The **RiConnect Chron**icles Final Meeting Phase 1

TRANSNATIONAL MEETING

GREATER MANCHESTER

JANUARY 30-31 2020





RiCONNECT RETHINKING INFRASTRUCTUR

RiConnect 02 RETHINKING INFRASTRUCTURE



- How to read this summary
- What is RiConnect?
- What are the main objectives?
- Who is a member of this network?
- Who is who?
- Final Meeting Programme

day 1

- Welcome to Greater Manchester
- Overview of the Planned Activities
- URBACT Secretariat
- Break Talk The 'Right Mix' for 2040
- State of the Art
- Synthesis 1
- Oxford Road Site visit
- Roundtable Exchange with other networks
 - URBACT Zero Carbon Cities
 - Transport for Greater Manchester
 - EUROCITIES From Roads to Streets
 - URBACT RiConnect
- Roundtable Rethinking Infrastructure
- IAP Pecha Kucha
- IAP Marketplace
- Surprise Event Street Art Walking Tour
- Dinner

day 2

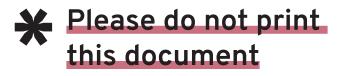
- Meeting Point
- Media City Salford
- Synthesis 2
- Talk From Urban Highway to Living Space
- Running the Network
- Communication
- Lunch
- Break talk The Bee Network
- Synthesis 3
- Inspirational Talk Streets for All
- PIR Session



How to read this summary

The intention of this document is to highlight the ideas most relevant to the subject brought up during the **RiConnect Final meeting** on **30-31 January 2020**.

The document is **organised chronologically** with two reasons in mind: first, it helps readers understand better how ideas were conceived; second, it helps participants recover information more easily. It is designed **to be read digitally** and contains **links to online documents**.



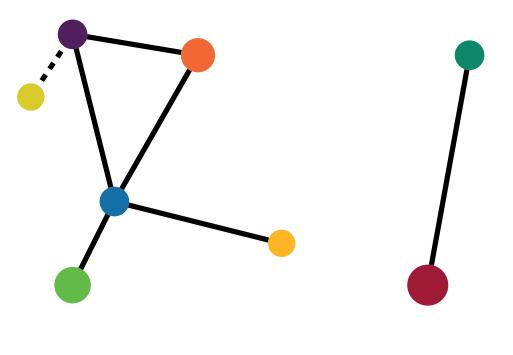


What is RiConnect?

RiConnect is a network of eight metropolises whose purpose is to rethink, transform and integrate mobility infrastructures in order to reconnect people, neighbourhoods, cities and natural spaces.

We will develop planning strategies, processes, instruments and partnerships to foster public transport and active mobility, reduce externalities and social segregation and unlock opportunities for urban regeneration.

Our long-term vision is a more sustainable, equitable and attractive metropolis for everyone. It is an URBACT project and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.



RiCONNECT RETHINKING INFRASTRUCTURE

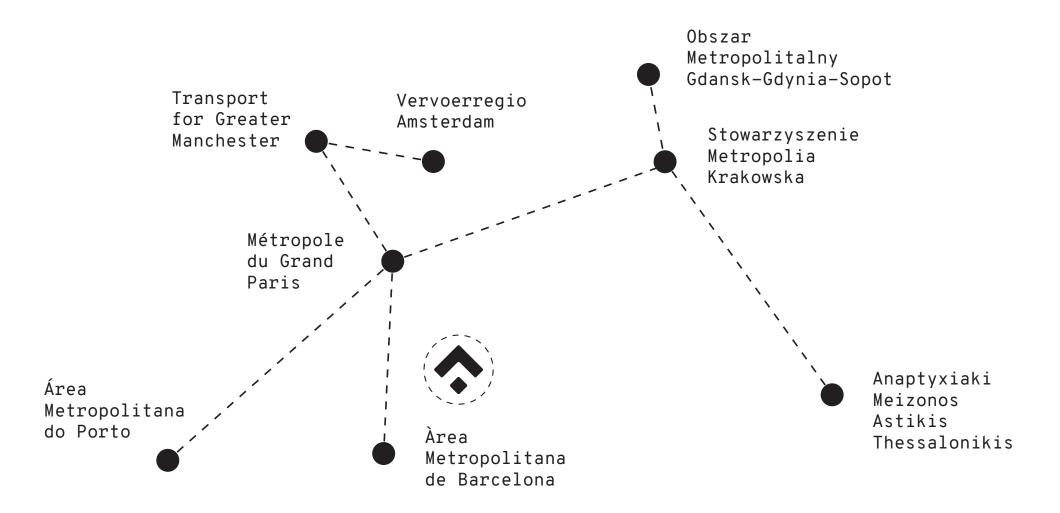
What are the main objectives?

- 1. Share the co-written State of the Art.
- 2. Resolve doubts and address suggestions related to the **Partner Profile**.
- 3. Co-design the Synthesis and Methodology for Phase 2.
- 4. Explore the meaning of 'Rethink mobility infrastructure to reconnect people, neighbourhoods, cities and open spaces'.
- 5. Consolidate the network.
- 6. Be inspired by two days of presentations and **knowledge** exchange.

Learn and share lots of ideas!



Who is a member of this network?









ELENA ARGELICH Network Manager



PASCAL BOONTJE Gemeente Amsterdam



JOAN CABA Lead Coordinator



SANDRA CHOPIN Métropole du Grand Paris



DANNY CRUMP Broadway Malyan



CÉLINE ETHUIN URBACT Secretariat



HAYLEY FLYNN Skyliner



PAWEŁ GUZEK Stowarzyszenie Metropolia Krakowska



ETHAN HAYES Transport for Greater Manchester



ANDY HOWARD Transport for Greater Manchester



NICOLA KANE Transport for Greater Manchester



MARTYNA KIERSKA Stowarzyszenie Metropolia Krakowska



CHRYSSA KOPRA Anaptyxiaki Meizonos Astikis Thessalonikis



JULIAN LAIDLER Transport for Greater Manchester



PAUL LECROART L'Institut Paris Region



VALÉRIE LENAIN Métropole du Grand Paris



ANNA MAJORAL Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona



JONATHAN MARSH Transport for Greater Manchester



NOEMÍ MARTÍNEZ Communication Officer



MAGDALENA MUSIAŁ Krakow Metropolis Association



CARLA OLIVEIRA Área Metropolitana do Porto



KAROLINA ORCHOLSKA Obszar Metropolitalny Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot



KRZYSZTOF PERYCZ Obszar Metropolitalny Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot



JUDITH RECIO Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona



JØRN ROAR MOE Oslo Planning and Building Administration



ADELINA RODRIGUES Área Metropolitana do Porto



SÉVERINE ROMMÉ Métropole du Grand Paris



ROSA RULL Lead Expert



BART SCHALKWIJK Vervoerregio Amsterdam



ADRIAN SLATCHER Manchester City Council



PARASKEVI TARANI Anaptyxiaki Meizonos Astikis Thessalonikis



CARMO TOVAR Área Metropolitana do Porto



ANTHI TSAKIROPOULOU Anaptyxiaki Meizonos Astikis Thessalonikis



SIMON WARBURTON TfGM's Transport Strategy Director



DAVID WILLS Transport for Greater Manchester



ELSIE WRAIGHTE Transport for Greater Manchester



DANIEL WRZOSZCZYK Stowarzyszenie Metropolia Krakowska



THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY

- 09:00 Welcome to Manchester *TfGM Headquarters* <u>2 Piccadilly Place, Manchester, M1 3BG</u> Transport for Greater Manchester Nicola Kane
- 09:15 Housekeeping and an overview of Thursday and Friday Jonathan Marsh & Elsie Wraighte
- 09:30 URBACT Secretariat Céline Ethuin
- 10:30 Tea and coffee TfGM talk Face to Face KMA
- 11:00 Synthesis 1
- 12:30 Lunch Face to Face OMG-G-S
- 13:15 Site visit Oxford Road
- 14:30 Open event University of Manchester Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9PL

Rethinking Infrastructure Round Table

- Transport for Greater Manchester Jonathan Marsh
- URBACT RiConnect Joan Caba & Rosa Rull
- URBACT Zero Carbon Cities Adrian Slatcher
- EUROCITIES From Roads to streets Jørn Roar Moe

IAP Pecha Kucha

- **16:00** Tea and coffee IAP Marketplace
- 17:30 Surprise event
- 19:00 Dinner Face to Face VA & MGP

FRIDAY 31st JANUARY

08:30 Meeting point - Emmeline Pankhurst statue <u>St Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 5PD</u>

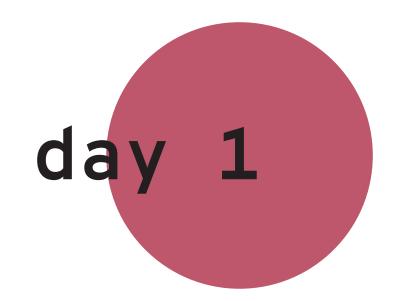
Travel to Salford

- 09:00 Synthesis 2 Media City UK MediaCityUK, Salford Quays, M50 2HE
- 10:00 Tea and coffee TfGM talk Face to Face MDAT
- 10:30 Talk Paul Lecroart

Running the network Elena Argelich

Communication Noemí Martínez

- 12:00 Lunch Face to Face AMP
- 12:30 Travel to TfGM Headquarters
- 13:30 Synthesis 3 TfGM Headquarters 2 Piccadilly Place, Manchester, M1 3BG
- 15:30 Inspirational talk Streets for All
- 16:00 PIR Session Face to Face TfGM
- 16:30 Close





Welcome to Greater Manchester



Nicola Kane, Head of Strategic Planning, Insight and Innovation, TfGM

Nicola Kane welcomed attendees to the Greater Manchester city region, and explained how the focus of the RiConnect project - **'transforming and integrating mobility infrastructure'** - is also at the heart of what we are doing in Greater Manchester, through our **Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040** and **Streets for All** approach, which aims to make it easier for everyone who uses our streets to get around and make them more pleasant places, whilst working towards our ambition to increase the number of journeys made in Greater Manchester on foot, by bicycle and on public transport, as well as reduce motor-vehicle traffic.

Nicola also provided an overview of the work of the **Transport Strategy directorate at TfGM**, and touched on other current, relevant work including air quality and the environment, **the Bee Network** of cycling and walking routes and **Our Network**: the Greater Manchester Mayor's vision for an integrated, modern and accessible public transport system for the city region.





Overview of the Planned Activities

Jonathan Marsh, Strategic Planning Manager, TfGM Elsie Wraighte , Assistant Transport Strategy Officer, TfGM

Jonathan Marsh and Elsie Wraighte provided some practical details about 2 Piccadilly Place (**TfGM's headquarters**) and highlighted some key items on the **agenda** as part of the twoday meeting, including visits to **Oxford Road**, the **University** of Manchester, Manchester City Centre and Media City UK. Jonathan and Elsie answered some questions from project partners related to the geography, demography and governance of Greater Manchester.



Q.!C







Céline Ethuin, URBACT Secretariat

On both days we were joined by Céline Ethuin from the **URBACT Secretariat**, who gave us her advice. During her session she explained to us the main philosophy of the **URBACT programme** and the different phases to be completed in the next two years in order to reach all the **RiConnect objectives**.

The URBACT Secretariat proposed different activities of special interest to the **23 APN networks**, such as the **URBACT Summer University** and **URBACT City Festival**.

We give our warm thanks to Céline for all her help and support to successfully finish **RiConnect Phase 1**.

Thank you, Céline!





10:30

Julian Laidler, Senior Transport Strategy Officer, TfGM

Julian Laidler spoke about the ongoing work led by **TfGM's Strategic Planning team** to draft a **'Right Mix' target for 2040**. This target comprises: zero net growth in motor-vehicle traffic between now and 2040, and a drop in car mode share. Julian explained that the target is designed to support the people-and-place focused approach set out in the **Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040**, and is a result of Greater Manchester's vision-led approach to transport planning.







Rosa Rull, Lead Expert & Joan Caba, Lead Coordinator

The LE and LP presented a summary of the State of the Art of the RiConnect Baseline study that can be summarised in four concepts:



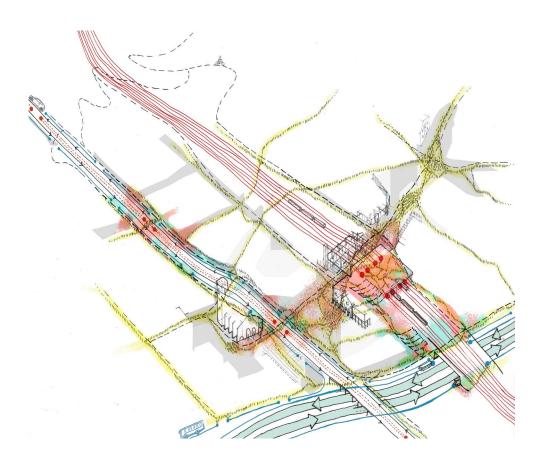
RETHINKING FOR...

11:00

1. REORGANISING HOW WE MOVE

The main objective of mobility infrastructure is to physically support types of mobility flow to ensure adequate accessibility throughout the metropolis. Rethinking our existing infrastructure and reorganising the way we move is the RiConnect network's first major step, rather than planning new infrastructure. How will this be done? We will optimise the use of combined means of transport in favour of more efficient mobility.

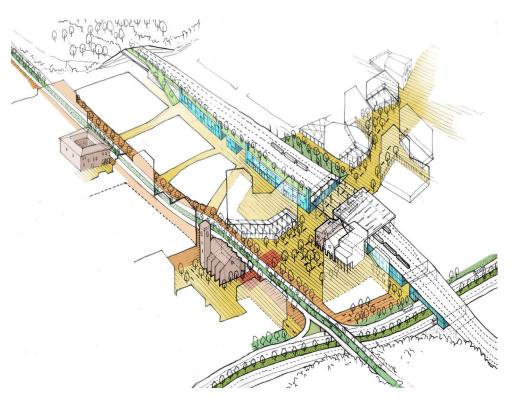
- Towards efficient mobility
- Towards equitable mobility



2. INTEGRATING THE INFRASTRUCTURE

While mobility infrastructure connects the entire territory (territorial scale) it must also be understood as part of the public space and heritage of neighbourhoods it passes through (local scale). Mobility infrastructure is one of the few urban elements with this multi-scale feature. Taking into consideration this aspect (rethinking infrastructure for simultaneous integration at local and metropolitan levels) and activating all residual spaces in its proximity has enormous potential to alter the current situation, thus achieving a more liveable and interesting metropolis.

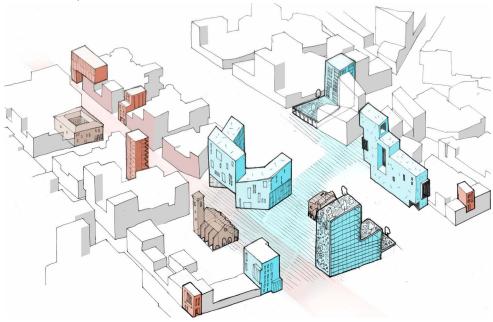
- Towards a redesign of mobility infrastructure and its surroundings
- Towards giving value to its cultural heritage



3.METROPOLIS PLANNING

Levels of mobility are related to the nature of the urban settlements supported (density, types of urban uses, etc.) as well as the provision and costs (money, time, etc.) of transport available. Planning the territory with sustainable mobility criteria in mind and the other way around, rethinking mobility from a territory standpoint, is required for having a short distance metropolis. People, activities, facilities, workplaces, leisure and gateways to public transport must be located close by, ideally under 15 minutes on foot or by bicycle. This strategy fosters sustainable neighbourhoods, builds local communities, reduces social segregation and cuts the cost of the most expensive aspects of mobility.

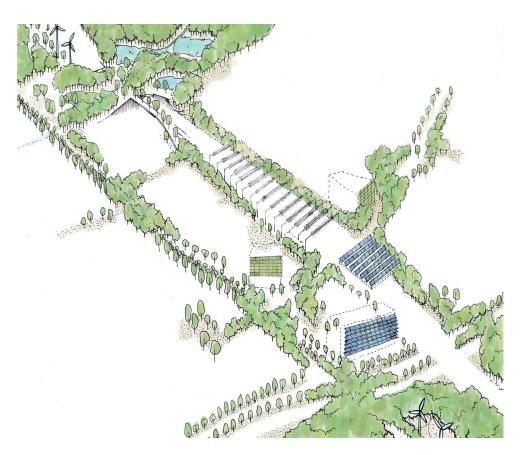
- Towards intensifying the main public transport stops
- Towards unlocking urban regeneration and urban development



4. ADDING ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS

Mobility infrastructure has the potential to **not only play a neutral role in the environment, but to contribute actively to improving it.** Its lengthwise proportion, vast dimensions, 'kidnapped' spaces and other features could be repurposed to **add ecosystem functions for a more complex, inviting, efficient, equitable, sustainable and attractive mobility infrastructure.**

- Towards a better environment
- Towards assuming metabolic functions



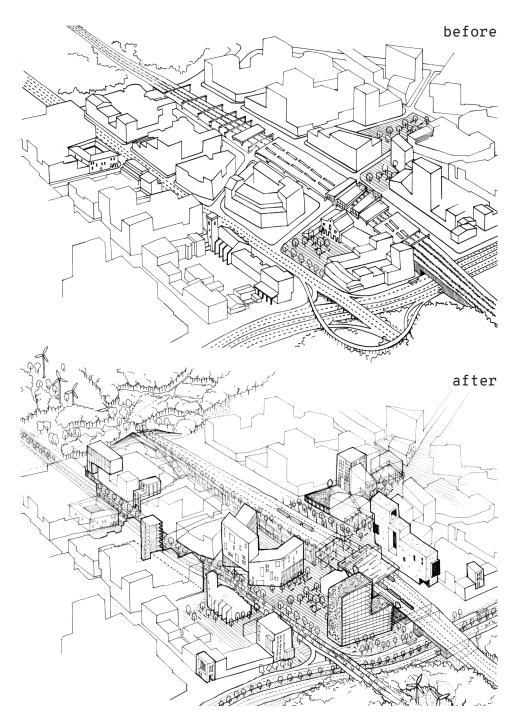
It was then emphasised that the RiConnect network would be based on two concepts:

INTEGRATED APPROACH AT A METROPOLITAN SCALE

Due to the extreme complexity of large-scale mobility infrastructure (usually greater than municipal borders), Metropolitan areas must take the lead with this task and coordinate different territories, multiple tiers of administration, stakeholders, interests and dependencies. The most feasible option for rethinking mobility infrastructure and its territory is through an integrated and participated approach involving all stakeholders.

PROCESS ORIENTED NETWORK

Successfully implementing this process is more important than pushing forward mobility and urban planning that will either never be carried out or used as intended. This involves **new efficient and equitable mobility paradigms, developing placemaking design principles** to make the metropolis more attractive while **adding value via its cultural heritage, developing spatial planning solutions** to boost regeneration, **balance the metropolis** and **allocate growth and housing**, and finally, **introducing new ecosystem functions for an improved environment.** In short, **do more with less**.







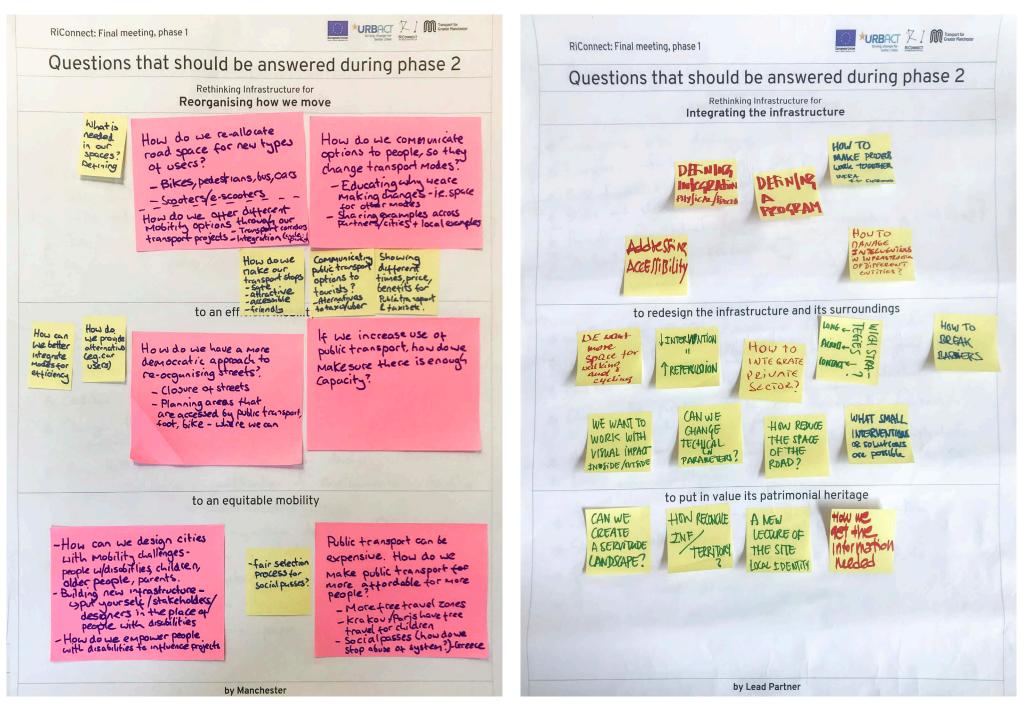


This workshop was created in order to co-design the issues that the network would develop in **Phase 2** of the **network's topics and subtopics**. We divided ourselves into four groups with representatives of nearly all the partners, with a facilitator who reflected each person's contributions on a panel. Afterwards, the results were presented to the rest of the group.









CIRBACT R I M Transport for Driving change for Reconvert **RiConnect: Final meeting, phase 1** Questions that should be answered during phase 2 Rethinking Infrastructure for Planning the metropolis - How to increase the demand in new avenues ? - How to involve all stakeholders to ad levels of government to share a vision and care with a process (maney? - How to start change)rom small changes to scale later? - How to mixt functions in - How to limk mobility policy with usin policy? to intensify the main public transport stops - How to explain to citizens/politicias/mayors that they area has to be intensigied because of the transport upgrades. - How to goster cooperation to shortest distance? - Alow to intensi) y public transport modes if you have parks rides - How to reorganize the transport modes and signages to have a better metropolita connections? to unlock urban regeneration and urban development - How to rethink ingrostructure could improve the foralsocal - How to plan together urban development with next infrastructure 2x Ask American to the plan together urban development with next infrastructure 2x Ask - How to integrate good planning to reduce distant? - How to mixt Junctions in an urban consolidator area? 40 How to convince people for that change? But how? provide information be traisport - Which chaops on modifily in) restancture improve neighborhoods? -Which charges on the ingestractore could in -How to estimation by Lead Partner -How the sity urbe on tissue has to change when the mobility is prostovely. charge it character?

RiConnect: Final meeting, phase 1 Questions that should be answered during phase 2 Rethinking Infrastructure for Adding ecosystem functions & Sistainable urban drainage A Evergreen i-finstructure eg - Car parti-g A Multi-Sunctional green infrastruture. B Shade and shelter to benefit pedestrians It Protection from natural / Clinate change disasters of wild fires To Standards for green infastructure to a better environment * his resure finding for future Maintenance of green infinistructure ? & we need to identify the benefits of investing in green infrastructure. & Consider the reversibility / fiture proofing of infustanture & Change the paradigm to be more environment focused in particular in spatial planning * More Indocape designers involved in developing infrastacture As Improve business case qualification of Oneinmental benefits. to assume metabolic functions & Clean water - how -og urban drainage / filtration of Shade + Shelter - how - eg plant More trees & Improved habitats & ecosystems - how of Gree- Buildings on our · Clean Air - ez reture traffic * Energy Saving - of more people walking.



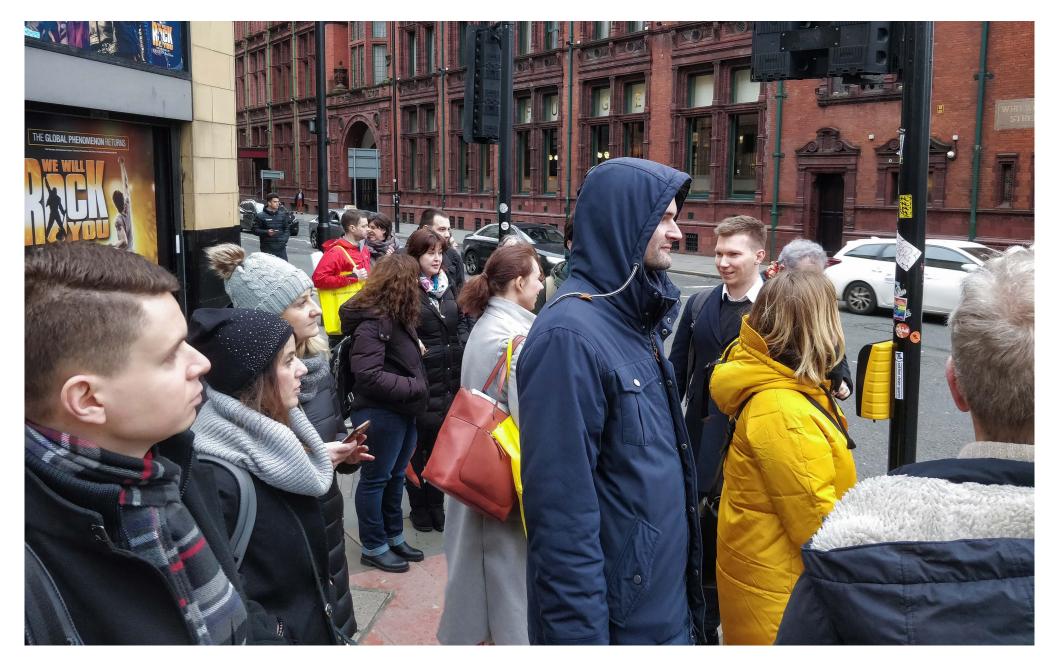


Jonathan Marsh, Strategic Planning Manager, TfGM

Jonathan Marsh led a guided walk from Piccadilly Place, through Canal Street and Sackville Street. to one of the most famous streets in Manchester, Oxford Road, which links the city centre to Manchester's universities. Jonathan explained that in recent years, Oxford Road has been transformed: general traffic is not permitted to use the route (between 6.00am and 9.00pm, seven days a week) and 'Dutch-style' cycle lanes, new bus facilities, improved pedestrian spaces and better public transport links have been installed. Oxford Road is now a widely recognised example of high-guality street design in the city. After the roundtable event at the University of Manchester, RiConnect partners caught a bus back into the city centre



Waiting for signal opposite





Roundtable Exchange with other networks

14:30

As part of the **Final Meeting of Phase 1**, other **networks and projects were invited**, whose topics were similar to the following objectives: **study the policy challenge** in depth to make it more precise, decide which **subtopics** are the most relevant for the network during Phase 2, talk to other networks to share findings and capitalise results, and discuss future collaborations with them. The roundtable was made up of four short presentations given by the people responsible for the respective projects and a subsequent debate led by Paul Lecroart.



Roundtable Zero Carbon Cities

14:50

Adrian Slatcher, Programmes Officer, Manchester City Council

Manchester City Council is the lead partner of Zero Carbon Cities, an URBACT Action Planning Network, which aims to help cities use 'science-based' targets to make the transition to zero carbon.

The network consists of **Manchester**, **Frankfurt**, **Tartu**, **Bistrita**, **Zadar**, **Modena** and **Vilvoorde**. The size of each metropolitan area varies considerably, ranging from less than 100,000 to over a million inhabitants. This will provide us with a **scalable approach** to the topic.

In order for cities to achieve the caps on carbon necessary to align with the Paris Agreement, they need to fundamentally change how they operate. A city's carbon is primarily generated through transport, domestic premises, and business and manufacturing; each one of these sectors needs to reduce carbon to enable cities to reach their targets.

Carbon budgeting is one way of measuring how we do this. Manchester for instance has a carbon budget of 15 million tonnes, which means that it needs to reduce its carbon by around 13% per year to reach its target to be zero carbon by 2038.

Manchester chose to lead this network as one of the first cities to adopt science-based carbon budgeting, and also because we have already developed a **citywide stakeholder group**, namely the **Manchester Climate Change Partnership**. The project will involve a masterclass in understanding **sciencebased targets and carbon budgeting**; furthermore, we will also cover a number of subtopics, including encouraging **citizens** to **change their mobility choices to low carbon ones**.

Zero Carbon Cities is the fourth URBACT network we have run in recent years. According to our experience, sharing good practice, transnational cooperation and developing an understanding of the key topics together can help us achieve our objectives. We hope to use the project's outcomes to disseminate our success in other cities, with the help of EnergyCities, which is providing our lead expert for this programme.

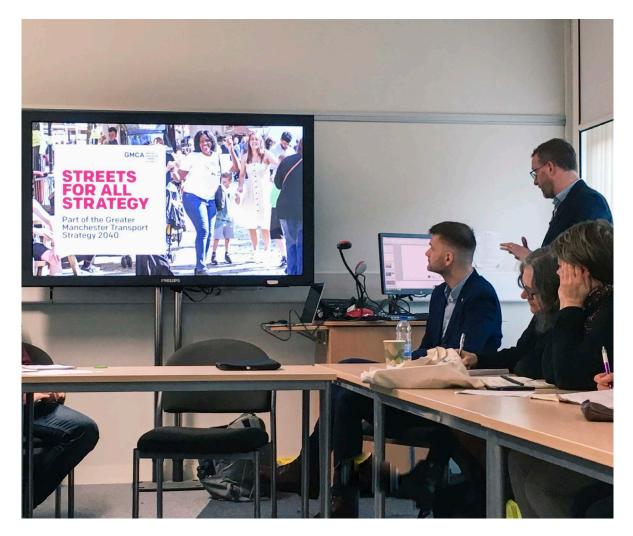






Jonathan Marsh, Strategic Planning Manager, TfGM

Jonathan Marsh gave a presentation about Greater Manchester's emerging Streets for All **Strategy**. Jonathan explained that the draft strategy document is focussed on creating better streets for people, by designing and managing them based on a good understanding of what local communities and people travelling want from different streets. Jonathan highlighted different street types (from guiet streets and places in which people come together to spend time, to traffic-dominated motorways and strategic roads) and the **need for a combination** of good urban planning and measures to make streets safer and more welcoming for everyone who uses them. The Streets for All Strategy also has a strong focus on encouraging active travel and the use of sustainable public transport. Jonathan also spoke about Greater Manchester's Streets for All 'orbital' corridor study – particularly a proposal for a bus priority measure, improving bus journey times and pushing strategic throughtraffic on to an alternative road, without affecting access to a town centre - which will support Greater Manchester's Integrated Action Plan.



Roundtable EUROCITIES from Roads to Streets



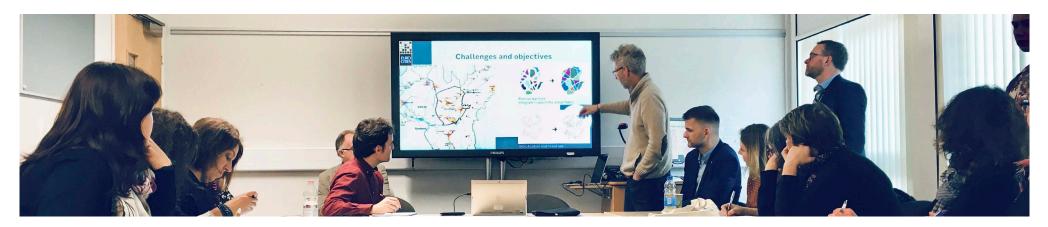
EDGE-OF-CENTER TRANSFORMATION II

Jørn Roar Moe, Oslo Planning and Building Administration

Oslo, with eight other partner cities, is going to start up a project aimed at looking at **Urban regeneration in the city fringe**, with a special focus on **remodelling and reshaping high-capacity metropolitan roads – from roads to urban streets**. Other issues which will be looked at are innovative **mixed land-use** and the development of **high-quality, multi-functional public spaces**.

Jørn Roar Moe presented the forthcoming EUROCITIES project, 'Edge-of-Center Transformation II', which is a project network based on inspiration and the development of knowledge through examples. The aim is to develop local knowledge, awareness, understanding and momentum to remove the infrastructural barriers of post-World War highways, and integrate them into the urban fabric. The EUROCITIES project has invited URBACT-RiConnect and METREX to cooperate, so as to maximise output and learning for all networks and maximise the spread of information and impact. METREX has agreed to cooperate with us and support our project, through the establishment of an expert group. This group will especially contribute with thoughts and experiences, as well as offer a critical view of the project and its outcomes.

The group agreed that we should seek **closer cooperation by exchanging information and participating in each other's meetings**, as well as attend an **international conference in 2022.**



Roundtable URBACT RiConnect

15:20

Joan Caba & Rosa Rull

Joan Caba, the network coordinator, explains why it is necessary to **rethink and integrate mobility infrastructure** and argues why it is important to do it in the manner proposed by RiConnect: **in a metropolitan, comprehensive and cross-cutting manner**.

The development of infrastructure over the years to be able to cover the needs at any given time has implied partially **overlapping obsolete infrastructures over the territory**, which has **created numerous problems and externalities, such as barriers, discontinuities, spatial segregation, health, congestion,** etc. In addition, from an urban perspective it fostered the creation of a **metropolis made up of a patchwork of monofunctional uses** that are **only connected to each other through mobility infrastructure**. This has resulted in **obliged mobility and congestion**. For this reason, **RiConnect considers that this model is obsolete**. Our theory is:

Why do we not rethink/reuse/recycle these obsolete mobility infrastructures to obtain a more dynamic, sustainable, equitable and attractive metropolis where everyone can interact with everyone and move freely regardless of their age, social rank and where they live.

With a view to Phase 2, RiConnect wishes to address this issue through the following topics: **Reorganising how we move**, **Integrating the infrastructure**, **Planning the metropolis**, **Adding ecosystem uses**.



Roundtable Rethinking Infrastructure

IS:30

Paul Leocroart, Senior Urban Planner, Institut Paris Region

After the four presentations came the intervention of **Paul Lecroart**, who **opened the roundtable**, starting with the four speakers and then with the rest of the group.

The debate was centred on **exploring the possible interactions between the topics tackled by RiConnect** in relation to the general context. The aim was to **find relationships between the networks, share experiences and good practices**, and at the same time finishing **outlining RiConnect's State of the Art**, while discussing which topics would be the most worthwhile to examine during **Phase 2**. Below is a detailed description of the topics that were addressed:

- The role of private vehicles in society is changing, and learning to drive seems to be becoming less relevant in the minds of society. For example, people obtain their driving licence at a later age and are not so keen to buy a vehicle. How could this impact the city and how does it affect rethinking mobility infrastructure?
- 2. Another topic that was discussed was the **object to be rethought and its relationship with the environment**. Thinking of a street in the old quarter or an old road is different to thinking of a motorway. This was made clear

by the fact that in many cases, the changes over time in the way we move and the opportunistic implementation of associated infrastructures have meant that the old road that used to connect two municipalities is now divided into a street in a pedestrian historic centre, which later turns into a road that ends up providing access to a motorway. As a result, it is impossible to go from one municipality to another on foot, like people used to do 60 years ago. Consequently, at a **metropolitan scale**, it makes a lot of sense to **rethink the role of infrastructures within the metropolis and integrate them to reconnect people**, **neighbourhoods, towns and open spaces**.

3. The last topic to be discussed was whether changing the nature of an infrastructure could play a role in urban regeneration. Converting an infrastructure with high externalities with one intended to be central and attractive has to be accompanied by a change of the urban model. The city has to be turned around and become its façade, its gateway, not the infrastructure. These new areas of urban development are not only the cornerstone of deeper urban regeneration processes, they can also help rebalance and complement existing neighbourhoods, providing them with the uses they lacked. In conclusion, the debate made it obvious why infrastructures need to be comprehensively rethought, involving urban planning, mobility, public space and environmental issues, so as to create synergies that boost the transformation of how we move, live, work and relate to each other in the metropolis.





15:50

Now is when the local vector becomes the centre of attention. Each partner explains what they are doing at a local level and invites everyone to attend their marketplace, where a poster has been prepared that shows the point the metropolis has reached in relation to the network's topic (partner profile). A second poster describes the area of the IAP, challenges and objectives and the URBACT local group.

This is how we do it!



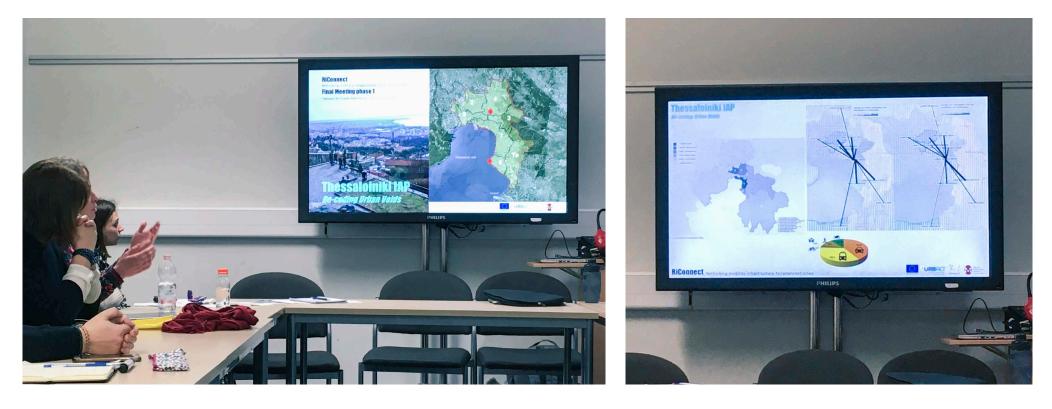


VERVOERREGIO AMSTERDAM





MAJOR DEVELOPMENT AGENCY THESSALONIKI



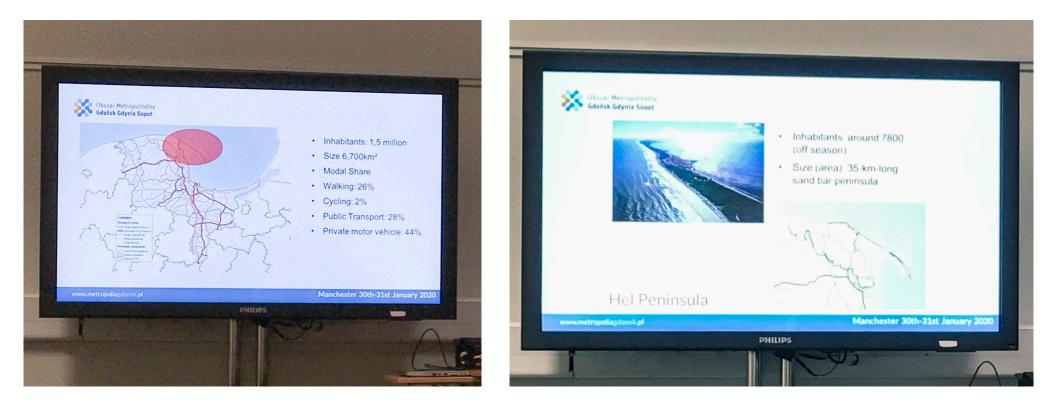


BARCELONA METROPOLITAN AREA





OBSZAR METROPOLITALNY GDANSK-GDYNIA-SOPOT





KRAKOW METROPOLIS ASSOCIATION





TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER





MÉTROPOLE DU GRAND PARIS





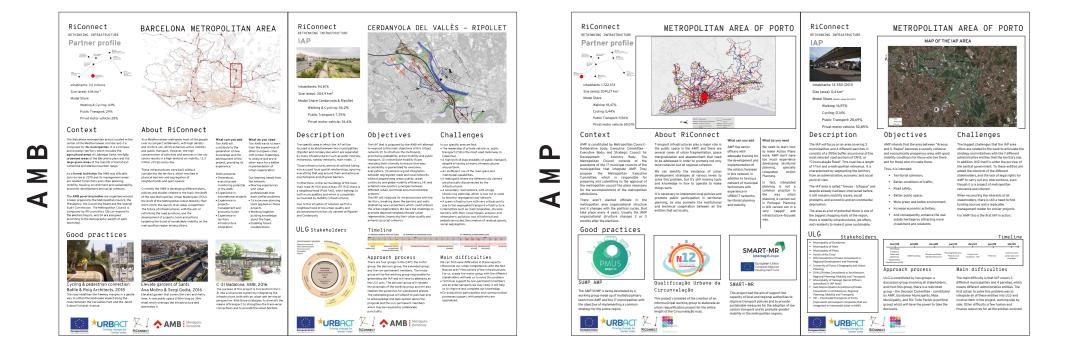
PORTO METROPOLITAN AREA

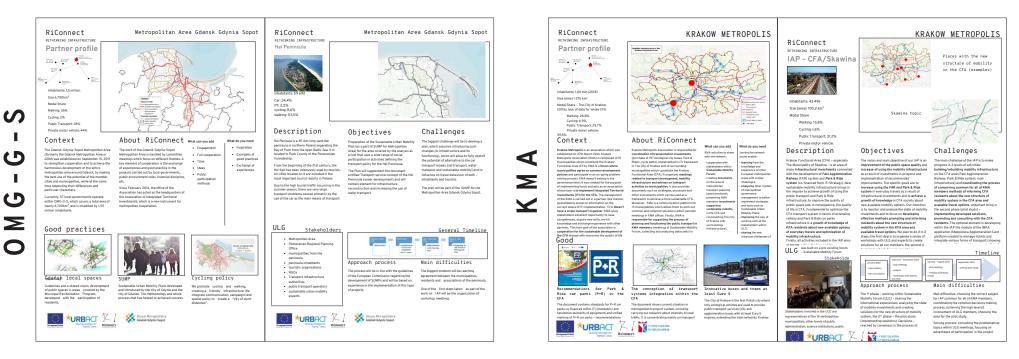


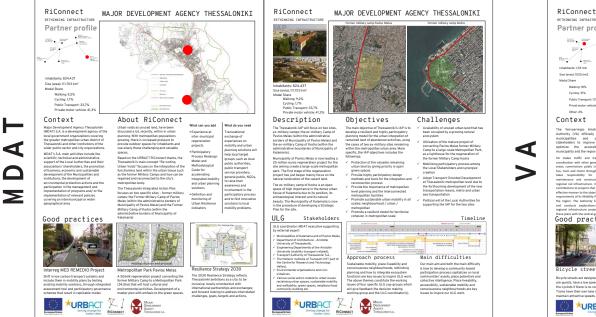


IAP Marketplace









RiConnect

Annual An , iiin - 197**)** - "

· . . Inhabitants: 7,2 million

Size (area): 814 km²

Modal Share : 26.3 million trips per day

Public Transport: 26%

Privat motor vahirla- 24 %

Preater Paris Metropolis is an inter-municipal

Good practices

ructure projects, such as the Grand

Paris Express, so that all places in the Metropolis are

accessible by public transport.

Walking: 46 %

Cycling: 4%

Context

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RETHINKING INFRASTRUCTURE

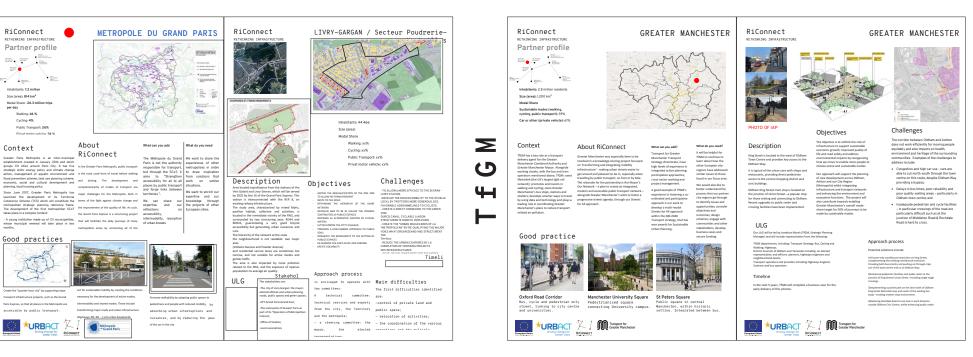
Partner profile

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About

RiConnect





Surprise Event Street Art Walking Tour

THE MODERN HISTORY OF THE NORTHERN QUARTER

Hayley Flynn, Skyliner

All partners joined an **evening tour of Manchester's Northern Quarter** – a fashionable part of the city centre, which is home to street art, bars and independent record shops. The tour guide spoke about **architecture and heritage**, and about significant issues facing the city today, ranging from **social justice to public spaces**. Attendees learnt about Manchester's original ceramic art trail and more modern street art as part of an interesting historical narrative about this special part of the city.







The Greater Manchester Police Museum, a former police station converted into a museum and archives detailing the

history of policing in Greater Manchester. It was a working police station between 1879 until 1979.













On the **Friday morning** the group travelled out of the city centre to **Media City**. Working sessions and the presentation by **Paul Lecroart** were held in a meeting room that forms part of the **University of Salford Campus**. Unfortunately, the weather turned a little rainy proving that **it does sometimes rain in Greater Manchester!**





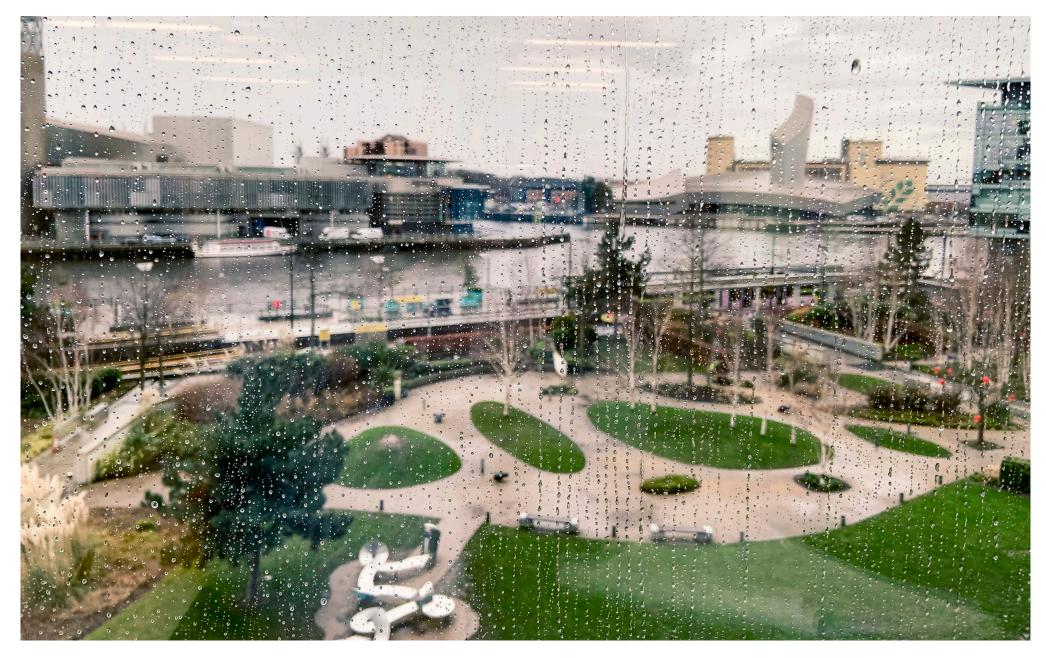


MediaCityUK is a mixed-use property development on the banks of the Manchester Ship Canal in Salford and Trafford, Greater Manchester. The location is a focus for media organisations such as the **BBC** and **ITV** as well as the **University of Salford**. The land occupied by the development was part of the **Port of Manchester** and **Manchester Docks**.





"It does sometimes rain in Greater Manchester"



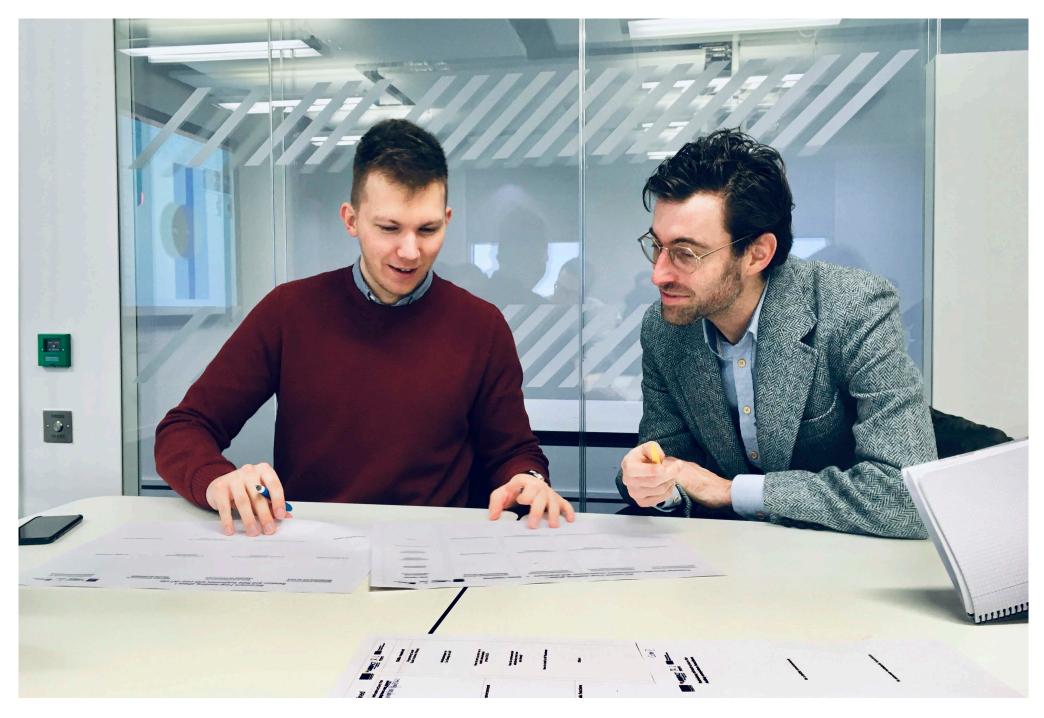




The purpose of the Synthesis 2 workshop was to make each partner bring the **topics** and **subtopics** of the network down to **local level** and assess their relevance to **local challenges and objectives**. In parallel, the aim was to find out the degree of **know-how at local level** to be able to support the network.

As a result of this workshop it was concluded that all the topics were relevant for the network members to a greater or lesser degree, and they were keen to explore them. The **network's internal potential** to be used as a support when constructing the **Thematic Exchange and Learning of Phase 2** was also made evident.







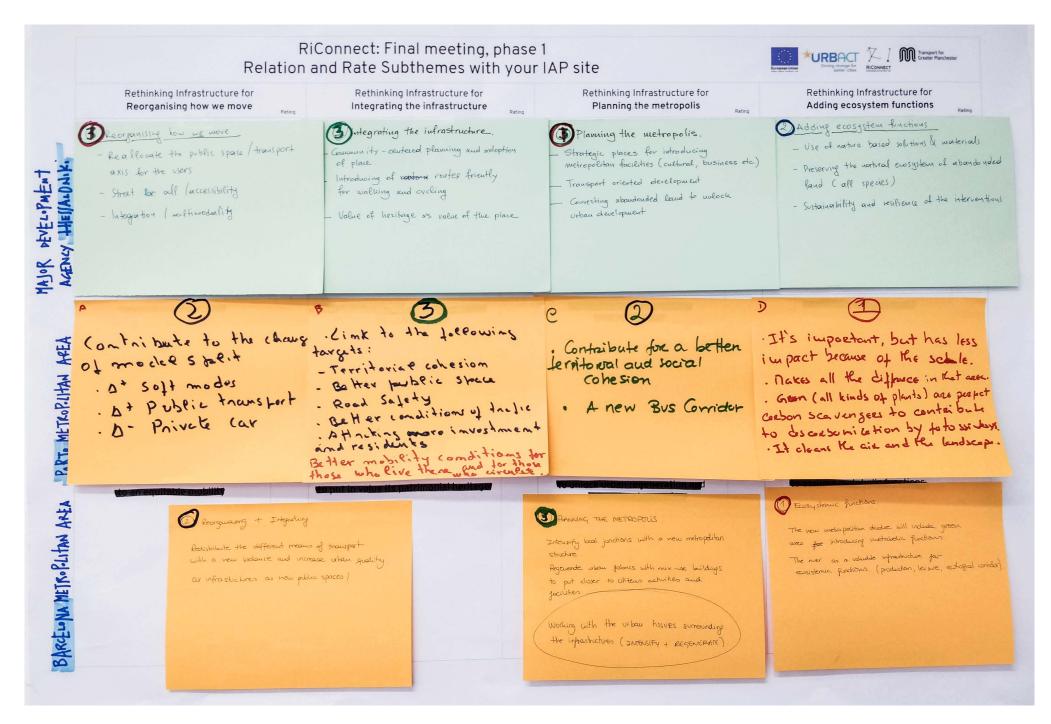








	Connect: Final meeting, phase 1 and Rate Subthemes with your b	AP site	Temperature And Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-
Rethinking Infrastructure for Reorganising how we move	Rethinking Infrastructure for Integrating the infrastructure	Rethinking Infrastructure for Planning the metropolis	Rethinking Infrastructure for Adding ecosystem functions
	DINTEGRATING THE INFRATIRUCTURE BEETIVEEN "HOME" AND TRANSPORT NODES		BETTER PUBLIC THANSBORT AND MODAL SEED SPLIT -> A CONSEQUENCE IS BETTER AIR QUALITY HORE GREEN AREAS IN SURROUNDING OF THAN SPORT NODES
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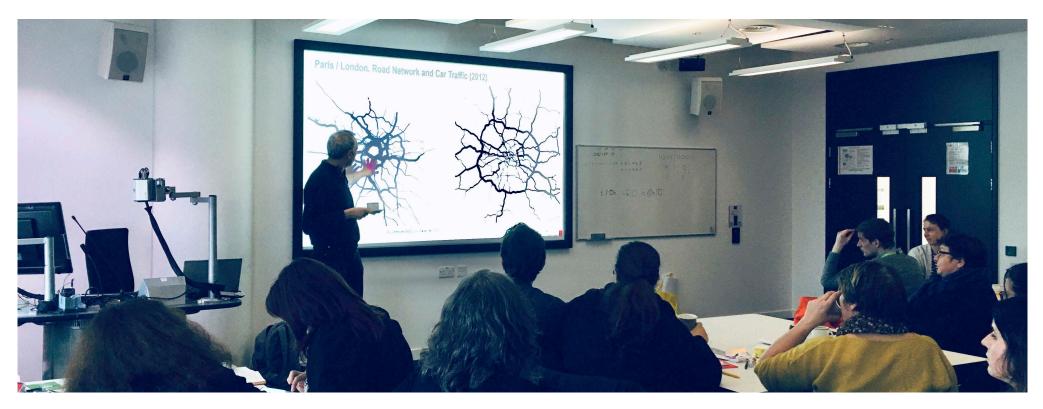




10:30

Paul Lecroart, Senior Urban Planner, Institut Paris Region

Functionalist thinking and car-oriented urbanism have left many cities, including Barcelona, Manchester and Paris, with **extensive networks of urban highways**. As they are available and free, they get over-used in moving people and goods within metropolitan areas. However, limited-access and grade-separated roads create **physical barriers** that tend to devitalise cities and hinder regeneration. The high levels of **traffic produce noise**, **dust and air pollution**, raising health and social justice issues. Extensive highway networks tend to encourage car-centric lifestyles, urban sprawl, and they increase traffic congestion.

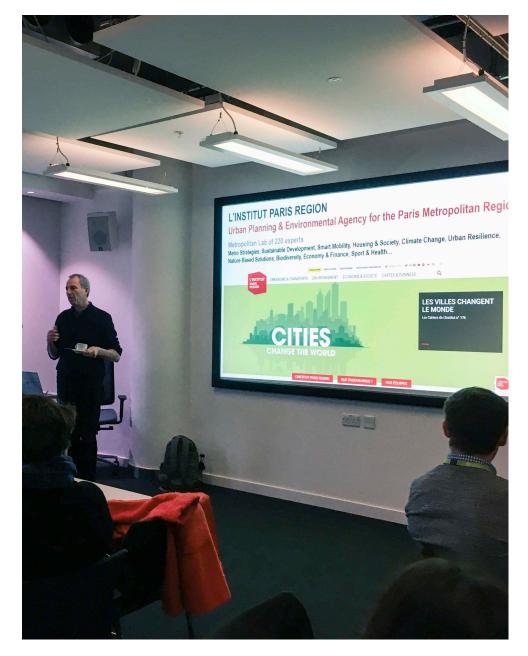


In recent decades, some cities have successfully started tearing down obsolete urban highways, **replacing them with multiuse boulevards lined with mixed-use new developments and new linear parks**. Why and how are they doing that? What are the benefits and costs? These questions are behind the **'Metropolitan Avenues'** programme that I have been leading at the **Institute Paris Region** since 2010, **researching many highway conversions experiences worldwide**, nine of which are published -including New York and Seoul shown here. This work is contributing to the **International Consultation on the Future of Highways of Grand Paris** in 2019 and the reflections on the **Paris Péripherique**.

The **positive impact of highway reconversions** may be interesting for the **RiConnect network**:

- Highway-to-boulevard conversions do not create massive congestion, as changes in behaviour cause part of the traffic to evaporate;
- Urban renaissance of deprived neighbourhoods or inaccessible waterfronts are encouraged by new linkages and new mixed-use developments;
- Environmental impacts are particularly positive in terms of noise, air quality, cooling, biodiversity and landscape quality.

Nevertheless, these projects can be **complex and relatively costly**. They require **strong leadership**, **extensive consultation** and **synergy between many different stakeholders**, at both **strategic** and **local levels**.





II:00

Elena Argelich, Network Manager

During the management session, we explained the importance and **main points of RiConnect's management and financial reports**. This time with the main focus on the **Synergy system** and the **Phase 1 report** to be presented upon completion of the first phase. Doubts and questions about the procedure were also resolved with the contribution of **Céline Ethuin** from the **URBACT Secretariat**.

The second main point in this session was the presentation of **each partner's budget for Phase 2**. The session opened the debate and provided us with the opportunity to receive budget-related suggestions from project partners. We presented a **two-year timeline** to organise the different **meetings in each metropolitan area** and after discussing the matter, this timeline was approved by the project.

Finally, a **to-do list** was presented for the submission of the second application, hoping it will be successful in the **Phase 2 call.**

Hard work and fingers crossed

Each meeting will include a session on administrative and financial aspects, in order **to resolve and avoid potential problems during the life of the project.**



Communication

II:30

Noemí Martínez, Communication Officer

The purpose of the presentation on the network's communication was to go through the **work performed during Phase 1** and describe **the next steps** to be taken as regards the start of Phase 2.

The **network's visual identity** was explained, from its collective conception to the details of the **different versions of the logotype and its applications**. Emphasis was placed on the importance of using it well and to include it in all the network's communicative actions, at European, international and local levels.

The basic content and elements by and for the network throughout Phase 1, such as the **boilerplate**, **metropolitan**

websites within the URBACT programme website and the A3 posters explaining the project, were also reviewed.

Two new important communicative elements were presented: the **Twitter account @RiConnectURBACT** and the first edition of **The RiConnect Chronicles**.

The presentation ended with an explanation of the most relevant features of the **communication plan** preparation and the importance of knowing **how to value and balance local capacities, resources and objectives** as regards communication with the network's capacities, resources and objectives.











13:00

Andy Howard, Cycling and Delivery Officer, TfGM

Andy Howard spoke about Greater Manchester's Bee Network – a plan developed by TfGM, the Greater Manchester Cycling and Walking Commissioner and the ten Greater Manchester local authorities for a joined-up, highquality cycling and walking network that connects all the communities in Greater Manchester. Andy explained that the aim of the Bee Network is to enable the two thirds of people

who currently use their car as their main mode of transport to walk or cycle more. Andy spoke about the **co-design process**, including making the **initial plan open to public comment** for four months online, and he also described the different components of the Bee Network including **'Busy Beeways'** (routes on major roads) and **'Active Neighbourhoods'** (networks of quiet residential streets).





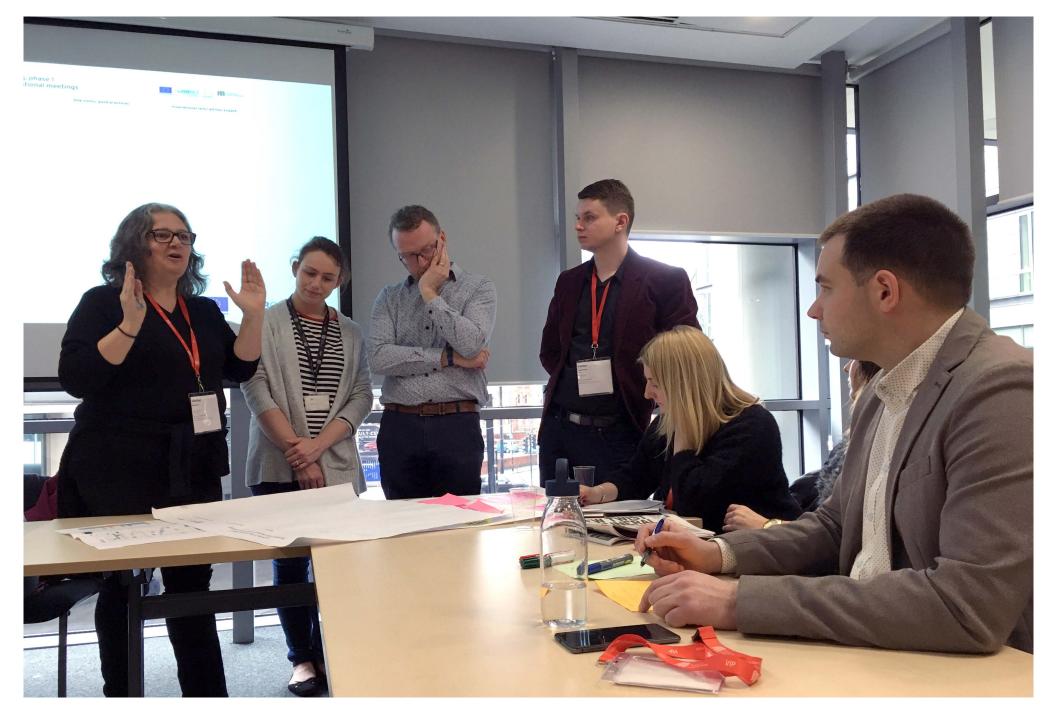
13:30

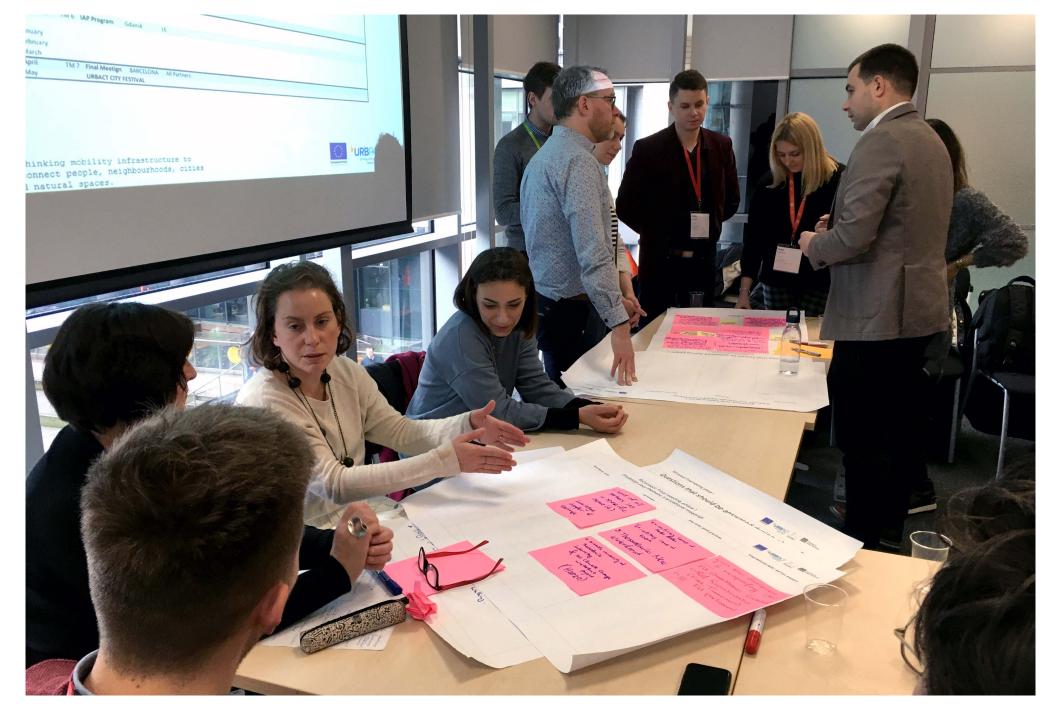
The purpose of the workshop was to **co-design the thematic transnational meetings of Phase 2** by preparing a **first draft**. The host partner and co-organiser sat down together with the results of the Synthesis 1 workshop and they prepared the issues to be addressed and decided which workshops or types of workshops could be organised; they also established the site visits and good practices to be explained and settled on the inspirational talk we could give. This information will be essential for developing the **work methodology for Phase 2**. Some useful features that appeared:

- Include a meeting with the local ULG to work on a specific topic of the network.
- Share the hotel.
- Involve other projects and networks related to the matter in question and hold a workshop to share knowledge and establish specific strategies.

You can see some of the interventions by downloading the following videos:

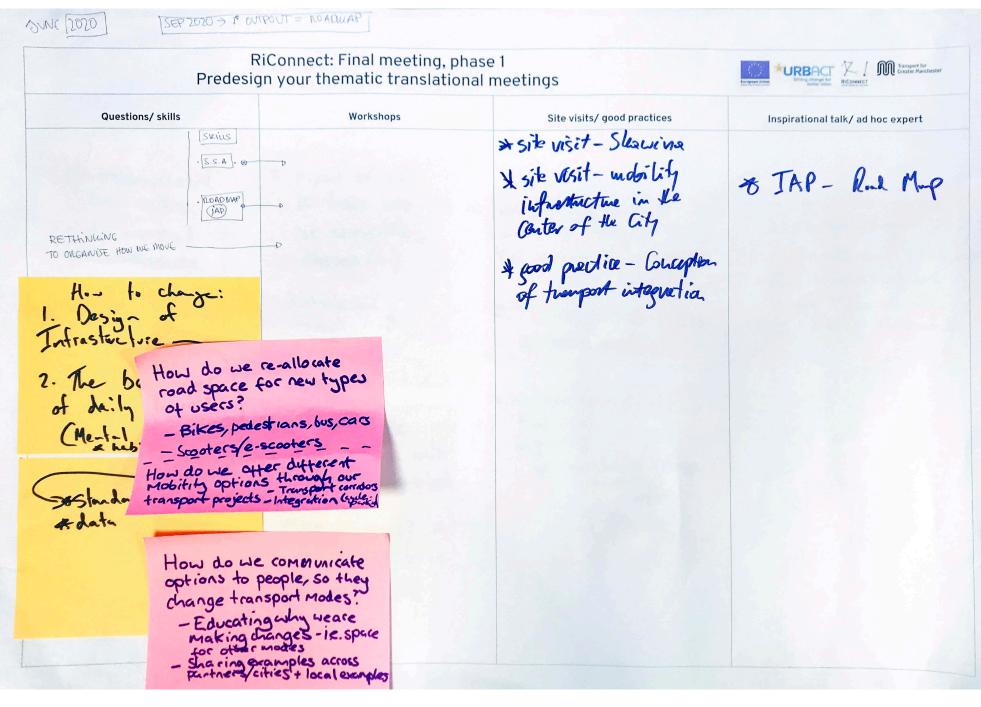


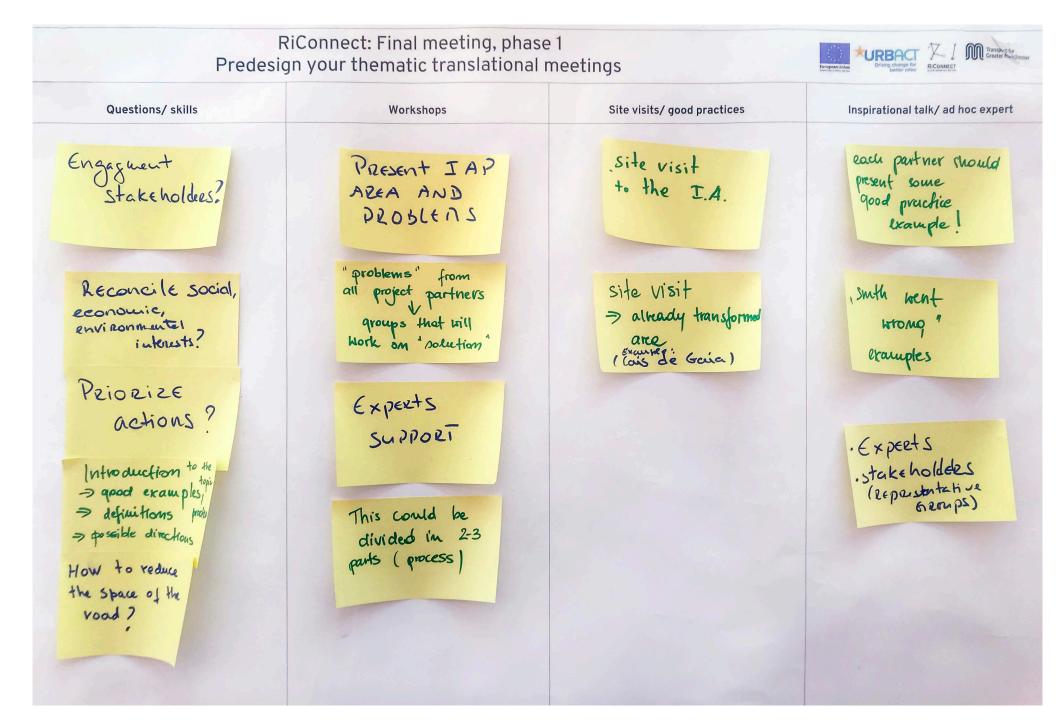




Makeshift workplace, but quite comfortable!





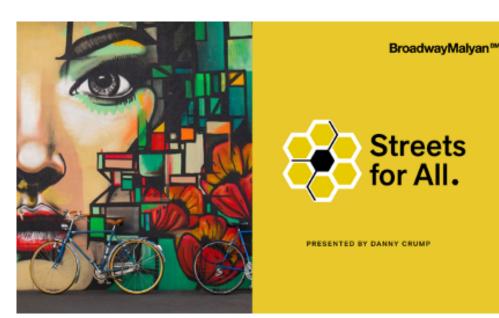


Inspirational Talk Streets for all

15:30

Danny Crump, Director of Urbanism, Broadway Malyan

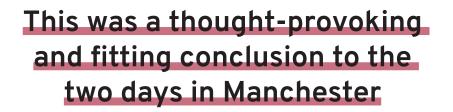
Danny Crump spoke about work undertaken by **Broadway** Malyan to support **TfGM's Streets for an 'orbital' corridor** study. Danny explained why the 'people-centred' approach provided by **Streets for All** is so important when it comes to addressing challenges related to issues such as air quality, public health and congestion, as well as the way in which it is designed, thus helping to support economic growth and regeneration (through increased footfall and social interaction).



Danny summarised the **philosophy of his organisation** which advocates an approach that is:

- Community driven
- Authentic
- Aggregated

- Experiential
- Connected
- Evolving







16:00

As the network is based on **learning while doing**, it is very **necessary to obtain feedback** of things well done, but also of things that have not turned out as expected so we can learn and improve for the next transnational meetings.

The positive aspects were:

- The presentations were very interesting and were related to the topic.
- Site visits are very necessary and help contextualise the concepts.
- Changing the place helps to keep the group together.

Aspects to improve:

- The **venues need to be large** and **well lit**, and prepared for the work to be carried out.
- More time for sharing the local dimension.
- More coffee and water.
- Try to accommodate everyone in the same hotel.
- Leave more time between activities and allow more time for doing them.

A special word of thanks to Elsie, Jonathan and the entire TfGM team for helping to organise this wonderful transnational meeting





See you soon!



Network

Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona Stowarzyszenie Metropolia Krakowska Anaptyxiaki Meizonos Astikis Thessalonikis Métropole du Grand Paris Obszar Metropolitalny Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot Área Metropolitana do Porto Transport for Greater Manchester Vervoerregio Amsterdam

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July 2020

Chronicle, a record of events in the order in which they occurred, to highlight the most relevant ideas to the topic dealt with during the URBACT network RiConnect Final meeting on 30-31 January 2020.



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