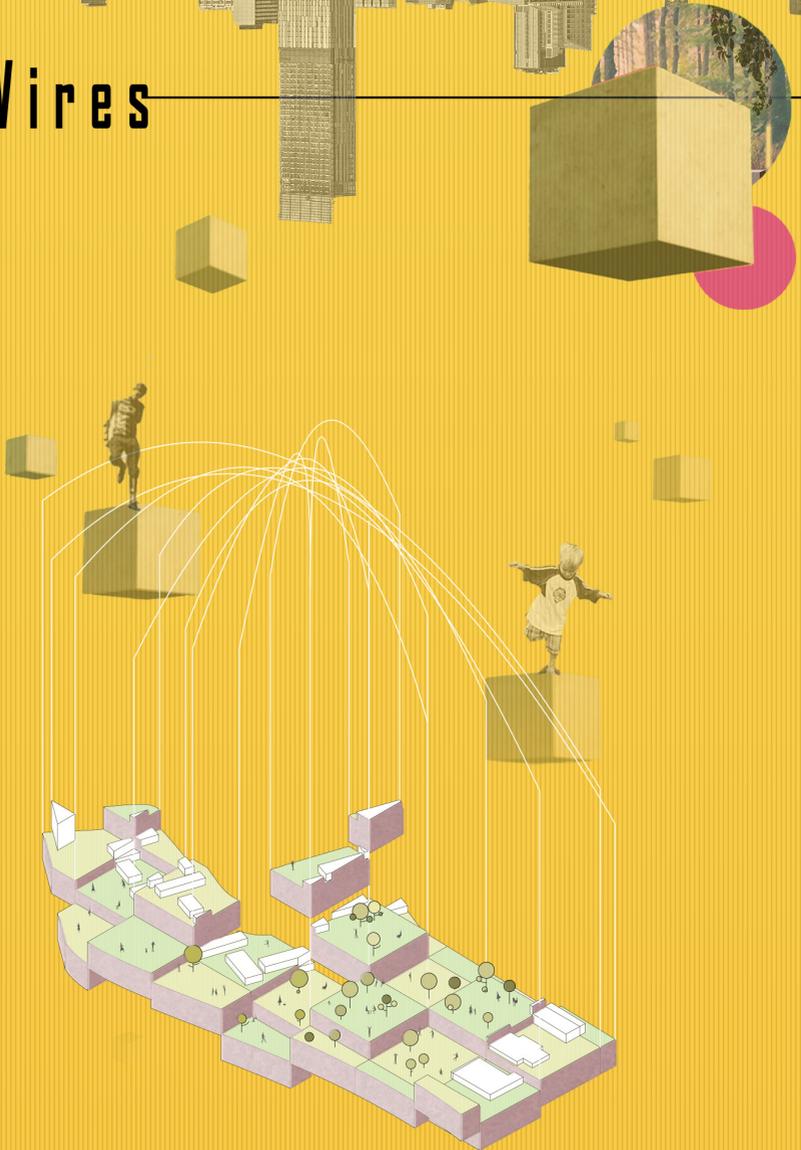


**MANCHESTER SCHOOL
OF ARCHITECTURE**

Live Wires



Visit msa.ac.uk for more information

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

 **Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

**MSA
LIVE 21**

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Partners

The Workhouse Project is a joint assembled partnership that aims to improve community relations and create social cohesion by fostering a community aid network. The Workhouse Project is interested in improving people's quality of life by providing basic needs such as food, shelter, and social network support. The partnership's employs strategies that will enable the community to become self-sufficient, encouraging mutual aid from residents, thereby enhancing their diverse identities. People of any age or gender and from any social and cultural background are welcome to benefit from the improvements the project aims to introduce. The listed ambitions are achievable by implementing three main design guidelines: detonate, demonstrate, consolidate.

However, the pandemic has impacted the Workhouse Project team, causing a split within the group; having half of their team in Manchester and the other half abroad, with all members working remotely, has caused limited access to the sites of future projects.

Nevertheless, The Workhouse Project is motivated by the apparent urban dilemmas present in the neighbouring areas of Hulme and Moss Side of South-Central Manchester. The team has been investigating the current community situation, looking at what basic needs are lacking to promptly determine and respond to the community's needs.

This project aims to break down barriers created by physical obstacles such as the high-traffic Princess Road and non-physical ones such as the apparent absence of a support network within neighbourhoods. The project aims to provide social cohesion and build a more resilient community capable of sustaining itself and having the basic needs at its disposal.

Agenda

LIVEWIRES

The need for better food sharing and growing facilities in Hulme is imminent. LiveWires propose transforming the Lost Highway from a neglected, brownfield site that runs parallel to the busy Princess Road into a valuable public space that will encourage social cohesion and community relationships around food sharing, growing, and cooking.

In close collaboration with the Workhouse Project, the Aquarius Centre and Martenscroft Primary School, the proposal prides itself on being a self-build project. Moreover, locally sourced materials and modular construction ensure developments can be constructed and maintained at low-costs and promptly to benefit the needs and aspirations of residents.

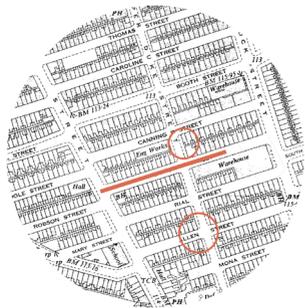
The proposal comprises a noise/pollution barrier running parallel to the busy Princess Road, Pop-up market stalls for food sharing/selling, Allotment gardens and Community Kitchen/Storage pods.

This project aims to unite the local community, foster community excitement, and establish the foundations of a sustainable food cooking, growing and sharing hub with the intent of further collaborations and more permanent infrastructure in the future.

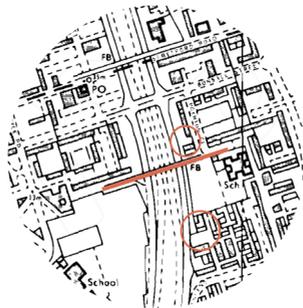
UNDERSTANDING HULME



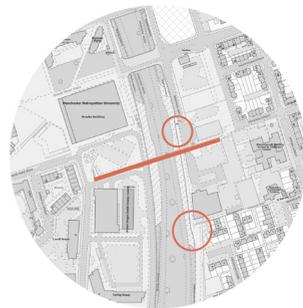
LOCATION MAP



1950



1970



2021

Before the 20th century

The beginning of the 20th century

1951-1970



Now

1991 Regeneration

1970

Image Top:
Location Map

Image (Middle) Left:
Hulme 1950

Image (Middle) Centre:
Hulme 1970

Image (Middle) Right:
Hulme now

Image Left:
Photographic timeline of
Hulme

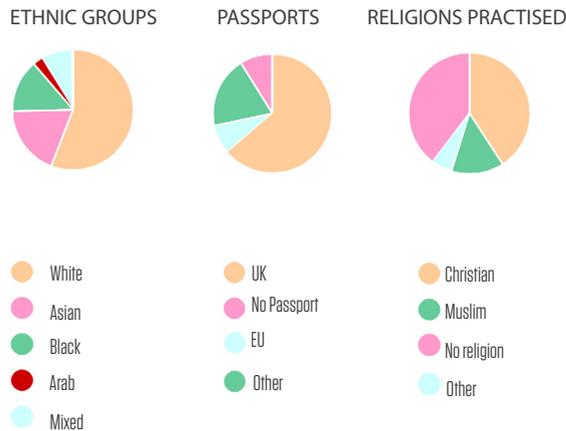
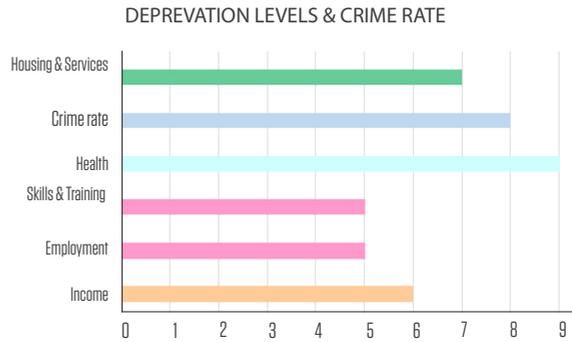
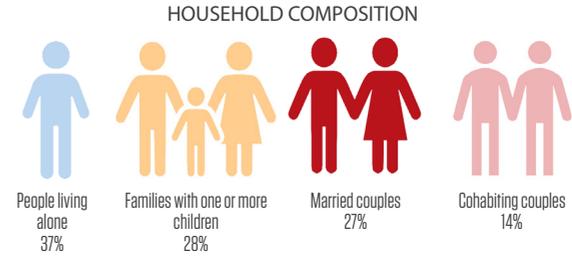
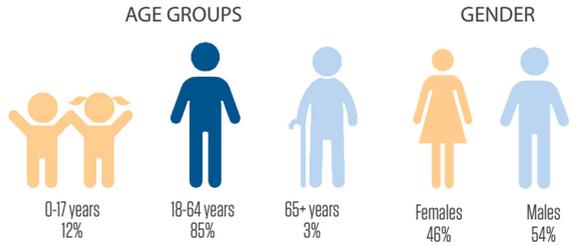
In the early 19th century, developers increased social housing on public land. After World War II, Hulme experienced an increase in migrants, and in the 1960s, most of the existing slums got demolished to make space for new developments. In 1970 with the oil crisis, many Hulme residents could not afford house heating, leading to damp and unhygienic housing. As a result, the area experienced higher crime rates and drug abuse.

Hulme experienced yet another major change in 1992 when there was significant urban regeneration, University buildings popped up and more modern housing and new road infrastructure replaced rows of terraced housing. Parts of Hulme are unrecognisable as multi-national developments envelop what was once a thriving multicultural community.

DEMOGRAPHIC

To begin with it was important we understood the demographic of Hulme. This provided us with accurate knowledge of the area to ensure the redevelopment of the Lost Highway would incorporate the needs of the community.

The deprivation levels are shown on a scale of 1 to 10, where one is the best and ten is the worst. As can be seen, the Hulme ward faces a high crime rate. The population experiences financial deprivation and low quality of life, resulting in poor physical and mental health alongside physical inaccessibility to housing and local services. Additionally, the Hulme area presents a multi-ethnic community with different religions practised and a relatively high portion of refugees and asylum seekers, evidenced in the percentage of individuals possessing no passport. The community cultural differences have caused social segregation, especially to migrants and refugees struggling to integrate.



We started by locating the Lost Highway within its site context. We highlighted existing community food groups, other green spaces and educational facilities. We are keen that one of our outputs ensures improved networks social cohesion between existing facilities and groups.

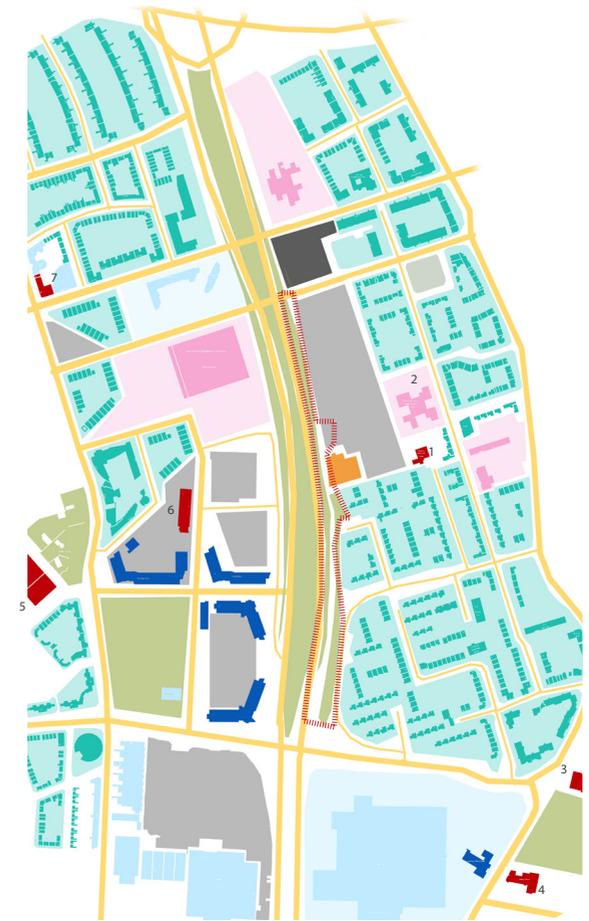
Community Groups

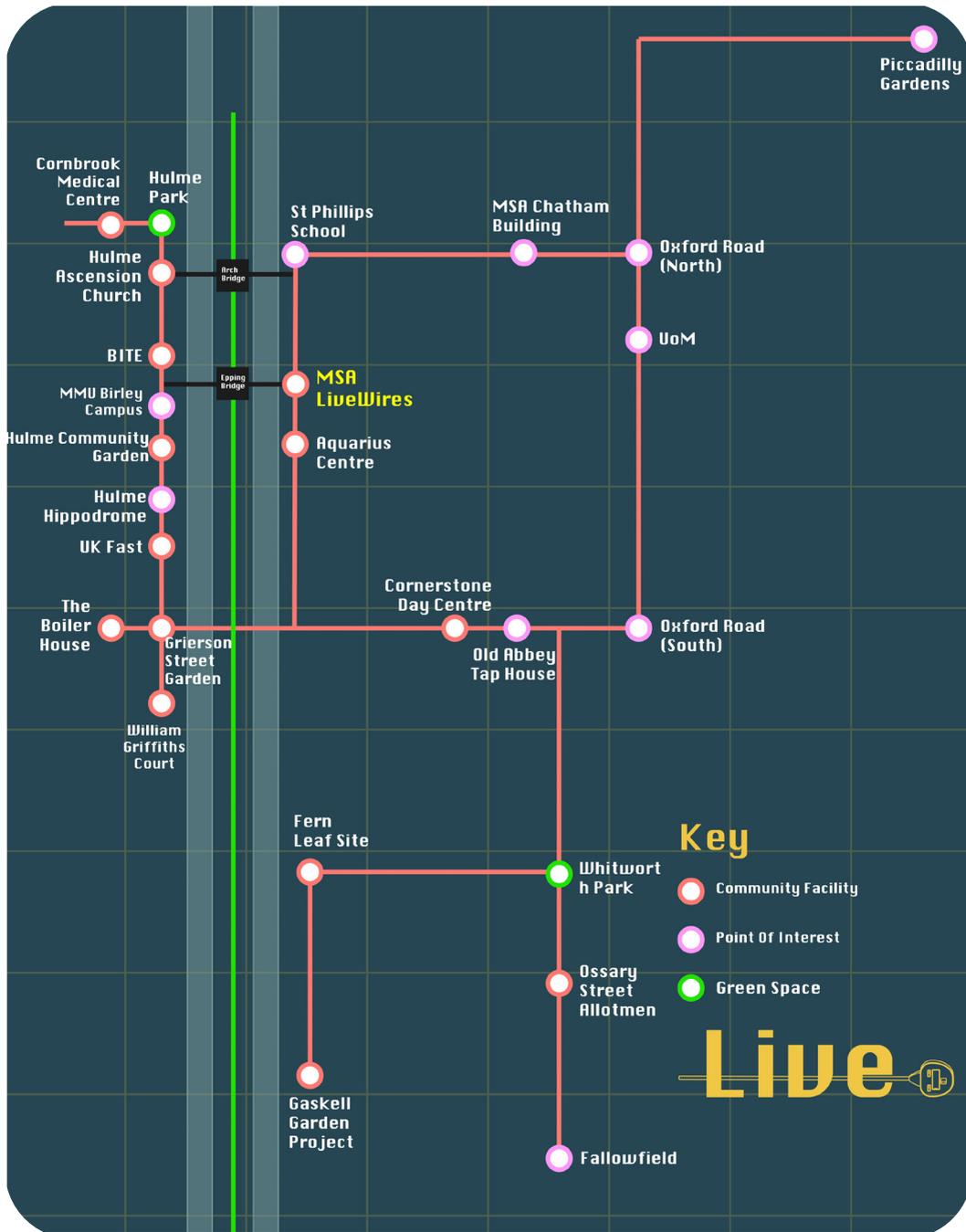
- 1 Aquarius Centre
- 2 Martenscroft School
- 3 Darul Aman Mosque
- 4 Cornerstone Day Centre
- 5 NIAMOS
- 6 One Manchester
- 7 Refugee Action Manchester

Regeneration of the Lost Highway will have a phased development and our job is to kick start phase one!

Phase one is to get people excited about development, start tackling the 'food problem' in Hulme and start to involve the community in the regeneration of the Lost Highway. This phase will also involve securing funding for the future.

With this in mind, we started to consider how we could design a structure with minimal funding. By building with local, recycled materials, we could save on material and labour costs. We considered the use of wooden pallets, tyres and plastic bottles. These are all materials we could resource locally on Facebook marketplace or recycling centres free of charge.





Building materials location map



COMMUNITY KITCHEN
Project: The Red Cross
RIBA Pavilion
Location: London, UK



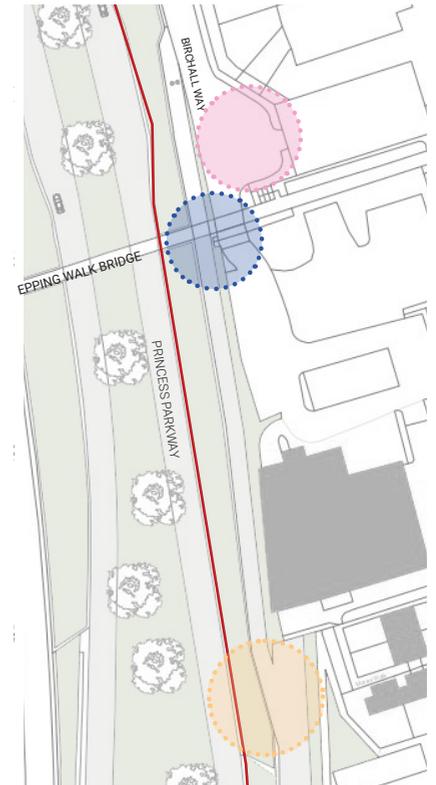
TYRE WALL
Project: Landscaping ideas.
Trees.com



POP-UP MARKET STALLS
Project: The Bouquinistes
Location: Paris, France



ALLOTMENT GARDENS
Project: Organic herb and vegetable garden
Location: Malaysia



Site Strategy

The Proposal

The final proposal comprises of 4 elements;

TYRE WALL

The tyre wall is a crucial part of the redevelopment of the Lost Highway. It acts as a noise and pollution barrier from the busy Princess Road whilst facilitating plant growth, seating and advertisement along its stretch. Made from reused tyres and pallets, the extravagant 'fence' is affordable and appealing.

MARKET STALLS

Taking precedent from the market stalls along the Seine River in Paris, the market stalls instead aim to provide space for community events such as the 'Community grocer'. The market stalls have been designed to lock up securely at night, and they can be leased to vendors for markets, charity bake sales, etcetera.

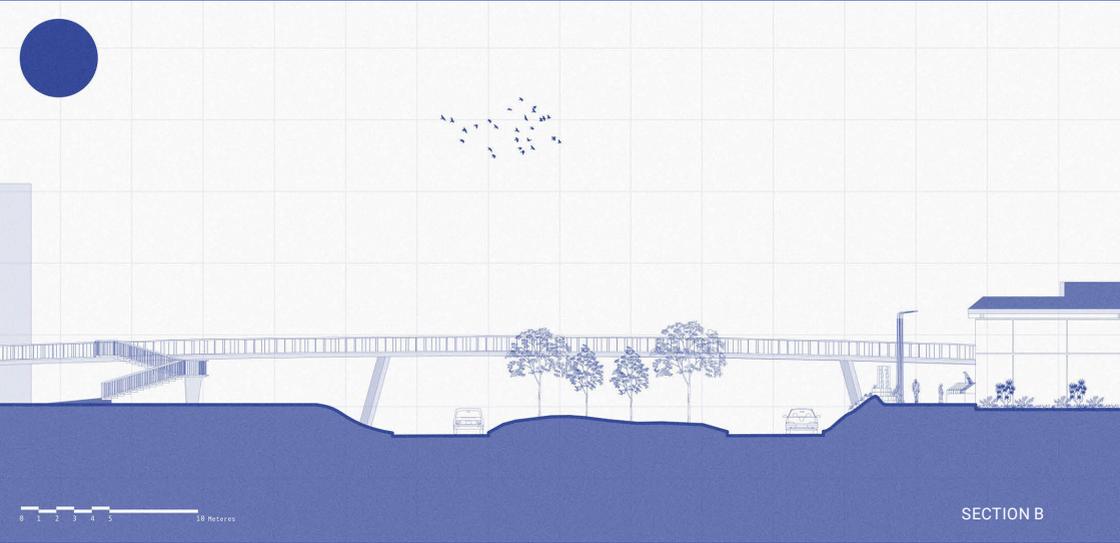
ALLOTMENT GARDENS

The Aquarius centre currently has 11-12 small allotments shared with the community and Martenscroft. Hulme and Moss Side residents would like to expand growing to include gardening projects in the estate. Increasing allotment space along the green verges, which straddle the lost Highway and housing estate, transforms the area and allows more fresh produce for the community grocers and residents. The small allotment spaces will grow low maintenance hardy crops which would be primarily maintained by residents of the estate but overseen by the Aquarius, a Parents Association at Martenscroft school and the Workhouse Project.

KITCHEN/STORAGE PODS

The Aquarius centre has an indoor kitchen used for a range of community events; however, since covid-19, they feel they would benefit from more outdoor cooking facilities as residents feel safer meeting outdoors. Tackling food shortage in the Hulme area as part of the Lost Highway regeneration project is crucial. The kitchen pods and the seating pods have been designed to be self-built and modular, allowing them to be packed up and left securely overnight. The kitchens and seating pods are meant to be flexible and support various community events, such as cooking classes, soup kitchens, or a community café.



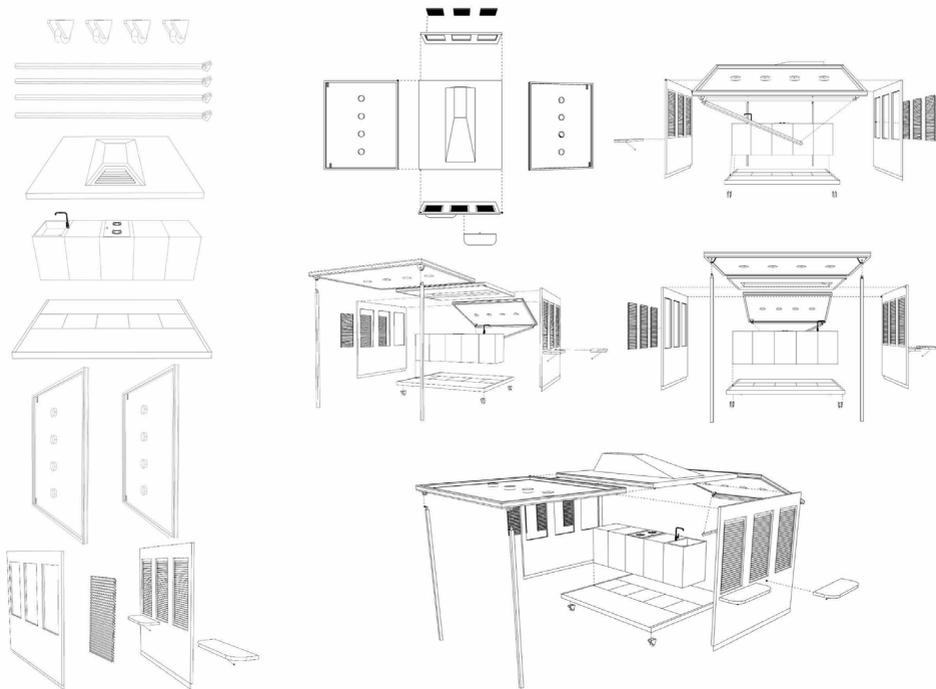




Kitchen/Storage Pods



Tyre Wall from Princess Parkway



Instruction Manual for Kitchen/Storage pod



Tyre Wall from Lost Highway



Community Kitchen

ABOUT

Each year the MSA Live (formerly Events) programme unites M Arch. year 01 with B Arch. year 01 and 02 and M Land. Arch 01 in mixed-year teams to undertake live projects with external partners to create social impact.

LIVE PROJECTS

All MSA Live projects are live. A live project is where an educational organisation and an external partner develop a brief, timescale, and outcome for their mutual benefit.

SOCIAL IMPACT

All MSA Live projects have social impact. Social impact is the effect an organization's actions have on the well-being of a community. Our agendas are set by our external collaborators.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

MSA LIVE projects work with many organisations: charities, community groups, social enterprises, community interest companies, researchers, practitioners and educators.

STUDENT-LED

Our MSA masters students take the lead in the project conception, brief development, delivery and co-ordination of a small project. Other cohorts join for an eventful 2 weeks of activities at the end of the academic year.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Working in teams within and across year groups and courses; MSA students participate in peer to peer learning. In addition, collaborators, participants and students engage in the transfer of tangible and intellectual property, expertise, learning and skills.

LARGE SCALE

This year approximately 600 students from 4 cohorts in MSA will work on 42 projects with partners.

QUESTIONS

For questions about MSA Live 21 contact MSA Live Lead: Becky Sobell:
b.sobell@mmu.ac.uk

BLOG

live.msa.ac.uk/2021

SOCIAL

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www.msa.ac.uk