

Shared Vision for Open Spaces

What are we doing?

SO18 Big Local, Training for Work in Communities, Southampton City Council and the University of Southampton are working together to improve the use of three underused green spaces by the local community.

Research:

Bringing local residents and university students together to research local views on and current use of the green spaces, and to identify the biodiversity found there.

Community activities:

Organising activities to raise the profile of the green spaces and help residents to identify local wildlife (e.g. nature hunt).

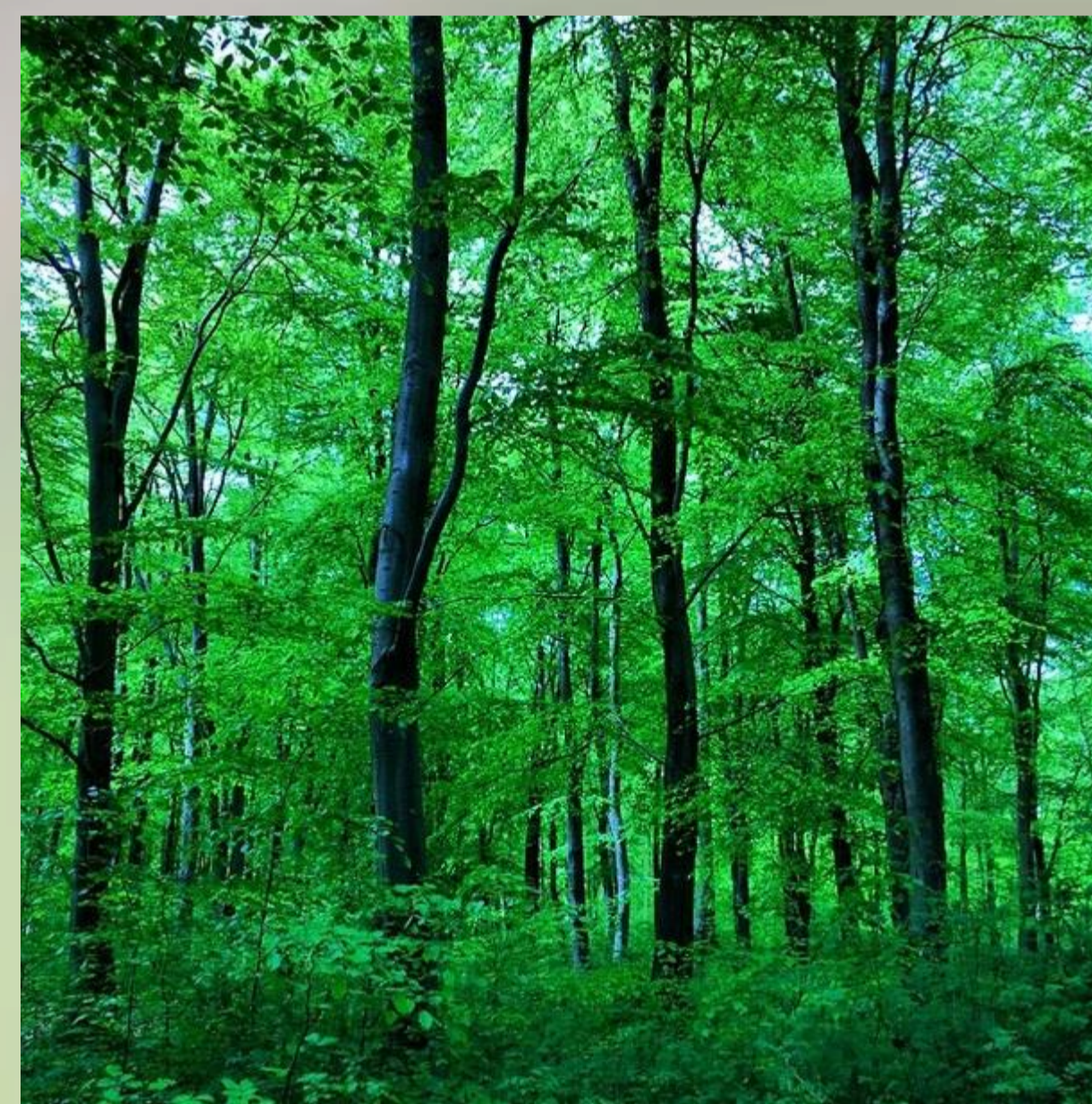


Why are we doing it?

- The local community have identified the environment and biodiversity as important.
- Three existing green spaces are underused by local residents.
- The Lottery funded ten-year SO18 Big Local project needs more information about local views and biodiversity to take action to change this.

For the community:

This project will help SO18 Big Local make a lasting positive difference in the communities by helping understand current barriers to use of the spaces, and how to overcome them.



For the students:

Students will improve their research and team-working skills, as well as enjoy being able to have a positive impact in the Southampton community during their studies.

How will this make a difference?

For the City Council:

Increased use of the green spaces will make them a point of stability during redevelopment of these areas. The biodiversity data will contribute to city database.



For the University:

Its reputation and connections with the community will be improved. This research partnership approach will be a model for the university community for future work.

The team: Jo Proctor (So18 Big Local); Barbara Hancock (TWICS); Stephen Read (local resident); Lindsay McCulloch (City Council); Malcolm Hudson, Simon Kemp, Julia Kendal, Meribel Perez, Fleur Spencer (University).