



GLASGOW COMMUNITY
HEALTH AND WELLBEING
RESEARCH AND LEARNING
PROGRAMME



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

Since then 469 Riddrie 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 residents from Riddrie in the first of four surveys that will cover a period of 10 years. From these residents we learned that...

- Residents tend to be positive about their homes and neighbourhood.
- Half the adult residents are employed and two in five residents sometimes struggle with their finances.
- Overall, Riddrie residents don't think that most types of anti-social behaviour and crime are problems in their area
- However, there is some concern about problems associated young people.
- Most residents do not consider banks, childcare, police and youth and leisure services to be good in their area, but other local services are rated highly.
- Self-reported health in Riddrie is relatively poor.



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

Why is the GoWell team interested in studying Riddrie?

Dr Matt Egan – Researcher



The GoWell team and I are interested in Riddrie because it is part of a multi-million pound community regeneration programme currently taking place in Glasgow.

Regeneration might involve both internal and external improvements to people's homes – and attempts to support communities with improved services and amenities.

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 regeneration.



About your home, health and community

What kind of people live in your area?

Riddrie is dominated by four-in-a-blocks and houses, tenement flats are also represented amongst the households in our study.

Just under two thirds of the residents from our survey are home owners. The rest rent, in most cases from a housing association.

Our participants represent both young and elderly members of the community. **Around a third** of households contain children and a similar number contain pensioners. **Two thirds** of the residents also live with at least one other adult.

The area is not very ethnically diverse. **Ninety-nine percent** of participants described themselves as 'white Scottish'.

Money and jobs

Over half the adult residents of Riddrie are employed, and a further **13%** are involved in some other form of economic activity (e.g. training etc).

Few Riddrie residents say they earn more than Glasgow's average income but many prefer not to give details of their income. **Most** residents (**81%**) do not report experiencing problems meeting the necessary costs to pay their bills. However, tenants are more likely to have problems paying bills than homeowners.

Your general health

Generally speaking, population health is usually better in richer areas and poorer in neighbourhoods experiencing deprivation. In Riddrie only **one in two** residents describe their health over the past 12 months as good – compared to **two thirds** of the Scottish population reporting good health in the last census.

Age-related illnesses may explain some of the health problems. The lowest health scores tended to come from pensioner households, where only **1 in 3** report good health over the previous year. Self-reported health is twice as likely to be good for home owners compared to tenants.

Anti-social behaviour problems in your area

We presented residents from Riddrie with a list of problems that affect some neighbourhoods, including various forms of anti-social behaviour and crime. When we asked residents to comment on whether they thought each issue was a problem in their area, the majority of people said that none of them were problems.

More than 80% of residents believe that violent assault, house break-ins, burnt out cars, racial harassment, sectarianism, general harassment, noise or problem neighbours are not problems in their neighbourhood.

A few more people thought drink and drugs were problems, but youth related anti-social behaviour was the issue most likely to concern residents. However, the **majority** of people still do not feel adversely affected by this. At least **six out of ten** residents do not think that teenagers hanging about, gangs or vandalism are problems in Riddrie

Satisfaction

Over 90% of residents from Riddrie are satisfied with their home and their neighbourhood as a place to live. **Nearly a quarter** say that some work is needed to improve their homes, but **less than 1%** say major work is required. **Over three quarters** of the residents say their home is fine as it is.

Residents have mixed views about local services and amenities. Rubbish collection is the top rated service, with **86%** describing it as good or fairly good. Transport, health centres, and shops are also highly rated by **around two thirds** of residents (and at times more). Residents tend to be less enthusiastic about schools (only **one in two** respondents).

The worst rated local services for your area are banks, policing, childcare/nurseries and youth and leisure services. **Less than a half** of residents described these as good.

On the whole Riddrie residents are generally positive about their neighbourhood and community, but many still want to see improvements.



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. Three fifths of the Riddrie 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:
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