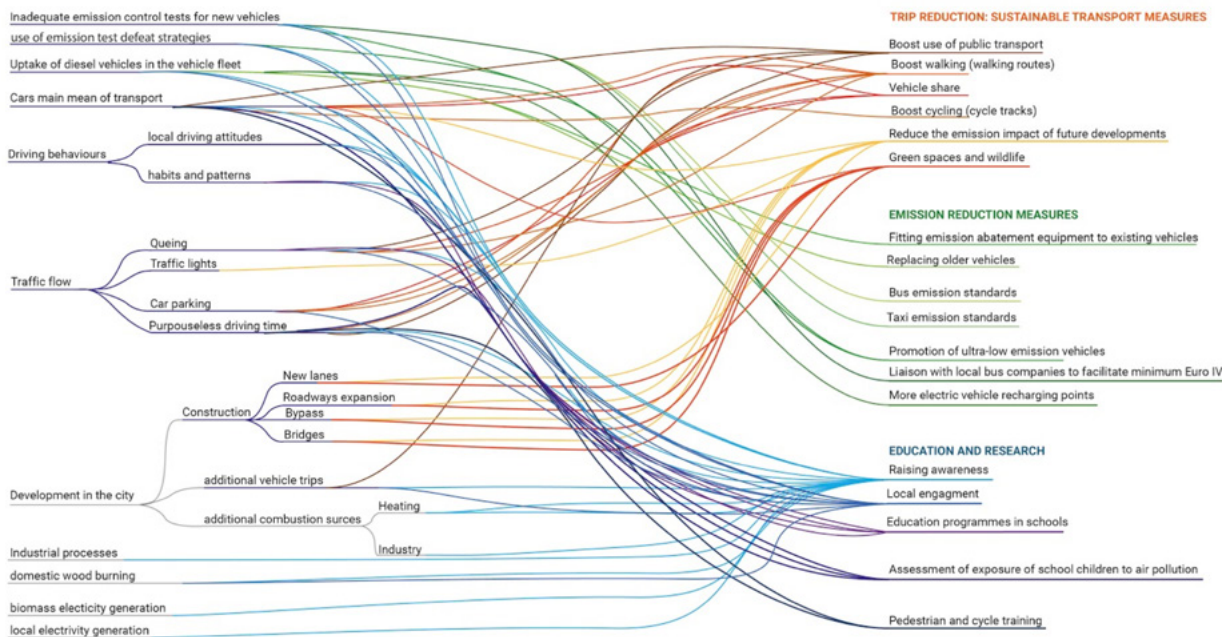
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Issues vs Strategies - Flow chart

AIR POLLUTION CAUSES

STRATEGIES



Process phase: desk research

Participants: project team

Description:

This flow chart helped us to visualize how local authorities are developing strategies to tackle air pollution

Objectives:

- match air pollution causes with strategies to overcome them
- understand policies directions
- visualise and synthesize data
- highlight possible gaps

Empathy map - Bradford, blowing in the wind



Process phase: discovery, field research

Participants: on street intervention for citizens

Description:

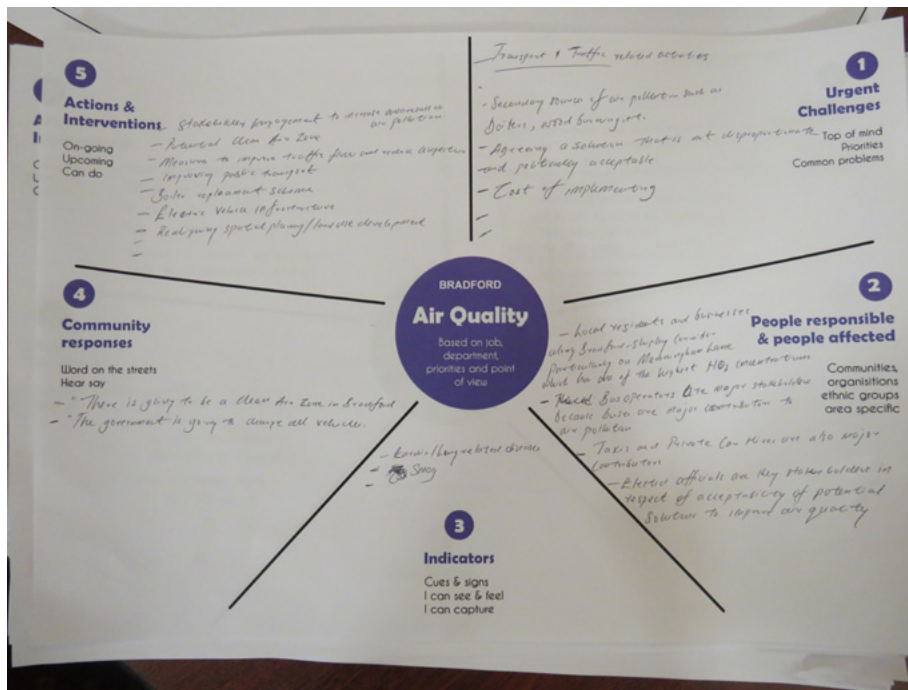
Warming exercise to engage with citizens on street in an informal and interactive way

Objectives:

- Conversation starter
- Engage people in an informal way
- Collect perceptions and insights from citizens about specific topics/issues



Context Map



Process phase: discovery workshop

Participants: stakeholders

Suggested time: 15 mins individual compilation + 15 mins collective discussion

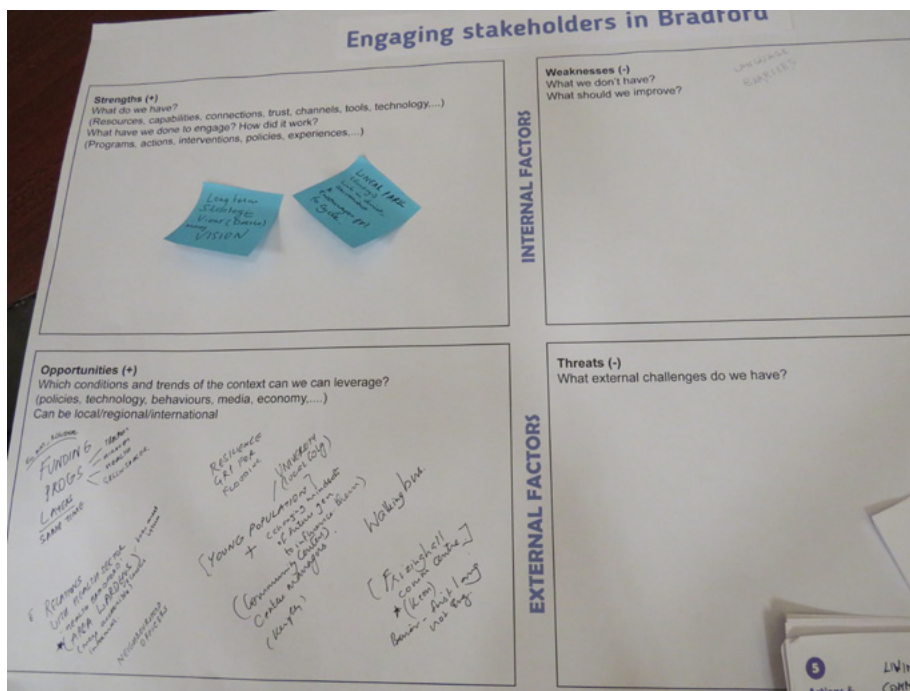
Description:

The context map is a tool that you can use with stakeholders to understand problems, activities and issues they face everyday

Objectives:

- Explore and mapping the context from each stakeholder point of view
- Data gathering tool
- Validate secondary research
- Get information from a human experience angle
- Priorities and challenges (problems, interventions..)
- Resources (parameters, social resources....)
- On-ground research with specific examples
- Identify roadblocks and frustrations
- Potential Ideas for the future

Swot Analysis



Process phase: discovery workshop

Participants: stakeholders

Suggested time: 30 mins collective work

Description:

The SWOT analysis that allow the project team to map, together with stakeholders, strengths and weaknesses (internal factors), opportunities and threats (external factors) related to a specific system.

Objectives:

- Map opportunities and limitations to face a challenge
- Identify future scenarios
- Explore possible solutions to problems
- Collect references

Post research synthesis



Process phase: discovery, define and ideation

Participants: design team

Materials: a big and empty wall + post-its + tape

Description: Breaking down complex concepts and problems into smaller, easier-to-understand constituents. Make sense of the data we have gathered to create a problem statement.

Objectives:

- make design decisions
- prioritise work
- write new user stories
- refine existing user needs
- develop your proposition or product roadmap

Persona

MARK. The Pro-active citizen

Mark has lived in his family house in Shipley all his life. He has witnessed the city develop from an industrial countryside to a more urban place. He takes pride in being an active member of his neighbourhood. He currently stays with his 7 years old son and wife.



Age: 45 years old

Place of residence: Stays in his family house in Shipley

Occupation: Works as a consultant in Bradford City centre

How does he gets around ?

His primary mode of transport is his SUV. Every morning he drops his son to secondary school, on his way to work in Bradford city. He prefers to use the Manningham Lane route to get to work.

On the weekends, he rides the bike with his family to the Farmer's market and believes its a good exercise.

What keeps him up at night?

- He is concerned about the **increase in the levels of asthma amongst school children** in Bradford. His son being one.
- "It's not safe for my son go to school alone by bike or on foot, cars drive too fast without looking at pedestrians or cyclists"

What does he look forward to?

"I wish my son could go to school without inhaling polluted air"

Barriers

Most parents drop their children by car in the morning

Process phase: Define and crisp insights

Participants: design team

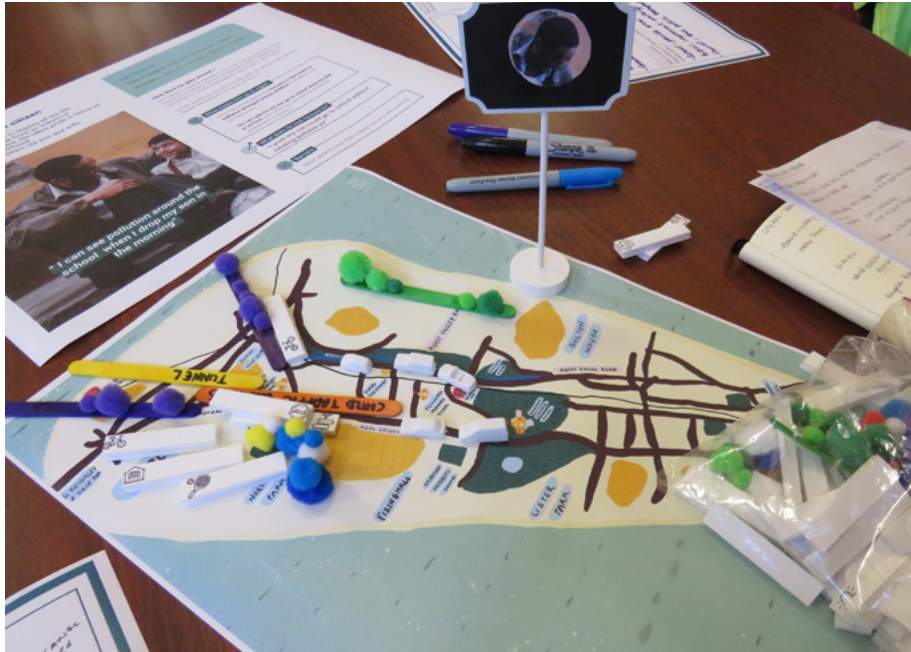
Description:

Personas are fictional characters used to represent groups of potential users and to understand challenges they face through their point of view. They share goals, behaviours and barriers through a specific service/product/situation and they are built after an observation of the potential users

Objectives:

- Turn insights into real users' needs
- Help managers/local authorities/stakeholders to think through the eyes of their clients/users
- Visualise specific problems that the solution should focus on

Vibe with your tribe



Process phase: co-ideation workshop

Participants: multiple stakeholders

Suggested time: 30 mins collective work

Description:

Vibe with your tribe is a board game used as a co-ideation exercise. A persona is assigned to each group together with a map and a toolbox with elements that interact (or could potentially interact) with the persona. The persona has specific problems and goals and the group has to solve them through a new solution.

Objectives:

- Identify early adopters
- Put participants in citizens shoes
- Understanding connections for future ideation
- Validate and define concepts and area of priority

Thinking hats



Process phase: ideation and prototyping

Participants: stakeholders; staff involved

Suggested time: 30 mins of role playing + 15 mins collective gathering

Description:

Thinking hats is a role-playing model presented by Edward de Bono in 1986. It serves as a team-based problem solving and brainstorming technique.

Objectives:

- helps groups think more effectively
- explore problems and solutions
- generate group discussions
- uncover ideas and options that might otherwise be overlooked by a homogeneously thinking group

Team and contacts

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