North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network

Area Partnership Report Aug/Sept 2025

Anderston City Yorkhill - Ward 10	**Canal - Ward 16**
Drumchapel Anniesland - Ward 14	**Garscadden Scotstounhill - Ward 13**
Hillhead - Ward 11	**Maryhill - Ward 15**
Partick East Kelvindale - Ward 23	**Victoria Park - Ward 12**

Network Update

Contact: martina@northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com
www.nwgvsn.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/NWGVSN https://www.instagram.com/nwgvsn/

Network Update

- The network continues to support and advocate for its members. We meet regularly in-person and online. Next Cuppa & Catchup online meeting is 20th August. We are planning training programme for late autumn for members
- Plugged In IT refurbishment project was awarded a grant from the LEZ fund in May, allowing us to employ a fulltime technician and expand into NE Glasgow.
- Also, the project won an Ethical & Green Tech award at the Scottish Care Care Tech Awards https://nwgvsn.org.uk/plugged-in-won-an-ethical-green-tech-award/ and is a finalist in The Alliance Self Management Awards in the Digital Innovator category https://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/blog/news/finalists-announced-for-the-self-management-awards-2025/

Key Themes across North West

Continuing issues for young people in communities

- Gaps in youth services in certain areas of the North West and lack of funding for services that are running, therefore they cannot meet all needs.
- A mapping exercise needs to be done to ascertain what services are available, where the gaps are, then a sector or city-wide conversation about funding to fill these gaps.
- The Scottish Government recently held a Youth Violence summit, and the leader of Glasgow City Council Susan Aitken discussed a motion at full council around the rise in young people experiencing violence and the need to provide supports to help young people in the city. **These are welcome but need to be followed up by action and investment to ensure that our members that provide youth services are funded properly to deliver services for young people**. And that every young person in our communities has a safe, welcoming place to go.
- Members continue to report a concern over funding and the sustainability of services. At a time when the public and health sectors are experiencing cuts and reducing services, some members are no longer confident they can fill the gaps that those services leave. The third sector already provides the cheapest services, with the lowest paid staff, there is no more savings that can be made

North West Youth Network (NWYN) Update

- Next meeting scheduled for Wed 20th August at Glasgow Women's Aid. Previous meeting on Thursday 1st May at Pinkston Water Sports:

- Discussion around concerns about young people's substance use, risk taking behaviour and risk of criminal exploitation and the appropriate supports and services available
- Request from Maryhill APF about youth provision for Maryhill Park area due to perceived lack of provision
- Discussion between GCC, Achieve More Scotland and Glasgow Life regarding youth provision for Summerston area. Glasgow Life linking in with GCC to action
- Promotion of Suicide Prevention Scotland National campaign - "What if a conversation about suicide could save a life?"

NWYN Peer Support Meeting

- The first NWYN Peer Support meeting took place on Tuesday 10th June at Pinkston Water Sports. This is open to all staff and volunteers supporting young people in North West Glasgow.
- The group discussed things they were grateful for, what they are proud of and what their strengths are. They agreed their preferred ways to keep in touch with each other outside of meetings.
- Discussed future inputs or service spotlights needed and what topics should be focussed on. Violence affecting young people was recommended by most attendees as a key issue requiring support and partnership working. Social media, grief, resilience and toxic masculinity were also suggested as areas to focus on.
- Further discussion that many APF have highlighted violence affecting young people as a concern. NWYN are keen to work together around this issue.

Your Voice 6 Event

- Took place on Thursday 24th April at Glasgow Clyde College. 85 young people attended from across North West Locality including Maryhill, Ruchill, Possilpark, Drumchapel, Knightswood, Dumbarton Road Corridor and Partick. The event was planned and attended by young people from YPF, DRC Youth Project, G15 Youth Project, G20 Youth Project, Yomo, Shakespeare Street Youth Club and the Kings Trust, as well as support on the night from Police Scotland Young Volunteers.
- As part of this event, young people were able to apply for funding for a youth-led project or idea that supported their health and wellbeing. This resulted in grants being given to 10 groups of young people across NW Glasgow, totalling at £6,475.65.
- Young people also participated in a range of activities including football, boxing, gaming, DJ workshops. Partner organisations such as Quarriers Young Carers Project, Glasgow Women's Aid and FASS also attended with information stalls at the request of young people looking for advice and support.

Anderston City Yorkhill

Rep: Stuart Duffin stuart@rsglasgow.org.uk

Key Issues Regarding Youth Services in Anderston, City Centre, and Yorkhill

The Good

- There are **diverse youth programmes**: a wide range of programmes for young people, including locally based youth work, skills development activities, outdoor experiences, health and wellbeing programmes, and leadership opportunities. Young people report building confidence, meeting friends, and gaining life skills through these services.
- **Personalised Support**: Glasgow City Youth Health Service offers confidential, holistic support for young people (aged 12–19), addressing issues from mental health and sexual health to wider social and economic challenges. Evening appointments and greater use of partnerships with other agencies will enrich this offer.
- **Youth Participation**: The YEP (Youth Empowerment Programme) and local commissions encourage youth involvement in decision-making. Initiatives strive to make young people feel valued, included, and able to influence local service design and delivery.
- **Community Collaboration**: Our local work alongside schools, social work, and public health bodies to ensure young people are heard and supported. This integrated approach builds long-term relationships and fosters community resilience.
- **The Common Ground Youth safeguarding pilot** in the City Centre finished on the 21st of June. They engaged with over 1000 young people from 12 local authorities. Partners are looking for funding to expand the service.

The Challenges

- **Limited Activities and Access**: Young people are voicing frustration at the lack of youth-friendly spaces and affordable, interesting activities. They report that some clubs are "boring" or costly, and that more youth-led, accessible options are needed across Anderston, City Centre, and Yorkhill.
- **Communication Barriers:** There is a need for better information targeting young people and greater involvement in service design. Many young people remain unaware of existing services due to poor outreach or communication strategies.
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**: Mental health challenges are widespread; although services exist, demand often outstrips supply, and waiting times can be long
- **Antisocial Behaviour**: City Centre and West End areas experience recurring issues such as youth drinking, vandalism, and aggressive behaviour in public spaces. This is not only confined to the City Centre but communities within the ward, who report that young people do not have enough to do & that those communities can feel sidelined with the focus on the city centre. Police and city services are working with third sector agencies, but public concerns persist and seasonal spikes (e.g., summer in Kelvingrove Park) require intensive prevention efforts. Some responses—like enforcement-based bans—also risk stigmatising vulnerable or excluded young people.

Ongoing Challenges for Us in the Third sector

- **Rising Costs and Funding Pressures**: Inflation, soaring energy costs, and flatlining budgets have created severe financial and cash flow constraints for most organisations. The majority of us operate with less than six months' financial reserves and face significant uncertainty about our future viability. This pressure is forcing many to reduce services or compete with one another for funding, undermining collaboration.

- **Employee and Volunteer Shortages**: Recruitment and retention of skilled workers and volunteers has become much harder, adding strain to our teams' wellbeing and service delivery capacity.
- **Growing Demand, Fewer Resources**: Demand for support services from vulnerable and at-risk youth has sharply increased post-pandemic, especially around mental health, employability, and family poverty. Many of us must defer or cancel planned programmes due to lack of skilled team members or funding.
- **Challenging Funding Conditions**: We continually report increasingly burdensome conditions tied to funding—more reporting, delays in payment, and uncertainties—all of which add to organisational stress and risk.
- **Increased Competition**: Strained budgets and high demand have started to erode some longstanding collaborations as we fight for survival, a trend some describe as a "boiled frog" scenario for the sector in Glasgow.

Overall, the balance between responsive, caring practice and external pressures remains delicate: strong youth services in Anderston, City Centre, and Yorkhill change lives for the better, but are facing the most severe funding and employee conditions in years. The third sector —vital in this space—requires ongoing support, flexible funding, and meaningful engagement with young people to maintain momentum and address these ongoing challenges, which are only going to get worse.

Additional Ward Update

- **Marie Trust homelessness day centre**, their Housing & Welfare Service and Training Kitchen & Café Service closed on 25th July. This is concerning as the service is a lifeline for many of vulnerable people in the city. At time of writing Marie Trust were seeking alternative sources of funding. https://www.themarietrust.org/
- They continue to offer other services including their Hospital Outreach Service where they are currently appealing for help with donations http://bit.ly/4595q3K

Canal

Rep: Jill Mackay jill@nucommunities.org
Sub Rep: Marina Costello marina.lovemilton@gmail.com

What are the issues in the ward?

- Issues for young people
- Cost of living/food insecurity

What are the key issues facing members?

- Increased demand for services
- Funding and capacity

General Member Update

- **Courtyard Pantry Enterprise** are starting a Saturday Fruit & Vegetable market, with a provisional start date 20th September. Initially this will take place once a month, to test demand. This is not only an opportunity to buy low-cost fresh produce, but also a way for local people to meet each other.
  - The market will sell fruit and vegetable staples and a selection of culturally diverse foods. The big difference between what we are doing at the Pantry Hub and what we hope to achieve at the market is that we are sourcing our produce directly from wholesalers and selling it directly to the local community. We are moving away from depending on surplus/recovered/waste food and trying to tackle head on, one of the root causes of food insecurity, namely lack of access.
  - The market will be held outdoors, weather permitting at our Pantry Hub base in Wester Common, in the courtyard area. During the autumn and winter months it will be hosted indoors https://www.facebook.com/courtyardpantry
  - **St. Matthews Centre** are hosting a Celebration Event to mark 25 years of being a registered charity. The event will take place on Saturday 20th September at 1.30pm. This will be an event with Music, Art exhibition (past & present), multicultural food, bouncy castle, facepainting and more! https://www.facebook.com/StMatthews200BalmoreRd
  - **Local organisations have had an overwhelming demand for the Children's Food Programme, with numbers soaring.** North United Communities have seen number almost double from last year. This includes in-house activities as well as trips out. This demonstrates the level of demand for these types of community services.
  - **North United Communities** http://www.nuconline.co.uk/ - A funding bid has been submitted by a consortium to tackle the high levels of youth disorder in the North West.
  - **NIIF** - Partners attended the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) meeting to construct a list in Canal of the priorities for spending these monies. As part of the process, organisations will continue to seek the views and opinions of residents, and groups.
  - There has been an initial meeting between GCC's NRS, other interested parties and residents to discuss an application for the Community Renewable Energy Fund for the school site of Mingulay Place, Milton.

Love Milton https://www.facebook.com/welovemilton
Lambhill Stables https://www.lambhillstables.org/ :
Young People's Future http://www.youngpossilfutures.org.uk/
North Glasgow Community Food Initiative https://www.ngcfi.org.uk/
Possobilities https://possobilities.org.uk/

Drumchapel /Anniesland

Rep Dougie Taylor dougie@drumchapellife.co.uk
Sub Rep: Rachel@homestartgnnl.org.uk

What are the issues in the ward?

- Cost of living/food insecurity
- Youth provision capacity and funding

What are the key issues facing members?

- Funding and lack of capacity

General Member Update

G15 Thriving Places https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066681380972 https://g15tp.scot/

- School uniform bank in Partnership with Women of Wonder has been running in Drumchapel community centre on Mondays and Thursdays throughout the school holidays and has so far, helped 180 children with school uniforms for the new term. The uniform bank will be open from Thursday 7th August until 13th August
- G15 Pantry Cupboard is open every Wednesday and Friday from 11am till 2pm. Membership is open to everyone and is £1 for the full year and £3.50 for at least 10 items from the shop. The are also Pop-ups to help and advise the community on issues they may face. The Pantry is a great way to access low affordable healthy food and connect to other activities that are happening around the community.
- The month of October will be our racism campaign which as always, will aim to raise awareness, promote inclusivity, and celebrate cultural differences within the community. Through workshops, educational programs, and public events, the campaign encourages open dialogue and challenges harmful stereotypes.
- In November we will be launching a new Christmas appeal to bring hope and joy to struggling families in our community. With the rising cost of living, many parents are finding it difficult to provide even the basics, let alone gifts or festive meals. We will target these families through the G15 Pantry.

G15 Youth Project SCIO https://www.facebook.com/g15youth

- We have received a comprehensive report from Joyce Bell from G15 Youth Project about their work with young people and its impact. We have summarised some of the Key Points below and would ask that you take time to read the full report HERE.
- **Wide-Reaching Support and Engagement**: G15 engage with up to 180 young people weekly, offering a mix of structured and youth-led programmes across mental health, education, employability, social inclusion, and creative sessions – all delivering impactful programmes and strengthening the fabric of our community. We offer a mix of group and one-to-one support
- **SHAPE Programme Success**: SHAPE supports young people through a 12-week rolling programme focusing on mental health, personal development, education re-engagement, and one-to-one support—benefiting 96 participants since 2021.Many of the young people have struggled with heightened anxiety about attending school, college, or social situations. SHAPE has provided essential support, offering a structured yet flexible space to help them navigate these challenges.
- **The Diversionary Activity Programme** offers inclusive experiences such as bushcraft, arts, fitness, dance, and Pickleball—welcoming young people with additional support needs, such

as autism, and promoting confidence and resilience. This initiative has been instrumental in breaking down barriers associated with stress and isolation

- **Essential Needs Support**: The ongoing challenges of food and fuel poverty, coupled with the rising cost of living, remain critical concerns for young people and their families. We actively seek funding to provide necessary support. By collaborating with external agencies and funding partners, G15 distributed essentials like food, clothing, toiletries, and vouchers.
- **Youth Services:** We offer a weekly structured programme with additional seasonal initiatives - youth clubs, street work, dance, film/media sessions, and Pickleball. Seasonal initiatives engaged over 350 young people.
- **Youth Leadership & Media**: Young people led planning and content creation (e.g. Drumchapel TV), developing skills in film, photography, and civic engagement by tackling local issues
- **Employability & Training**: The Pathfinder Programme, delivered in partnership with DRC Youth Project, continues to provide vital employability and training opportunities for school leavers across North West Glasgow. G15 actively refers young people to the programme, ensuring they receive tailored support in their transition to employment.
- **In-School Outreach at Drumchapel High School**: We have maintained a strong presence in Drumchapel High School, working closely with the school youth team and campus cops. This is an opportunity to connect with young people who may not engage with services elsewhere.
- **Rising Demand & Funding Needs**: **The demand for our service continues to grow**, driven by parents' desire to engage their children in safe, positive activities. G15 experienced a 40% surge in youth memberships. While this reflects the vital role we play in the community, it also highlights a troubling reality, we simply lack the resources to meet the needs of every applicant. A significant number of those who applied have learning disabilities and require tailored, one-to-one support. Unfortunately, G15 is not equipped to offer this level of specialised service. This rising demand speaks volumes about the urgent need for increased investment in inclusive youth services

The Hut Youth Project https://www.thehut1987.org/

- Lack of investment in local youth services and youth clubs is highlighted in the recent article in the Evening Times and Clydebank Post featuring Paul from The Hut Youth Project in Netherton. This article highlights the issue, at a time, when demand for youth services and safe spaces for young people to go is needed more than ever. http://bit.ly/40RXwJn

Homestart Glasgow North & North Lanarkshire https://www.facebook.com/homestartgnnl

- Home-Start is looking for more Volunteers to support local families in their home or provide a helping hand at one of their many groups. Home-Start offer support to families with children under 5 who are going through a difficult time, e.g., isolation, loneliness, low mood, lack of support. Volunteers receive full training, support, expenses, and the opportunity to be part of a great team. Contact them for more information email: info@homestartgnnl.org.uk

3D Drumchapel https://www.3ddrumchapel.org.uk/ Antonine Court https://antonine.org/
Drumchapel Money Advice https://d-mac.org.uk/resources/
Drumchapel CAB https://www.drumchapelcab.org.uk/
Drum Hub https://www.facebook.com/drumhub15
Enable Glasgow Fortune Works https://www.facebook.com/EnableGlasgowFortuneWorks
Drumchapel TV https://www.youtube.com/@drum-tv
Drumchapel Foodbank https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066573716768

Garscadden Scotstounhill

Rep: Lainey Bedingfield lainy@kingswaycc.org.uk

What are the issues in the ward?

- Increased demand for services – impacting capacity

What are the key issues facing members?

- Funding
- ESOL provision – huge waiting lists being noted by ESOL providers
- Youth Provision

General Member Update

- **Kingsway Community Connections**

KCC successfully delivered our 6-week outdoor youth programme, with an average of 25 children attending each session. While the sessions were well received and enjoyed by participants, we have observed a slight increase in challenging behaviours, a concern given the group's age range of 5-11 years old. This will inform future planning and staffing considerations. Children took part in a litter pick in the estate, enhancing their understanding of keeping their neighbourhood tidy.

We have also continued to run twice-weekly youth sessions for our 11–16-year-old boys' group. This group presents with a range of complex issues and challenges. We remain committed to developing consistent, trusting relationships and will continue to adapt our approach to meet their evolving needs.

Our Welfare Advice & Support Service is currently under significant pressure, with appointment slots now booked up to three weeks in advance. In response, we have extended our twice-weekly drop-in provision to help meet growing demand and ensure residents can still access timely, face-to-face support**.**

We have opened conversations with Good Food Scotland to trial a community mobile shop on the Kingsway Estate.

As part of our commitment to sharing learning and strengthening community partnerships, staff from Kingsway Community Connections will visit the Marcus Lipton Centre in Brixton from 15–18 September. The Centre is a well-established hub for youth and community development in south London.

Over recent months, KCC has built a strong relationship with the senior team at Marcus Lipton, based on shared values around youth engagement, trauma-informed practice, and community-led development. This visit will provide an opportunity to exchange good practice, explore new approaches, and deepen the relationship between our teams. We believe this kind of collaboration benefits our local work here in Garscadden/Scotstounhill by broadening insight, strengthening networks, and bringing fresh ideas to our shared challenges.

https://www.kingswaycc.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/KingswayCommunityConnections

Glasgow Eco Trust/De'ils on Wheels

- **Picnic In the Park** - as part of our OVO Foundation project we held this event in early July which over 200 people attended. It had to be moved from Knightswood park to Knightswood Community Centre due to the weather.
- **Spring Into Summer - Sat 30 Aug, 12-4pm, Victoria Park** - this family friendly fun day is rescheduled following it being postponed in June. https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/Event/victoria-park-spring-into-summer-2025-sat-30-aug
- **De'ils On Wheels community bike workshop** - continues to provide affordable bikes and repairs to the community and take in donations of unwanted bikes https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/deilsonwheels
- **Free bikes and repairs** - secured further funding from Cycling UK Access Bikes Fund to provide people with up to £100 towards getting their bike repaired and, via referrals from community partners, provide people who cannot afford a bike a free bike helmet, lock, and lights
- **Workplace Travel Plans** - GET will be working with a range of community workplaces (community centres, schools etc) to develop workplace travel plans. This will also include a bike library to loan people bikes.
- **Better Buses for Strathclyde** - GET is a supporter of this campaign to bring the bus network back into public control and ownership. The results of the recent public consultation are due to be published in September
- **Joint active travel manifesto** - GET is one of more than 50 organisatons to sign up to this manifesto https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/News/glasgow-eco-trust-signs-up-to-joint-active-travel-manifesto
- **Mass MSP lobby, Thu 18 Sep** - as part of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland there will be a mass lobby of MSPs https://www.stopclimatechaos.scot/campaign/mass-lobby-act-now-change-forever/
- **Scotland Demands Better** - https://www.scotland-demands-better.com/ - campaign led by Poverty Alliance Scotland demanding better jobs, better social security, and better investment for life's essentials. There will be a public march in Edinburgh on Sat 25 Oct.

https://glasgowecotrust.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/GlasgowEcoTrust https://www.facebook.com/DeilsOnWheels

- **Knightswood Community Centre**

KCC have now appointed a new chairperson Peter Lavelle former Business Development Director and founder of Glasgow Wood.

The Picnic in the Park 2025 was held in Knightswood Community Centre on Saturday 5th July. This site change was due to the windy and wet weather on Friday and Saturday which made putting the gazebos up in Knightswood Park very challenging and dangerous hence the move indoors to the Community Centre.

Summer Centre Improvements - The Alderman Hall's wooden floor was repaired, sanded down with three coats of varnish applied. The roof above the Chaplet Room has been repaired, with expansive damp-proofing and pipework carried out.
Phase two of the Knightswood Community Centre Garden is now completed with a new disabled accessible patio, with benches and a picnic table. Twenty-five volunteers have now participated in the garden.

Knightswood Community Cinema put on three family films during the school summer holidays; The Borrowers, Spy Kids and Honey I Shrunk the Kids. Over 220 adults and child watched the **movies. The Cinema will be reopening 8 September 2025."**
https://www.knightswoodcentre.co.uk/

Active Seniors:
From May till the end of July we have delivered the following:

- 14 April - Peebles bus 50 attended; 25 April - Social Easter 86 attended; 12 May - Rothesay bus 47 attended; 23 May - Social 84 attended; 9 June - Balloch Bus trip 28 attended; 20 June - Social 82 attended; 21 July - Canal boat trip 24 attended; 14 July -AGM 42 attended

Plans to the end of August are:

- 25 July - Country western social theme (Partick Pluckers, live music dancing and buffet)
- 11 August Bus trip to Ayr
- 18 August Wellness session art of relaxation
- 28 August social (dance and live music)

Summer activities are as busy as normal (demand still high to join waiting list of over 30). Funding from the area budget has helped increase the activities we do or in some case put on new events. This is especially helpful to enable us to put on our bigger events. Our main funder the lottery has been reducing our funding every year (100%, 75% and this year 50%) which has put pressure on us to cut overheads and try to get things cheaper.

We plan to hold more wellness activities and hope for area budget to help with this and a St Andrew's themed larger event in November.
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079995702359

DRC Youth Project

- DRC engaged with 789 young people aged 8-26 through a wide range of inclusive activities in 24/25.
- DRC engaged with 154 young people through our youth employability programme Pathfinder in 24/25.
- DRC delivered 93 accredited qualifications to young people in NW Glasgow in 24/25.
- DRC delivered 376 non-accredited training opportunities to young people in 24/25.
- Young people completed 2568 volunteering hours at the DRC in 24/25.
- 33 young people from DRCYP took part in 'No Knives Better Lives' sessions in Heart of Scotstoun and Yoker Community Campus.
- Plans in place with fellow youth organisation in London to develop a youth exchange focussed on exploring youth leadership, activism, and approaches to tackling issues like youth violence and community safety with members DRC Youth Committee.
- 8 young people took part in a Fire Safety programme over 3 days visiting Knightswood Fire Service, Pollok, and Cambuslang Training Centre.
- 4 young people participated in Snow Camp Excel, visiting Andorra on a week-long residential. 1 young person attending gained a 'life changing' opportunity as a Modern Apprentice with Snow Camp.
- 8 young people from our Strive Group are preparing to go on a 5-day sailing trip with Ocean Youth Trust in September/ October.
- Developments and discussions regarding Yoker Sports Hall ongoing.

https://drcyouthproject.blogspot.com https://twitter.com/DRCYouthProject
https://www.facebook.com/drcyouthproject

- **North-West Community Pantry**

19 young people currently volunteer in our shop, the North-West Community Pantry. DRC supported 439 families in the pantry with 3784 bags of shopping distributed in 24/25.
https://twitter.com/NorthWestPantry

- **LINKES**

Over the summer, Linkes has successfully delivered our **Holiday Club programme**, **engaging over 90 children across six weeks of enriching activities**. These included forest play sessions, a dedicated girls' BMX group, and well-attended picnic & play events held in the local park.
In addition, we were delighted to take 110 community members on a family trip to Heads of Ayr Farm Park, an experience designed to create lasting positive memories for both children and parents. Thanks to support from the Glasgow City Council Holiday Food Fund, we have been able to provide 520 healthy lunches and snacks to all participating children.

Demand for our activities continues to grow each year. As a result, we introduced attendance caps for some sessions to ensure safety and quality, while expanding our open-access sessions in outdoor spaces. Notably, our picnic & play sessions saw increasing participation from parents, helping to foster a warm and inclusive community atmosphere.
Funding from the Area Budget has been vital in allowing us to employ qualified and experienced play workers to lead our sessions.

We have also continued our regular drop-in services, with funding enabling us to offer translation support—ensuring accessibility for all members of our diverse community**.**
https://www.linkes.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/linkesglasgow

- **Knightswood Community Shop**

Shop is open and is receiving an excellent response from the local community. See KCC's update above regarding developing a mobile shop.
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567044418097

Heart of Scotstoun – https://twitter.com/HOScotstoun
DRC Generations http://www.drcgenerations.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/drcgenerations
Yoker Community Campus https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100072307083175

North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network

support • connect • advocate

Hillhead

Rep: Anna Dyer a.dyer@scottishoverseasdevelopment.org.uk

What are the issues in the ward?

- Food insecurity

General Member Update

- At this time of year activity in the Area Partnership is most often quieter than usual with so many users and families on holiday. This year however in Ward 11 it has been an exceptionally busy time.

Community Central Hall https://centralhall.org/

- Youth services at Community Central Hall have continued to run throughout the summer as usual with numbers on a par with last year. Rapidly increasing prices for accommodation and costs of the associated outdoor activities have prevented CCH from organizing residentials. The Youth Services staff organised instead several Away Days which included immersive experiences.
- On a wider note, I am pleased to report that Halo Arts produced Drama classes for children in the area and with a partner organization ran a full programme of performative arts and creative writing.
- The Community Fridge has continued to operate throughout the summer and is very busy - it is highly appreciated by its regular users, many of whom are elderly and/ or vulnerable.

Byres Community Hub https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/healthwellbeing/byrescommunityhub/

- The University Byres Hub has also continued to offer a broad educational programme particularly aimed at school children and the community weekly drop-in has also operated all summer. Access to the Hub may be impacted during this autumn and winter due to major road and street works in Byres Road.

Woodside Halls

- The summer has been marked by a remarkably busy time at **Woodside Halls** with several firsts in events promotion.
- The first event marking the Centenary of the Halls was a true cultural event - an eclectic mix of acts all of whom gave their time free and are linked to the West End. These included the Abinya Dancers and Drummers, the Folk Drama, Andy Alston, Glasgow Reggae and the renowned Tenementals who are all academics at Glasgow University as well as being excellent musicians. All proceeds from the event were donated to the Community Fridge. It was held in the Main Hall which has a magnificent and well used dancing floor. So much work has been put into restoring the Halls to its former style and it is now fit for any occasion.
- On the same day we also staged a photographic exhibition on the top floor of the Halls by the well-known photographer Mandy Edwards. The theme was holidays on the Clyde featuring her own childhood home of Saltcoats. She at present has a large StreetWorks Exhibition at the Tron.
- Towards the end of July, we had another first. The first opera production, Bizet's Carmen was staged in the main Hall.
- And to conclude this report, we have yet another first at Woodside Halls. On Friday 29th August, the BBC are staging the BBC Radio 4 Programme "Any Questions" from Woodside

Halls. We are inviting everyone who would like to hear our local MPs and MSPs to join us. The BBC have requested that anyone joining our live audience should first register online at: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/community-central-hall. This event is free.

- Finally, I wish to record the sad death of a 15-year-old boy, Emilis Vanagas on 12th July 2025. Having helped two others in difficulties, he drowned in the River Kelvin at about 6.40pm. There was an extensive search taking place which I saw myself near Wyndford. His body was not found until 11.30pm. On behalf of the Network I would like to conclude by offering our condolences to his family and his friends.

Maryhill

Rep: Vacant

Sub Rep Sharon Bowers sharon-at-acre@outlook.com

What are the issues in the ward?

- Food insecurity
- Anti-social behaviour

What are the key issues facing members?

- Anticipation and worrying over future funding
- Rising costs of running costs, electricity etc.

General Member Update

- **Shakespeare Street Youth Club** had a 6-week summer programme filled with trips, residentials, bouncy castles, nerf parties, lost shoes and muddy clothes, loads of fun, new friends and loads of happy memories.
- They have made over 1540 breakfast and lunches this summer this is something they would like to continue to offer on top of activities.
- https://www.facebook.com/ShakespeareStYouthClub/

- **Maryhill Integration Network** will **c**elebrate art that challenges and inspires through powerful reclamation, their multicultural community of artists in the Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery in October. Free entry.
- They attended a march and carnival organised by Stand up to racism Glasgow and proudly showcased their "Refugees welcome" banner created by MIN Voices.
- https://www.facebook.com/maryhillintegrationnetwork

- **Summerston Community & Environmental Group** SCEG has continued its Summerston in Bloom sessions, with ceramic tiles—crafted by local residents and pupils—now beautifully installed on several flower planters.
- They are working with Bob Doris MSP and Glasgow City Council to improve the area around Summerston Retail Park. Ongoing concerns include general upkeep, kerb appeal, and littering, as highlighted by residents.
- They had an event on Saturday 30th August 2025 for Summerston's 50th Celebration at John Paul Academy—a free event for residents and pupils marking five decades of living, working, and learning in Summerston.
- https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088687718728

Acre Community Hall https://www.facebook.com/AcreCommunityHall
Maryhill Burgh Halls https://www.maryhillburghhalls.org.uk/
https://www.facebook.com/maryhillburghhalls
Maryhill Activity Directory https://app.maryhillactivitydirectory.org.uk/Categories

Partick East/Kelvindale

Rep: Jane Cowie jane.cowie@annexecommunities.org.uk

What are the issues in the ward?

- Cost of Living Support
- Activities for children over the summer holidays- there is not enough for young people and young adults to do in the area.
- High youth unemployment and lack of training/development opportunities
- Recovery from addictions- support for after detox
- Complaints of aggressive behaviour following 4th July walk through Partick
- Core funding for sustainability of much needed Community centres

What are the key issues facing members?

- Financially struggling
- Food instability and although food banks doing what they can, malnutrition is an issue-folk cannot thrive on canned foods only.
- Social isolation affecting mental health
- Potential cultural tensions in parts of the community

General Member Update

- **Bigger Partick Picnic** – over 1000 people attended- best yet, working alongside PHA, Annexe, PCC, and events management team Every stage – many spins off from this event. Can it be funded annually as a central Ward23 free community event, to bring the ward together in M. field Park? PHA plan to offer Event Management training workshops for young unemployed people from Ward 23 in the run up to the event. The workshops will hopefully be partly funded by the job centre, delivered by Every Stage, and hosted by PHA. The young people get the training, then work voluntarily at the event and gain practical experience. To read feedback collated by Everystage click link below https://gemini.google.com/share/c8a31e976590

- Karyn from **Partick Community Counci**l- setting up two "Friends of" groups for Dowanhill Park and Friends of Partick Parks and green spaces- working on their governance, constitutions and getting bank accounts sorted ready to apply for funding.

- **Partick Housing Association** is continuing with their 50 years celebrations with Sponsorship of *Active Schools (AS) programme, Community Artwork Project* involving tenants, staff, community partners and local schools, 10-week Community Development Course and a 50th Anniversary Celebration Event October 2025 – celebrating the staff, volunteers and community partners that are and have contributed to the continued success of PHA. https://www.partickha.org.uk/

- **PHA Beith Grove Garden Projec**t just received its "change of use" permission from GCC so they can now go for the further £20, 000 from National Lottery Awards for All fund. So full steam ahead in a matter of weeks now. PHA working closely with Community Interest Start Up – PlantUp. They will lead the development and manage volunteers.

North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network

support • connect • advocate

- **Annexe Communities** -recently completed the removal of asbestos from the flooring in our cafe, which cost a total of £13,488. We are grateful to GrantScape for covering £8,000 of this amount, significantly reducing the financial impact on the charity. This project ensures a safer environment for service users. https://www.annexecommunities.org.uk/

- **Let Partick Flourish Project** concludes end September 2025. Jane Cowie will be finishing at Annexe Communities after 24 years of service to the community. Cost of Living Support and Friday Freezer will continue with FareShare and neighbourly contributions and rely on volunteers

- **Partick Community Growing Project** – Big thanks to the AP funding for their 850 years celebrations of Glasgow- a great time had by all, the sharing of community foods and pizza was much appreciated and photos from the day can be seen on https://www.facebook.com/PartickCommunityGrowingProject

Victoria Park

Contact: lynn.northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com

What are the issues in the ward?

- Youth engagement
- Cost of living /food costs

What are the key issues facing members?

- Sustainable funding

General Member Update

Whiteinch Centre https://www.whiteinchcentre.org.uk/

Ownership and Identity

- The Whiteinch Centre is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Whiteinch & Scotstoun Housing Association. This provides stronger operational support, and the Centre retains its own charitable status and independent identity, continuing to deliver services with a local focus.
- A new Communities Model has been introduced to ensure services are shaped by local people. The Community Voice Panel (formerly the TWC Advisory Group) is now active and helping guide decisions.

Upcoming Plans

- **Employability Training** -Launching soon, this programme will support job seekers with CV writing, interview skills, and digital job search.
- **Socialudo Training Programme -** A year-long initiative using interactive games to build teamwork and understanding among staff and community members.
- **Updated Business Plan and Websit**e - A refreshed business plan has been developed to reflect the Centre's new structure and priorities. A new website is also being launched to improve communication and access to services.

Community Shop

- Since opening in May 2024, the shop has given 3,629 local customers have access to affordable food through the shop, helping to address food insecurity in the community.
- Volunteers have played a key role in the shop's success, 14 people have volunteered, 5 of whom have progressed to paid sessional work

Challenges

- Sustaining long-term community engagement
- Bridging the digital divide for residents with limited access or skills
- Securing stable funding to maintain and grow services. Read the Centre's full report HERE

Glasgow Eco Trust/De'ils on Wheels https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk

- **Spring Into Summer - Sat 30 Aug, 12-4pm, Victoria Park** - this family friendly fun day is rescheduled following it being postponed in June.
- https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/Event/victoria-park-spring-into-summer-2025-sat-30-aug
- **De'ils On Wheels community bike workshop** - continues to provide affordable bikes and repairs to the community and take in donations of unwanted bikes
- https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/deilsonwheels
- ***See further update from Glasgow Eco Trust at Garscadden/Scotstounhill Ward update (page 9)***

DRC Youth Project www.drcyouthproject.co.uk www.twitter.com/drcyouthproject

- Over 80 young people plus parents, carers and children attended a youth event we helped deliver with Victoria Park Community Trust in Victoria Park.
- 12-16 youth group now open in Whiteinch Community Centre. Sessions take place every Tuesday 5.30-7.30PM.
- 33 young people from DRCYP took part in 'No Knives Better Lives' sessions in Heart of Scotstoun and Yoker Community Campus.
- Plans in place with fellow youth organisation in London to develop a youth exchange focussed on exploring youth leadership, activism, and approaches to tackling issues like youth violence and community safety with members DRC Youth Committee.
- 8 young people took part in a Fire Safety programme over 3 days visiting Knightswood Fire Service, Pollok, and Cambuslang Training Centre.
- 4 young people participated in Snow Camp Excel, visiting Andorra on a week-long residential. 1 young person attending gained a 'life changing' opportunity as a Modern Apprentice with Snow Camp.
- 8 young people from our Strive Group are preparing to go on a 5-day sailing trip with Ocean Youth Trust in September/ October.
- ***See further update from DRC Youth project on Garscadden/Scotstounhill update (page 10)***

North-West Community Pantry https://twitter.com/NorthWestPantry
https://drcyouthproject.co.uk/north-west-community-pantry/

- 19 young people currently volunteer in our shop, the **North-West Community Pantry.**
- DRC supported 439 families in the pantry with 3784 bags of shopping distributed in 24/25.

~~ENDS~~