

SOCIUS

SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT 2023



ABOUT SOCIUS

Socius is an impactful developer

A proud B-Corp, we're responsible for a £2.2bn pipeline across the UK's fastest-growing cities including London, Cambridge, Bristol, Brighton and Milton Keynes. Our projects are diverse, enabling us to cater to the specific needs of our investors and communities.

Our team is currently delivering two major projects in Cambridge, including Botanic Place, the AHMM-designed 500,000 sq ft workspace scheme in central Cambridge and Devonshire Gardens, a mixed-use community with homes, workspace and a new public park. We are also leading the regeneration of Soapworks in Bristol, the London Cancer Hub, a new five-hectare district dedicated to cancer research in Sutton and a £190m development of innovation space and homes in the centre of Milton Keynes.



At Socius, **we're committed to pushing the boundaries to maximise the social impact that our developments deliver.** We offer opportunities for innovation on all of our projects, which include high-quality offices, life sciences, homes and leisure/culture.

As a privately-owned business, we prioritise people, purpose and place. Relationships are what drives our success, we partner with investors, leading architects and local communities to create inspiring and sustainable places, balancing profit with purpose and using our efforts to enable our partners to do good. On each of our projects, we recommend our consultants and professional teams commit to impactful initiatives, from work experience and apprenticeships, to supporting SMEs with pro-bono advice and expertise.

This report showcases the next steps of our journey and looks ahead to how we will consistently raise the game to deliver significant impact for the future.

OUR B CORP JOURNEY

Balancing profit and purpose

Socius is delighted to be part of the UK B Corp community, which means we're verified by B Lab to meet high standards of social and environmental performance, transparency and accountability.

B Corporation certification presents Socius with an opportunity for continuous learning; a chance to draw on the experiences and expertise of others within our sector and wider industries, and to ensure that we're always delivering a 'Best in Class' product to our customers.



In the development industry we often have to make difficult decisions, and B Corp guidance acts as a critical friend, helping us to stay focussed on how we continue to strike the right balance between profit and purpose, and providing some guiding principles to inform our decision making.

Our B Corp journey goes beyond the capabilities of the Socius team; we're engaging a wide network of professional partners to help them understand our social impact priorities. Working together, we will continuously find areas for improvement and professional development.

OUR IMPACT IN 2023

18 staff



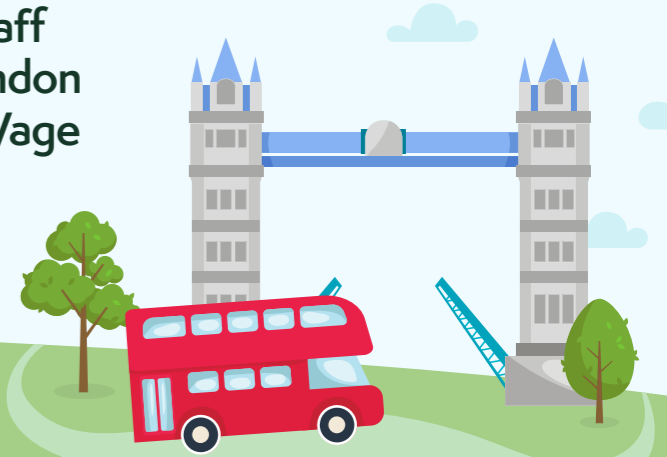
2 Mental Health First Aiders



997 hours of staff volunteering



100% staff paid London Living Wage



67 pro-bono hours of time donated



£4,200 in fundraising and donations



7 work placements



Achieved Certified B Corporation status



Hosted first Social Impact Showcase with 70 attendees



SOCIAL IMPACT IN ACTION



Supporting SEMH students

In partnership with landscape architects, PRP, Socius has supported students at Bristol's North Star 240°, a secondary school that caters for pupils aged 11-16 with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, to create a real-life development project, transforming a previously unused area of their school grounds into a space they can enjoy and be proud of.

Launching careers in the built environment

Socius has welcomed two placement students, Leila Atallah and Israel Aguirre, from the Future of London's Emerging Talent Programme. The paid work placement supports people starting their career and / or looking for a career change, and is aimed at people from under-represented backgrounds in order to improve diversity in the built environment sector.



Excellence in Social Value at CN Awards

After many years judging the Apprentice of the Year category at the Construction News Specialists Awards, last year our Non-Exec Director, Phil Wade was invited to judge the Excellence in Social Value category. Given the focus and commitment that Socius places on social value, Phil jumped at the opportunity and is pleased to have been asked to judge the category again in 2024.

World Record charity challenge

Socius, in partnership with our office management company, FORA supported Milton Keynes Food Bank with their huge World Record attempt, MK Can, for the longest-ever line of food cans. The 10km long line, saw more than 102,000 cans donated, enough to keep them fully stocked for at least six months. We joined businesses, organisations and community groups across Milton Keynes to donate and support.



Regeneration and green skills

Representing our projects with Railpen in Cambridge, we attended the first-ever 'Green Skills Fair' at Long Road Sixth Form College, with our partners Hoare Lea, Bioregional, LDA Design and RHP Group, to provide students with insight and inspiration into green jobs. The team also delivered a regeneration workshop at the college, with Urban Land Institute and supported structural and civil engineering partner, Ramboll to host a series of workshops focused on the benefits of a career in engineering.

Giving Tuesday

This year, we celebrated our formation day on Giving Tuesday, a Global Day of Giving. We split the day in two, with the morning spent dressed as Santa's elves, wrapping presents, writing gift tags and making up activity packs for families and members of the local community in need. In the afternoon, we ventured outdoors for some corporate volunteering with Cambridge City Council, including weeding, hoeing, planting, shovelling and raking at Coleridge Recreation ground.

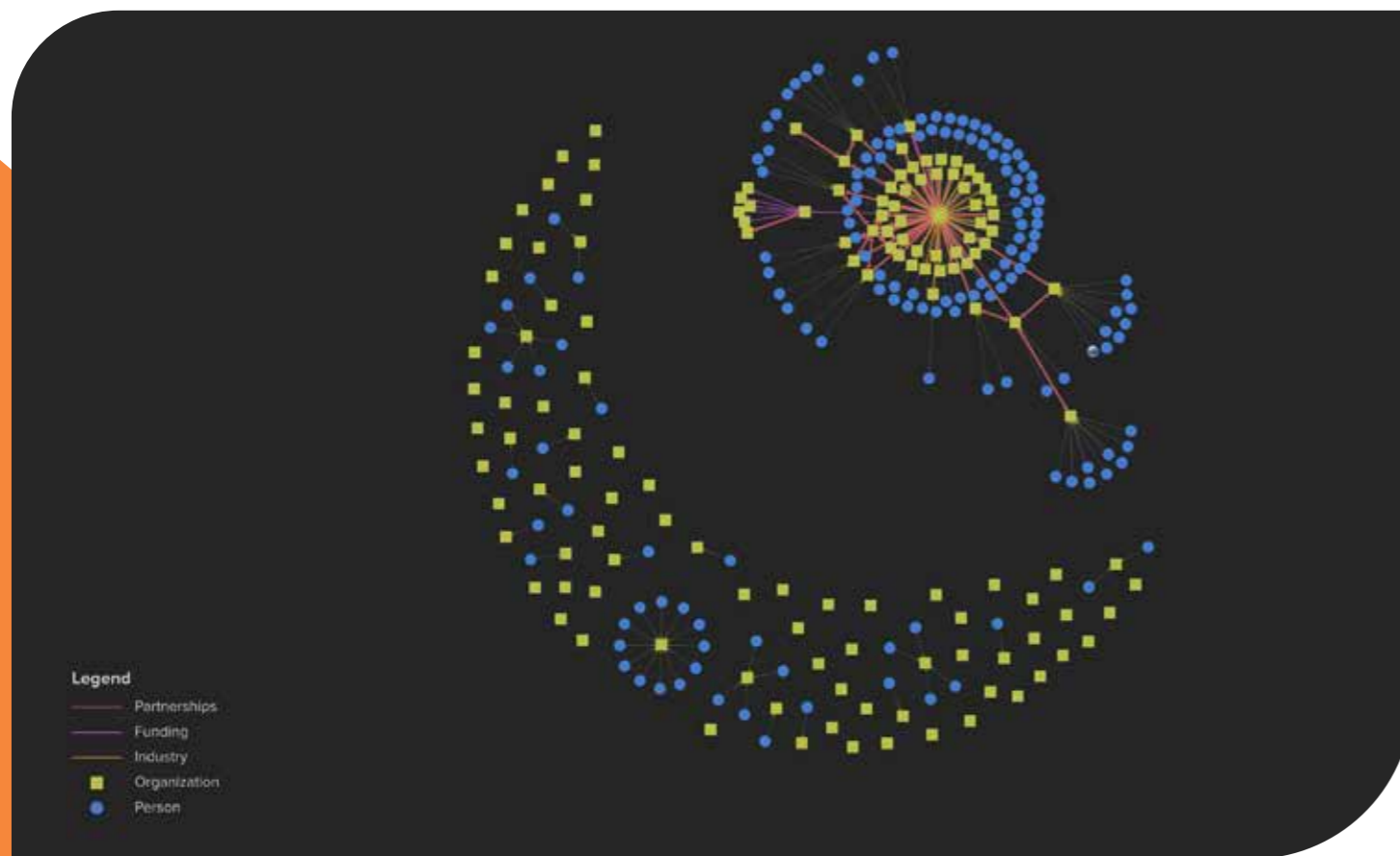


AKOU NETWORK MAP

The impact of networks

In 2023, Socius engaged Akou to help highlight the impact of our national networks and bring them to life through a dynamic digital mapping tool.

Socius is passionate about embedding itself within the local communities we're connected to; forging links with organisations, from businesses to charities, residents and civic groups.

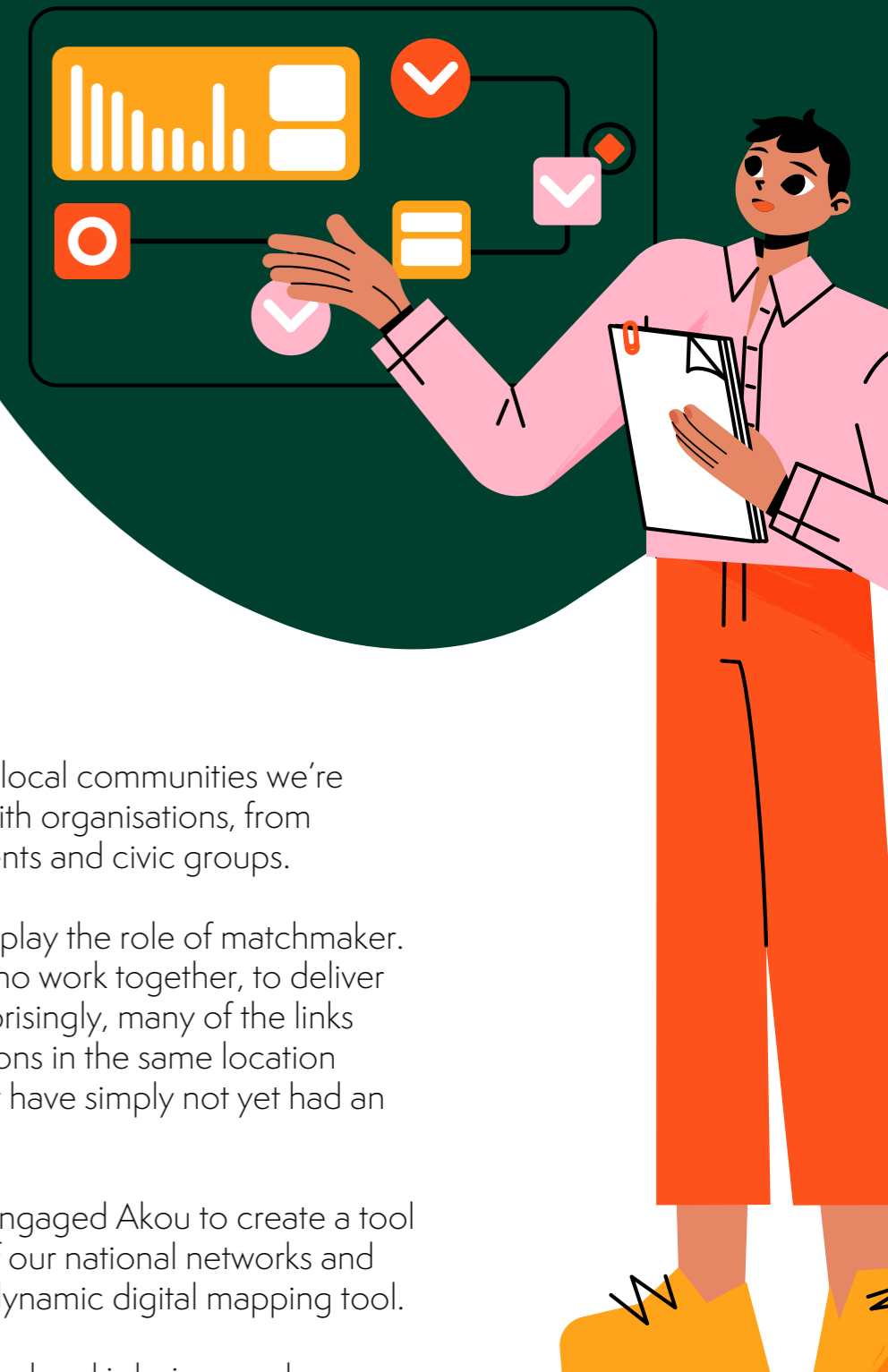


Socius plays a key role in the local communities we're connected to, forging links with organisations, from businesses to charities, residents and civic groups.

We also, often inadvertently, play the role of matchmaker. We connect organisations who work together, to deliver positive local outcomes. Surprisingly, many of the links we make between organisations in the same location are aware of one another but have simply not yet had an opportunity to connect.

That is why in 2023, Socius engaged Akou to create a tool to demonstrate the impact of our national networks and bring them to life through a dynamic digital mapping tool.

The mapping tool is established and is being used across our projects to record and measure how this impact is being delivered, through our vast number of community connections. This innovative platform can track the different types of relationships; from commercial, to charitable, and highlights the importance of engagement and the long lasting benefits of a strong local network.



WHAT NEXT?

2024 will be a BIG YEAR

Socius needs you! We can only deliver so much social impact on our own, and we need your help to make the biggest difference possible. There are so many ways that you can get involved; from providing training, apprenticeships and work experience opportunities, attending school careers days and events, volunteering in your local community or committing to enhanced sustainability and environmental goals.

The introduction of our social impact mandate means we will all be held to account on the commitments we make and the social value actions we take, for the benefit of people, place and our planet.

We're committed to supporting you to do more, and to helping you grow your networks, in order to make a big difference.



We pledge to harness the power of connectivity by bringing our networks together to do more good!



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