

Working with nature in & around Anstruther

A study about people’s perceptions, motivations and experiences



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Researchers from the James Hutton Institute conducted a study to understand how people in and around Anstruther experience nature-based solutions (NbS) and related activities. We explored awareness, current involvement, willingness to get involved, and the factors that encourage or discourage participation.

What are nature-based solutions?

Activities that work with the natural environment to address different societal challenges to deliver benefits to both people and nature. Examples include:

- Planting trees along rivers to slow down flow of water when it rains.
- Establishing wetlands to improve water quality by filtering it and removing harmful chemicals.
- Creating green spaces to improve people’s mental and physical health.



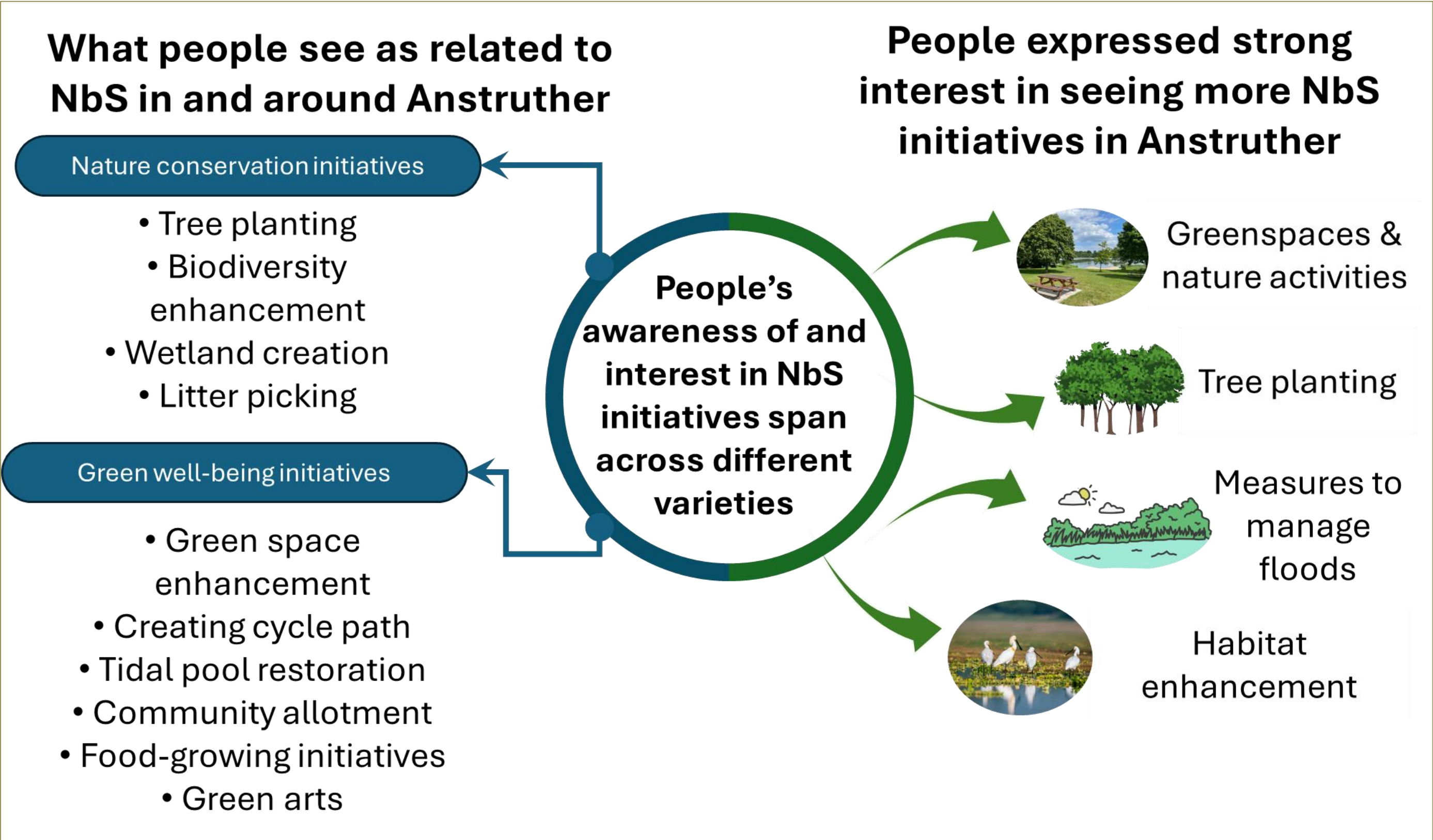
What we did?

- We developed a survey and 116 asked people in and around Anstruther filled it in to fill it in during summer–autumn 2024.

What we learnt?

Familiarity with the term NbS
Before taking the survey, most people said they weren’t familiar with the term NbS, some were slightly or very familiar.

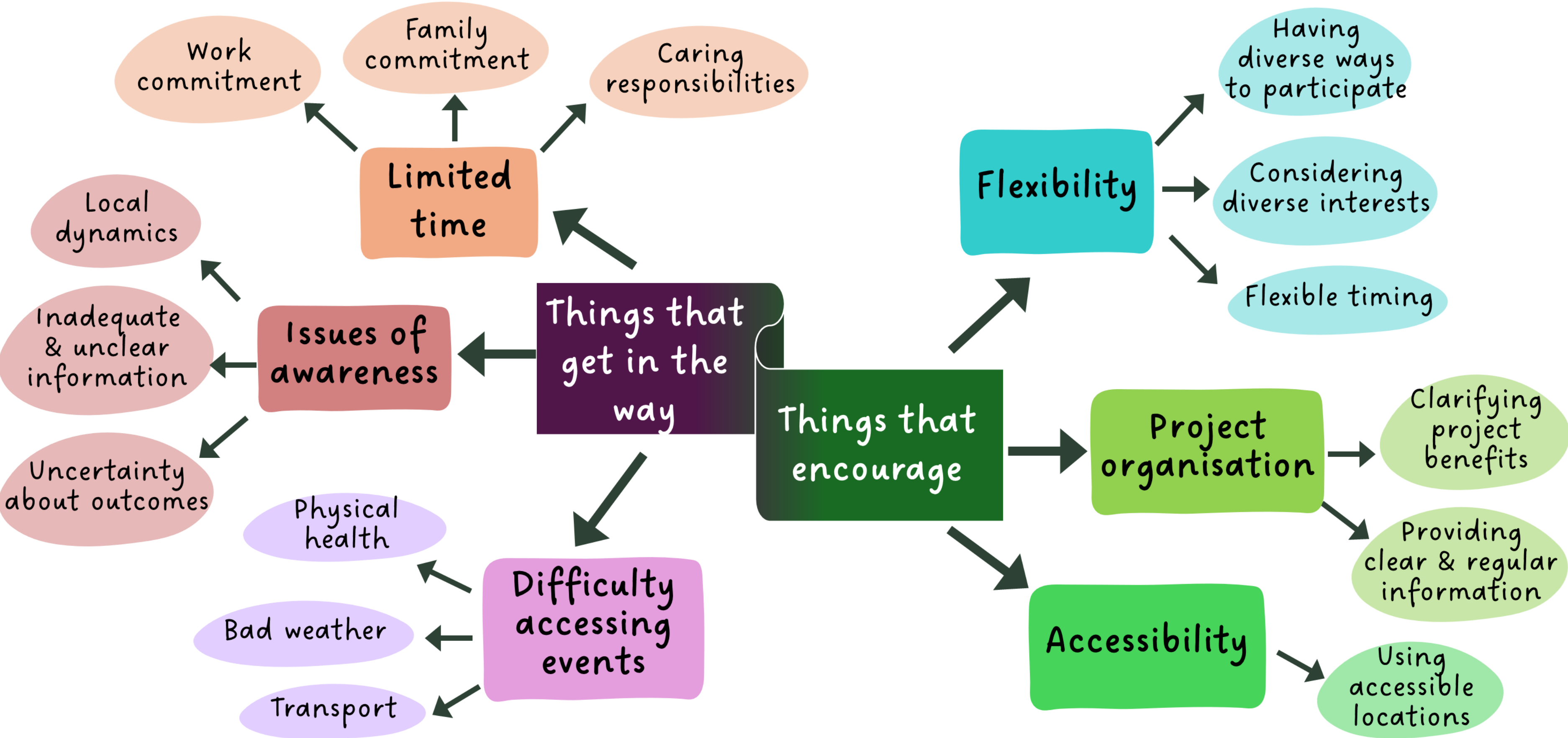
Our explanation in the survey helped people to identify similar activities in Anstruther.



People value the need to protect & benefit from nature in and around Anstruther. Not everyone is already involved in NbS, but those involved do a range of activities for various reasons:



Despite the desire of people to get involved, there are somethings that get in the way. But there are also ways to encourage more involvement:



So what is next?

- Come and join us tomorrow (6-8pm) at the **Dreel Halls** to share your ideas on involving local people in NbS activities.

Acknowledgements
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