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***MYPLACE: Future Envisioning City Planners & Elders Council
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Facilitator: Fabulous.

Female: That was fun.

Male: Put ____ [0:08:07] something in it, I can hear what's being said.

Facilitator: You can hear what's being said? Well thank you for being such good and enthusiastic sports in that activity-

Male: And I get my two cups.

Facilitator: (Laughter). That is all about imagining slightly fantastical-

Male: That's one is the smiley character isn't? Because he thinks he's got it right. The planning department. This is a [controller 0:08:40]___ who's not being listened to, so he's getting frustrated.

Male: That will happen (Laughter).

Male: Are you sure you're not going to pass these onto the clinical psychology department, because we're mad?

Facilitator: I'm not going to pass them onto a clinical psychologist, no way. I'll tell you a funny story, Danny, about me and Clara did a similar workshop like this and we made boxes that were machines for the future. Mine was a listening-in device, to listen in to the council and I took it over to the council, it was like this, two big boxes with string, a bit bonkers. Some of the Council staff that we were working with on this project came out and were like, "What are you doing?" I said I've come to listen in to your conversations and they totally freaked out. They thought I was... you know... yes.

Female: (Laughter). Good job, well I'm going to go in with that next week, I love it.

Facilitator: So how was that for you? I know some of you were laughing.

Female: It was fun, I enjoyed it.

Male: Yes I was apprehensive to begin with, but-

Female: Once we got going...

Male: The ideas flowed from somewhere and got bigger
____[0:10:05]. Very stimulating actually. Well done.

Facilitator: Just to point out that we probably won't be making these devices, but we've found it useful in the past to get away from just coming up with ideas that are very grounded in what you would expect from technology. Thinking about, "Well what is it you desire?" Things that sometimes it's hard to articulate with words, you can make something and that can say something about how you want to interact with people, or how you want to move around. What we would like to do now, for the second-to-last part and before Jimmy-

Male: I suppose we [have a lot to get through 0:11:00].

Facilitator: Yes. I mean, is there anything that you wanted to present with before you go?

Male: No ____ wouldn't.

Facilitator: Danny is a very good facilitator supporter, he's helping me.

Male: I did nothing, I did various bits with various people.

Female: Which is great.

Facilitator: Which is great, yes. And you had some fantastic ideas as well, so don't underplay them.

Female: The uniform actually became something significant.

Female: A uniform, because of Jimmy, yes.

Facilitator: Yes. So what we'll do now, is just if you can explain your devices and imagine that you're presenting to the UN Secretary General, your ideas. You have to do that as well.

Male: ____[0:11:47].

Facilitator: (Laughter). How do you want it, because you were working together?

Male: Yes, we'll do it in two parts, you do the 3D printer. I'll start it off.

Female: Go on, you just do it.

Facilitator: Tell us about your amazing innovation.

Male: Well first we have to set the background. City Walks has become part of urban planning legislation, you must have City Walks. If you are making a change and that change could come from the council, or the urban area might want some changes, they will do a city walk. They will be helped in their city walk by some very clever 'Google glasses' I'll call them. This will record audio and visual things during the walk. It's much cleverer than the current Google glasses, it's got built-in analysis. So it will take, for example, key words. Traffic congestion might be one of the things that it's programmed to pick up on and it will produce everything related to traffic congestion, or pedestrian safety, or such. If a key planning word is not picked up, then it will record that as well.

Identify gaps. It's recorded the actual data, it's actually analysed it. So what we do next, we have to do something with that. It could be that the council planners also can join in the walk back in their offices, using the same thing.

Facilitator: (Laughter).

Female: This is the head of the council with his ____ [0:13:58].

Facilitator: (Laughter). He's mighty small.

Female: He did try to escape a couple of times, but...

Male: Now what are we going to do with this? Well there is the people's printer. Now this, you take something equivalent to a USB, which has got the data and it's got the analysis. You feed it into the printer, it will produce reports in the conventional way, but it can also make modifications and produce 3D models of the area. You can program this to change it according to various parameters. You want less traffic? Okay, the model will give this. This belongs to the people and there will have to be some debating mechanism, as to which model is actually selected between the executives and the people. But we don't go into that.

Female: It's so complicated (Laughter).

Male: It's the mechanism, okay?

Female: And it's the people's printer for people's places and it has wheels because it's actually mobile. It's never going to be just in one place.

Male: It can move to each district.

Male: How big is it?

Female: It can be as big as you want it and we can move it to where it's appropriate, so it doesn't have to stay in one place.

Male: This is yours.

Female: This is the hacker's hat. The hacker's hat is a communication tool, as well as a uniform. Jimmy mentioned a uniform is good. When you're walking around promoting the walks and also we're going to have an annual carnival aren't we? So it's going to be a carnival. So the Council could use this to promote events and activities. But certainly the Elders and Young People's Council, which we'll have in five years' time, will use it as a communication tool. We've got a hackers hat, because I know when I go places, I tend to get emails that I'm not expecting in odd places. I think there must be some way in the future of sending publicity to your phone or a device, when you're out shopping and in shopping centres. I'm sure stores would get to do this at some point. I think, "Well if they can and the technology is there, we can."

Facilitator: So why is it called a hacker's hat?

Female: Well because at the minute, I felt that we probably have to hack in to get the communications out there. But hopefully that's just a temporary-

Male: Not because it's only available to people who work for News of the World?

Female: (Laughter). Yes, but I think eventually that's how we'll all be walking through Eldon Square and Topshop will be sending us a promotion ____ [0:17:19] come. It's on its way now.

Facilitator: So would you be the hacker then?

Female: Yes we'd be doing the cookies or the pop-ups or whatever, on people's devices to let them know that these city walks are happening, what the proposals are. So it's a kind of virtual computer network.

Male: Join in, pretty much.

Female: Sign up, yes.

Facilitator: Then if it's the carnival...

Female: When we have the carnival, everyone can come and buy one of these hats, the money we get, we can put back into sustainable development (Laughter).

Facilitator: So there's a whole social economy there?

Female: There could be, there could be. We felt anything we do, particularly in this vision, should be able to be viewed by the

planners, if you like, while we're doing it. Rather than afterwards, having to go to a physical place and feed back. If the military can do it now- they sit back and watch people being shot and killed- well why can't we look at these devices in a positive way in the future, so they're used for good as well as bad influence?

Male: I think it's great that you've turned it upside-down from the way it is at the moment. It's us, the Elders Council telling the council, rather than what it is at the moment, which is the council telling the Elders Council.

Facilitator: Great, very exciting. (Applause).

Female: Danny you haven't...

Facilitator: Danny, would you like to wear your glasses?

Male: Well not really.

Female: I don't blame you (Laughter).

Facilitator: Can you talk us through what they do?

Male: Take these off.

Facilitator: Brilliant (Laughter). What do these special glasses do, Don?

Male: Well hopefully the glasses will help them to see the planning department and the ears will help them to hear. Well that's the intention, but I was going to say they'll find something to counteract it, so what's the point? They're blind and deaf, the council, especially the planning department.

Facilitator: So how would you introduce those glasses to them?

Male: To teach them Braille.

Facilitator: Would all the council planners have these, in their drawers, or....

Male: Well it's a difficult one isn't it? What I think of the planning department, some of the council officers and even the councillors, they don't want to listen. Well they can't listen, I think. Councillors think they run the council, but they're not, it's the council run the council.

Facilitator: So would everybody have to have these in the council? If you were the boss, as part of the City Walks kit, would they have to have these?

Male: A lot of the councillors and the council think they've got it right anyway. So whatever you do, it's not going to help.

Male: What about this idea? They have to have these and when there's an interview, they have to wear these and this forces them to see and listen. Is that the idea?

Male: You wouldn't see much out of that because it's still got the bottom of the cup.

Facilitator: We're thinking in the future though, we're just imagining, it's just a fantasy.

Female: Which isn't that different to what we were saying about, "They should see what we see, rather than..."

Male: But they don't, that's the only thing.

Male: But this will make them do that, by magic, by technology.

Male: The council don't see what we're seeing, because, "I've got a pay cut, oh, oh."

Male: But you've just invented something that will make them do that. That's the way to do it.

Male: Various bits of glue have been used to attach various things. Another bit of glue should be used to maybe stick onto their feet, they can always wear them.

Facilitator: (Laughter) Right, so it's a similar thing isn't it, about-

Male: Yes, you've got the link, the view.

Facilitator: Encouraging different ways of seeing how they've got a particular way of mapping out their ideas. I love the look of that though, I just love it, it's great. (Applause). So we've got a full plan and strategy here. I've already heard the amazing movement that's occurring in this corner. I'll hand over to Val.

Female: I'm on behalf of the technology-resistant die-hard nonagenarians. Looking at the increase in Elders Council membership from the 2000 it is now, to 5000 in 2020. We have to take account of the ageing of the population and we mustn't forget the very old part of the ageing population. I myself, should I live to 2020, will be well into my 90s. Therefore I feel I can speak on behalf of that age group.

Female: The UN really is listening to you (Laughter).

Female: When this award is made from the UN, I must also speak up on behalf of the human rights of those in the most advanced ages. So what I think will be necessary, a big advantage is that

we will have more motorised scooters. I think that will be one of the very best things for people in this oldest age group. But we will need certain facilities to enable more people to be out and about on their scooters. First of all, the design of a scooter, I am sure that-

Facilitator: Do you want me to hold it up, so everybody can see it?

Female: Yes.

Female: Oh wow (Laughter).

Female: The design of the scooter, I must point out certain features. On the handle-bars, it does have a place where you can have a map in front of you. A real map. There will be a shopping basket at the front, also at the rear. Above the seat, there will be a pennant at the top, to signal that you're there. There will also be- could be used as an umbrella or a sunshade and that will be collapsible. What we will also need, is a training ground, for people learning to use their scooters safely. So we've taken over part of St James' park.

Female: (Laughter).

Female: There is the training ground for the early training. But also, we have across the town moor, a scooter [slalom 0:26:46] training. That is for more advanced users. But thinking of the effects of all this we've redesigned Jimmy Dobson-

Female: (Laughter) On Jimmy Dobson Street (Laughter).

Female: We still have to have pedestrian routes, as before, we have a traffic route there, we've got the cycle route there. But also most important down here, we have the scooter route.

Facilitator: Scooter route, that sounds so ____ [0:27:26].

Female: I think it's brilliant, the scooter route, brilliant.

Male: Very good, very good.

Female: Then just a note here, it's the nonogenarians' kit bag and this is what I have for...

Female: (Laughter) Oh I see.

Female: What's the name again, nonogen...

Female: Nonogenarians. It means people over ninety.

Female: Oh okay, I didn't know the word actually, but I thought it sounds great.

Female: Well they have octogenarians, I'd never heard of a nonagenarian.

Male: We're going to hear it more often.

Female: There's an increasing number of us. So the first thing I put in the kit bag was a means of marking routes. I was proposing to use different coloured wools and just attach them along the route to mark the way. In the old-fashioned way, you know. But also, a system of awards, such as a flower for the best older person-friendly seat, on which you may wish to rest a short while. But the best award of all is this. That is to be awarded to the most accessible loos.

Female: ____ [0:29:05] for a moment? (Laughter). Actually we'll go ____ (Laughter).

Female: Against that, we could also have a system of awards, for those buildings which do not meet our requirements for easing access. For the moment, I would suggest a white feather, if you can see one of these...

Female: But what do you do with these awards, do you stick them onto the buildings?

Female: I would have to devise some system for that. I haven't yet thought through.

Female: I thought you had.

Female: I am sure that resilient and ingenious as we nonagenarians are, we should be able to devise some system. We've already discussed how we are going to make the case for this type of development. I think when there is the awards ceremony, there will be amassed scooters, with banners which shall appear and insist-

Female: Yes, another rally ____[0:30:33].

Female: 'Newcastle for the nonagenarians'.

Facilitator: (Applause) Val, I have to make one tiny, tiny challenge here. There are no stabilisers on the scooters (Laughter).

Female: Well would you like to put them on?

Facilitator: If you put a protest on.

Female: I do not claim to be good at drawing, you see.

Facilitator: These are excellent.

Female: It's brilliant.

Facilitator: Would it be a good idea to have a group photograph with-

Female: Definitely.

Female: Absolutely, come on you've made some beautiful... yes.

Facilitator: You've made some beautiful objects.

Female: Come on, group photograph quickly.

Female: I'll hold those.

Female: You'll have to put your glasses on again Danny, we're having our photograph taken together.

Facilitator: Look at that, we've done that before 4 o'clock. Should I take down one of these then?

Female: Yes.

Female: Come on, Jimmy, get behind her. What was this, did someone devise that as well? We're not going to be lined up are we, for this? You need your glasses, Danny. Put your glasses on and hold your cups. Can you see alright?

Male: Are you going to take your prizes Val, or [Crosstalk 0:32:15].

Female: Yes I think you should hold your prize like that.

Facilitator: What would you like to take with you Val? We could put this on the wall behind you, if you want?

Female: I can hold it in front of my face, I can just act as-

Female: There you go, we'll get the little thingy. We can hold this, one each can't we? Get your glasses on, we can do shared-holding at the back. Oh the wheel has come off, that's what we didn't want to happen.

Male: Do we need some more tape?

Female: [Crosstalk 0:33:06], this is hardly a design feature is it?

Female: So much to say.

Facilitator: Oh this is great.

Female: Oh wow. Val where shall I put it, to the left or to the right?
Actually, Val you tell us which way. Just here?

Male: It's better left, yes.

Female: There you go, do you want your thing?

Female: If you take a hand, one each.

Facilitator: If you hold your box and we'll hold the prize.

Female: Do you want me to move the table?

Male: That should be okay. Do you want to stand this side, Val?
Stand to the side, perfect.

Female: You're very welcome.

Female: Can we do a salute? (Laughter). We have to be careful. If we
do it the right way round...

Facilitator: Yes, if we do the right way round.

Female: Who's holding the UN prize?

Facilitator: Yes how do you want-

Female: We could have it for-

Facilitator: Or we could hold it up and put it on the [window 0:34:27].

Female: We can be the holder.

Female: Or you could use the council [representative 0:34:39].

Female: (Laughter) Up the lamppost actually. Yes, like that, right?

Facilitator: Yes. Great.

Male: We're so proud of you all.

Facilitator: We're so proud that one day we will be nonagenarians. We're going to be like you one day.

Female: They want to join in as well. It's not fair, I need machinery.

Facilitator: (Laughter).

Male: There you go.

Female: They should join in as well. I'm the bad buy.

Facilitator: Yes you're the baddy, you've got a translating machine.

Female: Does that mean... wait, I'll be like that. (Laughter).

Facilitator: (Laughter). Yes, you should sound really dodgy.

Male: Okay, one more.

Female: There you go, one more.

Male: Fantastic, thank you.

Facilitator: Thank you for being good sports, it was good fun. I think we'll have a quick break and we might actually be able to get finished by half three, yes.

Female: Do you want coffee if there's any left?

Facilitator: So if there's any coffee left, yes. If not and you want coffee, I can get some from downstairs. Is that all right?

Female: So much fun.

Male: It was good.

Facilitator: Thanks for being such good sports, I now it probably feels quite an unusual activity to do.

Female: Yes.

Male: Welcome to CultureLab.

Facilitator: Welcome to CultureLab, welcome to research (Laughter).

Female: Experiments.

Male: Research is fun, we'd better change that to what you wrote.

Female: We should add it to the list. When you see it, you know, they don't tell anything, that research can be fun.

Female: There's plenty of coffee if anyone wants coffee, do you want one Fiona?

Facilitator: Ellen says research is fun.

Female: Yes. Nice. This is the future, is it? Should be fun, right?
Absolutely, I agree.

Female: And biscuits. Do you want a biscuit Danny, are you all right?

Male: No I've had enough biscuits.

Female: You've had enough? Do you want a biscuit?

Male: No thank you very much, I'll have a coffee.

Facilitator: Was there just enough coffee left?

Female: There's plenty, if anyone else wants coffee, there seems like there's plenty.

Facilitator: Lovely, thanks for [the glue 0:37:23]. It's good to do that kind of thing in the afternoon as well because-

Female: Yes it's nice.

Female: After lunch, yes. I'm falling asleep.

Male: The great thing is, everybody ____.

Facilitator: Brilliant. It's the kind of thing that we do our own internal workshops. If we sit and look at data, we can't get ideas, so we do this sort of thing (Laughter).

Male: Very serious.

Female: It's much more fun, much more fun.

Facilitator: (Laughter) So yes, you can all take one of these. I'm sorry, I didn't have a picture of all of you.

Female: Yes, I think we should all have one of these.

Facilitator: Well maybe what I'll do is-

Female: I'll colour mine in.

Facilitator: What I can do is replace the picture that we've just taken.

Female: No I'm joking. What I'll do is I'll go home and I'll cut a head out of the photograph I've got at home. I'll give it to Steve and he'll say. "Is that what you've been doing all day?"

Facilitator: We do get that quite a lot, "Is that what you've been doing?"

Male: Well I'm going to really shock Rema when I get home.

Facilitator: We thought you'd like it.

Female: ____[0:38:59].

Male: Yes, you'll never guess what happened.

Facilitator: We went into the future and this is what's going to happen.

Male: No, this is today, come on.

Female: You want that on?

Facilitator: I noticed it last night and then forgot to update it this morning. So just to finish up, thank you so much for being good sports today. We'll send you the photographs when-

Female: It's all right (Laughter). You don't need to worry about it.

Facilitator: But there might be some that you might want to say, "Look Rema, what you missed."

Male: I rather think not, I think I'll stick with this.

Facilitator: So what we'd like to do next- as I was saying at the beginning, the plan is to try and rework some of these aspects and maybe work towards the more future-oriented work and ideas. Obviously we won't be able to make these specific things. I'm sure you've worked that out (Laughter).

Female: Is that the ____ [0:40:18]?

Facilitator: That's the disclaimer, "What?" (Laughter).

Male: What's this research about?

Female: You give them feedback.

Female: Actually, a giant 3D printer mobile machine, I think it's out of our scope.

Facilitator: (Laughter) Just for the project.

Female: Just for the project. But actually it's not that far off to imagine loads of 3D printing street-vendor machines, that distribute potential plans. It's amazing, I think. Well it could be.

Female: Actually we're saying just a tablet to go out and do all this with, instead of the camera, you'd be able to do it all on one device.

Facilitator: But Val would still like the wool (Laughter).

Male: Well the scooter could do it all, the mobile printer, everything.

Female: Yes, yes I could put that on mine.

Male: We should incorporate it, it's part of the walk, it has to be.

Female: But if we look at 3D printers, look at the time they must take in the Civic Centre, architects, to do 3D models of buildings. They must be using them by now, surely, just for demonstration purposes?

Male: Yes, but there is a system, it's called Building Information Management, which is a 3D software programme. You can get to see it on the screen, of the printout. It's not an actual model of course, but you can get a pretty good idea of things. There's nothing like a physical model sometimes.

Facilitator: No and I think that's been flagged up. If the idea of communities, or people owning- about it being civic property, as opposed to sitting in the council.

Female: But they could put these models which would be cheaper to do, out in libraries and communities, where they're more accessible than sitting in a room in the Civic Centre, you know, just see a model. I think the Printworks down at ____ [0:42:38].

Facilitator: Oh do they?

Female: Yes, they do their own studios, which we'll be doing shortly, go down and have a look at that, there's a demonstration I think, of one.

Facilitator: Great, so that's kind of it for today. We will be writing this up as a paper, so we'll let you know when we're doing that and let you have a look at the analysis, before we distribute that, if that's okay? And let you have a look at the pictures we choose to publish as well. We can crop them, or if you prefer not to be in them, then that's great (Laughter). Or if you prefer to have a billboard poster-sized image on the side of the Civic Centre? No we won't be doing that.

Female: We didn't mention drones did we?

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Facilitator: We didn't. That's the other- you could remote control a drone
(Laughter).

Male: [Crosstalk 0:43:43].

Female: I could have a drone on my scooter.

Female: Like Super Gran and her flying machine.

Male: Well drones are very useful, if you get lost on your scooter, we
could send a drone out and shepherd you back.

Female: Oh that's lovely.

Female: I don't think Val plans to get lost, do you?

Facilitator: No I don't think you will.

Female: No time soon, no.

Male: Just follow the trail of her-

Facilitator: Just follow the trail of her wool. Have you ever seen those people that are sort of guerrilla knitters? So they knit around things in the city.

Female: Yes, well I've heard of them, I haven't actually seen anything.

Facilitator: They make quite good- you know, if you were to hit a railing with your scooter, it might soften it as well?

Male: Well thank you very much and frankly I didn't know what to expect. I thought we'd done everything, but for me it's been great fun and... well it's been an eye-opener. A mind-opener actually and I take on what Val did, she followed-up after that. I think I missed out doing that. I heard some great ideas. Pretty good, thank you.

Female: Yes, thank you.

Facilitator: You're very welcome. Yes, so what we're working on now is trying to formulate some- take account of what you've said about some of the tensions in managing the technology and doing these sorts of things. Clara's already working on a web platform, but part of my job is to look at how we can develop it, so that it may be useful for closed-down consultations that are already planned by the council. But maybe other more open walks that people just want to organise themselves.

Female: Yes. And I'll give you a copy of our Elders Council newsletter, which contains a report from our older person-friendly city working group, where we're sharing some of our findings about the most recent surveys that we've done. But it's also within the context of trying to have a vision. Talking about what you're planning to develop. So for us it's a case of trying to marry up the two things. Because constantly for older people to be out and about, you need certain basic facilities that enable you to do that. Seats in streets and public loos and safe pavements always come up as the top considerations. It's very difficult to raise your eyes to have a vision, when you've got to keep looking at the pavement in case you trip up. So you've got to be paying attention both ways really, don't you? So if you want to have a look at that. Hot from the press.

Facilitator: Brilliant. You wrote something for this, or...?

Male: I did write something for the Elders Council, but I don't know what happened to it.

Facilitator: Yes I don't know, because it looks like-

Male: I can send you a copy of what I wrote.

Facilitator: I got it, because Barbara sent it to me, thanks. But I thought it was going in here, but I don't know whether it has or not.

Male: I don't think they did anything with it.

Facilitator: Okay. I've passed it onto my colleagues, if that's all right?

Male: No that's fine.

Facilitator: Just because it was quite a useful-

Male: I hope you didn't object to it?

Facilitator: No, no (Laughter). I loved the comment about the sandwiches, "We had nice sandwiches." I was like, "Yes, we've done something right."

Female: Yes great sandwiches, yes.

Male: Well go to basics, you know.

Facilitator: Sorry, do you want to have a look at it?

Female: Well if you didn't-

Female: Is that hot off the press?

Facilitator: That's hot off the press isn't it? Yes. I can smell the printing ink.

Male: I can send you what I wrote if... I thought it was going to appear [Crosstalk 0:48:27]-

Facilitator: I think I put together a quote.

Female: Oh did you write that?

Facilitator: I did it quickly for Barbara because I think she was wanting copy wasn't she, for...

Female: Perhaps they had more copy than...

Male: Well she pressed me to write it and...

Facilitator: I know. Sorry.

Male: No, no. It made me think about it.

Facilitator: Very quickly, I know I did the same, I was like "Oh I don't... great, yes, it was wonderful, la, la" As you do. (Laughter). Me and Barbara are going to meet in the next few weeks, to discuss it.

Female: I was going to say, what will happen next? Is that the end of this process? Remember I came in late, so I wasn't sure what...

Facilitator: Yes, I mean Barbara was very keen to do something about Jimmy Dobson Street and see how the City Walks approach- whether it could work or not. But just to also flag up some of the issues that she was aware of in terms of consultation with the council. So this was to try and close the circle, in a way and just do some reflection on it. The plan is to now develop the kit more specifically, so that we can then start running the training workshops and encouraging people to go out and do maybe a combination of these things.

Female: Yes, so actually all the stuff that we did this morning around the commenting and the reflecting and the process of the City Walks and the mapping exercise. Then also the fantasy 2025 UN prize process, it's actually really incredibly useful for the design and the adjustment of the City Walk process. Richard was saying there is actually a design process going on to try and translate some of the City Walks and something online that people can use. But really a lot of things that you said this morning and this afternoon will definitely [release 0:50:38] benefit and help the process and design. Because ultimately, it's more about people appropriating it. I know it was a fantasy thing where you were saying, people should just be reacting to council proposals. Then you'll have another stream of people in your fantasy council and the councillors and young people ____ [0:51:07] in another sense of, people who actually proactively generate change, or propose change. So actually

I think that's a very possible reality, that is not so much fantasy actually.

Female: Yes.

Female: And the idea that these tools can actually support people doing that. I just wanted to say that, sorry. Blah, blah blah (Laughter).

Facilitator: We've had a number of ideas, as part of the MyPlace project. We could have just gone and rolled them out and just made a set of kits and just handed them out to people like yourselves, or Voice North. But actually we were a bit concerned about was it going to be useful or not, or were there ways that we could integrate... some people do like to use technology, but some people don't. So is there a toolkit that could mean that people-

Female: Similar to ____ [0:52:15] tablet.

Facilitator: Yes.

Female: It's audio visual and takes photographs doesn't it? You don't need three devices do you really, to do that? I mean part of the problem we all felt, is the practicality of balancing lots of equipment out in the cold, but one device would do all three.

Facilitator: But even with the audio recorders, they seem to be much more manageable because of the size of them, than something like a video camera. From what you were saying in the feedback.

Female: I mean you can take a photograph, you can take video can't you and you can record on one quite small tablet?

Female: But still with that, some need some direction, well ____[0:53:13] I suppose, from what you were saying this morning, which I thought was interesting. You really couldn't take in the background noise.

Female: Oh, the feedback? Yes, yes, that's true, yes.

Female: It probably would have been very different if we had the headphones off, the sound would have spread much more.

Female: It would have dissipated more, but it was concentrated into a ____[0:53:37].

Female: It also highlighted the noise then, how busy it was, you know, the amount of traffic [signs 0:53:46].

Female: Yes this is so interesting as well, when you... yes, which texts give you that sort of information.

Female: And how spasmodic sometimes it was, it would be one minute it could be quite quiet and all of a sudden there would be a big influx of emergency vehicles. So you couldn't get that just without something visual really and audible.

Female: I was just going to say, just during the short clip there were two episodes of emergency vehicles, which you could hear. In the city centre you're rarely away completely from the sound of emergency vehicles.

Facilitator: Yes. It is quite noisy in that way. Somewhere like Jimmy Dobson Street is. I think sometimes if you're wanting to highlight that, then that's quite useful.

Female: Yes, of course in Northumberland Street we have the street entertainers as well, don't we? We don't get those in Jimmy Dobson Street. Maybe we will in the future-

Female: Maybe we should.

Female: In Northumberland Street. You sometimes think people would be better to go for a sponsored silence.

Female: Yes, might be quite tough, yes.

Female: I wanted to suggest that, why don't you do a sponsored silence? (Laughter) I haven't phoned you for five minutes. They'd be insulted wouldn't they?

Facilitator: (Laughter). That could be one of your machines, turning them down.

Female: I want one of those, I want one of those to just mix in and halve the sounds, so good.

Male: It's standard equipment on Val's scooter (Laughter).

Female: Brilliant.

Facilitator: Great. One of the things that we've been talking about is that mix of quantitative data, you know, counting of seats, or trees, or whatever, with the fact that a particular corner of the street is very noisy. Therefore, if somebody's a bit confused in terms of what's going on, it can be quite a complicated road interchange.

Female: I suppose councils, when they get into financial difficulties and cuts, it's always going to be quantitative. They're not just going to do things that affect the minority of people.

Facilitator: No but it's interesting, I've been sitting on the cycling- so they're interested in monitoring the cycling, because they've got this money, so they need to prove-

Female: Oh yes because they've got this money to promote it. I think in many ways they're very proactive. Don't let's knock everything they've done to make the city more user-friendly, because I think they have actually done an awful lot really. It's the aesthetics I worry about more than the practicalities.

Facilitator: Yes, one of the things that they're looking at is more qualitative stuff. People that weren't cyclists and why they've started cycling, if it's something to do with the infrastructure or not. You can't get that from data, like quantitative measuring. Because there's an argument about the health benefits of cycling. So again...

Female: They want to discourage people cycling down Northumberland Street. Well they do actively discourage it. They're actively supposed to. So if they don't provide an alternative, they can't really enforce that, I think, as well as the ____ [0:57:55].

Facilitator: I think the challenge that they've got and they keep coming back to us with... and a lot of organisations have this at the moment, they've got data overload. Actually, there's so much of it, they don't know what to do with it. What we're saying to them and what they're coming back to us with, is we're saying you need a narrative around why certain data is more important, or what the data says alongside quantitative and qualitative. It does need somebody to bring it together in a way that's compelling. It can feed into a vision of an aesthetic, but

also takes account of those functional challenges, pavements and seats and things like that.

Female: The felt environment as well as the built environment.

Female: It's interesting, because what I think you mentioned Jill- earlier on when you were making things, you actually came up with this thing around, "You've got all this data from the magic glasses, but it's always a subjective interpretation of what that means." It's interesting that these are actually huge problems with the big data, in all this and how- not just ____[0:59:33] you analyse this massive amount. However you do it, if it's qualitative, it is somebody's vision and how do you put together collective visions? So it is the question, the important one.

Female: Yes. But obviously by 2020 you're going to have it sussed.

Female: Yes.

Female: You'll have money to do the improvements, how much do you get for a Nobel?

Facilitator: (Laughter) I'm not sure actually.

Male: Well it's a collective thing.

Facilitator: Yes, so it's shared between 5000 of you.

Male: We each get \$1 or something.

Male: Do you mind if I take this?

Female: No.

Facilitator: Does anybody want their travel reimbursed?

Female: No I used my pass.

Facilitator: Do you want to mention that?

Female: Is that okay? I was thinking to blog about the City Walks and the work that you have done with Rachel, in a website that is MyProject website. Because the funding that pays me to research comes from a project called Creative Exchange. They've asked me if I could blog about some of the work that I have done. I was thinking that one of the things that I would like to write about... not very long, but just... is the City Walks that we've done and the workshop today. Are you happy with that?

Female: Is that in not in a general way, I mean it's not specific?

Facilitator: No.

Female: A synopsis of it, or an analysis of it?

Female: Almost like ____ [01:01:38] probably _____. Because City Walks is something that-

Female: Describing what you've been doing and...?

Female: Yes City Walks has already been blogged from last year, so I'm just going to be saying, "The Elders Council tried out this method what we developed last year." Probably, if you're happy, I would love to use this picture, things like that. Not the UN necessarily, but maybe your picture Arthur, I don't know.

Male: Well I don't have any objection myself, from me.

Female: I just wanted to double check.

Female: I just like to know what goes out into the wider ____ [01:02:20]. Just because it's a bit of a baby of mine and always has been.

Female: Of course, so I'm going to send the draft to Rachel and Rachel can forward it to you all?

Female: Yes that's fine. I mean if it doesn't include me, it doesn't matter does it? You know.

Female: I won't be necessarily putting specific names, I'm will just say the Elders Council and the My Place Project and Rachel Clarke.

Female: That's fine.

Facilitator: Unfortunately everybody has to know who I am (Laughter). I'd love to be anonymous.

Female: I just wanted to say- but I'm more than happy before it goes- it's just a little- it won't be...

Female: Yes. I'm happy with whatever.

Female: Okay, thank you.

Facilitator: I'll send it and it will hopefully get to you Val, I'm really sorry about all the mix-up with the email.

Female: Yes, well my email goes to Elders Council office you see and I don't go every day, but I was in and I haven't got the very latest one.

Facilitator: Yes, I'm really sorry about that. I need to maybe give you a ring when I'm doing that. Because I know you don't go in all the time.

Female: If you change something at the last minute...

Facilitator: Yes, we try to be as organised as possible and then sometimes we're like "Mmm".

Female: Well thank you very much, I've really enjoyed that, thank you.

Female: It's been great fun and it's been a challenge.

Facilitator: You're welcome. We'll be in touch again soon, but it will probably be a bit longer now, because we need to make sense of all this.

Female: Do you just do work with older people? Do you do work with younger people, or do you do work with mixed age groups?

Female: We can do.

Facilitator: I've been doing a lot of intergenerational work, so that's my interest. My PhD was in the Angelou Centre in the West End of Newcastle, so yes, so I'm still doing work with them. I spend a lot of my time on MyPlace managing bits of information at the moment, so I'm doing this with you and helping other researchers on MyPlace with their other projects. But yes, I'd like to build in more intergenerational stuff.

Female: Yes, I think it's really important at the minute because there's so much media publicity about the big generation gap. The thing about, "Older people have this way of life and such privilege and young people don't". I think it's going to be really important in the future that more intergenerational things happen.

Female: We need to emphasise the things we have in common rather than the differences.

Female: Quite right Fiona.

Female: Because as far as funding for things goes and protection of benefits and so on, you can set one generation against another.

Female: I think that's happening at the minute really, which I think is quite worrying.

Female: The Elders are being protected against some cuts to benefits.

Female: “Old people are retired and have got massive pensions and loads of money and own their own homes”. Well I personally don’t fall into any of those categories. I think it’s a myth that all older people do and that they’re taking everything and younger people aren’t getting it. I’m not saying you have to prove one thing or the other, I think it’s just important older and young people... that gap doesn’t get wider.

Facilitator: The stuff that I was doing at the Angelou and I wanted to extend, was more mothers and daughters, because there’s a lot of migrant families that are passing on knowledge that gets lost. So yes, that’s been quite interesting. But there’s an Elders group at the Angelou that have been meeting for 20 years. They’ve started to do some really- I mean a lot of these women have just been amazingly independent, because their husbands have died quite young. Over the last 20 years they’ve come together to support one another and they just have this session. Once a week they come together, they cook their own food at home, bring it in, heat it up and make tea together and then just sit and talk. Just have a catch-up and share. They’ve said, “Oh our grandchildren are not interested in talking to us.” Yet they always like being around other children.

Female: Technology can provide- it can be the answer, but it can also be the problem.

Facilitator: Yes exactly.

Female: It can widen the gap.

Facilitator: Exactly. We're very aware of that. So the work that I was doing was, we made a set of necklaces that mothers and daughters made together and then that connected to a digital photo album, that they put their pictures up together. It was really interesting to see. A lot of the mother became a lot more confident in doing things on their computers themselves. Also there was something to share that was an exchange of skills. So I'm hoping to build on that a bit more.

Female: Good. [We shall leave 1:08:22].

Male: Thank you.

Facilitator: Thanks very much. We've finished it half an hour early, like I said he would.

Male: That's the working lunch you see.

Female: (Laughter).

END AUDIO

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