

Weathering Change

Community resilience in the face of climate change



About Weathering Change

- Action research project – exploring how to support community resilience to climate change.
- Based in three neighbourhoods in north Glasgow.
- Glasgow Centre for Population Health (GCPH), Sniffer, greenspace Scotland and Glasgow City Council (GCC).
- Project designed around three types of learning.

Objectives	Type of learning	Audience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To better understand local priorities and to support processes of change - including climate adaptation responses - in north Glasgow.	Operational	Organisations working in defined area
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To gather lessons from the approach taken and the effectiveness of action research for gathering learning.	Process	Practitioners
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To generate transferable learning on how to successfully engage with communities in climate adaptation and wider regeneration activities.	Climate adaptation policy and practice	Policymakers and practitioners

Context

Challenges

- An area of socio-economic disadvantage
- Poor quality environment - vacant and derelict land

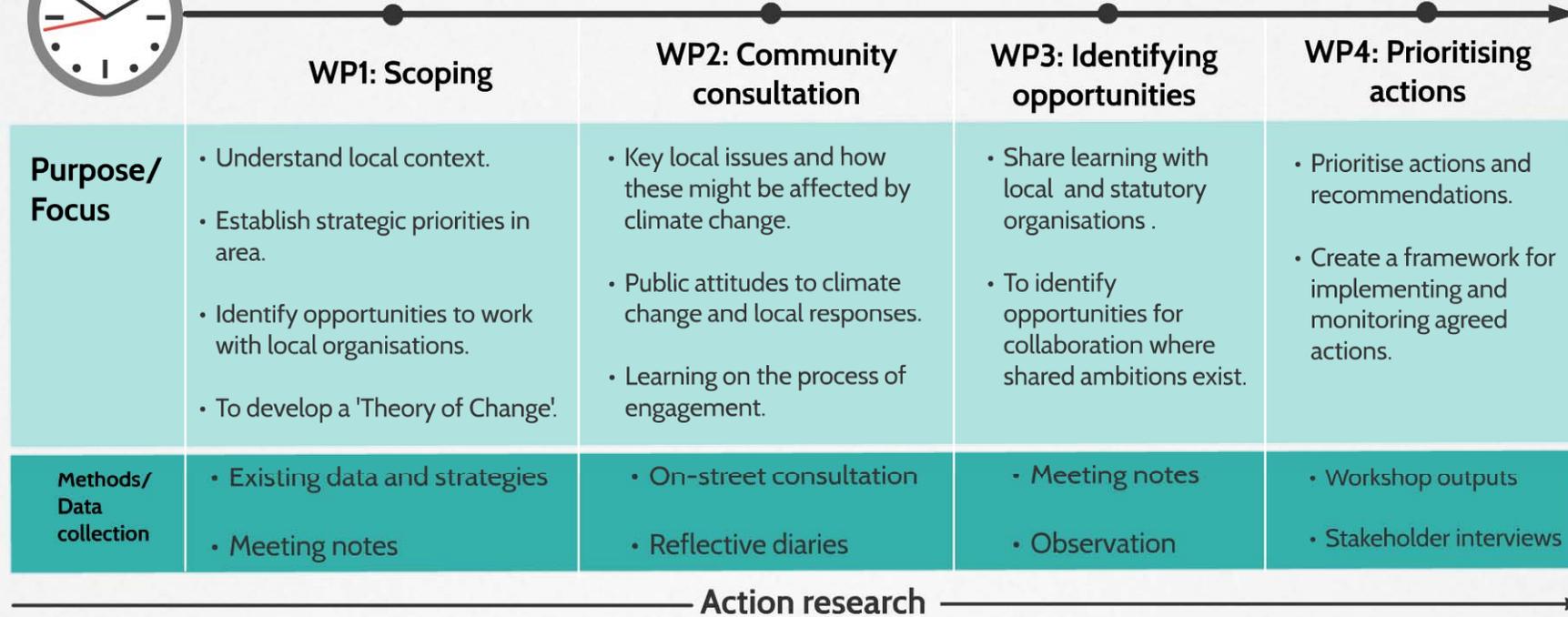
Opportunities

- Several local groups already doing climate related work
- An area of regeneration focus
- A new 'Resilience Strategy' for Glasgow

Group	ID	Indicator	Count	%	Difference from Glasgow	Time Period
Population	P1	People aged 0 - 15	2,026	18.9%	+17%	2012
	P2	People aged 16 - 64	7,148	66.6%	-5%	
	P3	People aged 65 - 74	849	7.9%	+9%	
	P4	People aged 75 and over	714	6.6%	-1%	
Cultural	C1	People from an ethnic minority	1,093	10.0%	-14%	2011
	C2	People who are married, in a civil partnership, or co-habiting	2,920	33.9%	-19%	
	C3	Single parent households	765	52.9%	+31%	
	C4	Householders living alone	2,550	23.9%	+12%	
	C5	People with religious affiliation	7,075	64.6%	+4%	
Environment/ Transport	E1	People who travel to place of work or study by walking, bike or public transport	2,950	51.0%	+1%	2011
	E2	People living within 500m of vacant or derelict land	10,631	100.0%	+66%	
	E3	Households with one or more cars	1,887	34.5%	-30%	
	E4	Overcrowded households	1,077	19.7%	+13%	
Socio-economic	S1	Owner occupied households	1,222	22.3%	-51%	2011
	S2	People with grade D or E social classification	2,321	52.7%	+55%	
	S3	People in employment	3,876	47.3%	-17%	
	S4	People claiming Employment and Support Allowance	595	5.5%	+61%	
	S5	People claiming out of work benefits	2,475	36.0%	+68%	
Education	ED1	Adults with qualifications at Higher level and above	2,571	29.0%	-40%	2011
	ED2	Young people not in education, employment or training	144	24.5%	+108%	
Poverty	PO1	People in income deprivation	3,760	35.0%	+64%	2012
	PO2	People of working age in employment deprivation	2,260	32.6%	+71%	2011
	PO3	Children in poverty	1,130	46.9%	+46%	
Health	H1	People in "good" or "very good" health	7,520	68.7%	-11%	2011
	H2	People limited "a lot" or "a little" by disability	3,302	30.2%	+33%	
	H3	Male life expectancy	66.2 years		-8%	2008 - 2012
	H4	Female life expectancy	73.1 years		-6%	

Project phases

Project phase

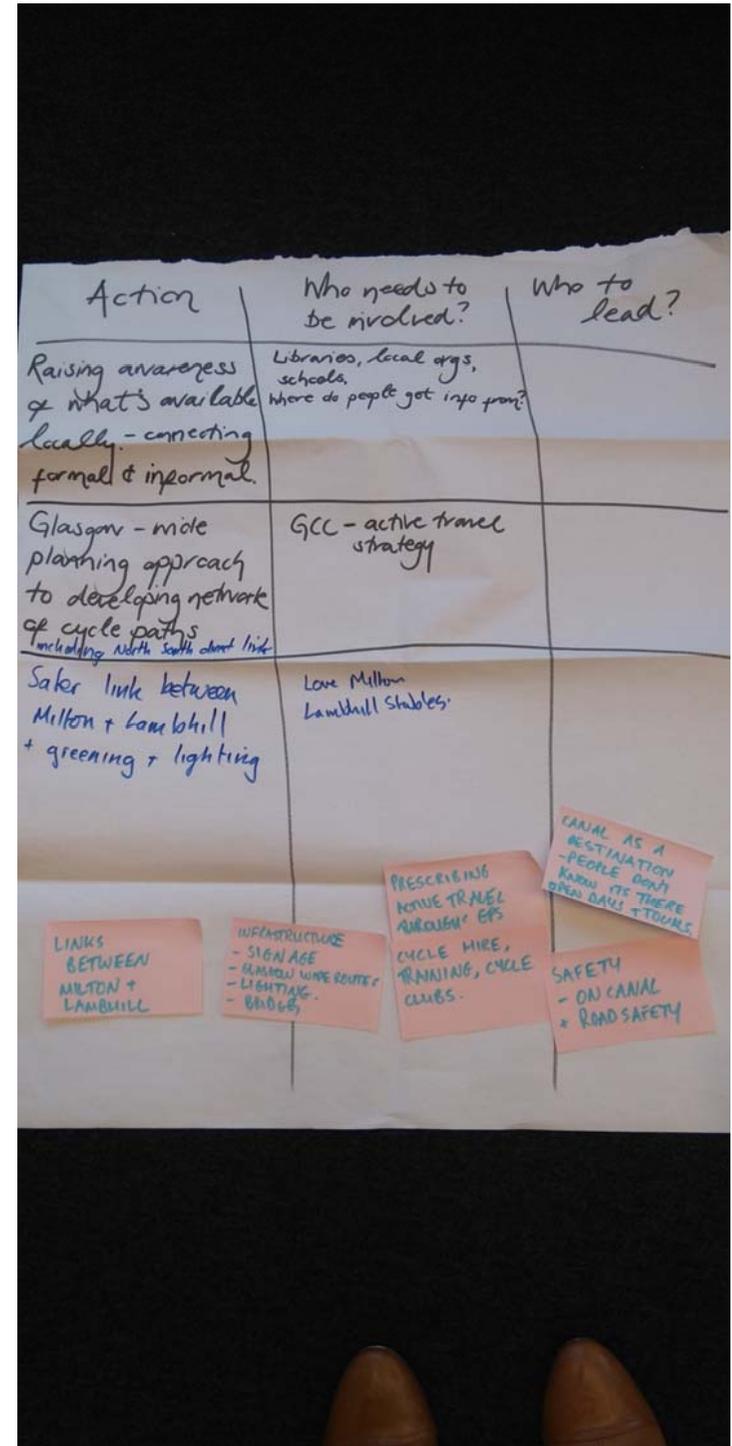


Community consultation

- On-street consultation to identify local priorities and how these might be shaped by a changing climate.
- Priorities for area: employment, young people, environmental conditions, local facilities, transport and food options.
- Consensus that climate change was happening...but not a priority.
- Powerless to do anything and burdened with a problem created by others.

Identifying opportunities

- Findings from consultation fed back to local and statutory organisations.
- Local organisations identified opportunities to work together:
 - Joint funding bids
 - Aligning related projects
 - Sharing learning on growing practice.
- New strategies emerging in relation to active travel, land-use, regeneration and climate adaptation.
- Emergence of themes and priorities to support positive change in the area.



Theme	Areas of focus		
Developing a food growing network	Natural environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using vacant and derelict land • Maintenance of sites 	Urban growing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban farming • Development of allotment sites • Volunteering • Skills development 	Community food network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a local food network • Surplus food • Growing practice
Placemaking along the canal corridor	Placemaking projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using boats to increase traffic on canal • Creating destinations 	Heritage and local identity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting local heritage • Retention of industrial heritage 	Tourism and business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of north as place for sustainability • Volunteering/training
Improving active travel links	Active travel routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving links to local destinations • Creating routes along the canal • Signposting to destinations • Improve lighting and remove litter 	Active travel provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike hire scheme expansion • Organised walking and cycling trips • Create cycle clubs • Improving cycling infrastructure 	Education, awareness and health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide cycle maintenance courses • Social prescribing
Working together			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing knowledge and resources such as specialist knowledge and skills, volunteering opportunities, resources, joint funding bids, identifying opportunities for young people. • Collaboration between local and statutory organisations through more regular communication and a concerted effort to ensure that communities are able to benefit from the Community Empowerment Act. • Strengthening community links by establishing projects on neighbourhood boundaries and by supporting new members of the community, such as migrants, to get involved. 			

Prioritising actions

- Public event to brought together local and statutory organisations involved in the project.
- To identify specific actions to address issues raised during project.

Recommendations

1. Establish a food growing network.
2. Expand partnership working between neighbouring communities.
3. Facilitate collaboration between community and statutory partners on the use of vacant and derelict land.
4. Involve community groups in the development of plans to improve active travel in the area.

Impact and influence

- Local groups are better connected.
- Priorities for regeneration have been identified.
- Learning on how statutory and local organisations can work together more effectively.

but...

- Limited participation from statutory organisations.
- Lack of ownership of recommendations.
- Few resources to make changes.

A few final reflections...



Challenges

- Local and statutory organisations are stretched in terms of human and financial resources.
- Aligning local and statutory organisations can be difficult - working to different timescales.

Policy vs. practice

- Structural barriers prevent good public policy from being implemented.
- Vacant land remains a wicked issue despite significant policy reform.

Supporting climate adaptation

- Climate adaptation cuts across a number of agendas - part of bigger picture!
- Public engagement on climate change - relevance to the people's everyday lives.
- Climate change will impact most on vulnerable populations - an inequalities issue.

Thank you for listening

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