

Shaping the future of Buckskin and South Ham

Community feedback – sharing your insights

November 2025, Edition 2



Introduction and summary

This report captures community insight into the neighbourhoods of Buckskin and South Ham over two years, from Autumn 2023 to the end of Summer 2025.

Since Autumn 2023, we've been actively engaging with residents across South Ham and Buckskin to listen, learn, and understand the diverse perspectives that shape your neighbourhoods.

We've had many meaningful conversations with people who live and work in the area, and we're grateful for the openness and honesty you've shared. Your experiences, ideas, and aspirations are helping us shape a shared vision for the future – one that reflects what matters most to you.

Our goal is to bring additional investment into Buckskin and South Ham to enhance the neighbourhoods for everyone. This includes creating more opportunities, improving local

spaces, and working together to develop a long-term plan that supports a thriving, inclusive community.

Through this process, we've heard about the challenges you face and the changes you'd like to see. In response, we've shared some early ideas for potential improvements, including refurbishing homes and regenerating parts of the area. These are just starting points, and your continued input will be vital as we explore the best ways forward together.

This report provides a summary of what we have heard so far.

Who helped us?

We worked with an independent specialist to help us capture your feedback:

Something Collective – are specialists in community engagement and helped us to capture community insight into the neighbourhoods of Buckskin and South Ham over a two-year period from Autumn 2023 to the end of September 2025.



In South Ham Extension, you have told us...

“ The Burnaby shops are an important stop-off.

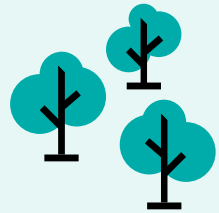
But the area around them can feel unsafe and could be cleaned up.”



Beardy Gardener, Burnaby Stores gardening project

Key themes we have been hearing throughout the process

Through the process, there have been consistent themes in community feedback:



Green spaces

The amount of greenery locally is cherished by the community. People see this as a defining quality of the area that should be protected and enhanced with better design and provision for play and relaxation. In 2023 and 2024, we heard from many residents that there was a need for improvements to – and better use of – green space. More recently, residents have focused on the need to safeguard green spaces.



Homes

We've heard a range of views about homes in the area, including that some homes, particularly those owned by SNG, would benefit from improvements because they are ageing or have maintenance issues. Many people feel a strong sense of pride in their homes, having invested significant time, care, and money into making them their own.



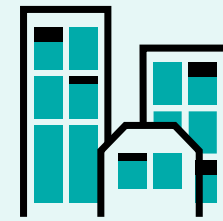
Getting around

Overall, people feel there are plenty of walking routes throughout the neighbourhoods; however, they would like these to be better maintained and for lighting to be improved to ensure people feel safe and comfortable. That said, street and road layouts in areas around South Ham Extension and Buckskin are seen as confusing and unintuitive. A clear trend in the community is the heavy reliance on cars as a mode of transport, for example, to reach local shops or travel further afield. Related to this are parking issues in the local area, such as on grassy banks, pavements, and problems with traffic at specific locations and times.



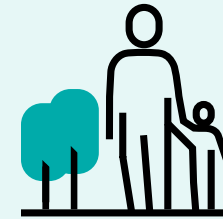
Improvements

We have heard mixed views on the need for improvements or change in Buckskin and South Ham. Over the last two years, many people have indicated that certain enhancements would be welcome, such as improving open spaces or community facilities. However, larger-scale ideas, including introducing new homes and rebuilding existing ones, have been less well-received by some. This sentiment is felt more strongly among private homeowners compared to SNG customers.



Access to shops

Although new shops and a 'local centre' with community facilities have been suggested as a potential benefit of larger changes, this idea hasn't had significant support in South Ham. People told us they already have established routines, like doing a weekly shop, which are well catered for by the supermarkets and retail parks nearby. In Buckskin, the number of takeaways was raised as a local concern with calls for a more diverse offer in local shops.



Community spaces

When asked where people go to socialise, often the community would refer to neighbours, friends and family homes. When asked what people would like to see introduced to improve community provision, the two most common suggestions were a community hub or pub. A notable space that has had a positive local impact is the opening of King's Road Café.

Community spaces of particular importance for different members of the community are the former Westside Community Centre and the current Ridgeway Community Centre. These anchor organisations are quoted as key places for social, physical and educational activities. The loss of the Westside Community Centre was highlighted as having a significant impact on the area and residents' social networks and sense of community cohesion – both from a historic and current perspective.



Local services

Many residents have told us that they feel there is a lack of healthcare provision across the neighbourhoods, something that people feel would be made worse with the introduction of new homes. Health and well-being are important to the local community, where there is concern for more vulnerable residents who need better services close by.



Protecting local character

Since our very first discussions with residents in 2023, we have heard that it's important that local spaces are identified, recognised, protected, and enhanced and that future ideas are developed with these principles in mind.

What happens next?

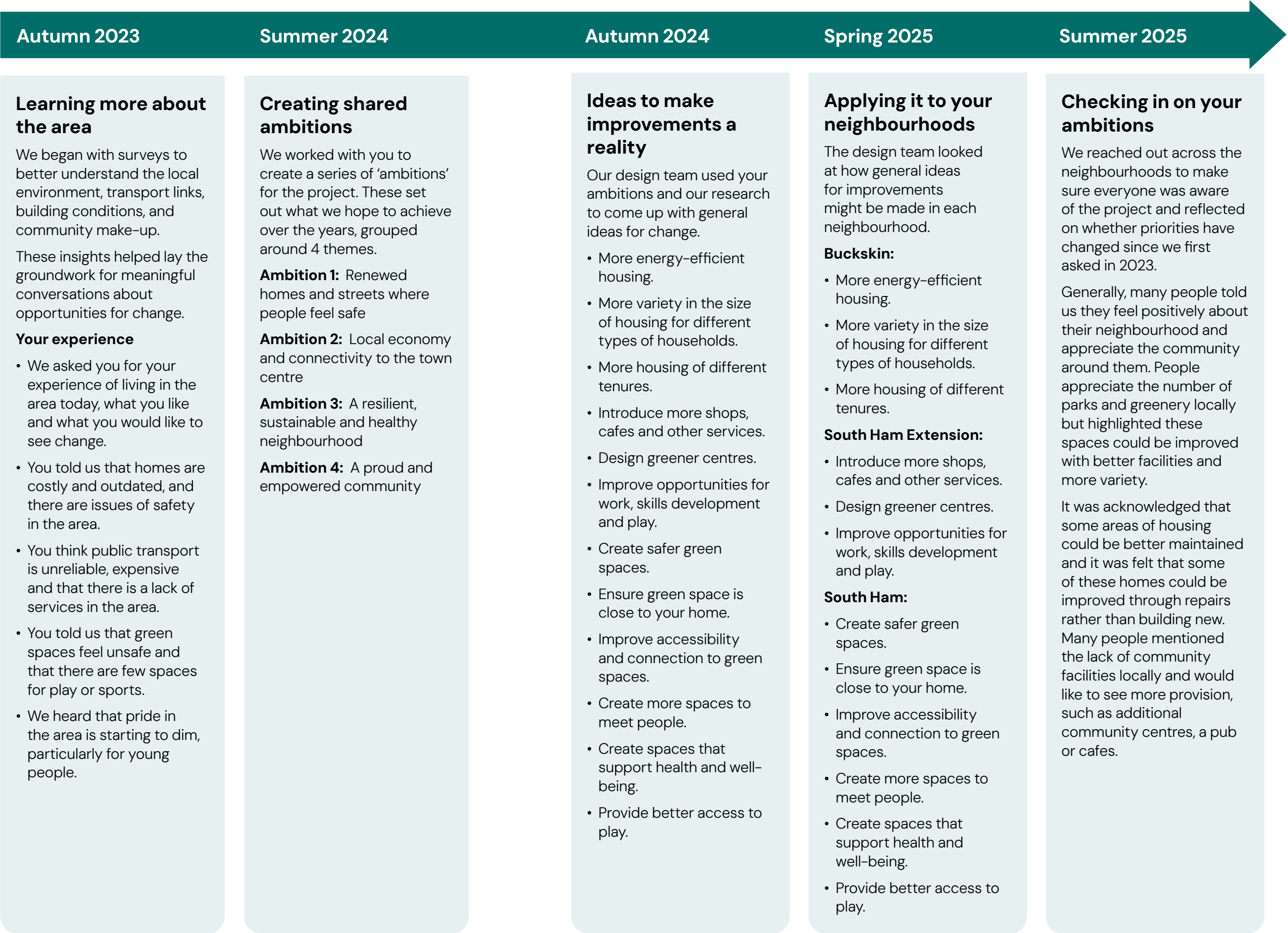
Our next steps involve carefully reviewing everything you've shared during the Neighbourhood in Focus workshops and combining this with the fantastic input from the Autumn of Community Co-Design 2025. This rich mix of insights will help us explore creative and practical options for delivering meaningful change in the area.

Once we've developed a fresh set of ideas that are grounded in what matters most to you, we'll be coming back to the community to share them and hear your thoughts. This is a collaborative process, and your continued involvement will be key to creating a future that reflects the hopes and ambitions of everyone who calls this place home.

The journey so far

Since 2023, we've been exploring how we can work with the residents in Buckskin and South Ham to bring meaningful improvements to the area. From the very beginning, this has been a collaborative process, shaped by the voices, ideas, and experiences of the people who know these neighbourhoods best – those who live or work there.

We've outlined the key steps we've taken so far since announcing our intention to invest in and improve the area. Each stage has brought us closer to a shared vision for the future that's being shaped with you.



Listening to local voices

We've been listening to residents across Buckskin and South Ham to hear your views, talk about hopes for the future, develop shared ambitions and present some early ideas for improvements.

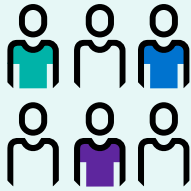
It's still early days, and there's lots more to explore so we'd love even more people to get involved and help shape what comes next. Your voice really matters in making sure any future changes reflect the community's aspirations for a shared vision.

Key engagement highlights



33,000+

Visits to our dedicated our website to find out more, and share feedback.



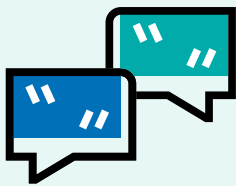
1,400+

people came to over 33 events.



1,800+

people filled in a survey.



over 1,200

conversations through our door knocking.



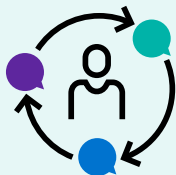
50+

young people took part in workshops.



8

editions of 'Your Community' newsletter were sent to all residents in the neighbourhoods.



9

Community Co-Design Associates (CDAs) worked through 22+ hours of workshops in 2024.

500% increase in attendance
at events over time

Setting our shared ambitions for the future

Following discussions over the summer at our community events and with both the Young Design Academy and Community Design Associates, together with our research, we have identified the following overall ambitions:



Renewed homes and streets where residents feel safe

Buckskin and South Ham should be safe and welcoming neighbourhoods where all ages feel comfortable in their homes and streets.



A prosperous strong link

A community where people have training opportunities, and there's a strong link between the community and the services people need.

Our community engagement journey so far

Autumn 2023 to Spring 2024

- **200+** attendees at 7 events
- **76** young people and families joined a school event
- **500+** surveys completed*
- **4,000+** visitors to dedicated website (Reported in Community Insights Report 2024)

Summer 2024 to Summer 2025

- **1,200+** attendees at over 24 events
- **50+** young people took part in workshops (Young Design Academy, school sessions, Scouts visit)
- **9** CDAs (Co-Design Associates) worked through 22+ hours of workshops
- **1,300+** surveys completed*
- Over **3,000** homes door-knocked

*Please note that a single individual may have completed multiple different surveys and attended multiple events.

The stages of resident engagement

All of the engagement to date has been to inform early ideas about what investment and improvements might be possible. As we work with you through this process, there will be times when we test ideas with you or make proposals to gather your views. This is so that we can hear your feedback, and this means that ideas are likely to change and develop and evolve over the next year as we work together to shape what each neighbourhood needs.

You can read more about our insights into individual neighbourhoods on pages 18–20.

In South Ham, you have told us...

“ People would like to see a new multi-function community centre built with access to green space.

This could benefit everyone.”



Stage 1 – Autumn 2023

In Autumn 2023, we set out to listen and understand people’s experiences of where they live and the challenges they faced.

We employed and trained local community researchers and held a series of listening events across Buckskin and South Ham to speak to you.

We also held three pop-up events at local schools to widen participation and engage with young people and their families.

This stage focused on learning and discovering; emphasis was placed on understanding the areas from residents’ perspectives.

- Three scales were used to capture feedback: ‘your home’, ‘your street’, ‘your neighbourhood’
- Participants were also asked to share ideas around the specific themes of: ‘getting around’, ‘community facilities’ and ‘green space and spaces to play’.

Stage 2: Spring to Summer 2024

Throughout Spring and Summer 2024, we worked with the community to define a set of shared ambitions for the future. To support the development of the project we recruited a design team including architects, landscape designers, transport experts and engineers, who conducted research into the area.

During this time, we continued to gather insights by hosting a series of summer events, walk-about, the Young Design Academy, as well as two drop-ins with community groups (Ridgeway Ravers and a Coffee Morning).

We began working with the Community Co-Design Associates to provide training sessions on planning and design, and to help us gather more in-depth insights into improving the area.

This stage focused on collectively identifying ambitions with the community to guide all future design work. Acknowledging the opportunities and challenges identified in Autumn 2023, aspirations were set around:

- **Renewed homes and streets where people feel safe:** responding to challenges around ageing homes, safety and accessibility.
- **A prosperous local community and economy:** responding to challenges around financial vulnerability and struggling local shops.
- **A resilient, sustainable and healthy neighbourhood:** responding to challenges of the climate crisis, health and well-being.
- **A proud and empowered community:** responding to challenges around the loss of community spaces and feelings of a lack of voice.

Stage 3: Autumn 2024

In Autumn 2024, we shared our research and tested a series of design ideas that aimed to address the identified challenges and achieve the ambitions we developed with the community.

We continued to work with the Community Co-Design Associates and the Young Design Academy to review and critique design ideas for the area.

To present the design ideas, we held two exhibitions in South Ham and Buckskin, supplemented by an additional six cafe drop-ins, a church drop-in and two evening sessions.

This stage focused on introducing a series of design ideas in response to the ambitions set over the Summer of 2024.

The concepts proposed for each ambition included:

- **Options for improving streets and housing**
- **Options for improving existing green spaces and introducing new green spaces**
- **Ideas for where local centres and bus routes could go**
- **Potential uses for new community facilities.**

In South Ham Extension, you have told us...

“ There could be more greenery and planting across the area.

There’s a lot of concrete and tarmac currently.”



Stage 4 – Spring 2025

In Spring 2025, we shared an initial vision for the future of Buckskin and South Ham, which was informed by feedback to the ideas presented in 2024. We continued to work with the Community Co-Design Associates to develop the ideas for the future and gather feedback, as well as hosting a school workshop to explore the ideas of younger voices.

Ideas presented included:

- A central walking route connecting the neighbourhoods from east to west
- New homes set around new local centres, with shops and community facilities that are easy for residents to access
- Improvements to green spaces: Buckskin Park to emphasise nature and wetlands, Russell Howard Park to support play and community activities, and Stratton Park to facilitate more formal sports with new facilities.

Stage 5 – Summer 2025

Over the Summer of 2025, after hearing your feedback from the Spring exhibition, we paused before moving forward. We wanted to take a closer look at each of the three areas (Buckskin, South Ham Extension, and South Ham) on their own terms. This meant listening carefully to local voices and gathering fresh insights about what matters most to people in each neighbourhood. Our goal was to understand everyday experiences and explore what improvements might feel right for different places, so any future plans truly reflect local priorities.

We asked people to share their:

- Experiences of homes and neighbourhoods across different areas of South Ham and Buckskin
- Views about streets and homes, shops and services, parks and green spaces, and community provision.

Burnaby ‘End of Summer Bash’ 2024



In South Ham Extension, you have told us...

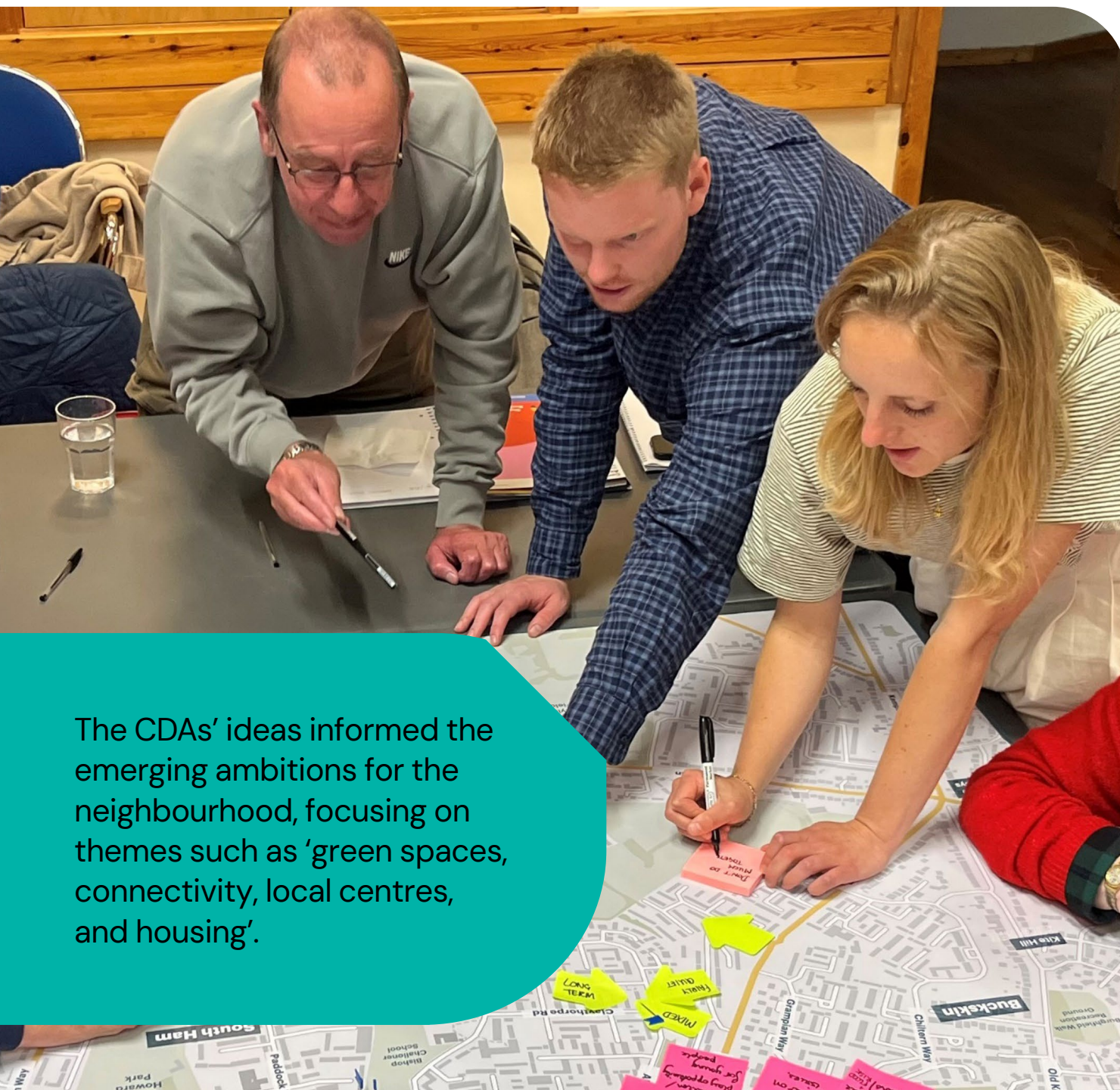
“ There are many terrace homes in South Ham Extension.

The many paths are confusing and the pavements are missing on the main roads.”



Local voices leading the way

Throughout the stages of resident engagement, you will see that a key element of capturing local insights is all about putting local voices at the centre of the proposed future investment in Buckskin and South Ham. This informed a series of bespoke workshops to dive deeper into co-design, and more detailed work with schools and young people to capture the views of the younger generation.



The CDAs' ideas informed the emerging ambitions for the neighbourhood, focusing on themes such as 'green spaces, connectivity, local centres, and housing'.

The Community Co-Design Associates (CDA) programme

The programme helped us to get a deeper understanding of local people's experiences and expertise, ensuring that any potential improvements are developed in partnership with the community.

This initiative started in Summer 2024 and provided local residents with an opportunity to gain introductory skills in urban design, develop an understanding of the English planning system, and acquire skills in community engagement and co-design. These skills were then applied through a series of sessions where CDA ideas informed the emerging ambitions for the neighbourhood, focusing on themes such as green spaces, connectivity, local centres, and housing.

Summer 2024: Three training sessions

- Intro to the UK planning system
- Principles of urban design
- Methods for community engagement

Autumn 2024: Five workshops

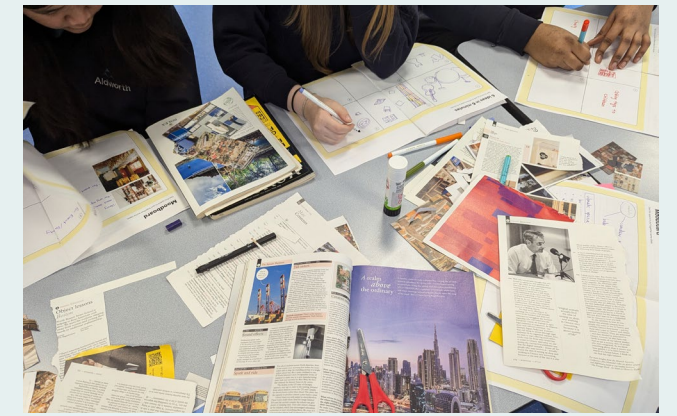
- Vision and principles
- Green spaces
- Local centres and connectivity
- Housing
- Principles for improvements

Winter 2024: Feedback session and three workshops

- Ideas for housing and streets
- Ideas for centres and green spaces
- Ideas for culture and community

Spring 2025: Three workshops

- Refresher session, reading a masterplan
- Housing and residents' offer by neighbourhood
- Local centres and community by neighbourhood



Young Design Academy – what we've heard from young people

The Young Design Academy (YDA) is a Sovereign Hill Partnership (SHP) programme that centres young people's voices in planning neighbourhoods that they will feel proud to grow up in.

It's important that young people play a key part in any plan for the future of the area. South Ham and Buckskin have a youthful population, and it's reported that there's currently a lack of opportunity or aspiration for people between the ages of 16 and 23.

We've worked with local people in this age group who live in South Ham or Buckskin, alongside Bluecoat School GCSE Geography and Design and Technology students, and the local Scouts group, to understand a range of views about what young people want from their neighbourhoods.

What they told us:

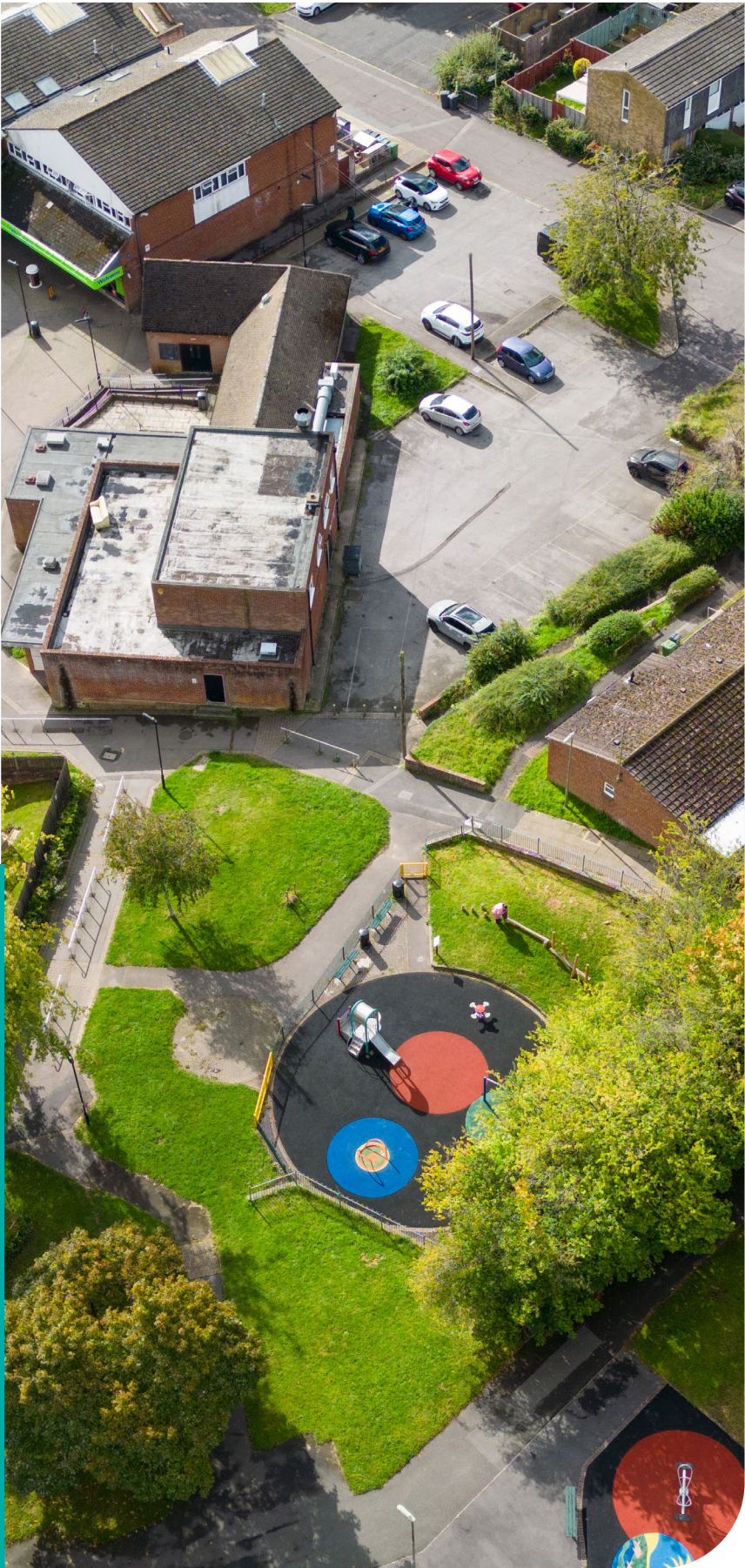
- They don't feel they have many opportunities in the area.
- They want more places to hang out away from screens, with suggestions for more outdoor places to meet friends and even a new local library.
- They want better public transport and safer, more accessible routes for walking and cycling.
- A community nature garden was suggested as a space everyone could create and enjoy together.
- It's important to have chances to build career skills and gain local work experience in a wide range of sectors such as creative industries, coding, and food and drink.

Breaking down the neighbourhoods today

In order to understand how to improve Buckskin and South Ham, we need to understand what is working well and what could be improved.

We first asked residents how they feel about their homes and neighbourhoods in 2023. We then asked the community the same questions in 2025, to check if anything had changed – or if residents still felt the same about what they liked and what they would like to see improved.

We have summarised what we have learnt over the last two years about Buckskin, South Ham Extension and South Ham in the following pages. We have used the same themes for each neighbourhood: housing and streets, shops and services, green spaces and community provision.



In Buckskin, you have told us...

There’s plenty of green spaces and Stratton Park is really well loved.

It could be even better with more variety in plants, more places to sit and better play equipment.

Buckskin Key Themes

	Summer 2025	Previous feedback
Housing and streets	A majority of homeowner respondents in Buckskin feel strongly that their homes meet their current needs, with many stating that they have made significant investments in maintaining and upgrading their homes to a good standard. Respondents were more likely to suggest improvements to the surrounding area or other people’s homes, rather than their own. There is some worry about outdated housing, as well as concerns about the maintenance of streets and amenities. Safety is a top priority, with many – especially young people, feeling unsafe at night due to poor lighting and design of public spaces.	Previously, respondents have mentioned there are issues with maintaining some properties in the neighbourhood. We also heard that Buckskin Lane could feel dangerous, and local walking routes are not maintained well. Residents also felt that there could be better public transport routes to the area.
Shops and services	There was little comment about the shops in Buckskin; however, some mentioned they are expensive, and the area surrounding them is poorly maintained. Many residents highlighted the need for more healthcare facilities in the area such as dentists and doctors’ surgeries. In addition to better maintenance of streets and spaces, we heard that local people would also like to see a greener local centre.	Throughout all rounds of consultations, it has been noted that there is a lack of healthcare facilities immediately within the Buckskin area. This is seen as particularly problematic given that many local residents have specific health needs.
Green spaces	Residents value their access to green spaces, especially Stratton Park, and smaller green spaces and nature such as around Cairngorm Close and Tweedsmuir Close and Grampian Way. Respondents suggested that green spaces could be better maintained by cutting back overgrown trees and providing more suitable ways to dispose of litter. Other suggestions made were to provide an astroturf on Stratton Park and increase seating and spaces to relax and eat outside.	It has consistently been mentioned that local green spaces could be better maintained and improved to make them more attractive to use and allow more people to access them.
Community provision	There was little response regarding community provision in Buckskin. People were positive about the Ridgeway Centre; however, they mentioned there could be more for older children. People who did offer suggestions included improving opportunities for children and young people and creating more community events in the area that utilise outdoor spaces, noting that these could help build relationships amongst residents and improve the sense of community.	Through previous rounds of surveys, it has been mentioned that Buckskin has a strong sense of community with formal community hubs, such as the Ridgeway Centre, Evangelical Church and Chiltern Primary School, as well as strong local neighbourhood networks.

South Ham Extension Key Themes

	Summer 2025	Previous feedback
Housing and streets	Residents in South Ham Extension were generally concerned with issues such as proper maintenance of homes and streets, safer pathways, and better public lighting. Many felt that better maintenance of the streets and roads would improve the area, particularly around Alliston Way, Claythorpe Road and St Peter’s Road.	Repeatedly, people have mentioned the many back alleys and small paths that make the area confusing to navigate and unsafe at night.
Shops and services	Survey respondents suggested the nearby supermarkets and retail market provide adequate options for shopping. There were multiple comments regarding the area around Burnaby shops not feeling safe. People made suggestions for improvements, including rebuilding the shops, attracting more businesses to the units and ensuring there are consistent opening times.	Whilst people really value the businesses in Burnaby Close, there is general concern about the safety and upkeep of the area surrounding them.
Green spaces	Respondents value local green spaces, including Russell Howard Park, Stratton Park and Down Grange Park. People would like to see better maintenance and more interesting play equipment, more wildlife and trees and types of planting in local green spaces.	Across earlier rounds of consultation, comments have mentioned that Stratton Park could be better connected to the wider area. It has repeatedly been mentioned that, whilst green spaces are important to local people, there is potential for them to be improved.
Community provision	Respondents noted the loss of the Westside Community Centre, creating a loss of provision for young people as well as the bar that used to be open on the weekends, leaving a gap in the community.	Since 2023, there has been repeated mention of the many ways local people valued the Westside Centre. People valued it as a place to learn, including employment skills and language lessons, a place to socialise with hireable spaces for parties and community events, a place to exercise with dance and fitness classes and a place for support with services such as a food pantry.

South Ham Key Themes

	Summer 2025	Previous feedback
Housing and streets	Respondents in South Ham were largely positive about their homes but felt quite strongly that there was a need to improve the safety of the overall area. Residents have suggested that safety could be improved through better street lighting, particularly around quieter streets, and the maintenance of pathways. Reducing traffic and introducing speed measures were also suggested to improve safety, particularly on Western Way.	In earlier engagements, we heard that housing quality across the area is not consistent and that some areas feel run-down. Western Way has repeatedly been identified for speeding traffic, issues with parking and cut throughs. People like that there are different sizes and types of homes in the area, enabling extended families to live locally and people to move within the area as their needs change.
Shops and services	Multiple comments suggested the King’s Road shops are adequate for community needs; however, they could be better maintained. We heard that many people primarily access these shops by car. Multiple comments suggested there could be improved healthcare provision in the area and that the existing provision is over capacity. Other ideas to improve local services included a cafe, community centre, post office and a library.	Previously, it had been suggested that the area around King’s Road shops felt unsafe, particularly following the closure of the Beacon pub. We also heard that while not everyone used the pub, it did signify another loss of places to socialise in the area.
Green spaces	Respondents were positive towards existing green spaces and liked the close proximity to greenery. They referenced their spaciousness but also suggested they would like to see more greenery across the area. A lot of people value Russell Howard Park but don’t feel it gets a lot of use and said this could be enhanced with more activities for all ages, more play equipment and more picnic benches and seating.	It has consistently been mentioned that local green spaces could be better maintained and improved to allow more people to access them. Some people have told us that they don’t always feel safe using the parks, particularly if walking alone.
Community provision	People in South Ham particularly value the allotments near Elizabeth Road. Similar to South Ham Extension, residents noted that the loss of the Westside Community Centre and the Beacon pub has had a negative impact on the local area. Many people highlighted the need for a new community centre as a priority for the area.	Since 2023, there has been repeated mention of the loss of community and social spaces across the area. People tend to rely on their homes and gardens as spaces to socialise.

Ideas for change

In 2024, our design team proposed some high-level thoughts about what changes could take place in Buckskin, South Ham and South Ham Extension – based on feedback we had heard up to that point. We asked the community to give their views on whether these ideas could benefit the area.

Below is community feedback on the ideas shared for each neighbourhood in Spring 2025. We are focusing on this feedback and gathering further insights during Autumn 2025. Community Co-Design sessions are progressing to obtain more detailed insights at a local neighbourhood level.

Here’s what we heard about the ideas for change.

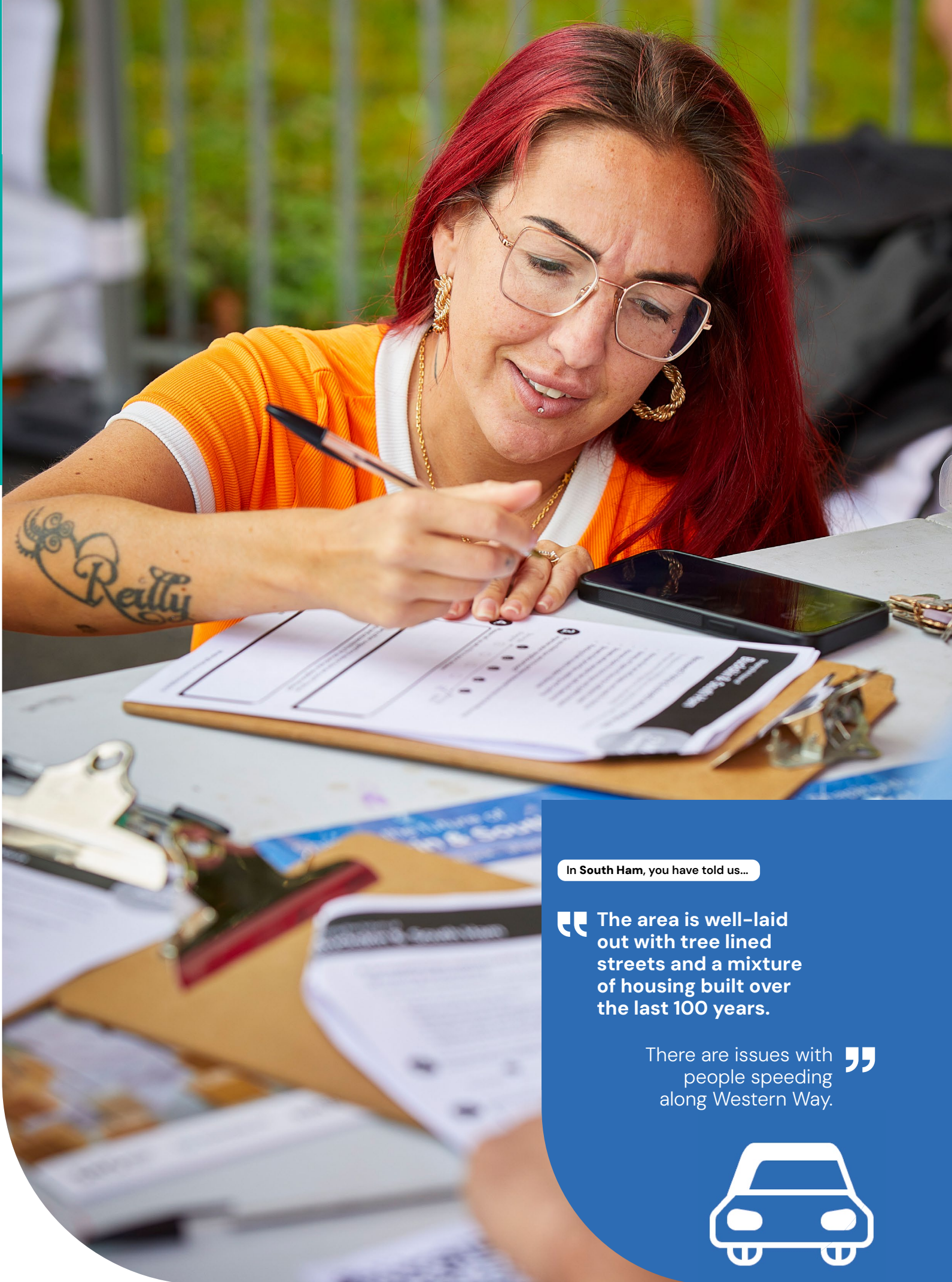
Buckskin Ideas for Change

Public response in focus	
Housing and streets	We heard that there is concern about the potential to introduce new homes in Buckskin and people were worried about what type of home would be built, preferring traditional housing. The bungalows were frequently referenced as a valued house type for older people and those with disabilities, noting their benefits include single-level, private gardens, a close-knit community, and spacious rooms.
Shops and services	A few comments mentioned support for moving the shops and cafes to a more central location to make them more accessible to more people.
Green spaces	Many respondents supported or had no strong view about the idea of Buckskin Park becoming a more natural green space for the area.
Community provision	The Ridgeway Centre is well used, and many people were unsure about the need for it to be replaced or relocated.

In Buckskin, you have told us...

“Homes are spacious and well arranged so neighbours can look out for each other.”

Some homes are difficult to heat and could be better maintained.”



In South Ham, you have told us...

“The area is well-laid out with tree lined streets and a mixture of housing built over the last 100 years.”

There are issues with people speeding along Western Way.”



South Ham Extension Ideas for Change

Public response in focus	
Housing and streets	We heard that many people think that maintenance and repairs in South Ham Extension are a big priority. Some comments were supporting the proposed redevelopment. There was significant concern about the idea of opening Old Worting Road for buses, with fears it will increase vehicle traffic.
Shops and services	There are mixed feelings about the shops on Burnaby Close. Some say they are vital and that the area is well served by convenience stores, whilst others say there is a need for local provision to be improved.
Green spaces	Many people told us that they would be very concerned about considering any form of development on Russell Howard Park that detracted from potential improvements to the quality and function of green space.
Community provision	We didn't hear much from residents in terms of community facilities or expanding provision.

South Ham Ideas for Change

Public response in focus	
Housing and streets	We heard that there is concern about the idea to introduce more homes or re-provide new homes in South Ham, although some people understood that SNG might need to refurbish or re-provide homes they own. We heard about the good quality of existing housing stock from some people, while others felt that new homes that are energy efficient, modern and of 'decent' size would be positive. There was little support for the idea of more flats.
Shops and services	The idea of introducing a new 'local centre' near Western Way, which could provide local shops, services and community facilities for residents, was met with concern, as it was misconceived that this could become a 'high street', with people worried about increasing traffic and pedestrian use of one of the busiest roads in the area. Several people told us that they were worried about the impact on their homes and the existing street trees.
Green spaces	Many people shared concern about the possibility of new buildings on part of Russell Howard Park, feeling that the amount of green space in the area is something people think is important. People were open to improving the green space close to King's Road but noted concerns about any reduction in green space.
Community provision	Of all the early ideas suggested for South Ham, a new community hub was the most supported. It was noted that any new community provision should be open in the evenings and weekends to accommodate people who work. Noting the loss of informal meeting places, there were suggestions to introduce a new pub/ restaurant within walking distance. Concern was shared that the current investment being made to create a temporary community centre on the site of the former Beacon pub will be wasted if it is later demolished.

In South Ham, you have told us...

The only shops in the area are on Kings Road.

The area around the shops isn't well maintained, especially since the closure of the pub.



Kings Road, arts trail



Final summary of key points

This section provides an overview of what we have heard throughout the engagement process regarding Buckskin and South Ham. It reflects the main themes raised by residents, stakeholders, and partners, and highlights areas where there is potential for positive change. The summary is intended to capture the essence of the feedback and inform the next steps in shaping future improvements.

Improving Buckskin and South Ham

Property improvements:

- We heard many residents stress the importance of good property maintenance to keep the area feeling safe and well cared for. It was felt that this is essential for homes now and in the future, contributing to an improved quality of life.
- Residents have highlighted some properties are ageing, have maintenance issues, or are even beyond repair and may need replacing.
- Retrofitting or replacing some poorer performing homes was recognised as a positive investment that can save money for both residents and SNG, through improved energy efficiency.

Improved safety:

- People would like to see improved safety through more direct streets, as well as well-lit and easy-to-follow routes.

Places to socialise:

- Closures of places such as the Westside Community Centre, the Beacon pub and the Camrose football stadium are greatly felt by the community and have contributed to a sense of decline.
- New places to socialise are welcomed, including cafes and community hubs, which would allow existing residents to come back together following recent closures.

Young people:

- It is repeatedly mentioned that there is little for young people to do locally, especially young adults, and there should be more spaces locally that provide activities and skills development for young people. Young people have to rely on leaving the area to access opportunities to develop their skills and/or for employment.

Sufficient shops:

- Whilst we have heard that the look and upkeep of local shops is something that people feel is important, as well as creating places that feel safe to walk to, it is generally felt that the area is well served by retail parks and supermarkets, which people can drive to, as well as 'one-stop' shops nearby.

Healthcare:

- Across both areas, but particularly Buckskin, it is felt that there are inadequate healthcare provisions and pressure on any services that do exist.

Public transport:

- Many people have told us that the bus routes are not a priority for improvement.

Protected and enhanced green spaces:

- The local community see Buckskin and South Ham's informal greenery, such as trees, grassy verges and hedgerows, as a distinctive quality of the area.
- Russell Howard Park, Stratton Park, Down Grange Park and the allotments are all recognised as important local assets that the community would like to see improvements to, whilst ensuring the spaces are safeguarded in any plans for change.
- Improvements suggested for local parks include more provision for all members of the community, such as better play equipment, more seating, more landscaping and gardens within the space, more toilets, cafes and accessible facilities.

Community events:

- Residents would like to see SNG organise more regular community events and/or support/fund local community-serving organisations, such as the Westside Association and places of worship, to run community events.



The process of change

Maintaining close-knit communities:

There are sensitivities within the community about living in 'new' neighbourhoods and concerns around isolation, loss of community support networks, loss of space (internal/gardens/communal) and changing living circumstances, such as being moved to flats without outdoor space.

Homeowners:

Homeowners are particularly concerned about the future of their properties. They would like clear information on what factors are involved in deciding which areas could be renewed, and more clarity and information on timescales and options.

Support for disabled and older residents:

People are keen to ensure that those with disabilities, and older people, will be supported throughout the process.

Recognising multi-generational families:

Many multi-generational families are living in the area, forming a large part of the local culture, and being close to extended family is an important consideration for many residents.

Local health services:

There are concerns that additional homes will increase pressure on local services – particularly health, community services and community provision.

Growing participation, shaping what's next

Over the past two years, we've seen what can happen when people come together to share ideas and shape their neighbourhoods. Every conversation, every suggestion, and every moment of involvement has helped us understand Buckskin and South Ham better, as well as the community's aspirations for these neighbourhoods.

As we move into the next stage, we'll keep listening and working side by side with you to turn these ideas into real change. Thank you for being part of this journey, your voice makes the difference.

Find out more

You can also visit our website to sign up for regular news updates and find out how to get involved. You'll also find lots of other information to keep you updated on what's happening.

Website: <https://shapingthefuture.commonplace.is/>

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

Phone: 0300 5000 926

Calls from UK landlines are charged at local rates. Charges from mobile telephones vary. The charge for your call will depend on your mobile phone provider and the contract that you have with them.

Please contact us if you'd like a copy of this information in another language or format. Or visit our highly accessible website.

Polish

Prosimy o kontakt, jeśli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać kopię tych informacji w innym języku lub formacie. Są one również dostępne na naszej stronie internetowej.

Portuguese

Entre em contacto conosco se desejar uma cópia destas informações noutro idioma ou formato. Ou visite o nosso website, totalmente acessível.

Nepali

कृपया यदि तपाईं यो जानकारीको प्रतिलिपि अन्य भाषा वा ढाँचामा चाहनुहुन्छ भने हामीलाई सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस् । वा हाम्रो पूर्ण रूपमा पहुँच योग्य वेबसाइटमा जानुहोस्।

Hindi

अगर आप इस जानकारी की कॉपी किसी और भाषा या फॉर्मेट में चाहते हैं तो कृपया हमसे संपर्क करें। या हमारी पूरी तरह से एक्सेसिबिल वेबसाइट पर जाएँ।

Urdu

اگر آپ کسی دوسری زبان یا فارمیٹ میں اس معلومات کی کاپی چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔ یا ہماری مکمل طور پر قابل رسائی ویب سائٹ پر جائیں۔

Arabic

يُرجى الاتصال بنا إذا كنتم ترغبون في الحصول على نسخة من هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو في تنسيق آخر، أو يمكنكم زيارة موقعنا الإلكتروني بكل سهولة ويسر.

Romanian

Vă rugăm să ne contactați dacă doriți o copie a acestor informații într-o altă limbă sau într-un alt format. Sau vizitați website-ul nostru complet accesibil.

