

ACTIVATING EVERYDAY MOVEMENT IN BURY

ACTIVATION REPORT 2025 - 26



CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Our activation approach	4
Bury's ambition for cycling, walking and wheeling	5
Bury case study examples	7
Our Impact statement	10
You asked, we listened	11
Our work in numbers	12
Bury activation group – 12 month progress reflection	13
Overall	14
Progress and Achievements	15



The past 12 months have marked strong progress for Bury's Activation Team as we continued delivering the LET'S Get Bury Moving Physical Activity strategy which contributes to Bury Council's aims of giving every child the Best Start in Life and driving inclusive economic growth.

Introduction

Our focus has been clear, enabling residents to walk, wheel and cycle more often to improve health, reduce inequalities and strengthen community connection.

Through targeted, co designed behaviour change programmes across schools, neighbourhoods and community groups, we have expanded access to active travel, built skills and confidence, and supported safer, more welcoming spaces for everyday movement. This work has contributed directly to improved physical activity levels, reduced transport barriers and healthier, more active routines among residents.

Activities and interventions this year have included guided walks and family cycling sessions to Bike Libraries, workshops and flagship events which has helped tackle inactivity, support mental wellbeing and promote low carbon, low cost travel options in areas most affected by inequality and car dependency.

These outcomes have been made possible through a strong Activation Network spanning schools, VCFSE partners, public health teams, blue green infrastructure and local businesses. Together, we are creating the conditions for sustained behaviour change and a borough where active travel supports better health, stronger communities and inclusive local growth.

This report sets out our achievements, case studies and learning from the year, it also highlights the opportunities that will shape the next stage of activating communities and improving population health across Bury.



Our Activation Approach

OUR VISION: EMPOWERING BURY TO DELIVER A FUTURE WHERE EVERYONE CAN GROW AND PROSPER IN A CONNECTED, FAIRER AND SUSTAINABLE BOROUGH. THIS ALIGNS WITH BURY'S CORPORATE PRINCIPLES, THE LETS GET BURY MOVING STRATEGY AND THE AMBITIONS OF THE BURY TRANSPORT STRATEGY.

Our Commitment

We aim to create healthier, safer, and more inclusive places by:



Improving health through physical activity and active travel, reducing obesity, and chronic health conditions like heart disease and diabetes.



Reducing road harm with safer streets and infrastructure.

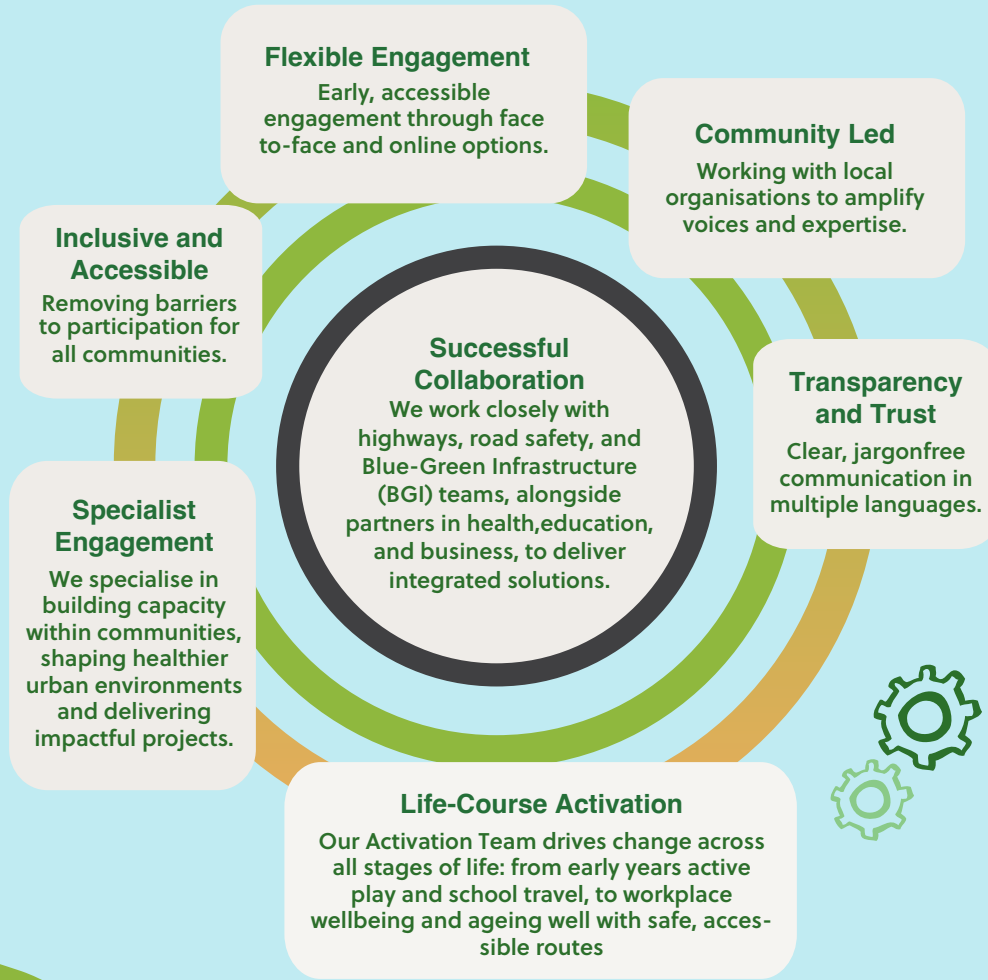


Boosting economic growth and vibrant high streets by encouraging walking, wheeling, and cycling.



Tackling inequalities by improving outcomes for BAME communities and enhancing women's safety in public spaces.

Our Approach



Our Team



Lee Buggie

Public Health Specialist, leads the Active Travel group, embedding health inequalities and prioritising under-represented and deprived communities.



Stefan Taylor

Public Health Practitioner, supports the group by driving action to increase physical activity and embed active travel into everyday life.



George Wolstencroft

Our Move More Officer leads initiatives that inspire healthier living across local communities.



Christopher Cordwell

Our Behaviour Change Specialist with expertise in inclusive stakeholder engagement.



Emily Wormald

Active Travel Lead, working to get more people walking and wheeling and travelling actively.

BURY'S AMBITION FOR CYCLING, WALKING AND WHEELING

Our Alignment with Bury Council's Vision and Strategies

Bury's Activation Team plays a vital role in delivering Bury Council's vision for a healthier, more connected, and low-carbon borough. Every initiative we deliver is designed to support and activate the principles set out in both Bury's Local Transport Strategy and the Let's Get Bury Moving Framework. In addition to this, our work directly contributes to the wider ambitions of Bury Council's Let's Do It! corporate strategy, ensuring that active travel plays a central role in building a fairer, healthier, and more inclusive borough.



Bury Local Transport Strategy

The Bury Local Transport Strategy sets out a vision for an affordable, safe, reliable, and low-carbon transport system. Walking, wheeling, and cycling are at the heart of this vision, reflecting key challenges in the borough. Currently, 69.2% of adults are physically inactive, and congestion across Greater Manchester costs an estimated £1.3 billion each year. The Bury Activation Team addresses these issues by enabling and encouraging a shift toward active travel. Our work helps make it easier, safer, and more enjoyable for residents to choose walking, wheeling, or cycling for short everyday journeys. Therefore, playing a role in delivering Bury's Mental Health Strategy as opportunities for regular physical activity, social connection, and stress reduction are provided.

We deliver initiatives that help residents overcome barriers to walking and cycling, making active travel safer and more accessible across the borough, contributing to Bury's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2038. Projects such as the Clarence Park Bike Hub, Community Dr Bike Days, and the Bury Bike Hospital offer residents access to free bike maintenance, safety checks, and cycling support. Programmes like Jigsaw's Spring Walks and Cycling Project and Glad 2 Bee Rad build confidence, offer practical support, and connect people with opportunities to travel actively and safely. Together, these initiatives bring the Local Transport Strategy to life, creating progress towards a healthier, more sustainable Bury. They also align with Bury's Climate Action Strategy, where reducing car dependency and promoting active travel are key measures to cut emissions and achieve carbon neutrality.





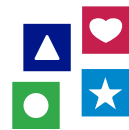
Let's Get Bury Moving Framework

The Let's Get Bury Moving Framework is a call to action to increase physical activity and reduce sedentary lifestyles within Bury. Its vision is to inspire every resident in Bury to move more, and it is designed to ignite a passion for physical activity and well-being within Bury's communities. This is fundamental to improving health, reducing inequalities and enhancing quality of life across Bury.

Our work is guided by the framework's key targets:



Improved quality of life



Improved early years development



Improved educational attainment



Increased adult skill levels and employability



Inclusive economic growth



Carbon neutrality by 2030

See the Case Studies section for examples of how each of these targets have been met.

Our activation work directly supports the framework by promoting walking, wheeling and cycling as inclusive, accessible and enjoyable forms of everyday movement. Through initiatives, such as, Bury Bike Libraries, which delivers free bike training and bike repairs, we empower residents to travel actively and independently.

We also deliver community-focused events, such as the Bury Activation Crossings Family Fun Day and the Coddiwomple Walking Series, which create welcoming spaces for families and individuals to engage with active travel. Our community-focused events and initiatives align with Bury's Cultural Strategy, celebrating local identity and creating inclusive spaces where culture, movement, and community come together. Additionally, our Walking & Cycling Forum brings residents, partners and local organisations together to share ideas and build momentum for walking, wheeling and cycling across the borough. These activities directly support the framework's wider ambitions to improve wellbeing, educational outcomes, inclusive economic growth, and progress toward carbon neutrality.

Our work supports Bury's Good Level of Development 2024 EYFSP (Early Years Foundation Stage Profile) targets by embedding active play and movement into everyday life. Active travel encourages physical development, which is recognised as a prime area of learning within the framework.

Overall, by embedding principles of Bury Council's wider strategies into our local engagement and delivery, the Activation Team are helping residents move more, travel sustainably, and live healthier, more connected lives.

BURY CASE STUDY EXAMPLES



OBJECTIVE 1: QUALITY OF LIFE

Jigsaw – Bury Spring Walks and Summer Cycling Project

Supporting improved quality of life for young people with disabilities

Working in partnership with Jigsaw, a local sports and social group for young disabled people, and with support from the Mayor's Challenge Fund, we delivered a series of inclusive walking and cycling sessions designed to improve wellbeing and promote active lifestyles.

Together with Jigsaw staff and volunteers, we hosted six social walks at Close Park in Radcliffe during spring, followed by five accessible cycling sessions at Bury Athletics Track throughout the summer. Each session was designed to be enjoyable, welcoming, and inclusive for all abilities. With one-to-one support and encouragement from staff and volunteers, individuals were able to build confidence, connect with others, and enjoy being active in a safe and supportive environment.



Many young disabled people face barriers to physical activity and social connection. This project helped break down those barriers by creating a space where everyone could enjoy being active, regardless of ability. Over 90 members took part across the sessions, with many reporting increased confidence, improved wellbeing, and greater social independence. The success of this scheme highlights the lasting impact local initiatives have, helping young disabled people in Bury to lead healthier, more connected lives.



OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED EARLY YEARS DEVELOPMENT

Heaton Park Primary School Traffic Calming

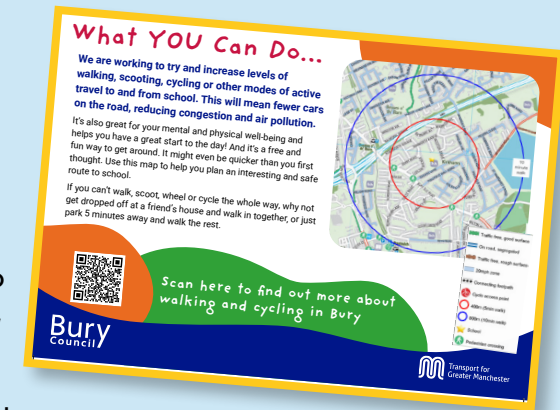
Supporting safer, healthier journeys for our youngest residents

As part of our ongoing commitment to safer, more accessible school journeys, we partnered with Heaton Park Primary School to co-design a creative, community-led road safety initiative.

While traditional traffic calming measures such as 20mph signage were not possible, we worked closely with pupils and staff to develop an alternative solution that placed the school community at its heart.

Together, we created a student-led leaflet campaign to raise awareness of speeding and promote safe walking, wheeling, and cycling near the school. Each leaflet featured artwork designed by the pupils, themed around the importance of slowing down near schools and being mindful of pedestrians. The reverse side offered simple, practical guidance on safe travel habits.

By using the children's voices and creativity, the campaign encouraged drivers to think differently and take greater care around the school. We empowered pupils to play an active role in improving their own environment, while also raising awareness among parents and the wider community. The campaign received positive feedback from parents, teachers, and residents. Pupils were proud to see their designs shared across the community, and the initiative helped increase awareness of the importance of safer driving near schools.



BURY CASE STUDY EXAMPLES



OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Travel Confidence Support at Bury College

Supporting students with learning disabilities to travel independently and build confidence

In partnership with Bury College, this project supported students with learning difficulties and disabilities to travel safely and independently. The programme focused on building confidence, wellbeing and everyday life skills through practical, real-world learning.

Students took part in guided sessions covering safe road crossings, use of public transport, route planning and access to local facilities. A bespoke learning resource, Getting About Safely, supported journeys with simple guidance and reflection activities.

Across 18 supervised sessions, students practised independent travel to local leisure and community facilities, developing personal responsibility and social confidence. Seventeen students completed the programme, showing increased confidence navigating the town centre and using crossings safely, with several reporting improved independence in daily travel.



OBJECTIVE 4: INCREASED ADULT SKILL LEVELS AND EMPLOYABILITY

Clarence Park Bike Hub - Bike Hospital

Supporting skills, confidence, and sustainable travel through community action

In order to make cycling more accessible, especially for those who might struggle with the costs of bike ownership and maintenance, we helped establish the Bike Hospital at Clarence Park Bike Hub. This community-led service was a welcoming space where residents developed practical skills, accessed affordable bike repairs, and contributed to a more sustainable and active Bury. In addition to this, bike donations and temporary bike loans were offered, as well as friendly advice and support on bike safety and maintenance.

Many people in Bury want to cycle but face challenges like broken bikes, expensive servicing, or not owning a bike at all. By creating a community-led repair hub, we aimed to make cycling accessible to everyone while also building local skills and confidence.

Since its launch, the Bike Hospital has repaired 77 bikes, saving the community an estimated £7,700 in servicing costs. Five active volunteers now contribute their time and expertise, generating around £9,000 in annual community value. Beyond the repairs themselves, the Bike Hospital has become a trusted local service, empowering people to travel actively and sustainably. Additionally, the initiative is helping individuals build practical skills that support employability and promote healthier, low-carbon lifestyles. Looking ahead, the team hopes to secure £1,000 in funding to expand its services, cover more repairs, and grow its outreach through events, partnerships, and volunteer recruitment.



BURY CASE STUDY EXAMPLES



OBJECTIVE 5: INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Bury Activation Crossings Family Fun Day

Encouraging inclusive access to walking, cycling and wheeling while reducing transport costs

As part of the Mayor's Challenge Fund to improve walking, cycling, and wheeling across Greater Manchester, we worked in partnership with the National Cycling Academy (NCA) to host a community event at Clock Tower Gardens in Bury. The Family Fun Day was designed to raise awareness of new active travel routes, encourage more people to walk, wheel, and cycle, and ensure that everyone could benefit from the new infrastructure being delivered across the borough.

The event created a welcoming and family-friendly atmosphere where residents could learn more about walking and cycling options in Bury. Free bike checks and repairs were provided, along with cheaper, second-hand bikes being sold. Residents also received free walking and cycling gear, including safety kits and accessories, helping them to travel more confidently and safely. Around 50 to 75 residents attended the event, with around 20% attending from ethnically diverse backgrounds. Ten bikes were repaired and made road-ready, helping people stay mobile and save money on transport costs.

The Family Fun Day brought people together, helping to build awareness, confidence, and pride in Bury's growing active travel network. By reducing transport costs, improving access to employment and education, and supporting local cycling services, the event contributed to more inclusive economic growth across Bury. Overall, this event created opportunities for everyone to participate in active travel and ensured that the benefits of investment in our town centre are shared across the whole community.



OBJECTIVE 6: CARBON NEUTRALITY BY 2038

Glad 2 Bee Rad

A Celebration of walking, wheeling and cycling

As part of our commitment to creating a cleaner, greener Bury and achieving carbon neutrality by 2038, we worked with local partners to deliver 'Glad 2 Bee Rad'. This vibrant community event held on 5 July 2025 in Radcliffe and celebrated walking, wheeling, and cycling, bringing together local services, clubs, and residents.

Our aim was to create a multi-activity event that encouraged more people to travel actively, showcased local services, and highlighted the environmental and health benefits of choosing low-carbon ways to travel. The event featured a wide range of activities and opportunities for residents to get involved. The Sunnywood Project led outdoor adventures that welcomed over 120 participants, while the Urban Cycle Centre carried out 15 bike repairs and hosted a "Learn to Ride" session to help new riders build confidence. Families enjoyed interactive activities such as an outdoor climbing wall, which saw 40–60 uses every hour. Bury Croquet Club introduced families to the sport, handing out leaflets and dispelling common misconceptions through playful hoop-running activities. In addition to this, local services including Bury Housing and Bury Live Well engaged directly with residents, providing information on healthy living, sustainable transport, and local community initiatives.

The event was widely praised for its energy, inclusivity, and strong sense of local pride. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many calling for more events like this to continue promoting active, low-carbon lifestyles. By encouraging people to travel more sustainably, we are not only reducing carbon emissions but also building a stronger, healthier, and more connected Bury, contributing to the Bury 2030 vision of empowering every resident of Bury to embrace an active lifestyle.



Events like this highlight what a great community we have here in Radcliffe.

Feedback from 'Glad 2 Bee Rad' event

OUR IMPACT STATEMENT



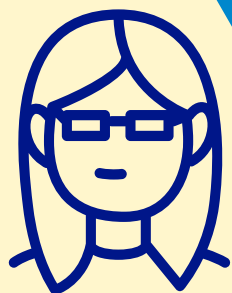
The Bury Bike Library has been an invaluable service for me. Low-cost bike hire is my main way of getting around without relying on cars or public transport. It helps me stay active, independent, and able to manage day-to-day tasks. Without it, I would struggle.

**Russ, retired Bury resident,
Bury Bike Library**



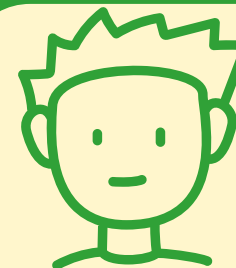
Working with the Bury Activation Team and Morrislight staff has significantly increased pupils' activity levels before, during, and after school, while encouraging families to travel more sustainably. The team's excellent support, bikes, and funding advice have made sessions easy to deliver and enjoyable. Pupils are now more confident, engaged, and physically active, with cycling embedded in school life and long-term benefits for health and wellbeing.

**Stacey, PE Lead, Wesley Methodist
Primary School**



The support received has made a real difference to our members. Funding enabled regular inclusive walking sessions and cycling activities at Bury Athletics Track, improving both physical and mental wellbeing. Ongoing involvement from the Bury Activation Team has built confidence and helped members stay engaged and active into the future.

**Jigsaw Bury, Inclusive Walking and Cycling
Programme**



Coddwomple Walks has been a real success in Whitefield. Weekly walks bring people together in a friendly way and have improved fitness, mental wellbeing, and social connection. Continued support from Bury has helped the group grow and reach more residents through walking.

**Pete, Urban Cycle Centre/ Coddwomple
Walks**



YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED



CoDesign

Bury's Activation Network leads the development of behaviourchange programmes that help people travel more actively in ways that fit their lives. Everything we create is shaped directly by the communities who will use it. Codesign isn't just a method for us — *it's how we make sure we're delivering initiatives that people genuinely want, need, and feel confident taking part in.*

To make this real, we run an inclusive engagement programme that gives residents, local groups, and partners meaningful opportunities to influence what we do. Our approach is guided by simple but important principles:

- ✓ **Flexible formats:** a mix of faceto face and online options that make it easy for people to join in.
- ✓ **Communityled collaboration:** working alongside local groups so that local voices lead the conversation.
- ✓ **Clear communication:** using plain, friendly language and removing jargon so everyone can take part comfortably.
- ✓ **Removing barriers:** creating welcoming, accessible spaces that support people who might not usually get involved.
- ✓ **Openness at every step:** being clear about how people's ideas shape the final programme and keeping them updated.

CoDiscovery and CoDesign Workshops

Codesign is how we turn local insight into action. It means developing ideas with people, not presenting them with a finished plan. This year, we ran codiscovery and codesign workshops with residents, community organisations, councillors, and partners across Bury.

Each workshop followed two simple steps:

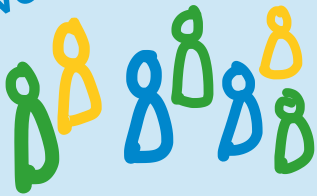
- ✓ **CoDiscovery:** People share reallife experiences, challenges, and motivations around active travel in Bury. This builds a shared picture of what needs to change and what would help.
- ✓ **CoDesign:** Using those insights, participants work with us to shape behaviourchange initiatives, identify priorities, and make sure our programmes reflect local needs and everyday realities.

This approach helps us create active travel initiatives that feel relevant, achievable, and grounded in the voices of the people who will actually use them.



CoDesign event at the Mosses Centre, Bury

Over a 1000 attendees



at Bury's Glad to Bee Rad walking, wheeling, and cycling showcase event at Close Park

Over 5,000+



attendees for **Ramblers Wellbeing Walks April 25-26**



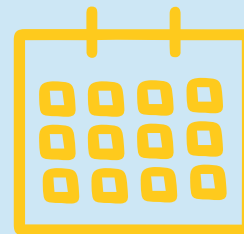
Over **100 Bikes**

maintained at Bury's Bike Hospital, Clarence Bike by 5 Bike mechanic volunteers, providing 500+ hours of bike maintenance sessions

19 Schools



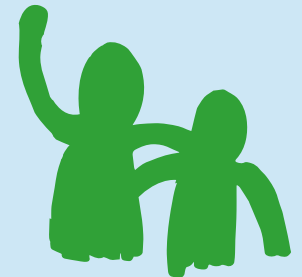
Accredited and at least another 30 with 1/2 initiatives. 5 Schools accredited on Modeshfit



15 Dr Bike Days provided across Bury's primary schools - since activation started we've done 15 events and fixed 389 bikes

25+ grants

to community groups issued as part of the activation offer



4 Community engagement events

20

registered walk leaders over 10 walks across Bury



estimated amount of volunteering hours is **2,400** for 25-26.

4-5

Performance Assemblies



covering air quality and road safety

BURY ACTIVATION GROUP – 12 MONTH PROGRESS REFLECTION

Over the past 12 months, Bury's Activation Task Group has made significant progress in supporting local residents to become more active through walking, wheeling, and cycling. A wide range of communities have benefited from targeted engagement, programme development, and partnershipbased delivery.

KEY LESSONS LEARNED

Microgrants work:

Small investments empower VCFSE organisations to deliver high-impact, community-owned active travel initiatives.



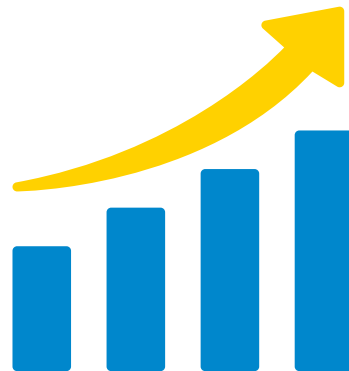
Assets first:

Building on trusted local networks strengthens engagement and supports sustainable behaviour change.



Target with insight:

Data-led and culturally informed approaches help reduce inequalities and improve relevance.



Schools matter:

Schools programmes, supported by HIAs, remain central to equitable, long-term impact.



OVERALL PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The past year has been extremely positive, with Bury's Activation Task Group delivering initiatives ranging from largescale participation events to innovative, bespoke community interventions. These efforts have collectively supported a growing shift towards active travel behaviours across the borough.

This work is firmly aligned with key strategic frameworks, including: LETS - Bury Physical Activity Strategy, Climate Change priorities and the NHS 10Year Plan. It has also contributes directly to the Council's corporate aims, particularly supporting the best start in life and driving inclusive economic growth.

We look forward to continuing to support communities and reduce inequalities through our active travel work over the next 12 months.

WANT TO KNOW MORE...

[Bury Walking & Cycling | Bury Directory](#)

[Walking and Cycling Activation | Bury Directory](#)

