



Putting Community at the Core

Brendan Fowler
Director, Prospect Community Housing



About Prospect

- Community based Housing Association with around 900 properties
- Our community – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh
- 22 office based staff; 8 estates based staff
- Management Committee – majority of tenants, and others with local involvement
- Celebrated our 30th anniversary last year



What do these organisations have in common?

WHALEARTS



Strengthening Communities for Race Equality Scotland



Prospect approach

- Focussed on one community
- Community anchor organisation
- Work in partnership with others – not directly delivering community projects
- Employ a Community Projects Officer (F/T)
- Invest time being involved with community



A journey towards delivering priorities set by the community

- Background - of a lot of good work but not always joined up
- Open space events – 2015
- Resulted in community priorities





Priorities

- Making Wester Hailes Safer for the community
- Making the community better together
- Tackling Legal highs
- Addressing transport issues
- Making better use of IT
- Community facilities and unused land



Progress since Open Space

- Establishment of Living Well
- Establishment of Wester Hailes Community Trust
- Local agencies working together to deliver on community priorities
- Priorities of agencies linked to community priorities – including our Community Projects Strategy
- Tasting Change project – collaborative working



- Aspiring Communities funded project
- Prospect leading along with four delivery partners
- Supports priority 'Making the community better together'
- Focus on food insecurity
- Massive impact during 18 month project





Summary and next steps

- Listening to community and taking forward priorities
- Focussed on one community
- Building strong relationships locally
- Focussing on what we are good at, and working with others on what they are good at
- Collaboration tested through Tasting Change
- And now approach by City Council to build on what we are doing and work on a creative placemaking proposal for our community



Questions

Contact details:

brendan.fowler@prospectch.org.uk