

Background and context:
Communities, sectarianism, equalities,
planning
2011-2017

Background and context

- 'Tackling sectarianism' agenda
- 'Supporting Communities to Tackle Sectarianism' (SCoTTS)
- An evolving agenda

'Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland'

- A long running debate in Scotland: 'Scotland's Shame' or 'Sectarian Myth'
- A polarised and polarising debate

The crystallisation of a problem

- Not a new issue but...
- Bullets and letter bombs sent to prominent Celtic staff and supporters

The diagnosis

- The 'right hand': The Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act
- The 'left hand': Funding for communities to 'tackle sectarianism'
- Duncan Morrow's advisory group

The development of community responses to Sectarianism

- Prior to 2011: One national charity (Nil by Mouth) and one Local Authority area (Glasgow, Sense over Sectarianism)
- Between 2011 – 2015: The development of a new ‘workforce’ Throughout, a strong community development focus
- 2015-2017: also ‘influencing, mainstreaming and sustainability’
- 2016-2017: A focus on sectarianism *and* ‘hate crime’
- 2017-2018: a return to sectarianism (including mainstreaming)
- N.B. Funding peaks 2013-2015 and falls away substantially

'Supporting Communities to Tackle Sectarianism (SCoTTS)'

- **SCDC's contribution to the work**
 - Early stage scoping and development (2011-2012)
 - 'Co-inquiry' peer learning and 'action research' (2012-2015)
 - Developing mentors (2015-2016)...
- **2016 – 2017: A collaborative research process**
 - Beyond sectarianism: Mainstreaming and equalities
 - Two jumping off points....
 - The need to evidence, understand and develop the difference that good community development practice makes
 - Unpack 'mainstreaming' and 'influencing' of and with community planning partners