



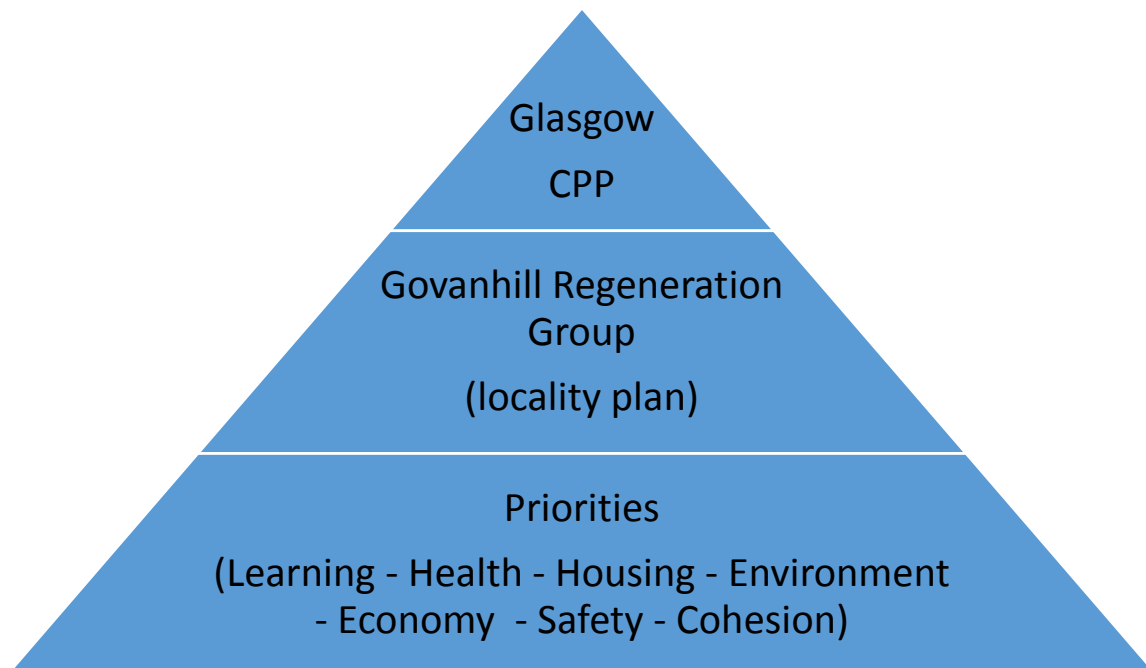
1. Background

1.1 In 2017, The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) added the Govanhill locality area to others in the city (9 in total) as being one which would benefit from a focussed approach to ensure 'cohesion' whilst partners are delivering services in an area. This focussed approach is known quite simply as Thriving Places, and the principle sponsors of the initiative, Glasgow City Council (GCC) and the Glasgow Community Health Partnership (GCHP) made a request of Govanhill Housing Association to become the anchor organisation in the area facilitating this approach.

1.2 The Management Committee of the Association agreed to this request at its meeting in August 2018.

2. Structure of Responsibility

2.1 The structure detailing the roles and responsibilities of the process is given below



3. Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (CPP) plans

3.1 Implicit in the structure detailed above, the GCPP is strategically crucial and sets the tone for empowering communities. CPPs are responsible for developing plans to describe their local priorities and planned improvements. These have always been required, but are now statutory obligations under The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Two types of plan are specified.

- Local Outcomes Improvement Plans, which cover the whole council area
- Locality Plans, which cover smaller areas within the CPP area, usually focusing on areas that will benefit most from improvement. Each CPP will produce at least one Locality Plan and some CPPs will produce many – there is no fixed number

3.2 The Council had a statutory obligation to develop locality plans in each of the neighbourhoods it considers 'pressured' or needing an enhanced level of support, including Govanhill.

4. Govanhill's Locality Plan

4.1 Govanhill's Locality Plan – 'A Better Govanhill' - was developed in September 2017, along with locality plans in each of the city's 'Thriving Places'. It was developed through the Govanhill Regeneration Group, a structured forum with representation from public sector and third party sector organisations alongside representatives of the local community. The Group is chaired by elected members of the Local Authority.

4.2 'A Better Govanhill' sets out a Vision for Govanhill based on a description of what it wants it to be in 10 years (2017 -2027)

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.

5. Priorities

5.1 There are a series of priorities to achieve this vision in 10 years, and include involving interventions under the following seven headings. These have seven headings:

- Economy
 - Employability support
 - Local business support
- Environment
 - Improving neighbourhood management
 - Improving back courts
 - Pest control
 - Waste control
- Health
 - Improving prevention and harm reduction
 - Shifting balance of care
 - Securing public protection

- Housing
 - Developing new homes
 - Acquiring homes as appropriate
 - Improving factoring standards
 - Improved 'signposting' of appropriate private lettings options
- Learning
 - Investing in ICT
 - Improved teacher support
 - Increased lifelong learning
- Safety
 - Targeting specific crimes
 - Improved engagement
 - Increased officer training
 - Addressing underlying issues
- **Cohesion (Thriving Places)**
 - Building shared norms
 - Building good relations
 - Responding to diversity and countering stigmatisation
 - Tackling underlying deprivation
 - **Connecting**

5.2 Measuring success against the priorities

The regeneration group review the success of the interventions in the priority areas and receives at its meetings an update on each area accordingly. Much work on the priorities is delivered through various local initiatives and forums, including the HUB etc.

However, the Plan, with its priorities, its outcomes and measures for success, is overdue for a refresh and it is the intention that in conjunction with all partners this is completed in 2019.

6. Cohesion as a priority - The Thriving Places Initiative

6.1 The principle partners of the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership implemented an initiative called Thriving Places Initiative in 2013 as their 'intensive neighbourhood approach' to target specific areas of the city making better use of existing assets and resources and creating more effective working across partners.

6.2 Essentially because 'Thriving Places' are neighbourhoods and communities which have been identified as needing further support to tackle complicated local issues, the approach proposes that organisations commit to working more collaboratively with one another and with the community to make better use of existing resources and assets to respond to each individual community's needs.

6.3 Originally, there were nine Thriving Places across the city, three in each sector partnership. In the south of the city, these are Gorbals, Govan, and Priesthill & Househillwood. Govanhill was added in 2018.

6.4 In most Thriving Places, the Council and Planning Partnership have specifically worked with a community anchor organisation, essentially the lead community organisation of each neighbourhood. New Gorbals Housing Association, Govan Housing Association and Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association all lead in the three respective areas of the Southside. In providing this support, they are given specific additional funding of around £40k per annum to resource and deliver the implementation of their Locality Plan.

In June 2007, the then Department of Communities and Local Government carefully defined the term 'community anchor organisation':

"Working with the Office of the Third Sector, we are exploring the increasing potential of approaches involving 'community anchor' organisations. These are independent community led organisations with multi-purpose functions, which provide a focal point for local communities and community organisations, and for community services. They often own and manage community assets, and support small community organisations to reach out across the community."

This definition is widely accepted and the Scottish Government recognises community anchors as its main priority when engaging with communities. In this context, its primary focus is community-controlled housing associations and development trusts.

7. Thriving Places and Govanhill Housing Association

7.1 Govanhill HA has recently been approached regards being the community anchor organisation leading a new Thriving Places initiative in Govanhill. The Association's committee approved acceptance of this in August 2018.

7.2 The initiative attracts £40k in 2018-19 to resource 'community connector' activity and agreement for continued funding for 3-5 years is imminent (Sept/Oct 2018). Clarification from GCC is being sought as it would appear that some of the £40k allocation has been ring-fenced for a piece of consultancy work to do some local mapping work.

7.3 The community connector role encompasses the following:

- support the development of local skills and knowledge and foster strong resident and agency working
- involve a broad base of local residents and groups through use of appropriate community engagement techniques
- identify priority issues and agendas to be shared with local agencies so that there is a better and shared understanding of the needs, priorities and issues
- support community capacity building to ensure local people are able to participate in, and work towards leading, the Thriving Places approach
- Assist in monitoring and evaluating
- Support the development of systems to measure and capture progress

8. Presentation on Cohesion

9. Example Project – Youth Provision

As an exemplar project on the role of the anchor organisation and potential to develop a cohesive 'connected' process for delivery in the area, Govanhill Housing Association was similarly asked at the end of last year to facilitate the opportunity to deliver a more structured outcome based approach to youth activity in the area. This came about as a result of the demise of the Govanhill Youth Project and the foresight officers had to explore if the resource allocated to that project could be utilised anywhere else to meet outcomes empowering young people in Govanhill.

Approaching the anchor organisation GhHA on this, through its subsidiary company Govanhill Community Development Trust (GCDT) the Association proposed to utilise the resource (£55-60k) by exploring options with all community groups in the area through the Govanhill Community Action Group (GoCA) on ways to use the resource. It did this by way of a small grants initiative (up to 5,500 per project) for each project to apply for funding to enable it to deliver youth activity. 11 requests for funding were received from community groups operating in the area. 8 were approved as having met the criteria and the remaining groups will be given support for any future such initiative.

The success is that at short notice opportunities have been given to other providers to provide services to young people, something that would have been lost to Govanhill, and the resource lost to the area if an approach such as Thriving Places had not been in place and make the connections.

Recognising this was an initiative which was delivered at short notice, the small remnant of the funding remaining is intended to be used to resource youth work in the area, and to help develop a more comprehensive youth strategy for the area to help resource more initiatives in the future meeting locality and partnership planned outcomes.

