



GLASGOW COMMUNITY
HEALTH AND WELLBEING
RESEARCH AND LEARNING
PROGRAMME



Welcome to the latest findings edition of the GoWell newsletter. Last summer our researchers visited the Drumchapel area and asked local residents to take part in a very important health, housing and regeneration study called GoWell.

Since then 694 Drumchapel residents have very generously given their time and have completed survey interviews with our researchers, along with about 6000 other households in 14 different communities across Glasgow.

The GoWell team would like to use this newsletter to share with you and your community some of the key findings for your area. We will send you further newsletters in the future to keep you up to date with all we have found out.

Meanwhile, we would like to thank you and your community for taking part in GoWell. Without your help this study would not be possible.

With best wishes
The GoWell team

The key findings

Last year our researchers spoke to approximately 700 Drumchapel residents in the first of four surveys that will cover a period of 10 years. From these residents we learned that...

- Self-reported health in Drumchapel is relatively good.
- Parents report better health than other residents
- Many residents are concerned about anti-social behaviour from young people
- However, many are also concerned about poor quality of services and amenities for children and young people in their area
- Home and neighbourhood satisfaction are high
- Many local services are generally considered good, but fewer residents are satisfied with local banking, police, shops and nurseries/child care.



IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR COMMUNITY

Why is the GoWell team interested in studying Drumchapel?

Dr Matt Egan – Researcher



The GoWell team and I are interested in studying Drumchapel because of its important role in Glasgow's urban regeneration strategies: both past and present.

The kinds of regeneration activities that are expected to take place involve things like building and improving homes, and attempting to identify and deliver what people think is needed to help their community thrive.

All of these activities provide the GoWell team with an opportunity to find out from local residents if and how their health and lives are changed as a result of investment in community regeneration.

About your home, health and community

What kind of people live in your area?

Typically – people from your area tend to be relatively young, white and born in Scotland. Of course, there are also people who do not fit that description.

Ninety-six percent of the residents describe themselves as 'white Scottish.' **Less than 2%** are asylum seekers, refugees or belong to non-white ethnic groups.

Drumchapel is a relatively young area. **Less than one in ten** households contain pensioners, whilst **over half** of the homes contain children.

Just under a third of the residents either live alone (13%) or are bringing up children alone (19%).

Your general health

Generally speaking, population health is usually poorer in places where jobs and money are more scarce. Taken as a whole, self-reported health in Drumchapel is reasonable compared to many similar areas.

However, some groups of residents report poorer health than others. Illness related to old age might account for why **a third** of participants from pensioner households reported that their health had not been good over the previous twelve months.

Of the remainder, the best health seems to be enjoyed by participants with children (both dual and single parents). Only **one in twelve** of these report poor health over the previous year. In contrast, **one in five** participants from homes that do not contain children say their health has not been good.

Money and jobs

Few Drumchapel residents say they earn more than Glasgow's average income and **one in five** find it difficult to pay bills.

43% of residents report having a job, and another **14%** are in training or in some other way economically active.

Housing

Drumchapel contains a few multi-storeys, many tenement flats, other apartments and houses. We have spoken to a sample of GoWell participants from each of these kinds of home.

Nearly 80% of participants rent their homes from a community based housing association. This is much higher than the national average but home ownership has also gained a foothold in the area. **One in six** of the GoWell participants are home-owners.

Anti-social behaviour problems in your area

Many residents are concerned about anti-social behaviour. Vandalism/graffiti, gangs and teenagers hanging around are identified as concerns for the majority of residents. Sectarianism, racism, violent crime and nuisance neighbours are not seen as problems by most residents.

In general, housing association tenants and economically inactive residents are more likely to identify problems than home owners and employed participants.

Satisfaction

Three quarters of Drumchapel residents are satisfied with their homes and their neighbourhood as a place to live. **25%** think their home needs minor improvements, **5%** are looking for major improvements, but **more than 70%** think their homes are fine as they are.

Services and amenities like transport, schools, rubbish collection and health centres are all rated as 'good' by at least **60%** of residents. However, **only two in five** residents (or less) rate local banking, youth and leisure services, police, shops and nursery/child care as good.

Therefore Drumchapel residents tend to be positive about their homes and neighbourhood, but many still identify areas needing improvement.



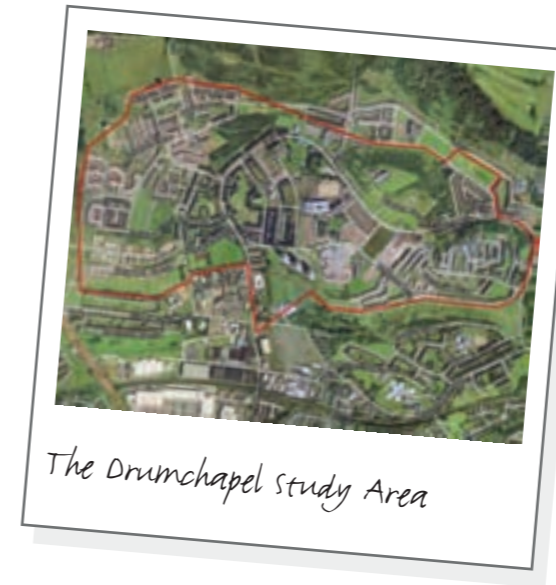
About the study

GoWell is conducted by an independent team of researchers. Over the next 10 years we will inform residents and housing planners about the impacts of neighbourhood changes across Glasgow.

GoWell asks people about health, housing, neighbourhood and community issues. Nearly half of all the Drumchapel residents we contacted responded.

Some could not be contacted or chose not to take part. They might have their own story to tell, but we can tell lots about your neighbourhood by looking at the many residents who did participate.

Our next steps include further resident contacts, and analysis of more information to fill knowledge gaps about what people want from community regeneration and to find out what your top concerns are.



The GoWell team

About us, the GoWell team

The principal investigators who designed and are leading the GoWell programme are:



Phil Hanlon
Professor of Public Health, based at the University of Glasgow.



Ade Kearns
Professor of Urban Studies, based at the University of Glasgow.



Mark Petticrew
Associate Director, Medical Research Council Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, based at the University of Glasgow



Carol Tannahill
Director, the Glasgow Centre for Population Health.

The GoWell team is also made up of a core group of staff, comprising our Researchers, a Communications Manager and a Programme Administrator. These members of the team will introduce themselves to you in the next issue of the newsletter.

The GoWell website

To help to keep you and your community fully informed of all GoWell progress and developments we have created a GoWell website. The purpose of the GoWell website is to provide the people taking part in GoWell, their communities and others interested in GoWell with a way of obtaining information about the findings directly from the GoWell team. The site contains links to the latest GoWell news, findings and events. If you would like to find out more please visit: www.gowellonline.com

What do you think?

We would like to know what you think. Send your views to: yvonne.christley@drs.glasgow.gov.uk or telephone us on 0141 221 9439

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