



GLASGOW COMMUNITY
HEALTH AND WELLBEING
RESEARCH AND LEARNING
PROGRAMME



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

Since then 188 St Andrews Drive 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

Initial findings

Last year our researchers spoke to nearly 200 St Andrews Drive residents in the first of four surveys that will cover a period of 10 years. From these residents we learned that...

- St Andrews Drive residents are less likely to describe their health as good, compared to figures from the whole of Glasgow and the whole of Scotland.
- Two thirds of residents identify anti-social behaviour as a problem for St Andrew's Drive.
- Home and neighbourhood satisfaction are relatively high for people living in the multi-storeys.
- Residents from the deck access tenemental flats are less satisfied with their homes, neighbourhood and local services.
- Most people in St Andrews Drive have regular social contact and social isolation is comparatively rare.



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

Why are the GoWell team interested in studying St Andrews Drive?

Dr Matt Egan – Researcher



The GoWell researchers and I are interested in studying St Andrews Drive because of its important role in Glasgow's urban regeneration programme.

The kinds of regeneration activities that are expected to take place in your community involve things like improving people's homes, and attempting to identify and deliver what residents 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?

St Andrews Drive is well represented by residents of all ages and contains people from different ethnic backgrounds.

Two thirds of the residents describe themselves as 'white Scottish.' The **remaining third** includes people belonging to British ethnic minority groups (**16%**), non-Scottish 'white' UK nationals (**9%**), and asylum-seekers/refugees (**9%**).

St Andrews Drive is home to many families – **just under half** the residents have children living with them.

Just **one in six** residents live by themselves, whilst **one in four** parents are bringing up children alone. A **sixth** of the households contain pensioners.

Your general health

Generally speaking, population health is usually poorer in places where jobs and money are more scarce. Overall, health in St Andrew's Drive is poorer than the national average, but the figures are not clear cut.

For example, we asked St. Andrews Drive residents if their health had been good, fairly good or not good over the previous 12 months, and compared that with national findings from the last census. We found that **only half** the residents from St Andrews Drive described their health as good, compared to **two thirds** of people across Scotland. However, the proportion of St Andrew's Drive residents who rated their health as 'not good' was slightly better than the national figure.

Money and jobs

Few St Andrews Drive residents say they earn more than Glasgow's average income and most participants who pay household bills have difficulty doing so.

A third of residents report having a job, although **another third** are in training or in some other way economically active.

Housing

St Andrews Drive contains "mini" multi-storey flats and modern deck access / tenemental homes. The majority are managed by housing associations. We have spoken to many GoWell participants from each of these kinds of home.

Anti-social behaviour problems in your area

The GoWell questionnaire listed a number of issues that concern people in many neighbourhoods and we asked residents to say whether they were problems, serious problems, or not a problem in St Andrews Drive.

There was general agreement from most residents that violence or anti-social behaviour from young people and from nuisance neighbours/families, as well as drug and alcohol use are problems in St Andrews Drive. For most of the issues we listed, **roughly a third** of residents said they were a problem, **a third** called them serious problems and **a third** said they were not a problem. Broadly, this pattern can be seen both for residents of multi-storey flats and deck access tenement flats.

However, whilst **two thirds** of residents from the mini-multis agree with the statement 'I feel safe in my home', only **a quarter** of residents from the deck access tenemental flats say they feel safe.

Social contact

On the other hand, residents of St Andrews Drive do not tend to be socially isolated. It is a neighbourhood where the vast majority of residents have regular social contacts. **Nine out of ten** residents speak to or contact friends at least once a week, and **eight out of ten** speak to or contact relatives at least weekly.

Satisfaction

Around half of St Andrews Drive residents are satisfied with their home and with their neighbourhood.

Residents from the mini-multis are more satisfied with their homes than residents from the deck access tenemental flats. **60%** of people from the multis think their homes do not need improvement. In comparison, **only a third** of residents from the deck access flats think their homes are fine. **A third** say their homes need some work, and another third say they need major improvements.

Opinions about local services and amenities like transport, schools, health centres, banking, policing, shops, and youth/leisure services are divided between residents of multi storey and deck access flats. Participants from the multi-story flats consistently give these services/amenities a higher approval rating. This is unusual, as in many cases, both sets of residents may share the same services/amenities.

Therefore, the type of home people live in seems to have a connection with the level of satisfaction St Andrews Drive residents feel for their home, neighbourhood, services and amenities.



ST ANDREWS DRIVE

SUMMER 2007

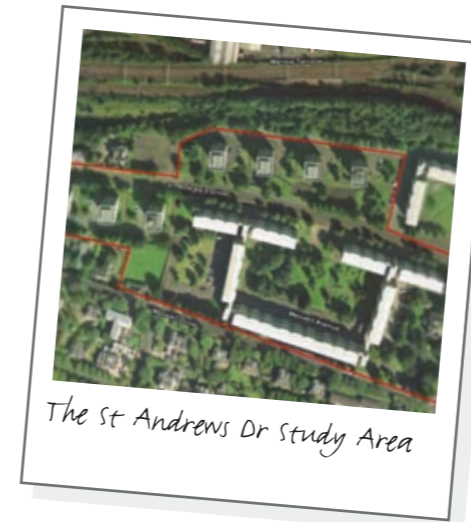
About the study

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. One in two of every St Andrews Drive residents we contacted responded.

Some could not be contacted or chose not to take part. They might have their own view about things, 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 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 ensure that you and your community are kept 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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