



## **SURFACE Audit: detailed design of participants' local neighbourhoods**

During the first phase of Inclusive Design for Getting Outdoors, the SURFACE Inclusive Design Research Centre audited the local neighbourhoods of 200 older participants (who were also interviewed for the project) using an detailed design checklist. The surveys were conducted within a 300m radius of each participant's home and only included the area the participant would be able to walk in from home without driving, so that areas not accessible to pedestrians due to physical barriers, such as rivers and railway lines, were excluded. All surveys were done between 10am and 3pm weekdays or during daylight hours at weekends. 1:1250 scale OS maps were used.

### **Checklist of Detailed Design Characteristics**

The research method required SURFACE to develop a tool with which to gather the necessary data. This was adapted from checklists previously designed by WISE while based at the Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development (OISD) using the findings from I'DGO literature review and focus groups, as well as SURFACE's auditing experience. The checklist was piloted for inter-rater reliability and to ensure that characteristics being measured were assessed in an appropriate manner.

Characteristics included in the audit tool were:

1. Street topography and level of motorised traffic
2. Pedestrian / traffic segregation
3. Street greenery
4. Footways – material, width, shared use, ease of movement, condition
5. Level changes
6. Road crossing provision
7. Signage
8. Furniture – seating, bus stops,
9. General level of accessibility
10. Street and neighbourhood greenery
11. Safety and perceived level of safety
12. Incivilities and dereliction

The findings were incorporated into 'The Design of Streets with Older People in Mind' (see I'DGO website); a 13-part toolkit for local authority planners and designers.

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