Walking, Wheeling and Cycling: Mapping Inter-Connected Layers of Power in Glasgow



Authors: Dr James Bonner (University of Strathclyde), Dr Nicholas Davies (Glasgow Caledonian University), Dr Deirdre Harrington (University of Strathclyde), Dr Eleanor Herring (The Glasgow School of Art), Dr Emma Lawlor (University of Glasgow).

Collaboration

This proposal describes a planned transdisciplinary collaboration bringing together academics from four Glasgow universities.

- Dr Eleanor Herring (The Glasgow School of Art)
- Dr James Bonner (University of Strathclyde)
- Dr Deirdre Harrington (University of Strathclyde)
- Dr Nicholas Davies (Glasgow Caledonian University)
- Dr Emma Lawlor (University of Glasgow).





Photos from ‘Design for Movement in our Public Realm’ symposium, October 2023. Keynote by Thalia Verkade.

Who gets to decide how are public spaces are designed, and what do they look/feel/smell like? How does the design of those spaces accommodate different forms of movement? What are our priorities today? Whose rights to the city should we be trying to safeguard?





The Scottish city of Glasgow remains heavily shaped by its road network and divided by ageing motorways.



Above: The M8 motorway at Charing Cross looking towards the Kingston Bridge *(DAILY RECORD)*
Right: A 1980s photograph of the M8 motorway running through the centre of the city at the Charing Cross area of Glasgow (Photo: The Scotsman Publications Ltd.)



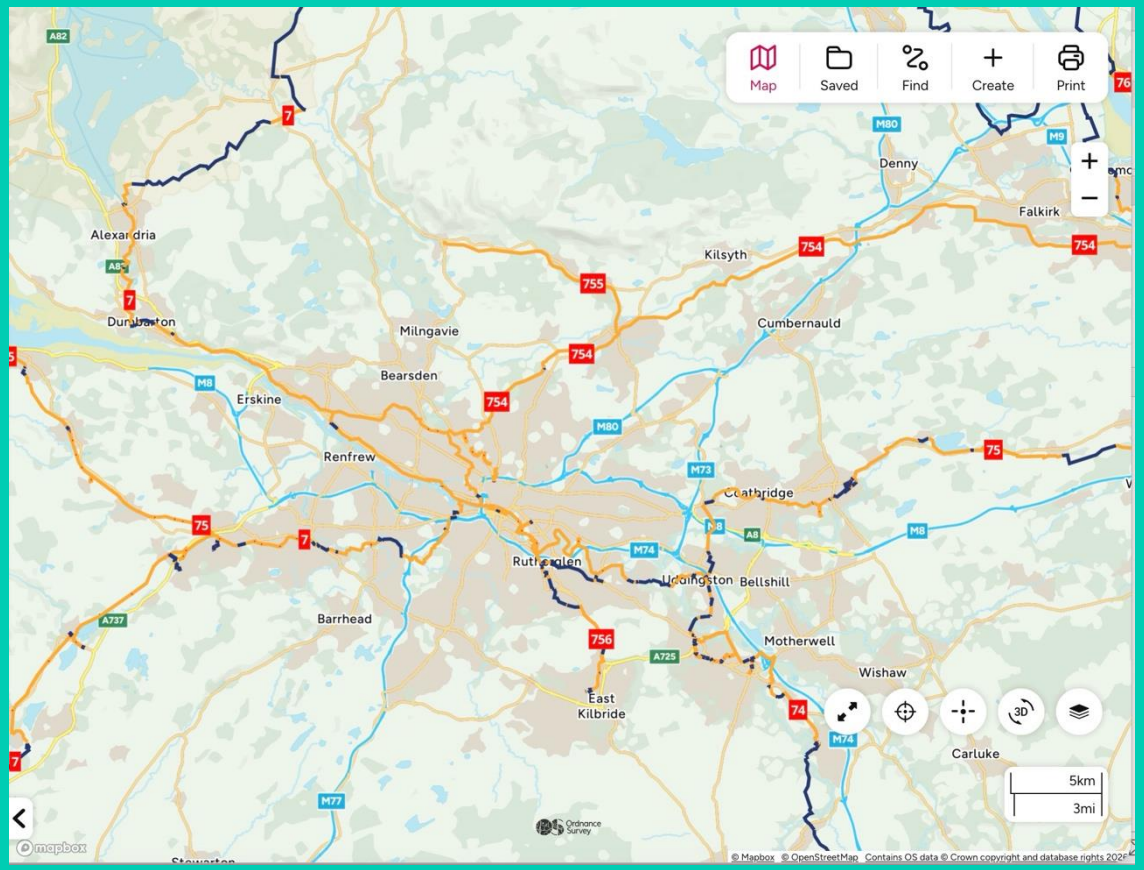
But progress is being made: Glasgow active travel network – Infrastructures of care







Official active travel strategies and the ‘smart city’ model





Left: Cycle Network Ordnance Survey Map - https://explore.osmaps.com/?lat=55.89217&lon=-4.4221&zoom=9.4445&overlays=os-ncn-layer&style=Standard&type=2d

Right: Walk Wheel Cycle Trust planned improvements to national cycle network map - https://www.walkwheelcycletrust.org.uk/national-cycle-network/our-plans-to-improve-the-national-cycle-network/







Left - Photos from the UCI Cycling World Championships, 2023. Credit: Fred Pedersen.
Above: GCC drawing illustrating how Feminist Ubanism could transform planning in Glasgow. Credit: https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/8403/Councillors-meet-to-look-at-how-Feminist-Urbanism-could-transform-Glasgow







Cycle lanes in Glasgow.





But other individuals, organisations and communities are also working hard to ensure that low carbon, healthier journeys are possible and accessible.

Left: Shawlands Bike Bus, Glasgow 2023
Right: Poster in Queen's Park

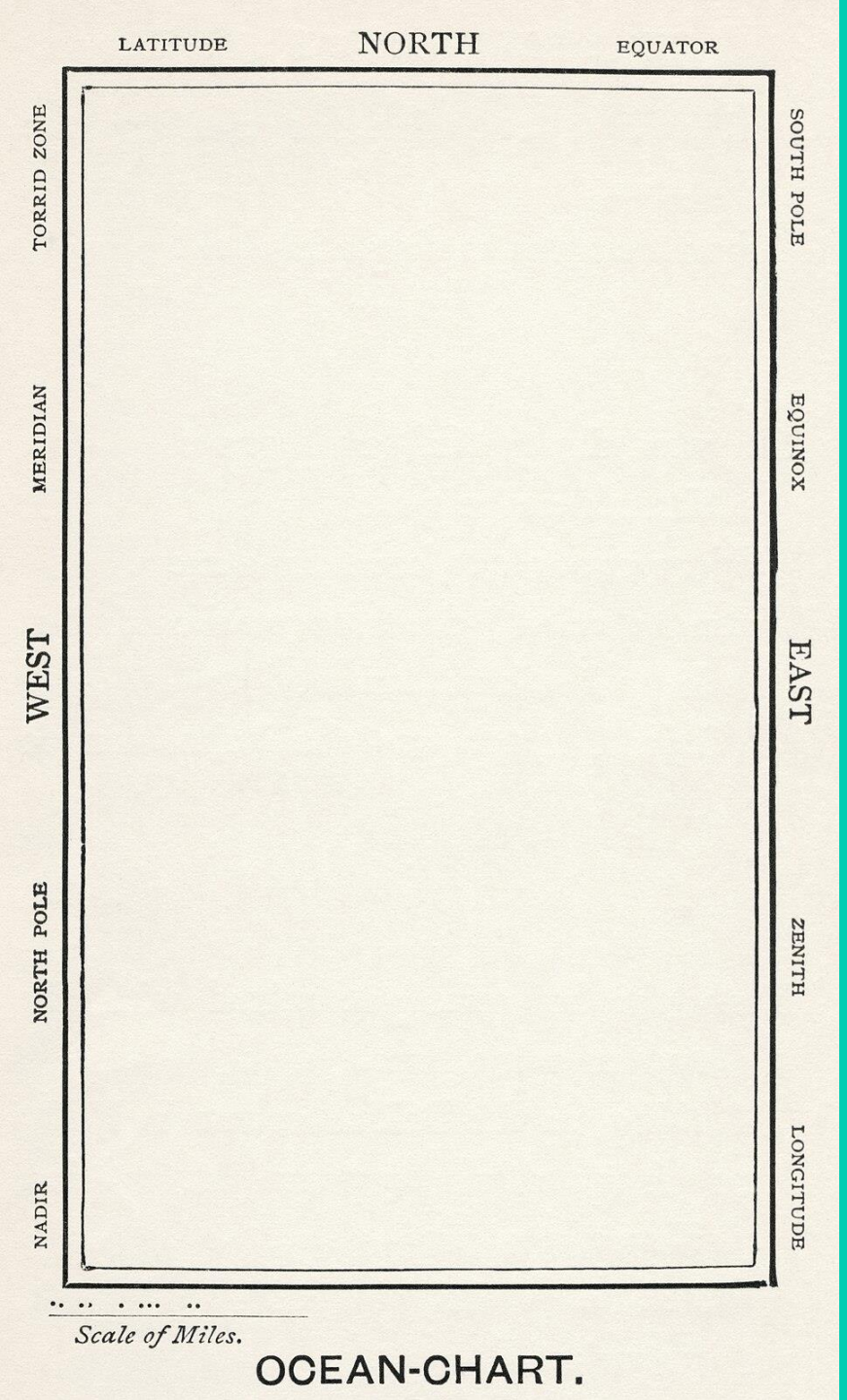
Our project was principally established to facilitate a collaboration which:

- connects researchers across four Glasgow universities working on active travel-related themes establishing a multi-disciplinary research collaboration primed for growth;
- consolidates and synthesises knowledge through collaborative workshops, supplemented by interviews and site visits, to identify and synthesise learning and jointly draft iterations of the map;
- generates new connections between stakeholders and creates a forum for critical dialogue as a foundation for meaningful, structural change;
- establishes a cross-sector community/network of people interested in low carbon, healthier forms of movement across Glasgow.

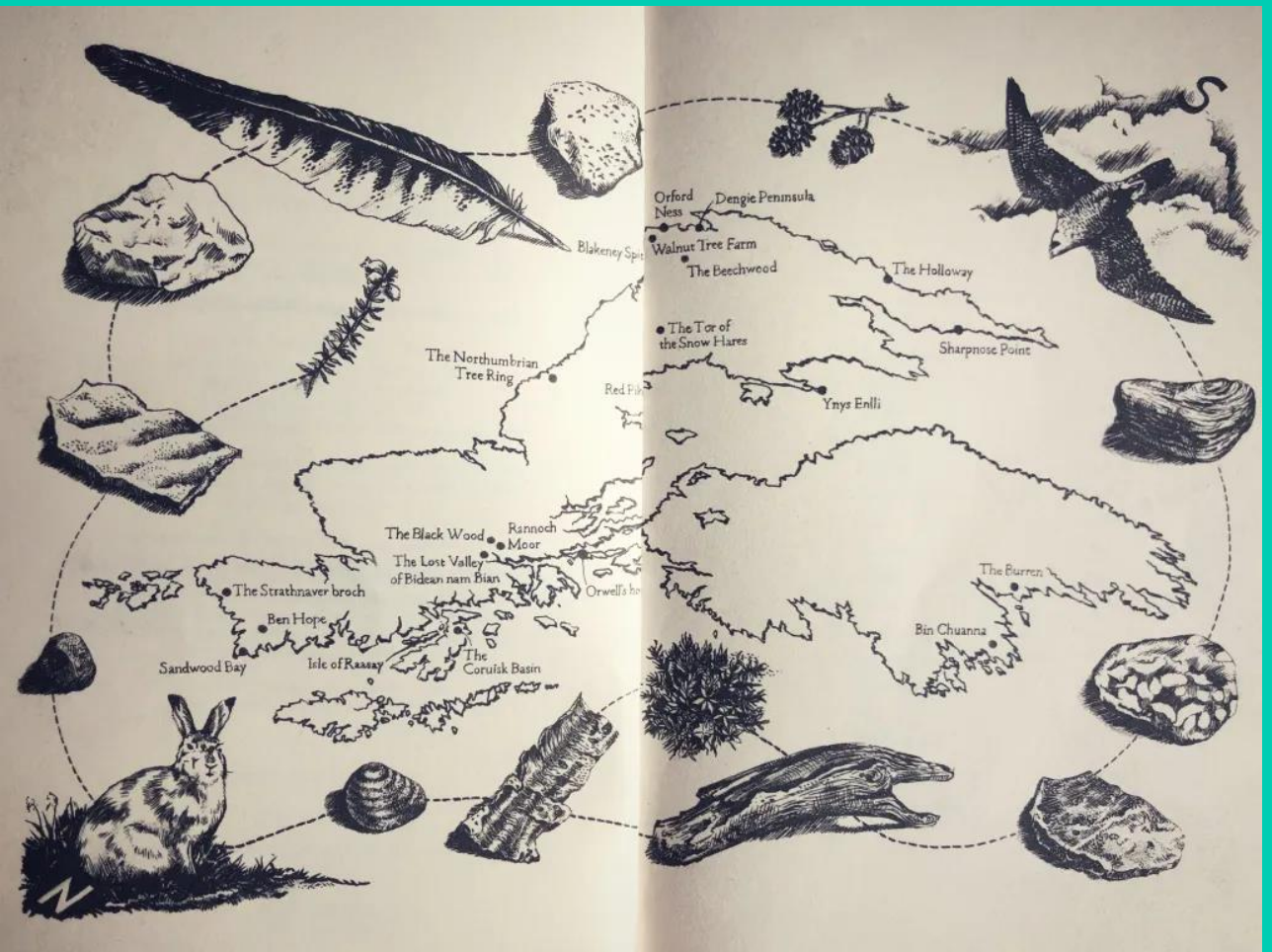


He had brought a large map
representing the sea,
Without the least vestige of
land:
And the crew were much
pleased
when they found it to be
A map they could all
understand.

Lewis Carroll, The Hunting
of the Snark (1876).



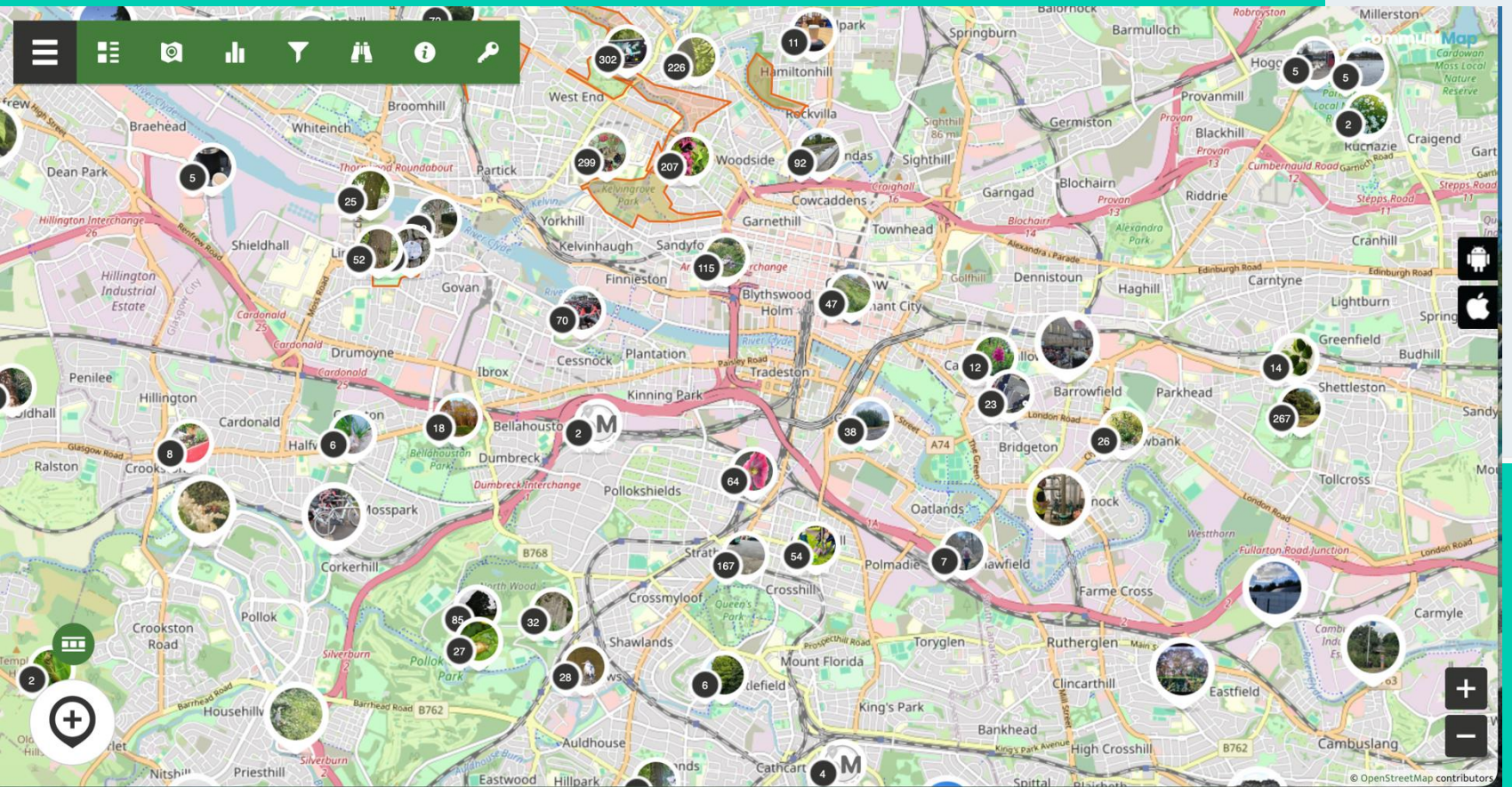
Acts of mapping: Critical cartography, messy maps and unusual perspectives





Left: Story maps in *Wild Places* by Robert MacFarlane (2007)
Above: Artist Jenny Speirs collaborated with Scottish Urban Past on a community map created with Downs Syndrome Scotland.
Credit: https://blog.historicenvironment.scot/2019/05/community-maps/

Learning from existing community maps in Glasgow



This mindmap lists different stakeholder organisations in west Glasgow.

It covers two area partnerships - Ward 12 Victoria Park and Ward 13 Garscadden/Scotstounhill.

Stakeholder groups marked with a tick are represented on the area partnership, stakeholder groups marked with a cross are not represented.

If you click on the paperclip icon this will bring up a link to a website or social media.

You can click on the small circles next to individual entries to collapse and expand. If you select the blue title cloud you can use Alt + 1, 2, 3, 4, 0 to collapse and expands all the connections.

You can also change the view by selecting the small arrow next to Mind Map in the bottom left corner.

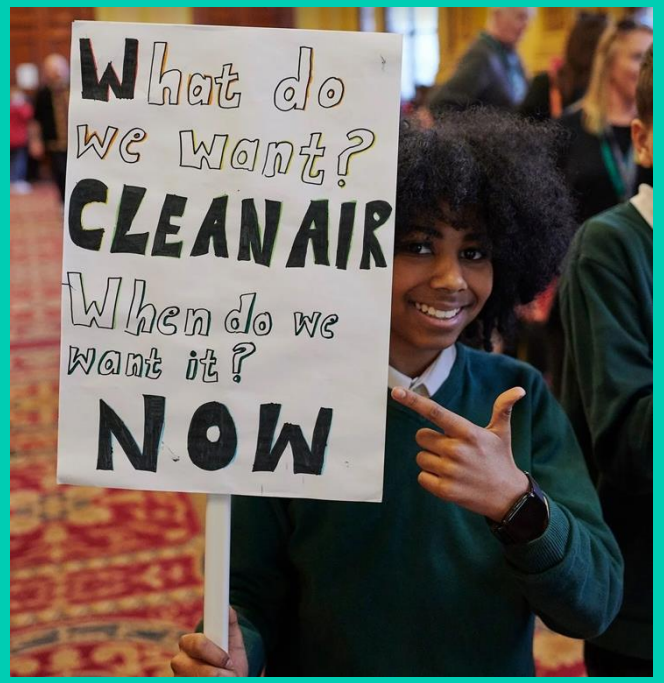
The mindmap has been put together by Glasgow Eco Trust.
https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/local-area-stakeholder-mindmap

What is an Area Partnership?



Left: Communimap Glasgow - https://www.communimap.net/map
Above: Stakeholder mindmaps produced by Glasgow Eco Trust: https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=b9f42ac3-30aa-43b8-81b0-c08af1f6b760











Clockwise from above:
Parents for Future Scotland: https://www.parentsforfuturescotland.org.uk/airpollution
Magic Cycle Club: https://thesecret.app/secrets/5404/magic-cc
Bikes for Refugees: https://www.bikesforrefugees.scot/
Mural by In the Making: https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/artists-in-communities/project-folder/north-west-community-planning-partnership-area-phase-5





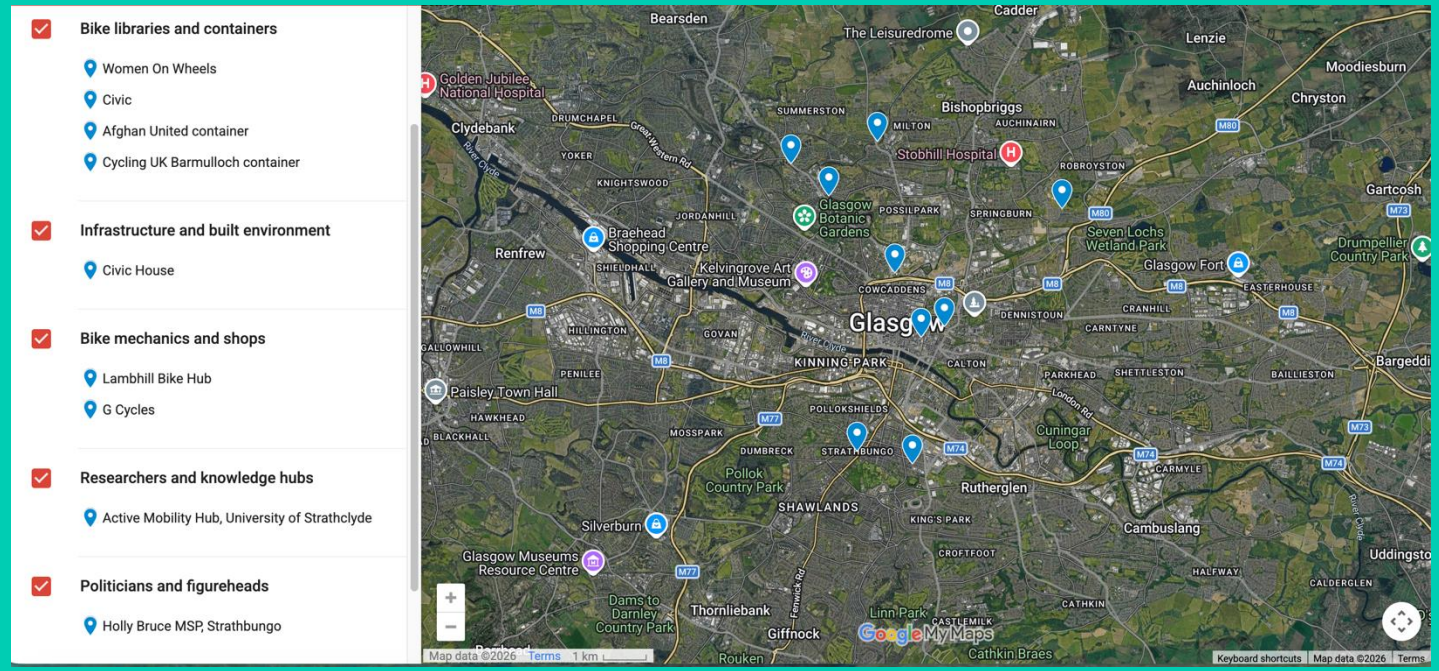






Clockwise from above:
Glasgow Eco Trust and De'ils on Wheels (community bike workshop) - https://www.glasgowecotrust.org.uk/
Women on Wheels - https://womenonwheels.org.uk/\
Get Glasgow Moving - https://www.getglasgowmoving.org/
Sunny cycles - https://sunnycycles.org.uk/activities/adapted-and-cargo-bikes/

Impact



- Our ambition is to make city decision-makers aware how Glasgow residents are striving for change and argue that their action should be appropriately resourced, celebrated and underpin future climate emergency decisions.

- Through launch events, stakeholder networks and online dissemination, we will use the map to actively promote awareness, stimulate discussion and achieve change.

- The project will generate impact across academic, community and policy domains by addressing the urgent challenge facing community in Scotland and globally – low carbon, healthy mobility in the public realm. Increased active mobility has broad impacts on society through increased community and social cohesion, the environment through reduced car use, on health through increased physical activity, and quality of life through more having more vibrant communities.

Contact us!

Dr James Bonner james.bonner@strath.ac.uk (University of Strathclyde)

Dr Nicholas Davies nicholas.davies@gcu.ac.uk (Glasgow Caledonian University)

Dr Deirdre Harrington deirdre.harrington@strath.ac.uk (University of Strathclyde)

Dr Eleanor Herring e.herring@gsa.ac.uk (The Glasgow School of Art)

Dr Emma Lawlor Emma.Lawlor@glasgow.ac.uk (University of Glasgow)