

Practice in Urban Development Planning

Mapping change for Sustainable
Communities the Olympics Legacy
in Hackney, London





hackney borough and marsh



kingsmead estate



- What are the experiences, needs and expectations in the access to, use and appropriation of the Marsh by the Kingsmead community (Children 0-19)?
- How would changes brought about by the 2012 Olympic Games enhance the social inclusion and environmental justice in the use of the Marsh within the Kingsmead community?



Guiding Principles

The major problem identified through the literature review is Territorialism.

Projects described as 'anti-territorial':

- **diversionary activities** (such as sport and leisure);
- education (e.g. about the consequences for young people);
- **association** (to break down boundaries between communities by increasing contact);
- conflict resolution techniques (for more serious conflict).

(webpage Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Team from the University of Glasgow.)



Main Assumptions

The identified hypothesis:

- Territorialism directly affects local children (0-19) which is major obstacle in the current use of the marsh.
- Olympic Legacy Plans and Projects need stronger linkages with the children (0-19) in Kingsmead and Hackney.



Groups Interviewed

Children, Youth, Residents

Children and Youth as the main target for the Olympic Legacy

Children

“Poverty and poor environments are experienced differently by young people than by adults, and it is not enough to work on ‘adults’ poverty’ only, in the false hope of a simple generational trickledown.”

(Phillips, 2004. p.171)

“The approaches described here vary in focus and context but all have as a common goal the transformation of cities into inclusive communities for children, recognizing that a city friendly to children is one friendly to all other groups.”

(Riggio, 2002. p.57)



Youth

- One component of the Olympic Legacy is that of 'Inspiring' the Youth. Kingsmead is an estate where the socioeconomic functioning of the Youth is affected by inconsistent parenting leading to social exclusion expressed by fighting and anti – social behaviour. (Corcoran et al, 1992, Korenman et al, 1995).
- The socioemotional functioning is not only expressed in dropping out of school but also in disobedience, fighting, difficulty getting along with others and other anti-social behaviour actions. (Adams et al, 1994)
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- Canter, who reports that people act in different ways in different places because of the variations in interactions that take place in changing spaces (Canter, 1986)



Residents

- High unemployment and language barriers has made isolation a common problem, particularly among women leading to Social Insecurity and uncertainty about the future
- Olympics leading to increase living cost and more poverty
- Great sense of belonging among certain communities to the area (especially those who have a long history of residence in the borough) while others express reluctance and have moved to estate just for the sake of the affordable housing (especially relocated & displaced families) and hardly show any affiliation to the area
- Limited scope of social integration between communities, accordingly certain public spaces are more associated with certain groups





Adventure Playground
Kingsmead Primary School
Concord Centre

Kabin
Wally Foster

Alex
Jenny

Mechanism for data collection

- Questionnaire
- Informal Interviews
- Focus Groups
- Mapping –
“design the marsh”
- Direct observation

group **5** kingsmead estate ^{UCL}

Date and Time _____ Name of Interviewer _____

Name of Interviewee _____ Male / Female (please circle)

Age _____ Ethnicity _____ Postal Code _____

Circle the correct answer and specify when necessary.

1. Where and how long have you been living in?
Kingsmead / Clapton / within Borough of Hackney/ others _____ and _____ years

2. How many people live in your house? (Including family and room mates) _____ people
Please tell us more detail about the members:
Adults (over 19) _____, Young(13-19 yrs) _____, Children(under 13) _____, Elder(over 60) _____

3. Do you participate any activity outside of Hackney? If yes, where do you go?
Work / Leisure / Study / Others _____

4. What do you do in your free time?
Sports _____ / Visiting Friends / Go to the Park / Shopping / Others _____

5. Where do you go on weekend?
Within Kingsmead _____ / Outside Kingsmead _____

6. What areas around your home do you visit or use? And how frequently do you go?
Kabin / Youth Center / Shops / Playgrounds / Church / Mosque / Community Centers / Marsh / Restaurant / Pubs / Friends House / Others _____

7. What issues are most important to you living in Kingsmead and Hackney area?
*Please prioritize the top 5 issues from 1 (most important) to 5 (less) according to your level of concern.
Employment () / Safety () / Recreational Area () / Marsh () / Transportation Access () /
Housing () / Education () / Religious Place () / Shopping () / Hospital () /
Olympic Development () / Others () _____

8. Do you feel a part of community living in Kingsmead and Hackney?
Yes / No *If yes, in what ways do you feel so? _____

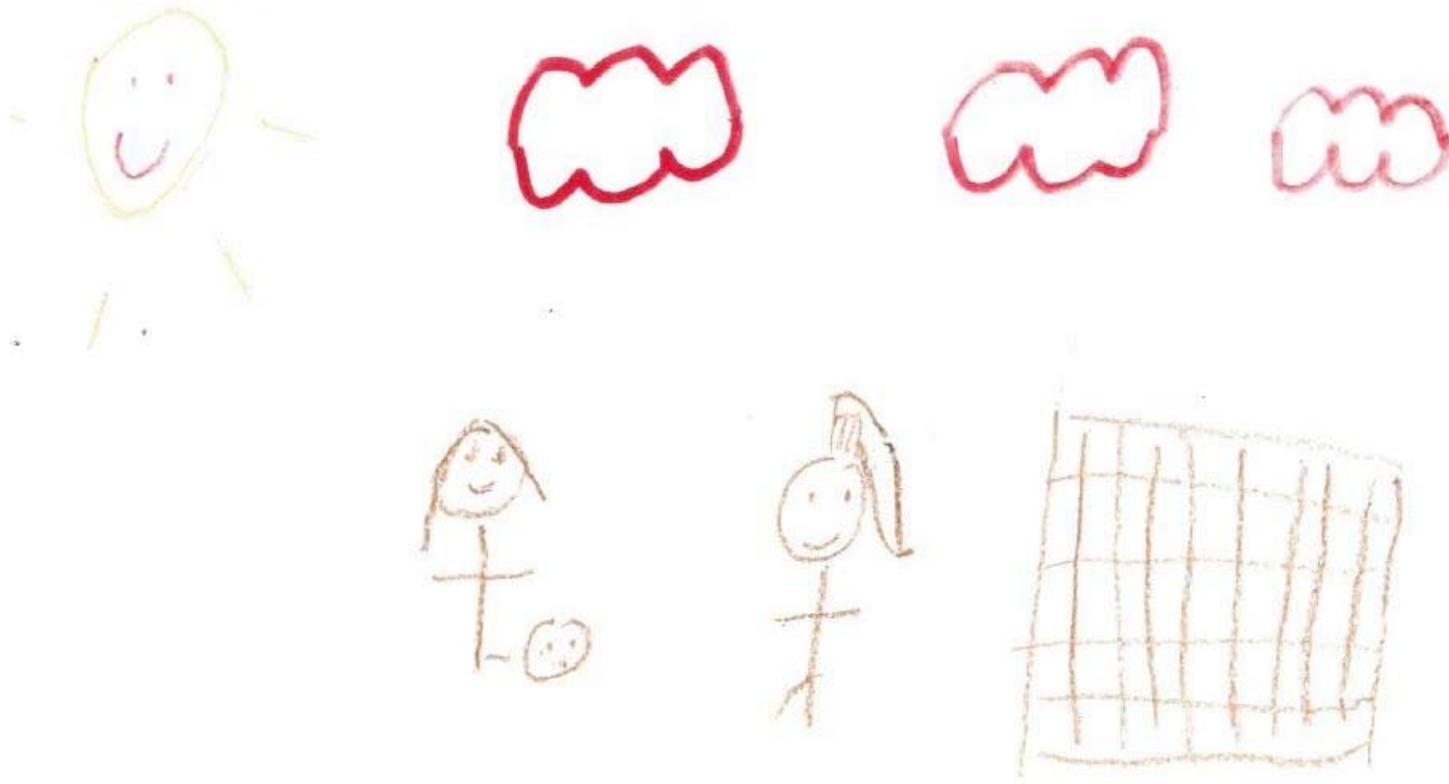
9. How often do you go to the Marsh?
Never / _____ times in a day / _____ times a week / _____ times a month / _____ times a year



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Example of 'Drawing the Marsh'



Emet, by Age 10



Example of 'Design the Marsh' Map



Example of Mental Mapping



Limitations

- Time constraints :

Insufficient interaction with target community

- Insufficient coverage of plurality of target actors:

Limited sample of results



Findings



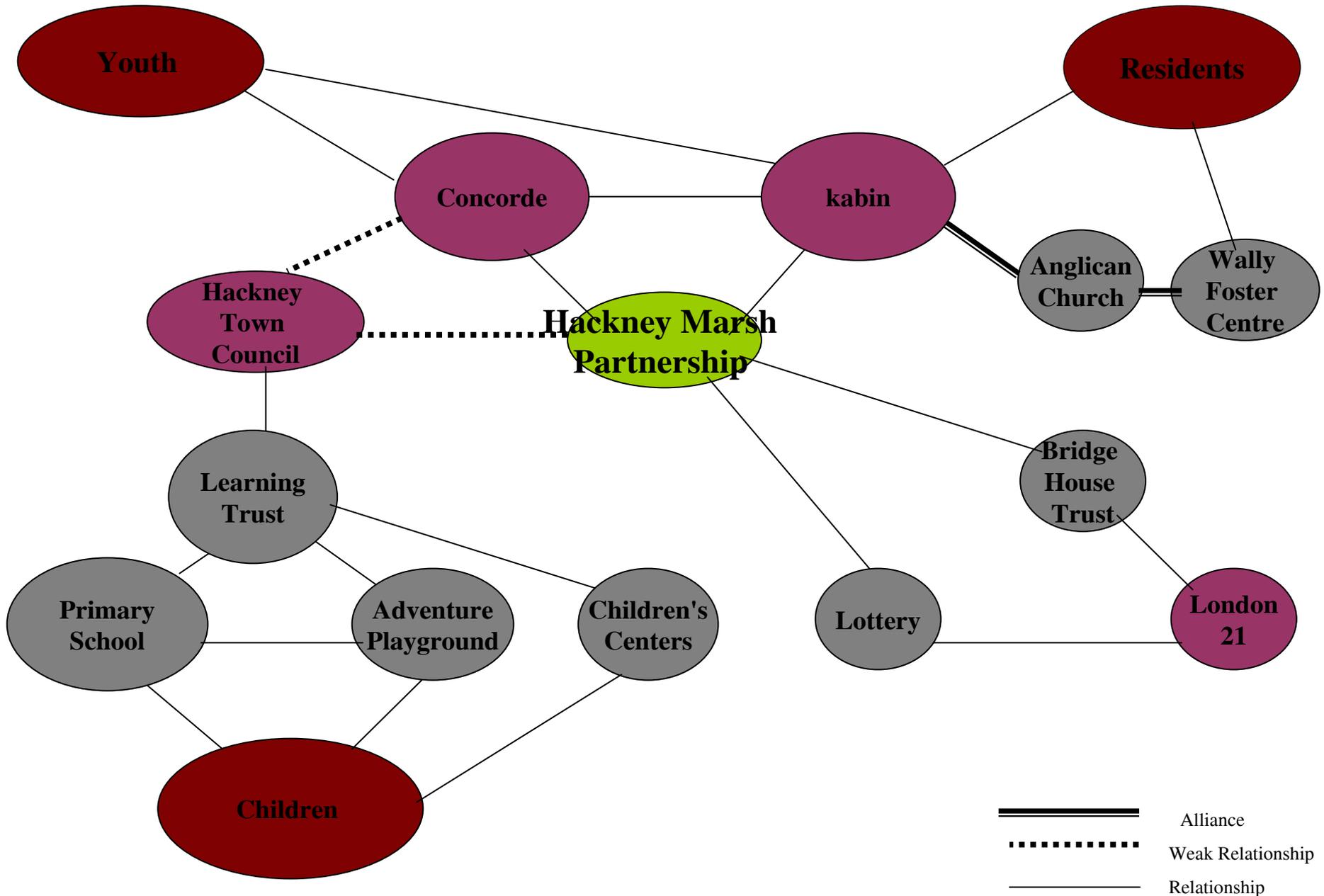
Hypothesis	Findings	Recommendations
<p>Territorialism directly affects local children which is major obstacle in the current use of the marsh.</p>	<p>Post Code division of social networks and restriction of mobility; (About 27 % of Hackney residents are under the age of 19).</p> <p>Limited access to the public spaces(marsh, parks) derived from territorialism</p> <p>There are no activities that strength the sense of community in broader level.</p> <p>There are concerns about drugs dealing and gangs.</p> <p>The primary school and playground conduct activities for children in the marsh.</p> <p>The boys who do not attend the school are more likely to join gangs.</p> <p>Tensions between E5 and E9 undermines the representation of Youth in the Hackney Marsh Partnership.</p> <p>People avoid going to the marsh after sunset because of security concerns.</p> <p>There are only 3 youth centres in hackney compared to 50 in tower hamlets.</p>	<p>Empowerment of Youth in becoming active members of local politics by opening an opportunity in the board</p> <p>Moving gang leaders / members away from the spaces they associate with crime and hatred into the environment of community decision making.</p> <p>The Legacy should provide the opportunity to build a network of youth centres in Hackney.</p>



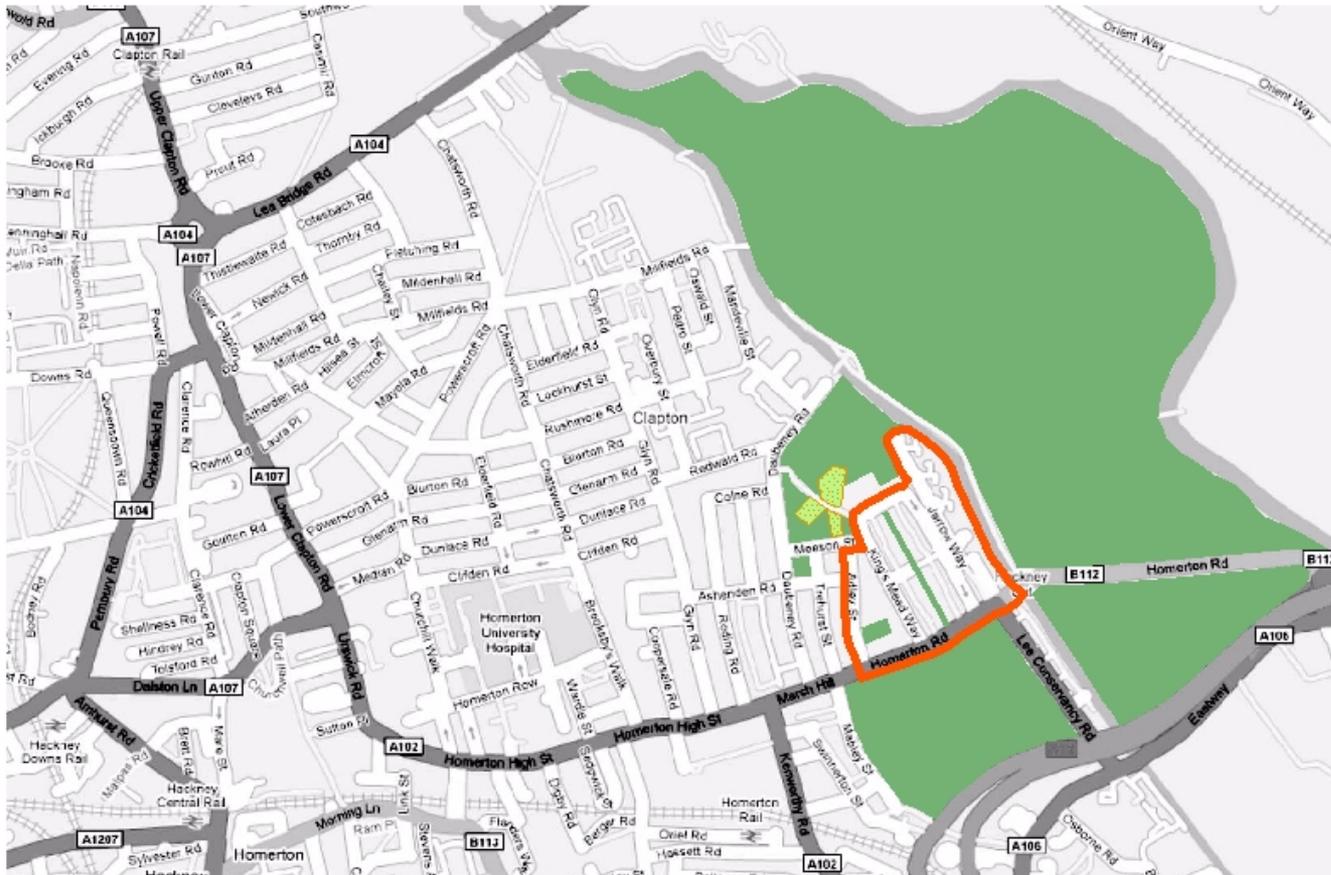
Hypothesis	Findings	Recommendations
<p>Olympic Legacy Plans and Projects need stronger linkages with the children in Kingsmead and Hackney.</p>	<p>The Concorde Center's activities are not directly linked with the Olympic Legacy</p> <p>The Olympics Games funded the new facilities for the Adventure Playground in Kingsmead.</p> <p>There are expectations for the Olympics to bring hope and aspirations to the children.</p>	<p>The Legacy should strengthen linkages among Youth Community Groups by promoting joint sports/art performance programme in the marsh.</p> <p>Hackney Marsh Partnership should develop Youth Olympic Legacy projects to involve the Concorde Centre as the primary schools.</p> <p>Increase the Youth Centres in different post codes to promote youth integration (eg. Football, movies). There are two steps to this process 1) bonding - make a community feel comfortable with each other 2) bridging - bridge this boded community with that from Clapton and Penbury Road and celebrate their differences.</p> <p>Open access to the Marsh and blending the post code barrier will facilitate the community to enjoy the Olympic Legacy</p> <p>There need to create atmosphere through positive role of models and social norms that links to the development of the children away from the crime and social exclusion towards inclusion.</p>



Actor Mapping (development)



Mapping – Public Spaces



-  Kingsmead Estate
-  Playgrounds & Skate Park
-  Green Areas



Mapping – Territorial Boundaries



- E5 Clapton
- E8 Hackney, Dalston
- E9 Hackney, Homerton
- Possibly Neutral
- Very Dangerous
- Dangerous
- Neutral
- Not Too Bad



Recommendation



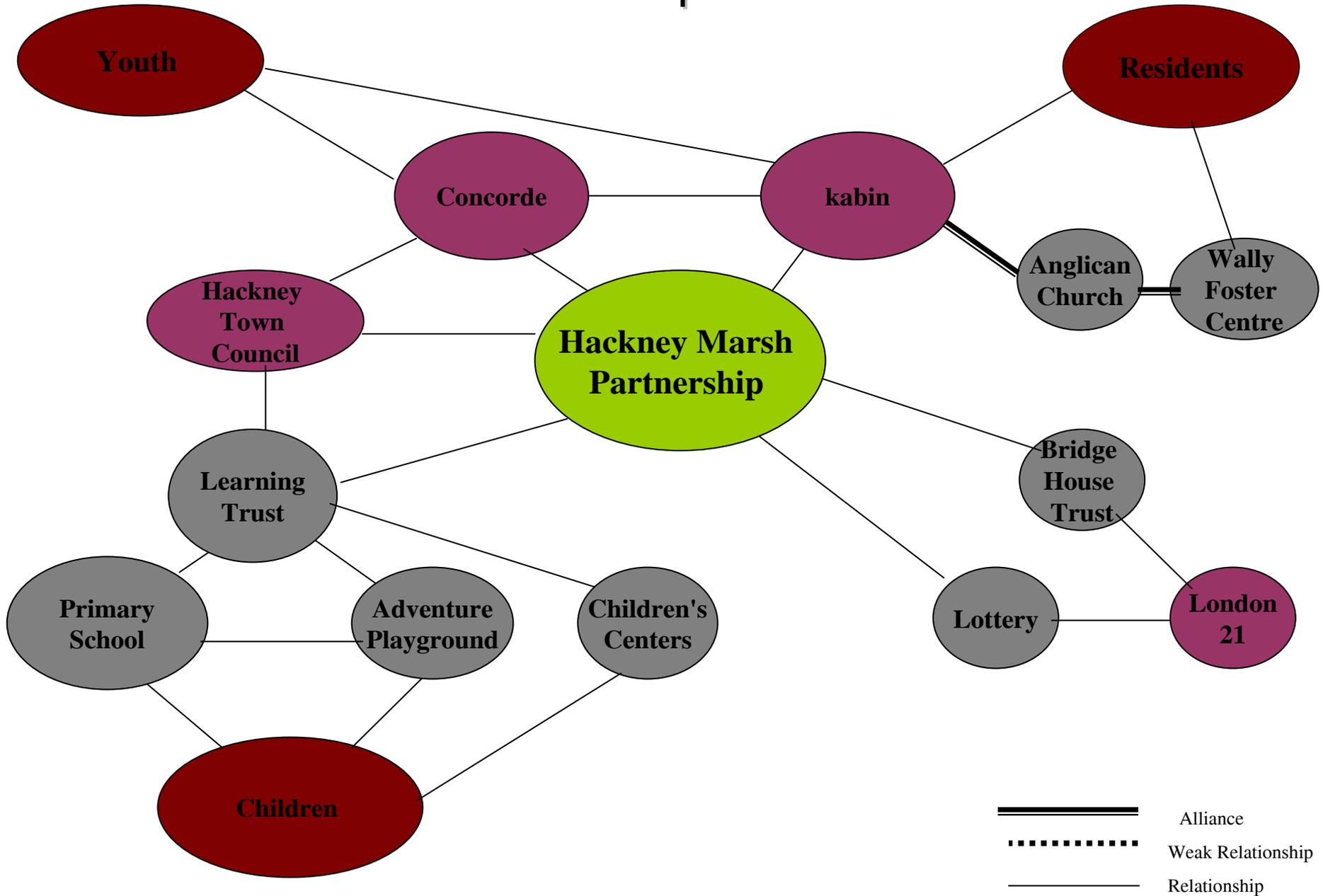
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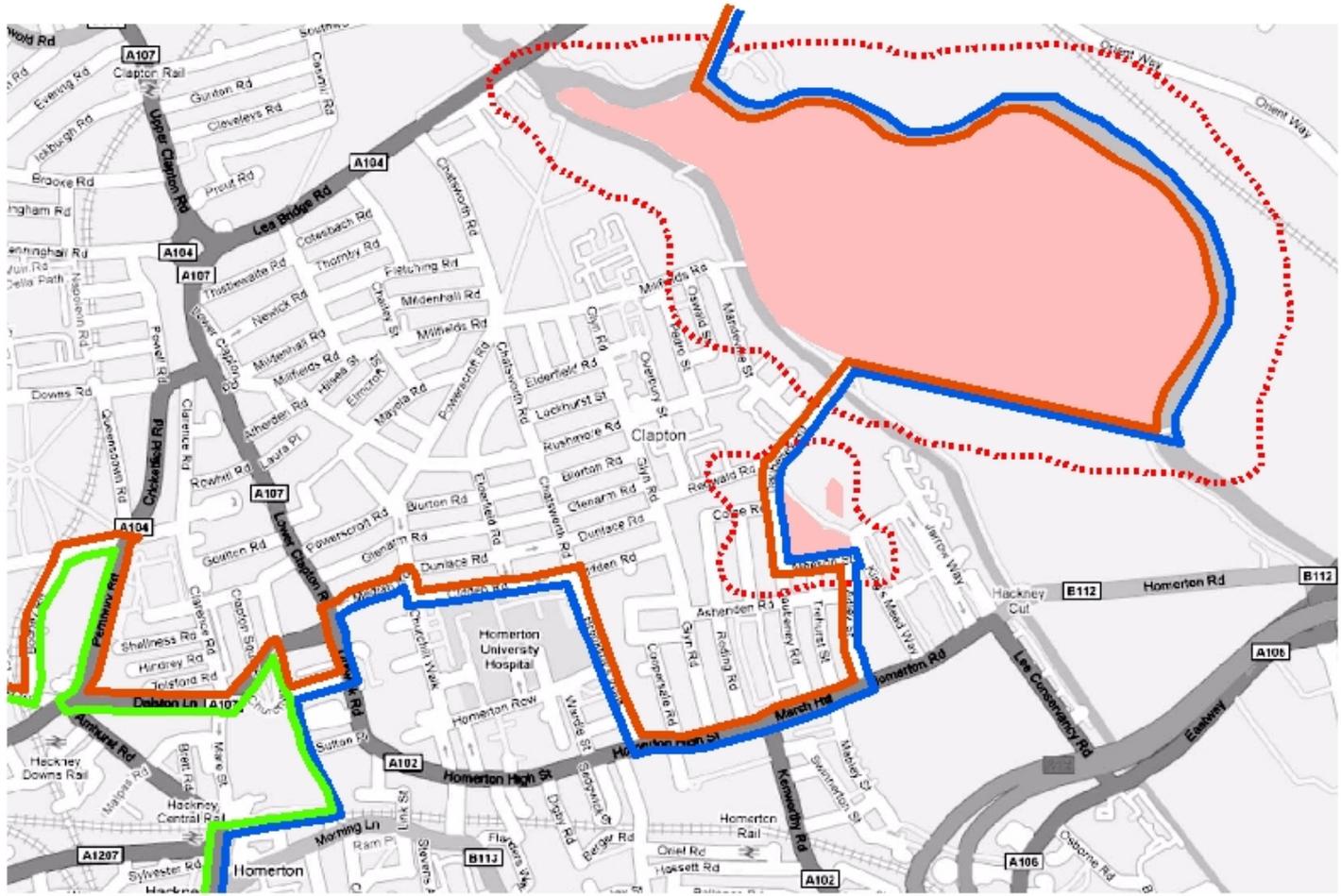


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development





- E5 Clapton
- E8 Hackney, Dalston
- E9 Hackney, Homerton
- Neutral Areas
- ⋯ Expansion



Thanks!



References

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- _Green, R. (2005). *Voices from the Mead*, People's stories of the Kingsmead Estate
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- _Team Hackney (2006). *Hackney Borough Profile 2006*
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