**ReadME File WP 1**

 **Young people Act: Nature and Climate**

**Introduction**

This project is the first work package of the UKRI-NERC funded ‘Voices of the Future: Collaborating with Young People to reimagine Treescapes’ [NE/V021370/1]

The aim of this particular sub-project is to map and evaluate the ethos, activities, structure and impact of organisations and initiatives in the UK which seek to engage young people (age 12-24 years) in nature connection, place change and/or environmental activism in rural and urban environments. Depending on the group remit and context, we were particularly interested in opportunities and barriers to involvement by children and young people from commonly marginalised backgrounds. This will inform shared understandings of what constitutes genuine, effective and sustained inclusion and power for Children and Young People (CYP) with supporting their potential influence with regard to changing UK treescapes (woodlands, parks, street trees). There will be a digital resource to demonstrate good practice and innovation in this field.

The field work was carried out in 2 stages. Ethical approval was received from the University of Sheffield for both stages.

**Stage 1:** The first stage of the research involved 24 online interviews with people working on relevant projects in the UK. These took place between June 2022- December 2022. The selection of projects/case studies has been designed to show the breadth, depth and expertise of work in this area, and is based towards projects which can have potential to act as exemplars to others.

Summary of the files in **Stage 1 fieldwork** Folder**:**

This folder contains the following 25 word files.

* The folder contains 24 interview fieldnotes in word document organised with file names such as Fieldnotes\_Organisation 1
* An interview schedule guide has been included (Stage 1\_Interview Schedule guide)

Important note

* All names have been anonymised.
* Wherever the data included direct or indirect identifiers including details about the project name, location or personal details of participants have been omitted.

**Stage 2:** This stage included more extensive and in-depth engagement with 4 of these shortlisted organisations – an inner-city community garden, a national park youth board, a climate activism group, and an environmental training course designed to up-skill and network young people from minoritised groups.

This was conducted in particular to find out the viewpoints of the young people involved with the organisation: *To understand their perceptions, experiences and interaction with the organisations, and connection to nature/environment.*

The fieldwork was conducted between November 2022 - March 2023 including both in-person and virtual events. The methods used were flexible and responsive to accommodate the participants of the research. Each fieldwork was for a period of 2-3 days that included:

1. **Observations:** Observations of events/meetings/activities to observe group dynamics, peer interaction, young people’s nature engagement, organisations role/inputs and young people motivation.
2. **Small group discussions:** Small Group Discussions with a group size of 3-4 young people to understand their experiences of engagement with the organisation and how it has impacted them.

Summary of the files in **Stage 2 fieldwork** Folder**:**

This folder contains following 8 word files:

1. A fieldwork guide for the observations and group discussions (Stage 2\_ fieldwork guide)
2. National Park youth board\_Observations
3. National Park Youth Board\_ Group discussions
4. Inner city community garden\_Observations and conversation with young people
5. Environment Training program\_Group discussion 1
6. Environment Training program\_Group discussion 2
7. Climate Activist Group\_Group discussion
8. Climate Activist Group\_Observations

Important note

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