COOLER STREETS SYMPOSIUM

Heat, Shade and the City

Thursday 3 December 2026 · Old Corn Exchange, Hallam Quay

PROGRAMME

09:30 — **Opening: why cities need cooler streets**
Leena Halvorsen · abstract on page 2

10:15 — **Measuring heat street by street**
Kofi Asante-Mensah · abstract on page 2

11:30 — **Trees, shade and the cost of waiting**
Marisol Ibarra · abstract on page 2

13:30 — **Water on the surface: blue-green corridors**
Teodor Lindgren · abstract on page 2

14:45 — **Workshop: mapping your own neighbourhood**
Aiko Brandt-Moreau · abstract on page 2

16:00 — **Panel: who pays for cooler streets?**
All speakers · abstract on page 2

Tickets, travel and live captions: https://coolerstreets.example/2026
Slides go up the next day at https://coolerstreets.example/slides

Abstracts

09:30 Opening: why cities need cooler streets

The day opens with the numbers: how much hotter a dense block gets than the park beside it, and what that means for sleep, work and health.

10:15 Measuring heat street by street

Low-cost sensors on lamp posts showed a four-degree spread between neighbouring streets. How the data was gathered and cleaned.

11:30 Trees, shade and the cost of waiting

A street tree takes fifteen years to shade a pavement. The case for planting now, and for watering the trees we already have.

13:30 Water on the surface: blue-green corridors

Swales, rain gardens and opened culverts cool the air and slow floods. Three pilot schemes and what they cost to maintain.

14:45 Workshop: mapping your own neighbourhood

Bring a phone: we walk two blocks, log surface temperatures and turn them into a shared map before the afternoon break.

16:00 Panel: who pays for cooler streets?

Councils, landlords and residents argue it out. Questions from the floor are welcome.

Speaker biographies: https://coolerstreets.example/speakers