

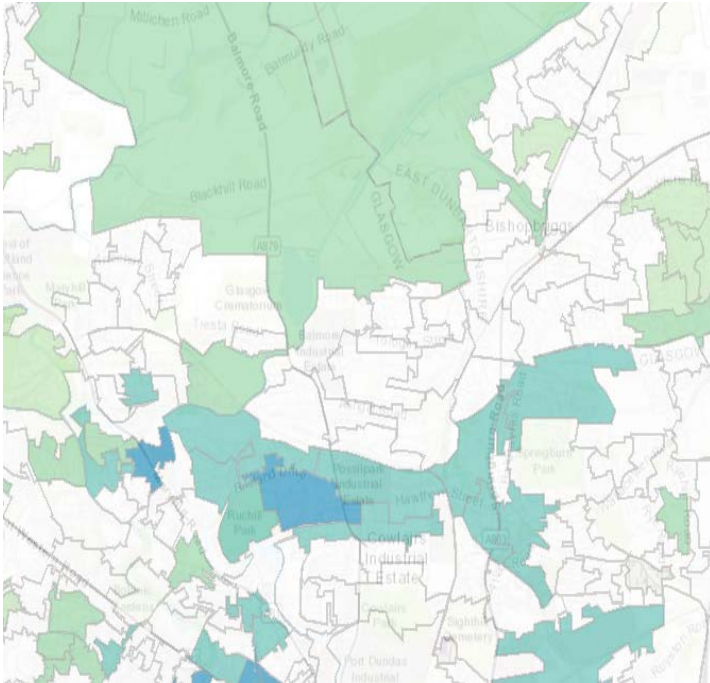
# **Weathering Change**

## **Action Research**

### **Exploring Community Resilience in the face of climate change**

Dr. Russell Jones

# The area – North Glasgow (Possilpark, Lambhill, Milton)



- History of decline
- Low educational attainments and high unemployment
- Multiple health challenges
- High levels of deprivation, mortality and morbidity
- Flood disadvantage – average to acute

# The Project

- GCPH, GCC, Sniffer, greenspace scotland
- Scoping
- Logic Model
- WP1 – Community engagement
- WP2 – Institutional engagement
- WP3 – Community and institutional collaboration
- Action research (throughout)

# Why climate resilience?

- WHO describes climate change as greatest threat to human health of the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- People living in poverty at greatest risk of effects



# Resilience

- The capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses and systems to survive, adapt and grow no matter what kind of acute shocks and chronic stresses they experience.
- Climate change acts as a stress multiplier.

# Scoping

- Agree geographical focus
- Understand socio-economic, health and environmental characteristics of area
- Identify organisational ambitions, planned activity and available funding
- Identify existing and emerging plans
- Connect with local groups and existing networks

# Logic Model

- Identify pathways of influence for climate resilience
- Included pathways for:
  - Individual capacity
  - Community capacity
  - Organisational capacity
  - Urban regeneration
- Agreed approach based on scoping and LM

# Community engagement

## Two components

- Pop-up consultations with local residents
- Discussions with local community organisations - identified shared aspirations and opportunities for collaboration





# Local residents

- **Climate change** not an immediate priority
- **Priorities for action:** employment, opportunities for young people, environmental conditions, local facilities, transport, food options
- **Years of disinvestment** – relationship between local people and statutory organisations is strained
- Strong **sense of belonging**, but **territorialism** prevents movement
- Belief that **climate change is happening**, but...
  - Powerless to do anything “you just need to get on with it”
  - Burdened with a problem they did not create
  - Local Authority and Government should set better example

## Community organisations

- Community groups identified a number of themes and specific initiatives
- Climate change not a key focus but recognised as a cross cutting theme

<p><b>Knowledge sharing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-promotion of workshops, activities and resources</li> <li>• Sharing community group 'wants' and community group 'offers'</li> </ul>	<p><b>Network of urban growing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Urban Farm</b></li> <li>• Sharing growing spaces and opportunities</li> <li>• Series of growing 'hubs' for different specialisms</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community food network</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Increasing access to locally produced food</b></li> <li>• Distribution of surpluses etc.</li> <li>• Storage and waste</li> </ul>
<p><b>Active travel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Using the Canal:</b></li> <li>• Creating destinations and facilities along travel routes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Local cultural heritage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial heritage and mining</li> <li>• Antonine Wall</li> </ul>	<p><b>Natural environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Creating a 'nature' link along the Canal,</b></li> <li>• Volunteering and training opportunities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Local tourism and business generation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the area's heritage and natural assets</li> <li>• Developing <b>'the north' as the place to go to for green and sustainability services</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Shared voice with City Property, GCC and others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making a case on access to and <b>use of vacant and derelict land</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Increasing integration and community links</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects which draw communities together</li> <li>• support for engaging with ethnic minorities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education and training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared training provision - e.g. Bike kitchen</li> <li>• Schools outreach (curriculum and eco-schools)</li> <li>• Training for young people and for work</li> </ul>	<p><b>Health improvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical activity / 'bootcamps')</li> <li>• Therapeutic growing</li> <li>• Green/blue gym</li> </ul>	<p><b>Resource sharing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing services</li> <li>• Sharing of volunteers</li> <li>• Sharing of things</li> <li>• Joint funding bids</li> </ul>

# What community organisations want

## **Expectations of statutory organisations**

- Honesty and transparency including regular updates
- Recognition of their role in delivering several statutory organisational objectives
- Acceptance of Community Empowerment Act responsibilities (unlocking opportunities to improve/maintain environment)

## **Working together**

- Develop a networked local food economy
- Working together to deliver training, volunteering and work opportunities
- To establish north Glasgow as the “place to go” for expertise on green, sustainable matters

# Institutional engagement

- Identified initiatives planned through GCC, CPP and Scottish Canals that have the most scope to work collaboratively with the community organisations
- Exploring 'City Deal' opportunities
- Exploring 'internal' collaborations

## Knowledge sharing

- North Glasgow Integrated water management plan /links with Scottish Canals
- Hamiltonhill Local Nature Reserve/Clay pits – design ongoing
- Possilpark Surface Water management plan
- Integral to Thriving Places process

## Network of urban growing

- Mobile community garden and allotments
- Development of allotments in Ruchill and looking to develop further allotments in Possilpark on vacant and derelict land

## Community food network

- Summer programme provided food daily to residents of Possilpark during holiday period to ensure local children had access to food

## Active travel

- Cycling village
- Trim trail
- Active Travel Strategy
- Cycle Routes £3million investment
- Developing a watersports theme along the canal
- Creating footbridges at regular intervals to provide '40 minute loops' for walkers

## Local cultural heritage

- Port Dundas cultural hub
- Land Arts Generator initiative
- New community uses for the Millennium Space and Bandstand
- Development of a Creative Canal Quarter
- Development of a new Cultural Hub in Possil

## Natural environment

- Using wildflower meadows as a treatment for vacant and derelict sites

## Local tourism and business generation

- Big Lunch
- Possible garden/park festival
- City Deal – major focus on employability

## Shared voice with City Property, GCC and others

- Local Delivery Groups
- Community Council
- Millennium Centre Thriving Places

## Increasing integration and community links

- Possilpark Thriving places group has developed an action plan that connects community, partners and services
- Community Connector developing community links and engaging with local people

## Education and training

- ? Canals College
- Activate
- Health and Safety
- First Aid
- Food preparation

## Health improvement

- Concrete gardens

## Resource sharing

- Certain local initiatives dependent on partnership working
- Participatory Budgeting

# Community and institutional collaboration

Knowledge sharing	Network of urban growing	Community food network
Active travel	Local cultural heritage	Natural environment
Local tourism and business generation	Shared voice with community Property, GCC and others	Increasing integration and community links
Education and training	Health improvement	Resource sharing



December workshop to define next steps

Endeavour to ensure alignment with climate resilience

# Some key messages

- Building resilience in the face of climate change requires working within community interests and institutional capacity
- Climate change cannot be addressed in isolation from other activities
- Meaningful engagement is time consuming, unpredictable and needs flexibility
- Importance of brokering across community groups to find shared priorities
- Importance of brokering between communities and institutions to optimise working together

Thank you for listening

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