Item 8

17th November 2023

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
North East Area Partnership
Report by Community Connector, Thriving Places Easterhouse
Contact: Donna McGill Telephone: 07423 585605

Progress Report Thriving Places Easterhouse July to September '23

To update Area Partnership members on progress in relation to the Easterhouse Thriving Place.

Recommendations:

The Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report and that regular updates will be provided.

1. Introduction

Thriving Places area covers Easterhouse, north of the M8 motorway – the G34 area, with the exception of Wellhouse and Easthall. It also covers the area of Gartloch but is referred to as Thriving Places Easterhouse. Thriving Places was introduced in these neighbourhoods in 2017 to help improve the quality of life of people who live and work here. Local community members are encouraged to take active part in decision making and driving forward the agenda for Thriving Places. This report presents the progress on work of Thriving Places Easterhouse.

2. Social Media/Keeping the Community Informed

Facebook and Twitter continue to be used extensively to disseminate all relevant information to as many local residents and organisations as possible. Email groups are utilised to keep individuals, groups, organisations and local elected members aware of all things Easterhouse related, including the quarterly updates of the Easterhouse Activity Brochure and the Easterhouse Community Breakfasts.

3. Engaging with Residents and Partners

Meetings and Events: -

Stuart Patterson (Pastor of Easterhouse Community Church) – Interview for dissertation article about Easterhouse (growing up there, changes, aspirations for area etc.)

Eddie and Ali (Calvay Centre) – meeting to discuss networking/connecting opportunities within local area.

Simon (Platform) – meeting to discuss connecting opportunities and updates about current issues within Easterhouse.

Gartloch Action Group – meetings to discuss aspirations for change within their area and to provide advice and support.

Events attended – promoting Thriving Places and advice/support available to groups/individuals at: -

- The Bridge Festival
- Arise Gala Day
- Easterhouse Parish Church Fun Day
- Provan Hall Opening Event
- Calvay Community Fun Day
- Gartloch Action Group Community Event

Events Co-Hosted/Facilitated by Thriving Places Community Connector

Portraits of Easterhouse – A Celebration

An event hosted by Platform, bringing together all of the contributors to their “Portraits” project. An opportunity to celebrate all that is great about living and working in Easterhouse.

Easterhouse Community Breakfast

Community Breakfasts – Partnership events (Thriving Places Easterhouse, East End Flat Pack Meals and Easterhouse Baptist Church) - providing an opportunity for residents, groups, services, organisations and elected members to come together, to explore all that is good/great about living and working in Easterhouse and to create a picture of what needs to change, to make it a more thriving area. Funding for 4 of these events has been provided by the Area Partnership. Engaging with residents, facilitating conversations, discussing priorities and connecting residents with groups, services, organisation, local elected members and vice-versa. The overall aim of these breakfasts is to move towards creating a sustainable focus group that will drive forward any identified issues.

4. Ongoing Work

Easterhouse Activity Brochure – engaging extensively with all local groups, services and organisations to source activity and event information. Collating all information and distributing (quarterly), digitally, a brochure detailing all information in a day to day format. Printing 300 copies of brochure bi-annually and distributing to local groups and organisations and displaying copies in local shopping centre, for pick-up by residents.

Engaging with residents, partners and organisations, working in the Easterhouse area and building strong relationships. Promoting all that is happening/good in Easterhouse. Promoting local consumption of goods/services, to encourage strengthening local economy. Constantly reviewing and seeking feedback on Thriving Places engagement methods – Community Breakfasts, Social Media, Email, Activity Brochures.

Currently serving on the Boards of Easterhouse Citizen's Advice Bureau (Treasurer), Provan Hall (Board Member) and East End Development Company and Shettleston Upkeep (Director).

Community Connector role in Easterhouse is now Part-time. Additionally working as Part-time Lecturer with Glasgow Kelvin College (Community Wider Access) – both roles are symbiotic, with Thriving Places engagement and services being made available to students.

5. Review of Thriving Places

Preparing a summary report of all Thriving Places Community Connector activity undertaken, whilst in post (2019 to present).
Preparing Case Studies for submission to Review
Organising review meetings for Residents and Organisations

6. Training

Communication Workshop
Project Management Course
CANVA Design Course
In-Design Course
Currently undertaking a Marketing Apprenticeship

7. Seed Fund Spend

Reimbursement to Community Connector of £8.46 for lollipops (giveaways) for community event.
Donation to Gartloch Action Group of £250, £200 towards group setup costs and £50 to support community event.

Seed Fund Budget: £2,500 Spend to September: £878.07 Remaining Balance: £1,621.93

N.B. There are 2 editions of the printed version of the Activity Brochure to be published (before end of March '24) and this will cost approximately £800.

No funding received from any other source.

8. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Area Partnerships take note of the content of this report.