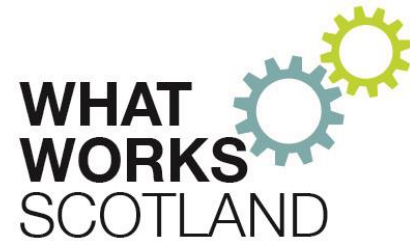


# What Works in Place-based Approaches?

**Claire Bynner, What Works Scotland**  
**Changing Lives, Delivering Success: Turning Ambition into Action, 26 June 2015**



# What will we cover?



- WWS purpose, aims, staff and partners
- 'Place' and the Scottish model
- 6 characteristics of place-based approaches
- 4 rationales for a return to neighbourhoods
- The Elephant and the Flea
- 8 lessons from the evidence
- The wisdom of practice



# WWS purpose and aims

## Purpose

- To use evidence to transform public services for all of Scotland's communities to flourish

Website for updates and blogs:

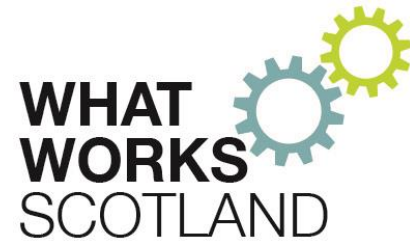
[whatworksscotland.ac.uk](http://whatworksscotland.ac.uk)

## Aims

- identify and better understand what is working and not working in public service delivery in Scotland, how we can translate knowledge from setting to setting
- contribute to the development of a Scottish model of service delivery that brings about transformational change for people living in different places across Scotland



# 'Place' and the Scottish model of Public Service Reform



## Christie Commission

The best level for engaging people and communities in the design and delivery of services will be:

*'more local than the local authority-area level'*

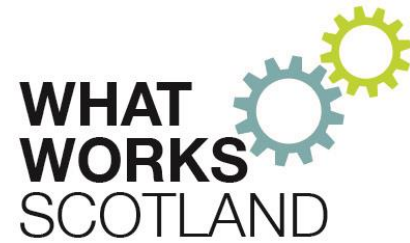
*'at or around the level of multimember wards'*

## The Statement of Ambition

'If CPPs are to unlock potential, their foundations must be built on a strong understanding of their communities'



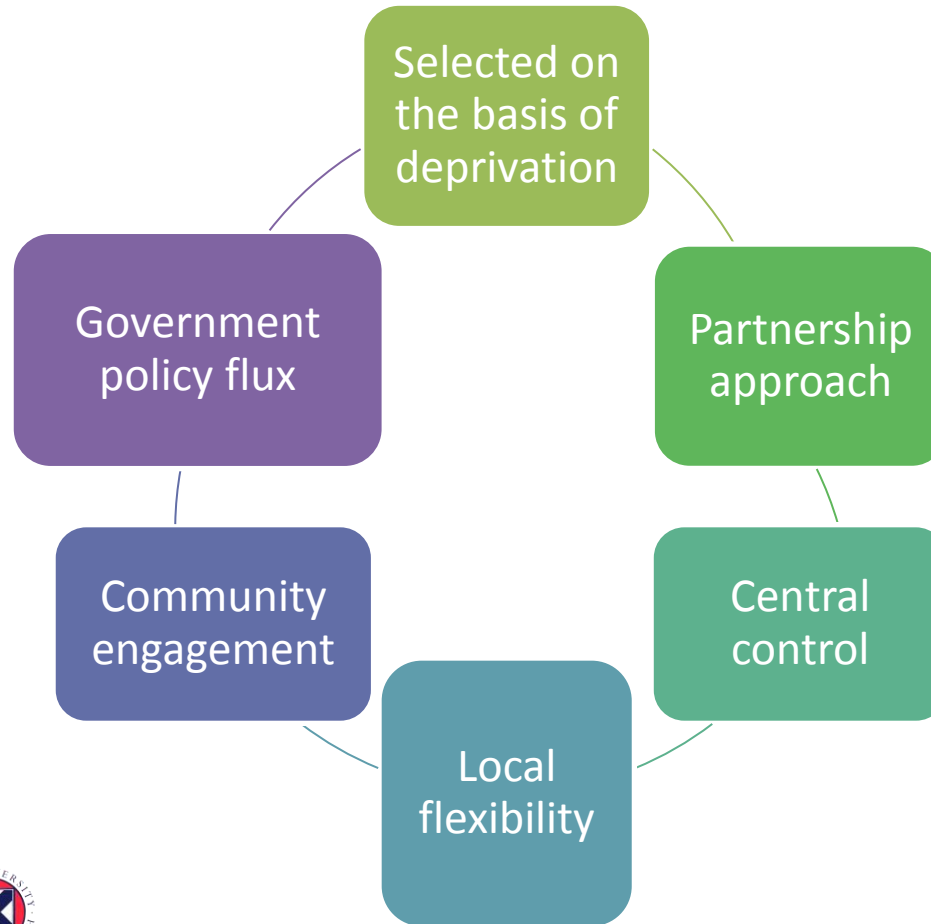
# How have CPPs responded?



- The National Community Planning Group (2013) reported a move towards:
  - ‘locality-based approaches to community planning’*
  - and
  - ‘total place/neighbourhood type initiatives with a strong emphasis on community assets’*
- Improvement Service (2014) found that 22 out of 32 CPPs had identified locations for their place-based approaches
  - a mix of holistic and themed approaches



# Six characteristics of place-based approaches



Source: Bailey (2012) .  
Turning Around the  
Poorest Neighbourhoods:  
Learning the Lessons from  
20 Years of  
Neighbourhood-Based  
Regeneration Strategies in  
England.



# Rationales for the return to 'place'

## The Civic Rationale

- Neighbourhoods are sites of identification and have greater meaning in people's lives

## The Social Rationale

- The neighbourhood provides a site for innovation and developing 'joined up' local action

## The Political Rationale

- The potential for democratic engagement, accountability and greater responsiveness in decision making

## The Economic Rationale

- Potential cost savings from synergies between related services and reducing duplication



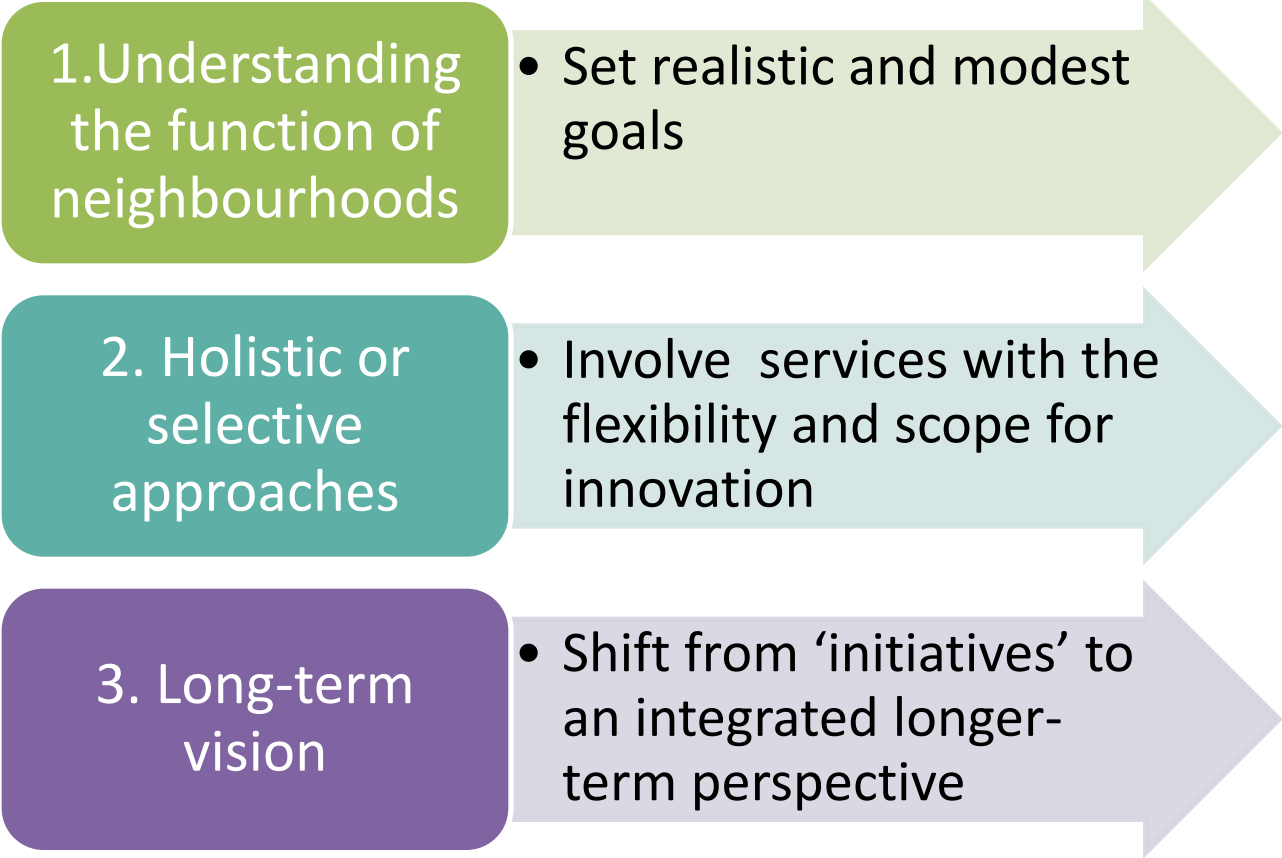
# The Elephant and the Flea...

- This WWS review – taking account of the current political and economic context.
  - Pushing an elephant uphill?
  - The strength of the flea





# What does the evidence say?



# What does the evidence say?



# What does the evidence say?

## 7. Evaluation

- Give greater attention to the 'theory' and assumptions of the approach and the evidence base

## 8. Austerity and Welfare Reform

- Support mental health by increasing resources for welfare advice and improve the neighbourhood environment



# The wisdom of practice

