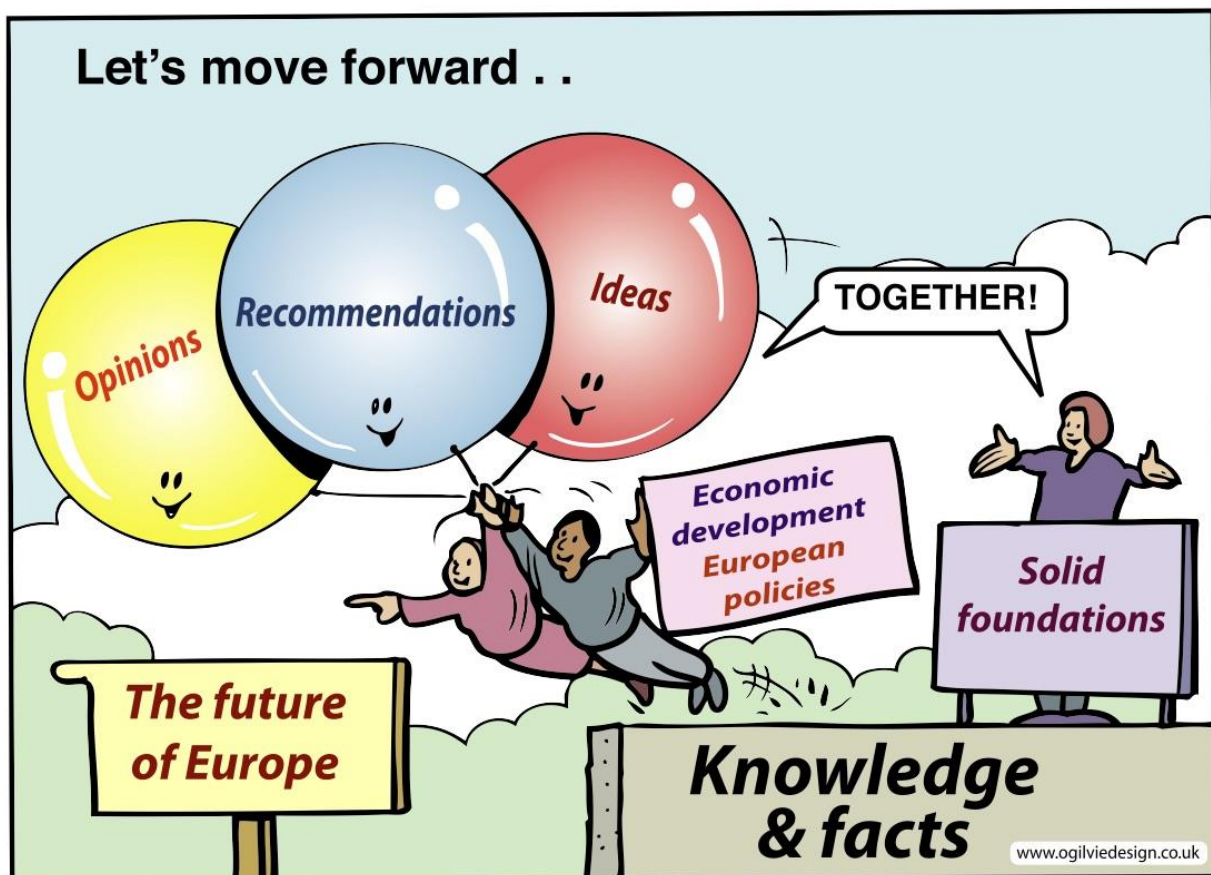




## Glasgow's Citizens Panel Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Improving Economic Development in the Future of Europe



## Background

Glasgow is an active participant in EUROCITIES, a network of elected local and municipal governments of major European cities. The EUROCITIES network brings together the local governments of over 140 of Europe's largest cities and over 45 partner cities that collectively govern 130 million citizens across 39 countries.



Glasgow will remain an active partner in many European-wide initiatives, regardless of the status of the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union.

## The European Pillar for Social Rights

Announced in 2015, followed by consultation; in November 2017, the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) was officially proclaimed, providing a new roadmap for the development of European welfare systems and associated citizens' rights. Despite the outcome of the referendum in the UK, the issues at the centre of the European Pillar of Social Rights remain central to the concerns of UK local authorities and civil society.

The UK Parliament considered the EPSR in November 2017 and agreed with the relevant Minister that the Pillar does not in itself have any new legal effect, and ongoing Brexit negotiations brought no clarity as to how this may develop. Making a pledge however is statement of intent and commitment to promoting shared values and rights.

The [House of Commons European Scrutiny Select Committee](#) cleared the EPSR and noted in November 2017 "The Pillar of Social Rights is a policy initiative of major significance. It is likely to set the EU's social policy agenda for years to come."

The Pillar of Social Rights aim is to deliver more effective rights for citizens and upward convergence and enacting of these by people across Europe. It builds upon 20 key principles, structured around three categories:

- Equal opportunities and access to the labour market;
- Fair working conditions and
- Social protection and inclusion

## EUROCITIES campaign 'Cities4Europe – Europe for citizens'

<sup>1</sup> 'Cities4Europe – Europe for citizens' started in May 2018 with a series of local events showcasing successful local initiatives that engage citizens, present ideas for new forms of democracy and map out a positive, common future.

This initiative coordinated by EUROCITIES aims to demonstrate cities' contribution to a more cohesive and inclusive Europe starting from the local level. The campaign aimed to:

- **Involve** citizens in a dialogue about the future;
- **Inspire** all levels of government to build societies where people come first;
- **Impact** the way decisions are taken in Europe

It is time to change politics in Europe. One year ahead of the European Parliamentary elections, the EUROCITIES campaign brought people and policymakers together to explore new ways of involving citizens in the decision-making process. The aim was to launch a process which promoted societies where people came first and where trust between citizens and public authorities be strengthened.

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<sup>1</sup> The campaign has developed into a new phase: "Inclusive Cities For All"

Throughout the campaign, ideas on the future of Europe from both citizens and stakeholders were collected both online and at events, with a special focus on young people. Young Ambassadors – an initiative inspired by Scotland’s Year of Young People - were key participants in the EUROCITIES AGM held in Edinburgh in November 2018

## **EUROCITIES/European Commission Project on Citizens Participation**

Citizens Panels were identified as a means to involve citizens across Europe in the ‘Cities4Europe – Europe for citizens’ campaign and involve them in discussion regarding the European Pillar for Social Rights.

With the Citizens Panels project, EUROCITIES wanted to involve citizens in a dialogue about their future, to inspire all levels of government to build societies where people come first, and to impact the way decisions are taken in Europe by organising local citizens’ discussion panels on the future of Europe.

Working with the European Commission, EUROCITIES opened a Call for up to twenty cities across Europe to participate. Glasgow was the only UK city selected.

This project, offered several opportunities for:

- **Participating cities:** To increase their experience in participative and deliberative democracy processes; to better connect the political level with the citizens; to inspire other cities and levels of government;
- **Citizens:** To acquire knowledge, discuss, and give an informed opinion about the future of Europe;
- **EUROCITIES:** To show the pivotal role that cities can play in the construction of a more citizen-focused Europe; and
- **The European Commission:** To have their recently launched online citizen consultation process supported by local governments, as well as to receive qualitative answers from well informed citizens that attend the local initiatives.

Citizens’ panels are based on the principles of deliberative democracy. Past experiences have shown that citizens are as equipped as experts to answer complex questions, provided that several conditions are respected: political institutions and leaders must commit to consider the proposals put forward by citizens; there must be a good cross-section of representatives; the process is understood to be long-term in order to give citizens time to understand the questions and establish a common viewpoint; clear and robust methods are followed to develop a synthesis of the discussions.

## **Glasgow’s Citizens Panel**

Organised as part of the [EUROCITIES Citizen Panels initiative](#), Glasgow City Council hosted a consultation event to focus on improving economic development. Glasgow was one of only 19 cities chosen to do so by EUROCITIES and the European Commission to represent the urban agenda informing the future of Europe.

The event provided a panel of citizens the opportunity to hear more about the European Commission as well as put forward possible solutions. A panel of over 60 residents were recruited to be representative of the diversity of the population of the city.

To help Citizen Panel members prepare for the event, they were provided with optional background reading two weeks before the consultation event. The factsheets included:

## EUROCITIES papers on Economic development:

- Local innovation ecosystems  
[http://nws.eurocities.eu/MediaShell/media/Final\\_draft\\_report\\_on\\_LIE\\_8\\_final.pdf](http://nws.eurocities.eu/MediaShell/media/Final_draft_report_on_LIE_8_final.pdf)
- Sharing cities: a sharing economy that delivers benefits for citizens  
<http://nws.eurocities.eu/MediaShell/media/EUROCITIESsharingeconomy policypaperMarch2017final.pdf>

European Commission Factsheets economic development:

- What is the Invest EU Programme?  
[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/budget-june2018-what-is-investeu\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/budget-june2018-what-is-investeu_en.pdf)
- [Invest EU: What will it finance?](#)

To frame a Glasgow perspective, two reports were provided for participants to read:

- [Towards a Business Story for Glasgow](#)
- [Brexit and the Glasgow City Region](#)

Additional factsheets were provided on the themes from European Pillar of Social Rights to provide further (optional) background reading to help participants prepare for the thematic workshops:



Before attending the consultation event, all Citizen Panel members were asked to complete an online survey on the [European Commission consultation on the future of Europe](#)

Following completion of the survey, members were then invited to participate in an event on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in the St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art, Castle Street, Glasgow, G4 0RH.

The objective of the Citizen Panel event was to provide residents with knowledge and facts on economic development and European policies; hear from expert speakers; create informed opinions; discuss ideas and work together to make recommendations for the future of Europe.

## Presentations

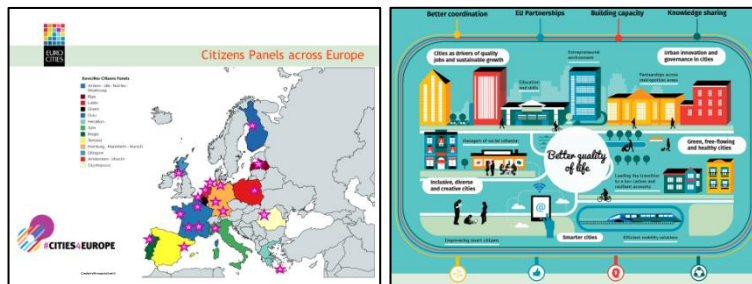
During the first part of the event, the Citizens Panel heard presentations from guest speakers.

Bernadette Monaghan, Director of Community Empowerment Services at Glasgow City Council, opened the event and informed participants about the housekeeping and format of the day:

- Information and presentations from experts and guest speakers;
- Dialogue in workshops to discuss key issues and share understanding;
- Deliberation in workshops to develop recommendations for consideration; and
- Voting on top three recommendations

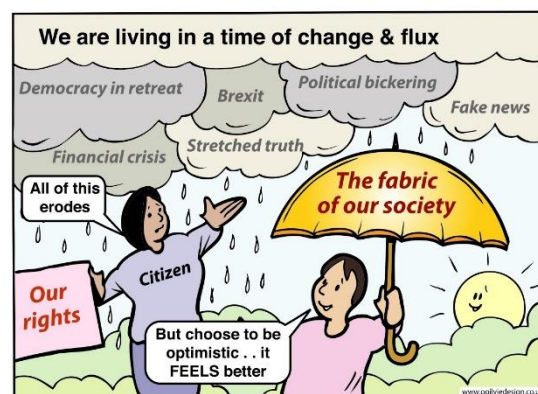


Joe Brady, Policy Officer from Glasgow City Council, delivered the EUROCITIES presentation on behalf of Federico Guerrieri who, due to unforeseen circumstances, could not attend the event. The presentation can be accessed [here](#)



Professor Graeme Roy, from the Fraser of Allander Institute at Strathclyde University, delivered a presentation on Glasgow's position within Europe. Professor Roy gave an overview of the various Brexit options detailed in this image to help Panel members understand that with Glasgow's economy as a major European city, with a diverse business base, Glasgow and the surrounding areas cannot expect to be immune from the changes that Brexit will bring. The presentation can be accessed [here](#)

Councillor David McDonald, Depute Leader of Glasgow City Council, delivered a speech outlining why the Social Rights outlined in the Pillars are so important. Without them, the fabric of our societies and the international rule of law are eroded. Initiatives such as our City Charter and establishing a framework to realise human rights are therefore critical as a way to embed these into future economic, fiscal and social policy making in all spheres and at all levels in Glasgow.



## Workshops



The second part of the event involved 8 thematic workshops to facilitate further dialogue on economic development in relation to the European Pillar of Social Rights, followed by a period of deliberation to develop and agree recommendations for improvement.

Each thematic workshop was facilitated by an expert in their subject as detailed in the table below. This provided the time and space to ask questions, put forward ideas and work collaboratively on recommendations for consideration.

No	Theme in relation to economic development	Facilitator
1	Social rights (human rights)	Andy Sirel
2	Education	Dr. Oliver Escobar
3	Health	Jessica Watson
4	Cohesion/migration	Jamie Kerr
5	Technology	Marie McLelland
6	Environment/sustainability	Alec Wersun
7	Culture	Alex Byers
8	General	Judith Hunter

## Recommendations

Each of the workshops suggested one recommendation, to improve economic development in the future of Europe, to be put forward for a final vote.

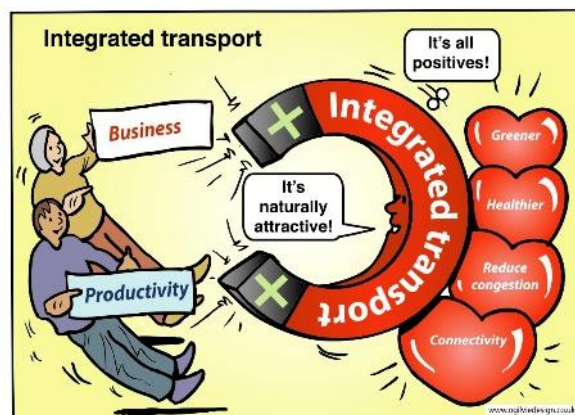
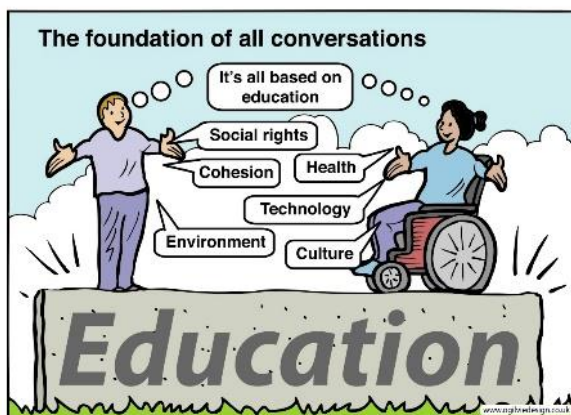
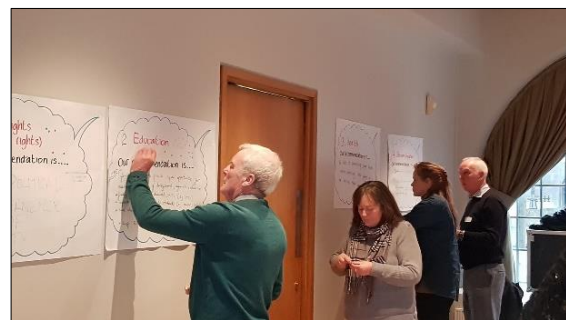
Theme	Recommendation
Technology	Technology must be available to all, regardless of ability and that those who don't have access are not punished/penalised e.g. poverty premium
Environment/Sustainability	Increased investment in public led transportation systems: train lines; river; bus and underground
Education	<p>Lifelong learning to provide equal opportunities for everyone regardless of background; with emphasis on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for economically demanding skills (e.g. STEM: Science Technology Engineering and Maths);</li> <li>• Improve support packages for students (e.g. transport and childcare);</li> <li>• Take education out of classrooms (community courses); and</li> <li>• Keep EU education initiatives beyond Brexit</li> </ul>
Cohesion-Migration	Migration is the future of our city. Europe must invest in people's skills and promote the economic and social opportunities of mobility
Social-Human Rights	<p>(Increased) non-political governance of city to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poverty;</li> <li>• Housing;</li> <li>• Safety;</li> <li>• Mental Health;</li> <li>• Education; and</li> <li>• Housing</li> </ul> <p>Politics considered a barrier to change, not an enabler.</p>
Culture	<p>Challenge negative stereotypes of the city and build on the success of Glasgow's cultural economy through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Festivals that celebrate the diversity of contemporary Glasgow (e.g. food, music);</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifelong support/access to skills of culture production/education to ensure an inclusive creative economy</li> </ul>
Health	Shift to preventing poor health, while protecting vital parts of our services that support health
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideally cancel Brexit;</li> <li>• Ending of the big hostels/institutions – smaller units, better support/counselling/access to education for adults in life skills, addictions/mental health for homeless people. E.g. like the Social Bite village</li> </ul>

## Voting

The third and final part of the event involved participants voting on the eight suggested recommendations from the workshops and to select their preferred three recommendations to submit from Glasgow.

The three recommendations selected were Education, Environment/Sustainability and Health.



## Where next?

An event will be held at the European Parliament on 21 February 2019 when another phase of this work will be launched: 'Inclusive Cities for All: Social Rights in My City'. Member cities have been asked to make pledges regarding the European pillar of Social Rights and example the commitment made.

Glasgow's Pledge focuses on Principle 19 - access to social housing and tackling homelessness:

*"Access to social housing or housing assistance of good quality shall be provided for those in need. Vulnerable people have the right to appropriate assistance and protection against forced eviction. Adequate shelter and services shall be provided to the homeless in order to promote their social inclusion."*

Glasgow implements and realises many of the actions and goals of the European Social Pillar of Rights. Principle 19 is an ideal commitment to promote. It complements our key commitments within our strategic plan; Housing and Homelessness strategies; and key initiatives such as participation in the Global Homeless Alliance. The Pledge is an opportunity to highlight our work and innovation in this area and raise this at the heart of Europe and share best practice with our neighbours. Our Pledge will be shared with other members and will be launched in the presence of MEPs and high-level EU officials on 21 February 2019.

More than 100 local, national and European leaders are expected to attend the second EUROCITIES Mayor's summit that will be held in Brussels on 21 March 2019, supported by the European Commission. As part of the summit, the findings from the local Citizen's Panel events and the intermediary results of the online consultation will be presented to politicians.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to the following partners and officers who gave up their Saturday to contribute to the event.

- ✓ Graham from Ogilvie Design who captured the emerging thoughts and ideas in artwork;
- ✓ Professor Graeme Roy, Fraser of Allander Institute, University of Strathclyde;
- ✓ Alex Byers, Community Engagement Manager, Glasgow Life;
- ✓ Dr Oliver Escobar, Lecturer in Public Policy, University of Edinburgh and What Works Scotland;
- ✓ Marie McLelland, Economic Development Officer, Glasgow City Council;
- ✓ Judith Hunter, Principal Officer for Equalities, Glasgow City Council;
- ✓ Duncan Booker, Sustainable Glasgow Manager, Glasgow City Council;
- ✓ Alec Wersun, Senior Lecturer, Glasgow Caledonian University;
- ✓ Jamie Kerr, Immigration Law Partner, Burness Paull;
- ✓ Andy Sirrel, Human Rights Lawyer, JustRight Scotland;
- ✓ Jessica Watson, Community Engagement Officer, Glasgow Centre for Population Health;
- ✓ Catherine Tabbner, Glasgow Centre for Population Health.

Report and Citizens Panel event and facilitated by Evelyn O'Donnell, Glasgow City Council.

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