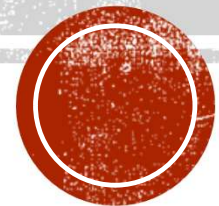


THE PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS

Canvey Island

Board workshop 24 July 2025



WELCOME TO 'THE PACK'

- What is Plan for Neighbourhoods
- This is Canvey
- What have residents told up about their neighbourhoods
- What is the Board and what is your role
- Next steps



WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS



OVERVIEW

- 'A £1.5 billion programme to invest in 75 areas over the next decade – a long-term strategy to fix the foundations of those places most left behind.'
- Canvey Island selected in March 2024 – when it was called the Long-term Plan for Towns
- £20 million over 10-years
- Evenly spread but Council's can borrow against the income and it can be carried forward
- Endowment via the local council
- Now Plan for Neighbourhoods
 - Regeneration Plan - genuinely community led
 - Treasury pre-approved interventions - Capital and revenue spend starts April 2026
 - Catalyst for partnerships
 - What this is not!



REGENERATION PLAN

- To be prepared by the Board
- Delivers what local people want
- Plan will cover up to 10 years
- It is the Board's plan but owned by the local community
- Resources will need to be brought in to prepare the plan – cost, narrative writers, engagement experts
- The board will engage on the plan
- The Government recommends a 12 to 16-week plan making period
- Submission by end of November 2025
- Government will sign off in early 2026
- That will trigger the payments for the bulk of the funding
- Based on seven pre-approved 'interventions'



INTERVENTIONS - REGENERATION, HIGH STREETS AND HERITAGE

- Funding for improvements to town centres, neighbourhoods, and high streets, including capital spend and running costs
- Creating and improving green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments in the local area, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces
- Support for non-domestic energy efficiency measures and decarbonisation in local businesses, high streets, and community infrastructure
- Funding for new community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects, or for improvements to existing ones, including facilities that house public services or enhance community resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding. This could cover both capital spend and operational costs
- Enhanced support for arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities, projects and facilities and historic institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer
- Funding for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative initiatives
- Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities



INTERVENTIONS - HOUSING

- Provide safe and supportive environments for people with experience of homelessness and rough sleeping
- Modernisation of social housing
- Support wider neighbourhood renewal by improving the attractiveness and liveability of homes and their surroundings
- Provide healthy and climate-resilient homes support locally
- Establish land trusts for the purpose of creating community-led housing to meet local needs
- Support local community initiatives that support people in bringing down their home energy bills and improve the energy efficiency of their homes



INTERVENTIONS — WORK, PRODUCTIVITY AND SKILLS

- Support to improve awareness of, and access to, local provision that moves people closer to and into sustained employment, in line with an area's Get Britain Working Plan (England and Wales only)
- Enabling community wealth building
- Developing and expanding existing local business support and networks for smaller businesses and social enterprises
- Skills provision tailored to local opportunities and skills gaps, such as those identified in an area's Local Skills Improvement Plan (England only)
- Funding to support the development, improvement, and promotion of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, historical trails, cultural tours, campaigns and other related tourism products



INTERVENTIONS - COHESION

- Measures to improve community cohesion
- Funding for impactful volunteering and social action projects to develop social and human capital in local place
- Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society, youth and community groups



INTERVENTIONS — HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Supporting community-level health provision
- Integration and co-location of health and wellbeing services
- Funding for local sport and activity facilities, events, teams and leagues, to foster community engagement and connection
- Funding to support preventative public health initiatives and campaigns
- Provide drug and alcohol support for people with experience of homelessness and rough sleeping



INTERVENTIONS - TRANSPORT

- Note: 'Boards should engage in a positive and collaborative manner with the relevant local authority and transport operators on the transport interventions set out below.'
- Support for active travel enhancements in the local area
- Funding can be used to improve local bus services
- Funding for new, or improvements to local road networks to improve access within and to the town
- Funding to improve rail connectivity and access
- Reducing vehicle emissions



INTERVENTIONS — SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Design and oversight of the built and landscaped environment to ‘design out’ crime and encourage positive behaviour
- Policing interventions to target crime prevention in specific locations, in particular town centres
- Interventions to tackle anti-social behaviour, crime and minimise reoffending
- Co-location of crime reduction services
- Improved town centre management
- Initiatives to reduce burglary



INTERVENTIONS — EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY

- School-based programmes to support young people's development
- Support to both reduce levels of child poverty and to prevent the negative impacts of child poverty on children and families
- Support for families and young children
- Funding to help families with the cost of childcare where it may alleviate cost of living pressures, or support employment
- Support for growing the local social economy, including community businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises
- Support for community-based learning and development



CATALYST FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- Fund can be used to match fund
- Complementary to other partnerships, funds and strategies, includes:
 - Sport England Place Based Partnership
 - £1.2 million for health and wellbeing through activity and sport
 - Local Safer Streets Fund
 - Borough wide £1.2 million towards CCTV
 - Community Safety Partnership
 - Health and Well Being Board and the Alliance
 - Thames Estuary Festival and Arts Council priority area
 - Localities Team work – multi agency approach
 - Business support networks – Castle Point Accelerator
 - Castle Point Plan
 - Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan
 - Essex Climate Action Commission Report
 - Castle Point Corporate Plan
 - Housing Improvement Programme



WHAT IT IS NOT

- The Board needs to focus on community needs
- Not about pet projects
- Not a vehicle for Castle Point Borough, Essex County and Canvey Island Town councils
- Not to be spent on consultants
- Not about one or two grandiose projects
- Quick wins okay, but not only about the 10-years

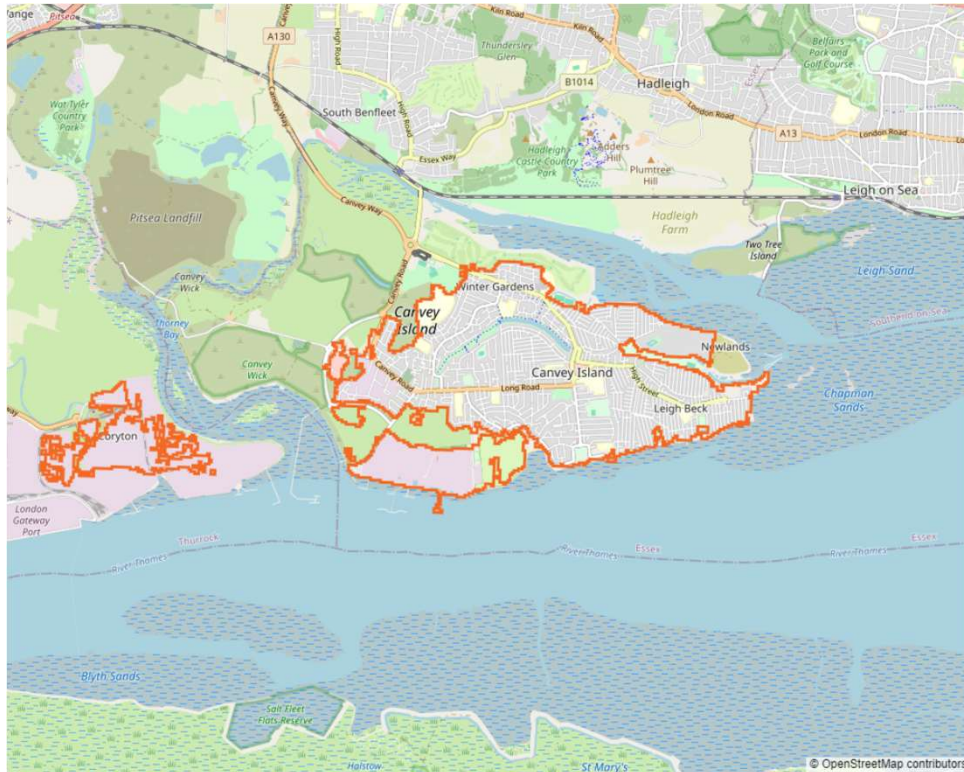


DATA INSIGHT ON CANVEY ISLAND

Plan for Neighbourhoods 2025



MAP OF CANVEY ISLAND



This data pack defines a neighborhood's boundary based on the definition of Built-Up Areas (BUA, 2024), unless stated otherwise. This reflects the default approach for the Plan for Neighborhoods. The metrics in this pack do not account for any boundary changes submitted by the Boards.



Plan for neighbourhoods' area of funding



Place-based outcomes:

- Crime reduction
- Community cohesion
- Housing and the physical environment



People-focused outcomes:

- Education
- Health
- Reducing worklessness



Place-based outcomes: Crime reduction



Crime (MHCLG)

Indicator	Canvey Island	Castle Point	England
Recorded crime rate per 1,000 population (2022)	85.6	67.5	76.7
Anti-social behaviour per 1,000 population (2024)	10.0	6.9	14.8

Note: Rates were calculated using 2022 mid-year population estimates due to data availability.

Higher crime rates than Essex average

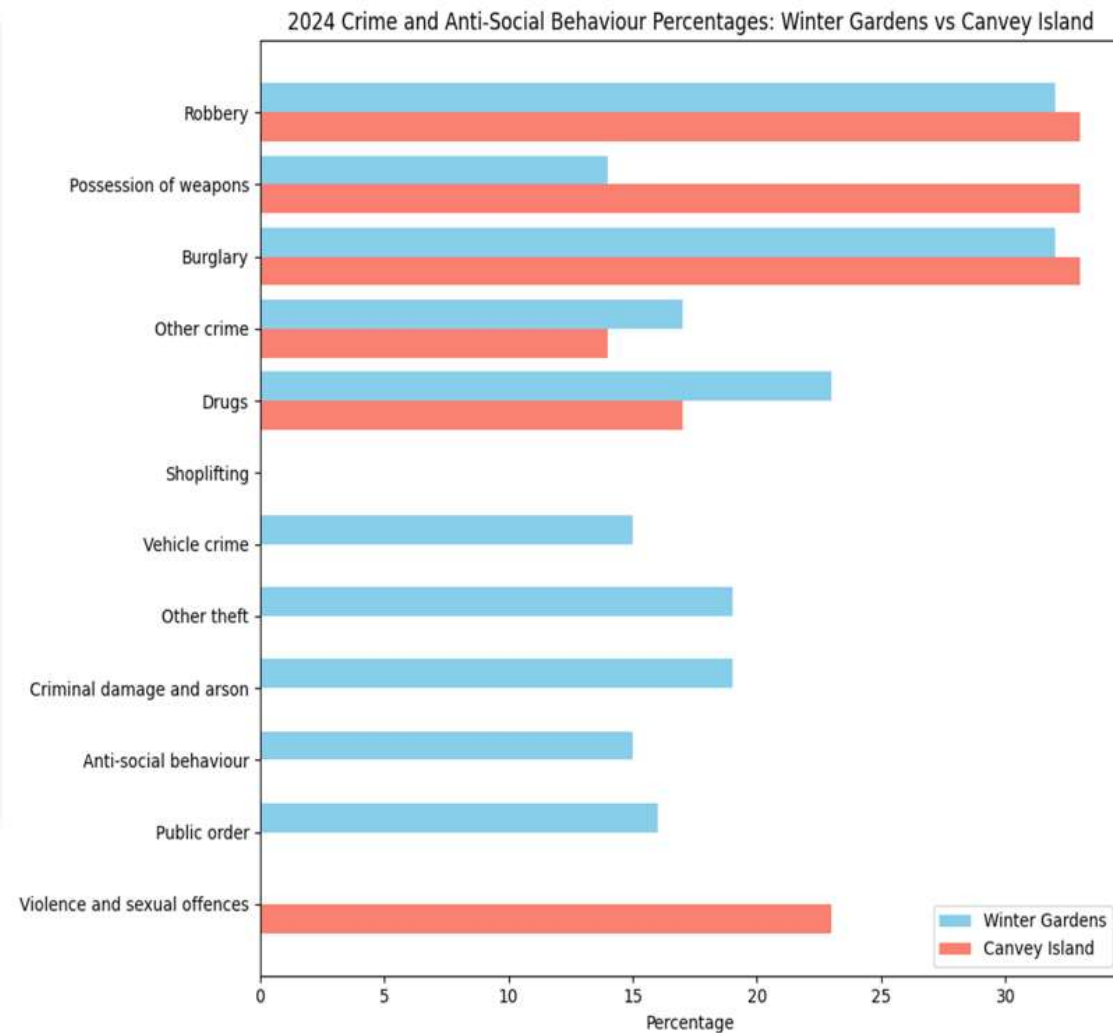
The overall crime rate in Canvey Island in 2024 was 99 crimes per 1,000 people, 17% higher than Essex's overall crime rate of 84 per 1,000 residents.

Higher rates were in particular driven by:

- Higher levels of Criminal Damage and Arson (11.1 vs. 7.6 for Essex)
- Higher rates of Violent and Sexual Offences (39.0 vs. 38.8 for Essex)

In the latest available 6 months:

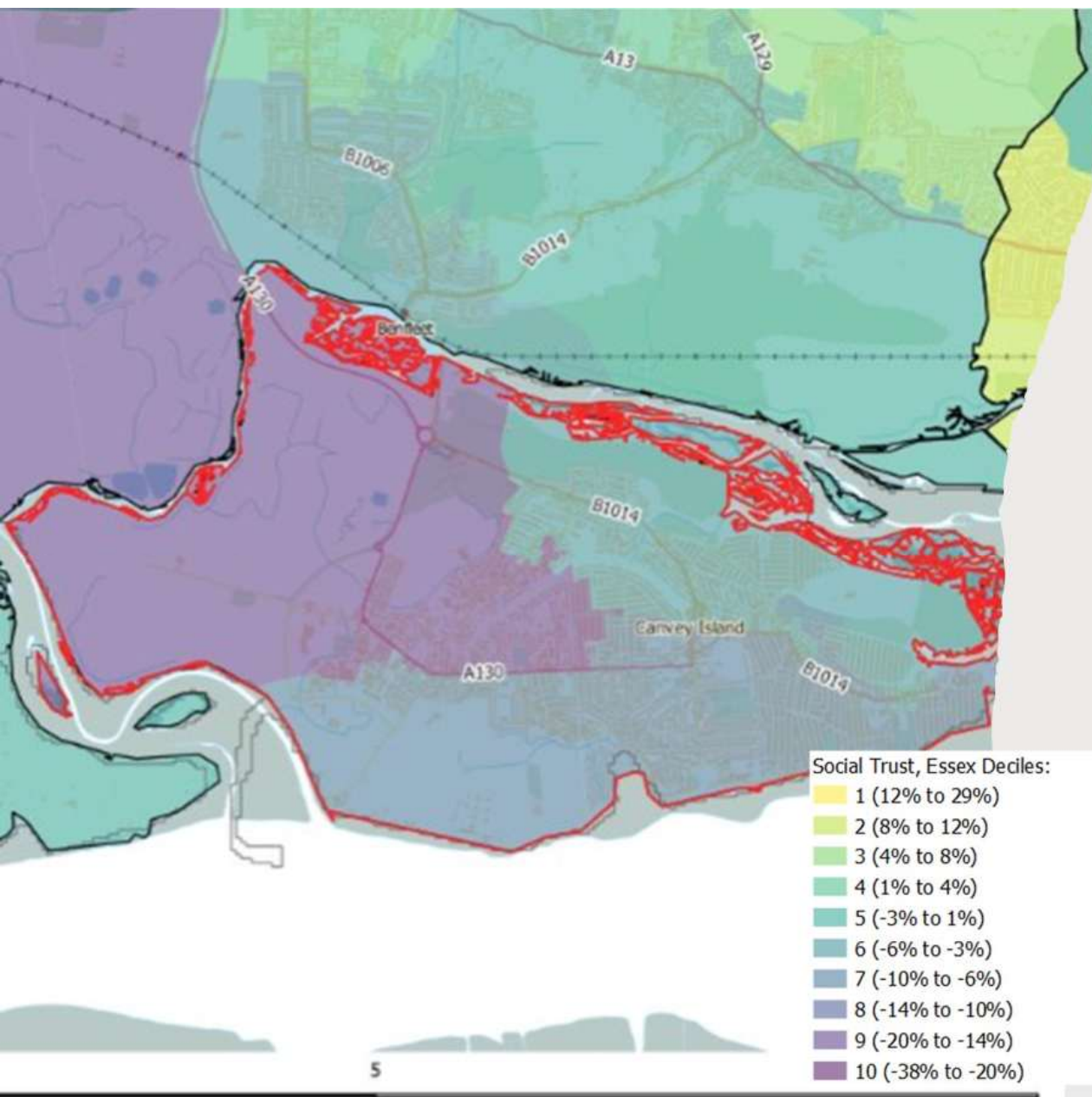
- 1,343 crime and anti-social behaviour incidents in Canvey
- 19% of these were in Winter Gardens (255 approximately)
- Canvey Island Central remains one of the most affected wards though exact figures are not publicly available.





Place-based outcomes: Community cohesion





Social trust

Data point – Social trust in Canvey Island is -8%, this is compared to Castlepoint's -4%, and England's -3%.

Consequence – Having a low level of social trust in a smaller community such as Canvey, leads to a lack of cooperation between people, making it harder for projects to reach their maximum potential. It also leads into more anti-social behavior.

Improving – Fostering higher social trust across Canvey will significantly enhance the reach and impact of local initiatives. When trust is strong within a community, residents are more likely to engage in collaborative projects, share resources, and support one another. This leads to increased participation in community programs, more effective delivery of services, and a stronger sense of belonging. For Canvey, this could mean more successful regeneration efforts, improved public spaces, and greater resilience in the face of challenges. Ultimately, a high-trust environment empowers residents to take collective ownership of their community's future, unlocking the full potential of the Island.



Place-based outcomes: Housing and the physical environment



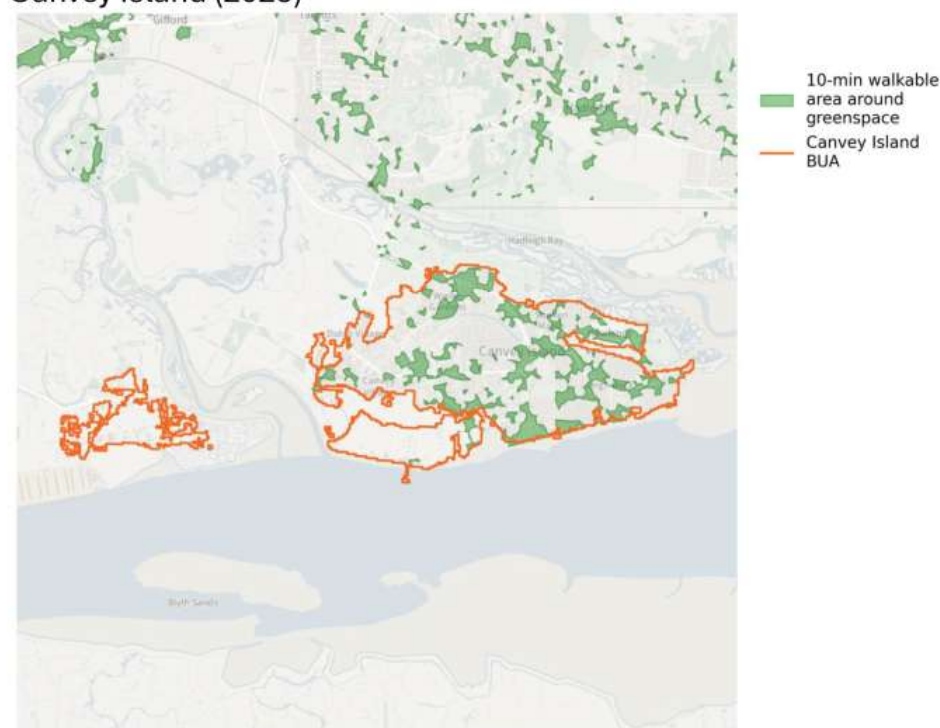
High Streets, Heritage and Regeneration

Indicator	Canvey Island	England
Number of outlets (takeaways, restaurants, clubs, bars, pubs, fitness facilities and sport clubs) per 1,000 population (Sept 2024)	1.4	2.0*
Commercial vacancy rate (%) (Sept 2024)	12.2	12.3
Footfall index** based on Virgin Media O2 mobile phone data (April 2022 to March 2023)	41.9	100*

* England average is derived from Built Up Areas with a population between 20,000 and 100,000 only.

** Anonymised and aggregated mobile network data by Virgin Media O2. Footfall is defined as the average daily number of outbound journeys (not including journeys to home) within the town/Built Up Area over the period April 2022-March 2023. The mean average footfall of all England neighbourhoods with a population between 20,000 and 100,000 people has been standardised to an index of 100, with the figure for this neighbourhood scaled relative to this average.

10-minute walking distance to greenspace access points in Canvey Island (2025)



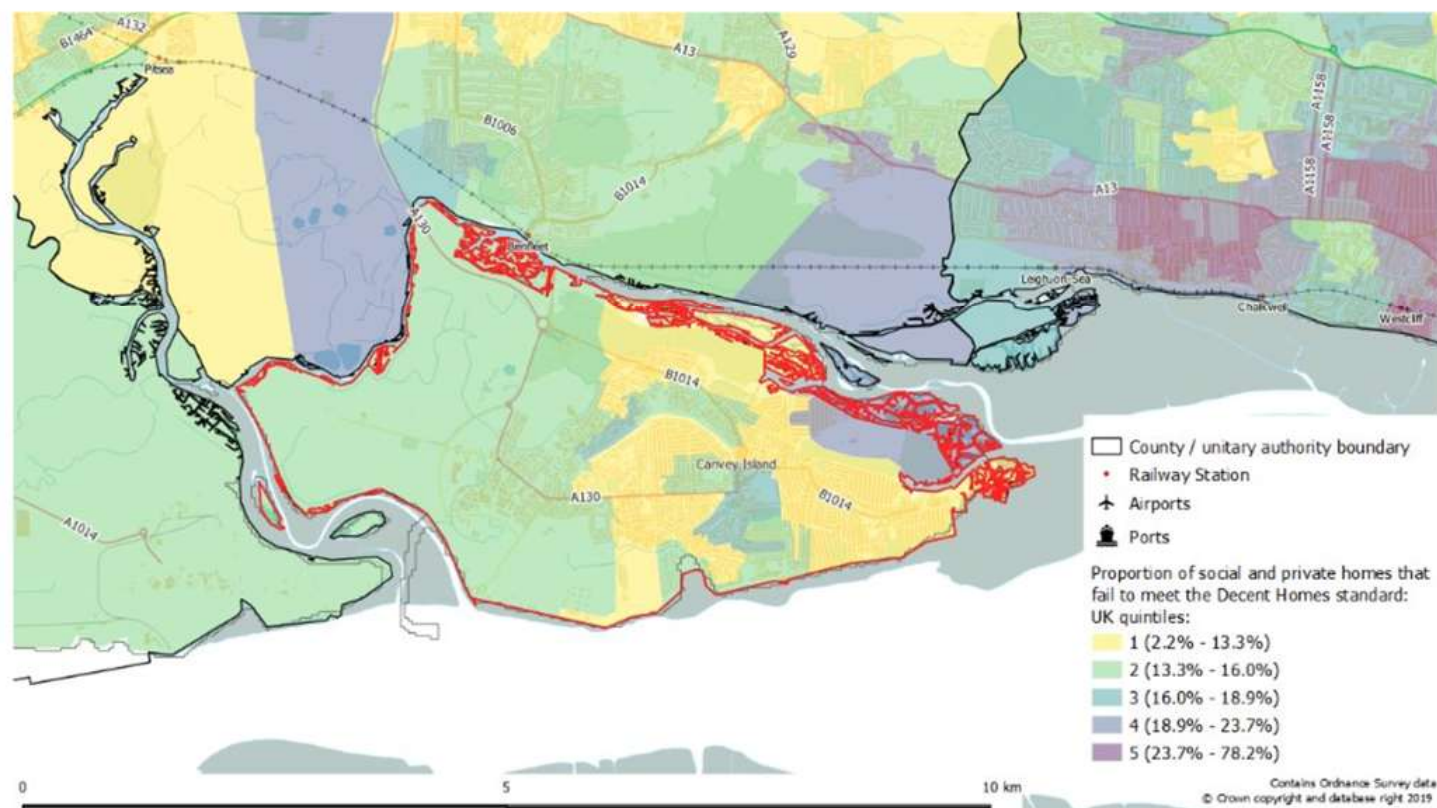
Note: 10-minute walkable area is created using OpenStreetMap walking network and OS Greenspace Access Points, excluding: Allotments or Community Growing Spaces, Cemeteries, Religious Grounds, and Golf Courses.

A map of Carvey Island, a coastal area with a red boundary. The map shows various land use zones in different colors: purple for water, green for forest, yellow for urban areas, and light blue for other land. A road labeled 'Church Road' is visible in the upper left. A small area is labeled 'Benfleet'. The island is surrounded by water, and a small peninsula is visible to the left. A scale bar at the bottom indicates 5 and 10 km.

Travel to Work by Private Vehicle (Census 2021)

- **Employment rate:** 69.13% of working residents are in full-time employment
- **Working-age population** (approx. 60% of 38,000): 22,800
- **Residents who live and work on the island:** 61%
- **Number of private car to work across the island:** (approx. 13,680)

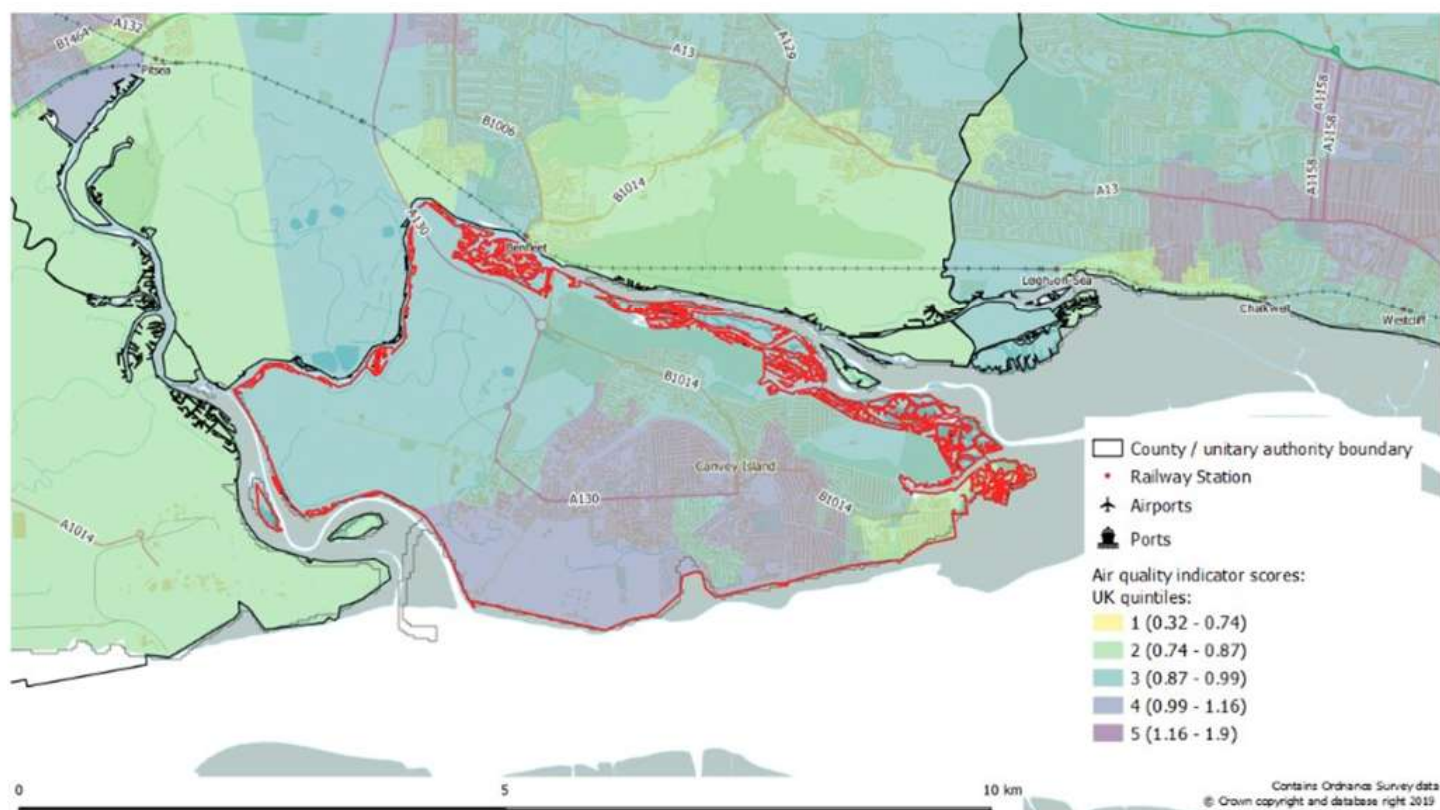
Decent Homes (IMD2019)



The **Decent Homes** standard is not a standalone measure within the **Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019**, but it is reflected through related domains, particularly Living Environment Deprivation and Barriers to Housing and Services.

Castle point lower quartile earnings (£449) slightly exceeds national average, but house prices are 56% higher, creating a sharp affordability divide.

Air Quality (IMD2019)



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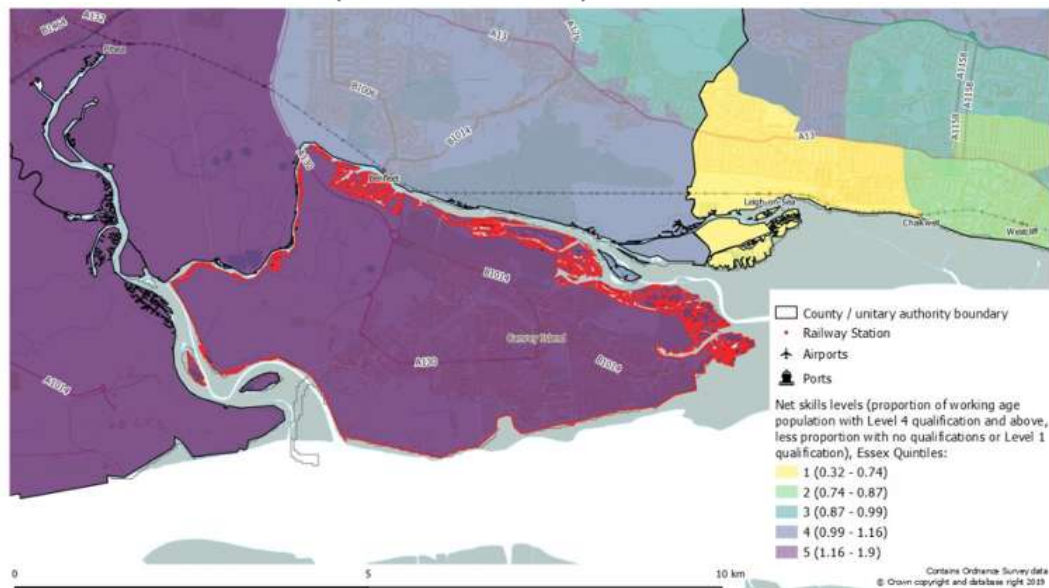
People-focused outcomes: Education



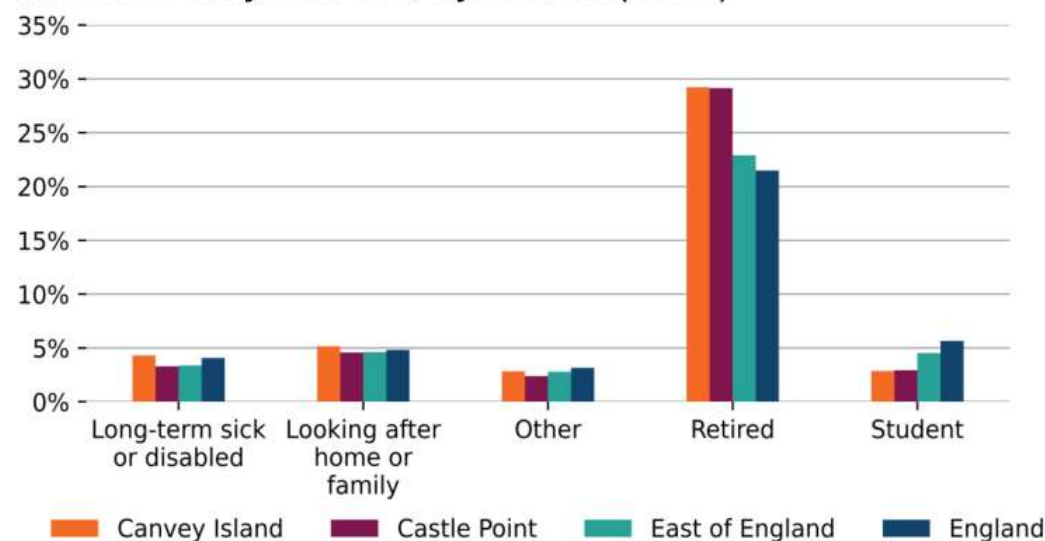
Education, Work, Productivity and Skills

Indicator	Canvey Island	Castle Point	East of England	England
Gross Value Added per job filled (£) (2022)	40,424	40,294	58,007	62,751
16 - 64 year olds with level 3+ qualifications* (%) (2021)	37.0	43.5	54.4	56.6
16 - 64 year olds with no qualifications (%) (2021)	17.5	13.1	11.7	12.4
Employment rate (age 16 to 64) (%) (2021)	72.2	75.2	74.0	71.0
Unemployment rate (age 16 +) (%) (2021)	5.0	4.2	4.6	5.4
Economic inactivity rate (age 16 +) (%) (2021)	44.4	42.3	38.2	39.1
Job density** (2022)	0.37	0.43	0.73	0.77

Net Skills level 4 (Census 2021)



Proportion of the working age population that are economically inactive, by reason (2021)





Deprivation

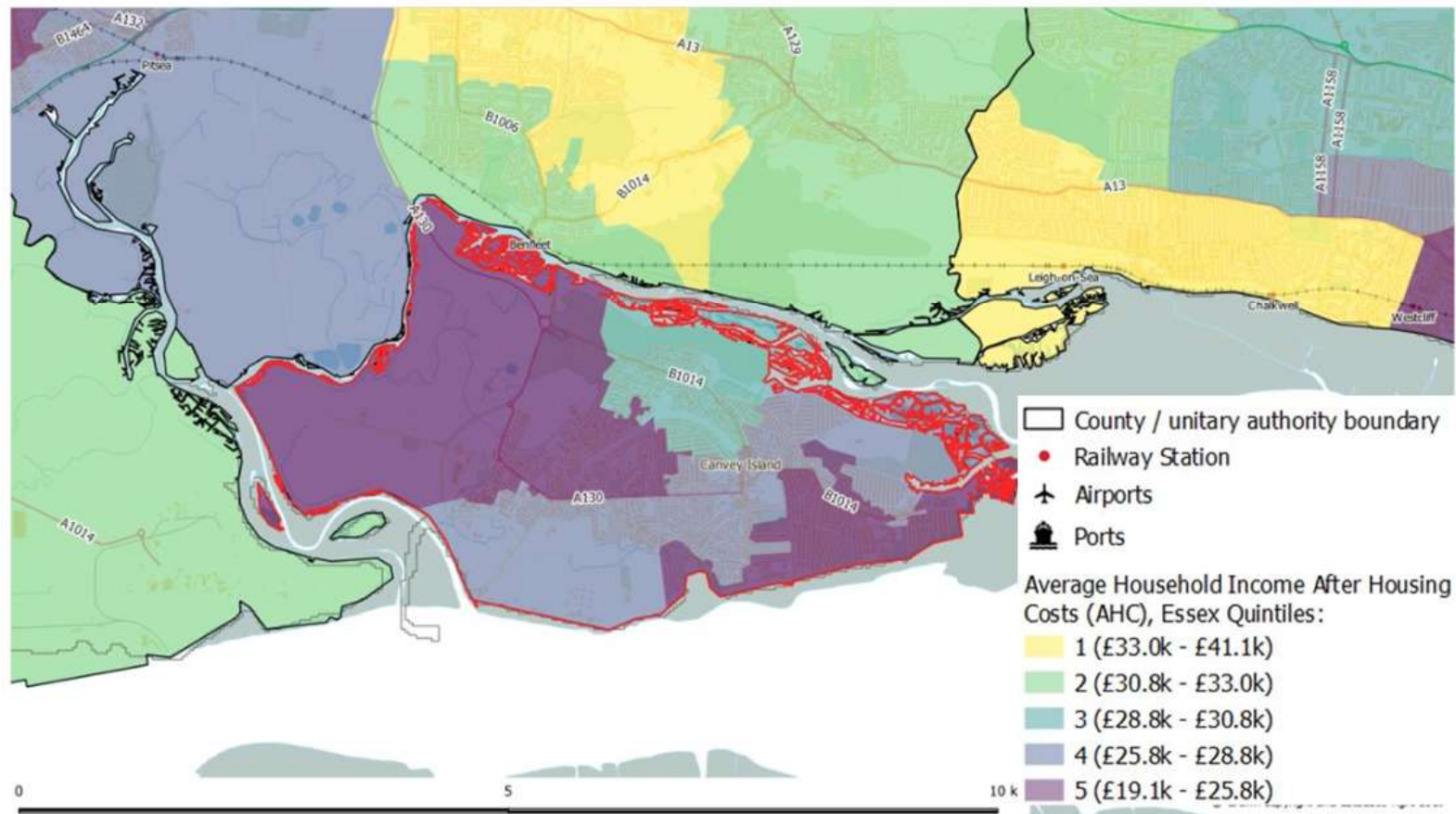
- Data point – Over 60% LSOA's in Canvey Island are in the top 20% most deprived in England in terms of education, skills and training
- Consequence – There is a lack of opportunities available for residence to improve their situation
- Improving – Higher levels of education, skills and training will help residents find higher levels of employment and have more job mobility, leading to better living conditions and outcomes of life



People-focused outcomes: Reducing worklessness



Average Household Income After Housing Costs (ONS 2018)



Job density



- Data point – Canvey Island’s job density of 0.37. This is compared to Castlepoint’s job density of 0.47 and England’s 0.77
- Consequence – Due to Canvey Island being a small area, a lower job density means less jobs on the Island. This forces people to go off the Island for work
- Improving – Having a higher job density means more jobs on the Island, reducing the number of cars going off and on the Island during rush hour. This can help reduce times and traffic on the Island.

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People-focused outcomes: Health



Health and Wellbeing

Population by Age for Castle Point:

Broad Age Group	Count	%	Essex %	England %
0-15	15,179	16.9	18.6	18.6
16-64	51,831	57.8	60.8	63.0
65+	22,581	25.2	20.6	18.4

Castle Point has an ageing population. Over 25% of the population were aged 65 and over on Census Day, a percentage higher than Essex and England's percentages.

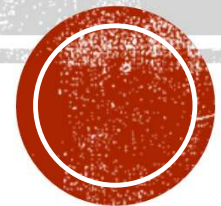
The average (median) age of Castle Point residents increased by one year, from 45 to 46 years of age. This is a higher average (median) age than the East of England (41 years) and England (40 years).

Long-term health conditions and morbidity, 2011, %

Indicators	Canvey Island	Castle Point	Essex	England
Limiting long-term illness	20.8	19.0	17.1	17.6

In Castle Point, the population size has increased by 1.8%, from around 88,000 in 2011 to 89,600 in 2021. This is lower than the overall increase for England (6.6%)

WHAT HAVE RESIDENTS TOLD UP ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURHOODS



GENUINELY COMMUNITY LED

- Builds on engagement already done or underway
- Direct link between spend and local community aspirations, issues and actions
- As much to the local communities as possible
- Engagement on the Regeneration Plan



ENGAGEMENT

- Initial Issues Engagement for the Castle Point Plan
- Essex Residents Survey
- Engagement through Art – *This is Us*
- Sports England Place-based Expansion
- Essex Levelling Up Canvey – Call to Action



Outcomes of Engagement on Canvey Island – informing the Plan for Neighbourhoods

Engagement



INITIAL ISSUES
ENGAGEMENT FOR THE
CASTLE POINT PLAN



ESSEX RESIDENTS
SURVEY



ENGAGEMENT
THROUGH ART – *THIS IS*
US



CASTLE POINT
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
SURVEY



ESSEX LEVELLING UP
CANVEY – CALL TO
ACTION

Initial Issues Engagement for the Castle Point Plan

Analysis

- 458 responses from Canvey Island residents.
- Asked what they like about where they lived and what they would like to see improved.
- CoPilot has been used to extract summarises of comments related to the Plan for Neighbourhood Investment Themes.
- Note: insufficient comments were made with regard to the following matters for analysis:
 - Education and skills
 - Heritage and culture
 - Digital connectivity

Safety and Security

Rising Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

- Many respondents expressed concern about increasing crime rates, particularly on Canvey Island.
- Anti-social behaviour, especially among youth, was frequently mentioned, often linked to a lack of youth facilities.
- Drug dealing and use were highlighted as visible and growing problems in some areas.

Lack of Police Presence

- A recurring theme was the **absence of visible policing**.
- Residents feel that the lack of enforcement contributes to a sense of lawlessness and vulnerability, especially at night.

Feeling Unsafe

- Several comments described areas that residents now avoid after dark due to safety concerns.
- There is a strong desire to restore a sense of safety and pride in the community.

Infrastructure and Environmental Neglect

- Poor street lighting, broken pavements, and potholes were seen as contributing to unsafe conditions.
- Some linked the deterioration of public spaces to increased crime and a general decline in community standards.

Desire for Community and Security

- Residents want a return to a more peaceful, respectful, and secure environment.
- Suggestions included more community policing, better lighting, and investment in public spaces to deter crime.

Community Cohesion

Strong Sense of Community

- Many respondents described their areas as **friendly, neighbourly**, and **community-minded**.
- Words like “*community*”, “*supportive*”, “*cohesion*”, “*neighbourhood*” appeared frequently, showing that people value the social fabric of their local areas.

Concerns About Decline

- Some residents feel that **community spirit is weakening**, especially due to overdevelopment, traffic congestion, and lack of investment in public spaces.
- There’s a sense that **new developments** are not always aligned with the needs or values of the existing community.

Desire for Community Spaces and Events

- Respondents called for **more community events, youth clubs**, and **shared green spaces** to bring people together and reduce isolation or anti-social behaviour.
- Green spaces were often linked to both **mental wellbeing** and **community cohesion**.

Inclusive and Respectful Neighbourhoods

- Some comments highlighted the need for **respect among neighbours**, better **integration of new residents**, and **inclusive planning** that reflects the diversity of the population.

High Street / Town Centre

Decline and Neglect of Town Centres

- Many respondents described the high street / town centre as **tired, neglected, or run-down**.
- There is a strong desire for **revitalisation**, with calls for better maintenance, cleaner streets, and more attractive shopfronts.

Lack of Variety and Quality in Shops

- Several comments mentioned the **overabundance of takeaways, barbers, and charity shops**, with a lack of useful or diverse retail options.
- Residents want **more modern and appealing stores**, including suggestions for brands like Primark or Zara, and **family-friendly attractions** like bowling or crazy golf.

Empty Units and Missed Opportunities

- Concerns were raised about **empty retail units**, especially in places like the Knightswick Centre.
- Some suggested that these spaces could be better utilised for **social housing, community hubs, or independent businesses**.

Accessibility and Local Convenience

- Many value having shops, banks, and services within walking distance and want to **preserve this accessibility**.
- There were also calls for **free parking** to encourage local shopping and reduce reliance on out-of-town retail parks.

Comparisons with Other Areas

- Some respondents noted that **retail parks** (e.g. Canvey Retail Park) are thriving, and suggested learning from their success.
- Others expressed frustration that **Benfleet receives more investment** than Canvey.

Regeneration

Town Centre and Retail Revitalisation

- Many residents described the **town centre as outdated, neglected, or rundown**.
- There were calls for **modernisation of retail spaces**, better shop variety, and support for local businesses.
- Suggestions included **reducing business rates, free parking, and cleaning up shopfronts** to attract more footfall and improve the area's image.

Seafront and Tourism Potential

- The **seafront was seen as a key asset** with untapped potential for tourism.
- Residents urged the council to **focus on enhancing the seafront**.

Infrastructure and Public Realm Improvements

- Respondents highlighted the need for **better roads, pavements, lighting, and signage**.
- Calls for **more green spaces, playgrounds, and community centres** were common, especially for children and young people.
- Some suggested **reintroducing street cleaners and tree maintenance** to improve the public realm.

Community and Cultural Regeneration

- Several comments emphasised the importance of **community cohesion and cultural identity**.
- Ideas included **more community events, youth facilities, and inclusive planning** that reflects Canvey's diverse population.

Work and Productivity

Lack of Local Employment Opportunities

- Several residents expressed concern about the **limited job prospects** on the island, particularly for young people.
- There were calls for **more diverse businesses** and **employment hubs** to reduce the need to commute off the island.

Support for Local Businesses

- Respondents suggested **reducing business rates** and **offering incentives** to attract and retain local shops and services.
- There was a desire to see **fewer takeaways and charity shops** and more **useful, varied retail and service businesses**.

Underused Commercial Areas

- Some comments highlighted **empty shops** and **underutilised retail spaces**, especially in the town centre.
- Suggestions included **revamping the Knightswick Centre** and **encouraging investment in the seafront and retail parks**.

Infrastructure as a Barrier to Growth

- Many residents linked economic stagnation to **poor infrastructure**, especially traffic congestion.
- They felt that without better access, **businesses would be reluctant to invest** in Canvey.

Desire for Regeneration and Investment

- There was a strong call for **regeneration of the town centre**, including **modernising shopfronts**, **improving public spaces**, and **creating a more attractive environment** for both businesses and customers.
- Some residents also mentioned the need for **entertainment venues** (e.g. cinema, bowling) to boost the local economy and create jobs.

Transport and Connectivity

Urgent Need for a Third Road Off the Island

- The most consistent and urgent concern was the **lack of sufficient access routes** to and from Canvey Island.
- Residents described **frequent gridlock**, especially during peak hours or when incidents occur on Canvey Way or at Sadlers Farm.
- Many called for a **third road or bridge** to improve emergency access, reduce congestion, and support future growth.

Traffic Congestion and Road Layout

- Respondents highlighted **bottlenecks**, poor traffic light sequencing, and **inefficient road layouts** as major issues.
- Long Road, Somnes Avenue and Canvey Way were frequently mentioned as problem areas.
- Suggestions included **better traffic flow management**, **enforcement of weight limits**, and **restrictions on lorry access**.

Public Transport Limitations

- Several residents noted that **bus services are infrequent**, especially in the evenings, and **too expensive** compared to London.
- There were calls for **more frequent and affordable buses**, particularly for children and low-income residents.

Cycling and Walking Infrastructure

- Some respondents requested **better cycle lanes**, especially along Long Road and Furtherwick Road.
- Others mentioned the need for **safer pavements** and **improved pedestrian access**, particularly for mobility users.

Connectivity and Isolation

- The limited transport options were seen as contributing to a sense of **isolation**, especially for those without cars.
- Poor connectivity was also viewed as a barrier to **economic growth**, **emergency response**, and **quality of life**.

Housing

Strong demand for genuinely affordable homes was a recurring theme. Residents expressed concern that new developments are often labelled “affordable” but are still **priced beyond the reach of local people**, especially young families.

One respondent shared a personal experience of spending **three years in a refuge waiting for a council house**, highlighting the **long waiting lists** and the need for more **social housing**.

High housing costs were a concern for many, especially younger residents and families.

Health and Wellbeing

Access to Healthcare Services

- Many residents expressed concern about **limited access to GPs, dentists, and hospitals**.
- There were calls for a **minor injuries unit** or **satellite health centre** on the island to reduce reliance on Southend and Basildon hospitals.
- Several noted that the **existing healthcare infrastructure is overstretched**, especially with the growing population.

Mental Health and Community Facilities

- Some residents highlighted the importance of **green spaces, allotments, and libraries** for mental wellbeing.
- One respondent described their allotment as a “*mental health booster*”, and others valued **walking routes, parks, and community spaces** for their positive impact on wellbeing.

Safety and Environment

- Clean, safe environments were seen as essential to wellbeing. Issues like **fly tipping, drug use, and poorly maintained public areas** were seen as detrimental to both physical and mental health.
- There were also calls for **better maintenance of the lake and green spaces** to support wildlife and provide pleasant areas for recreation.

Essex Residents Survey

Essex Residents Survey

- County wide survey, with the analysis typically provided for the whole of Castle Point. There were 268 responses to the survey by Canvey Island residents.
- Specific analysis has been done in relation to sustainable growth for Canvey Island.
- Information has been extracted from the analysis of the survey as it relates to the Plan for Neighbourhoods Investment Themes.

Safety, Security and Community Cohesion

87% of Castle Point residents feel safe during the day (Essex Average is 87%)

46% of Castle Point residents feel safe after dark (Essex Average is 55%)

On average, across Essex people who live in levelling up priority places (inc. Canvey) feel less safe both during the day and after dark.

49% of Castle Point residents feel there is a strong sense of community in their local area. (Essex Average is 49%).

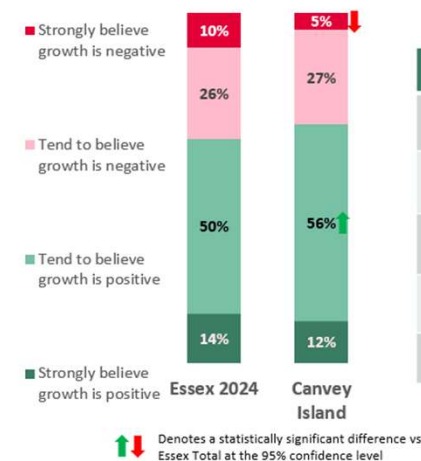
On average, across Essex people who live in more deprived areas (inc. Canvey) and people who live in urban areas are less likely to feel there is a strong sense of community in their local area.

Growth – Regeneration, Transport and Productivity (1)

Sustainable growth

Growth is viewed more positively in Canvey Island compared to the Essex average, with significantly fewer residents in Canvey believing it is 'strongly negative'.

Thinking about your local area, please indicate whether you...



	Male	Female	18-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working	Retired
Strongly Negative	6% (9)	5% (13)	0% (0)	9% (2)	10% (7)	9% (13)	4% (9)	9% (11)
Slightly Negative	25% (33)	27% (31)	27% (6)	15% (6)	33% (17)	29% (38)	24% (25)	34% (40)
Slightly Positive	58% (55)	55% (75)	60% (15)	60% (18)	57% (33)	50% (65)	60% (65)	47% (54)
Strongly Positive	10% (13)	13% (18)	12% (6)	16% (6)	1% (1)	12% (18)	12% (15)	9% (14)
Base Size	110	137	27	32	58	134	114	119

*Unweighted counts are used with weighted percentages

Base: All respondents (answering) excluding those answering, "Don't Know" and no responses; 2024 – Essex (5,002), Canvey Island (268). Canvey Island – Male (110), Canvey Island – Female (137), Canvey Island – 18-44 (27), Canvey Island – 45-54 (32), Canvey Island – 55-64 (58), Canvey Island – 65+ (134), Canvey Island – Working (114), Canvey Island – Not working (8), Canvey Island – Retired (119)

Produced by Essex County Council Policy Unit

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Growth – Regeneration, Transport and Productivity (2)

Sustainable growth

Canvey Island residents view growth more positively than those in Greater London. However, residents of Greater London have a stronger belief in growth, rather than just 'tending to believe.' Those who are more likely to support growth are individuals who are working and have higher life satisfaction scores.

Thinking about your local area, please indicate whether you...

↑↓ Denotes a statistically significant difference vs Essex Total at the 95% confidence level

■ Strongly believe growth is positive ■ Tend to believe growth is positive ■ Tend to believe growth is negative ■ Strongly believe growth is negative



More likely to be proponents in Canvey Island

- High life satisfaction score (7-10)
- Working
- Single person household (no children)
- IMD quintile Group 3
- Owner-occupier (Tenure)
- Doing alright (Household financial situation)

More likely to be opponents in Canvey Island

- Low life satisfaction score (0-4)
- Retired
- Aged 55+
- Low income (<£20k)
- IMD quintile group 1-2 (Least deprived)

Base: All respondents (answering) excluding those answering, "Don't Know" and no responses; 2024 – Essex (5,002), Canvey Island (268). Canvey Island – Male (110), Canvey Island – Female (137), Canvey Island – 18-44 (27), Canvey Island – 45-54 (32), Canvey Island – 55-64 (58), Canvey Island – 65+ (134), Canvey Island – Working (114), Canvey Island – Not working (8), Canvey Island – Retired (119)

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Growth – Regeneration, Transport and Productivity (3)

Sustainable growth

Residents of Canvey Island see the opportunity for more money being spent in the town centre as the top benefit, which is significantly higher than the Essex average. Over three-quarters of Canvey residents are worried about increased traffic, compared to 66% of residents in Essex as a whole.

What, if any, opportunities do you see 'Growth' bringing to your local area?

Opportunities you see

1. More money spent in town/city centres (50%,152) ↑
2. Greater choice of shops/restaurants (43%,131) ↓
3. More activities for children/young people (37%,84) ↓
4. More health services (34%,124)
5. More job opportunities/higher wages (34%,101)

*Unweighted counts are used with weighted percentages

Base: All respondents (answering) excluding those answering, "Don't Know" and no responses; 2024 – Essex (5,138), Canvey Island (284)



Denotes a statistically significant difference vs Essex Total at the 95% confidence level

And what, if any, concerns do you have about 'Growth' in your local area?

Concerns you have

1. More cars on the road (76%,215) ↑
2. More crime/anti-social behaviour (69%,193) ↓
3. Higher cost of living (44%,110)
4. More competition for public services (44%,111)
5. Longer journeys for work, leisure or public services (42%,110) ↓

*Unweighted counts are used with weighted percentages

Base: All respondents (answering) excluding those answering, "Don't Know" and no responses; 2024 – Essex (5,467), Canvey Island (301)

Health and Wellbeing

55% of Castle Point residents do 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity per week (Essex average is 66%)

84% of Castle Point residents take a continuous walk at least once a week (Essex average is 89%)

Activity levels are lower in levelling up priority places, including Canvey.

10% of Castle Point residents take a weekly bike ride (Essex average 11%)

34% of Castle Point residents take part in organised sport or fitness on a weekly basis (Essex average 38%)

Participation levels in organised sport or fitness are lower in levelling up priority places

Engagement through Art – *This is Us*

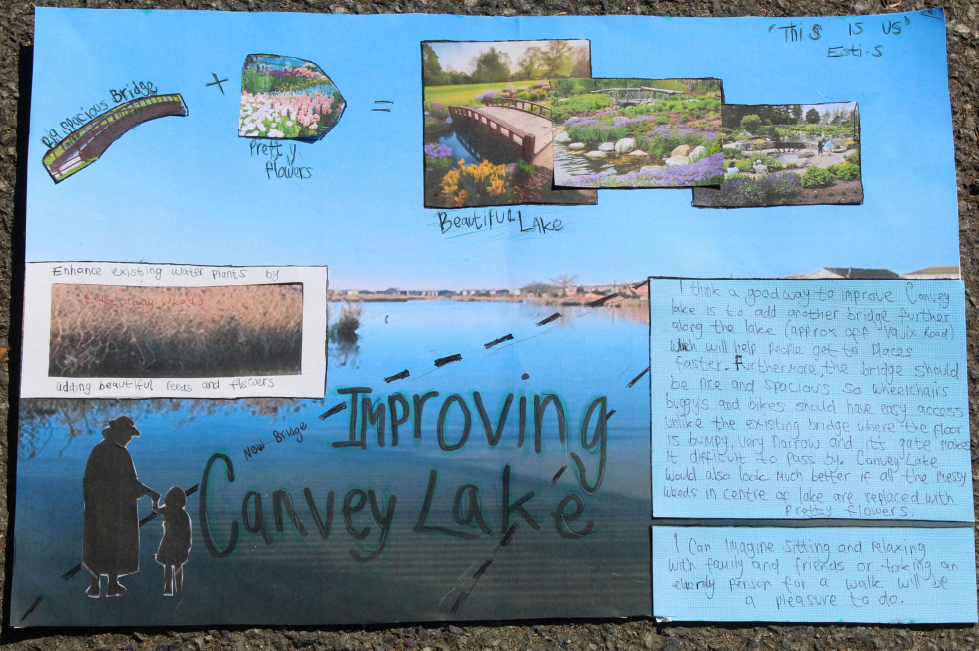
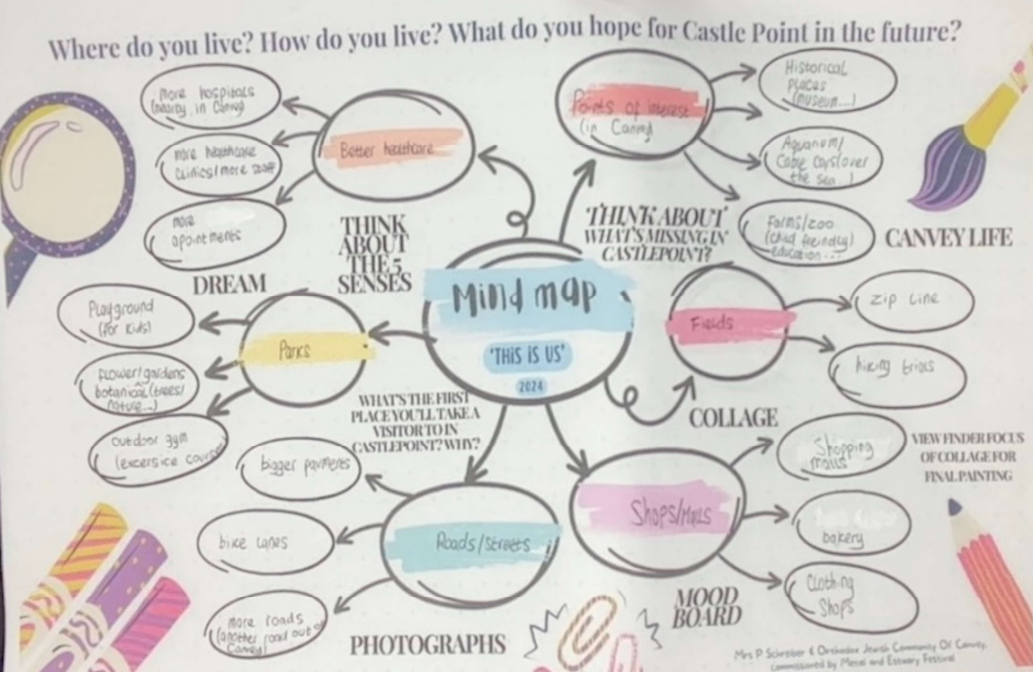
Engagement through Art – *This is Us*

- An 18-month programme to engage local people in place-making through creative means.
- Targeted at those who do not normally participate in surveys. On Canvey this included:
 - Young people – Yellow Door and Cornelius Vermuyden School
 - Parents of young children – Little Lions
 - Haredi Community
- Also took the opportunity to explore local pride of place and heritage through two projects – Desire Paths and Timescapes
- Provides some engagement outcomes in relation to heritage and culture not arising from other engagement work.

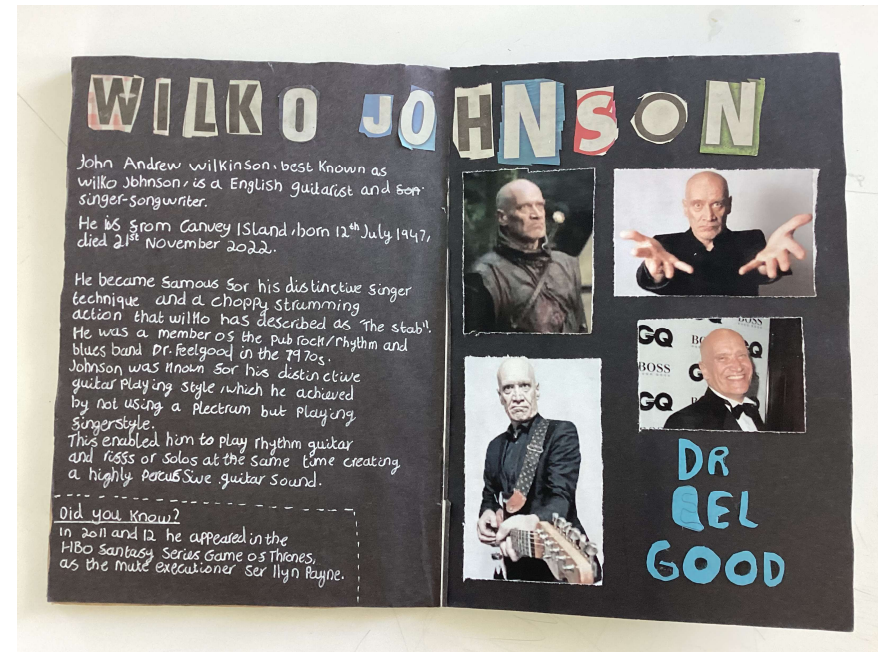
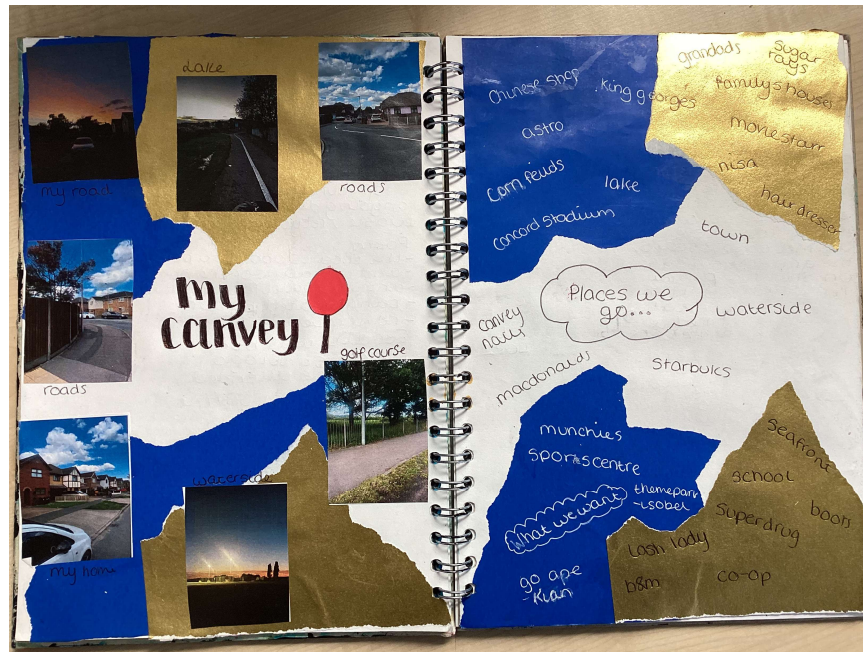
Engagement through Art – *This is Us* - Outcomes

- The work told us that people value their community, value their green spaces and value the heritage of the place.
- Other outcomes included:
 - Identified a nascent creative sector in Castle Point
 - Gave young people and students a voice and sense of pride
 - Brought together different parts of the community through projects and at the exhibitions

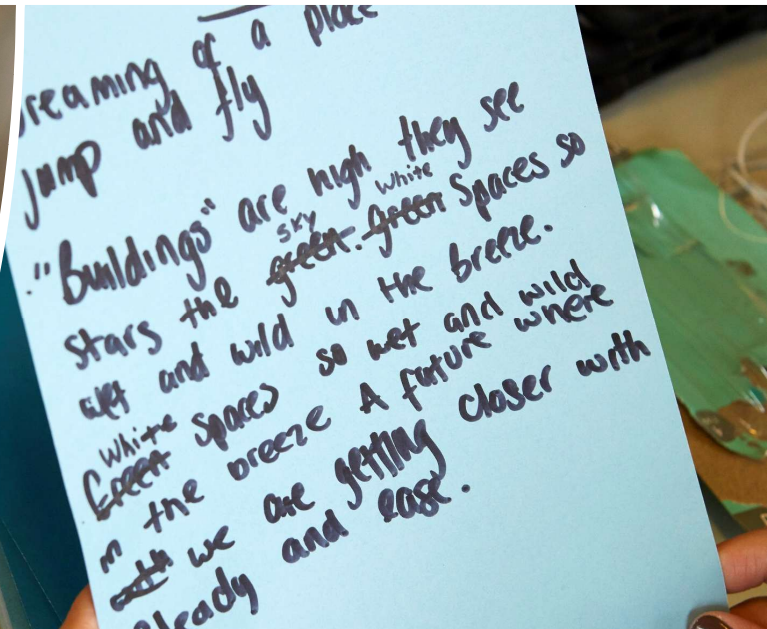
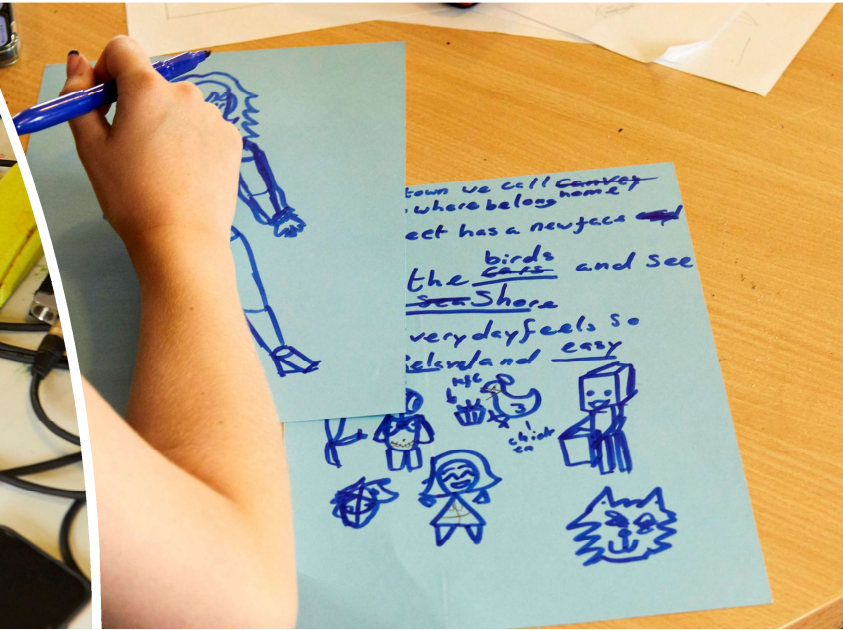
This is Us – Girls in the Haredi Community
– led by artist Pearl Schrieber



*This is Us –
Cornelius
Vermuyden School
– led by artist
Simon Keenleyside*



*This is Us – Yellow
Door – led by artist
Kelly Buckley*





This is Us – Timescapes – led by artists xxxx

Castle Point Physical Activity Survey

Castle Point Physical Activity Survey

- A survey of Castle Point residents that received 133 responses.
- Undertaken to understand the physical activity habits of residents, the barriers to physical activity and the needs of the community.
- Provides insight around the Health and Wellbeing Investment Theme.

Improvements sought to enable physical activity

Safety & Maintenance: Well-lit parks and regular upkeep are top concerns.

Green Spaces: Strong demand for more trees and greener environments.

Cycling & Accessibility: More bike lanes, secure parking, and wheelchair-accessible parks are needed

Affordability: Cheaper fitness memberships are a priority.

Community Activities: High interest in family-friendly events, walking/running groups, and fitness classes.

Essex Levelling Up Canvey

Essex Levelling Up Canvey

- Work undertaken by Essex County Council in 2023 to explore opportunities for joined up working to deliver better outcomes.
- Used in-depth interviews with a four different Canvey residents to understand their views on Canvey, the challenges they face and their ambitions for the future.
- Used in-depth interviews with service providers working in the community on Canvey to understand the challenges from their perspective.
- Outcomes are not organised around the Plan for Neighbourhood Investment Themes, but are cross-cutting.

We then centred the voices of Canvey people:



[Helen's story](#)



[Brodie's story](#)



[Lucy's story](#)

**Read
Berenice's
story [here](#)**

Themes Across all 4 stories:

- Canvey feels in decline
- Infrastructure; housing and roads are an issue
- Lack of indoor/outdoor spaces for young people
- A desire to feel proud of Canvey again
- A desire to be part of shaping the future of Canvey: at the moment people do not feel invited

[Listen to Helen here](#)

[Listen to Brodie here](#)

[Listen to Lucy here](#)

[Listen to Berenice here](#)

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Lucy, Brodie, Helen and Berenice had plenty of ideas of what needed to be different

They identified 18 challenges they saw on Canvey, but offered up 30 solutions!
Some of these are below, but the full list can be found [in their story write-ups](#)

- **Town Centre** in decline - there are not many nice places to hang out that are free or places to do community things
- **Housing**: cost, availability and condition.
- **Transport**: insufficient roads & poor condition road; expensive public transport, exacerbates isolation, too many cars.
- Need for more **safe indoor spaces** for young people that are free to access.
- Need for **community policing**.
- Challenges of **mental health** faced by young people.
- **Cost of living** - including for YP to hang out and buy food.
- Cost of **children's activities**.
- Lost 'Covid' generation of new mums/their babies who were unable to connect because of **social isolation**.
- Lack of community participation in **decision making**.
- Lack of support for young people with **academic ambition**.
- Lack of knowledge and **inclusion in decision-making**.



We then sought to listen to those who work with the Canvey community

Emma, Sara and Alex work in organisations that are doing very well at supporting young people and families on Canvey. Click the links to read their stories. **What can we learn from their ways of being, seeing and doing?**

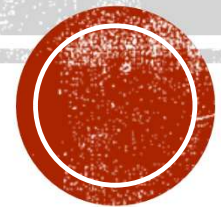


Themes that we heard running through each story:

- Really good colleague relationships and support: good relationship starts here.
- Trust and relationship with the community comes before outputs and outcomes.
- Some organisations - especially schools - are trusted and some are not. Go to where the trust is.
- A sense that people don't have the full picture of all the services available on Canvey.
- The big infrastructure challenges are the most important ones to focus on.
- Working in partnership and collaborating is very costly.
- Listen first, follow the need, learn what's really going on, then act (seeing, being, doing).
- Canvey people can do anything!

ThePublicOffice

THE BOARD



THE PURPOSE OF THE BOARD

- 'Funding will be managed through a partnership between the:
 - Neighbourhood Board, responsible for co-producing the Regeneration Plan for their place, which constitutes a 10-year vision and 4-year investment plan, and delivering in the interests of local people to improve the physical and social infrastructure of their community
 - local authority, who will support the Neighbourhood Board to develop and deliver the plan
 - the local community, to engage on the place's priorities and hold the Neighbourhood Board and local authority to account
- This partnership is integral to the successful delivery of the plan, channelling funds to address the right local issues at the right time. Ensuring the community is heard is vital for decision-making and giving the confidence that funding is spent effectively, efficiently, and compliantly.'



THE BOARD IS

- Membership of the Board has been designed to cover the main areas that the government stipulated:
 - Local Councils – Castle Point, Essex and Canvey Island Town Council
 - PFCC and Police
 - Local MP
 - Community groups
 - Faith groups
 - Local Charities
 - Youth groups
 - CVS
 - Business community
- Work as a collective for wider good than own organisations and self interest

