



HELLO SPRING !

Still (very) chilly in London, but the daffodils are out so all upwards from here!

We've got work blossoming all over the country: from planting trees in Grimsby to creating Design Codes in Worcestershire and Buckinghamshire. Here's what we've been up to at Create Streets HQ. As always, [do get in touch](#) with your projects and ideas!

- Speaking of ideas, here are some from our fellow Toby Lloyd on how to revive high streets by supporting community ownership of empty shops: [Re-creating the platoons of place](#)
- And here is our director, Nicholas Boys Smith, on [why 15 minute cities are not a socialist plot](#) !

CAN NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT ORDERS 'BRING THE DEMOCRACY FORWARD?'



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neighbourhoods. Our pioneering work in Chesham on community-led intensification using this has been picked up in Bright Blue's new report [Greater and greener Homes](#), while Cllr Jane MacBean [wrote](#) for Conservative Home on the potential for this approach to win local support for building homes.

We're now actively looking for more councils willing to co-create beautiful new homes on under-used sites via either NDOs or Local Development Orders (LDOs) which are similarly brought forward by local councils not parishes or neighbourhood groups. [Do get in touch if we can help!](#)

GREENING UP GRIMSBY



Thanks to the generous support from the [Create Streets Foundation](#) Place Champions Scheme and [Berkeley Group](#), we're helping pioneering Grimsby community group [East Marsh United](#)'s brilliant work [improving their neighbourhood](#). The residents are working together on an ambitious plan to improve homes, plant trees and makes streets safer and nicer. If you were in Grimsby a couple of weeks ago, you'd have seen some of the Create Streets team in wellies with spades, helping to plant 30 trees in Grant Thorold Park. [See footage of the day on BBC's Look North](#). Great Grimsby MP, Lia Nici, and Mayor Steve Beasant, local schools, Humberside Fire Brigade and Grimsby Town footballers all joined in the fun.

If you would like to improve your neighbourhood with future [Place Champions](#) programmes watch this space and do [get in touch](#).

DESIGN CODES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

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Since the 2021 edition of the National Planning Policy Framework ([NPPE](#)) English councils and neighbourhoods are strongly encouraged to write Design Codes to de-risk development by setting clearer 'quality asks.'

At Create Streets we believe they have huge potential to create more beautiful, popular and sustainable places bar by giving greater clarity upfront on design, and by 'engaging wide and deep' to discover what is locally popular. You can read more about our work for Wychavon District Council on a new series of design codes for the Worcestershire region in Cllr Bradley's enthusiastic interview [here](#). He particularly mentioned the online [Create Communities platform](#) to understand what people like. Our work on the project has even been [mentioned](#) by Rachel Maclean MP in the House of Commons!

'CREAR CALLES': CREATE STREETS AND BOGOTA



We were delighted to receive [a visit](#) from Bogotá's mayoral candidate, Gustavo Bolivar, to our London office. We discussed Bogotá's context and challenges and reviewed our research into the relationships between place with security, well-being and prosperity as well as our nation-wide community-led co-design work. Thank you for the visit and good wishes in the election!

EDUCATION

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Create Streets Robert Kwolek and David Milner will

be running an Oxford University course on 'Design Coding for the English Street'. With beautiful and popular Design Codes set to be required in England under the new Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill this practical, hands-on two day course will teach what a design code is (and isn't), how to find out what residents want and how to write one - together with a site visit and coding practice.

Thursday 20 April – Friday 21 April | [reserve a place here](#)

The brilliant Mark Shepherd ran a second 'Dare to Draw' one day course on hand drawing for urban planning and design work. Thanks to participants for such kind feedback: *'...an amazing balance of instruction and letting us get on with drawing. The day flowed really nicely and I think everyone came away with new skills they will use as well as having had a very enjoyable time.'* Do hurry to get one of the last three places.

Next session: Saturday 29th April | [reserve a place here](#)

We love running lectures or seminars at architecture and planning schools. Our most recent session last month was on what makes for happy places and on how to write Design Codes for Manchester School of Architecture's Continuity in Architecture module. The students asked great and searching questions.

Do please get in touch if you run a undergraduate or post-graduate course and would like us to share our unique work with your students.



EVENTS: TRANSFORMING CITIES

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Transforming Cities 2023

HOME

CONFERENCE

EXHIBITION

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22 March 2023
Phoenix Leicester

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Create Streets will be at the Transforming Cities event in Leicester, on 22 March. We'll have a stall and speakers on exciting panels. Do come to hear some top voices in movement, planning and place-making. Click below to register.

[Register to attend](#)

IN THE BLOG AISLE

[Could community-led urban infill provide 100,000 new homes?](#)

Toby Lloyd asks how big is the 'urban acupuncture' opportunity to gently intensify inter-war housing estates considering [We Can Make](#)'s pioneering Bristol pilot.

[What could Lambeth's Kerbside Strategy look like in practice and how do we get there?](#)

Too many council 'climate emergency charters' are hot air. Create Streets' Senior Urban Designer George Payiatis, thinks Lambeth's new kerbside strategy might be different.

[Is beauty in the eye of the controller?](#)

A senior leader in housing development says that highways officials and budgets are blocking the creation of beautiful and green streets and how to fix it

[A win for design: How The Wintles remains an enigmatic success](#)

Ed Leahy, Urban Designer at Create Streets, paid a visit to the unique Wintles village in Shropshire to assess its legacy.

CARDS FOR EASTER



Please do buy some beautiful blank cards for Easter or birthdays with the proceeds supporting the [Create Streets Foundation](#). You can [buy here](#).

And that's a wrap!
Till next time and do stay in touch.



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