

Alice Roberts, CPRE London, 20 May 2021



All roads lead to Rome...

1. Housing targets & pressure on space in London

Can we use grey space? Yes!

2. Lack of green space (London has only half the green space it needs)

Can we use grey space? Yes!

3. Healthier streets

Can we use grey space to shift away from car trips, reduce air and noise pollution, carbon emissions and road casualties, and increase active travel rates (walking & cycling). Yes, yes and yes!

4. "London's public realm has been deeply neglected for too long"

Can we use grey space to improve our public realm? Yes!

5. Managing climate change

Can we use grey space to help manage rain and temperature? Yes!

6. Visual amenity

Can we live in a park, rather than a car park? Yes!

...all point to the need for re-allocation of 'grey' space



Eight ways

to transform parking and make London a better place



Colosseum Retail Park in Enfield





Proposals to transform the Colosseum Retail Park in Enfield, hitherto a large car park with 'big box' retail units.

Street parking can be transformed into new parks and safe play spaces.

London has just half the green space it needs for a population its size. Not all our streets are needed for parking or as through-routes for cars. Some residential streets, and also streets in central London, can be converted to attractive, green, traffic-free spaces for relaxation or play.

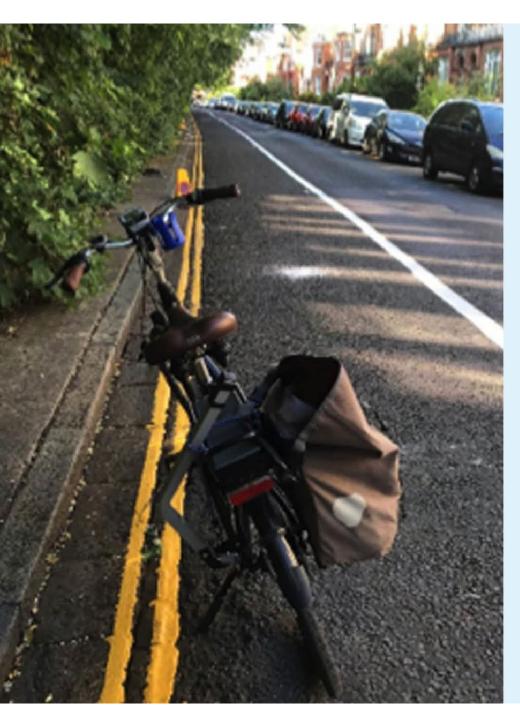


A street in Holland where parking spaces were removed to create a safe play space.





In Lambeth, a section of road was turned into a play space and safe, attractive walking route.



Parking can be removed from one or both sides of a street to allow for widened pavements or for new cycle lanes to make walking and cycling safer and more pleasant.

Responding to the coronavirus crisis, researchers at UCL found that only 36% of London's pavements are wide enough for social distancing and said there is an urgent need to reallocate street space in London so everyone can use streets safely. But they also pointed out that the lack of space for walking and cycling is a long-term problem.

Left: Parking was removed from one side of West Bank in Hackney to create a safe route for cycling.



Making space for pedestrians: pavements can be widened if parking spaces are suspended and cordoned off.

Public realm schemes can see visitor or shopping attractions, or historic squares, transformed from car parks into attractive new public spaces.

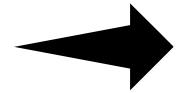
There are many examples where removal of car parking has transformed public spaces in London, for example at Somerset House. So much more could be done, in particular to transform historic squares and settings to their former glory.



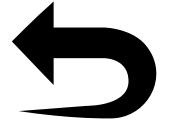


Proposed improvements to Market Square in Enfield.

Things are moving fast...



...not necessarily in the right direction







Vicarage Farm Vision

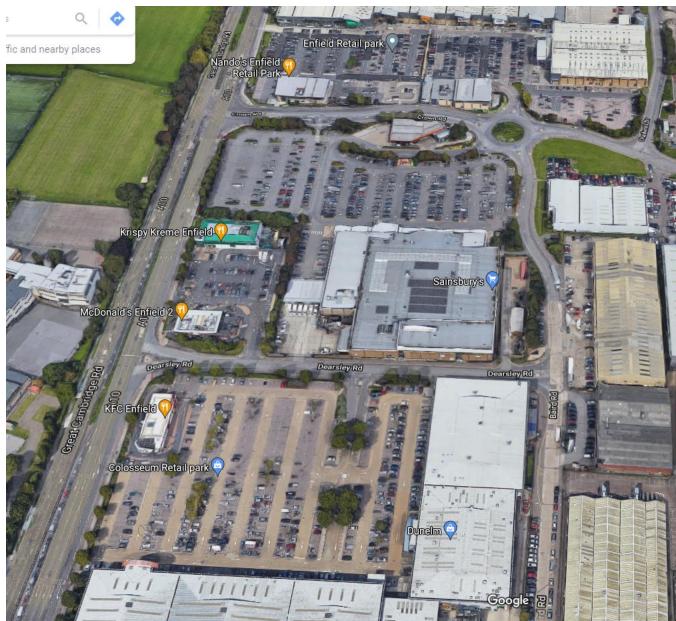
15 March 2021

VFV001

Vicarage Farm, Enfield







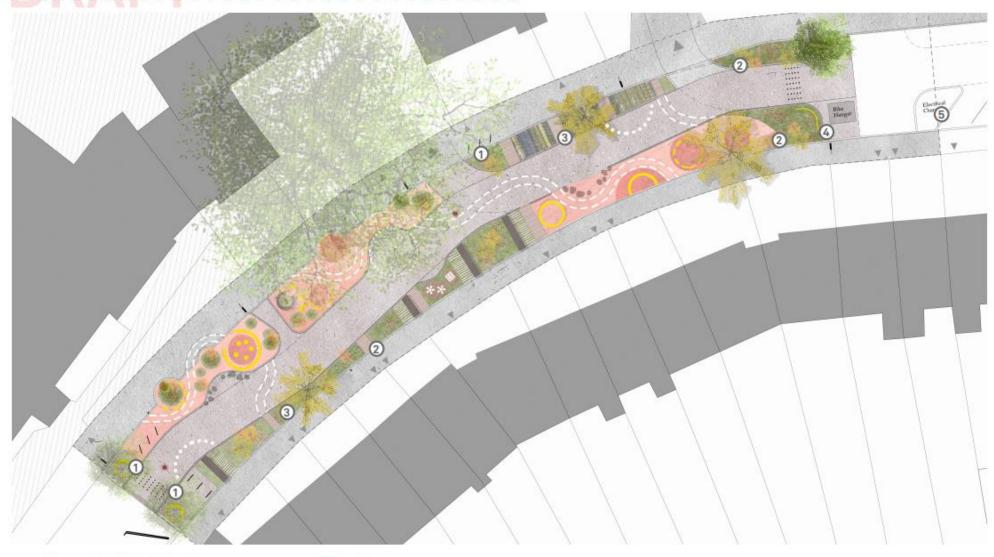
Credit Google Maps







Masterplan_Sustainable Infrastructure



- New sheffield stands
- SUDs/ ecology planting
- (2) Gobs/ ecology plantin
- Proposed trees

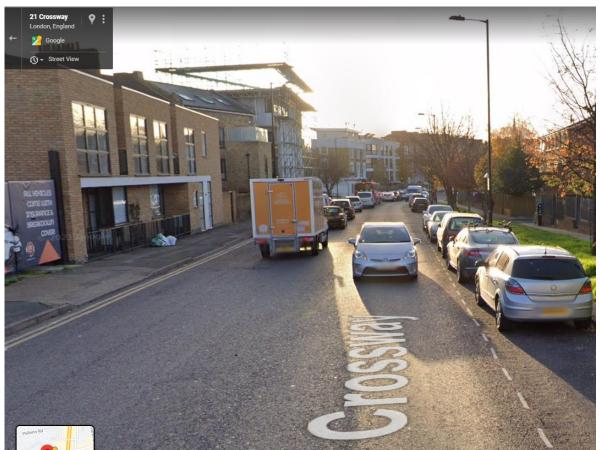
- Bike hanger
- 5 Electrical car charging points













The countryside charity CPRE London

Grev2Green

Challenge to one and all!



Credit @InfraCGI on Twitter







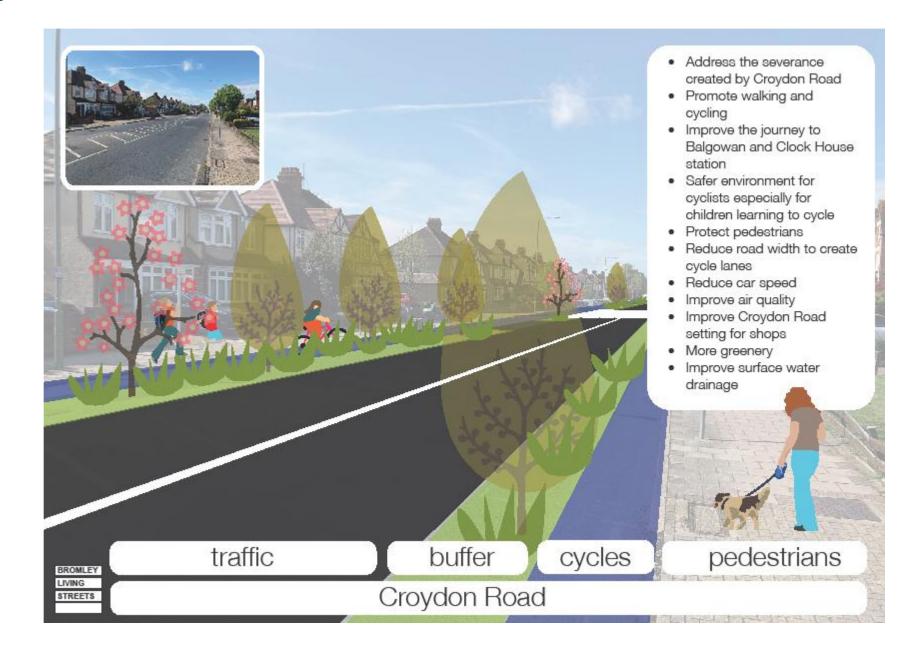
Credit @HackneyDownsLTN on Twitter



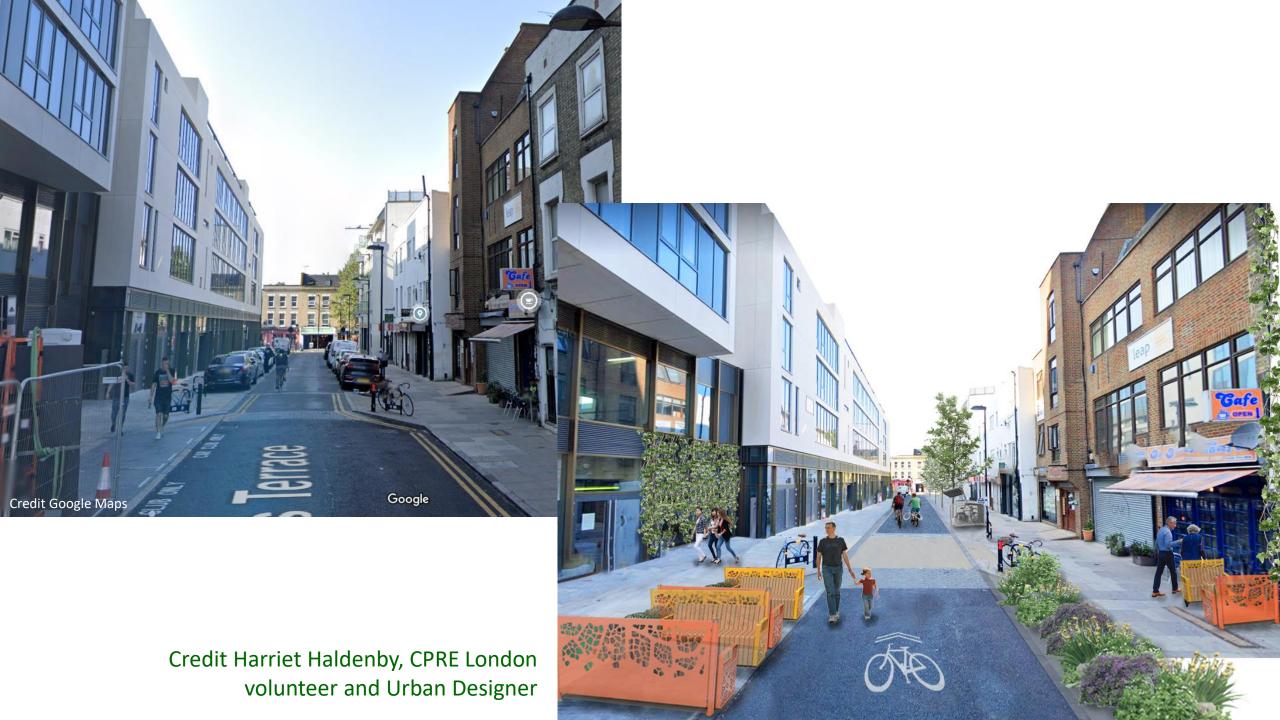




Credit Bromley Living Streets







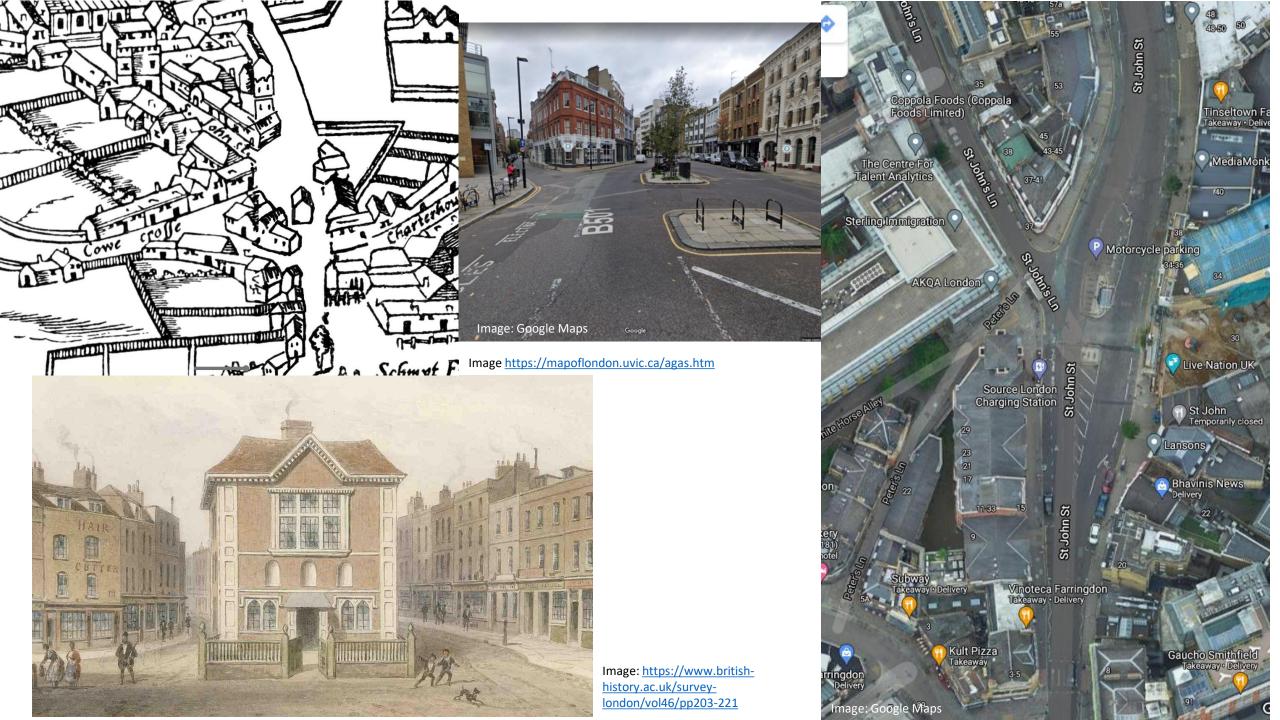


Call to action!











Cobbled/paved roadway for delivery access only. Level with paving to allow for pedestrian

Segregated cycle lanes in both directions as part of Islington Councils 'Charterhouse to Angel' aspirational cycle route

Cobbled street level access to St Johns Lane. Emergency vehicles/deliveries only. Other vehicle access via Britten

square & 'pocket park'. Total area approx 1000sqm, 300sqm of which planting. Central square with 8-10

with longitudinal perimeter

St Johns street to be closed to throu traffic at the southern end. Creation pocket park roughly 175 sqm, 65sqn planting. To tie in with public realm improvements related to Smithfield/Museum of London





Please propose changes to streets & town centres near you!

Local Elections May 2022 – all London boroughs
Contact us if you'd like help alice@cprelondon.org.uk

