Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Govan Area Partnership

Report by Head of Policy and Corporate Governance.

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Place- based anchor organisation selection process

Purpose of Report:
To advise members of the criteria and appropriate governance in place to select the anchor organisation for the Place-based work in Govan.

Recommendations:

The Partnership is asked to note:

a. the criteria and supporting governance in place to progress the selection of an anchor organisation

b. that updates will be provided to Area Partnerships and other appropriate bodies.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to outline the criteria and governance process in place to select an anchor organisation for the Govan Place-based work.

2. Background

Glasgow's new [Community Plan 2024-34](#) sets the overarching aim to *'tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally'.*

At the core are two key principles guiding our ways of working – to be both people-centred and place-based. These two approaches are sometimes seen as different ways of planning services, but they are intrinsically connected and complementary.

Delivering people-centred approaches means taking the time to understand the people who need help to exit poverty and working with them to design and deliver the right services and support.

Place-based approaches focus on building communities that citizen's flourish in – places that are safe, supportive, and connected. Crucially the plans and activities are community-led with an anchor organisation providing leadership and coordination of local priorities aligned to city wide strategies to ensure benefit for the community.

The 2024 review of the former Thriving Places programme commissioned by the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership's (GCPP) Executive Board highlighted some of the key activities that help communities to thrive:

- Regular community events and activities for residents, inclusive and bespoke for people with common issues/needs e.g., families, those living with a disability
- Training and shared learning opportunities for community members/workers
- Networking events and mechanisms for those working in the area
- Voluntary sector networks enhancing smaller community and third sector organisations in the area, supporting them to stay connected and work together
- Working together to attract other funds into the area.

As a result of the review the GCPP approved a new phase of Place-based work to take place over a three-year period in eight neighbourhoods in the city, one of them being Govan (taking in Govan and Linthouse).

The geography reflects *Intermediary Data Zones* (IDZs) established as geographical units used by the Scottish Government for the collection and analysis of statistical data. These zones provide localised data for reporting and analysing various socio-economic and demographic factors. IDZs are 2,500 to 6,000 household residents.

Examples of community-led projects meeting the key themes of the activities identified in the review that have been previously delivered across the city have included:

- Homework and family meal clubs – attended by children and their parents/carers where structured play and help with homework is provided for the children by local organisations and the adults, under the direction of a community chef, prepare a meal for all.
- Activities run by local partners during breakfast clubs in schools to encourage more children to attend, ensuring a healthy start to the day. Teachers noted a significant improvement in the children's behaviour and concentration levels.
- Tea dances for older people have helped to reduce isolation and loneliness and identify other issues such as help with numeracy and literacy and coping with bereavement.
- Set up of an independent charitable organisation by local partners and community residents to take forward the work of a previous anchor organisation.   This new group continues to engage regularly with the local community and continues to develop new services in response to local demand, such as a new pantry cupboard and school uniform bank.
- Development of a partnership with a university that provides local people to participate in a 10-week course which focuses on the causes of poverty. Those who successful complete the course are then guaranteed an interview at the university with a possible entry into the 1st year of a BA in Community Development.
- Creation of an Environmental and Community Safety Group, chaired by a local resident, which brings together partners and community members to tackle environmental and safety issues in the area.
- A Community Meals Programme which brings together people from all sectors of the community to enjoy professionally prepared meals, connect with neighbours, as well as engage with local elected members and agencies. The events also showcase local talent through scheduled entertainment.

3. Criteria

To reflect the priorities of the city's new Community Plan, and ensure that place-based and people-centred work is coordinated and complementary, a set of criteria has been put in place by the Glasgow City Council (GCC) Head of Policy and Corporate Governance and chair of the GCPP Executive Board, based on the principles of Best Value, to select the anchor organisation chosen to lead and coordinate the Place Based work in each area.

These will be scored by a panel consisting of members of the Govan Area Partnership following consultation with the community and in line with best governance practice as set out by the council and the Community Planning Partnership. This will include local elected members, community representation, relevant GCC officer(s) a member of the GCC Communities Team who works in another part of the city. The criteria are:

Organisational Reach
- Breadth of Engagement: Does the organisation engage with a wide demographic and cover the required geographic population?
- Depth of Impact: Do we know if outcomes are meaningful and sustainable for the communities served?

- Partnership Working: Are there strong, active collaborations with other local or regional organisations?

Plan Development
- Alignment with Local Priorities: Do their proposed activities align with the strategic objectives of the area as set out by the Area Partnership?
- Stakeholder Involvement: Are local residents, partners, and stakeholders going to be meaningfully involved in the development?
- Evidence- Based Approach: Have they mentioned if their plan informed by data, needs assessments, or previous evaluations?

Community Connector Role
- Defined Role and Purpose: Is the role clearly outlined with expected outcomes?
- Integration in Local Systems: Is the role well integrated into existing services or networks?
- Effectiveness in Reducing Barriers: Will the role actively help individuals navigate services or access support?
- Impact on Community Engagement: Will role contribute to stronger community ties or improved access to services?

Links to Child Poverty agenda
- Direct Contribution: Does the work contribute to addressing the drivers of child poverty (e.g. income, education, housing)?
- Informing policy and practice: Does their proposed approach allow for learnings to be used to inform local and / or city-wide strategies aimed at reducing child poverty.

Plans for budget
- Clarity and Transparency: Are costs clearly broken down and well- justified?
- Value for Money: Does the proposal demonstrate efficient use of resources relative to expected outcomes?
- Sustainability: Are there plans for continued funding or impact beyond the initial budget period?
- Flexibility and Risk Management: Are contingencies in place for changes in budget or unexpected challenges?

4. Selection panel

The members of the panel to select the anchor organisation will be:

Councillor Richard Bell, chair, Govan Area Partnership
Councillor Dan Hutchison
Derek Speirs, Glasgow City Council Communities Manager
John Campbell, Development Officer, Centre for Civic Innovation, GCC
Ethan McInally, Govan Youth Information Project

5. Recommendations

Members are asked to note:

- the criteria and supporting governance in place to progress the selection of an anchor organisation
- that updates will be provided to Area Partnerships and other appropriate bodies.