

Ruchill and Possilpark

Thriving Place

Our Community Plan



What is Our Community Plan?

Our community plan is the Locality Plan for Ruchill and Possilpark. It is one of the ways that Glasgow's Community Planning Partnership will be trying to tackle inequalities; supported by Glasgow City Council's Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

Our community plan has been produced by people who live or work in Ruchill and Possilpark. It tries to tell the story of the area so far and sets out how together local people, organisations and services can make changes that local people would like to see in Ruchill and Possilpark over the next ten years.

Our plan tells you about the work that has been done so far by local people, organisations and collaboratively through Thriving Places. It sets out what we hope to achieve together. Our plan describes different ways you can get involved in achieving change in Ruchill and Possilpark if you want to participate.

All our partners within Community Planning are fully committed to the delivery of these plans. Without local people and our partners working together we cannot achieve what these plans set out.

If you want to get involved you can do so by contacting NG Homes at 0141 336 1300/mycommunity@nghomes.net or the North West Community Planning Partnership and Development Officer Linda Devlin at 0141 287 5385/linda.devlin@glasgow.gov.uk.

Statement of Intent

This community plan is committed to tackling inequality in Ruchill and Possilpark. We believe this can be achieved by:

- using an Asset Based Community Development approach to create stronger, safer, healthier, happier and more inclusive communities;
- creating a strong working partnership between organisations in Ruchill and Possilpark supported by appropriate procedures and protocols at a local and city wide level;
- building connections through social interaction activities and opportunities;
- directing resources to community development and building social capital; and
- maintaining a focus on prevention and early intervention

This is a living plan, which means that it will grow and change as it continues to include, involve and enable the community to have an active role in its development and delivery in Ruchill and Possilpark.

A Brief History of Ruchill and Possilpark

Ruchill and Possilpark have a long history; stretching back to the 1770's when the Canal was established bringing new industry to the area. Local people still remember the booming industry of the iron works, saw mill and other businesses which created lots of job opportunities, local shops, and demand for housing in the area.

Ruchill Hospital opened in 1900; its initial focus was infectious disease, although this changed over the years to cater for the young and the old. The hospital provided a broad range of job opportunities for local people until it closed its doors in 1998, although its water tower remains a local landmark. Part of the site has since been redeveloped to host Benview Campus.

The creation of new housing saw the area grow in the inter-war period. However the years following the Second World War saw disappearance of this industry from Possilpark. By the 1980s unemployment levels were over 60% and the industrial dereliction was compounded by profound deprivation.

With this came the loss of poor quality housing and vital amenities such as shops and the local secondary school.

Socially the area has experienced difficulties with issues of unemployment, illicit drug use, crime and anti-social behaviour in the last number of decades.

"We didn't need to leave Possil for anything. There was everything you needed here. Saracen Street was a great shopping centre"

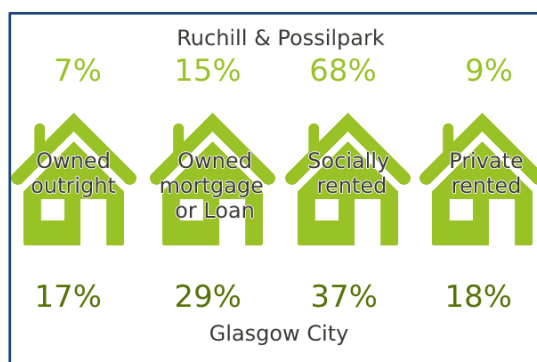


"There was work here for people; you wouldn't have seen many people unemployed... People worked in places like the ironworks in Denmark Street... and there were other places like Hughes buses, the Ascot factory, Lyons Box factory and Blindcraft"

Life in Ruchill and Possilpark, August 2017

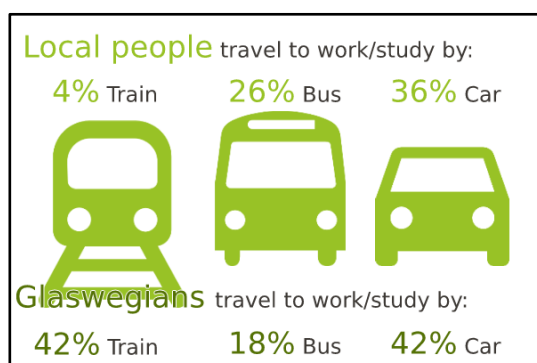
Who Lives in Our Community

The number of people living in Ruchill and Possilpark increased very slightly between 2011 and 2015, from 10,945 to 10,955. The previous 10 years had seen an increase in the population by 849. Slightly more women (53%) than men (47%) live in the local area.



Ruchill and Possilpark is an area with a relatively high number of children and young people. Just under a fifth (19%) of the people living in Ruchill and Possilpark are aged under 16 compared to less than a sixth across Glasgow. The number of 18-24 year olds in Ruchill and Possilpark has decreased by 12% since 2011, while the number of 5-11 year olds has increased by 3%. More than a quarter (26%) of households in the local area have dependent children, compared with just under a quarter (23%) across Glasgow. Lone parent households with dependent children account for nearly a seventh of all local households in the local area, compared with less than one in ten households across the city. The proportion of older people in the area is very slightly less with 13.5% of local people aged 65 years or older, compared with 13.8% city-wide.

This means that there are fewer people between 16 and 64 years of age, with 68% in Ruchill and Possilpark compared to 70% across Glasgow.

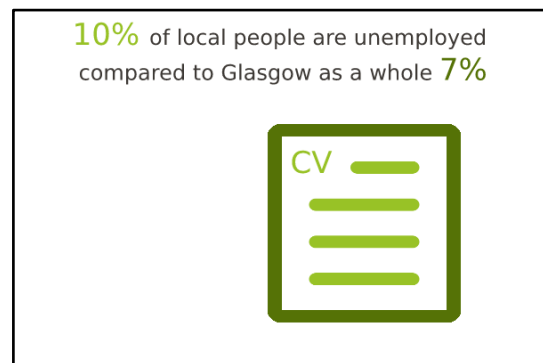


Ruchill and Possilpark is a diverse area. Around 11% of local people were born in a country other than the UK. This compares to 12% of people citywide. Among young people, 15% of under 25s are from a minority ethnic group. A small percentage (3%) of local people have some difficulty with the English language, which is slightly higher than the 2.5% across the city.

There are local challenges; people living in Ruchill and Possilpark have poorer life outcomes than the city average. The average number of years that local men are likely to spend in good health is 48 (second lowest neighbourhood level in Glasgow), compared to the Glasgow average of 56. For local women Healthy Life Expectancy is 50 years (second lowest in Glasgow), compared to 58 across the city. The Healthy life expectancy for males in Glasgow is approximately 7 years lower than Scotland as a whole and 6 years lower for females.

There is a higher number of local people (37%) with one or more long term health condition than across Glasgow (31%). More local people (19%) feel their day-to-day activities are very limited by a health condition compared with Glasgow (13%).

Local secondary school attendance has a similar pattern to Glasgow, at around nine out of ten pupils. However, local pupils on average do less well at school compared with the city average. More than a third (34%) of pupils across Glasgow achieve 5 or more qualifications at this level, compared with a quarter (25%) of local 4th year pupils. Nearly half of local people (48%) have no qualifications, compared to just under a third of people across the city (32%). Local people are also likely to earn less or have fewer employment opportunities.



Understanding Our Community

Ruchill and Possilpark are two neighbouring areas. Within each area there are smaller communities which people refer to as home. The map below shows the areas which lie within Ruchill and Possilpark and some of the main services and spaces that local people are familiar with, as well as proposed regeneration. There are plans to build potentially around 1,951 housing units in Ruchill and Possilpark. This is a mix of private and social housing. This means there could be a significant increase to the local population in the next ten years. Further economic development is also planned for the local area.

The Sighthill Transformational Regeneration Area sits to the east of Ruchill and Possilpark Thriving Place. Part of this development is in the Thriving Place boundaries, the area that was formerly Sighthill Park. This will create further new housing units, potentially including student accommodation. Further information on this development can be found at: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18395>.

Our Community Assets

There are lots of strengths and resources (sometimes called assets) in Ruchill and Possilpark, all of these things can help the community reach its ambitions. These can be grouped together, for example:

Residents: the skills, experience and knowledge of local people, and the willingness of the community to get involved.

Social Assets: this is local associations and groups which are primarily run by volunteers; this includes faith-based groups, community councils and sports groups.

Organisational Assets: this includes schools, health centres, housing associations as well as many local non-profit groups and services.

Environmental assets: this includes land and space which can add to the area.

Physical assets: this includes buildings and facilities that can contribute to the area.

Economic assets: This could be businesses and enterprise in the area, but also how we spend our income.

What We Think About Our Community

People who live in Ruchill and Possilpark care about their community, and more people are getting involved in making their neighbourhood a great place to live. People told usⁱ about what life is like in Ruchill and Possilpark, and about specific issues and their hopes for the area.

People

Community Spirit

People make Ruchill and Possilpark, and local people always talk about how good community spirit is:

“Good community spirit – friendly helpful people”

“There is more community spirit I feel and more of a social interaction between everyone”

In a recent survey 7 out of 10 people felt they belonged to Ruchill and Possilpark and 6 out of 10 people felt valued as a member of their community. The community want to grow this positivity in the area:

“We want to meet more families and to make friends in the community so that our families feel safer walking down the street” (African community)

“Things like the Gala Day are very important community events for bringing people together and getting young and old mingling”

People in Ruchill and Possilpark recognise that there are good opportunities, services and sources of support in their neighbourhood, and there is a feeling these could be enhanced by improved facilities and creating even more opportunities. Less than one in five people had a positive view of their local leisure facilities, or activities for young people. This was also found in a recent community survey about community facilities.

“Community centre is closed at the weekends”

“We would like coffee mornings and places that are both nice and children-friendly”

Diverse and Connected Communities

Over the past number of years Ruchill and Possilpark has become a much more ethnically diverse population. Currently, more than 11% of local people born outside the UK and 10% are from minority ethnic groups. Ruchill and Possilpark also has a high proportion of local

residents who have a long-term condition or disability. The last Health and Wellbeing survey found that one in every 14 people had been discriminated against in the past year.

People also find it hard to know what is going on in their community, in a recent survey about community facilities one in three people didn't know what was on offer in local community centres and In the recent Thriving places communications survey less than half of people felt they knew enough about what was going on locally.

Local people want their community to be inclusive and supportive of everyone and together with partners are taking steps towards this:

"The first multi-cultural event... has influenced us all in such a positive way, as a community we recognise and celebrate the difference that we all have and are accepting of each other. This event built connections and made us stronger as a community."

"You've made us think about how we fit together... and not just told us what to do but to help us think about things ... you got us to think for ourselves; to do it for ourselves"

Local People at the Heart of Decision Making

The health and wellbeing survey showed that three out of five people in Ruchill and Possilpark felt that by working together people in their neighbourhood could influence decisions which affect their neighbourhood.

The community have been becoming more involved in decision making through the work of the Spirit of Ruchill and Possilpark Panel and the willingness of those who care about the future of their area trying to shape changes, for example the Hamiltonhill Action Group.

"Locals said they enjoyed the old community spirit coming back to the area and this was a very positive comment to hear as it means people felt the consultation day was good and reminded them of the good times they had before in their community"

However, it isn't always easy for local people, and they recognise that changes are required to support them to be involved in shaping and developing the future of their neighbourhood and organisations and services that work in the area.

"There is still a long way to go if we wish for feeding info and making decisions from the ground up... however we are bonding and creating a stronger voice for the community and hope [that] rather than decisions being made with external individuals or service providers that they listen to the community and build around this"

Community Issues

There are a number of community issues that affect people living in Ruchill and Possilpark such as health and wellbeing; crime and anti-social behaviour; and littering. The Health and Wellbeing survey showed that four out of every five people had a negative view of the amount of drug activity in their area; three in every four had a negative perception of the level of alcohol consumption; and just over half of people felt safe walking alone in the area after dark.

Local people recognise the good work undertaken by groups and organisations to support people who have been affected by these issues, but they feel there is a need to build on this work to do more.

"[there are] consistent complaints of anti-social behaviour in and near to Saracen Street"

"Use the space that's available, create a purpose"

Environmental issues are a problem in Ruchill and Possilpark, local people have negative views about a range of issues including dog dirt, rubbish, availability of safe play spaces, and pleasant spaces to walk (Health and Wellbeing Survey). The community has tried to address some of these issues through community actions (for example community litter picks and planting); however the issues remain prominent in community conversations.

Place

Our Environment and Space

Ruchill and Possilpark has large amounts of vacant and derelict land, projects in the area have involved local people and organizations working together to transform this land along with work from partners to improve the main public areas, including Saracen Street and the Millennium Space and Bandstand.

People still feel there is lots of opportunity to build on this and would like to see a Ruchill and Possilpark with safe, attractive useable green space and attractive buildings and facilities that help make the area look clean and appealing:

"We should develop overgrown areas"

"This area needs to be maintained better and have better lighting"

Our Facilities, Services and Transport

Due to the geographical layout of the neighbourhood, the communities of Ruchill and Possilpark have different facilities available to them.

Local people are dissatisfied with some of the facilities and services which they have access to. This includes food shops, leisure/ sports facilities, café/ places to meet for socializing, and transport, are prominent issues in local conversations and consultations. Local people would like to see changes that improve their facilities and services.

“I would like the community centre to improve... more things for kids and adults... and improving the look of it”

“There is poor transport... need more regular bus services going through the area”

The Possilpark People’s Trust is led by local people. Its primary aim is to develop a community and family centre, owned and managed by local people.

Our Housing, Planning and Development

Over the past number of years there have been positive changes to the quality of housing available in Ruchill and Possilpark, and more redevelopment is planned. Local people are keen to be involved in shaping their community as it is transformed by new homes.

In addition to the changes in housing local people want to influence the wider planning and development which could occur in Ruchill and Possilpark. This includes green space, facility provision and zoning for development within the area.

Economy

Poverty and Welfare Reform

Poverty continues to affect the lives of individuals and families in Ruchill and Possilpark, nearly half of children in the community are living in households affected by poverty. Although poverty as a topic is rarely discussed by local people, the effects of poverty are.

“We need welfare nights in the community centre”

“Cookery on a budget courses help”

Additionally, changes to the Welfare Reform system are continuing to affect local people, sanctions and changes to disability related benefits have had an impact on local people, and future welfare reform changes means both individuals and the local economy will continue to experience negative impacts.

Employment

Unemployment levels are high in Ruchill and Possilpark (more than 1 in 3 people claim out of work benefits) and this is felt at both an individual and community level, and is limiting the ability of the local economy to thrive. Additionally the number of young people not in education, employment or training is high (1 in every 4).

Local services and organisations are responding to this with a range of job clubs and volunteering opportunities available in the local area. The Spirit of Ruchill and Possilpark Panel are also hoping to lead a community response to the specific issue affecting some young people in the area:

“We recognize there is a need for this in the community – for young people to have positive outcomes”

Enterprise and Business

Historically Ruchill and Possilpark was booming with industry and opportunity. Unfortunately this is no longer the case; there are a small number of enterprises in the area and a limited number of businesses. Local people are keen to see new developments in their area, this includes the work of the Possilpark People’s Trust and social enterprises:

“We should identify gaps in the communities and establish social enterprise to create employment (make use of assets)”

What has been done in Ruchill and Possilpark in recent years

Over the years there has been a range of work and action in Ruchill and Possilpark, aimed at supporting change under our three themes People, Place and Economy.

Ruchill and Possilpark have been a Thriving Place since 2014; and organisations, services and local people have been developing work in the area during this time, and for many, many years prior to this. This section cannot cover everything that has taken place, but tries to give an overview.

People

Community Spirit

A range of activity has been facilitated and delivered within Ruchill and Possilpark aimed at connecting local people, supporting citizen action and providing support and services for local people.

Connecting local people: Over the years the local community has provided solutions for themselves, for example Young People's Futures was established by local residents who wanted to ensure there was activity and opportunity for young people in Possilpark. In recent years the Thriving Places Community Connector has worked to connect local people to each other regarding things they share a joint interest in. Additionally a range of new opportunities have enabled neighbours to meet for the first time, connect and build trust and relationships; an example of this is the 'monthly meal' which is led by the Community Connector and a local resident.

Supporting citizen action: Residents in Ruchill and Possilpark have the skills, desire and resources to take action in their local community. Local people have been key in improving the wellbeing of their community through activities such as weekly groups for exercise and music; organising events such as treasure hunts and pop-up play; upgrading the local environment through painting, planting and adopting planters; hosting community meals and BBQ's, and many more.

Support and Services for local people: A range of services operate in Ruchill and Possilpark, from statutory services, to voluntary organisations, housing associations and church groups. Support is provided to all age groups and needs; however we will provide an overview of youth provision as an example. Six youth-focused voluntary organisations work in Ruchill and Possilpark, and additional work taken forward by housing associations and youth-focused statutory services are also available. The type of services offered include youth clubs; homework clubs; afterschool care; dance, music and arts & crafts; sports and games;

cooking; and a youth health service. There's also a range of sports and drama clubs nearby that some local young people access.

Diverse, Connected and Supported communities

There has been an increase in sharing information about things happening in the local area on social media pages including the Thriving Places facebook page, the Community Connectors profile and local services cross posting. This has enabled more people to connect to activities, events and services.

A number of services and supports working in the area assist local people who have specific difficulties. This includes:

- North West Recovery Community, who runs a peer-to-peer recovery model in Possilpark;
- Emmaus and Phoenix Futures who support people who have experienced homelessness or addiction;
- The Place supports those who have been involved with the Criminal Justice System;
- Possibilities who work to support and integrate people with disabilities into the community and provide a 'Cook & Care' programme to provide hot meals for vulnerable people;

A number of organisations have taken a key role in supporting integration of Ruchill and Possilparks' ethnically diverse community actions include parents groups, school based cultural activities; community events sharing and celebrating diversity and direct work with specific minority groups.

Local People at the Heart of Decision Making

Open decision-making and increased opportunities to participate in change affecting the area has been a key focus in Ruchill and Possilpark. There have been a number of community consultations taking different formats; for example, surveys, conversation events, big votes, charrette and a community-led visioning event 'Our Hammyhill'.

The Spirit of Ruchill and Possilpark Panel has been a key in driving some excellent work; 20 local people have been responsible for distributing around £200,000 of funds since 2015 to local grass-roots projects and non-constituted groups. This has engaged a broad range of the community in a diverse programme of activity and events, including a number of participatory budgeting (PB) events. Other organisations (Maryhill HA, Glasgow CPP & NGhomes) also delivered PB events encouraging local people to decide how money is allocated.

Crime, Safety and Environmental Issues

Local people have been trying to improve some of the aesthetics of their community through litter picks, community planting and improvements. Additionally, the community recently voted to decide the look of the upgraded Millennium Space and Bandstand Area in Possilpark. The area has also been enhanced by the development of growing spaces by a range of local organisations working with the local community.

Police Scotland has undertaken a number of targeted interventions to challenge serious and organised crime in the local area. Additionally, Aberlour: the Bridges Partnership has led the work of the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership in Ruchill and Possilpark.

Place

Over the last 30 years the Ruchill and Possilpark communities have experienced a lot of changes to the **physical environment**. There are large areas of vacant and derelict land in Ruchill and Possilpark following demolition of social housing and closure of community assets such as Possilpark Secondary School. The economic downturn in 2008 also played a role by stalling efforts to bring new developments to the area, and the vacant land issue that continues to adversely affect the local community, environment and economy.

Our Environment and Space

Community growing: locally-led growing space projects including the Concrete Garden, the Back Garden, Glasgrov on Fruin Street Ruchill Community Garden and a number of smaller projects have changed the use of community space for the benefit of local people

Improving vacant sites: a number of initiatives have brought amenities and wildlife to vacant sites such as 'Byshot Path' and the 'Stonyhurst wildflower meadow'. Friends of Possilpark Greenspace have also delivered a range of site-specific projects, including temporary improvements to the Brothers Path and Ashfield Street/ Bardowie Street brownfield site.

Our Facilities, Service and Transport

In recent years public agencies and social housing providers have worked to **improve community facilities and housing**; some of these include:

- Hawthorn Housing Co-operative's new office at Finlas Street acting as a hub for Hawthorn's housing and community development
- Benview Campus opened in 2012, it provided new premises for Highpark and St Cuthberts primary schools.



- Hawthorn House residential home and daycare centre at Ashfield Street provides City Council-managed modern and inclusive elderly care facilities
- Possilpark Health and Care Centre opened in 2014 to serve the community
- Jobs & Business Glasgow and NG Homes opened Saracen House In 2014 as a housing office and business start-up accommodation
- Westercommon Community Centre games hall improvement carried out by Queens Cross Housing Association
- Re-opening of the Whisky Bond as artists' studios and business space and launch of the new National Theatre of Scotland's Rockvilla headquarters building at Craighall Road
- New Paddlesports and Wakeboarding water sports hub at Pinkston Basin, Port Dundas
- Scottish Canals delivering a range of canal infrastructure, outdoor leisure and building improvements at Speirs Wharf and Applecross Basin.
- Sheds at the Glasgrov site

A feasibility study which looked at community facilities in Possilpark, commissioned by the Possilpark Partnership, was conducted in 2016. It made a recommendation for a new, purpose-built community centre in Possilpark.

Our Housing, Planning and Development

Social housing: local social housing agencies have continued to invest in their core housing stock, delivering a range of new build and refurbished properties, streetscape and play space projects. Additionally, Hawthorn Housing Co-operative is currently building 48 new houses.

Influencing planning and development: the Glasgow Canal Regeneration Partnership hosted two Charrettes held in the locality and neighbouring areas: the Port Dundas Charrette and the Canal Hamiltonhill Planning Charrette which led to the preparation of the Canal Hamiltonhill Development Framework that sets out broad land use, transport, active travel, open space and surface water management opportunities within the area.

'Our Hammyhill' was a resident-led event held in April 2017 which used the Place Standard tool to gather residents' views on the current and future needs of Hamiltonhill: the event's findings are set to be included in a brochure promoting the communities role to future development projects in the Hamiltonhill area.

Economy

Poverty and Welfare Reform

Work to challenge poverty and mitigate the impact of welfare reform has been a priority area of activity for a range of partners working in the local area. Some of the specific elements of work are outlined below.

Anti-poverty charter: Queens Cross Housing Association, Maryhill Housing Association and NG Homes have signed up to a local poverty charter which aims to challenge the idea that poverty is acceptable and necessary and take action to alleviate the impact of poverty on our communities.

Financial inclusion and money advice: There is a diverse range of money advice support available in the neighbourhood; this seeks to ensure that access to support is easy for individuals at times of crisis, but also to encourage engagement to improve financial capability. Some of these projects include:

- Tackling money worries project: Maryhill and Possilpark Citizens Advice Bureau (MAPCAB) deliver this project in partnership with Glasgow City HSCP, funded by the Scottish Legal Aid Board. It aims to tackle child poverty by providing advice to families.
- NHS Financial Inclusion is a referral based service for patients in need of money advice.
- Some local housing associations have Welfare Rights Advisors to support tenants; for example, Hawthorn Housing Co-operative buy in welfare advice service two days a week and receive funding for a part-time Tenancy Support Officer
- Epic 360: NG Homes and Queens Cross Housing Association are anchor organisations for EPIC 360, a lottery-funded financial capability project working across Glasgow.
- MAPCAB deliver a regular outreach in Possilpark Library - this work includes delivery of their equalities project.

Other support to tackle poverty: A number of digital inclusion projects operate in the local area including Possilpark Library, The Den, Queens Cross Housing Association, Hawthorn Housing Co-operative and Maryhill Housing Association.

- Ruchill Furniture project seeks to provide low cost second hand furniture to those affected by poverty or on low incomes.
- A number of local services have partnered with the Fare Share scheme and distribute food parcels to those in need. Additionally some community organisations use this provision to provide meals and snacks to people participating in activities.
- All organisations and groups working in the area consider the impact of cost on participation, with the majority providing opportunities free of charge or with minimal contribution. As well as alleviating financial burden free provision reduces the stigma often associated with poverty.

- A range of training relating to welfare reform changes has been offered to those who live, work and volunteer in the area.

Employment

Supporting local people in relation to employability is a key focus of a number of partners in the area. A range of support is available through local job clubs (Maryhill HA, The Den) and also through one-to-one employability support (provided by JBG).

NG Homes in partnership with the School of Hard Knocks deliver a successful employability project 'Pitstops'. Action for Children, Princess Trust and Barnardos support young people and provide the opportunity to engage in employability support post-school. Additionally, Momentum deliver an employability programme for those with a health condition referred by Health and Social Care staff.

Enterprise and Business

There has been limited work developed in Ruchill and Possilpark in relation to enterprise and business. Although there are some examples of good practice from Possibilities, who provide hot meals at home to vulnerable people (Cook and Care) and Emmaus who have a shop in Possilpark.

Additionally, Jobs and Business Glasgow offer support for business start-ups locally, and a number of developments in the area have utilised community benefit clauses for example the Health and Care Centre.

Possilpark People's Trust is being set up by people who live or work in the area to provide a community controlled vehicle for the economic regeneration of the area.

People

Community spirit

Local people have more opportunities to socialise together and build connections with their neighbourhoods (both existing and new residents).

Local people are supported to develop activity for their neighbourhoods.

Local people are able to access a diverse range of age suitable activities in their local community.

Diverse and connected communities

Local people are able to find out what is going on in their neighbourhood.

Local organisations and services are accessible to all.

Local people have the knowledge, skills and access to be digitally included

Local organisations develop and offer a range of programmes and opportunities to support the most vulnerable in our communities.

Local people at the heart of decision making

Local people can access information on how to have their voice heard in forums/structures, services and organisations, and support is available to them.

Organisations and service better engage local forum/structures to share and develop changes in the local area.

Local people have the opportunity to decide how funds are spent through community budgeting projects.

Community Issues

Local organisations and services work together with the local community to consider solutions to issues of safety, crime and anti-social behaviour.

Local people are aware of how to report community issues, and make use of these mechanisms

Individuals and the community have the knowledge, skills and support to protect and improve their health and wellbeing.

Place

Our Environment and Space

The built and physical environment looks good and is maintained, by its owners, to a high standard.

Local people are able to access information on status and ownership of derelict and vacant land sites, and are supported to consider opportunities to develop some of these.

Local organizations continue to develop and support growing spaces in the neighborhoods, and contribute to a food network.

Our Facilities, Services and Transport

Possilpark People's Trust is supported in its ambition of securing funds for a new community facility.

Local people are given the opportunity to develop and use vacant community space within existing premises.

Develop transport links, and networks serving the local area

Our Housing, Planning and Development

Local people and community councils receive guidance and support to influence planning decisions affecting their local area.

New housing is developed in the locality, and local people influence the design and housetype.

Local Housing Associations continue to invest in maintaining and improving their housing stock.

Economy

Poverty and Welfare Reform

Local people know about, and have access to welfare rights support and financial capability through a range of local services.

Host a community conversation on poverty and welfare reform in Ruchill and Possilpark to share good work, and identify future activities to address issues including in-work poverty.

Employment

Local people know about, and have access to employability support (both out-of-work and in-work progress support) through a range of local services.

Establish an understanding of city wide employability projects uptake in Ruchill and Possilpark, in particular youth employability programmes.

Enterprise and Business

Investigate feasibility of establishing a traders association in Ruchill and Possilpark.

Establish Possilpark People's Trust as a vehicle for economic regeneration.

Services and organizations work to develop opportunity for new social enterprises to meet their needs and the needs of the local community, and also support existing social enterprise and small businesses whenever possible.

Thematic area	Short term outcomes (2018)	Medium term outcomes (2020)	Long term outcomes (2025)
People	A range of ongoing social opportunities are available in the local community Local people, services and organisations are developing activity and action based on their own, and their communities, needs and desires There is a broad range of activities and services available in the community for different ages and specific needs A range of opportunities for individuals to project and improve their health and wellbeing are available Equalities is considered in all activities in Ruchill and Possilpark More action locally to address social isolation experienced in our communities More people see the value in getting involved in their community in a range of different ways. Residents are participating in and influencing different forums/structures and organisations More people have digital knowledge, skills and access in Ruchill and Possilpark Up-to-date accessible information is available on community life and services in a range of formats for the local community Community based responses to safety, crime and anti-social behaviour are being perused in Ruchill and Possilpark People feel safer in their neighbourhood	There is a range of community based activity and support to meet the diverse needs of the population of Ruchill and Possilpark A diverse range of local people are influencing decisions on how a range of different resources in Ruchill and Possilpark are allocated Services, organisations and local people are working together to develop services which are required in the local area Local people enjoy walking among their local community	Our community is more connected and is being developed by local people, with support from services and organisations when required

Thematic area	Short term outcomes (2020)	Medium term outcomes (2023)	Long term outcomes (2027)
Place	Local people are aware of the status and ownership of vacant and derelict land in Ruchill and Possilpark	There has been a reduction in the amount of vacant and derelict Land in Ruchill and Possilpark	Our neighbourhood is attractive, has the facilities which we need, and spaces (land and buildings) are utilised to realise their potential as desired by the community
	Buildings and Space in Ruchill and Possilpark look better and are well maintained		
	Create a targeted investment strategy for Saracen Street		
	Create an agreed vision for land use in Ruchill and Possilpark	Local people are leading the development of available vacant and derelict land in Ruchill and Possilpark	
	Vacant sites and empty buildings are safe and secure		
	There is more safe environmental space available for community use in Ruchill and Possilpark		
	Possilpark People’s Trust has secured funds and created a full Business and Development Plan.	An access and transport plan is developed for Ruchill and Possilpark	A broad range of housing tenure types is available in the local area
	Previously vacant community spaces are being used, with local people coordinating activity were possible		
	Capacity building and a range of approaches have supported the local community to understand and become involved in planning decisions affecting the locality	New housing is developed in the local area	The Community has a vision for the area and local people are influencing planning and development proposals/ plans for their locality
	Possilpark Family Centre opened		
	Local people are leading the development of a new community facility and coordinating other activity to improve use of the neighbourhoods physical assets		

Thematic area	Short term outcomes (2020)	Medium term outcomes (2023)	Long term outcomes (2027)
Economy	Local people know where to get advice and support for issues related to Welfare Reform, money worries and financial exclusion	The impacts of welfare reform and poverty are mitigated and the community are driving this action	Less people are living in poverty in Ruchill and Possilpark
	Local people, together with local services and organisations are at the heart of challenging poverty, reducing stigma and increasing opportunity within the community	Innovation and entrepreneurship are being supported and developed in Ruchill and Possilpark	Innovation and entrepreneurship are being supported and developed in Ruchill and Possilpark
	Local people are able to access employability activity suited to their individual needs, and pathways to support people into employment locally and in Glasgow are developed	Ruchill and Possilpark has more local job opportunities and a growing number of social enterprise and businesses.	New amenities developed to connect Ruchill and Possilpark to the City Centre (for example, Hotel/ Business park)
	Enterprises and businesses in the area are working together on shared local priorities	Mechanisms are in place to attract new investment to Ruchill and Possilpark	We work collaboratively with local organisations and strategic planners to ensure all elements of our economy are being developed in line with the wishes of local people
	Ruchill and Possilpark is considered explicitly in City wide Economic plans	Social enterprises are helping to meet the needs of local people	
	Possilpark People's Trust is supporting the economic regeneration in the locality	Organisations and services working in the area are supporting local social enterprises and businesses to meet their needs.	
	More support is available for social enterprises in the area		

How People Can Get Involved

We believe everyone has something they can offer to their community and that everyone should have the opportunity to become involved as little or as much as they would like.

Below are some formal ways in which you can get involved in your local community or change the way that services that matter to you are delivered.

Thriving Places

Thriving Places supports residents to influence or jointly deliver the development of services in their community. You can come along to a Thriving Places Development Group, or a themed action group. Have a chat to our Community Connector or a local organisation to find out when the next meeting is – or just to pass on your thoughts to any of the groups.

Spirit of Ruchill and Possilpark Panel

This is a local Community Panel comprising of local people who live in the area, together they make decisions about where the resource from the Spirit of 2012's Glasgow Commonwealth Games legacy programme *Fourteen* is spent locally. You can find out more, including how to become involved in the Panel by visiting:

www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/spiritruchillpossilpark/

Community Councils

Community Councils are made up of local people who give time to, and have a genuine interest, in the wellbeing of their community. They consult the local community on all issues affecting them and tell us, and other public bodies, the views of local people. Community Councils are consulted on licensing and planning applications within their area.

[There are three Community Councils in Ruchill and Possilpark:](#)

Parkhouse Community Council: meets 2nd Tuesday of each month (except July) at 19.00hrs in Trinity Possil & Henry Drummond Church, Crowhill Street, Parkhouse.

Possilpark Community Council: – meets 1st Thursday of each month (except July) at 18.30hrs in Possilpoint Community Centre, 130 Denmark Street, Possilpark.

Ruchill Community Council: – meets 1st Wednesday of each month (except July) at 18.30hrs in Ruchill Community Centre, Bilsland Drive, Ruchill.

Tenants and Residents Organisations

Each Housing association has a tenants and residents group (although they might call it a different name). Contact your Housing Association to find out how you can participate.

Parents Councils

Each school has a Parent Council; it is a group of parents who represent all the parents at a school. Any parent with a child at the school can volunteer to become a member of the Parent Council. Contact the school of your child/children for more information on getting involved.

Volunteering

You can volunteer directly with a Third Sector Organisation or Faith-based Organisation (your local church, for example) or you can go through a third party such as Volunteer Glasgow. You can find further information at: <http://www.volunteerglasgow.org/volunteer/>.

Active Citizenship

There are lots of informal ways to be active in your community. By being a good citizen, small acts of kindness can go a long way to building positive community relationships. For example: helping your neighbour, picking up litter, checking in on elderly people nearby, welcoming new people into the community with a small gift. We all have a part to play in creating a better, kinder, happier community

Participation Requests

If a community body believes it can improve the outcome of a public service it can make a participation request to the relevant body, including the Council, NHS GGC or the HSCP. Find out more about Participation Requests by visiting participationrequests@glasgow.gov.uk

Economy

Local businesses may become involved in the community in a variety of ways such as forming an association, hosting community events, offering prizes to the community, creating Saturday jobs for local kids, reporting rubbish and crime, creating a local 'jobs board'.

Local people can become actively involved in the economy by buying locally rather than from larger multinationals, being enterprising and using skills to create and sell products, and pressurising public sector to make the area more attractive to retailers, through enforcing crime, maintaining cleanliness etc.

Faith Groups

Local Faith groups offer a range of support and participation opportunities to local people. The following faith groups are available in Ruchill and Possilpark:

- Possilpark Parish Church, Sacacen Street
- St Matthews Episcopal Church, 200 Balmore Road

- St Theresa of Lisieux RC Church, 86 Saracen St
- Trinity Possil & Henry Drummond Church of Scotland, 1 Crowhill St
- Clay Community Church, The Grove, 182-184 Saracen Street
- Sri Mangala Vinayakar Temple, 105 Denmark Road, Possilpark
- World Mission Agency; Winners Chapel International Glasgow, 41 Ashfield St.
- Ruchill Kelvinside Church of Scotland, 15-17 Shakespeare St, Maryhill

ⁱ We have used information from the following sources of information to inform the development of this plan.

168 people contributed to pop-up events and community conversations

1,339 learning conversations with local people by community connector

1,259 people contributed to the Millennium Space and Bandstand Consultation and Design

74 people completed Thriving Places Communications survey

258 people completed a Community Survey looking at community facilities

564 people completed the 2014/15 Health and Wellbeing survey (representative sample)

218 people participated in Hamiltonhill Community led consultation