

# Genesis of post-war housing in Glasgow

## - - Why Glasgow's Red Road flats could never live up to expectations



Description: -

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### Glasgow's Post

Thirty years ago most urban renewal involved knocking down existing buildings - urban redevelopment - and replacing them with new ones.

### The Post

Glasgow nearly expired from the beating it took in the 1980s—the shipyards and industry shut and created mass unemployment; the Conservative Party seemed intent on punishing the city for defiantly and repeatedly voting Labour en-masse. On the other side of the country, the car manufacturer Rootes was cajoled into building a plant at Linwood, near Glasgow, for the production of its new Hillman Imp. They helped to provide new homes around the cities, gave people high quality living environments, and were some of the first places to attract the new jobs and investment which Scotland eventually came to desperately need.

### Springboig

There was also 'a high proportion of child-users'. Bold plans were also put in place to make urban Scotland a better place to live.

### Post war housing

Health and Wellbeing in GoWell and Social Housing Areas in Glasgow. This was prior to the construction of the much larger neighbouring schemes at Cranhill, Barlanark, , , , and , which lie to the north and east of Springboig, as well as Greenfield to its immediate west, all of which were built between the 1950s and 1960s to alleviate the post-war housing shortage in the city.

### Springboig

GoWell is intended to be 'theory generating' with regard to identifying mechanisms and pathways to health.

### Springboig

Levels of overcrowding compared across selected UK cities, 1951 click on graph to expand The graph above shows that in 1951 Glasgow had

much higher levels of overcrowding compared to other comparable UK cities. The crowded tenements which had turned parts of cities like Glasgow into some of the worst slums in Europe were torn down and replaced by giant housing estates such as Easterhouse, Drumchapel and Castlemilk. After the Second World War, modern homes in high rises and new towns were identified as the solution to inner city overcrowding, an approach championed on behalf of the working classes by architects, planners, and local officials.

### **Post war housing**

There were two periods in the 20th century when housing supply did a reasonable job of meeting housing demand and need. Access to communal spaces was made more secure with the installation of intercoms and electronic keys, and 24 hour concierge facilities were also added.

### **Post**

GoWell The Glasgow Community Health and Wellbeing GoWell Research and Learning Programme has been designed to provide such evidence. Plagued with problems Despite the promising start, the Red Road flats soon came under criticism.

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