

The Urban Ideas Bakery session was an opportunity to consider the optimum experience of cities, across the Russia and North Europe region, and a shared vision of where a community or town wants to go.

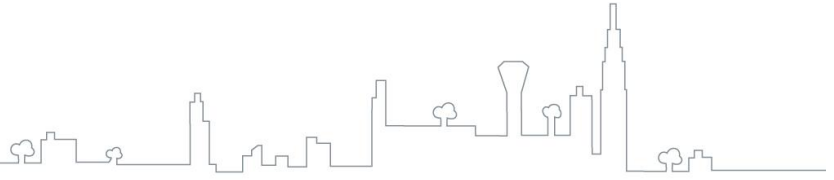
The session included a participatory exercise and participants were asked to work in pairs and interview each other using visioning questions, which included:

- Q. What are the things, resources or qualities you value most about your city?
- Q. What are your three future wishes to heighten vitality and quality of life in your city?

Below is a summary of what emerged from the interviews around these two questions:

What we like most about our EU cities.

green spaces - beautiful built environment;-cityscape - diversity and integration of people -sociability and citizen participation - bike paths - creative people – pride – students – opportunities - affordable public transport - industrial heritage and contemporary use - festivals including gay festivals – opportunities – size – beer – pulse of place – social and strong local identity – healthy food – strong support of charity – multi/alternative cultural and perspectives



Future vision/wishes for our cities

more progressive – more innovative – public transport – greater community feeling – mixed local economy (based on knowledge) – small and medium enterprises – strong communities with transparent leadership – joined-up cities – common/unique image of the city – unique energy reliance - unique public spaces – active citizenship – localised community – more creative edge – support excluded people – integration – celebrating cultural diversity – more access for more people – more support for cultural institutions – more family friendly – subsidised entry for cultural activities such as the theatre – diverse industry – free wi-fi – restoration of city centre – high profile urban festival – less pollution – more bikes - recycling – less crime – stop building supermarkets – collective thinking – access and availability to culture