

CPG on Govanhill

Monday 18 June, 6pm

Samaritan House 79 Coplaw St, Glasgow G42 7JG

Meeting 5 | Environment and Cleansing

In attendance:

Name	Organisation (if applicable)
Annie Wells MSP	Scottish Parliament
Anas Sarwar MSP	Scottish Parliament
Patrick Harvie	Scottish Parliament
Linda Gray	Glasgow City Council
James Crawshaw	Glasgow City Council
Brian Roberts	Glasgow City Council
Alan McDonald	Govanhill Housing Association/ Govanhill Community Trust
John Quinn	Govanhill Housing Association
Emma Dunsmuir	Resource Efficient Scotland
Jack Devine	Glasgow City Council
Cheryl McCormick	Govanhill and Crosshill Community Council
Keith Hawley	Govanhill and Crosshill Community Council
Grant McManus	Govanhill and Crosshill Community Council
John McArthur	Member of the Public
Damian Townsley	Member of the Public
Sophie Castle	Office of Annie Wells

Item 1 | Welcome and apologies

- Apologies from Cllr Mhairi Hunter, Cllr Soryia Siddique and David Zabiega

Item 2 | Minutes of the previous meeting

- Minutes from previous meeting (16.04.18) signed off.

Item 3 | Introductory remarks from the Co-Conveners

- N/A

Item 4 | Presentation from Linda Gray & James Crawshaw | Glasgow City Council

[Linda Gray]

- Brief presentation covering pest control in the Govanhill area;
- Statistics for pest control requests provided, notably mid-year figures show an increase from 2017;
- Additional funds have been used to hire private contractors on temporary contracts;
- Govanhill is identified by the Council as a 'hot spot' area;
- Cleansing and proper waste refusal remain paramount to effective pest control.

[James Crawshaw]

- Brief presentation on environmental health in the area;
- A recurring issue is waste build up in the back courts; in April, May and the start of June, there have been over 100 complaints already in the area;
- Discussion about the difficulties in sourcing where the waste has come from and who is responsible;
- Another barrier is that due to this being private property, improper waste disposal cannot be treated as fly tipping;
- The Council can issue a statutory notice with a seven-day period in which to clear the waste. If not done, the Council hires a private contractor and invoices the owners;
- Fly tipping in the streets also discussed as a common problem, both domestic and commercial. The Council has a rapid response team which can issue fixed penalty notices should they have the evidence to prove who left it there;
- Discussion over how involvement of the community would help, especially as many incidences of fly tipping take place during the day in sight of others;
- Discussion about Council engagement with local businesses, there have been 22 visits in May/June so far;
- A commercial waste project marked as successful in Glasgow city centre is now being rolled out across the city and will be coming to Govanhill in December this year. Businesses will not be allowed to permanently store their bins in the street. There will be allotted times and the Council will invoice businesses for their removal should they sit outside these times;
- The Council is also carrying out a letting agencies project to ensure that when flats are cleared, items are not being dumped in the street.

Item 5 | Presentation from Brian Roberts | Cleansing | Glasgow City Council

- Discussion of the bin replacement programme in the area. This will see small metal bins replaced with 800-900 x 40litre bins;
- Discussion over problems of contamination when it comes to recycling.

Item 6 | Presentation from Alan McDonald | Govanhill Housing Association

- It was noted that Govanhill is the most densely populated area of the city which adds to problems around waste;
- Alan pointed out that there is a conflict over knowing who/what authority is responsible for what. There is multi-ownership in the area;
- Alan also wished to highlight that it's not all doom and gloom and that in a customer satisfaction survey (with over half of residents surveyed), 77% believed it was a good/very good place to stay;

Item 7 | Presentation from Emma Dunsmuir | Resource Efficient Scotland

- Brief presentation on the work carried out by Resource Efficient Scotland in relation to business engagement and consultancy work for business waste management;

- Interest was shown from the floor on what work had been done in the Govanhill area;
- Anas Sarwar asked if RES would consider more work in the area. He suggested using literature in multiple languages that focused on how effective waste management can save money;
- Patrick Harvie asked how proactive the organisation is in terms of business engagement;
- A suggestion was put forward to host a community engagement event in the area inviting along local businesses.

Item 8 | Presentation from Jack Devine | Street Scene

- Discussion around street sweeping in the area. There are 8 operatives dedicated to removing litter from Govanhill's streets;
- Discussion around the impact of the new bin roll out in and the removal of pole mounted bins. Questions raised over the current estimate of 5000 pole mounted bins in the area.

Item 9 | Q&A

- Questions taken on:
 - The legal aspects of statutory notices and how this process can be shortened;
 - Whether leaflets in multiple languages are having the desired effect and if this is being monitored;
 - What engagement work is being done with businesses;

Item 10 | Actions to be taken

- **AP** – Sophie to circulate Resource Efficient Scotland presentation on improving waste management;
- **AP** – Sophie to ask SPiCE for more information on pest control and tenement maintenance legislation.

Item 11 | Discussion on topic of next meeting

- **AP** – Sophie to create scoping email chain

Item 12 | Date and time of next meeting

- **AP** – Sophie to create scoping email chain

Item 13 | AOB

- N/A