



# Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark Survey Results 2022

## Thriving Places survey background information.

Thriving Places area covers Springboig, Barlanark, Queenslie, Wellhouse, Budhill, Greenfield and Easthall, but is referred to as Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark. 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 an active part in decision making and driving forward the agenda for Thriving Places.

In February/March 2022 Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark in partnership with Thriving Places Easterhouse conducted a survey to gather views about the local areas. This was to help with establishing what are community priorities, as well as to help with monitoring and evaluation of Thriving Places. 146 individual responses were recorded from the area covered by Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark. The survey consisted of a mix of quantitative questions, for which average scores are reported, and several open-ended qualitative questions which were analysed for emerging themes.

## From which neighbourhoods did we get responses?

The graph below shows the breakdown of which neighbourhoods the respondents were from or had the most significant connection to. In the previous survey, we allowed for multiple selections as we recognise that people move around and can have connections to multiple neighbourhoods. Unfortunately, this made it often difficult to analyse results, and this year, we asked for only one neighbourhood to be selected. The breakdown below shows high response levels in Barlanark, Wellhouse and Springboig and low response levels in Greenfield, Easthall, Queenslie and Budhill.

This suggests that more engagement is needed in the neighbourhoods with the lowest response scores.

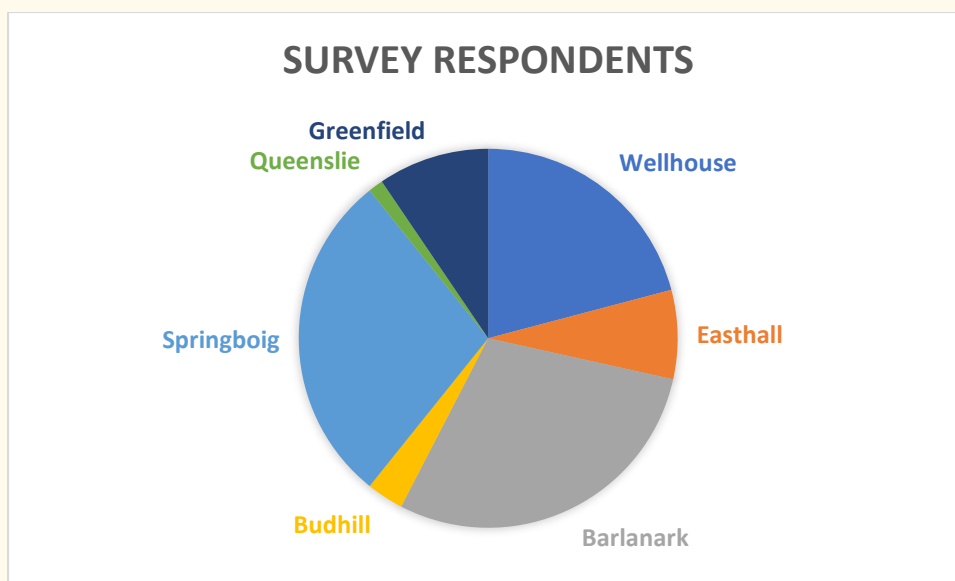


Figure 1 Respondents' neighbourhoods

## Community: belonging, relationships and neighbourliness

The survey used a series of statements where respondents were asked to mark to what extent they agree with those statements on a scale of 1 to 5 by selecting a number of stars.

Overall, the scores for questions that related to belonging, relationships and neighbours were relatively high. The question 'I feel I belong to this local area' had an average score of 4.14.

'The friendships and associations I have with other people in my local area mean a lot to me' 4.16

'People can ask neighbours for help when they need it.' 4.13

However, the question 'Everyone has the opportunity to feel part of the local community.' Had a lower average score of 3.71. This could be suggesting that some people may be experiencing barriers to participation, or may be on the margin of the local community with more work to be done to create truly welcoming and inclusive community opportunities and spaces for all.

*'People always have time for you'*

*Resident, Easthall*

## Access to information

'Information is easily available about what is going on in the local area.' Returned an average score of 3.17, suggesting that many people still feel that they struggle to know what is going on in their neighbourhood. This low score was also echoed by some responses: 'Better advertising of local things on for families as sometimes we miss events because we haven't known anything about them'. This was one of the priority areas for 2021/22, with an Information subgroup formed late in the year to help improve access to the information in the area. They contributed to the creation of the Community Activities Timetable which was published at the end of March 2022 (after the survey closed for responses).

*'Better advertising of local things on for families as sometimes we miss events because we haven't known anything about them'*

## Influencing local decision making

The statement 'I feel able to influence decisions that affect the local area.' returned an average score of 2.86.

With the statement 'I would like to be more involved in the decisions that affect my local area.' Returning an average score of 3.65. This suggests that community members don't feel like they can influence the decisions that affect their local area and some would like to be more involved in local decision making.

## 'Strength in the community'

The overwhelming theme in the survey responses is the local people, community spirit and sense of community. Most respondents mention helpful and friendly neighbours, which is reflected in some quotes: 'My neighbours are super friendly and very supportive of each other always helping each other out.' 'My neighbours, never have I had such relationships with neighbours.' 'Love my neighbours', 'Love the community spirit'.

Some respondents mention community centres/activities and businesses that keep the community together and people that go beyond to make life better for others. People mentioned the importance of having good neighbours who look out for each other and are friendly. The role of local

community centres and organisations. Community organisations that were mentioned by many respondents are Glenburn Centre (Easthall Residents Association) and Connect Community Trust.

People also noted the role of online communities: 'I like how there is supportive Facebook groups for advice and support.'

## 'Greenspaces that are cared for and appreciated'

Another strong theme in this year's survey was concerning shared greenspaces, such as parks, playparks, and open spaces. Many respondents noted that litter, flytipping and dog fouling, broken glass and potholes have a significant negative effect on how they feel about their neighbourhoods.

Residents mentioned that park amenities are often not maintained, and there is a perception that this can lead to further vandalism: 'Parks need fixing and maintained to stop from being destroyed so often.'

'There is dog dropping absolutely everywhere to the point you can't step on the grass, it's disgusting.' 'The litter from St Andrews secondary can be a nightmare.'

Many respondents are frustrated with the lack of (or reduced number of) available bins in the streets and parks. Some respondents recognised efforts made by residents to counter litter with one remarking that what is needed is: 'More groups like the litter picking one, I've not managed to make it to one yet but it is one I am very interested in it and can already see what a difference the people who have already attended them have made to the area.'

'Glass smashed causing a danger to all human and animals. Would love a real safe place to walk dogs.'

'Rubbish left in the green spaces burnt patches of grass.'

The outdoor gym in Sandaig Park was mentioned by multiple respondents remarking that it is in a state of disrepair.

## Better street infrastructure

Issues with flooding, lighting and potholes were mentioned across many responses. It is worth noting that Glasgow City Council has £1million per ward available in 2022/23 for improvements to infrastructure so communication between the local community and council will be important this year so that repairs and works can be prioritised appropriately.

Another issue mentioned by residents is difficulties with parking spaces, around Budhill area in particular.

*Lack of accessible playground equipment in parks, underutilised green spaces, no calm woodland walks or gardens to chill out in.*

Resident, Greenfield

*Lack of unspoiled green space- constant littering, dumping and broken glass.*

Resident, Springboig

## Activities for young people and kids

Many respondents mentioned a lack of activities for kids and young people. This has been particularly prevalent in responses from Greenfield and Springboig. Community members in their responses often linked antisocial behaviour to a lack of opportunities in the area.

*More local help for kids in Barlanark in holiday times like the group at the platform do with lunches and art groups for the kids, as not everyone can travel each day for it and sometimes you travel there and they have to turn people away because the bags are gone but something like this on each community would really help folk out and take the pressure off the one group. It would also give other adults a chance to volunteer to help out with preparations etc if it's something they're interested in.*

Resident, Barlanark

## Feeling safe in own neighbourhood

Many residents mention issues around crime and anti-social behaviour that affect their feeling of safety in the area. Many suggest that more police presence would help, and some suggested setting up a Neighbourhood Watch group. One of the community members commented: 'No beat police walking the area to make us all feel safe. You don't even see a police car that often patrolling'.

## Positive changes in the last 3 years



Figure 2 Responses breakdown to question 'Have you seen a positive change in your local neighbourhood in the last three years?'

There was some overlap in what people mentioned with regards to positive changes, but here is a fairly exhaustive list and a selection of quotes:

- Christmas lights;
- Santa in the square/Winterfest;
- Jiggly Joggers events;
- Shettleston Juniors taking on Greenfield Pitches; 'Greenfield pitches but that's only because David Turnbull and shettleston jnrs has taken it over for football. Well done David and his partners'
- Jim (local cleansing staff) 'Jim our street sweeper. He keeps the place lovely. He's a total star.' Three separate respondents mentioned him!
- community spirit over lockdown, 'I think over lockdowns there has been a sense of community even though we all had to stay home. Things like community bingo!'
- Glenburn Centre 'The Glenburn centre is essential for this area and have been amazing in turning the area around . They are invaluable'
- 'gang related issues have improved'
- 'More diverse mix of neighbours'
- Welcoming refugees
- Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces formed and their litterpicks
- 'Barricades have been put up along empty streets to discourage fly tipping, estate caretakers constantly trying to keep the community clean and local housing officers more visual on walking around the area.'
- Connect Community Trust 'loads and loads of things going on at CDT'
- The kids' playpark improved in Wellhouse
- Formation of Community Council for Springboig, Barlanark and Greenfield
- Budhill Playpark getting re-done
- Rendering of houses/ cladding
- 'Road and lighting faults more quickly responded to and resolved. Including resurfacing work on Hallhill road.'
- More activity on sites like Next Door and Facebook community group 'This Facebook page has been a really good source of information for what is on locally! It's brought people together and much appreciated, especially the children's activities.'
- Speed bumps making roads safer, 'Speed bumps have helped massively'
- 'Think the pandemic has influenced people's attitude towards helping others and asking for help.'
- New housing being built, improvements in existing housing (new bin rooms, new flooring in closes)
- New signage put up about dog fouling

*Jim our street sweeper.  
He keeps the place  
lovely. He's a total star.*

Resident, Greenfield

*Think the pandemic  
has influenced  
people's attitude  
towards helping others  
and asking for help.*

Resident, Springboig

*The litter picking  
group is the one I have  
seen that has made  
the biggest  
improvement to the  
area, personally.*

Resident, Barlanark

## Negative changes over the last 3 years

In terms of negative changes there was a lot of overlap in responses:

- Increase in fly-tipping
- Increase in anti-social behaviour
- Parks and roads deteriorating
- More issues with overflowing bins on streets, removal of small street bins
- Water voles hindering maintenance of land/improvements
- ‘There’s a lot more young people walking about the street and people feel intimidated’
- Lockdown’s impact on peoples’ mental health
- Lack of interventions on dog mess
- Litter and broken glass
- Traffic on Wardie Road

## Actions on the priorities 2022/23

Below you can see some proposed actions for 2022/23 to address some of the priorities. This document does not address all of the community priorities and is just a starting point based on this year’s survey findings. If you as a resident or a community group/organisation would like to add a priority/action to it please get in touch! This is a work in progress and the involvement of local people and local groups and organisations is crucial at every stage.

Community priority	Actions
Community spirit/ belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishing a ‘community’ subgroup to create an action plan to celebrate community spirit and improve community engagement.</li> <li>- A series of community meals/ community breakfasts taking place across Thriving Places neighbourhoods providing socialising and networking opportunities.</li> <li>- Asset mapping exercise of local skills, interests and matching to potential volunteering opportunities.</li> </ul>
Greenspaces that are cared for and appreciated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces continue organising litter picks and working on improving local green spaces.</li> <li>- Support provided for residents to draft proposals for improvements at Danny’s Park.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- -Support provided for residents to draft proposals for improvements at Greenfield Park.</li> <li>- Budhill Playpark- proposal plan of improvements drafted by GCC based on up-to-date consultation. Community to provide feedback on the proposal. Works are planned to start in 2022.</li> <li>- Removal of the outdoor gym at Sandaig Park (project proposal by Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces, funded through Parks and Open Spaces Fund).</li> <li>- Creation of Bear Hunt Trail in Barlanark (project proposal by Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces, funded through Parks and Open Spaces Fund).</li> <li>- Community engagement and consultation on the potential creation of food growing space/ allotments at Greenfield Park.</li> <li>- Areas with water voles- a project about enhancing those areas through a range of wildlife-friendly options, such as wildflower planting, signage etc.</li> </ul>
Improving access to information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Noticeboards will be installed in Budhill and Barlanark (managed by Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces).</li> <li>- Community Activities Booklet updated quarterly.</li> <li>- Residents invited to join meetings of 'Information subgroup' to draft an action plan.</li> </ul>
People having more influence about decisions that affect their area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wider range of engagement methods to allow people to influence decisions on.</li> <li>- Promoting existing avenues for influencing local decisions: for</li> </ul>

	example community councils and community consultations.
<b>Better street infrastructure</b>	- Communication between residents and council regarding improvements needed
<b>Activities for young people and kids</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuation of youth work provision by Easthall Residents Association, Connect CT, Urban Fox, Greyfriars Youth Project, Fuse</li> <li>- Potential introduction of youth provision by Fuse in Greenfield</li> <li>- Shettleston Sports Trust activities in Greenfield Football Centre</li> </ul>
<b>Feeling safe</b>	-

For more information or to get involved in any of the initiatives or subgroups please contact:

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