

Anchor Institutions and Community Wealth Building

**Outputs from key organisations and new evidence
relating to Anchor Institutions and Community
Wealth Building in Scotland and the UK**

February 2025



Translations



Easy read



BSL



Audio




Large print



Braille

Translations and other formats are available on request at:

 p hs.otherformats@p hs.scot

 0131 314 5300

Public Health Scotland is Scotland's national agency for improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of Scotland's people.

© Public Health Scotland

OGL

This publication is licensed for re-use under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#).

For more information, visit www.publichealthscotland.scot/ogl

www.publichealthscotland.scot

Contents

Recent journal articles (database searches)	3
Recent reports and news (grey literature)	5
Disclaimer	9
Contact	9

Recent journal articles (database searches)

A selection of articles published between April 2024 - January 2025, relating to Anchor Organisations and Community Wealth Building. This first issue of the bulletin covers a longer period than normal. In future the bulletin will be published quarterly.

These references were retrieved by searching the bibliographic databases: Medline, Scopus and Social Policy & Practice.

Search criteria are available upon request from Knowledge Services and will be reviewed regularly to consider appropriateness and/or new areas of interest.

The searches are undertaken by PHS Knowledge Services. If you need any help obtaining the full text of any of the articles, please contact:

phs.knowledge@phs.scot

Climate Crisis

- Howarth C, Brogan J, Bryant S, Curran B, Duncan A, Fankhauser S, et al. **The importance of place in climate action**. PLOS Climate 2024;3:e0000425.

Discusses the role that place-based climate action could have in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing climate adaptation in local areas. Explains how collaboration between public, private and third sector organisations is required for it to work.

Health Inequalities

- Douglas MJ, Foster C, McDermott R, Bunse L, Clemens T, Walker J, et al. **Can health impact assessment help tackle commercial determinants of health and support a wellbeing economy?** Health Promot Int 2024;39.

Health in all policies (HiAP) aims to ensure that commercial policies promote health and health equity, using processes such as health impact assessment (HIA).

Explores the potential for HiAP and HIA to help address commercial determinants of health and promote a wellbeing economy.

Rural Diversity

- Hopkins J, Currie M, Schurch N, Martínez-Sánchez G, Farinelli V. **Enhancing inclusive growth to create new evidence of rural diversity: an analysis in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland**. *Regional Studies, Regional Science* 2024;11:324–50.

This article applies a modified perspective of inclusive growth to understand the diversity of communities within a remote, rural region of Scotland.

Sustainability

- Charnley-Parry IM, Farrier A, Dooris M, Whitton J, Manley J. **Organisations and citizens building back better? Climate resilience, social justice & COVID-19 recovery in Preston, UK**. *Sustainability* 2024;16:3003.

Reports on a project that explored how COVID-19 recovery could speed up organisation and citizen-led action for the wellbeing of people, places and the environment. Explores two key themes; anchor institutions' strategic priorities and plans; and 'building back better' and its future sustainability.

Wellbeing Economy

- Bärnthaler R, Novy A, Arzberger L, Krisch A, Volmary H. **The power to transform structures: power complexes and the challenges for realising a wellbeing economy**. *Humanit Soc Sci Commun* 2024;11:558.

This article draws on different strands of existing scholarship to provide an analytical framework for understanding the barriers to achieving a well-being economy.

- Benstead S. **Five ways for the government to keep the good in planning**. *Local Government Chronicle* 2024:2.

Looks at planning reform, arguing that the UK government must retain the good parts of the planning system when it undertakes its upcoming reforms, and explores how this can be achieved. Recommends that the government embeds Community Wealth Building principles into planning

- Gkiouleka A, Munford L, Khavandi S, Watkinson R, Ford J. **How can healthcare organisations improve the social determinants of health for their local communities? Findings from realist-informed case studies among secondary healthcare organisations in England.** BMJ Open 2024;14:e085398.

Discusses how healthcare organisations can impact social determinants of health and communities in their local areas by acting as anchor organisations.

Recent reports and news (grey literature)

A rundown of recent publications from key organisations, published between April 2024 - January 2025.

Capacity Building

- Centre for Local Economic Strategies. **How to build an anchor network : learning from the West Midlands.** Centre for Local Economic Strategies; 2024.

Uses examples from anchor projects in the West Midlands to provide advice for those planning to build an anchor network. Explains how to start a network and maximise its impact and gives an overview of different types of networks and their advantages and disadvantages.

- Evans S. **Much to learn from Celtic wealth building.** Centre for Local Economic Strategies. 2024. (accessed January 14, 2025).

This blog item discusses the idea of “small country governments” and the pragmatic role that Celtic governments are playing in tackling key challenges using community wealth building approaches.

Climate Crisis

- Just Transition Commission. **A Just Transition for Shetland.** Just Transition Commission; 2024.

Looks at the details of changes in Shetland as it responds to the climate crisis and considers different approaches for delivering community benefit and community wealth-building.

Economic Development

- Benstead, S. **Powering up planning: how the planning system builds community wealth**. Centre for Local Economic Strategies; 2024.

Explores how local planning authorities can support economic development and build community wealth. Includes case studies from throughout the UK, including Scottish approaches to Community Wealth Building.

- Centre for Local Economic Strategies. **Community wealth (and health) building**. Centre for Local Economic Strategies. 2024. (accessed January 14, 2025).

This blog item focus on discussion around how a Community Wealth Building approach to economic development is helping to deliver better health outcomes for people and communities, through the actions of key anchor institutions.

- Eyres, T. **Briefing note: Community Wealth Building**. Centre for Local Economic Strategies; 2024.

This briefing was written for MPs to explain the impact of Community Wealth Building in the UK. Discusses the role of Community Wealth Building in tackling issues in local economic development and supporting growth, and outlines opportunities that could help achieve progressive and green growth while reducing regional inequalities.

- Gorham B, Thomas C, Wood M. **Unleashing health and prosperity throughout Britain**. NHS Confederation; 2024.

Explores ways to support health services to unlock social and economic development across the UK, drawing on case studies from local areas in England and Wales.

Describes the opportunity for integrated care systems to develop the anchor organisation system and summarises a framework to improve health and prosperity in local areas.

- International Public Policy Observatory. **Growth beacons: how innovation districts can create and spread prosperity**. International Public Policy Observatory; 2024.

Explores the benefits of innovation districts in supporting economic growth across the UK. Explores the key features that make innovation districts work, focusing on sense

of place, anchor institutions, generating social capital and building/financing the environment.

- Longlands, S. **Hard times require a hardwiring of economic change**. Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2024. (accessed July 31, 2024).

Discussion of Britain's economy often focuses on low levels of productivity and growth. The author argues that this hides the real issue: that choices made about how the economy operates, generate inequality and poverty. Explains how different models, including anchor institutions, can provide a different approach.

- Pugh A, Read J, Riley R, Hassan S. **Demonstrating the economic impacts of civic universities**. University of Birmingham; 2024.

Explores how universities are measuring their civic economic impact – the socio-economic effects of their activities on the places they are located in. Explains that universities are anchor institutions, who have a significant economic presence through place, due to employment, procurement and the control of estates and other fixed assets.

Employment

- One Gloucestershire Integrated Care System. **We want you: engaging young people in anchor careers**. Health Anchors Learning Network 2024. (accessed November 18, 2024).

Describes Gloucestershire Integrated Care System's 'We Want You' programme - a co-designed health & social care careers outreach initiative.

- Powell O. **Fairer future for York**. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation; 2024.

Considers work being done in York to investigate the role of co-operatives and other social enterprises to generate and retain local wealth. Explores the options for developing more community-owned and controlled assets and discusses how policy and practice should focus on supporting Community Wealth Building.

Health Inequalities

- Gamu M, Et. **Adapting, expanding and embedding community and culture into health ecosystems**. Centre for Health Promoting Research, Leeds Beckett University; 2024.

Discusses the role of community-based anchor organisations in addressing health inequalities. Explains the link between health, wellbeing, arts, culture and the natural environment, and reviews the policy context focusing on creativity and wellbeing. Draws on findings from four case studies in England.

- Jameson H. **How to build a healthy economy (social care-led regeneration)**. The MJ 2024. (accessed July 15, 2024).

Looks at how Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council are addressing problems facing adult social care by creating a health and social care-led regeneration programme. The programme aims to create inclusive growth and tackle health inequalities.

Procurement

- Wood M, Straňák B, Pendlebury D. **Building an inclusive economy in central London. London**: New Economics Foundation, 2024.

This report discusses ways to build an inclusive economy in central London. Defines the challenges and makes recommendations around five themes relating to the drivers of inclusive economies - one of the themes focuses on progressive procurement by anchor institutions.

Social Economic

- N8 Research Partnership, AtkinsRealis. **Place-based growth, innovation and the quadruple helix**. Durham: Atkins Realis, 2024.

Reviews the challenges associated with delivering place-led growth in the North of England. Explores the potential to make the area a hub of innovation by reviewing the mechanisms that drive interactions between industry, academia, government, and citizens.

Wellbeing Economy

- Jarke H. **Creating an impactful and sustainable wellbeing economy for better public health**. Institute of Public Health; 2024.

Outlines key concepts and approaches which underly a wellbeing economy and considers the actions that can be taken to implement a wellbeing economy in Ireland.

Disclaimer

All reasonable care is taken to ensure that the information we provide is accurate and we accept no responsibility for the content provided. The information provided is selective; however, the inclusion of a link does not imply approval of the contents of the website.

This is not meant as an exhaustive list of publications on these topics for the given time period, but rather a selection as seen most relevant.

Contact

Knowledge Services

phs.knowledge@phs.scot