North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network:
Area Partnership Report Nov/Dec 2024

Anderston City Yorkhill - Ward 10
Drumchapel Anniesland - Ward 14
Hillhead - Ward 11
Partick East Kelvindale - Ward 23
Canal - Ward 16
Garscadden Scotstounhill - Ward 13
Maryhill - Ward 15
Victoria Park - Ward 12

North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Update

Network Update

Office Move

- After 10 years, based in Yoker, the Network have moved offices to the Pyramid at Anderston. Please bear with us while we settle in!

IT Recycling Project https://nwgvsn.org.uk/our-work/plugged-in/

- The IT recycling project continues to take unwanted PCs, laptops, tablets & phones, refurbish them and give them to local people in need in the North West of Glasgow. We also offer an internet dongle with 6 months internet access.
- We have had almost 250 referrals to the Plugged-In IT Project this year, most of these require both IT and Internet with them.
- Full list of items that we can take to reuse, refurbish, and recycle https://nwgvsn.org.uk/our-work/plugged-in/

Glasgow Times Community Champion Awards

- Congratulations to all members in NW Glasgow that have been nominated for the above awards. Vote by 31st October! https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/community-champion-awards/

Key Themes across North West

- The main issue members are facing is the continued effects of increases in the cost-of-living. Especially as we head into winter months, members report increased numbers seeking food and fuel assistance.
- This increase in demand has unfortunately come at the time when our sector is facing a funding crisis with Statutory Funders, Trusts & Charity funders all reporting reductions in funds available. This, coupled with cuts to the Education Budget and public services being reduced leaves local organisations extremely concerned. At a local level members hope they can continue to serve local people and support them through crisis and well as prevent issues from recuring.

Contact martina.northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com
www.nwgvsn.org.uk
https://twitter.com/NWGVSN

Anderston City Yorkhill

Rep: Stuart Duffin stuart@rsglasgow.org.uk
Contact: Gordon.northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com

What are the issues in the ward?

- Cost of Living
- Rising Costs for individuals and organisations

What are the key issues facing members?

- Continued effects of the Cost-of-Living Crisis
- Having to adapt to do more reactive work rather than proactive, preventative work. This is also stretching capacity and could lead to a gap in services. Some even having to restrict use of facilities and activity.
- Third sector is carrying more statutory services.
- Competition for funding, at a time when costs are rising. Funding has been cut in most cases, further adding to the funding issues.

General Member Update

RS Counselling Services Glasgow

- Counselling and Psychotherapy for individuals, Partners and Families
- Full report from AYC Rep Stuart Duffin

The Marie Trust https://www.themarietrust.org/

- Call for Christmas Donations to create gift bags for people experiencing homelessness over the winter period.

Glasgow Council on Alcohol https://www.glasgowcouncilonalcohol.org/

- Rethink Your Drink pop up stalls all over the city over the past months have been well received and will continue to offer these.
- Recovery walk on Saturday 12th October well attended, an amazing day celebrating recovery and coming together.

The Pyramid at Anderston https://thepyramid.scot/

- October Holiday programme well attended at capacity
- Shop remains busy open Thursday (5pm-7pm and Friday (11am-3pm)
- Community cafe every Thursday
- Family badminton on a Thursday (3:30pm-4:45pm) and after school pickleball every Thursday (3:30pm-4:30pm)

Garnethill Multicultural Centre https://garnethillcentre.org.uk/

- Doors Open Day was a success with Guided Tours, some history and what goes on now.
- Continue to host a wide range of community events as well as range of ususal activities throughout the week.

Townhead Village Hall https://www.facebook.com/Townhead-Village-Hall-106388822128494

Canal

Rep: Jill Mackay jill@nucommunities.org
Sub Rep Marina Costello marina.lovemilton@gmail.com

What are the issues in the ward?

- Access to services
- Quality low-cost shopping, accessible travel to supermarkets.
- More Services operating online is a barrier to accessibility. E.g. Pension credit application, fuel support, Council Tax.

What are the key issues facing members?

- Increased demand and rising costs.

Cost of Living

- Food prices continue to add stress to household budgets – increased referrals from individuals unable to get to the next payday on the rise.
- Impending higher fuel costs, especially those in the high rises. Last winter the average cost to families was £120 per week, this is expected to be higher this year.
- Funding to resource local support reduced.

General Member Update

Glasow Times Community Champion Awards

- Congratulations to all Network members in Canal ward that have been nominated for the above awards. Jill Mackay, North United Communities, Possobilities Volunteers, Hamiltonhill Claypits, Make It Glasgow and Boom Community Arts. Vote by 31st October:
- https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/community-champion-awards/

Arc Steering Group

- Holiday Programme
- Dates to Note: Halloween Party 31st October, Christmas Fayre 5th December
- 25th October marks the start of the Older People community meal alongside Chirnside Primary. (Other dates to follow)

North United Communities http://www.nuconline.co.uk/

- Holiday programme for the October break in Ruchill, Wynford and Milton.
- Young people work continued throughout with some sessions held at Lambhill Stables.
- Family Support and Woman's Group held weekly in all areas. With Lambhill Stables supporting through the use their kitchen and garden for cooking on Mondays.

Lambhill Stables https://www.lambhillstables.org/

- October Holiday Programme
- Christmas Event, Saturday 14th December
- Other Activities: Lunch Club, Arts group, Café, Bike Hub, Young people's groups, History & Heritage group, Gardening.

Love Milton https://www.facebook.com/welovemilton

- Weekly older persons group
- ESOL Class in conjunction with Kelvin College and North Integration Network
- Monthly Fuel drop-in and Councillors Surgeries.
- Emergency Fridge and Pantry continues.
- Community Access point- Online access and use of phones and access to information.

Milton Community Council and Events Group

- Christmas lights switch on Saturday 30th November 4-6pm

Drumchapel Anniesland

Rep Dougie Taylor dougie@drumchapellife.co.uk

What are the key issues facing members and the ward?

- Increased cost for organisations and increasing demand on services
- Focus on Anti racism campaign in October
- Cost-of-living – especially going into winter

General Member Update

Drumchapel CAB https://www.drumchapelcab.org.uk/

- Continuing to see an increase in the number of people seeking help on numerous different topics including cos-of-living issues. In 6 weeks over Sept/Oct DCAB helped an average of 112 clients with 250 issues each week.
- The webchat and email advice service has been introduced to try and help more people over other mediums, so they don't have to wait for a phone or face to face appointment due to lack of availability and space in our office to take appointments.
- Winter Fuel Payments – DCAB are working with people to ensure the claim Pension Credit before 21st December to qualify

G15 Thriving Places https://twitter.com/TPDrumchapel
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066681380972

- G15TP team have ran a fantastic "Building Bridges – No to Racism" campaign in October. Everyone really embraced the campaign, which gives us hope that Drumchapel will become even more of an anti-racist community.
- On Friday, the 1st of November they are celebrating the closure of their campaign in the community centre. We will display all the work of the people that you took part in the campaign and show a video of the campaign activities.

3D Drumchapel https://www.3ddrumchapel.org.uk/

- Holding their Christmas Market on 16th November. Stalls are going fast

Drumchapel Money Advice Centre https://www.d-mac.org.uk/

- Delighted to recently receive funding from the National Lottery Communities Fund to continue their work.

Homestart Glasgow North & North Lanarkshire https://www.facebook.com/homestartgnnl

- Have completed their move into Netherton Community Centre and are recruiting Family Support Volunteers and the network have a meeting and visit planned

Enable Glasgow Fortune Works https://www.facebook.com/EnableGlasgowFortuneWorks

- Are recruiting for full-time and sessional Support Workers (more info on the FB page)
- They have been awarded a Carbon Neutral certification for achieving the One World Carbon Neutral International Standard Status.

Congratulations **to Drumchapel High School** for the nomination in the Champion Schools category in the Glasgow Times Community Champion Awards.
https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/community-champion-awards/north-west/

Garscadden/Scotstounhill

Rep: Lainey Bedingfield lainy@kingswaycc.org.uk

What are the issues in the ward?

- Increased demand for services – impacting capacity
- Funding
- ESOL provision
- Youth provision – especially in and around the Kingsway Estate for older teenagers
- Planned move from Biometric Residents Permits to E-visa's
- Cost of living – see update below

COST-OF-LIVING UPDATE

- Increased foodbank referrals – due to increases in bills, household budgets, members are noting an increase in foodbank/pantry referrals. Worryingly, in-work poverty is at an increased rate.
- Increased fuel poverty – members are noting an increase in people requesting support with fuel bills and prepayment meters.
- Increased digital poverty – particularly sim cards and repeated requests by those being supported.
- More people presenting as being sanctioned by Benefits Agency

With the needs of the community increasing and becoming more urgent, demand for services has continued to grow exponentially. Members are noting a real concern going into the winter months, as demand will only increase, putting more strain on a sector that is already stretched to the max. The recent changes announced to winter fuel payment for pensioners remains of concern.

General Member Update

- **DRC Youth Project** - We thank the area partnership for their ongoing support. The extra funding from our most recent application was a much-needed boost for our project and strengthened our ability to offer the most vulnerable young people in our community access to a range of diversionary activities. Our original plan was to deliver activities at our new sites in the Yoker Allotments and Yoker Sports Hall. Unfortunately, we had to diversify our plan due to issues and unforeseen delays outwith our control. While we were able to do small pieces of work in the allotments, without access to the sports hall, we were unable to deliver activities there. We're confident these issues will be resolved soon. In the meantime, we're staying positive, working hard and doing all we can to support the hardest to reach young people in our community. See Victoria Park for more info on DRCYP's work

- **Active Seniors** – Trip to Troon enjoyed by 53 members and a social afternoon attended by 90 people. In partnership with Generations Working Together members are looking at multi-generational community safety.

- **Kingsway Community Connections** – Successful Harvest festival with over 600 community members attending. Breakfast club, over 30 young people attending each day. Christmas open day planned for 20th December and Santa will be dropping by on 19th December between 3pm and 5pm. The Centre will close on Friday 20th December and reopen Monday 6th January.

- **DRC Generations** – Continued delivery of Advice drop-ins, 1-1 support and informal support sessions.

- **Knightswood Community Centre** – Community cinema continues to be popular and well attended. A community garden has been developed, this growing and recreational space is a welcome addition and included a number of raised beds.

- **Glasgow Eco Trust**
- **Community led-transport forum** - the first one was held at HoS on Tue 22 Oct with 30 people representing 14 organisations in attendance. Next Forum is scheduled for Thu 5 Dec at Knightswood Community Centre (230-430pm). We will be establishing a women's working group and we have been supporting the Liveable Whiteinch group of residents as well. More info including the presentations and notes from the first Forum can be found here https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/community-led-transport-forum
- **Bike referrals and bike repairs** - through funding from Cycling UK Access Bikes fund we are able to support people with the cost of bike repairs (up to £100) and to provide a free bike and essential accessories via referrals from local partners
- **De'ils On Wheels** - open for sales of refurbished bikes, bike repairs and donations of unwanted bikes
- **DRC local network** - continue to facilitate a monthly online network for local organisations to connect and share info and issues
- Delighted to be nominated in the Glasgow Times Community Champion Awards. https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/community-champion-awards/north-west/

DRC Youth Project https://drcyouthproject.blogspot.com https://twitter.com/DRCYouthProject https://www.facebook.com/drcyouthproject
Active Seniors https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079995702359
DRC Generations http://www.drcgenerations.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/drcgenerations
Glasgow Eco Trust/De'ils on Wheels https://glasgowecotrust.org.uk https://twitter.com/GlasgowEcoTrust https://www.facebook.com/GlasgowEcoTrust https://www.facebook.com/DeilsOnWheels
Kingsway Community Connections https://www.kingswaycc.org.uk https://twitter.com/Kingsway CC https://www.facebook.com/KingswayCommunityConnections
Knightswood Community Centre https://www.knightswoodcentre.co.uk/ https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064798833808
Yoker Community Campus https://www.yokercampus.org/ https://twitter.com/CampusYoker https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100072307083175
North-West Community Pantry For more info please contact: jamie@drcyouthproject.co.uk
LINKES https://www.linkes.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/linkesglasgow https://twitter.com/linkesgla

Heart of Scotstoun – https://twitter.com/HOScotstoun

Hillhead

Rep: Anna Dyer a.dyer@scottishoverseasdevelopment.org.uk

What are the issues in the ward?

- In our area the major concerns of the community have continued to focus on the cost-of-living crisis and the poverty endured in the particularly from Queens Cross to St Georges Cross right down to the border with the start of the City Deal improvement area.

What are the key issues facing members?

- Funding uncertainties for organisations

General Member Update

- The current crisis affecting the funding of Local Authorities could affect directly parts of the Area Partnership. Having missed out entirely on getting funding from the £1m fund for the improvement of the Ward last year it is unlikely that there will be any such funding available this year. The area around St George's Cross particularly Woodside could have benefitted immensely from an improved environment for the residents as many of whom are elderly.
- Funding uncertainties impact on both service users and providers. Nevertheless, the organisations in the area continue to maintain services. The need for these services has been reflected in the number of users continuing to increase.
- **Community Central Hall** https://centralhall.org/
- CCH has waiting lists for both the Happy Days Nursery and Safe 'til Six which is partly due to other providers closing or becoming purely commercially based. CCH continues to have a Partnership Nursery and affordable prices for all childcare.
- On a brighter note, CCH is at present refurbishing the Breakthrough Youth Services Zone.
- We are also expanding the services of the Community Fridge to encourage greater engagement with our regular users. We are planning to introduce a Money Advice service which will operate within a new café setting of the fridge which will encourage our users to enjoy meeting up in an informal and stigma -free atmosphere.
- **Woodside Halls** has been very busy with events. CCH of course in November will be hosting the ballot station for a bye-election.
- This year again we will have two pantomimes taking place in the Reid Hall and the other is Woodside.

The Coach House Trust

- Continue to offer workshops in Art, Music, Gardening and IT
- Took part in Glasgow's Doors Open Day on Saturday 21st September, with a good number of visitors to the centre.

Flourish House

- Gearing up towards the Christmas Period, including Christmas Day festives. Will be looking for support and donations from local businesses and organisations to give the members a special day.
- Worry and fear amongst service users around the future of community based mental health services. Glasgow City is planning to reduce in-patient beds and at the same time explore a Patient Initiated Follow Up model for mental health.

Maryhill

Rep: Vacant

Sub Rep Sharon Bowers sharon-at-acre@outlook.com /

What are the issues in the ward?

- Cost of Living
- Accessing Support

What are the key issues facing members?

- Cost of Living
- Increased demand for services

General Update

Acre Community Hall https://www.facebook.com/AcreCommunityHall https://twitter.com/HallAcre

- Thursday Homework Club started back up again, with a mixture of homework and fun.
- Sewing Group on a Thursday Morning
- Food Parcels still distributed on a Friday with demand remaining high.

Maryhill Burgh Halls https://www.maryhillburghhalls.org.uk/ https://www.facebook.com/maryhillburghhalls https://twitter.com/maryhill_halls
They have experienced staff changes, Melanie Farrow our rep & CEO is no longer in post. We wish her well in her new role.

Shakespeare Street Youth Club https://www.facebook.com/ShakespeareStYouthClub/

- Chatty Cafe held on Tuesdays (10am) remain popular
- October Holiday Programme was popular and at capacity each day, food provided right through

Maryhill Integration Network https://maryhillintegration.org.uk/ https://x.com/Maryhill_IN

- Continue to deliver their weekly programme for refugees and people seeking asylum.
- Seen increased demand for ESOL classes, with classes oversubscribed. This is reflected across the North West and the rest of the city, falling to Third Sector Organisations to fill the gaps in provision and reaching capacity themselves.
- MIN Voices Peer Support Group continues its work around human rights campaigns. Most recently challenging the Scottish Government's decision to withdraw free bus travel.
- AGM was held on 26th September with thanks go to all who attended on the night, you can find the Annual Report for 2023-24 here.

Maryhill Together

- Maryhill Together is a local network meeting, set up by NWGVSN to bring local partner charities and organisations together to share information and encourage partnership/ working. The network meets 4 times a year in the community and has +20 attendees.

Women's Centre https://www.thewomenscentreglasgow.org.uk/

- Weekly exercise class continues, it has running for 28 years! Support group for young Mum's runs on a Thursday, this has developed a strong peer support element. Several arts and crafts sessions throughout the week providing leisure activity and support. The centre celebrated its 30th anniversary in September, looking forward to the next 30. Like other organisations concerned about ongoing funding and being able to meet demand.

Youth Providers Joint Work

- On going issue of gaps in youth provision in Acre, Maryhill Park and Summerston, youth providers G20, Yomo, Shakespeare St, NUC and Summerston Community & Environmental Group are working with Glasgow Life to carry out street work to ascertain what the issues are for young people and to let them know about the existing youth provision in the area.
- This work is supported by the NWGVSN and partly funded by the area budget.

Partick East/Kelvindale Ward 23

Rep: Jane Cowie jane.cowie@annexecommunities.org.uk and Julie Fox Julie.fox@annexecommunities.org.uk

What are the main issues in the ward?

- Cost-of-living
- Mental and physical health

What are the key issues facing members?

- Annexe **Cost of Living Support** Group- 55 people signed up for this support and another 12 for our newer Free Freezer Friday where folk can get a few frozen meals so as not to be stuck for the weekend.
- Cooking Skills – A weekly simple meal is cooked by the **Cost-of-Living** class and we all sit down and eat together. Recipes, ingredients, tips, cooking and otherwise, are shared.
- **Social prescribers** from doctors – over 100 people have been refereed by their Doctors to the Annexe where Social Café, Friendship Club, Annexe Café can be starting points for people journey back to themselves.

General Member Update

Annexe Communities https://www.annexecommunities.org.uk/

- Let Partick Flourish- Partick Communiversity Project, introductory workshops, kicks off at Annexe on Thursday 14th November 2024.
- Annexe Communities Asset Transfer application is in to Scottish Land Fund for £247,000 with Annexe to raise £15,000 includes £2k for Glasgow City Council Legal and Admin fees.
- Partick and Thornwood Ideas Fund is open – Voting runs 31 October – 10 November. https://www.annexecommunities.org.uk/project-budgeting/

Partick Housing Association

- PHA emergency food and fuel support fund. Thanks to AP funding PHA have set up its emergency food and fuel support fund. The fund covers 2 days emergency food pack, a cosy pack and fuel vouchers, £30 in summer and £50 in winter.
- Cost-of-Living issues impacts 37 tenants needing support in total 31 emergency food packs, 8 fuel vouchers (this only became available again from August 2024)
- The plan is for this fund to be available long term and be funded through PHA procurement contracts to form the new PHA Community Development Fund.
- **Beith Grove Garden** :PHA Sent out 350 letters and emails to local residents and held three 2hr consultations plus some door knocking. Very positive response so far. Working with Kate from Clydeside Garden and Mary from the Bee Garden. Plans now being drawn up target National Lottery Heritage fund to cover project costs, staff and maintenance

Partick Community Growing Project https://www.partickha.org.uk/community/food-fuel/

- Partick Community Growing project has secured £5000 from the Glasgow University Civic funding to support the running of Annexe COL Support group for another year!
- Partick Community Growing Project hosting AP funded ” Hallo-Govan-Ween” Friday 1st November 24 inviting Govan to join in the spooky fun and games.
- Thanks to an additional donation of £500 from Partick Housing Association 120 x Guising Goodie Bags for kids will be given out. 100 flowers with “Welcome Govan love from Partick” were handed out, on our new bridge, on the opening day.

Victoria Park

Rep post Vacant – contact hello.northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com

What are the issues in the ward?

- Drugs and Alcohol
- Youth unemployment
- Ongoing cost of living crisis

What are the key issues facing members?

- As above

General Member Update

Glasow Times Community Champion Awards

- Congratulations to all members in NW that have been nominated for the above awards. In particular, congratulations to Glasgow Eco Trust and Friends of Victoria Park – both nominated in the NW Environmental Champion of the Year category.
- https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/community-champion-awards/

Whiteinch Centre https://www.whiteinchcentre.org.uk/

- The centre is hosting Heart of Scotstoun Café Pop-up on a Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 2pm – it is great to see a café again after the findings of the community engagement exercise last year.
- Whiteinch & Scotstoun Housing Association has been awarded £33,500 from the National Lottery Community Fund for Whiteinch Centre's Community Shop. The shop has helped almost 2000 access low-cost food since it opened. This funding will allow the centre to continue to help the most in need in the community. It will also allow them to extend opening hours and widen the range of food provision they can offer the community.

Glasgow Eco Trust https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk

- GET have recruited a new Active Travel and Sustainable Transport Coordinator. Meg will be coordinating several projects to help identify and break down barriers, so more people can access and enjoy active travel and sustainable transport. This includes four Community-led Transport Forum, the next forum is scheduled for 5th December.
- Please see Garscadden/Scotstounhill for more updates.

Week Day WOW Factor

- Continue to run their daytime discos for the over 50s at Victoria Park Bowling club every Wednesday 11.30am-1.30pm. WOW aim to improve lives, with occupational therapy principles, by keeping people active, connected, independent and safe.

DRC Youth Project www.drcyouthproject.co.uk www.twitter.com/drcyouthproject https://drcyouthproject.co.uk/north-west-community-pantry/

Streetwork and Diversionary Activities

- Our street work team are out engaging with young people where they often choose to socialise, talking about what matters to them and why. During street work sessions we build relationships with young people, chat about risk taking behaviours and focus on the consequences of these actions. We also highlight the support, initiatives, and activities we

offer. We thank the area partnership for their ongoing support in offering young people in the local area alternatives to hanging around the streets on the nights we don't operate youth club services. The boost in street work and diversionary activities has not only been beneficial and educational for the young people involved but has also given the local community some extra respite and reassurance as well.

DRCYP working in partnership with Victoria Park Community Trust

- DRC are working together with VPCT members on a youth consultation with young people from Whiteinch and the surrounding areas. The consultation focusses on what young people would like to see in their local green space, with the aim of delivering on the outcome of the consultation, something that will increase the number of young people visiting the park. The DRC Youth Committee played an active role in the consultation and are open to supporting the development and delivery of a proposed youth event in Spring next year. This project was funded by WSHA Community Project Fund.

Mybnk – Personal Money Management

- We continue to host sessions for young people (aged 16-24) with Mybnk in The Whiteinch Centre. Mybnk work together with young people to explore topics such as saving, budgeting, debt and finance. The feedback from young people attending is always positive and people come away from the sessions learning key life skills. For more info please contact: info@drcyouthproject.co.uk

Pathfinder – Youth Employability Programme

- In partnership with Workingrite, we continue to deliver our award-winning work training programme 'Pathfinder' in Ward 12. Pathfinder is a unique, holistic employability support service open to young people aged 16-24 in NW Glasgow. We are currently working together with WSHA to provide support for 5 WSHA tenants. For more info please contact: gerard@drcyouthproject.co.uk

Free BMX sessions at Glasgow BMX Centre

- We run free BMX sessions on Friday nights(6-8pm) at the pump track outside Glasgow BMX Centre. Young people also had the opportunity to receive coaching from Glasgow Life coaches, with 4 last year achieving their Level 1 and 2 BMX certificates as a result.

DRC Youth Project supply a full in-depth report which you can read HERE

North-West Community Pantry https://twitter.com/NorthWestPantry Run by DRC Youth Project

- The North-West Community Pantry continues to be well used by members of the public from throughout NW Glasgow. The shop currently opens to the public two days per week, with referral support coming in from partners at NHS, Kingsway Community Connections, Glasgow Helps and Glasgow Council on Alcohol. The shop also continues to provide a platform for local young people to gain work experience, with 30 young people having volunteered their time since April. For more info jamie@drcyouthproject.co.uk

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