

Empowering People and Places: Resources



Community anchors and community capacity-building

[Transforming communities? Exploring the roles of community anchor organisations in public service reform, local democracy, community resilience and social change](#)

Report, summary and policy briefing which explores the developing role of key independent community sector organisations known as community anchors.

[Fun, Food, Folk: The Centrestage approach to dignified food provision](#)

Research report focused on Centrestage's distinct food provision programme which describes how it achieves impact and empowers individuals and communities.

[Learning about community capacity-building from the Community Links Worker approach in Insh, Aberdeenshire](#)

An inquiry into a community capacity-building project intended to improve health and wellbeing and how it supports the process of health and social care integration.

Community engagement

['Hard to reach' or 'easy to ignore'? Promoting equality in community engagement](#)

Evidence review exploring the intersection between community engagement and inequality. It examines evidence, from Scotland and the UK, on what is being done to overcome inequality in community engagement.

[Blog: Facilitative Leadership: Involving Citizens and Communities in Local Decision-Making'](#)

Development of training for a new era of community participation in local democracy which requires public services staff to develop skills for collaborative engagement.

[What do citizens want?](#)

Research report that reveals the profound effect of formal and informal relationships on people's wellbeing as seen through the experiences of users of housing services.

Co-production

[The Operation Modulus Approach: further lessons for public service reform](#)

Case study that examines how the approaches and learning from a successful violence and anti-social behaviour intervention has been introduced in two other communities.

[Co-production and Public Service Reform](#)

Seminar which looked at the role of co-production, its role in reforming public services and how co-production can help develop sustainable and effective public services.

[Building Connections: Co-locating advice services in general practices and job centres](#)

Report which reviews collaborative service delivery projects designed to improve social and economic outcomes for people experiencing poverty in Glasgow.

Participatory budgeting

[Webinar: Participatory budgeting and its potential for community empowerment and social justice](#)

Presentation focused on what needs to happen to ensure that the mainstreaming of PB carves out space for more complex participatory and deliberative processes in local government decision-making.

[Hope for democracy: Participatory Budgeting in Scotland](#)

Book chapter about participatory budgeting in Scotland and its interplay with public service reform, community empowerment and social justice.

[Review of First Generation Participatory Budgeting in Scotland](#)

Examines the growth and development of the first generation of participatory budgeting in Scotland (to June 2016) in order to generate insight to support the strategic and operational leadership and delivery of future participatory budgeting.

[Participatory budgeting in Scotland: an overview of strategic design choices and principles for effective delivery](#)

Outlines ten strategic choices in the design of participatory budgeting processes and ten principles for effective delivery of PB within a Scottish context.

[Evaluating the impact of participatory budgeting](#)

Developing an evaluation approach to assess the impact of participatory budgeting activities, and creating a participatory budgeting evaluation toolkit.

[The impact of participatory budgeting on health and wellbeing: a scoping review of evaluations](#)

Scoping review which reviews evaluations of participatory budgeting, finding that evaluations applying robust methods to analyse health and wellbeing outcomes are scarce. (Open access)

Participatory governance

[Community Planning Officials Survey: Understanding the everyday work of local participatory governance in Scotland](#)

Findings from the first survey of community planning officials in Scotland focused on their role, their work and implications for community planning partnerships and community engagement.

[Local solutions to local problems: innovation in public participation](#)

Findings from a trial of a 'mini-public' process to enable communities and public services to interact more meaningfully.

[Mini-publics resources](#)

A portfolio of resources about 'mini-publics', which are participatory processes designed to improve the quality of public deliberation and policymaking.

[Participatory-deliberative processes and public policy agendas: lessons for policy and practice](#)

Paper offering practical insights for policy workers and democratic reformers seeking to institutionalise participatory and deliberative innovations. (Open access)

[Pluralism and Democratic Participation: What Kind of Citizen are Citizens Invited to be?](#)

Article exploring how different understandings of democracy deal with pluralism and the meaning of democratic life. The focus is on three prominent models in contemporary democratic theory and practice: representative, participatory and deliberative. (Open access)

[Urban neighbourhoods: 5 ways to make a difference](#)

Short video introducing key findings from the pilot research for the Smart Urban Intermediaries project. The researchers found five ways in which people seek to make a difference in urban neighbourhoods: enduring, struggling, facilitating, organising, and trailblazing.

Place-based approaches

[Rationales for Place-based Approaches in Scotland](#)

What place-based approaches are, the rationales for their use, the development of this approach to public service reform in Scotland and the future challenges presented by austerity and welfare reform.

[Insights from 'Your Community' – a place-based approach to public service reform](#)

Findings from an interim evaluation of a neighbourhood-level, place-based approach to public service reform, supporting communities to become sustainable and thriving and improve service delivery.

[Children's Neighbourhoods Scotland](#)

A five-year, multi-location, co-produced approach, which brings people together to do more for children and young people: a practical example of the What Works Scotland approach to place-based change.

Tackling poverty locally

[Why Attitudes to Poverty Matter: What the Evidence Says](#)

Resources for a policy seminar which explored how we can use evidence to challenge stereotypes and address poverty.

[Community-led Approaches to Reducing Poverty: A Review of Evidence and Practice](#)

Presentations and reports from a community-led event which looked at evidence around community-led approaches to reducing poverty in neighbourhoods.

[Tackling Child Poverty: Actions to Prevent and Mitigate Child Poverty at the Local Level](#)

Evidence review and briefing offering practicable steps to support local authorities and community planning partnerships to mitigate and prevent child poverty.

Third sector interfaces

[Third sector participation and representation in East Lothian](#)

The process with which STRiVE, the TSI for East Lothian, opened a conversation with local third sector organisations to discuss effective participation and representation.

Get all these resources and more at whatworksscotland.ac.uk