

Prosperity in east London 2021–2031 **Longitudinal Study**

Outputs and impacts from
Wave 1 and plans for Wave 2

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Summary of Impact

Prosperity in east London 2021–2031 is a 10-year study tracking the prosperity of 15 areas in east London where large-scale and long-term urban regeneration is driving rapid physical, economic, and social changes in local communities. It is the first longitudinal study in the UK to use the Institute for Global Prosperity's *Citizen Prosperity Index*: a new way of measuring prosperity co-produced with and reporting on what matters to local communities.

Overview

This document summarises the outputs and impacts from the first wave of research, undertaken in 2021–2022, and plans for the second wave, which will be undertaken in 2025–2026. A full description of the background and context for the longitudinal study, including research site selection and information about the qualitative research that underpins the *Citizen Prosperity Index*, can be found in the [About the Study](#) document.

Prosperity in east London 2021–2031 aims to fill the gap in evidence about the hyper-local impacts of regeneration by asking how the ‘prosperity gains’ from regeneration investments are shared in and between established and new communities. It will look at how regeneration affects the prosperity of people from different backgrounds and neighbourhoods in the long-term, asking two main questions:

1. *Who benefits and how from regeneration?*
2. *What are the obstacles to prosperity for different groups of people?*

The study combines a survey of over 4,000 households and qualitative research designed and undertaken by citizen scientists – residents trained to work as social researchers in their neighbourhoods. It has a hyper-local focus, comparing differences in prosperity in clusters of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in four study areas that map onto strategic regeneration sites.

The study has been co-designed with the [London Prosperity Board](#), an innovative partnership between the [Institute for Global Prosperity](#) at UCL, and 46 organisations across London and local government, public agencies, businesses, the third sector, and local communities in east London. The study is jointly funded by London Prosperity Board members: Royal Docks, Lendlease, London Legacy Development Corporation, Hill Group, Poplar HARCA, and the London Boroughs of Hackney, Waltham Forest, and Barking and Dagenham.

Summary of Impact: Wave 1 of *Prosperity in east London 2021–2031* Longitudinal Study

Key data collection metrics:

- **10 citizen scientists employed and trained** by UCL Citizen Science Academy
- **4,093 households surveyed:** representing 7,741 residents, covering 20% of the population in 15 research sites.

Research outputs:

- [Citizen Prosperity Index Dashboard](#) open access data on 15 areas
- **Key report:** *‘A Citizen Prosperity Index for east London’* – five recommendations for regeneration planning and policy
- **4 area-specific bulletins:** examining prosperity and livelihood insecurity in [Barking & Dagenham](#), [Tower Hamlets](#), [Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park](#), and [Royal Docks, Newham](#)
- **13 graphic zines:** Co-created with citizen scientists telling stories about obstacles to prosperity
- **3 public exhibitions:** Co-created with citizen scientists and artists Alaa Alsaraji and Libby Liburd
- **57 workshops & presentations:** 26 led by citizen scientists, sharing research findings with policymakers, regeneration practitioners, politicians, professional networks and EU partners
- **Submissions to 3 Parliamentary Committees:** Treasury, Business & Trade, Women & Equalities

Impact metrics:

- **8 citizen scientists** awarded UCL’s Citizen Science Certificate
- **Citizen scientists** engaged in a wide range of impact and career development activities including walking tours and research briefings for policymakers and practitioners, co-design of future Citizen Science Academy courses, teaching and contributing to a new citizen science MOOC, being contracted to work on community-based research projects, and citizen scientist Regina Rahman, being elected as a ward councillor in Barking & Dagenham
- **Adoption of 2 new methodologies to influence regeneration policy and planning:** *Citizen Prosperity Index* adopted to measure regeneration, livelihood, and social value impacts by organisations including Royal Docks Partnership, London Borough of Newham, Growth Boroughs Partnership, Hill Group and Poplar HARCA. Citizen science adopted as an approach to developing local, policy-relevant knowledge by several London Prosperity Board partners including **£1 million ESRC funding for We are Newham Community Research Network**, led by Compost, in partnership with Newham and UCL Citizen Science Academy
- **Influencing policy and practice around the UK – 21 policy citations** including Greater Manchester Independent Inequalities Commission, Bristol Council, New Local think tank, Frontier Economics, Labour councillors
- **10 mentions in broader media, and webinars** The Standard, Times Higher Education podcast, Future of London webinar.

Citizen Scientist Victorine Ngobo in the exhibition 'Citizen Science Now! Research by the Community' (May 2024)



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Wave 1 Data collection, research outputs and impacts

1.1 Data collection

Wave 1 of the *Prosperity in east London Longitudinal Study* launched in 2021. Data collection activities are summarised below.

Obstacles to Prosperity Qualitative Research (September to November 2021)

This research was designed and carried out by a team of 10 citizen scientists – residents who live in the study’s research sites who were trained by UCL’s [Citizen Science Academy](#) to work as social researchers in their neighbourhoods.

The citizen scientists were employed three days a week during their research training and fieldwork, which took place over 12 weeks. The training was community-based and practice-led, covering topics including:

- An introduction to research and qualitative research methods including photo-elicitation interviews, group discussions, walking ethnography, and creative mapping approaches
- How to carry out safe, responsible, and ethical research
- Data management including understanding informed consent, handling sensitive and personal data, and GDPR
- How to analyse qualitative data
- Sharing research findings with different audiences.

Participating in the Citizen Science Academy training enabled the citizen scientists to develop a portfolio of materials and apply for UCL’s new Citizen Science Certificate. The Certificate recognises the core research skills and competencies that citizen scientists acquire during the training, and course specific skills such as specific research methods, teamwork, collaboration, and co-production (see figure 1).

The citizen scientists collected over 30 interviews, carried out 10 walking ethnographies, captured over 500 photographs and videos that were used in photo-elicitation interviews and used to illustrate zines and exhibition materials.

Citizen scientists were paid at the London Living Wage, with additional expenses for travel, and were employed by voluntary sector partners – Compost London CIC, Hackney Quest, and Leaders in the Community – who helped to recruit participants and support them during the research training. In total, the 10 citizen scientists worked 340 days during their training and fieldwork and were paid for an additional 95 hours of impact-related activities after the training had finished.

Two service designers from the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham participated in the training and research, working with two citizen scientists from Heath in Dagenham.

Citizen Prosperity Index Household Survey (December 2021 and June 2022)

4,093 households, representing 7,741 residents, in the 15 small-area (Lower Super Output Area or LSOA) research sites were surveyed. The sampling strategy aimed for a fully representative sample of the population in each LSOA. Based on 2021 Census population data, the survey covered about 20 per cent of the total population of the 15 research sites in the study, providing a representative account of current socio-economic conditions in east London. Surveys were carried out face-to-face on the doorstep. Household survey data was used by IGP’s data analysts to construct the *Citizen Prosperity Index*. For a full description of the Index methodology see the publication ‘[East London Citizen Prosperity Index Methodology](#)’.⁽¹⁾

Figure 1. UCL Citizen Science Certificate Competency Domains



1.2 Research outputs

In this section we summarize the main research outputs from Wave 1 of the longitudinal study.

- Launch of the open access *Citizen Prosperity Index* Dashboard⁽²⁾.
- ‘A *Citizen Prosperity Index* for east London: New evidence and a new approach to tackling inequalities’ a report identifying five key findings from the Index data with implications for regeneration policy, planning and practice⁽³⁾.
- 4 bulletins reporting on prosperity and livelihood insecurity in the four study areas that include the 15 research sites: Heath, Barking and Dagenham; Teviot Estate and Coventry Cross Estate, Tower Hamlets; the research sites in, and on the fringes of, the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park; and the Royal Docks, Newham ⁽⁴⁻⁷⁾.
- The working paper ‘Mapping livelihood insecurity in east London’ a guide to using secondary datasets to measure and map levels of insecurity at the hyper-local level, and how this approach can be replicated in other areas of the UK⁽⁸⁾.
- The submission of evidence based on the *Citizen Prosperity Index* data to 3 parliamentary committees the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee (Business and Trade), the Treasury Committee (An Equal Recovery), and the Women and Equalities Committee (Community cohesion)⁽⁹⁻¹¹⁾.
- 4 articles and 2 podcast episodes about the research themes published⁽¹²⁻¹⁶⁾.
- Public showcase event at PEARL in Dagenham where citizen scientists presented the initial findings from their research to London Prosperity Board partners and community members.
- 3 graphic zines produced by the citizen scientists working with Gillian Chan telling stories about obstacles to prosperity in their neighbourhoods.

- Three public exhibitions in east London including:
 - Prosperity in east London: A citizen’s view – bringing together citizen scientists and local artist Alaa Alsaraji, to create exhibits based on the Obstacles to Prosperity research and to host a series of events at Applectart Studios in Newham.
 - Citizen Science Now! Research by the Community – a public exhibition hosted at UCL East, bringing together work by citizen scientists from the longitudinal study and other citizen science projects in London.
 - Funding through UCL East’s Trellis programme to support artist Libby Liburd to work with citizen scientists to develop an audio-visual storytelling commission building on the Obstacles to Prosperity research findings.
- Hosting multidisciplinary artist Naresh Kaushal as East Bank SEEDD artist in residence to explore new methodologies that harness the *Citizen Prosperity Index* approach. Naresh’s residency includes participatory arts projects exploring mental health and a sense of place; a film/performance lecture and a booklet about a new understanding of socially engaged practice; and a final performance and exhibition in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park involving citizen scientists.
- Citizen scientists Terry and Twinkle participated in the first Newham Citizen Science Fair in April 2024. The pair represented UCL at a stall about citizen social science, talking to members of the public and local policymakers about their work in Newham and across east London. Twinkle and her daughter are on the organising committee for the next Fair on April 12, 2025.
- Citizen scientist Lorraine took part in ‘Speak Up!’ – an event focused on using participatory research and theatre to elevate the voices of residents and housing campaigners in Manchester and London.

- 57 workshops and presentations for policymakers, government researchers, voluntary sector partners, regeneration practitioners, and EU partners, 26 done by citizen scientists. These include presentations to research funders and partners (London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Hackney, Newham, and Tower Hamlets; London Legacy Development Corporation; Royal Docks; Poplar HARCA; Lendlease), and to other organisations interested in applying lessons and insights from the research (Metro Dynamics, Business of Cities, Young Foundation). Some examples of these activities are:
 - Hackney Wick and Gascoyne Estate walking tour for Hackney Council officers and Mayor of Hackney Philip Glanville, led by citizen social scientists Alexis and Lorraine
 - Presentation to the Greater London Authority ‘Lunchtime University’ programme on investigating of lived experiences and local meanings of prosperity by citizen scientists and IGP researchers
 - Presentation about the role of citizen scientists in developing the *Citizen Prosperity Index* at ‘Democratizing the debate on sustainable prosperity indicators’ during the event ‘Defining sustainable prosperity in the EU: towards indicators responding to citizen aspirations’, organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

- Presentations on citizen science and the use of storytelling to MHCLG People and Place Partnership programme team
- A workshop with the UK Innovation District Group in Belfast attended by citizen social scientist Alexis
- The State of the Legacy conference, which interrogated a decade of ‘Olympic Regeneration’ in east London, marking a decade since the London 2012 Games. Citizen scientists Twinkle and Terry, participated in a panel about community experiences of regeneration
- A presentation on the work of the Citizen Science Academy in North Woolwich and Beckton for funder Lendlease by citizen social scientists Twinkle and Terry
- A workshop with the Inclusive Economy team and other officers at the Newham Council to talk about how the longitudinal study data can inform policy and planning, delivered by citizen social scientist Twinkle.

Further Wave 1 research outputs are planned in 2025–2026 that will be based on spatial analysis of the *Citizen Prosperity Index* data, and further analysis focused on prosperity, ethnicity, gender and age.

Image Right: Hackney Wick and Gascoyne Estate walking tour by Citizen Scientist Lorraine Owusu for Hackney Council officers and the Mayor of Hackney



1.3 Impacts

The *Prosperity in east London 2021–2031* study has been co-designed with the London Prosperity Board, which was established to develop new ways of thinking, generate new forms of evidence, and test new ways of working that make sustainable and inclusive prosperity a reality for people living and working in London. The purpose of the Board is to change the way decisionmakers think and act for prosperity to move policy, planning, and investment closer to the outcomes that citizens say matter to them. Research with citizen scientists and community stakeholders over a decade has identified the domains of the *Citizen Prosperity Index* as the determinants of prosperity in east London.

The initial assumptions governing the London Prosperity Board’s Theory of Change are that:

- ‘Available’ knowledge about prosperity pathways shapes (and limits) action to address socio-economic and spatial inequalities
- New forms of citizen-led knowledge need to be developed and embedded in inclusive and accountable decision-making processes and systems to identify and act on new pathways to prosperity
- Organisations and communities will need support to build capacities to work together in new ways.

From this starting point, the London Prosperity Board has adopted the following approach to making change happen:

- Changing the evidence-base used to inform understanding, decision making, and outcome measurement to incorporate citizen-led knowledge, through the use of citizen science and generation of new prosperity metrics (e.g. *Citizen Prosperity Index*)
- Establish new forms of trans-disciplinary partnerships to lead knowledge co-creation processes that include citizens and community partners (e.g. London Prosperity Board)
- Focus on building shared understanding and capacity in all parts of the eco-system to work together, not focusing only on capacity-building in communities (e.g. through London Prosperity Board collaborations)
- Create new institutions to embed these ways of working in organisations and systems (e.g. Citizen Science Academy and Certificate).

The understanding is then that the new evidence and knowledge will generate different insights and transform the way decision-makers think and act on prosperity, the new partnerships will build shared knowledge, drive innovation, and increase accountability to local communities.

Image Left: Citizen Scientists Aysha Ahmed, Mujjamil Ahmed, Rosa Debebe, Maria Trimikliniotis and Hazzel Tabernilla (left to right), conducting social research for their Council



The *Prosperity in east London 2021–2031* Longitudinal Study is intended to:

- Change the evidence base about the impacts and outcomes of regeneration by addressing the lack of longitudinal research exploring hyper-local effects
- Involve citizens and communities directly in co-creating new knowledge that brings lived experiences into dialogue with statistical evidence
- Support decision makers to incorporate new evidence into regeneration planning and delivery through policy, investment, procurement, community engagement and social value practices
- Create opportunities for citizens to mobilize knowledge, shape and develop solutions by working with decisionmakers planning and delivering regeneration programmes
- Support individual development opportunities and employment pathways for citizen scientists.

The long-term aim is to change thinking about the way regeneration planning, policy, and investment can both create and address socio-economic and spatial inequalities, and to change the actions of decisionmakers in ways that reduce inequalities and improve prosperity for long-term residents and established communities. This work is focused on changing regeneration planning in east London; however, we have a wider goal of mobilizing this knowledge and sharing insights with practitioners and policymakers in other areas of the UK. We recognise that this can only be achieved in the long run through intentional and sustained partnership working and the *Prosperity in east London 2021–2031* Longitudinal Study is one part of a much wider eco-system of efforts in this space.

Below we describe some of the direct impacts from Wave 1 of the Longitudinal Study organised around the four points above:

Change the evidence base

- 21 citations as case studies of the London Prosperity Board, Citizen Science Academy, and *Citizen Prosperity Index* in reports and publications from a variety of local and combined authorities in England, think tanks, research institutes, and third sector organisations (for a complete list, see Annex – Citations in policy documents). Some examples are:
 - The Greater Manchester Independent Inequalities Commission highlighted the Prosperity Index as an example of wellbeing targets in other places in their report ‘The Next Level: Good Lives for All in Greater Manchester’
 - Bristol Council mentioned the London Prosperity Board in their ‘Frome Gateway Spatial Regeneration Framework’ as a precedent in their area of focus ‘Building Local Capacity’ in their urban design framework
 - The think tank New Local published a document penned by Labour councillors, ‘A Labour Vision for Community Power: Participation, prevention and devolution’, in which the Citizen Science Academy was cited as a model of successful community capacity building.
- 10 mentions of the London Prosperity Board, Citizen Science Academy, and *Citizen Prosperity Index* in broader media such as newspaper articles, blogposts, podcasts, and webinars, appearing in ‘The Standard’, the ‘Times Higher Education podcast’, NESTA (for a complete list, see Annex – General citations)

Involve citizens and communities directly in co-creating new knowledge

- 2 new citizen-led methodologies for measuring what local communities say matters to their prosperity. The *Citizen Prosperity Index*, the UK's first citizen-led prosperity metrics (see a publication of the methodology here, and a summary and description of the indicators here)^(1,17), and UCL's Citizen Science Academy, providing practice-led research training and the first competency-based non-academic Citizen Science Certificate to empower communities (see a summary here)⁽¹⁸⁾.
- The Citizen Science Academy and its trained citizen scientists have been involved in working in projects with policy partners, some examples of these being:
 - A Metrodynamics Innovation interview done with the London Legacy Development Corporation and the economic consultant Metrodynamics
 - The Hive Peer Research roundtable with the Young Foundation
 - A briefing and a consultation meeting with Lendlease
 - A presentation to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Support decision makers to incorporate new evidence into regeneration planning and delivery

- A partnership with the Royal Docks to measure the long-term impacts of regeneration on the local community as reflected in the Royal Docks' second five-year plan of redevelopment. This will ensure that the right measures are taken to address inequality and to share equally the benefits of regeneration. The five-year plan includes up to 36,000 new homes and 55,000 new jobs across the area over the coming years, addressing livelihood insecurity, the main obstacle identified by the *Citizen Prosperity Index*.⁽¹⁹⁾
- Growth Boroughs adopting livelihood security as the main goal and key success measure of inclusive economy strategy.⁽²⁰⁾
- The adoption of a focus on livelihood, wellbeing and happiness as the prime measure of economic success by the London Borough of Newham as part of their 'Towards a Better Newham' strategy.⁽²¹⁾
- The implementation of the *Citizen Prosperity Index* framework in the Teviot Estate regeneration evaluation by Poplar HARCA.
- £1 million ESRC funding to establish the We are Newham Community Research Network, led by Compost, in partnership with Newham and UCL Citizen Science Academy, which will mainstream the use of citizen science in the borough.

Create opportunities for citizens to mobilize knowledge, shape and develop solutions

- The Citizen Science Academy trained and awarded the UCL Citizen Science Certificate to citizen scientists from east London. These citizen scientists delivered and supported workshops and presentations as noted in the research outputs above, and got involved in other research, teaching, and work opportunities. Some notable examples are:
 - 7 citizen scientists have been involved in teaching cohorts of citizen scientists on other Academy programmes for example, Twinkle has participated in the Camden Citizen Scientists-in-Residence programme and the Tower Hamlets Act Early programme; Terry, Twinkle, Suraya, and Nafisa supported the Westway Trust programme in North Kensington; Alexis supported teaching on the UCL East 'Meanwhile Space' citizen science project; Terry and Twinkle contributed to IGP's new MOOC on citizen science
 - Citizen scientists Nafisa, Terry, and Twinkle applied to represent citizen scientists on the London Prosperity Board
 - Citizen scientist Regina was elected ward councillor in the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
 - Citizen scientist Terry won funding to host 'Talk2Terry' sessions with local men about mental health and wellbeing
 - Citizen scientist Twinkle is working with the IGP to co-edit a book on the impacts of Citizen Science, expected to be published in 2026.



Image above: Citizen Scientist Terry Regan from Custom House, Newham, at a meeting



Image Left: Gillian Chan (IGP staff), and Citizen Scientists Lorraine Owusu and Alexis Charles (left to right) in the exhibition 'Prosperity in east London: a citizen's view' (July 2023)

Wave 1 Funding

Wave 1 funding was made up of £279,700 in contributions from London Prosperity Board partners, £65,500 in further grants from UCL, and in-kind support of c. £550,000, primarily in the form of IGP research staff time. Following is a description of what each element of funding supported.

2.1 Pooled funding from London Prosperity Board partners

Royal Docks, Lendlease, London Legacy Development Corporation, Hill Group, Poplar HARCA, and the London Boroughs of Hackney, Waltham Forest, and Barking & Dagenham, contributed £279,700. This pooled funding supported:

- Grant funding of £43,715 to voluntary sector partners (Compost London, Hackney Quest, and Leaders in the Community) to employ 10 citizen scientists paid at the London Living Wage, including resources to provide pastoral care and support during the training, research, and subsequent impact activities
- Fieldwork expenses and equipment for citizen scientists
- UCL Citizen Science Academy course leader to design and deliver training, oversee research, and co-ordinate the Citizen Science Certificate, which eight citizen scientists were awarded
- Face-to-face survey of 4,093 households in 15 LSOAs
- IGP data analyst to manage household survey sampling, questionnaire design, fieldwork checks, statistical data analysis, and construction of *Citizen Prosperity Index*.

2.2 Grant funding from UCL

Grant funding of £35,500 from UCL East and £30,000 from UCL Innovation and Enterprise supported public engagement and research dissemination activities including:

- Funding for citizen scientists to work with artist Alaa Alsaraji, to develop a public exhibition based on findings from the Obstacles to Prosperity research and to host a series of events at Applecourt Studios in Newham
- Funding for the Citizen Science Now! Research by the Community public exhibition hosted at UCL East, including employing citizen scientist Twinkle Jay, to co-curate the exhibition
- Funding through UCL East’s Trellis programme to support artist Libby Liburd to work with citizen scientists to develop an audio-visual storytelling commission building on the Obstacles to Prosperity research findings
- UCL’s Knowledge Exchange and Innovation Funding to develop the *Citizen Prosperity Index* Global Dashboard, which enabled IGP to accelerate the process of building an open access Dashboard sharing Wave 1 data, which is being replicated in other locations.

2.3 In-kind support

An extensive list of in-kind contributions to support Wave 1 of the longitudinal study were provided by London Prosperity Board partners, UCL, and wider networks in east London. We estimate the value of in-kind contributions to be in excess of £550,000.

Support for this work came from so many different sources and in so many different ways that it is not possible to list every instance here. However, it is important to recognise that every contribution of time, space, exchange of ideas, conversation, challenge, and willingness to innovate has made a significant material difference to our ability to design and deliver Wave 1 of the longitudinal study. Notable contributions at key moments include:

- Venues for UCL Citizen Science Academy training and events provided by the Good Growth Hub, UCL at Here East, UCL PEARL Lab, and London Legacy Development Corporation
- Support from UCL’s Office for Open Science and Scholarship to pilot the new Citizen Science Certificate with this cohort of citizen scientists
- Graphic design of the citizen scientists’ zines by Gillian Chan
- UCL’s Social Data Internship programme, which funded three data interns to work on survey analysis in 2022–2023
- Substantial in-kind contributions from UCL’s Institute for Global Prosperity for research staff time to design and manage the *Prosperity in east London 2021–2031* Longitudinal Study, including leadership and management of the longitudinal study, data analysts to construct the *Citizen Prosperity Index*, co-producing outputs with citizen scientists, an on-going programme of workshops with London Prosperity Board partners focused on the implications of research findings for regeneration planning, policy, practice, and investments.

Wave 2 Planning

The second wave of longitudinal study data will be collected in 2025-2026. The mixed methods research design is consistent throughout the study and includes:

- The *Citizen Prosperity Index* survey of c. 4,000 households in the four study areas
- Qualitative research designed and collected by citizen scientists trained by UCL’s Citizen Science Academy.

3.1 Citizen Prosperity Index Household Survey

Following Census 2021, significant changes were made to LSOA boundaries to reflect population growth and urban development. Boundary changes mean the number of LSOAs in the study areas have increased from 15 to 32 because some have been split into smaller geographical units.

IGP’s data team consulted with ONS on sampling scenarios to manage the boundary and population changes, with the goal of maintaining longitudinal comparability across waves, and balancing statistical robustness with operational feasibility given the requirement for door-to-door surveys.

Based on this decision, the total sample size for Wave 2 will be 4,214 households compared to 4,093 in Wave 1.

A detailed discussion of the sampling scenarios can be found in Sample Size Scenarios for Waves 2 and 3 *East London Prosperity Index 2021–2031*. This technical report is unpublished but can be shared with London Prosperity Board partners on request.

3.2 Citizen Science activities

The London Prosperity Board identified a sensorial disconnection between the local communities and the new built environment developments in the form of feeling ‘unwelcomed’ in these spaces. Given the complexity of assessing this disconnect, we propose therefore, rather than using an interview-based methodology, to base Wave 2’s methodology around the senses.

We propose working with a group of 10-15 citizen scientists from the PieL project areas, who be trained by the UCL Citizen Science Academy and supported to carry out research across east London. They will work on the project for 3-days a week for a 14-week period, beginning in January 2026. They will be paid the LLW throughout, and on completion will be awarded the UCL Citizen Science Certificate.

Teaching will be led by staff from the UCL Citizen Science Academy, supported by a local alumnus from Wave 1 employed as a teaching assistant. Guest talks and workshops will be provided by researchers from across UCL and our partners, with expertise in particular sensory methodologies or elements of the built environment.

Citizen scientists will be asked to investigate public spaces identified by the LPB from a variety of sensorial perspectives informed by expert guest speakers and will provide feedback and recommendations on improving the ‘welcomeness’ of public spaces of direct value to developers and built environment practitioners. The aim will be to develop two key forms of outputs:

- A citizen science-informed answer to the question *‘What do people mean when they say a new development is ‘not for me?’*
- Practical design and planning suggestions aimed at developing new public spaces that are welcoming and inclusive.



Citizen Scientists Regina Rahman (left) and Victorine Ngobo (right) with staff from Barking and Dagenham

About us

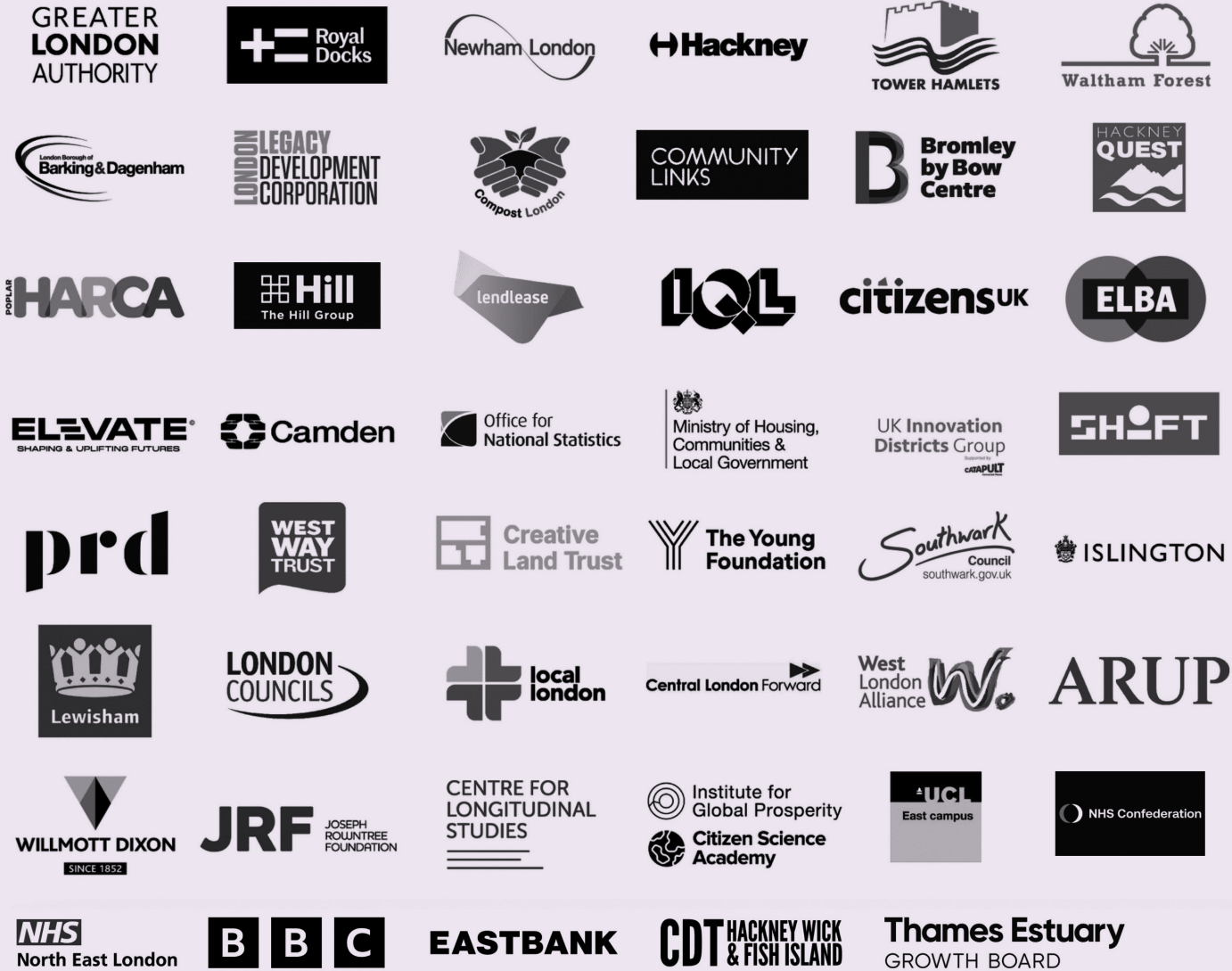
Prosperity in east London 2021–2031 is an innovative cross-sector research collaboration that brings together university, government, voluntary sector, business, citizen scientists, local residents, and community organisations. The study is managed by the Institute for Global Prosperity’s (IGP) Prosperity Co-Laboratory UK (PROCOL UK) in partnership with the UCL Centre for Longitudinal Studies. The study was co-designed with members of the London Prosperity Board – a cross-sector partnership between the IGP, UCL East, London government, local councils, public agencies, businesses, the third sector and local communities in east London, to change the way decision-makers think and act for prosperity by developing new forms of evidence and new ways of working.

The study is jointly funded by London Prosperity Board members: Royal Docks, Lendlease, London Legacy Development Corporation, Hill Group, Poplar HARCA, and the London Boroughs of Hackney, Waltham Forest, and Barking and Dagenham.

About the Institute for Global Prosperity

The Institute for Global Prosperity (IGP) is redesigning prosperity for the 21st century. Our vision is to build a prosperous, sustainable, global future, underpinned by the principles of fairness and justice, and allied to a realistic, long-term vision of humanity’s place in the world.

The IGP believes that citizens and communities should be at the centre of efforts to reimagine prosperity. IGP’s research is about working with residents and community groups to understand what prosperity means to local people and to bring their priorities into policymaking. We believe that involving the experiences, knowledge, and expertise of local people is the key for change.



Annex

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Image above: Citizen Scientists Terry Regan and Twinkle Jayakumar (left to right) at the ‘State of the Legacy Conference’ at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park (September 2023)

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