

# URBAN PRACTICES

URBNG006



MSc Urban Studies  
University College London

2014

# URBAN PRACTICES (URBNG006)

---

**Course convenor:** Dr. Regan Koch [r.koch@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.koch@ucl.ac.uk) (office hours Mon 1-3pm, Thurs 5-6pm)

**Course tutors:** Aidan Mosselson [aidan.mosselson.11@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:aidan.mosselson.11@ucl.ac.uk)

David Roberts [david.roberts@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:david.roberts@ucl.ac.uk)

**Classes:** Fridays 2-5pm, 113 Bedford Way [4-5pm will be reserved for group work time]

**Credits and duration:** 15 credits, one term

**Assessment:** 90% coursework (group and individual), 10% group oral presentation

## Module overview:

This module will explore a variety of ways in which problems and potentials in contemporary urban life are being addressed in practice. Organised around the theme 'Making cities better' the course will also consider the place of urban scholarship as an imaginative and analytical resource in regards to case studies in London and other cities around the world. The aim throughout is to supplement the exposure of MSc Urban Studies students to key theoretical discourses in urban scholarship with a critical examination of the same challenges from a practice-based perspective.

Weekly seminars will involve a range of urban practitioners detailing and reflecting upon their work. This shall include a variety of fields such as [planning and development, urban design, global consulting, housing, community organizing, grassroots activism, and small business entrepreneurialism]. Discussion will be oriented around three key dimensions:

- What normative and evaluative principles are involved within particular efforts to make cities better? What kinds of practical, intellectual and political questions are raised in the processes of intervening into cities and urban life?
- What is the relationship between urban theory, research and practice? What tensions and similarities can be identified between, for example, critical urbanism and the pragmatic demands of professional practice? To what extent can or does professional practice gain from engagement with intellectual discourse? How does practical experience challenge or extend urban scholarship?
- How might students reshape their own work, life experiences and career paths by engaging with the interfaces between theory and practice? How can we enhance our ability to understand, explore and intervene in the making of better urban futures?

In addition to seminar discussions and readings for each week, students will undertake a group exercise based on an exploration of a particular case or topic of their choosing. They will then develop a group project, engaging and reflecting upon a range of practice-oriented outputs. An individual reflective component will also comprise a portion of the overall assessment.

Information, news, and resources can be found at the Urban Practices Moodle page: <http://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=12581>. Enrollment key: practices

**Calendar:**

17 January	Regan Koch, UCL; Mariana Pestana, The Decorators and UCL (Bartlett)
24 January	Lucia Caistor-Arendar, Social Life
31 January	Sarah Allan, Field Work Enterprise
7 February	No seminar—group site visits
14 February	Group presentations (non-assessed)
21 February	<i>Reading Week</i> (no seminar)
28 February	Petra Barran & Ian Dodds, KERB Street Food
7 March	Tony Leach, London Parks and Green Spaces Forum
14 March	Oliver Goodall, We Made That
21 March	Catherine Greig, make:good
28 March	Group presentations (assessed)

**Note:**

-Group presentation seminars will run until 5pm. On all other days the room will be available from 4-5pm for group work and tutorial support from Aidan and David.

**Assessment details:**

The assessment for this course is comprised a group oral presentation (10%) and coursework (90%). The coursework consists of a group project (75% of final grade) and an individual reflection piece (15% of final grade).

At the start of the module, you will be divided into groups of four (in some cases three or five students). We will try to mix your academic and professional backgrounds for each of the groups to maximize the available range of disciplinary backgrounds, skills and experience.

Each group will select a topic in consultation with each other and the course tutor. A list of suggested topics is offered below. It is advised that discussion around this choice forms the focus of group meetings during the first few weeks of the module.

You will then start to explore within the group how this topic has been framed and approached within existing urban practice and research. The focus should be organised around how practitioners are seeking to make cities better in regards to topic. The group will also begin to think about possible ways of pursuing student responses to this topic and how approaches to practice-based research on this topic could be developed.

On 14 February, your group will provide an oral presentation of no more than 12 minutes followed by 10 minutes of questions from students and staff. This presentation will NOT be assessed, but will be used as a sounding-board and launch pad for a more substantive group project developed in relation to the same topic or case-study.

**1) Group presentation (10% of total mark)**

On March 28, your group will again present your work to the class following the same format—this time to be assessed as 10% of the overall course grade. The presentation will describe your groups project, including a rationale for the pathway taken. In doing so, your group should also reflect upon questions of theory and practice outlined in the module overview.

It is essential that the group works effectively together in order make a coherent and well-structured presentation. Everyone in the group will be expected to participate in the presentation although you may wish to divide up specific responsibilities and aspects of your engagement with the topic/case-study. The mark for the presentation will be shared collectively by the group.

### *2) Coursework: Group project (75% of total mark)*

Projects will involve some form of critically informed, practical engagement with an urban problem or potential. This may include the development of a policy report or recommendation, visual arts or graphic design installation, pamphlet or instructional manual, participant-observation with an existing project (and then a critically reflective or propositional follow-up), a social media or website construction, a map, a material or design intervention, a small action-research project, or some other practice-oriented means of addressing an issue.

The product to be assessed must be assembled into some sort of portfolio of materials accompanied by a 750 word explanatory text. The portfolio should be in an A4 size form or a CD format and all works must be clearly labeled. This may include photographs (no more than 8), a short film or audio clip (no more than 5 minutes) or other appropriate materials. The production of broadcast quality materials is not necessary, but they should be of sufficient quality to be assessed effectively.

Marking criteria will be based upon the guidelines in the MSc handbook, but shall also include:

1. The ability to develop an engaging, creative and critical response to the topic
2. Clarity, precision and quality of writing (including referencing and bibliography)
3. Structure and presentation (the essays may also include images)
4. The content of the essay or commentary (including sources used)
5. The ability to link materials, observations and other information both to the specific case and to wider questions or themes in urban discourse

On Monday 28 April, you will submit your essay or portfolio to Fiona Mannion in Room 113 of Bedford Way between 11-12pm. We are not able to return submissions.

This same week of the project hand-in is UCL's *Cities Methodologies*—an annual exhibition of urban research and practice hosted by the Urban. You group will also be presenting and exhibiting your work during this time.

### *3) Coursework: Individual Reflection (15% of total mark)*

In addition to the group project, each student will submit a commentary and reflective essay of 750 words. This more conventional piece of writing should reflect upon the issues of theory and practice in relation to the course theme, as well as ones own experience with the group project.

This must be submitted electronically to both Turnitin and to the course convenor (no hard copy is needed) by 5<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Suggested project themes and topics**

The following broad themes and topics are suggested to develop projects around the theme of 'Making cities better'. Your group may decide on a different focus, but it must be approved by the course convenor. There will be additional tutorial support sessions to help develop your group work and individual coursework submissions.

- 1) Housing
- 2) Public health and well-being
- 3) Food-related concerns
- 4) Place-making and liveability
- 5) Mobility and transportation
- 6) Local economic and small business development
- 7) Parks and green space
- 8) Children and youth opportunities
- 9) Bio-diversity and urban nature
- 10) Environmental sustainability
- 11) Sociality and inter-cultural relations
- 12) Urban planning and design
- 13) Community organising

## **General reading and preparation:**

As a general introduction to the course theme, these academic writings are suggested:

Amin, A. (2007) 'The Good City', *Urban Studies*, 43(5/6), pp. 1009-1023.

Hall, P. (2012) *Good Cities, Better Lives*, Oxon: Routledge

Lees, L (ed) (2004) *The emancipatory city?: Paradoxes and Possibilities*.  
London: Sage

The following may also provide insight or inspiration:

Austin, J. (2010) 'More to see than a canvas in a white cube: For an art in the streets', *City*, 14(1), pp. 33-47.

Blomley, N. (2006) 'Uncritical critical geography?' *Progress in Human Geography*, 30(1), pp. 87-94.

Friedmann, J. (2000) 'In defense of utopian thinking' *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 27(2), p. 460-472.

Gibson-Graham, J.K. (2008) 'Diverse economies: performative practices for 'other worlds' ' *Progress in Human Geography*, 32(5) pp.613-632.

Healey, P. (1997). *Collaborative Planning - Shaping places in fragmented societies*. London: MacMillan Press

- Hinchliffe, S. and Whatmore, S. (2005) 'Living cities: towards a politics of conviviality' *Environment and Planning D*, 23, pp. 643-658.
- Koch, R. and Latham, A. (2013) 'On the hard work of domesticating a public space', *Urban Studies*, 55(1), pp. 6-12.
- Kristeva, J. (1998). 'Institutional Interdisciplinarity in Theory and Practice: An Interview' in Coles, A. and Defert, A. (eds.), *The Anxiety of Interdisciplinarity, De-, Dis-, Ex-*, v.2, London: Blackdog Press
- Landry, C. (2006) *The Art of City Making*. London: Earthscan
- Myers, G (2012) *African Cities: Alternative visions of urban theory and practice*. London: Zed Books
- Peattie L (1998) Convivial cities. In: M. Douglass & J. Friedmann eds. *Cities for citizens: Planning and the rise of civil society in a global age*. Chichester: Wiley
- Phelps, N. and Tewdwr-Jones, M. (2008) If geography is anything, maybe it's planning's alter ego? Reflections on policy relevance in two disciplines concerned with place and space, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, (33) 566–584.
- Rendell, J., (2010) *Site-Writing: The Architecture of Art Criticism*, London: I B Tauris & Co Ltd
- Simone, A. (2004) *For the city yet to come*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press
- Ward, K. (2007). 'Geography and public policy: Activist, participatory, and policy geographies.'" *Progress in Human Geography*, 31(5): 695-705.

### Urban Practitioners

The following practice-based organisation and activities may be of interest in the early stages of generating ideas. Guidance on more specific readings and sources related to the preparation of group projects and individual coursework submissions will be provided within the module

1. The Center for Urban Pedagogy. A non-profit collective that uses design and art to increase civic engagement. <http://welcometocup.org>
2. Capital Growth. London's food growing network. [www.capitalgrowth.org](http://www.capitalgrowth.org)
3. URBZ. An experimental urban research action collective. [www.urbz.net](http://www.urbz.net)
4. Just Space. Community group cooperating on London planning [www.justspace.org.uk](http://www.justspace.org.uk)
5. The East London Citizens Alliance (TELCO)/CitizensUK. Grassroots community organising alliance. [www.citizensuk.org](http://www.citizensuk.org)
6. Urban Projects Bureau. Creative approaches to architecture, urban design and spatial strategy. [www.urbanprojectsbureau.com](http://www.urbanprojectsbureau.com)
7. Living Streets. Charity focused on pedestrian-friendly streets and public spaces. [www.livingstreets.org](http://www.livingstreets.org)
8. London Biodiversity Partnership. A network of organisations delivering the city's official biodiversity and urban nature plan. [www.lbp.org.uk](http://www.lbp.org.uk)
9. The London Cycling Campaign. Advocacy and political action to make London

- streets safer for cyclists. [www.lcc.org.uk](http://www.lcc.org.uk)
10. Social Life. Urban development and social sustainability. [www.social-life.co](http://www.social-life.co)
  11. London Food Link. Campaign for health, sustainable and ethical food systems for the city. [www.sustainweb.org/londonfoodlink](http://www.sustainweb.org/londonfoodlink)
  12. Spacemakers. A 'civic ideas agency' creating interventions which aim to make cities and spaces work better. [www.spacemakers.info](http://www.spacemakers.info)
  13. The London Parks and Green Spaces Forum. Promoting accessible quality green spaces for health and sustainability. [www.green-space.org.uk/lpgsf](http://www.green-space.org.uk/lpgsf)

## Seminar Details

**January 17<sup>th</sup>** Mariana Pestana, The Decorators and UCL (Bartlett) [www.the-decorators.net](http://www.the-decorators.net)

This introductory session will be divided into two parts. First will be an overview of the module and a further detailing of the expectations and themes laid out in the syllabus. This shall include a preliminary discussion of possible tensions and similarities in the way urban theory approaches 'the good city' versus how urban practitioners seek to make cities better. We briefly will consider the imaginative, analytical and propositional resources that urban scholarship can bring to different projects, and we will identify some suppositions that can be investigated or challenged throughout the course. For example, is there really a coherent divide between theory and practice? How can the abstract concepts and methods used in urban scholarship inform the work of urban practitioners outside of the academy? Do the pragmatic demands of professional practice require a decentring of the intellectual and political concerns at the heart of urban studies? What disjunctures or productive similarities have MSc students thus far into their program identified, and how do they anticipate putting their learning to work?

In the second half of the seminar we will hear from Mariana Pestana who leads an interdisciplinary group of urban practitioners working with space and designing experiences that invite people to engage with objects and architecture. Using tools of graphic design, architecture, psychology and landscape, The Decorators have been involved with a number of projects throughout London and beyond, collaborating with practitioners in the arts, architecture, local government and cultural industries. Mariana is also a doctoral student in the Bartlett School of architecture, working on a PhD on architectural design focusing on the exhibition "The Real and Other Fictions", which she curated for Close, Closer, 2013 Lisbon Architecture Triennale.

In this seminar, Mariana will describe some of The Decorators projects, along with reflecting upon her experiences at the intersections of architectural scholarship and professional practice.

### *Preparatory reading:*

Mariana has suggested reading 'Chapter 3: Making Do, Uses and Tactics' in de Certeau, M. (1984) *The Practice of Everyday Life*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, pp. 28-43.

In addition, try to get through one or two of the suggested preparatory readings listed on pg. 5-6.

**January 24<sup>th</sup>** Lucia Caistor-Arendar, Social Life. [www.social-life.co](http://www.social-life.co)

Building thriving places depends on much more than bricks and mortar. Too many developments, towns and cities fail because the reality of what people and communities want and need has been neglected in their creation. Social Life's aim is to reconnect placemaking with people's everyday experience and the way that communities work.

Social Life works internationally with communities, built environment professionals, public agencies and governments, putting people and social need at the heart of the way cities, towns and new developments are planned, developed and managed. Our expertise is in understanding the social dimensions of placemaking and sustainability; understanding how to accelerate local social innovation; and translating these insights into practice and policy.

Social Life works in a number of different ways:

- New thinking and approaches: we develop ideas, research and evidence about social sustainability and placemaking
- Collaboration and partnership: we lead collaborative programmes, bringing together government, public and private sector partnerships to share new thinking and encourage innovation
- Testing and piloting: we test new approaches through practical projects ranging from in depth community consultation to using data to paint portraits of local areas
- Bespoke consultancy: we provide tailored advisory services to public and private sector organisations

Lucia Caistor-Arendar, Associate at Social Life and UCL Urban Studies alumnus, will lead this session. Lucia is an urban practitioner with 5 years consultancy experience in London. She also studied architecture in Glasgow and Switzerland. Before joining Social Life Lucia worked in the Local Innovation team at the Young Foundation contributing to projects on community resilience, social sustainability in new communities, measuring wellbeing and social innovation. Lucia has an interest in meanwhile spaces and has previously worked for Meanwhile Space CIC, was involved in the Market estate project and ran a pop-up community space in Kings Cross called Make-Do. She also has an interest in Latin American cities and has been involved in various community initiatives in Peru and Argentina.

In this seminar, Lucia will describe some of Social Life's projects and methods and her reflections as an alumnus on the tensions between urban theory and urban practice.

*Preparatory reading:*

Woodcraft, S., Hackett, T., Caistor-Arendar, L., Bacon, N. (2012). *Design for Social Sustainability: A framework for creating thriving communities, Second Edition*. London: Social Life.  
<http://www.social-life.co/publication/Social-Sustainability/>

Dixon, T., Woodcraft, W. (2013) 'Creating Strong Communities: Measuring social sustainability in new housing development', *Town & Country Planning*, 82(11), pp. 473-480.

Music Video: Arcade Fire, The Wilderness Downtown: <http://www.thewildernessdowntown.com/>



**January 31<sup>st</sup>** Sarah Allan, Field Work Enterprise

Sarah is an architect and urban designer and founding director of Field Work Enterprise - a community interest company set up to help organisations deliver quality and value in the fields of architecture, urban design and planning. She also manages a couple of development projects for a property developer in London. Prior to this Sarah worked on a significant regeneration project for a rural local authority in Hampshire project managing some early wins projects and fostering collaboration and partnership working with the local community and external organisations to raise awareness about the importance of design quality and sustainability of new homes. Between 2003-2011 Sarah worked for the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), providing planning, design and procurement advice to government departments and public sector clients delivering regeneration projects, masterplans and housing across England.

*Seminar Overview: Appreciating utopias when delivering development*

Urban theory can often be left far behind in the process to get development implemented, but the value of understanding theoretical and utopian models can bring a richness and coherence to practice.

Using examples of development projects at different spatial scales, this seminar will explore why a vision for development, whatever the scale, is important and the challenges of implementing a successful vision. A good vision should demonstrate an understanding of place, now and in the future; set the quality for the development and establish priorities

Sarah Allan will draw on her experience of working on the client-side from a range of development projects in the public and private sector:

- Regional scale: Thames Gateway identity project
- Town scale: Whitehill & Bordon Eco-town
- Neighbourhood scale: Southey Owlerton area regeneration
- Building scale: rooftop structure, Southwark

*Preparatory reading:*

Large scale urban design: Getting the big picture right

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110118095356/http://www.cabe.org.uk/files/client-guides/lud-client-guide.pdf>

Harvey, D. (200) *Spaces of Hope*. New York: University of Columbia Press.

SolidSpace manifesto:

[http://solidSpace.co.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2013/11/SolidSpace\\_manifesto.pdf](http://solidSpace.co.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2013/11/SolidSpace_manifesto.pdf)

**February 28<sup>th</sup>** Petra Barran & Ian Dodds, KERB Street Food

KERB is an organisation that promotes the idea of cities becoming better through great food: street food brings street life and allows people to feel a part of the city, engendering a sense of well-being and much-needed participation. With our 50-strong collective of brilliant street cooks we look for spaces where we can make London taste – and feel - better. We select the most talented and entrepreneurial traders to join us and work with landowners and councils that share our vision, to congregate deliciousness on the kerb that is available to all.

Through our expert curation, we seek to transform the everyday experiences of hungry city-dwellers and workers, the opportunities of the traders who serve their wares, and the space that it all takes place on. The more that we are able to do this, the more that we can start to carve out a new public image for London – and in turn, open up the city to more flexible uses in the space between its buildings. Supporting ground-up small businesses and the value and energy that they can bring to the streets is the perfect way for this multi-cultural, post-Empire, global capital to express itself.

*Seminar overview:*

If you asked us what our major threat was as a business, we'd most likely say that we are trying to grow a business from an industry that isn't supported by the system. Itinerant food traders do not pay the rents that make London – or any other major Western city – work. So, as wonderful and refreshing as it is to be introducing a more exuberant street life to the city through food, the question of how far we can ever really go with it lingers on. But, we also see this as our opportunity. We are operating in interesting times and we sense the bite of change in the air for how people wish to feel part of their city.

During our session we will talk about how KERB came about and how we navigate the often-politicised waters of pushing for more deliciousness on the kerb and a more sustainable industry for those maverick cooks who are using it as their platform for success. We will draw from different events we have been involved in to highlight our challenges and opportunities.

*Preparatory reading:*

Sennett, R. (2008) 'The Public Realm', Essay available at:

<http://www.richardsennett.com/site/SENN/Templates/General2.aspx?pageid=16>

Davis, M. (2000) 'Tropicalizing Cold Urban Space' in *Magical Urbanism*. London: Verso, pp. 61-68.

Steel, C. (2000) 'Market and Supermarket' in *Hungry City*. London: Vintage Books, pp. 103-152.

Johnston, J. and Bauman, S. (2010) 'Eating Authentically' and 'The Culinary Other: Seeking Exoticism' in *Foodies: Democracy and Distinction in the Gourmet Foodscape*. New York: Routledge, pp. 69-126.

*KERB links:*

Website: [www.kerbfood.com](http://www.kerbfood.com) Twitter: [@KERB](https://twitter.com/KERB) Tumblr: [KERB STORIES](http://kerbstories.tumblr.com)

KERB Gherkin petition: [change.org](http://change.org)

*KERB articles:*

KERB does Peckham (ES Magazine)

<http://www.standard.co.uk/lifestyle/esmagazine/peckhamania-out-on-the-town-in-londons-newest-hotspot-8739833.html>

A Visit to KERB (damn nyc) <http://www.damnyc.net/food-drinks/kerb>

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** Tony Leach, London Parks and Green Spaces Forum [www.green-space.org.uk/lpgsf/](http://www.green-space.org.uk/lpgsf/)

London has over 3000 parks and green spaces. They are a celebrated part of the city's public life and important sites of biodiversity, environmental sustainability, health and well-being. Yet London's parks have also been subject to drastic budget cuts in recent years, raising profound questions about their future capacity to provide the beneficial qualities associated with them. The provision for managing and funding them is as varied as the parks themselves, with responsibility and influence stretching across national and regional levels, 33 boroughs and more than 500 local groups.

The London Parks and Green Spaces Form seeks to provide a network of support, advice, good practice and cooperation among park users, managers and policy makers. Their stated mission is 'To promote a network of accessible quality green space, as a major contribution towards a healthier and more sustainable world city'. This session will be lead by Tony Leach, the Director of the Forum.

*Seminar overview:*

The seminar will provide an overview of the LPGSF's work, and some of the challenges faced by London's parks and green spaces, including:

1. The challenge of articulating the social, environmental and economic value of parks
2. Competing demands, conflicting rationalities and multiple scales of influence that come to bear on how parks are used, managed and funded
3. Current and future impacts of decreased funding and neoliberal governance on London's parks
4. The benefits and limitations of public-private partnerships, civic stewardship and commercial activity upon the provisioning and use of parks
5. Innovative designs, programmes and strategies are working to make the cities parks better

*Preparatory reading:*

Re-Thinking Parks: New Business Models for Parks. NESTA Policy Document.

<http://www.nesta.org.uk/publications/rethinking-parks-new-business-models-parks?gclid=COOT7PiFprsCFQHtAodd0IA-g>

Perkins, H. (2009) 'Turning feral spaces into trendy places: a coffee house in every park?' *Environment and Planning A*, 41, pp. 2615-2632.

Madden, D. (2010) 'Revisiting the End of Public Space: Assembling the Public in an Urban Park', *City and Community*, 9(2), pp. 187-207.

**March 14<sup>th</sup>** Oliver Goodall, We Made That [www.wemadethat.co.uk](http://www.wemadethat.co.uk)

We Made That is an architecture and design studio predominantly delivering work in the public realm. Recent projects include The Open Office (a live experimental practice for urbanism), The Unlimited Edition newspaper, and programmes of transformations to high streets in Croydon, Blackhorse Lane and Enfield. The relationship between local communities, development and creative practice is a particular focus of our work and we believe that - handled correctly - it can lead to enriched, exciting and engaging environments.

Co-founding partner Oliver Goodall is interested in developing projects that expand engagement between the public and the built environment, planning and policy making. Oliver has a background in both design and architecture. He holds a Masters Degree from the Royal College of Art in Design Interactions, having previously graduated from the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, in 2005.

*Seminar overview: Business as Usual*

Over the past 13 years, the number of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the UK has grown by 41% to 4.9 million in 2013. Much of this increase has come from companies with no employees<sup>1</sup> operating below the VAT threshold<sup>2</sup>. Within London, the number of employees working for SMEs in London rose by 15% for the ten years to 2011. However the growth of SMEs has not been consistent across the capital and in some part of London there have been large changes in the proportion of employees working for SMEs since 2001.

The need for support of SMEs is therefore stronger than ever and the availability of low cost workspaces and organisations to help these newly formed companies succeed is ever more vital, but challenges are being thrown in the path of established and new enterprises.

This seminar will focus on the challenges and opportunities in maintaining 'business as usual', but also cast an eye forward to how emerging business trends and intensification of uses might shape place making potential.

*Preparatory Reading:*

'Making the planning system work more efficiently and effectively', Press Release: Department for Communities and Local Government, 6 August 2013, Minister Nick Boles M.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-planning-rules-will-breathe-life-into-rural-communities-and-town-centres>

---

<sup>1</sup> Enterprises with no employees are either i. Sole proprietorships and partnerships containing only the self-employed owner-manager(s) or ii. Companies comprising only one employee director

<sup>2</sup> Department of Business, Innovation and Skills, Business Population Estimates for the UK and Regions 2013, 23 October 2013

Sections 1 & 2, Blackhorse Lane Area Action Plan, LB Waltham Forest, August 2011  
<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/documents/blackhorse-lane-aap-po.pdf>

'Speculation', Julian Dobson (Urban Pollinators), The Unlimited Edition No. 4, p 29  
[http://www.wemadethat.co.uk/pdfs/The\\_Unlimited\\_Edition\\_-\\_Collated\\_web.pdf](http://www.wemadethat.co.uk/pdfs/The_Unlimited_Edition_-_Collated_web.pdf)

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** Catherine Greig, make:good

Catherine is the director and founder of make:good, an architecture and design studio that puts people at the heart of change in their neighbourhood; using fun, performance and a healthy dose of tea to kick start conversations.

*Seminar overview:* Participation in Practice

Exploring the varied world of participation, engagement and consultation this session will discuss how the Localism Bill and it's requirement for developers to consult with local people works in practice. We are seeing a policy shift towards more devolved power to local councils and in some cases communities in terms of planning, budgeting and service provision but how is this working in practice?

Urban spaces are more than just their built environment but also about services, transport, activities, education, culture and much more therefore how do people get involved in shaping, influencing and engaging in these? Public space can be joyful and full of frivolity but so often we are moving towards a bland and soulless developer led landscape.

Utilising Catherine's seven years of working in the field of public participation this session will explore the opportunities and challenges of involving local people in change in their area. How does, policy, developer culture and human desire collide to allow for people who live, work and play in an area to have real influence throughout the regeneration process and beyond.

*Preparatory Reading:*

Context of the Localism Bill

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/6001/1854024.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6001/1854024.pdf)

Jacobs, J. (1961) *The death and life of great American cities*. New York: Random House

'Introduction' in Jones, P.B., Petrescu, D. and Till, J. (eds) (2005) *Architecture and Participation*. New York: Spoon Press, pp. 1-

Public Interest Design <http://www.publicinterestdesign.org>

### **Urban Practices 2014: Group Project Teams**

1.

Kate Beeching

Jing Li

Phoebe Greenwood

Nina Margies

2.

Gareth Davies

Sarabeth Bonett

Rebecca Payne

Thomas Denny

Alix Blankson

3.

Caitriona Black

Laura Marshall

Shao Toh

Sam Suttner

4.

Eleanor Lowenthal

Patrik Toth

You Zou

Roosbeh Eliasazar

5.

Carmen Campeanu

Charlie Clemoes

Mathilda Fowler

Alice Sweitzer

6.

Valerie Mathis

Claire Goh

Alicia Pivaro

