



RECLAIM



# Urban rewilding aesthetics&people's needs into multifunctional blue and green infrastructure design

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# Project Aims



This project investigates both the challenges and the multi-functional benefits of rewilding in urban contexts.

The primary objective of this research is to create a set of resources that can assist local authorities and other land managers in determining how, where, and what types of urban rewilding might benefit local communities in providing health and wellbeing through access to increased and higher-quality green infrastructure, while also providing solutions to avoid disbenefits and the creation or amplification of inequality.



# Achievements to Date Design Workshop



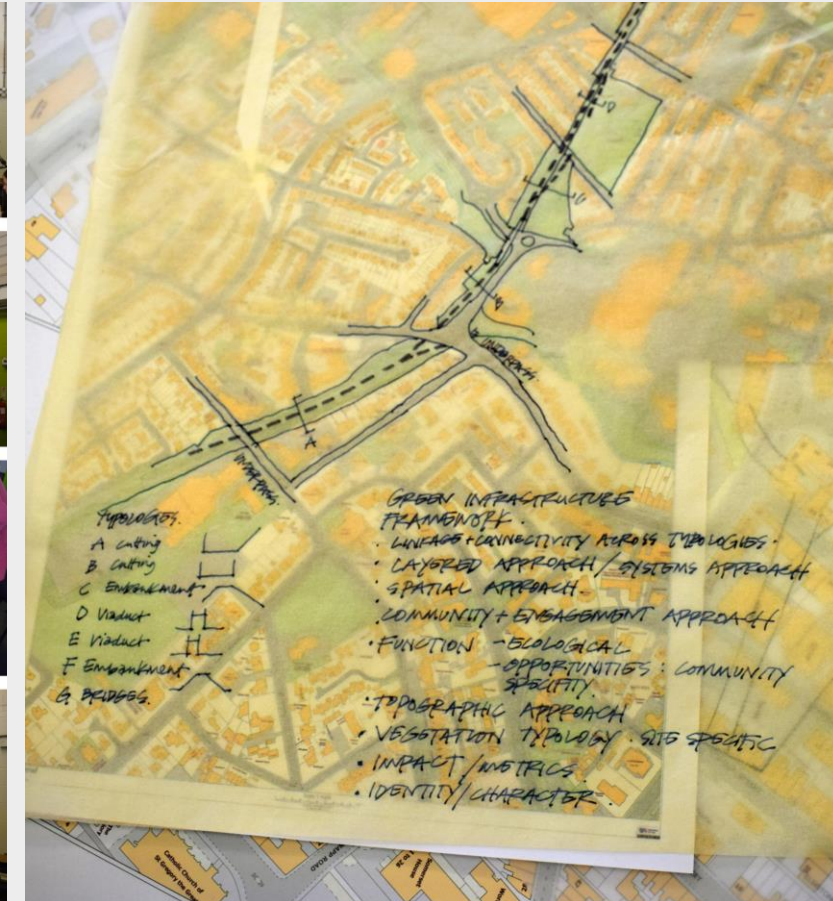
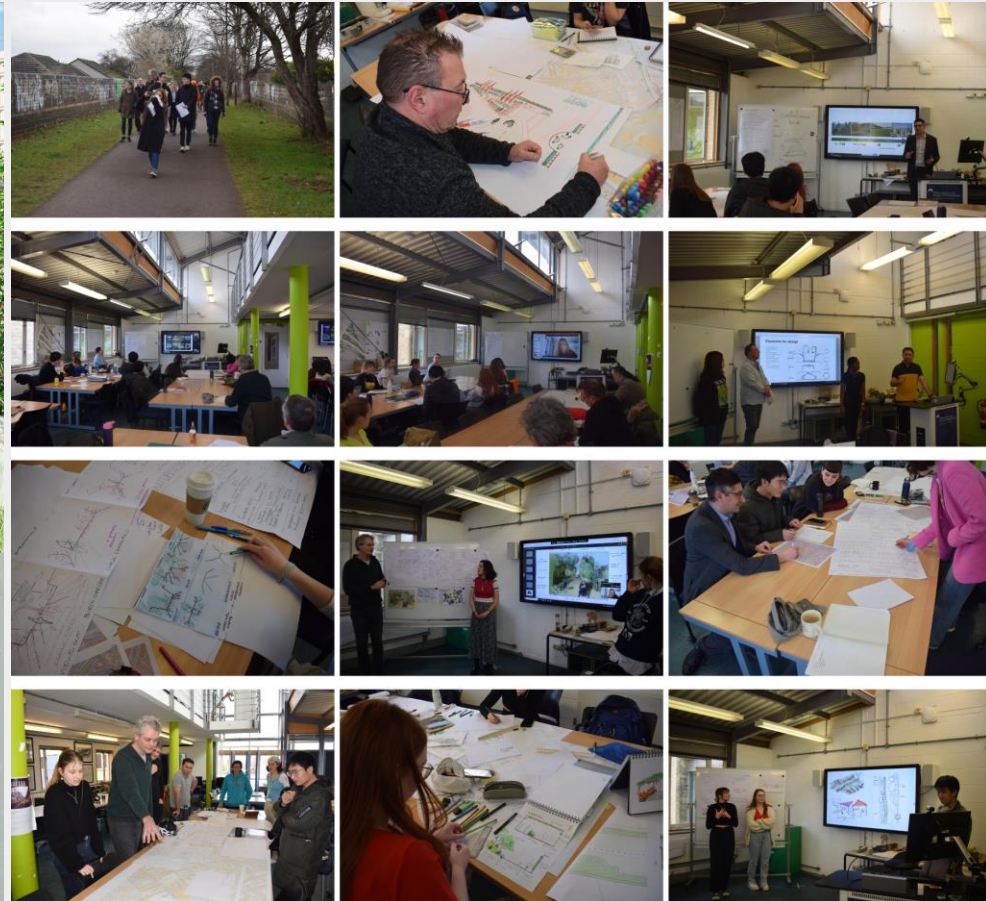
Image: Jane Whitaker © University of Gloucestershire

## URBAN REWILDING INTERNATIONAL DESIGN WORKSHOP

**ABOUT**  
This 3-day workshop aims to regenerate vulnerable areas through rewilding. We will develop rewilding scenarios aimed at mitigating barriers and challenges, alongside realising opportunities in different socio-economic and landscape contexts.

**INFO**  
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**1-3 MARCH 2023  
FCH CAMPUS  
CHELTENHAM**



# Achievements to Date Online Survey



## Cheltenham Rewilded?

Follow the link or scan the QR code to complete the survey and contribute your opinion to our understanding of peoples perceptions and the aesthetics of urban rewilding.



SCAN ME

<https://glos.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/cheltenham-urban-rewilding>

Transformational change in urban areas is crucial to reversing biodiversity loss and tackling climate change. Cities are increasingly experiencing ecological degradation, often made worse by the effects of climate change with rising temperatures and more extreme weather. It is widely agreed that the biodiversity and climate crises are inseparable and must be solved together (Arup, 2023). How do you feel about rewilding in urban spaces?

Page 4: Honeybourne Line

Please take a look at the three landscape images below and rank them based on your preference. Use the numbers 1, 2, and 3 to indicate your favourite image (1 being the most preferred and 3 being the least preferred).



A) Signature green space.



B) Moderate rewilding.



C) Intensive rewilding.

# Achievements to Date

## Preliminary key results



### Key Results - LA

- » Contrasting Views from Local Authorities

### Emerging Themes

- » **Urban Exclusion:** Some believe rewilding excludes human needs in urban contexts.
- » **Conceptual Challenges:** Issues with interpretation and application of the term "rewilding."
- » **Scale Requirement:** Perceptions of large-scale settings for rewilding projects.
- » **Rural Origins:** Rewilding models predominantly emerging from rural landscapes.

### Key results- People

#### Value of Existing Wild Areas

- » Residents and visitors value existing wild areas in familiar green spaces.

#### Understanding of Urban Rewilding

- » Most respondents have moderate to good knowledge of urban rewilding.
- » View urban rewilding as a valuable feature in Cheltenham's green spaces.

# Achievements to Date

## Preliminary key results



### Key Results - People

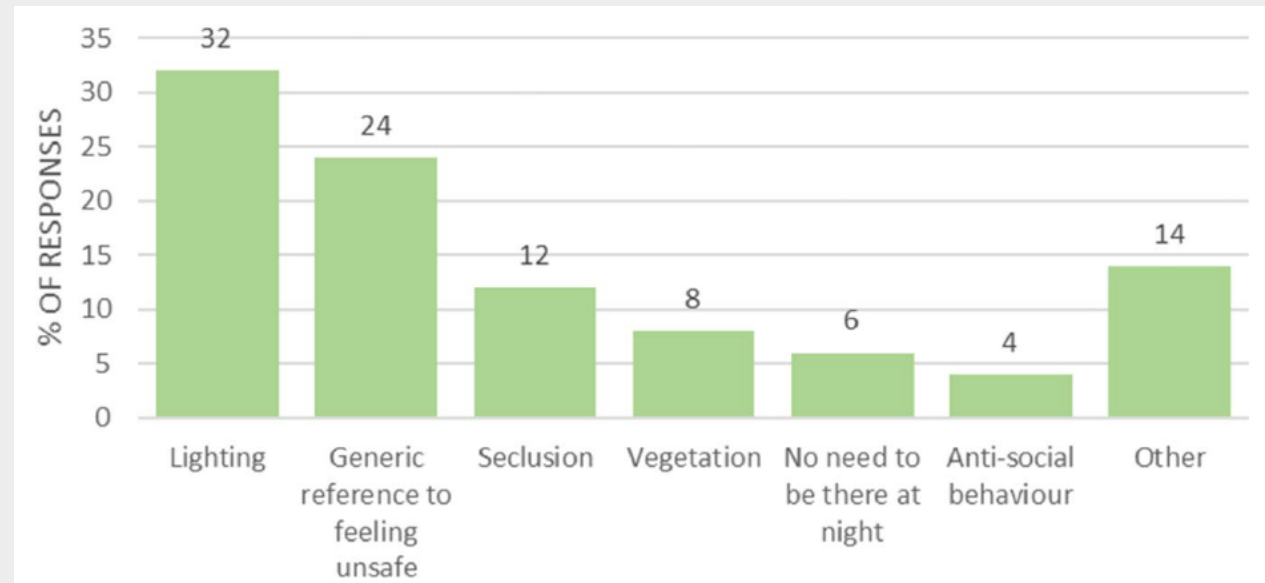
#### Wellbeing and Rewilding

- » Moderately rewilded scenes generate the highest wellbeing responses.

#### Perceptions of Safety

- » Moderately rewilded spaces are perceived as the safest
- » Intensively rewilded landscapes are perceived as the least safe spaces.

### Temporal Aspect - Nighttime



**Lack of Lighting:** Participants frequently expressed concerns about the absence of lighting.

# Expectations for the remainder of the project

## National Survey for local authorities

The purpose of this survey is to gather information from professionals working in UK Local Authorities regarding their understanding, practices, and challenges related to urban rewilding.

Local Authority Questionnaire on Urban Rewilding

16% complete

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Page 2: Eligibility criteria

1. To take part in this survey, you must currently work for a Local Authority in the United Kingdom. You confirm that you are currently employed by a UK Local Authority and meet the eligibility criteria for participating in this survey. \* *Required*

I confirm

2. Position/role:

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< Previous Next >



<https://glos.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/local-planning-authority-questionnaire-on-urban-rewilding-4>



# Expectations for the remainder of the project

## Final symposium in December 2023



THANK YOU