Area Partnership Voluntary Sector Report Oct/Nov 2025

North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network Update

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

This is a shorter report than normal, due to the decision to have a shorter agenda in the November Area Partnership meetings. Voluntary sector Reps and the Network felt it was still important to have a report to share around members.

- The network continues to support and advocate for its members. We meet regularly in-person and online. Next Cuppa & Catchup online meeting is in January and our AGM in December. Free member training planned for early in 2026
- Along with many of our members, the Network awaits the funding decisions for **Glasgow Communities Fund**. Many member organisations are at risk of closure, reduced services or staff redundancies if decisions go against them.
- **Rising Costs and Funding Pressures for the Voluntary Sector**: Inflation, increased energy and staff costs, and increased competition for declining funding against a background of an increased need for services. Many organisations face significant uncertainty about their future and staff are working to capacity.
- Young people experiencing violence and marginalisation in the city is an ongoing issue, with all youth providers experiencing a rise in demand and associated issues of pressure on staff. Youth providers need support locally and at a city wide/national level with enough funding for them to provide support and activities for our most vulnerable young people.
- **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. Currently applying for more funding to keep this much needed project going. https://nwgvsn.org.uk/plugged-in/

North West Youth Network Update

Contact: Stephanie Thomson Stephanie.Thomson3@nhs.scot

- NWYN Peer Support meeting - Wednesday 29th October - A Conversation about Loss, Bereavement and Grief in response to experiences shared at previous meeting.
- NW Youth Network Meeting - Wednesday 12th November at Netherton Community Centre. If you work with young people within NW Glasgow and would be interested in joining us, please contact ggc.northwest.youthhealth@nhs.scot

- Glasgow Life can support undertaking of Participative Democracy Certificate a youth accreditation for young people involved in group decision making.
- Glasgow Life are delivering No Knives Better Lives workshops with a number of network members, including with 46 young people at G20 Youth Project. DRC Youth Project, Young People's Futures and North United Communities.
- The Mental Health Policy Pack for Youth Organisations is being updated. Organisations can apply for a grant up to £300 to support the development or updating of their mental health policy alongside their young people involved. with support from Health Improvement.
- Vaping and Young People awareness sessions in response to rising use of vapes. Opportunities to attend in-person or online sessions, please contact ggc.northwest.youthhealth@nhs.scot for dates and bookings.
- NW Locality Engagement Forum are keen for young people and youth organisations to be represented to gain understanding of young people's experiences in relation to HSCP services such as barriers to primary care, accessing mental health or sexual health services, whether this had a positive impact or was challenging.

Anderston City Yorkhill – Ward 10

Rep: Stuart Duffin stuart@rsglasgow.org.uk

- The Anderston, City Centre, and Yorkhill Area Partnership is experiencing significant shifts, with notable successes in community development, persistent challenges in social welfare and transport, and ongoing strategic initiatives guiding future progress.
- ***You can read Stuart's full report HERE.*** Some of the **key issues** highlighted in the report are:
    - Social isolation and exclusion, especially among older and vulnerable residents, necessitating ongoing meal provision and befriending support.
    - Violence affecting young people and anti-social behaviour
- We would also like to congratulate two charities who have recently opened new services in the City Centre:
- **Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland Chapter One, a** bookshop & community space in the heart of Glasgow is now open at 16 Trongate, Glasgow - open every day 10am – 5pm. https://www.instagram.com/chsschapterone/
- **SAMH has opened The Nook** at Brunswick House, 51 Wilson Street, Glasgow, G1 1UZ. The Nook offers drop-in mental health support in a safe, stigma-free and non-clinical environment – without the need for an appointment. https://www.samh.org.uk/about-us/the-nook

Canal – Ward 16

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

- **NUC** have seen a rise in demand for services for all young people and in particular young people with Additional Support Needs. They are now piloting a group for young people with Additional Support Needs and are looking at how they can support parents/carers. http://www.nuconline.co.uk/
- There's also an issue with fireworks in the area at present with young people letting them off and scaring local people.
- **Love Milton** discussed the issues of housing availability and cost of living having a real effect on local residents in Milton. Contrary to some opinions locally, Marina from Love Milton was keen to point out that new Scots are NOT to blame - the housing system isn't working for all citizens. https://www.facebook.com/welovemilton
- **Courtyard Food Pantry** is continuing its free Community lunch on Tuesdays, and its Fruit & Veg Saturday market, showing the need for low cost/free food as local people of Possilpark & Ruchill (and the wider areas) struggle with the cost of living. https://www.facebook.com/courtyardpantry
- **Claypits Nature Reserve** have their monthly litter pick, on the third Sunday of the month. They recently got a Penguin mini book stop at the entrance to the site, where people can borrow or drop off books. https://www.facebook.com/Claypits
- **St. Matthews Centre** celebrated 25th year anniversary in September, their event was a great success bringing together many different cultures to celebrate with food and activities. They continue to host The Chinese Recreation Group, International Women's Group, art sessions from Boom community arts as well as offering a space for the local community to celebrate events. https://www.facebook.com/StMatthews200BalmoreRd

Drumchapel /Anniesland

Rep Dougie Taylor dougie@drumchapellife.co.uk

- **G15 Thriving Places** have just completed their successful "Hope Not Hate" anti-racism campaign. Their launch event featured all 5 primary schools, local partners including Fortune Works and Antonine Cort and the Good Vibes Choir and Drumchapel High School Anti Racism Group. For the first time as part of their awareness month they ran an Anti-Racism Football Tournament, which was a great success.
- https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066681380972
- G15 organised an OVO Energy event – thanks to OVO energy and community partners – 650 people attended the event on 23rd October
- **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 advice the community on issues they may face.
- **Home-Start Glasgow North & North Lanarkshire** https://homestartgnnl.org.uk/
- Home-Start BIG GIVE Christmas campaign runs 2-9 December, where your donation is match – giving them double the donations. https://bit.ly/4hNmMaX
- Home-start are recruiting a Group Worker to support delivery of their family groups in North Glasgow. https://bit.ly/47VHNwG
- They are also looking for volunteers. 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
- **Drumchapel Warm Welcome Café** runs every Tuesday in Drumchapel St Andrews & Yoker Church 11am-1.30pm. Soup scones, treats and a warm welcome guaranteed.
- The Cafe has been chosen to be part of the Co-op Local Community Fund. Download the co-op app and choose the café as your good cause. Find out more on the café facebook page https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555745722644
- **Drumchapel CAB** offer free impartial and confidential advice on a range of issues and continue to be very busy. Over the past 8 weeks alone they have dealt 860 clients with 1870 issues. https://www.drumchapelcab.org.uk/

Garscadden Scotstounhill

Rep: We have a vacancy. Contact martina.northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com

- Lainy Bedingfield from Kingsway Community Connections is stepping down as a Voluntary Sector Rep. Many thanks to Lainy for all her hard work and commitment to being our Rep and a valued member of the Area Partnership.
- The network is in the process of recruiting new reps in time for the New Year AP meetings

- ***Please read the detailed Garscadden Scotstounhill member organisations' report HERE***. Below are few highlights from the report:
- **Active Seniors** https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079995702359
- From the beginning of August until the end of September have had 6 events with 316 people attending.
- **DRC Youth Project** https://www.facebook.com/drcyouthproject

- DRCYP continue to deliver weekly youth club sessions for 8–19 year-olds across Yoker Community Campus, Heart of Scotstoun, and The Whiteinch Centre, providing safe, supportive, and engaging spaces for young people in our communities.
- DRCYP are making plans to take over the old Sports Centre in Yoker and make it a multiuse multi skills training centre for young people. https://www.pressreader.com/uk/glasgow-times/20251104/281629606521903
- Medics Against Violence, alongside a former gang member, visited DRC to speak with young people about knife crime and the wider impact of violent and gang-related activity.
- **Knightswood Community Centre** https://www.knightswoodcentre.co.uk/ https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064798833808
- Knightswood Community Centre in partnership with Ignite Arts have restarted their Youth Forum. The aim of the Youth Forum is to hear young people's voices regarding what they feel they need and want from the Centre and the community.
- The Community Cinema is still free and very popular with 60 to 90 people attending every week. There is tea, coffee, biscuits at 12.30pm (£1.00 Donation) with films starting at 1.00pm
- **Kingsway Community Connections** https://www.kingswaycc.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/KingswayCommunityConnections
- KCC are celebrating their 25th Anniversary this month. Join us in wishing them all the best with all their plans and celebrations.
- As part of their commitment to sharing learning and good practice and strengthening community partnerships the team from KCC visited the Marcus Lipton Centre in Brixton. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrIFP3rBMGU

Hillhead

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

- **Community Central Halls** is based in the top end of the ward and is experiencing a big rise in demand for their community fridge that gives out free food to local people. This again illustrates the struggles of people are having with the cost of living.
- CCH have also been helping to maintain the Stockline Plastics memorial near their building; they now want to develop the green space next to the memorial and are looking for ideas of what they could use it for.
- CCH continue to offer a 'cradle to grave' service for the local community, with a nursery, after school service, youth work provision, older people's services either by hosting or direct delivery.
- https://centralhall.org/
- Many Hillhead Parents & Carers through the Parents Council are calling for more activities for young people throughout the ward, with a concern that there is no youth provision in some of the areas. Glasgow Life are delivering No knives better lives sessions in local schools & will be delivering in Hillhead High school.
- **Byres Community Hub** continue with their Hub Mondays bringing together community members, third sector organisations, academics & others interested in identifying issues, finding solutions & sharing good practice. It remains free to use for community groups and third sector organisations. The Hub is currently reviewing its provision to make sure it's providing the right services for its users.
- https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/healthwellbeing/byrescommunityhub/

Maryhill

Rep: Sharon Bowers sharon-at-acre@outlook.com Sub Rep: Sarah McNeil shakespeareyouthclub@yahoo.co.uk

- **Maryhill Integration Network** have hosted meetings around the saltire flags that have appeared in Maryhill. This has been accompanied by a rise in racism, experienced by new Scots in the area. Also reporting a worrying rise in racist language in schools. Local organisations and community groups want to show solidarity and that the flags (if put up with racist intent) don't represent Maryhill. A working group is being set up to develop ideas around how we celebrate Maryhill and all its residents.
- https://maryhillintegration.org.uk/
- **Maryhill Burgh Halls** are planning celebrations for Maryhill's 170th birthday next year, so events will be planned sympathetically. Other notable celebrations in 2026 are 150 years of Partick Thistle, 25 years of Maryhill Integration Network, 200 years of Maryhill Parish Church.
- https://www.maryhillburghhalls.org.uk/
- **Shakespeare Street Youth Club** report that they are oversubscribed for every club. There is more demand than ever before for safe spaces for young people and families to attend.
- They are also noticing a greater demand for the supply of food during activities. Funding and capacity mean that they cannot always do this.
- Also an increase in children and young people with Additional Support Needs using their services and clubs. (sometimes as respite for parents who cannot access help)
- https://www.facebook.com/ShakespeareStYouthClub/
- **Maryhill Together.** 40 people from 20 organisations working in Maryhill met at Maryhill Burgh Halls for Maryhill Together on 29th October. We heard from Martina from the Network, Rose form Maryhill Integration Network, Ted from G15 Thriving Places about their recent anti-racism campaign and Christine and Briony from Maryhill against Racism. A real wish to show that Maryhill is a welcoming place for everyone.
- **Acre tenants & residents hall** continuing it's 5 day a week service, with sewing classes, warm welcome sessions, computer access and food parcel service. It is important to note that Acre Hall is run solely by volunteers, all funding goes to delivering the service, which is much need as the Acre area is not well served by public transport or other services.

Partick East/Kelvindale

Rep: Kashif Anwar kashif.anwar@annexecommunities.org.uk

- ***Please read the detailed report for Partick East Kelvindale HERE***. Below are few highlights from the report:
- At **Annexe Communities**, voting opens for round 14 of the Partick and Thornwood Ideas Fund. Voting is open: 30th October – 9th November. https://www.annexecommunities.org.uk/vote
- Annexe Communities continues to work with local projects and organisations into the winter months - Partick Housing Association and Partick Community Growing Project- focussing activities on combatting social isolation – classes, activities, and workshops and Emergency Food & Fuel Support Fund. They will be involved supporting community meals, soup packs & Christmas boxes over the Winter months.

- **Partick Community Growing Project** would like to thank the area partnership for their continued support from the area budget and to let the partnership know that they recently secured https://www.facebook.com/PartickCommunityGrowingProject
- **Partick Housing association** are continue celebrating their 50th Anniversary. An Activate course(with Glasgow Uni) will start early 20226 with info sessions in November. https://www.partickha.org.uk/
- **Partick Victoria Park Church** are running Warm Welcome Thursdays from 12 noon to 2pm

Victoria Park

Contact: lynn.northwestglasgowvsn@outlook.com

- **Glasgow Wood**
- Glasgow Wood is looking for people to complete their survey on what you would like to build in their workshops January-March26 https://bit.ly/47GwMhk
- Glasgow Wood is doing some fundraising to help sustain their business and keep them 'doing good with wood'. They are working with Aviva Community Fund, who will be matching donations up to £250. This crowdfunder campaign allows you to just donate or donate for rewards. https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/strength-to-strength-help-us-build-the-new-phase

- **Whiteinch Centre** https://www.whiteinchcentre.org.uk/
- 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.
- **Cosy Connections** has restarted running Monday Thursday 3-5pm in the café area. A chance for a cuppa and a chat and to make connections. A space to play board games or use the centre's tablets
- The Centre is running an IT Drop-In Service runs every Monday 12-2pm.
- There is also a new Digital Skills for ESOL Learners class, which helps people improve their English while also building confidence online. More information from reception@whiteinchcentre.org.uk
- Community Shop open Tuesday and Wednesdays £2.50 annual fee and £2.50 per shop. Over 3,600 accessed low-cost food from the shop in 2024/25
- WHSA Annual Report 2024/25 https://pg.aflip.in/a6c2cdb296.html#page/1

- For updates on **DRC Youth Project and Glasgow Eco Trust**, please see the Garscadden/Scotstounhill update – thank you!

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