

## lan Bruce SYSTRA



DELIVERING SOCIAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE THROUGH STATION PLACEMAKING

**lan Bruce** 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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## What is station placemaking?

Built environment connecting station to local communityStation features and facilities



#### **Station placemaking case studies**





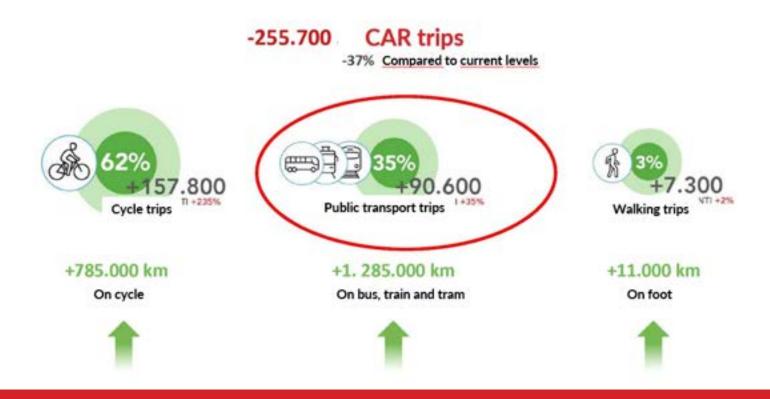
# **Case study 1:** Using light rail as a catalyst for improved placemaking in Bologna





## **Bologna Light Rail: a clear decision**

Transport Analysis and Mobility Goals for 2030





## **Bologna Light Rail: the Red Line**

Decision-making, feasibility & funding

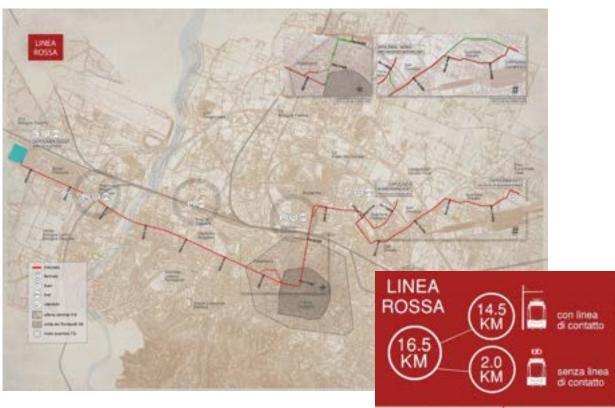
€510m funding awarded

Design & project approval

Tender procedure & design phase

Start of works

Start of operations





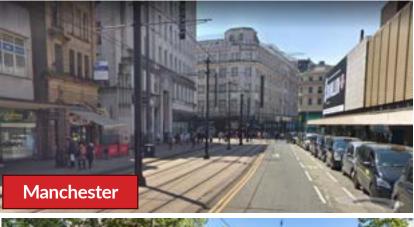
**30 FERMATE** 

**3 CAPOLINEA** 

## **Bologna Light Rail: placemaking principles**

- 1. Profound knowledge of the 'urban fabric' of the LR corridor and related functions
- 2. Light rail corridor is completely separated from road traffic «marciatram»
- Regulations aimed at making the Tramway Bologna's primary transport backbone:
  - i. Reduction in cars: restricted areas, new roads design ---> By 2026: 54,600 daily trips transferred to PT.
    ii. Intermodal and integrated PT vision (bus - tram)
  - iii. Park and ride (7 new sites created)

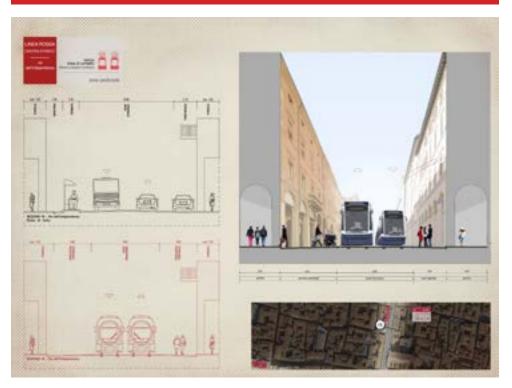
#### Lessons learned elsewhere in Europe:





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#### • New pedestrian areas in the city centre





#### • Catenary-free





#### Uncovering of an old canal







- Parks and green areas
- New cycling paths





 Inter-modal hubs





# **Case study 2:** Nottingham Tram – improving accessibility and reducing social isolation







#### **Nottingham Express Transit (NET)** 320 Line One opened 2004 Phase Two opened 2015 Centre Park & Ride Network Rail Citycard Cycle Hub Bus Connection

## **NET stop accessibility features**

- Level boarding at all stops
- White platform edges and tactile paving
- Wheelchair markings to indicate boarding points
- Emergency help points
- Passenger shelters
- Well-lit and 24-hr CCTV







## Impact on mobility-impaired users





Increased frequency of travel

50% of mobility-impaired commuters stated that the change in workplace would not have been practical without NET

~40% of mobility-impaired passengers now travel more frequently than before

86% of mobility-impaired passengers stated that the NET had considerably improved their quality of life



## **Case study 3:** Delivery of social value on the Tyne & Wear Metro



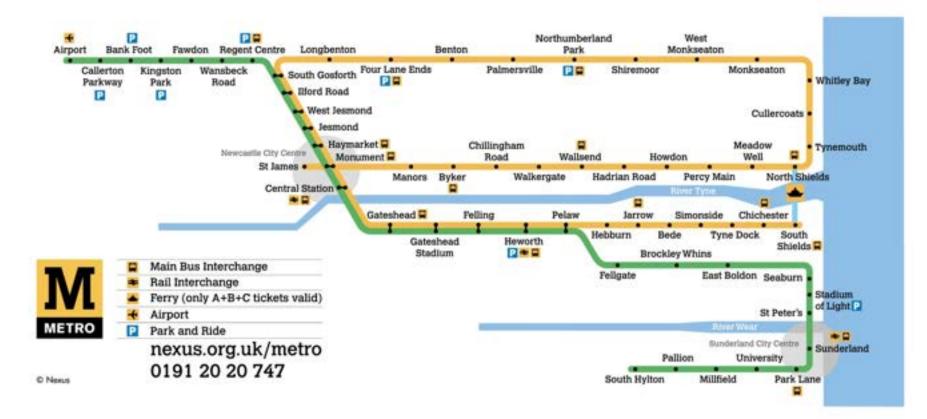




#### **Tyne & Wear Metro**

## Opened 1980 Sunderland extension opened in 2002

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## **Social value of rail**

Social: Wellbeing of individuals and communities

Financial: Economic wellbeing of society

**Environmental:** Vitality of the social and physical environment

#### How do we measure the social value of rail?

The Rail Social Value Tool (RSVT) has been developed by the RSSB to quantify the social value of rail using 500 social value indicators across 12 impact areas.

## Social value of the Tyne & Wear Metro study:

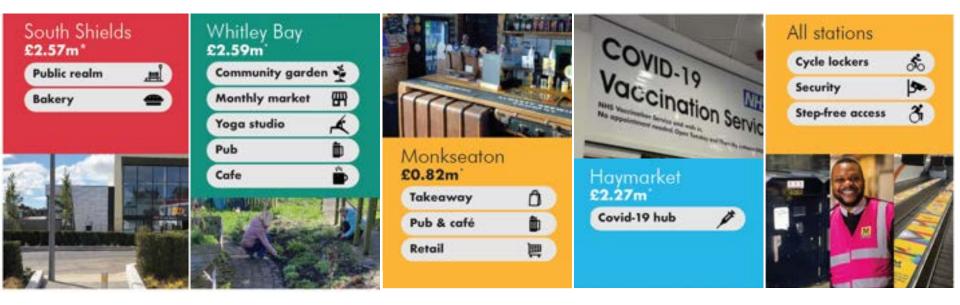






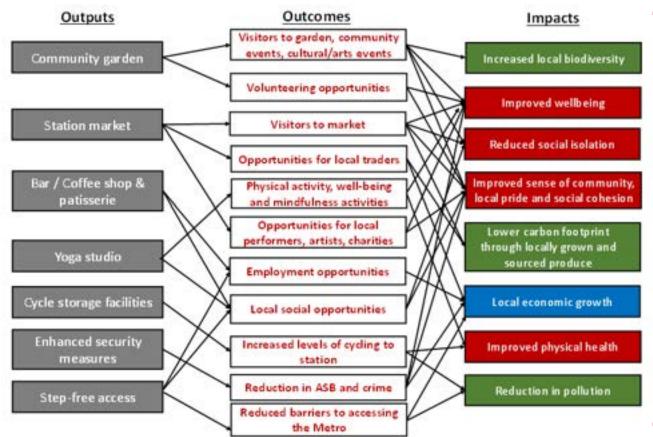
#### **Station case studies**

 Social value placemaking, facilities and features identified at four stations and monetised using the RSVT





## **Station case studies**



Strategic objectives of North East Transport Plan:

- Healthier North
   East
- Safe and secure network
- Overcome inequality and grow our economy
- Carbon neutral North East
- Appealing sustainable transport choices

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## **Network-wide initiative case studies**

Social value impacts due to initiatives that cover the whole Metro network or a group of stations were also assessed

#### **Arts Projects**

30+ permanent art displays across the Metro and other public transport infrastructure over past 30 years



mproved Improved sense of community, local pride wellbeing 8 physical health & social cohesion

#### Accessible Stations

All Metro stations provide step free access complying with DfT design standards

Total monetised social value (2022/23):

£1.44m | Escalator £0.67m | Lift

Social

£0.14m | Wide aisle gateline

111 Reduce Improved social wellbeing & isolation physical health

#### Community Takeover

Reduce

social

solution

Regional arts and dance showcase held during 2021-2022 facilitated by Metro staff and/or held at or around the Metro stations





Improved wellbeing & physical health

Improved sense of community, local pride

& social cohesion

Loca



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economic growth



# **Summary:** Lessons from Bologna, Nottingham and Tyne & Wear





## **Benefits of station placemaking**

Station placemaking, features and facilities:

- Public realm around stations
- Station accessibility
- Station security
- Active travel provision
- Creation of green spaces and increased biodiversity
- Station usage for retail, hospitality and commercial purposes
- Station usage for community purposes

#### Impacts:

#### Improved health and wellbeing

Increased sense of community, local pride and social cohesion



Reduced social isolation

Reduced crime and ASB

Local economic growth



Increased rail demand

Increased local biodiversity

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Reduced local pollution



