“Sustrans DIY Streets has visually enhanced the area and more importantly it has given the community a chance to come together in Marks Gate. The streets are safer and the community is stronger”

Councillor Sam Tarry

The challenge
The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham commissioned Sustrans to help create more people friendly streets on the Marks Gate Estate, where one in three children live in poverty. Sustrans was asked to deliver a community street design project to tackle dangerous driving and speeding in the area and get more people walking and cycling. Working together with local people we identified the key issues to tackle: cluttered parking, lack of public spaces to socialise and fear of anti-social behaviour.

Sustrans’ solution
This two-year project engaged over 7500 residents through a unique combination of community-led street design events and active travel.

As part of our design process we:
• worked closely with community members to identify problems and co-design solutions
• built strong relationships with key stakeholders in the area
• organised workshops and events to share ideas
• tested designs through temporary interventions such as a pop-up seating trial

Project Impacts
This project has:
• reduced vehicle speeds by 15% by narrowing junctions and creating gateway features
• created safer walking routes by organising parking, dropped kerbs and crossing points
• co-designed a Yellow Brick Road walking route
• developed a stronger sense of place through public art, a creative wayfinding boat and seating

“Learning to cycle has made a big difference to my life.”
Jennifer, Bike Club participant

For more information, or if you would like to arrange a visit to one of our recent projects:
call 0207 017 2350; email louise.gold@sustrans.org.uk; visit www.sustrans.org.uk/communitystreetdesign

@sustranslondon facebook.com/sustrans

Who We Are
Sustrans collaborates with community members, partners and councils to create and connect people-centred streets and spaces.

We work across schools, workplaces and communities to make it easier for people to cycle and walk.

Key Facts
Funder: London Borough of Barking and Dagenham
Duration: 24 Months
No. of events organised: 145
No. of attendees at events: 7500