



GLASGOW COMMUNITY
HEALTH AND WELLBEING
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03



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

Since then 433 Shawbridge Corridor 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 more than 400 Shawbridge residents in the first of four surveys that will cover a period of 10 years. From these residents we learned that...

- Shawbridge has low full-time employment.
- Most residents are positive about their home, neighbourhood and services in the community.
- Social problems related to crime and drugs concern many residents.
- Racial tensions are rated as less of a problem – by both white residents and asylum-seekers.
- Asylum-seekers report better health than other residents.
- Parents may be less satisfied with their home and more concerned about anti-social behaviour than people without children.
- People living in multi-storey flats also reported higher dissatisfaction and concern about anti-social behaviour.

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SHAWBRIDGE CORRIDOR



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Why is the GoWell team interested in studying the Shawbridge Corridor?

Dr Matt Egan –
Researcher



The GoWell team and I are interested in studying the Shawbridge Corridor because the multi-storey flats located on or near to Shawbridge Street are part of a multi-million pound community regeneration programme.

The kinds of community regeneration activities that are expected to take place involve things like building and improving homes as well as community based activities, such as finding out what people want, and providing planning and resources aimed at helping people 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

What kind of people live in your area?

This part of Shawbridge contains both high and low rise accommodation. **Most** people live in the high rises, although GoWell includes residents from all the different house types. Of the 433 people who took part in GoWell around 400 rent their homes from a community based housing association. A small number of participants are home-owners.

Shawbridge has a family-based community. **Two thirds** of householders across the community have children living with them (including two fifths of the people we spoke to).

The neighbourhood also has great ethnic diversity. Although the majority of participants said they were 'white Scottish', over a **third** of all residents are thought to be asylum seekers and nearly 1 in 6 are refugees.



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

and community

Your general health

Generally speaking, population health is usually poorer in neighbourhoods experiencing deprivation. Taken as a whole, self-reported health in Shawbridge is good compared to many similar areas. However, some groups of residents report better health than others. Only **35%** of 'white Scots' say their health has been good compared to **43%** of asylum seekers and **72%** of the refugees.

Anti-social behaviour problems in your area

Many residents are concerned about anti-social behaviour. Drug dealing, teenagers hanging around and gangs are key concerns, with more than **half** of participants identifying each of these as problems for the Shawbridge area.

Fewer residents consider racial harassment/violence as a problem. **42%** of 'white Scots' think it is a problem in their neighbourhood, whilst **40%** of refugees/asylum seekers think the same. The relatively high numbers who see racism as a problem is worrying, and it is interesting to see broad similarities of opinion across these groups.

Parents and residents of multi-storey flats are more likely than other respondents to identify anti-social behaviour as neighbourhood problems.

Money and jobs

Few Shawbridge residents earn more than Glasgow's average income and most say they find it difficult to pay bills. **14%** of residents report having a job, although another **42%** are in training or in some other way economically active.

Satisfaction

Two thirds of people in Shawbridge are reasonably satisfied with their home, whilst **55%** are satisfied with their neighbourhood. However, nearly half said that their home needed work to improve it (and **7%** want their homes demolished). **48%** say their home is fine as it is.

Services and amenities like transport, schools, youth and leisure services, policing and shops are all rated as 'good' by most of the participants - often much more than **half**. Therefore Shawbridge residents are quite supportive of their neighbourhood and community, but many still want to see improvements.



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SUMMER 2007

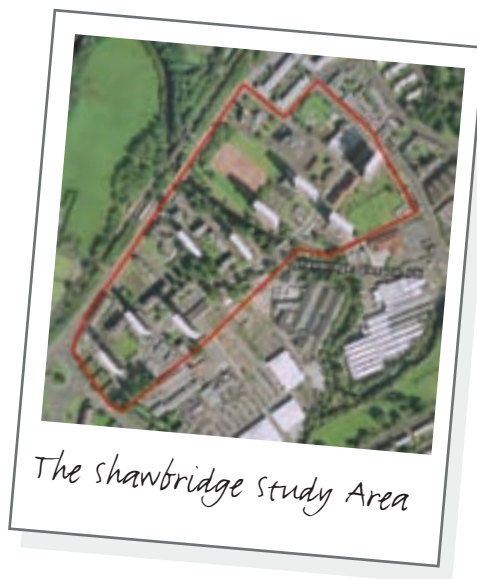
About the study

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. Two fifths of the Shawbridge residents we contacted responded. That's 433 participants from different households.

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

GoWell

The Glasgow Centre for Population Health
Level 6 | 39 St Vincent Place
Glasgow G1 2ER
Telephone: 0141 221 9439
Email: Yvonne.christley@drs.glasgow.gov.uk

www.gowellonline.com



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