



GROUNDWORK GREATER MANCHESTER



Our vision:

We want to create a greener, more resilient
city region with
stronger, healthier communities,
responsible businesses
& enhanced prospects for all local people.

Citizen engagement for Nature-based Solutions: West Gorton Community Park



BEFORE



AFTER

Engagement Programme

1. Baseline Consultation
2. Concept Design Consultation
3. Sketch Design Consultation
4. Ongoing events, activities, drop-ins
5. Construction
6. NBS Education & Training
7. Sharing learning



Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union

1) Building Interest & Involvement



- Slow to start, need to build trust and relationships and assure people this park would really happen
- NBS a new concept to most people
- Buying into a vision of what could be through inspiration boards and activities
- Gathering ideas, aspirations and barriers
- Weekly drop ins and ongoing updates

2) Co-Design & Ownership



- Multiple opportunities for engagement in design process via creative methods
- Addressing concerns and queries
- Involvement in park construction
- Name Your Park competition
- Other opportunities to get involved – eg. partnerships with local funders

3) NBS Education & Awareness Raising



- Engaging through practical activities – leading with playful/fun activities and building on NBS and climate conversations
- Simple, jargon-free language and lots of visual elements
- Partnership building and training – with local schools, organisations and community networks
- Video engagement so ideas could be circulated and shared

Wider Impact: NBS for everyone

Seeing is Believing & Eco-tour



2021 and beyond



Future Events:

- Connecting to other projects and partners across the city eg. IGNITION
- Growing an educational resource – school and community engagement



THE
ENVIRONMENT
PARTNERSHIP



Mersey Rivers Trust
Healthy rivers for people and wildlife

• vivideconomics



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL



Environment
Agency

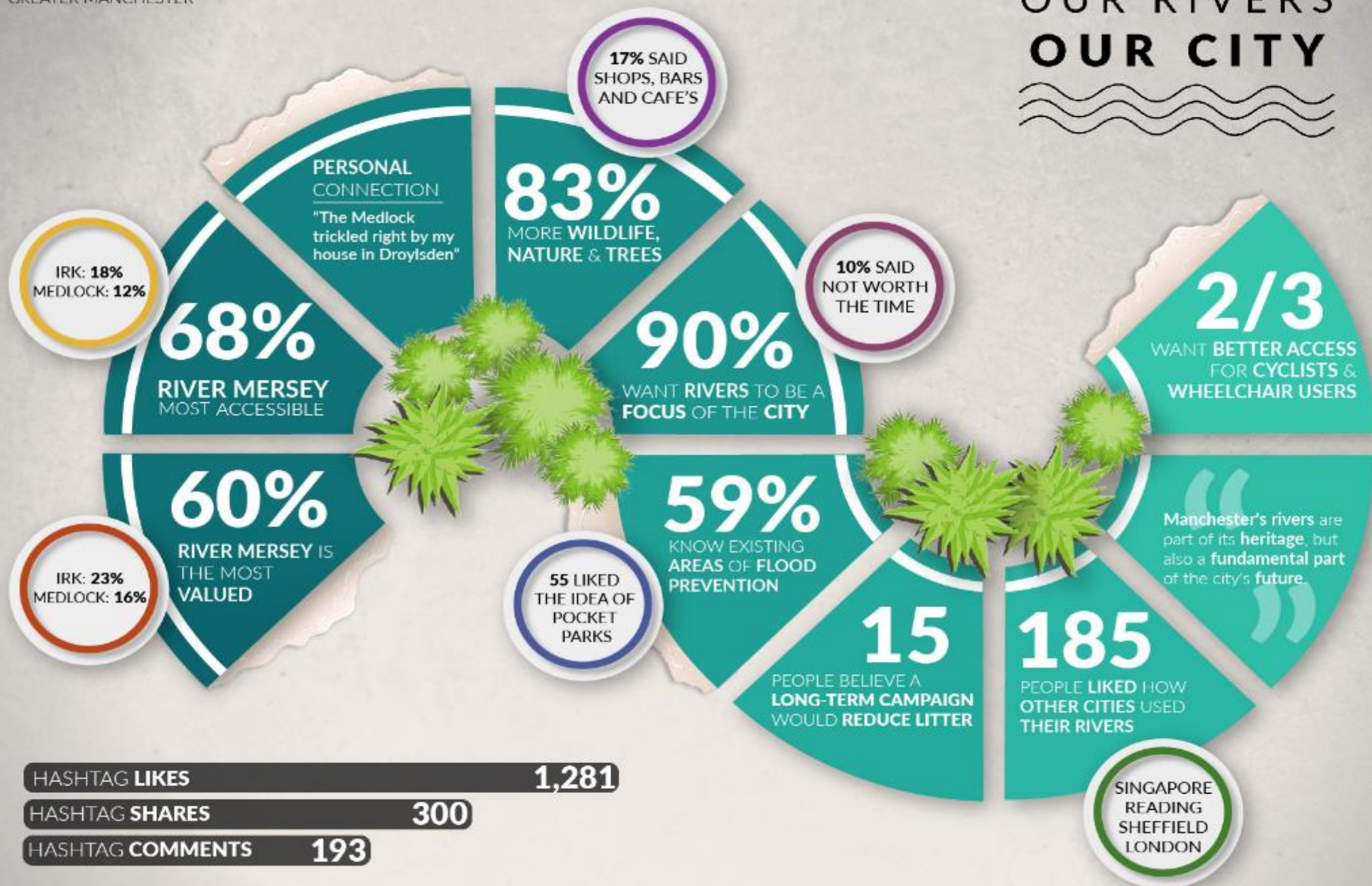


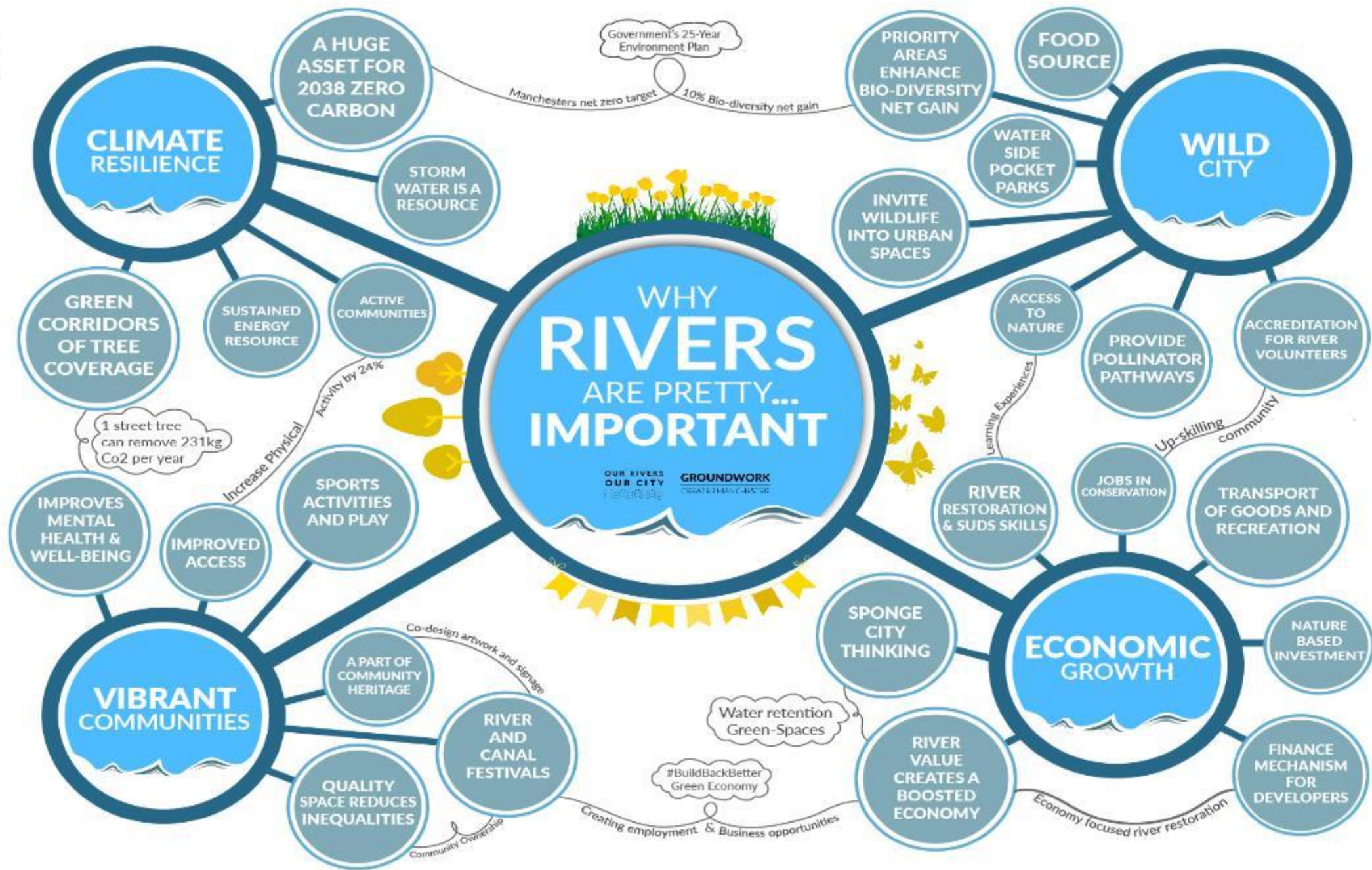
ENGAGEMENT

1. Challenge and opportunity events, workshops and on-line survey.
2. Social media campaign. #OurRiversOurCity
3. Community project bank.
4. Visioning and prioritisation workshops.
5. Action plan workshops.
6. Launch.



OUR RIVERS OUR CITY





ENGAGEMENT: Reflections

People are being proactive and requesting additional opportunities to input. Those who want to engage are doing but potentially still missing the seldom heard made even more difficult due to covid restrictions.

Sense of 'now is the time' – valuing the recreational possibilities in building back better and development opportunities & examples.

Balance needs to be found between people accessing/recreational activities and protecting/improving biodiversity.

Tension between access for all with control measures put in place to address anti-social behaviour. Neighbourhood / population considerations play a part in terms of ASB, inequality of access and potential health gains.

Need for greater strategic join up – between initiatives and between Authorities (INNS, funding).

Maximise the value of 'honey-pot' assets.