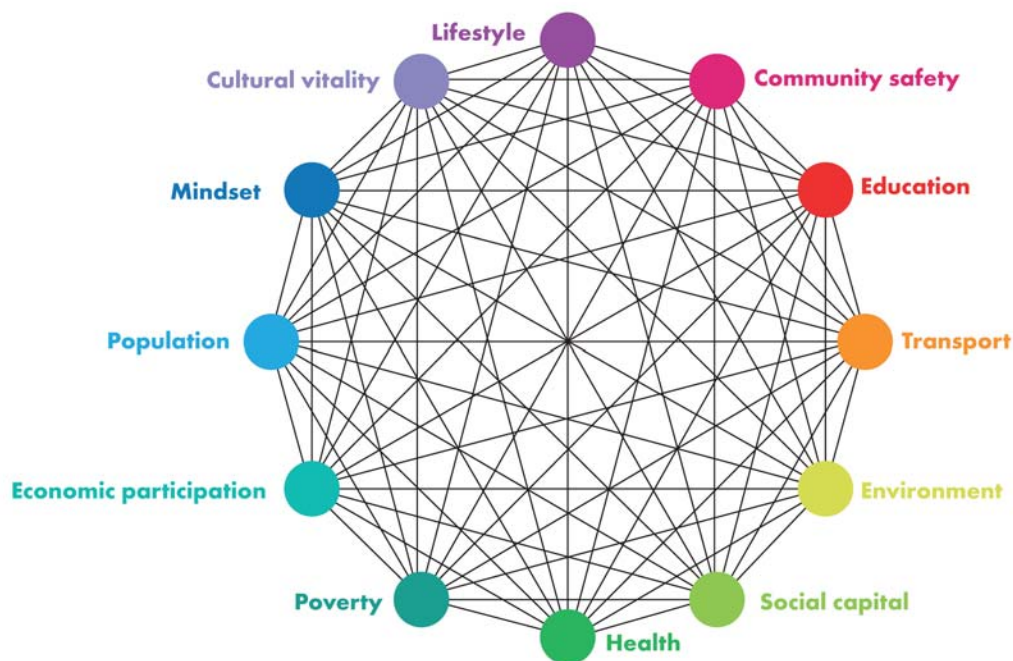


Challenges to the alcohol and drugs agenda in Glasgow:

The Glasgow Game

Understanding Glasgow



www.understandingglasgow.com

Date: Wednesday 4th September 2013, The Lighthouse

Hosted by: Glasgow Centre for Population Health & International Futures Forum

Facilitated by: Andrew Lyon and Bruce Whyte



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With thanks to:

All participants - for their contributions on which this report is based
Deborah Shipton - for help with facilitation and writing the report
Carol Frame - for administration support
Ricky Fleming - for the photography

Description of the event

Thirty-six individuals, from a range of organisations attended the event

Introductory words

Biba Brand (National ADP Delivery Advisor, Scottish Government) provided some introductory words around the emerging challenges to the alcohol and drugs agenda in Glasgow (see Appendix for a copy of Biba's slides)

Understanding Glasgow

The [Understanding Glasgow](#) website, a resource providing information and insights about issues of important to Glasgow's population (e.g. health, poverty, education, environment, etc), was introduced by [Bruce Whyte](#). Participants were given time to explore the site and provide feedback (see Appendix for site-specific issues raised).

Glasgow Game

The Glasgow Game is an interactive way for a group to engage in a conversation about the important issues facing Glasgow. It is based on the [World Game](#), developed by the [International Futures Forum](#). The game works best when addressing a specific challenge or question.

How the game works

- A relevant [challenge](#) is identified
- Participants form 12 groups, each group responsible for one theme of the Understanding Glasgow Mandala
- Using the [Understanding Glasgow](#) website each group examines the key **trends** in their theme, a possible **shock** relevant to that theme – such as a deep economic recession, civic disorder, public service collapse – and their key **concern** should the shock become a reality.
- *Connecting the themes*: people working on different themes join together with two other theme groups e.g.:

Social capital	+	Education	+	Health
Economic participation	+	Transport	+	Lifestyle
Community safety	+	Poverty	+	Population
Cultural vitality	+	Environment	+	Mindset

Each group is asked to imagine that each of the shocks they had identified happens simultaneously in Glasgow – for example a deep recession and the collapse of one or more of the public services. Groups



are asked to discuss the likely scenarios and what wide anticipatory actions should be taken. Making connections between the themes each group identifies:

- The impact on life in Glasgow if the key shocks in all three themes occurred simultaneously.
- What the possible media headlines might be.
- What the group would want to know, and would want to find out.
- What far-sighted actions would need to be taken to address or prevent this outcome.

■ Participants return to their original themes and identify a **declaration**.

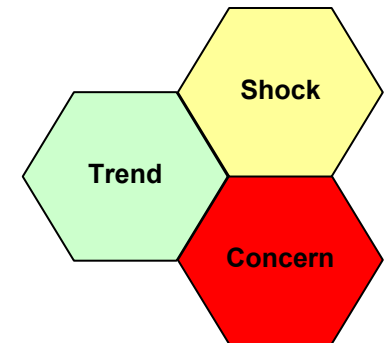
The declaration is a recommendation to policy-makers about their theme and how to ensure the city can meet the challenge identified at the beginning of the game.



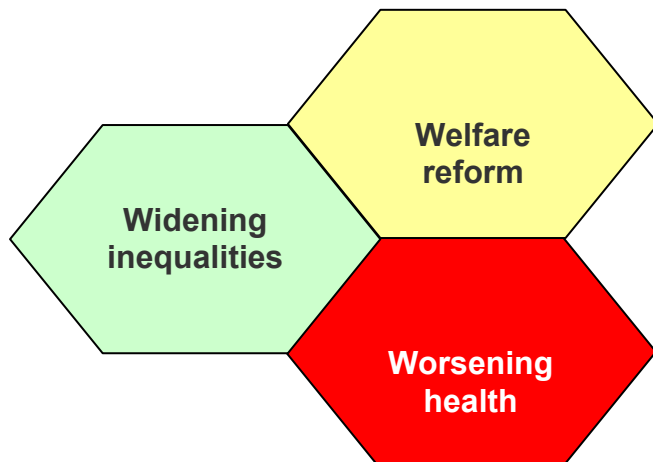
Outcome of the Glasgow Game

The challenge identified: *How can we effectively address the key challenges around alcohol and drugs in Glasgow?*

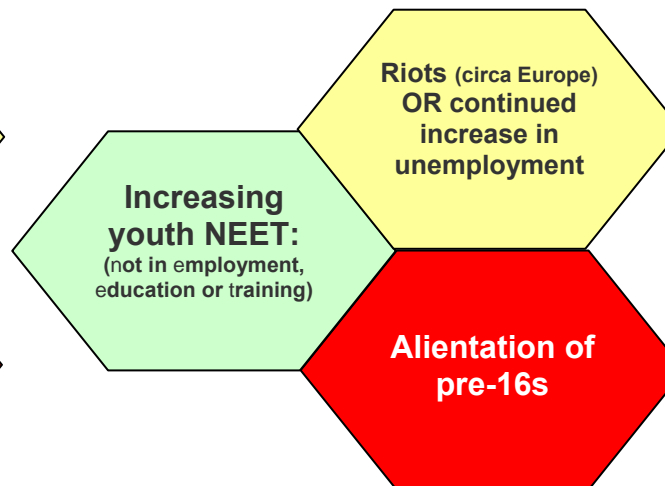
Trends, shocks and concerns identified for each theme (continued on next page)



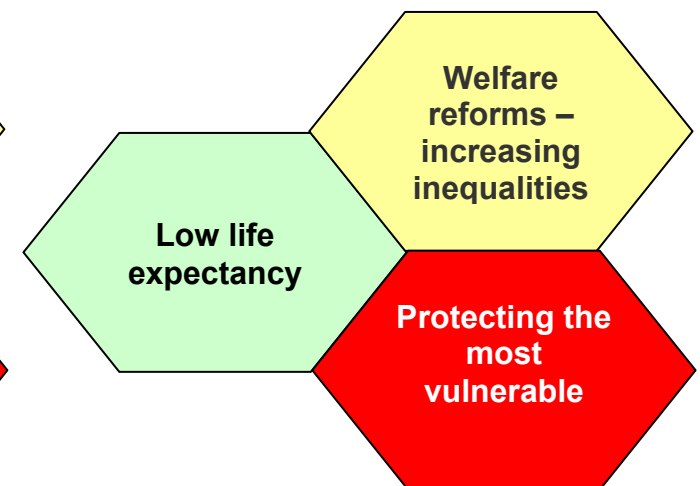
Social capital

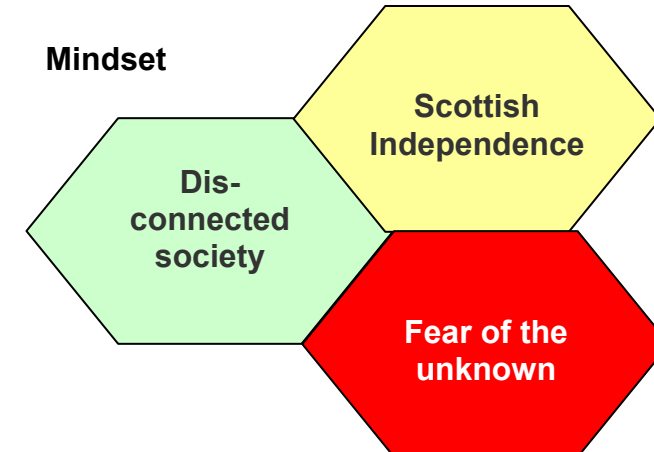
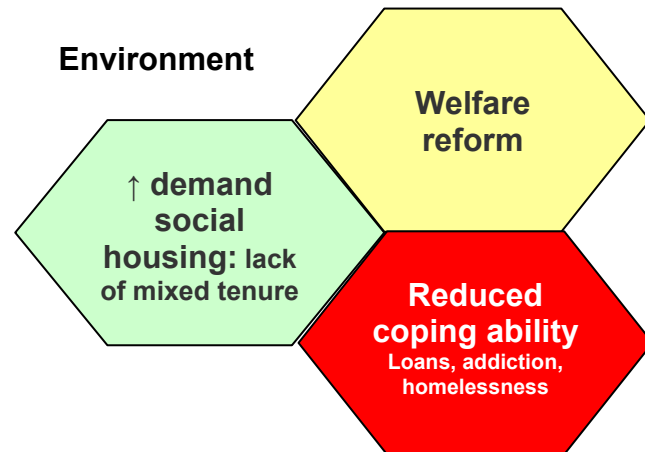
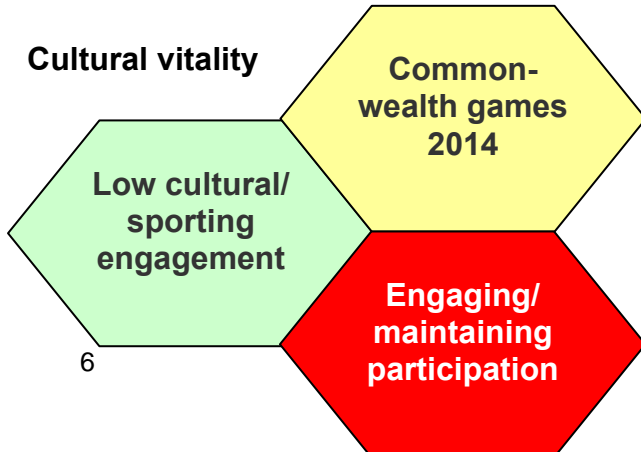
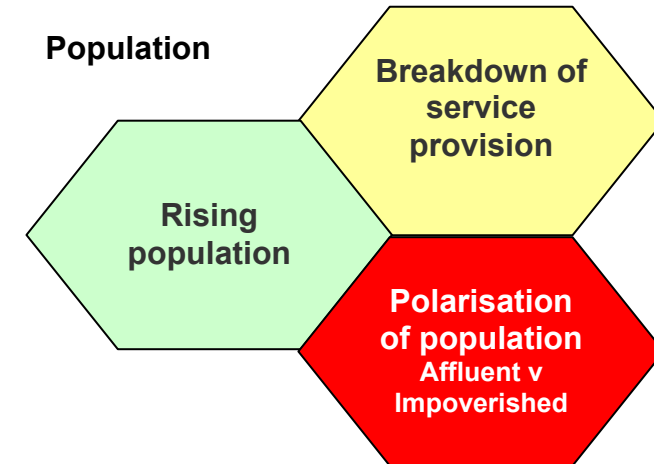
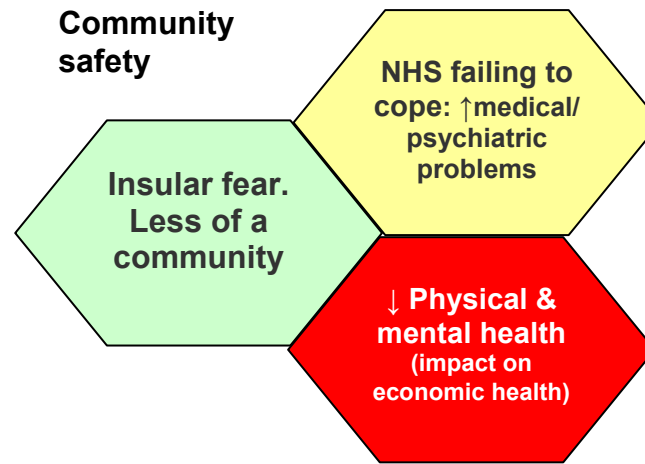
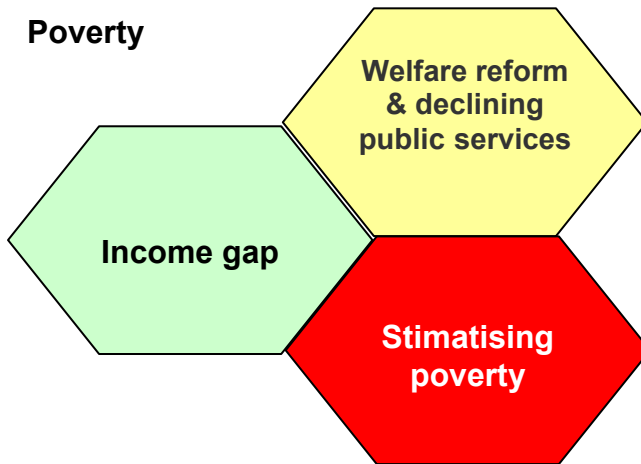
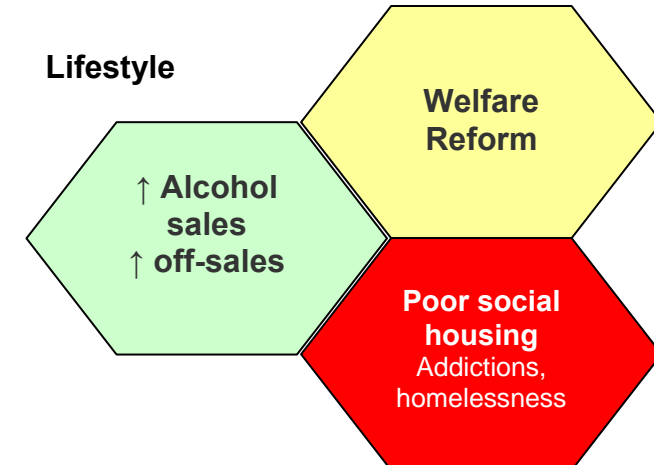
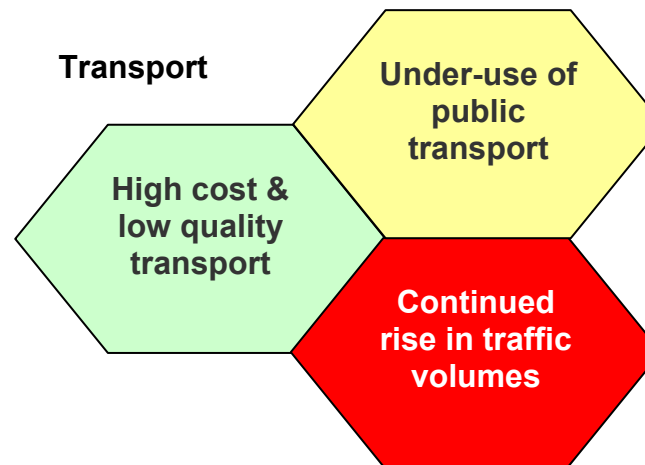
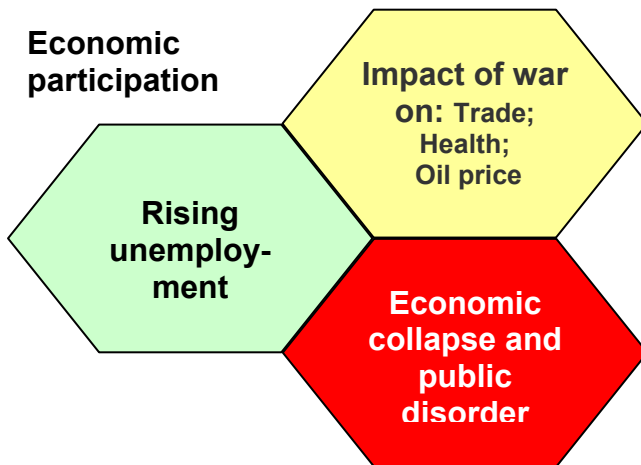


Education



Health





Connecting the themes: exploring scenarios

Supposing multiple shocks happened simultaneously in Glasgow, what are the scenarios and what would wide anticipatory actions be?

Scenario 1: Shocks occur that relate the **social capital, education and health**.

Summary narrative:

“A lost generation...”: As a result of the impact of welfare reforms there is a continued lack of opportunities for the younger generations and social discontent. Inequalities in Glasgow continue to grow. Communities are blighted by increasing addictions and community and family breakdown.

Finding solutions: Working co-productively with communities and learning from what has worked elsewhere, Glasgow is taking advantage of new devolved/independent political powers in Scotland to put resources into working at both the city and community level and is making a real difference in improving the lives of those living and working in Glasgow.



Scenario 1: Shocks occurs that relate the **social capital, education and health**.

<p>WHAT IS GLASGOW LIKE IF ALL THREE SCENARIOS OCCUR TOGETHER? ^{POLITICAL REVIVAL}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FALLING ASPIRATIONS X DOOM & GLOOM X - RISING POVERTY / PAYDAY LOANS - LOSS OF SKILLS - WIDENING INEQUALITIES: MENTAL PSYCHICAL HEALTH - INCREASE IN SUBSTANCE USE - BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL CAPITAL - BLACK HUMOUR / RESILIENCE - ADVERSE CHILDHOOD → AFFECTS WHOLE LIFE <p>WHAT WOULD BE THE HEADLINES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IT COULDN'T GET ANY WORSE - COULD IT? - BENEFIT SCROUNGERS / SKIVERS - ALCOHOL / DRUG DEATHS / SUICIDES ↑ - LOST GENERATION / CHILDREN - FAMILY BREAKDOWN - IT'S NOT US, IT'S THEM 	<p>S O C I A L C A P / E D U C A T I O N / H E A L T H</p>	<p>PAPERS / RESEARCH FOR COMMITTEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHAT DO DEPRIVED COMMUNITIES THINK? - UNDERSTANDING RESILIENCE - WHAT WORKS ELSEWHERE? (FOR THOSE IN RECOVERY) → WHAT ARE THEIR ASSETS? - EARLY YEARS - ACCURATE STATS - EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE <p>FAR-SIGHTED ACTIONS TO ADDRESS OR PREVENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DIFFERENT LEVELS (MICRO / MACKO) - REDUCE AFFORDABILITY & AVAILABILITY OF ALCOHOL - EVIDENCE BASED APPROACH - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - POLITICAL SOLUTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → DEVO MAX / INDEPENDENCE? → CONTROL OF SCOTTISH SOLUTIONS?
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Scenario 2: Shocks occur that relate to **economic participation, transport and lifestyle**.

Summary narrative:

“Food banks empty!”: Rising fuel and transport prices take the cost of living to unsustainable levels. Although many more people now walk and cycle around the city the continued strain of trying to make ends meet is evident as more and more of us turn to drinking at home as a way of coping. Glasgow’s people become increasingly isolated.

Finding solutions: Significant investment in sustainable energy in Scotland controls fuel costs and creates much needed jobs. Work to address the wider social inequalities between communities is making a real difference in improving the lives of those living and working in Glasgow.



Scenario 2: Shocks occur that relate to **economic** health, **transport** and **lifestyle**

	ECONOMY / TRANSPORT / LIFESTYLE
WHAT IS GLASGOW LIKE IF ALL THREE SCENARIOS OCCUR TOGETHER	
→ ↑ FUEL (TRANSPORTATION) = ↑ COST OF LIVING	
- ↑ Home Drinking	
- ↑ Home Brew	
⊕ - People walking more = ↑ Health.	
⊖ - People become more isolated = ↓ Health.	
HEADLINES IN THE PAPER	
→ Petrol Prices through the roof.	
→ Increase in Food Banks	
→ Shed explosions on increase.	
→ Food banks empty	
→ Government under pressure	
	• PAPERS / RESEARCH COMMITTEES
	→ Socio-economic determinants of chaos. (in the community)
	→ Increase fuel costs on price of food + drink products.
	→ Is this revolution or evolution.
	• FAR SIGHTED ACTION TO ADDRESS OR PREVENT
	→ Biofuel (Investment)

Scenario 3: Shocks occur that related to **community safety, poverty** and the **population**.

Summary narrative:

“Communities do it better”: The high dependency ratios and rising poverty has meant that the public services, such as housing, health and education, are stretched to breaking point. Communities are suffering – crime, addictions, poor health, hopelessness – are on the increase.

Finding solutions: The real impact of welfare reforms on the health and wellbeing in Glasgow emerges, galvanising grassroots research. It becomes evident that community action is the only effective way for the city to recover. Central and local government provide effective support for communities, trust between people, communities, services, councils and city leaders grows, further supporting real community growth. Open and honest debate is now possible.



Scenario 3: Shocks occur that related to **community safety, poverty and the population.**

WHAT IS GLASGOW LIKE IF ALL THREE SCENARIOS OCCUR TOG

- MORE PEOPLE - MORE POVERTY
- LESS SENSE OF COMMUNITY • LESS PEOPLE OF WORKING AGE.
- LESS TAX MONIES - MORE STRAIN ON SERVICES
- STRAIN ON BENEFIT SYSTEM: HEALTH: HOUSING
- POORER HEALTH • MORE INSULAR COMMUNITIES
- RISE IN CRIME COMPOUNDED BY LACK OF QUALITY INCLUDING HIDDEN AND PUBLIC SPACES
- INCREASED DRUG/ALCOHOL USE • GHETTOISATION
LOSS OF ASPIRATION

HEADLINES IN THE PRESS

- GLASGOW'S MILES WORSE
- RESOURCES DIRECTED TO GRASS ROOTS
- COMMUNITIES DO IT BETTER

PAPERS/RESEARCH FOR COMMITTEES

- GRASS ROOTS RESEARCH
- NEW + EMERGING TRENDS IN SUBSTANCE USE
- IMPACT OF WELFARE REFORMS
- COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

FAR SIGHTED ACTION TO ADDRESS OR PREVENT

- REAL COMMUNITY INPUT NOT TOKENISTIC
- GOOD QUALITY LOCAL AMENITIES THAT ARE ACTUALLY AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY
- TRUST + HONESTY BETWEEN LEADERS/COUNCILS/SERVICES/COMMUNITIES/PEOPLE
- ALLOW REAL DEBATE ABOUT ISSUES NOT ONLY WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

Scenario 4: Shocks occur that related to **cultural vitality**, the **environment** and **mindset**.

Summary narrative:

“Glasgow – capital of crime, suicide, hopelessness and rain”: As the effects of the welfare reforms begin to take hold, areas of Glasgow deteriorate markedly. The day to day struggle to cope with long-term food poverty takes its toll and crime, mental health problems, drug and alcohol addictions all rise. Whole communities lose hope for a different way of life.

Finding solutions: Words are converted into action – with both research and policy directed to empowering and enabling people and communities, and a move away from top down prescription. Action on a variety of fronts, from free school meals, practical parenting support, housing, employment creation and restorative justice all combine to improve the lives of those living and working in Glasgow.

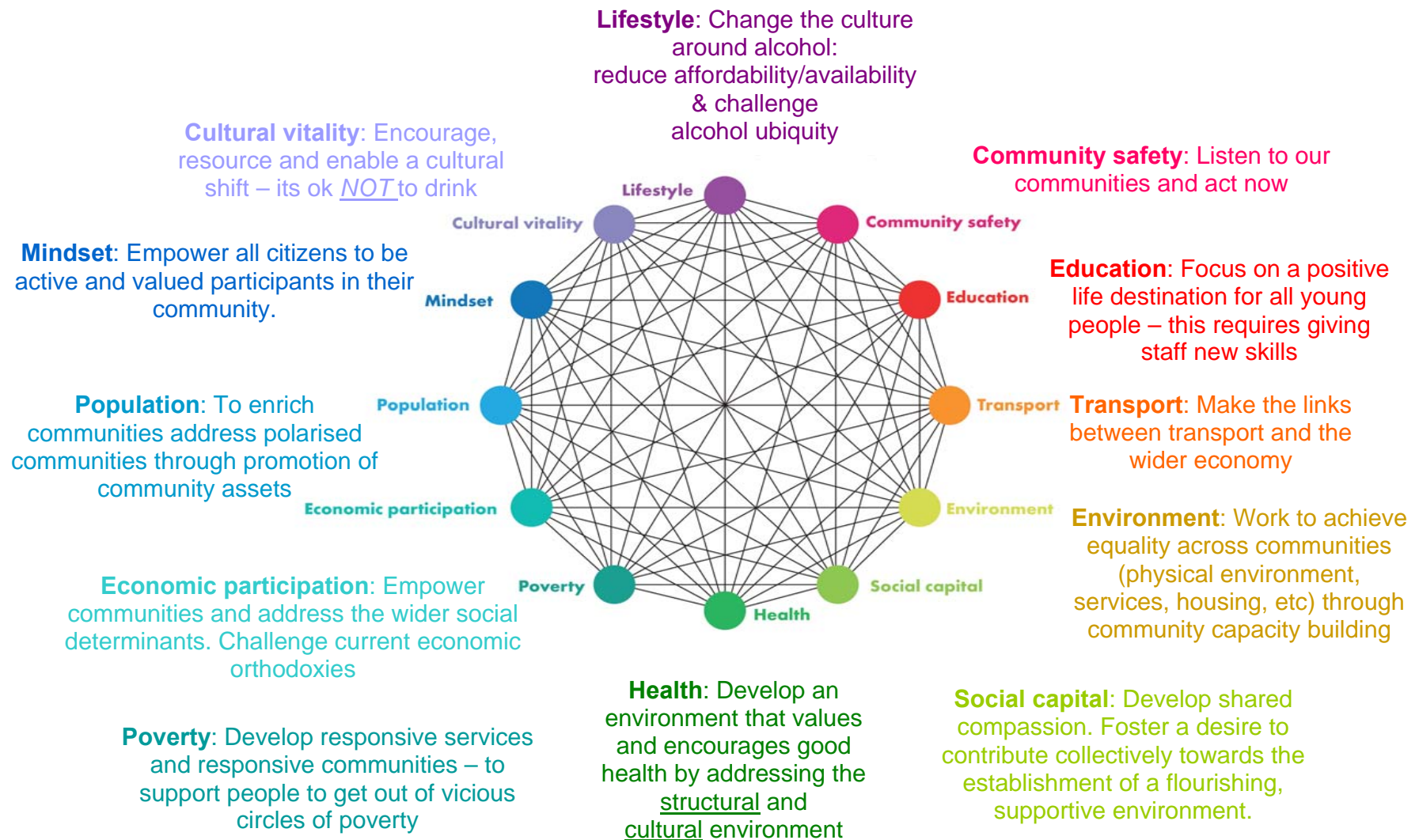


Scenario 4: Shocks occur that related to **cultural vitality**, the **environment** and **mindset**.

<p>WHAT IS GLASGOW LIKE IF ALL THREE SCENARIOS OCCUR TOGETHER</p> <p>↓ disposable income, ↑ MH issues (esp. suicide)</p> <p>↑ coping via substances, ↑ crime, ↓ community safety, ↑ social unrest, ↑ food poverty (food banks ltd resources) ↑ Hopelessness</p> <p>- WIDENING INEQUALITIES - 'Them + Us'</p> <p>WHAT WOULD BE THE HEADLINES</p> <p>"A TALE OF TWO CITIES"</p> <p>OR "ONE CITY: TWO TALES"</p> <p>"FOOD BANKS AT BREAKING POINT"</p> <p>"FOOD BANKS ON THE BREAD LINE"</p> <p>"SOCIAL REFORM BEGINNING TO TAKE ITS TOLL"</p> <p>"GLASGOW: WORLD WAR 'Z' "</p> <p>"GLASGOW: CAPITAL OF CRIME, SUICIDE, HOPELESSNESS + RAIN "</p> <p>"THE HUNGER GAMES: GLASGOW 2015"</p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">CULTURE / ENVIRONMENT / MINDSET</p> <p>PAPERS / RESEARCH COMMITTEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHAT SUPPORT / ACTION IS NEEDED ... ENOUGH WORDS! SUPPORT + HELP - ENABLING / EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES - RESEARCH: OPPORTUNITIES CREATED RATHER THAN A PRESCRIPTION. (↓ STIGMA) - GET INTO COMMUNITIES - BE PART OF COMM. FAR-SIGHTED ACTION TO ADDRESS OR PREVENT - COMMUNITY LED REGENERATION. - CHANGE IN ECONOMIC POLICY - MONEY DIVERTED INTO OPPORTUNITIES / SOCIAL CHANGE <u>NOT</u> WAR - FREE SCHOOL MEALS / COOKING FOR PARENTS → GET PEOPLE INVOLVED - ERADICATE CHILD POVERTY. - PREVENTION NOT CURE - ADDRESS WIDER DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH - NOT TOPICS ONLY. HOW CAN PEOPLE CHANGE? HOUSE BUILDING, ↑ EMPLOYAB. etc - RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
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Declarations

Declarations to policy-makers in response to the challenge “How can we effectively address the key challenges around alcohol and drugs in Glasgow?”



What now?

This report is the product of the event participants and, as such, belongs to you to use as you see fit. We encourage you to use the report – share it, discuss it, critique it, take it to the next level.

Do existing policies and practice reflect the declarations, and other ideas, within this report, or is there a disconnect between the two?

How can we move policy and practice closer towards the ideas generated here?

What do we need to do to allow these ideas to be acted upon, to be shared, to be critiqued?

More involvement

Would it be useful to run a similar event in other settings, with other colleagues, on other issues? Would you like more support taking this further in your setting? Please contact Bruce or Andrew.

Feedback

Please feedback to us on how you are using this work – what works well, what works less well.

Many thanks,

Bruce Whyte and Andrew Lyon

Bruce.Whyte@drs.glasgow.gov.uk
andrew@internationalfuturesforum.com

Appendix A: Event programme



How can we effectively address the key challenges around alcohol and drugs in Glasgow?

Wednesday 4th September 2013, 9am – 1pm

The Lighthouse
11 Mitchell Lane
Glasgow, G1 3NU

Programme

9.00 – 9.30	Coffee and registration
9.30 – 9.35	Welcome <i>Andrew Lyon, International Futures Forum</i>
9.35 – 9.40	Introductory words <i>Biba Brand, National ADP Delivery Advisor, Scottish Government</i>
9.40 – 10.15	Background and trying out the site <i>Bruce Whyte, Glasgow Centre for Population Health</i>
	Glasgow Game <i>Facilitated by Andrew Lyon</i>
10.15 – 10.35	Exploring key dimensions
10.35 – 10.50	Feedback
10.50 – 12.00	Making connections between different themes
	Refreshments available
12.00 – 13.00	Reporting back
13.00	Lunch

Appendix B: Biba Brand's introductory presentation

Explore emerging challenges to the alcohol and drugs agenda in Glasgow

GRAND, GCPH Workshop, 4th Sept
2013

Biba Brand, Scottish Government



Keeping the Balance



Tipping the balance

- Greece - upsurge in HIV among IDUs in Athens, following cuts.



- The emergence of the HIV outbreak coincides with the economic downturn that the country is being currently undergoing, budgetary cuts in the health system (especially the field of drug treatment and harm reduction), the deteriorating socio-economic environment of the Athens city centre, and changes in injecting behaviours among IDUs.



Mitigating against Harm

- If we were protecting this group against harm from Welfare Reform, how would that look?

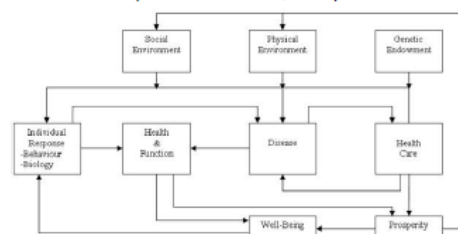


Determinants of Health



Framework Determinants of Health

(Evans & Stoddart, 1990)



Take a wider look...

- What other meetings have you attended?
- What people have you seen?
- What places have you been?

*Take a step back from your area of work,
life,... and connect the dots.*



Biba Brand
Scottish Govt.
National Alcohol & Drug Partnership Delivery
Advisor
biba.brand@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Appendix C: Feedback on Understanding Glasgow website

After exploring the website (www.understandingglasgow.co.uk) participants provided feedback on their initial impressions – these are welcomed as a way to continually improve the website.

Community section

With low community involvement reported for Glasgow it was suggested comparison with other cities (in Scotland and beyond) would be useful.

Films

These were considered to be an important mechanism for showing and exploring intergenerational relationships and provide a more positive counterbalance to the often negative quantitative statistics.

Social isolation

There was surprise expressed at the reduction in social isolation. Comment on this trend in the website would be useful.

Tobacco deaths

These data are old and would benefit from being updated.

Sharing

Functionality for sharing the website content via social media would be useful.

Appendix D: Detailed declarations

For some themes the declarations on page 15 were condensed versions of those provided during the event. The detailed declarations are given below:

Lifestyle: Change the culture of purchasing by reducing the availability of alcohol in community grocers/supermarkets and restrict access to over 18s. Invest in the development of alcohol free and affordable leisure activities of interest.

Community safety: Listen to our communities and act now.

Education: Train staff to be able to engage effectively with communities. To support young people to develop the necessary skills for a positive life destination.

Transport: There are links between transport and the wider economy. Not just the individual service user.

Environment: Raise awareness of support available. Equal provision for communities across Glasgow via community capacity building. Ensure housing is of the perceived standard of quality.

Social capital: Individuals should aspire to develop a compassionate concern for themselves and their neighbours in the community in which they live and a desire to contribute collectively towards the establishment of a flourishing, supportive environment.

Health: Devote resources to creating an environment that values and encourages good health. This approach should be:

Structural: e.g. make alcohol less available and affordable.

Cultural: e.g. question the belief that alcohol has to be so central to Scottish life (example is the cultural change around smoking)

Poverty: More responsive services to help people get out of vicious circles of poverty. More direct investment in communities to enable grass roots action.

Economic participation: Empower communities and address wider social determinants. Challenge current economic orthodoxies.

Population: Move towards the promotion of peoples' community assets through volunteering activities – this would increase service availability, improve sense of community, improve physical and mental health, and will improve interaction between polarised groups therefore reducing potential for hostility, and misinformation/assumptions.

Mindset: Empower all citizens of Glasgow to be afforded the opportunities to be active and valued participants in their community in order to improve and maintain physical mental and spiritual wellbeing. Thereby achieving and sustaining resilient, productive and flourishing communities.

Cultural vitality: To encourage a cultural shift in attitude that it is ok NOT to drink and NOT participate in alcohol-related activities. Encourage planners and entrepreneurs to invest and develop in activities/venues that are NOT focused on alcohol.