

### INTERACTIVE MAP

LATERAL NORTH popped up at the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop (ESW), Leith Market, Leith Gala Day, Victoria Primary and Ocean Terminal. Members of the public were invited to draw and place counters onto an Interactive Map, highlighting a variety of local areas that required attention.

**Most mentioned:**

1. Increased public access to the waterfront
2. Improved park infrastructure
3. More public green spaces and associated community projects
4. Better cycle routes with increased connectivity
5. Investment for Leith Theatre as an arts hub

Lateral North also hosted a curated conversation at ESW, focusing on the need for a dedicated mid-sized live music venue in Leith, which included contributions from the City of Edinburgh Council, Electric Fields Festival and Leith Walk Councillor Gordon Munro. They went on to facilitate a series of workshops looking at potential public performance spaces along the cycle path by ESW, and are continuing to develop and prototype structures.

### THE STEEL SHED (DOK ARTIST SPACE)

- Save this culturally important heritage asset, the last vestige of Henry Robbs Shipyard in Leith, currently under threat of removal.
- Needs gifted to the people of Leith and relocated to a historically relevant site.

### ENCOURAGE TOURISM

- Better signage, both physical and digital, in order to promote the area to visitors and encourage local people to interact with Leith.
- Extend heritage trails, audio tours and oral history projects with local peoples' stories about the area which can tie in with local schools.
- Invest in local festivals and events.

### LEITH DOCKS

- Create a public walkway along the waterfront from The Shore to Granton via Ocean Terminal, reconnecting Leith to the water. Taking the fence down from around the Scottish Government's Victoria Quay would aid this.
- Improve access to the docks and support maritime assets, including SS Explorer.

### LEITH THEATRE

- Invest significantly in Leith Theatre so that it can reopen to the public on a permanent, year-round, basis.
- Make the theatre a fully functioning performance space and a means of bringing Leith's community together.

### THE KIRKGATE

- Improve and redesign the Kirkgate in order to make it a vibrant centre for Leith; a meeting space, performance space and destination.
- Make it more welcoming with benches for more social interaction.
- Increase capacity and frequency of local markets, animate with arts and cultural events.

### PARKS AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- More green space management, more bins.
- Invest in smaller green spaces in Leith.
- Designated 'dog areas' in larger parks, separate from children's play areas.
- Form a green network in Leith connecting clean green spaces and waterways.
- Improve the maintenance of the cyclepath network.

### GREAT JUNCTION STREET

- Improve the pedestrian environment through wider footpaths and increased safe crossing points.
- Address on-street parking along route to ease traffic flow.
- Recommission murals in the surrounding area and invest in local businesses.

### COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

As part of the project, Leith Creative ran a free two-day community conference at the Newkirkgate Community Education Centre, where all three creative engagement methods were on show. During round-table conversations, members of the public, local stakeholders and representatives were invited to debate the largest themes coming out of the Leith Creative research to date.

Saturday focused on how arts and culture can contribute to the social and spatial development of neighbourhoods. Special guest speakers included John Paul McGroarty (formerly Leith Festival, Leith Theatre), Julia Amour (Festivals Edinburgh) and Shona McCarthy (Edinburgh Fringe Festival).

Sunday looked at how we can better identify, protect and enhance the local character and identity of Leith, particularly through heritage and planning. Speakers included Ben Macpherson (MSP Edinburgh North and Leith), Barbara Cummins (Historic Environment Scotland) and Will Garrett (City of Edinburgh Council).

Overwhelmingly, the need for more democratic non-partisan leadership was highlighted at the conference, with the possible introduction of a development trust regularly mentioned.

### LEITH CREATIVE

With the aim of connecting and empowering local communities in the area, Leith Creative facilitated a number of additional cultural and creative interventions. These included:

**Creative Circles Leith** - Quarterly coffee morning events at Custom Lane, in association with Creative Edinburgh. Designed to bring creatives and other local stakeholders together.

**Make Leith Better** - Pitching and participatory budgeting event, in association with First Port. Individuals or organisations were awarded £500 to make an idea for the community a reality.

**Street Huts with Biomorphis** - Temporary street closure, in association with Lorne Street Primary School and Jameson Place Sheltered Housing. An afternoon of safe play and inter-generational exchange.

**Gentrification Screening** - In association with Depford Cinema and Leith Community Cinema. Free screening accompanied by a debate exploring gentrification.

**Leith Walk Tram Shed** - In conjunction with OOTB. A lunchtime conversation about possible future short-term uses of the last brownfield site on Leith Walk.

### LEITH WALK

- Install more stopping places and public seating on Leith Walk, improving social interaction and retail.
- Bring back trees to the Walk and adjoining streets in order to make it more of a boulevard.
- Increased cycle parking and possible pedestrianised streets off the Walk.
- Develop a speakers' corner at the Foot of the Walk.

### LEITH LISTINGS

BIOMORPHIS undertook a range of on the street interviews and events, with Custom Lane and Out of the Blue Drill Hall (OOTB), generating over 235 suggestions for features on the Leith Listings - a directory of buildings, structures, people and places of local significance. A total of 121 tangible and intangible items of Leith's cultural heritage have made it onto the ever-growing index, each nominated by residents aged from 8 to 80.

**Top five most mentioned items:**

1. Leith History Mural
2. DOK Artist Space
3. Leith Links
4. Out of the Blue Drill Hall
5. Trees on Leith Walk

Biomorphis also hosted a curated conversation at OOTB, in conjunction with the Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, focused on development in and around Leith Walk. Residents and guests, including representatives from local music venue and bar Leith Depot, discussed the notion of precarity in relation to aggressive property development in the area.

### Out of the Blue Drill Hall

### KEY

- Road
- Train Track
- Cycle Path
- Green Space
- Water

Leith Creative engagement methods	Outcomes
Interactive Map by Lateral North	Findings
Place Standard Wheel by HERE+NOW	Recommendations
Leith Listings by Biomorphis	Info

# LEITH

### PLACE STANDARD WHEEL

HERE+NOW developed the Place Standard Wheel, a giant 3D version of the Place Standard, a Scottish Government framework for assessing places. The Wheel appeared at St Margaret's House and Out of the Blue Drill Hall, along with touring locations including, Easter Road, Albert Street, The Ripple Project in Restalrig and the Kirkgate during LeithLate17's opening night.

**Highest scoring themes (average total score, out of a possible 7):**

1. Public transport (6.2)
2. Identity and belonging (5.9)
3. Social contact (5.7)

**Lowest scoring themes:**

1. Influence and sense of control (3.2)
2. Care and maintenance (3.3)
3. Traffic and parking (3.7)

Here+Now also hosted a curated conversation at St Margaret's House on the subject of identity and belonging, with invited guests including Leith Walk Councillor Susan Rae and representatives of The Ripple Project. Topics discussed included differing identities for those on the periphery of Leith, and the impact housing development has on the identity of place.

### St Margaret's House

