



GALLANT COMMUNITY
COLLABORATION RESEARCH

Emerging Questions

A document outlining the potential research questions for phase II of GALLANT, as identified by community members in Glasgow



GALLANT



Document Overview

Hello friends of GALLANT!

This booklet gathers community questions and ideas from conversations and workshops held with people living in three Glasgow neighbourhoods:

The Southside, Glasgow West and Govan.

Over the next 12-24 months, we plan to undertake around **ten community science/research projects**, that address and explore the various questions within this document and beyond. This will be done in **collaboration** with communities, valuing everyone's knowledge and skills.

Your involvement is crucial to the success of these projects. Together, we can contribute to positive change, impacting our **community and beyond**.

The questions in this booklet are only the beginning of this collaborative journey. If there's a question we're missing, please tell us! We want to link up if you know about similar initiatives elsewhere. We also recognise that many of these questions complement each other and can be answered under the same project. If you see these links, let us know.



Ready to be part of this journey?

We've created a link (below) for people to express an interest in these thought provoking questions, and add any additional thoughts. Don't worry—there's no pressure to solve anything in this questionnaire! Our aim is simply to discover which questions spark your interest for a larger research project. Your curiosity and insights are what make this community exploration so valuable!

<https://bit.ly/47uf27E>



We know there's a lot to get through here!

We have tried our best to capture everyone's ideas. The ideas have been broken down according to themes, and questions are linked to locations to help you sift through them. We also recognise that many themes overlap, so we have created a key to highlight where we see these cross references, and to support you in navigating the document.

Thank you for choosing to be a part of this journey in collaboration with us - we cannot wait to see what is next!

Key



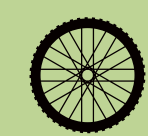
Flooding and Climate Adaptation



Biodiversity



Vacant & Derelict Land & Waste



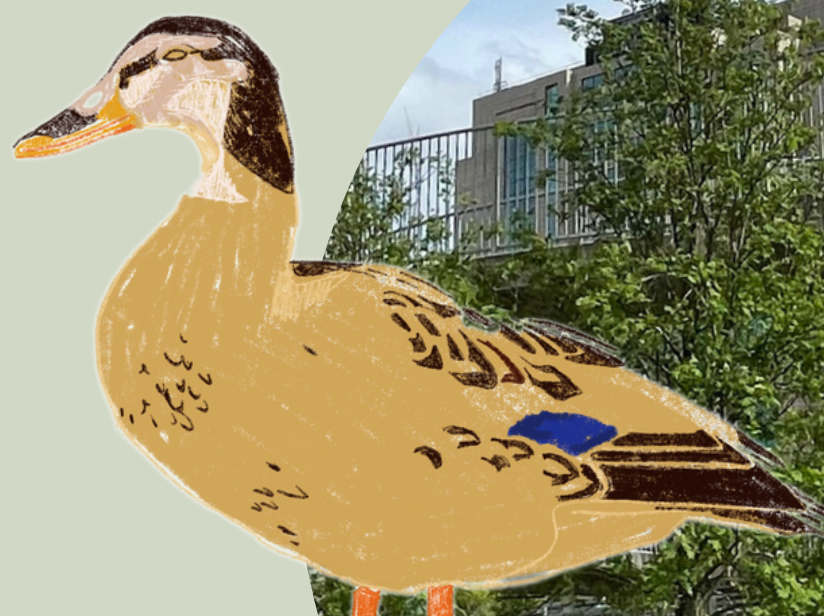
Active Travel



Sustainable Energy

Table of Contents

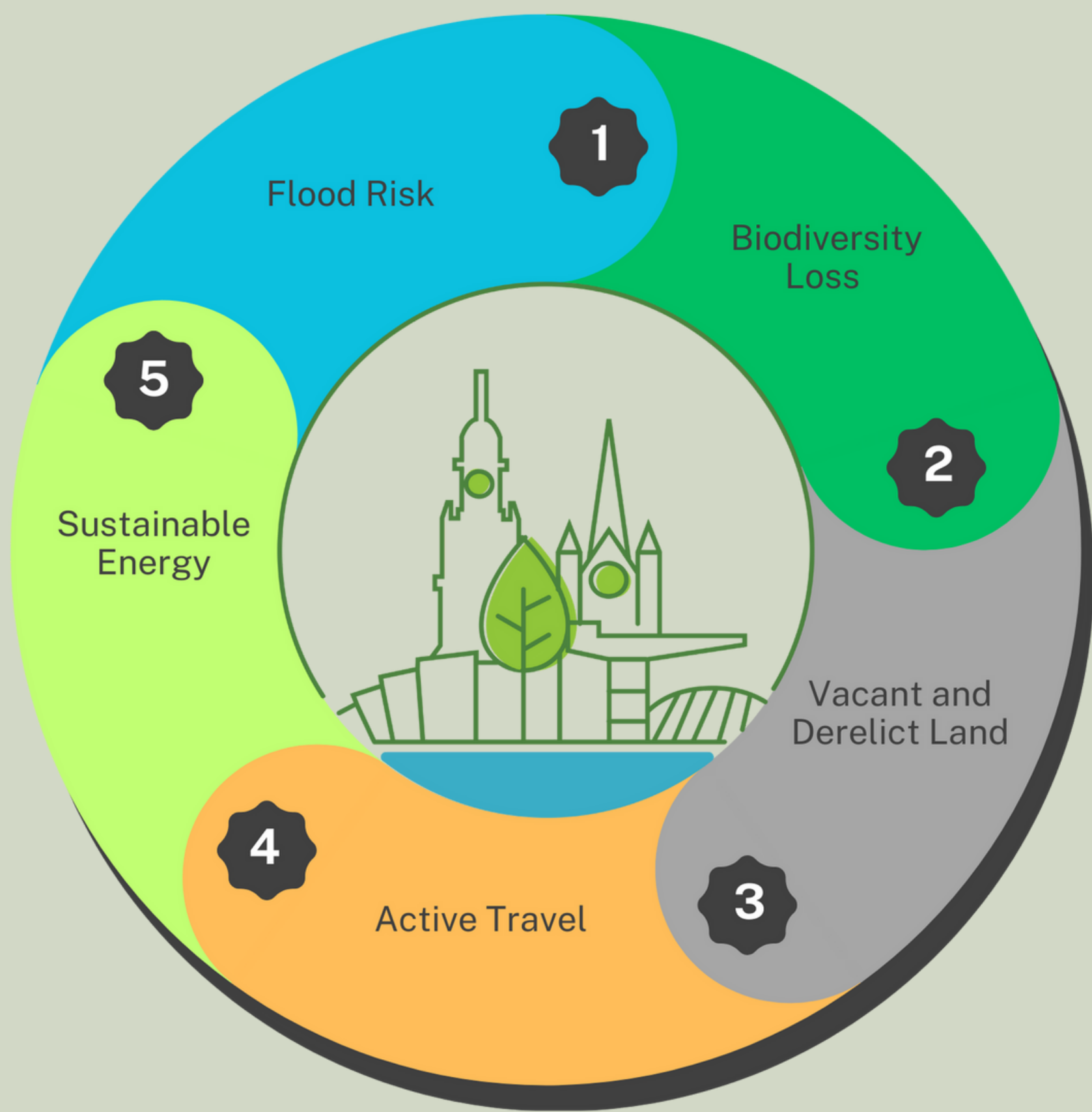
- 1 What is GALLANT?
- 2 What is Community Research?
- 3 Flooding & Climate Adaptation
- 4 Biodiversity
- 6 Vacant and Derelict Land
- 8 Active Travel
- 9 Sustainable Energy
- 11 Overlapping Themes
- 12 An Open Invitation to Participate



What is GALLANT?

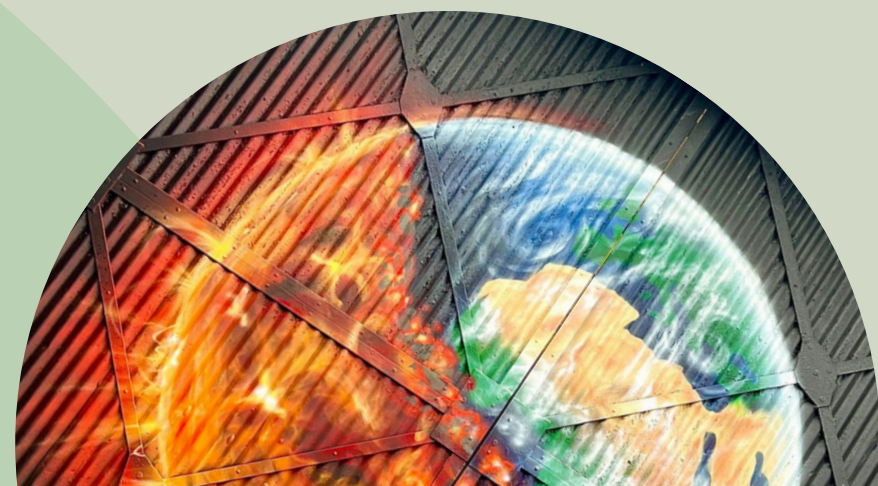
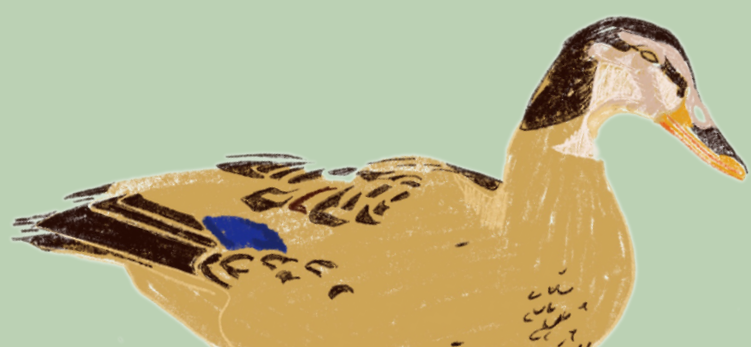
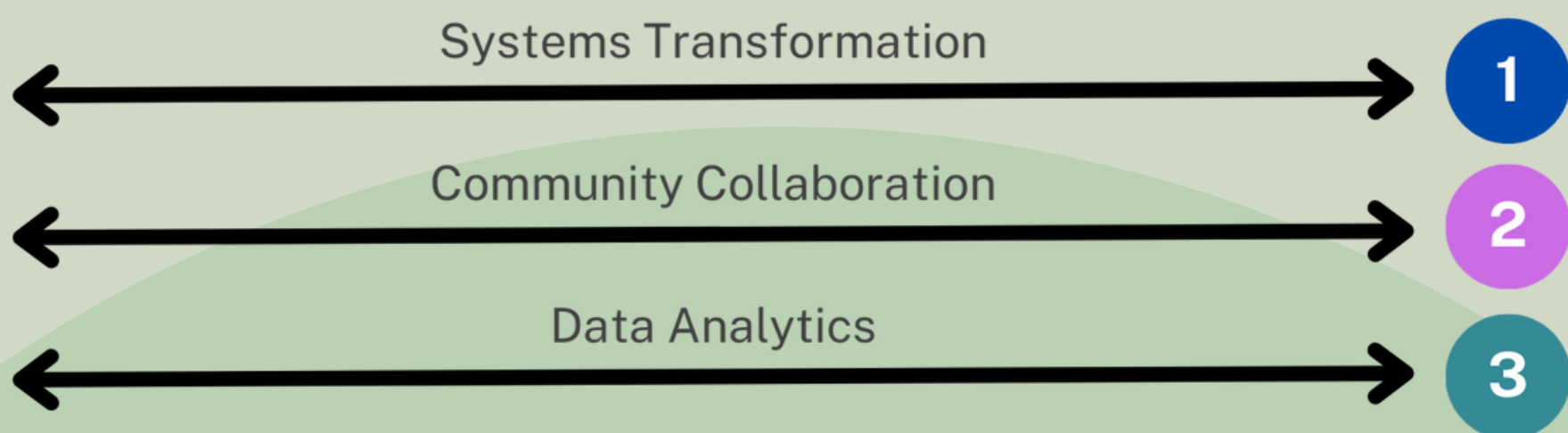


GALLANT stands for Glasgow As a Living Lab Accelerating Novel Transformation. It is a collaborative project between the University of Glasgow and Glasgow City Council. The primary objective of GALLANT is to design and test experimental ways for the city to adapt to the challenges of climate change. GALLANT has been divided into five key Work Packages and three Work Streams to achieve its goals, as outlined below ([Click here to learn more](#) about these work-packages and streams).



The primary objective of GALLANT is to design and test experimental ways for the city to adapt to the challenges of climate change.

Based within the University of Glasgow's Centre for Sustainable Solutions, each work package and stream is designed to complement and work with one another, whilst furthering progress towards its own specific aims and goals.



Community Collaboration Research



What is community collaboration research?

Community collaboration research is essentially teamwork between researchers and community members working together on research questions, problem-solving, and/or exploring topics of mutual interest. It's a great way to bring people together and positively impact society.



Why?

By incorporating diverse perspectives, local knowledge, and community input, this research approach ensures that all voices are heard and valued. The approach prioritises inclusivity and community-driven decision-making, which can create more relevant, impactful research that reflects the needs and aspirations of the communities it seeks to serve. This approach recognises that knowledge is not one-size-fits-all and aims to empower communities to shape and participate actively in the research process.

How do we do it?

When it comes to research, we believe in working together to get the best results for both the community and our research objectives. By collaborating, making decisions together, and staying engaged, we can ensure that everyone's needs are met with respect and fairness.



Flooding & Climate Adaptation

Glasgow is, and will continue to be, impacted by climate change, particularly in relation to water.

Though there are some common themes across the Southside, Glasgow West and Govan, ultimately, how people are impacted, and thus how communities prepare and respond, will look different depending on many factors.

There is a strong desire to look at how to engage **children and youth** in this and the power of **art in climate communication** across all three hub areas. Not surprisingly, the area most concerned with Flooding specifically, is Govan.

Southside

Art and Climate Change: How can this inspire activism/action?

Social cohesion and using environmental activities to unite different groups / How can climate change galvanise communities?   

Glasgow West

COP26 legacy: Where has it gone, and how do we bring it back?


Which interventions most successfully enable communities to participate in climate, sustainability, and nature?   

POLICY

*"We hear a lot about the sort of extreme weather in other places, and we're **starting to see the impacts of climate change** ... We're getting more rainfall ... I think when people talk about flooding, a lot of the time they think about maybe the Clyde or Kelvin flooding. I think there's a much more local effect from **rainfall flooding** ... There's very little [information] about what's happening."* Govan Participant

Govan

Govan is vulnerable to flooding, and there has been more rain this year. What are the short and long-term impacts of this?

Is the local infrastructure sufficient to deal with increased levels of flooding? Is ongoing maintenance happening? 


There is not enough local climate discussion, though there is a lot in the media. How do we increase discussions/community involvement on a local level?

What misinformation is being circulated, and how do we tackle this?

Biodiversity

Southside

How do we engage young people with the natural world in Glasgow?  

How can we increase children's pro-environmental behaviours through engagement in nature? 

How do we keep young people involved in climate and sustainability? 

How do we get people living in new developments engaged in taking an interest in the natural environment? 

Problem with rats: is there a way to incorporate this?

Relationship between 'plants' – gathering a baseline and monitoring?

Can we take a Nature's Calendar approach to biorecording and monitoring climate changes locally? 

Can we map the trees of Glasgow?  

Increasing biodiversity in the city is an essential part of climate action. By increasing the volume and range of biodiversity, we can help remove carbon from the atmosphere, increase wildlife, help create stronger human-nature bonds, and increase the overall health and well-being of Glasgow residents.

Citizen science, whereby communities monitor and record biodiversity, appeared as a theme in the Southside and West End. People are interested not only in the scientific data, but also in the social implications of this. Once again, many connections to young people, art, health and wellbeing were made.

*"How do we find ways to engage [people in biodiversity], to take an interest and learn that **they can make a difference?**"*
Southside participant

Govan

Govan has a heavy concentration of listed buildings that are well-documented/maintained/appreciated.

However, no one follows a similar approach to trees in Govan. Can we do a tree survey to map them? 

Biodiversity

Glasgow West

Biodiversity was a prominent theme in the West End. Could we consider how the ideas presented here overlap and tackle multiple questions in one project?

Hedgerows near schools: Can these act as a barrier from pollution and protect children from traffic? If they are flowering, can they increase pollinators?

Biodiversity and connectivity for humans and non-humans: can green corridors help?

How can we better support local biodiversity along the River Kelvin and beyond?

Can we monitor biodiversity throughout the Westend? How is it different when leaving the River Kelvin?

How can we challenge those in power to make wider changes?

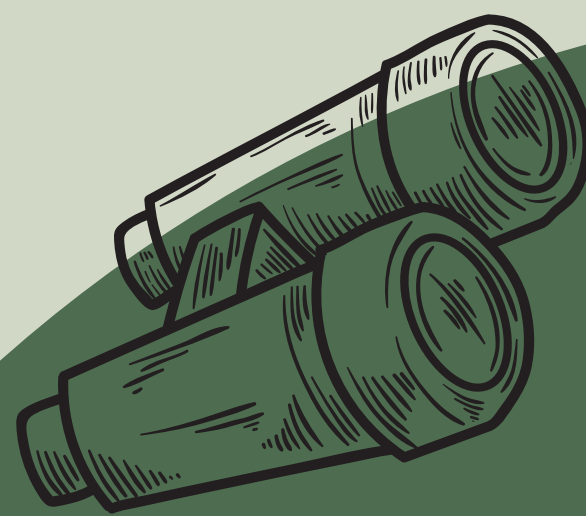
Kelvindale Woodland: Could this be a site for different projects relating to the work packages?

Can living walls in community spaces create/increase biodiversity?

Glasgow Community Action App: Is there a need for it?

Can we increase people's respect for their environment by making them nice spaces to be in?

River Kelvin collaborative walks and logging change. Can we map through the seasons to monitor change?



GALLANT maps to which people can add photos, monitoring biodiversity

Insect boxes

Art installations

means to reduce the cost of living via sustainable practices (e.g. local growing)

Tree Mapping App



Citizen Science Apps aimed at families and children

Community Litter-picks



Does making the outdoors more accessible by providing outdoor wear make a difference?



What are the links between environmental actions, being outdoors, and mental health? Can we test initiatives to see what the most successful approach is?

"How can you actually get kids to spend more time in nature ... and empower them? Like, what are the best interventions?"

Glasgow West Participant





Vacant and Derelict Land

Govan

Derelict buildings within the city – how can they be used for a community good rather than being re-used for more commercial things? 🌱

Contaminated land: What effect can this have on wellbeing?

Need for more transparency and better communication about reasons land is vacant/buildings are derelict. VDL* Mapping?

What does it take at a local and council level to repurpose VDL & buildings?

Have you ever walked past a piece of land that looked completely abandoned and imagined what it could be transformed into? Ever stopped to think about all the waste we produce, and the different ways we could repurpose it? Well, the people we've spoken to have! By imagining what these spaces could become and by re-looking at waste from a different perspective, we can reduce carbon emissions and create community spaces shaped **by communities**. A few people liked the idea of mapping as a tool to combat these issues.

Glasgow West

Can we map the community/roads? 🚲

Can we catch particulates from roads to understand more about our air? 🚲

How can we leverage the power of pollinators to repurpose underused land? 🌱

Can we create green corridors/molecular units/green roofs or bus stops? What impact does this have? 🌱 🚲 ⚡

*"There's a lot of derelict and contaminated land in Govan and some quite old buildings. They are quite a **serious risk**. There are difficulties in getting those spaces reused or repurposed ..."*

Govan Participant



Vacant and Derelict Land



Southside

How do we best use garden waste? What effects can this repurposing have? 🌿 ⚡

What can you do with your compost? Explore best practice/run experiments. 🌿 ⚡

What are the effects of access to green space/gardens for people in Glasgow? 🌿

Why do spaces get used/not used?

Soil remediation: Can we grow on this ground?

Agnew Lane: Can we do a soil remediation citizen science project that could facilitate their community buyout? Can this also incorporate artistic form of Community Cohesion to raise awareness of biodiversity loss and Climate Change? 🌿 🌊

Awareness of impacts of pesticides. A study looking at testing and education? 🌿

Mapping VDL: Could we create a live online platform accessible to all? 🌿

What kinds of plants are impactful (in retrofitted builds)? 🌿 ⚡

How can we create community spaces that benefit everyone, i.e. reclaiming backcourts and unused land for community gardens? 🌿

*"I think it would be useful to find **other uses** [for compost] ... Like, I know that sometimes coffee gets used to grow mushrooms, or it gets used to fuel things ... so maybe we could also find applications that can be integrated into the **whole system.**"*
Southside Participant



Active travel

Encouraging active travel in neighbourhoods has many benefits for both people and planet. As an alternative to cars, it helps reduce carbon emissions and minimise local pollution, while offering individuals a wealth of health and well-being benefits, including increased activity levels and outdoor time.

Govan and the Southside participants want to gamify (make more engaging and game like) active travel initiatives. Could an active travel project be implemented across all three hub areas?

*“Is it something around what is **preventing** people from making good decisions in terms of climate, their health outcomes and **active travel**?”*
Govan Participant

Southside

Gamifying active travel – how do we do this?

“Beat the Street” in Renfrewshire: Is funding available to do that here?

What are the Active Travel barriers/facilitators in the Southside?

What are the health and wellbeing tradeoffs in Active Travel?

Govan

Active travel routes need to be maintained: How? 

Govan/Partick Bridge: What impacts can be expected regarding active travel, social cohesion, etc.? Can these impacts be monitored?

How can we encourage active walking in Govan?  


Why does public messaging about active travel appear to make little difference to people?

Gamifying active travel: do schemes like “Better Points” provide incentives to walk? Would it work here?

Could we implement “Beat the Street” in Govan and monitor it as a case study?

Behaviour change: what incentives are needed, including infrastructural changes? 

Glasgow West

Can we use heat mapping to understand active travel demands (along with energy)? 

How can we combine biodiversity citizen science with active travel? 

Social barriers can prevent people from accessing places. How do we remove these barriers?




Sustainable Energy

Implementing sustainable energy systems can be expensive, leaving communities we work with feeling like it's an unobtainable goal. However, groups have started to think outside the box, exploring feasibility studies and other ways to reduce energy consumption. Groups are also interested in recognising the social impact of energy access and how increasing costs negatively affect people's health and well-being.

Southside

Energy is more than heating and household-level impacts. How can the Circular economy, i.e., Swap shops, local shopping, local growing, etc., reduce household and neighbourhood energy consumption? 

Could communities come together to renovate a sustainable bus, that supports a range of local issues? 



*What is the cost of energy doing to **health and wellbeing**?*

Because I think that's probably, for a lot of people, well, the choice is between your home and your family. Think about the stress of being in that position.

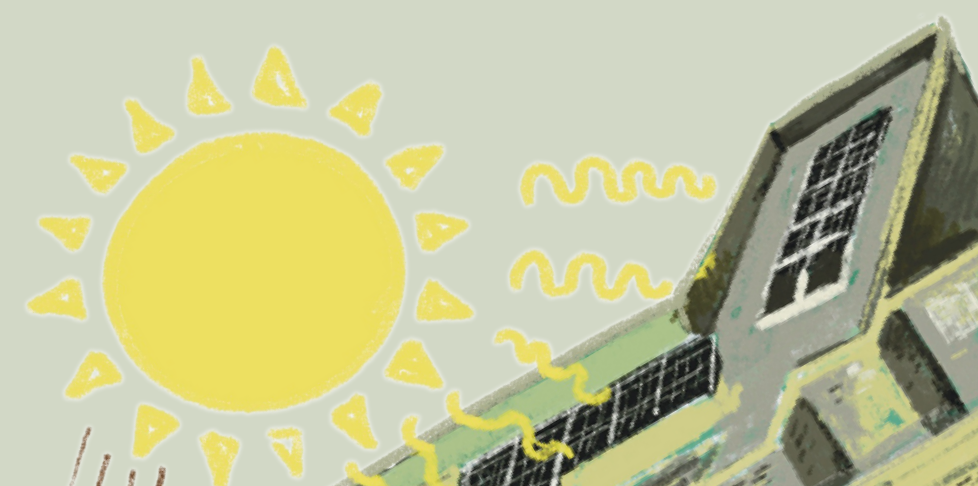
Govan Participant

Govan

How can Govan be more self-sufficient in its energy?

What is the cost of energy doing to health and wellbeing?

How do we increase the value of health/well-being/social factors over financial gains, especially within decision-making circles?



Sustainable Energy

West End

Could we do heat mapping for energy requirements and understand the energy demand, making this hyper-localised? (Figures are vague and on scales bigger than the community level)

Can we do a community Energy feasibility study?

What can we learn from other countries (i.e. Bangladesh) in relation to community energy? 🚲

Could solar panels on bus stops be used to charge phones? 🚲

Can we put solar panels at schools and/or facilitate renewable energy in schools? What impact would this have on schools/communities/education?



*“There’s something around excess energy and minimising the **waste of energy.**”*
Westend Participant

Is it feasible to implement a charging battery reward scheme where you get points for cycling, shopping sustainably, etc? (see also Time-banking on page 9) 🚲

How can community energy be applied in the West End without costing a fortune?

How do we reduce energy wastage? Lots of places could really reduce the volume of energy they use, and thus the cost of it! 🚲

Most people live in tenements. How do you implement community energy in shared buildings? Could we do a feasibility study exploring solar community energy/social housing solar power?

Solar power buses - is that possible? 🚲



Overlapping Themes

Many project ideas and questions overlap and cross multiple GALLANT themes, with additional emerging themes that can overlay the GALLANT themes. Here is a snapshot of some of the key emerging themes.

Social Justice

From our conversations, it is evident that the climate crisis is regarded by many as a matter of social justice. It is imperative to include the voices of the most marginalised in our society and those most affected by climate change in addressing the five GALLANT themes.

Children and Young People

During our discussions across all hub locations, a key theme emerged: the involvement of children and young people, particularly concerning their health and wellbeing, individual care, connection to nature, behaviour change, education, reducing antisocial behaviour, and climate activism.



Time-Banking

In the West End, there was a desire to set up a Time-banking hub where people could exchange their skills for goods/services or simply out of goodwill. The idea expanded further, aiming to incentivise individuals to use public transportation and offer free charges for their e-bikes as a reward, gamifying social and climate action.

AGNEW LANE

Several locations are mentioned as hotspots for projects across all themes, including Kelvindale Woods and Agnew Lane.

KELVINDALE WOODS

Community Noticeboards

People highlighted a need for more transparent and open dialogues related to community messaging. Can an innovative platform be created to collect and update local community messages easily while ensuring public accessibility? How can this platform overcome the shortcomings of previous attempts?



An open invitation to participate



We extend an open invitation to everyone to participate in our initiative.

This document is a starting point for continuous conversations among our three hub areas: Govan, the West End, the Southside, and beyond.

We plan to begin our mini-gatherings in January 2024, in each hub area, where we will focus on a key theme, or question to prepare a research project.

We understand the importance of taking time and applying our insights as we move forward rather than rushing things. We aim to begin with three projects, one in each hub area.

Your participation is crucial for the success of these projects. We invite you to respond to the linked form below by selecting the project(s) you're interested in and sharing any additional thoughts. Your input will help us choose the first three projects, one for each hub area.

Please complete the form on the below [link](https://bit.ly/47uf27E) before the 20th of December, 2023, to ensure you can participate.

Feel free to share this booklet and the [link](https://bit.ly/47uf27E) with anyone you think might like to join us:

<https://bit.ly/47uf27E>



Q&As

Will I be paid for taking part in the community collaboration research projects?

Yes, all community involvement will be compensated, and each individual will decide the best approach for this. We will also cover expenses incurred through participation, such as public transport.

How much involvement is required in the community collaboration research projects?

You can decide how involved you want to be. Whether you want to be part of the project design, data collection, analysis, writing, or sharing, it is entirely up to you. We understand that everyone has prior commitments and varying capacities, so we want involvement to be fun and meaningful. We won't force you to participate in areas that don't interest you.

Do I need research experience to take part?

No, you don't need any experience. Everyone participating, including us, is on a learning journey. We want to share skills and knowledge and provide training on various aspects of the research process. The training will be hands-on and not classroom-based.

I really want to participate, but I need support with childcare!

We can reimburse childcare costs or bring your children along. Everyone is welcome, no matter their age.

Can I participate if I don't live or work in any of the hub areas?

Yes, you can still participate by sharing your suggestions through the link provided, and we will be in touch!

Is there a specific duration for the project or a deadline for participation?

We aim to start co-creating the projects with community members in January 2024 and for projects to be developed over 12 to 18 months. Please complete the form by the 20th of December if you can, though we welcome people contacting us about how to get involved at any project stage.



A special thanks to everyone who joined our photo workshops, came along to a focus group or interview and participated in any of our many celebrations and Next Steps events. This document is all because of you, and we could not be more grateful for your enthusiasm and warmth over the past 12 months.

We hope we have reflected your thoughts and ideas accurately. Please do get in touch if you feel we have missed something.

Thank you to Becky Duncan at Open Aye for guiding the photography workshops. We have learned so much from you and enjoyed every minute.

This document was produced by GALLANT Workstream 2: Florence Halstead, Ria Dunkley & Sarah Gambell.

All illustrations are provided by Libby Walker.

University of Glasgow 2023

