Item 8

11th April 2023

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
Area Partnership

Report by Community Connector, Thriving Places

Govanhill

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March 2023

Progress report Thriving Places Govanhill

Purpose of Report:

To update Area Partnership members on progress in relation to Thriving Places Govanhill from the period of 14 November 2022 – 23 March 2023

Introduction

Govanhill is one of ten Glasgow districts designated a 'Thriving Place' by the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership, an approach aimed at bringing together residents and organisations to collaborate for the good of their neighbourhood. In 2018 Govanhill Housing Association's Committee formally approved a proposal for Govanhill Housing Association to become the community anchor organisation for the Thriving Places initiative in Govanhill. In September 2019 a full-time Community Connector was appointed to Thriving Places Govanhill, in the role from September 2019 until September 2022, supported by a part-time engagement worker on a temporary basis. A part-time (2 days per week) Community Connector has been in the role since mid-November 2022 (contract running to 31 March 2023).

Thriving Places Govanhill Locality Plan – Where Are We Now?

2017 – Publication Of A Govanhill Locality Plan

To give context to the responsibilities of the current Thriving Places Community Connector in relation to the Thriving Places Locality Plan, it is important to understand the progression of locality planning in Govanhill, long-standing in Govanhill, in particular the 2017 publication of a **Locality Plan for "A Better Govanhill" 'A 10-year Vision and Community Plan for Govanhill' .** The Plan was produced by the Govanhill Regeneration Group, public and third sector partners working in the area alongside representatives of the local community.

https://www.glasgowcpp.org.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=39192&p=0

The 10-Year " Better Govanhill Vision "

In Govanhill, Glaswegians of all ages, who come from various parts of the world, come together to make the city's most colourful, diverse and interesting areas. People want to live here because of Govanhill's range of quality housing and facilities, its distinctive sense of community and its connections to other parts of the city. People want to visit here to experience its enthusiastic people, its distinctive shopping and eating experiences and its unique atmosphere.

7 interlinked themes were identified for the Locality Plan to address: 1. Cohesion 2. Economy 3. Environment 4. Health 5. Housing 6. Learning 7. Safety



A framework of desired outcomes was set out in relation to the key elements of the Vision and a high-level Action Plan outlined for the delivery of these elements over 1, 3 and 10 years – see Appendix 1.

This plan remains the Locality Plan document for Govanhill. All Thriving Places locality planning work since is a refresh of this document, although no refreshed Locality Plan document has been produced since.

Community Conversations - Late 2017 To Early 2019

Locality planning is a process guided by the principle that the local community must be at its forefront. Where the Locality Plan for "A Better Govanhill" perhaps was lacking, was insufficient community engagement.

A Locality Plan, as a vision for the future, must be informed by local people so that it can address the real needs and aspirations of the community.

A Thriving Places area must develop a Locality Plan that local communities, organisations, services and businesses will be able to use to guide the work leading towards positive change. The plan must be informed by local people so that it can address the real needs of the community. By providing measurable goals, the plan will become a practical tool for people who are trying to make a difference in their neighbourhood.

When Govanhill Housing Association was nominated as the anchor organisation for Thriving Places in September 2017, this represented an opportunity to increase community engagement by the local community in the locality planning process.

Govanhill Community Development Trust (GCDT) was tasked with conducting a consultation with residents of Govanhill reflecting its diverse communities. This process, titled **Community Conversations**, lasted 1 and a half years of monthly sessions with residents (30 – 60 people per session, at least 15 nationalities, a range of ages and genders), facilitated by GCDT with support from the Scottish Community Development Centre generating ideas and identifying priorities from the 2017 Locality Planning strands (themes).

[Note: The consultation process not only included Community Conversations, other consultation, surveys and research analysis at community level, but also consultation at service provision level, through local organisations and service providers, based on community's suggestions - continuous and strand by strand, one-to-one conversations with staff from local organisations, partners' exchange around community engagement & communication, cohesion, youth work, community consultations & events around health, employability, media portrayal. Govanhill Community Action (GoCA) also acting as a platform for stakeholders to discuss strands of the Locality Plan.

Of the 7 strands (themes) identified by the Regeneration Group, 3 strands were deemed **priority** by the Community Conversations work;

1. **Environment (including the recycling of waste)**
2. **Housing**
3. **Cohesion (celebration of diversity**)

Aswll as perioritising on the above themes, Community Conversations concluded that a Govanhill Locality Plan should include themes which encompass **information & communication & engagement**, **employment and employability, media representation.**

Thriving Places Locality Planning September 2019 - September 2022

In 2019 the Locality Plan was due to be refreshed in conjunction with all partners.

It was planned at the time to set up sub-groups for each of the Locality Plan strands which would report back to the Regeneration Group. An initial Progress and Review on the Locality Plan was also due to be completed by the end of March 2020.

A full-time Community Connector was appointed in September 2019 to develop a community engagement strategy which would enable local people to engage effectively and build relationships. This strategy would underpin the whole Locality Plan.

The 9 strands identified for the Thriving Places Govanhill Locality Plan included the 7 strands from the 2017 Locality Plan and 2 other strands identified during Community Conversations, with 3 priority strands also identified by Community Conversations (Youth was added as a strand, post-2021 community consultations with local young people and staff from youth organisations)

1. **Environment and waste - priority**
2. **Housing - priority**
3. **Cohesion (celebration of diversity) – priority**
4. Economy
5. Health & Social Care
6. Learning
7. Safety
8. Youth
9. Employment
10. Media Portrayal



The Community Engagement & Information Strategy (GCEIS) underpins the entire Locality Plan together with a partnership strategy, Govanhill Collective Leadership, Co-Production & Accountability (GCLCPA).

1.Govanhill Community Engagement and Information Strategy (GCEIS)
(GCEIS) http://govanhill.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/GCEIS-Locality-Plan-29.04.22.pdf

In early 2020 the Community Connector carried out an online survey about the Community Engagement and Information Strategy, exploring how people in Govanhill meet each other, make decisions and access information. The survey was based on ideas from Community Conversations.

Findings of that survey and demographics of the survey's participants can be found in the main body of the strategy document '*A Community Engagement and Information Strategy (GCEIS)'* which was produced by the Community Connector with the Thriving Places board and published in April 2022

The 'Govanhill Community Engagement & Information Strategy' should be seen as work-in-progress and continually-evolving document. The strategy will be regularly reviewed and adapted to suit changing circumstances. This will ensure that it remains relevant and reflects the real needs and aspirations of local people.

To measure its success, the Govanhill Thriving Places Board will review the strategy in 2024 and relevant local statistics will be monitored.

Further information can be found at; http://govanhill.info/community-engagement-and-information/

2. Govanhill Collective Leadership, Co-Production & Accountability (GCLCPA) Strategy

http://govanhill.info/leadership-co-production-accountability/

The Locality Plan must be based on true partnership and understanding between all the stakeholders: the residents, the Thriving Places Board, and organisations working locally. Only through everyone's active support and involvement can the recommendations be implemented for the benefit of the community.

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In late 2021 the Working Group, Community Engagement & Information (prompted by survey responses), led by the Community Connector and with the Thriving Places Board also developed the Collective Leadership, Co-Production, and Accountability strategy which was published mid-2022.

Thriving Places Locality Plan Strands – Deliverables Achieved By The Community Connector – September 2019 to September 2022

Further detailed information can be found at http://govanhill.info/thriving-places-progress-reports/ http://govanhill.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Thriving-Places-progress-report-2019-22.pdf

WORKING GROUPS - were set up by locality plan strand

CRISIS SUPPORT – COVID/GCLCPA

During the first year of the pandemic (2020) the Community Connector played a pivotal role co-ordinating the community's response to the pandemic. The focus of Thriving Places was on developing support structures for the community and distribution of funding to improve Covid-19 relief efforts undertaken by local partners.

- *Govanhill Coordinated response to Covid-19 survey* - the Community Connector, with support from partners, created a survey for local organisations about community's needs, organisational needs and resources on offer during lockdown. Collaborations: NHS, Poverty Alliance, GCC Result: Local needs mapped, organisations matched and networks formed
- Govanhill Crisis Services Directory - creation of a printed directory of local services, distributed to all households in Govanhill - published twice and distributed to every household in G42 7&8 with a third edition planned
- Other support mechanisms developed with partner organisations; online referral form, multilingual helplines, Govanhill Mutual Aid Facebook
- Govanhill Mental Health Network set up

GCEIS

- A Govanhill Communications Group was set up at the start of the pandemic with partner organisations, co-ordinated by the Community Connector
- Govanhill Volunteer Translators Project set up, ensured key information was accessible in community languages, Govanhill Updates published regular - **https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/VolunteerTranslators/.** 70+ translations . completed as of March 2022, plus several posters. Among translated texts are information about Covid-19 testing and content for the Govanhill Housing Association's Newsletter.
- 5 community notice boards were installed (March 2022) in prominent locations around Govanhill providing up to date local information, including multilingual content.
- Facebook pages and groups: Thriving Places Govanhill, GCDT, Govanhill Go!, I love Govanhill, Creative Govanhill, Govanhill Mutual Aid group and its Romanian equivalent, Govanhill Working Together, and Govanhill Esol Learners.
- Govanhill.Info - http://govanhill.info/thriving-places/
- Monthly Govanhill newsletter, mailing list primarily partner organisations

COHESION and LEARNING STRAND (Celebrating Cultural Diversity)

- Polyglot community language sessions - locals teach their languages, To date 30 Govanhill Polyglot Sessions have taken place. Over 300 people attended the sessions since they began in summer 2020.

- Govanhill leading the Glasgow Language Festival 2022

- Languages of Govanhill survey - the survey identified at least 88 languages spoken in Govanhill. To support those with limited language skills to take part in a heritage project.

- Community events included the Govanhill Multicultural Ceilidh, Govanhill International Festival & Carnival language sessions

- Objects speak louder than words project – in partnership with Greater Govanhill Magazine – Community Connector "…*those facing language and literacy barriers, and visitors to this incredibly transient area. We are hoping that this project will encourage a sense of belonging, and foster community cohesion by creating a shared and interactive story-telling experience.*" https://www.greatergovanhill.com/latest/objects-spe-Objects%20speak%20louder%20than%20words%20projectak-louder-than-words-tell-us-about-an-object-that-means-something-to-you

- Digital Inclusion Project - provided devices, connectivity and training for residents

Govanhill Open Museum http://govanhill.info/govanhill-open-museum/

Gathering ideas for Govanhill through Community Conversations led to the conception of the Govanhill Open Museum project. A new, community-led heritage project, bringing local memories to neighbourhood streets and making heritage an inherent part of Govanhill residents' everyday lives.

The Community Connector and Engagement Worker sourced funding from the Glasgow City Heritage Trust and Scotland Loves for a series of consultation and design sessions with various groups in Govanhill and two murals. These sessions gathered and preserved local people's stories, memories, history, heritage and wishes for their neighbourhood through focus groups and a heritage survey which were used to collaboratively design a first mural to sit in the heart of Govanhill.

Groups included ESOL learners, older people, local volunteers, and the general public. A series of slideshows and recordings were created and published presenting community members' views in their native languages.

Artist recruitment and mural location processes included a community vote. Liaising with authorities and residents to secure necessary permissions for the murals. 9 engagement sessions throughout summer and autumn 2021.

The first mural was completed late March 2022 with a launch event bringing together a group of residents and partners. Community Connector and Engagement Worker wrote press releases and created promotional flyers for the project and a brochure about the first mural.

A 2nd mural is planned along with plans to expand into a street-based trail celebrating the local social, cultural, and built heritage of Govanhill



Mural 1 - At the corner of South Annandale Street and Calder Street

ENVIRONMENT STRAND

Working with Crosshill & Govanhill Community Council and Glasgow City Council Neighbourhood Coordinator to refresh the Environmental strand of the 2017 Locality Plan

YOUTH STRAND

A draft Youth Plan has been partially developed with the help of partners, young people, a student placed with Thriving Places and Community Engagement Worker

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING - THRIVING GOVANHILL FUND

Govanhill Community Development Trust (GCDT) was nominated as the lead agency to distribute £35,000 in partnership with Thriving Places under the banner 'Thriving Govanhill Fund' from the Glasgow Health & Social Care Partnership to the Govanhill community for initiatives in G42 7 or G42 8 postcodes to improve local health and wellbeing through a participatory budgeting process. Round 1 – September/October 2022 - funding for 10 projects, 5 projects received a Kickstart grant of £1,000 and 5 projects received an Action grant of £2,500. Voting by those living in the G42 7 or G42 8 postcode areas by text/Whatsapp. Projects applying included health & wellbeing, music, arts, youth and support for Womens's groups projects with over 400 local residents casting their votes. Further information can be found at;
http://govanhill.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/KICKSTART-GRANTS.pdf
http://govanhill.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/VOTING-GUIDELINES.pdf
http://govanhill.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/KICKSTART-AWARDS.pdf
http://govanhill.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/ACTION-AWARDS.pdf
A further round of the Thriving Govanhill is planned.

Thriving Places Govanhill Locality Plan /Community Connector - Progress Mid-November 2022 to 23 March 2023 – Where Do We Want To Be?

THRIVING PLACES GOVANHILL LOCALITY PLAN – REFRESH

The Community Co-odinator is working with the Locality Planning Officer, GCDT's Sustainable Community Co-ordinator (and the Thriving Places board, yet to be convened) on a refresh of the 2017 Locality Plan, pulling together all the work completed by the previous Community Connector and creating an overview document mapping out each strand in light, easy-read document, with more detailed appendices by strand/action plan by strand for short/medium and longer term outcome, working groups and community profile (budget available to commission via an external consultant). The Locality Plan is a continually evolving document, flexible to meet the changing needs and priorities of the community and led by the community, which will be measured and evaluated in terms of success, including regular reviews by the Thriving Places Board to ensure that it remains relevant and reflect current circumstances.

The 3 Locality Plan strands identified by Community Conversations as priorities remain priority;

1. **Environment and waste - priority**
2. **Housing - priority**
3. **Cohesion (celebration of diversity) – priority**

WORKING GROUPS

These have are being updated by strand and leads identified.

ENVIRONMENT STRAND

The Environment strand is the key focus of the current Community Connector. The Environment working group has been updated and a first Zoom meeting held. The lead for the working group is the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator. The Community Connector has also attended a back courts community discussion hosted by Greater Govanhill Magazine and met with GhHA Back Courts Officer and Tenant Participation Officer. There are also a number of groups of volunteers/residents keen to offer assistance with lanes/back court clean-ups (e.g. Mungo Foundation Bankhall St, Talbot Association, The Point Queens Park Baptist Church) and local lanes residents groups keen to be involved in the Locality Plan.

The next step will be to develop an action plan based on the 1 year/3 year/10 year outcomes by strand outlined in the 2017 Locality Plan for "A Better Govanhill" 'A 10-year Vision and Community Plan for Govanhill';

Short-term (1 year) - People will start to see improvements to the range and quality of Govanhill's public spaces and there will be a measurable reduction in misuse of public space such as littering and fly tipping.

Medium-term (5 years) - People will be taking increasing pride in the area's public spaces and we will see a significant reduction in misuse of public space such as littering and fly tipping.

Long-term (10 years) - Govanhill will be a tidy and well-kept area with a good quality civic realm and attractive green spaces that are respected by people living in and visiting the area.

COHESION STRAND

Continuing the work on the Cohesion Strand by the previous Community Connector;

2nd Mural

The current Community Connector is co-ordinating the 2nd mural project at Hollybrook Street;

Proposed timescales

Jan/Feb	Brief sent to mural artists (see Appendix 1) based on community consultation & survey carried out by previous Community Connector
March/April	1st draft mock-up received /feedback given by TP, further revisions
22 April	Mock-up from mural artists to be submitted to GhHA Senior Management Team meeting for approval (in principle) of design / tenants consulted & Thriving Places board consulted
April	GhHA Tenant Participation Officer to contact Head of Development & Property re timing of repair works and to source contact information for 3 tenants
Up to 6 weeks Wk end April	Instructing work to contractor Latto (fascias/gutter work/refresh coat? tbc), risk assessments - GhHA & mural artists
May	Scaffolding up
May	Work completed/RA from mural artist
May/June	Mural paintwork to commence

Govanhill Community Action Group

- Restarted GoCA monthly meetings
- 3 meetings held to date 1 online, 2 face-to-face) community space information exchange
- Key issues to come out of discussions - cost of living crisis /utilities, food poverty & provision, mental health/lack of awareness of services available, parking in the area,causing a danger when walking groups of children from school, sourcing community space is an issue
- Outputs – Community Police invited to address parking issues, food organisations invited, community space information exchange being co-ordinated by the Community Connector

GCEIS

Communications - Thriving Places Facebook, Govanhill newsletter sent out monthly (mailing list of 350+), noticeboards updated monthly, updating website govanhill.info

Engage with Govanhill and Crosshill Community Council.

Govanhill Services Directory - to be updated.

Liveable Neighbourhoods & Govanhill (Atkins tranche 1) – provide support and disseminate information to Govanhill community.

Participatory Budgeting

A further round of the Thriving Govanhill to be set up.

APPENDIX 1

2017 Locality Plan for "A Better Govanhill" 'A 10-year Vision and Community Plan for Govanhill' - 1 year/3 year/10 year outcomes by strand

THE ELEMENTS OF A BETTER GOVANHILL

ISSUE	COHESION	ECONOMY	ENVIRONMENT	HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	HOUSING	LEARNING	SAFETY
10 year vision for each element of the strategy	People will be proud to be part of a Govanhill community where people value the diversity of different groups whilst treating everyone with respect.	Govanhill will have a well-educated and trained community that contributes to Glasgow's wider economy and will have a strong local economy that is itself a significant economic asset for the city.	Govanhill will be a tidy and well-kept area with a good quality civic realm and attractive green spaces that are respected by people living in and visiting the area.	People in Govanhill will be able to live in good health for longer and the gap between Govanhill and other parts of the city, and between different communities within Govanhill, will be reduced significantly.	There will be a range of good quality housing accommodation in both the public and private sectors, whether someone wishes to live in Govanhill just for a while or to make their life here.	Govanhill's young people will have a level of attainment that will match or surpass their comparators and there will be a significant level of active participation in lifelong learning across Govanhill's communities.	Govanhill residents and visitors to the area will perceive Govanhill to be a safe place to live and work. Fear of crime will have been reduced to the Glasgow average. Effective action will have been taken to reduce the exploitation of vulnerable people.
Where we will be after 3 years (2020)	A strong sense will be emerging of the strengths and opportunities that exist in Govanhill and relations between different parts of the community will show a significant improvement.	Economic activity amongst local people will be growing Govanhill's commercial and social businesses will see increased business from local people and visitors.	People will be taking increasing pride in the area's public spaces and we will see a significant reduction in misuse of public space such as littering and fly tipping.	Health and social care support will increasingly be characterised by an emphasis on early intervention, prevention, harm reduction and public protection. Local people will exhibit healthier lifestyles.	Additional good quality homes for social and mid-market rent will be available and there will be significant enhancements to the management and maintenance of private rented properties.	There will be early evidence of a diminution in the attainment gap amongst school pupils from Govanhill and increasing participation in lifelong learning opportunities.	Significant crime will be reduced and people will feel safer in their homes and within Govanhill's public spaces.

ISSUE	COHESION	ECONOMY	ENVIRONMENT	HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	HOUSING	LEARNING	SAFETY
Where we will be after 1 year (2018)	There will be a growing sense of common identity amongst Govanhill's communities and people will be starting to feel more of a sense of pride in Govanhill's diversity.	People within Govanhill and beyond will have begun to understand the area's strengths as a place to live and work and new initiatives to support local young people and adults looking to get good jobs will be coming on stream.	People will start to see improvements to the range and quality of Govanhill's public spaces and there will be a measurable reduction in misuse of public space such as littering and fly tipping.	Govanhill residents will have a better understanding of, and be making more use of, services and facilities that exist to promote and support healthy lifestyles and outcomes.	Improvements will start to be seen in those areas (particularly in the private sector) with the most immediate and pressing housing problems.	A range of services to support learning within nurseries, schools and community settings will be in place and improvements in engagement across the range of services will start to become apparent.	Enforcement activities will begin to have an impact on significant targeted aspects of law-breaking in the area and the incidence of lower level crime and anti-social behaviour will be reduced. People will begin to feel safer and have less fear of crime.