Public Engagement - Online Survey Results

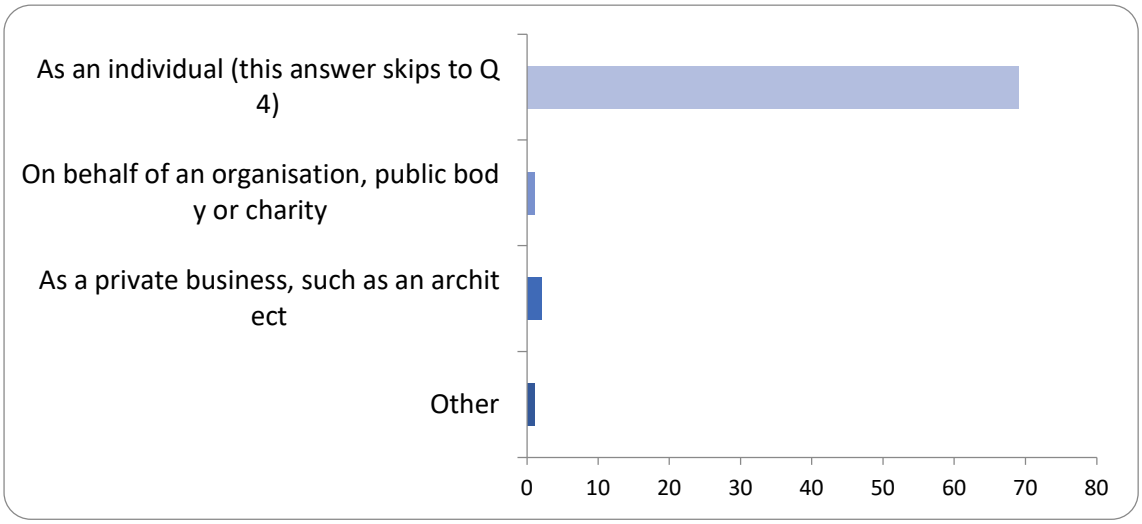
Share your views on modern housing at Woodside, Glasgow - online survey:
https://haveyoursay.historicenvironment.scot/heritage/woodsidehousingglasgow

The activity ran from 08/08/2024 to 19/09/2024

Responses to this survey: **73**

2: Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation, business or community group?

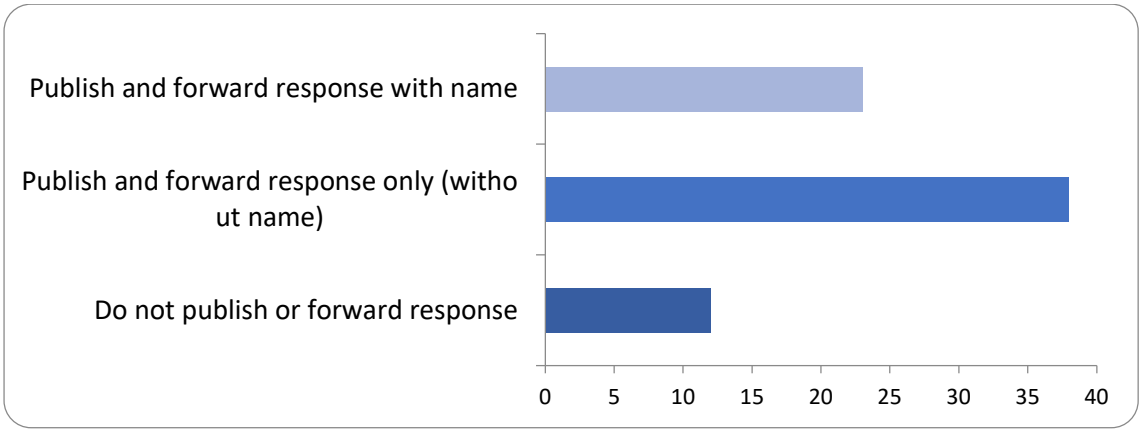
There were 73 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
As an individual (this answer skips to Q4)	69	94.52%
On behalf of an organisation, public body or charity	1	1.37%
As a local authority	0	0.00%
As a private business, such as an architect	2	2.74%
Representing a community group	0	0.00%
Other	1	1.37%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

4: Historic Environment Scotland would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your preference:

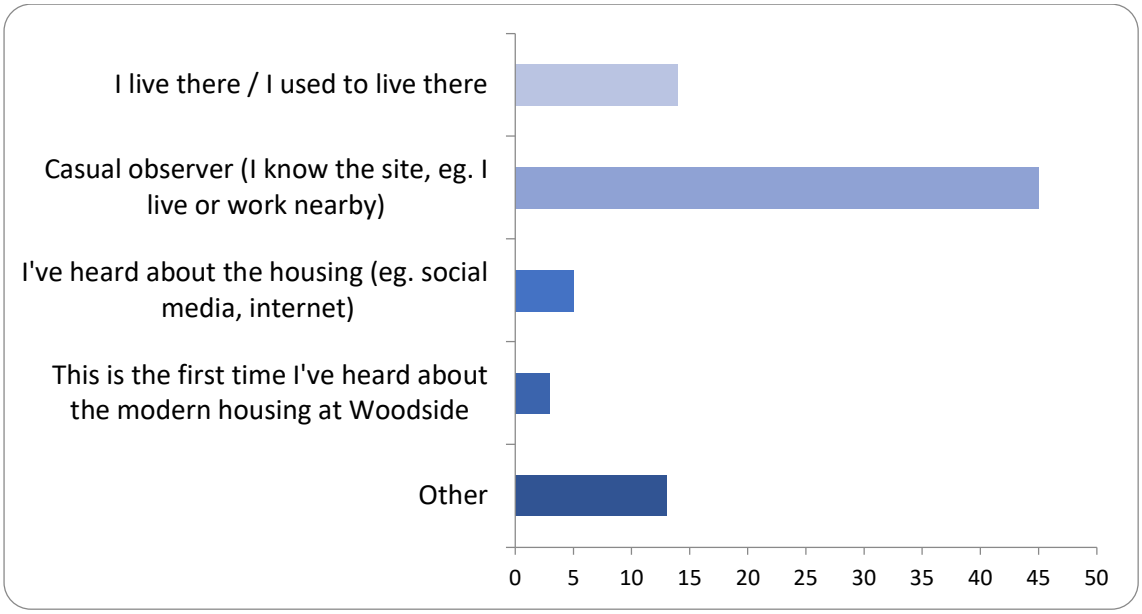
There were 73 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Publish and forward response with name	23	31.51%
Publish and forward response only (without name)	38	52.05%
Do not publish or forward response	12	16.44%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

6: What is your connection to the housing blocks (Tick all that apply)

There were 73 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
I live there / I used to live there	14	19.18%
Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	45	61.64%
I've heard about the housing (eg. social media, internet)	5	6.85%
This is the first time I've heard about the modern housing at Woodside	3	4.11%
Other	13	17.81%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

If you've chosen Other, please provide more details

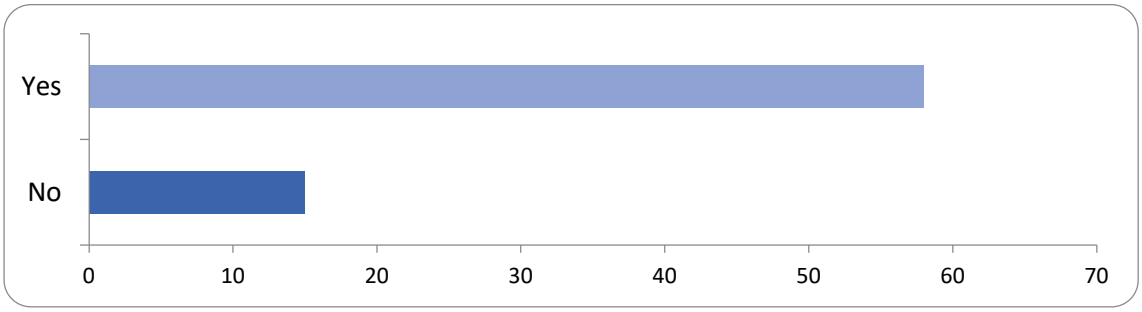
There were 13 responses to this part of the question.

7: Please tell us more about your connection with the modern housing at Woodside and/or any other relevant information, stories or memories:

There were 57 responses to this part of the question.

8: Do you see the housing blocks as part of Scotland's heritage?

There were 73 responses to this part of the question.



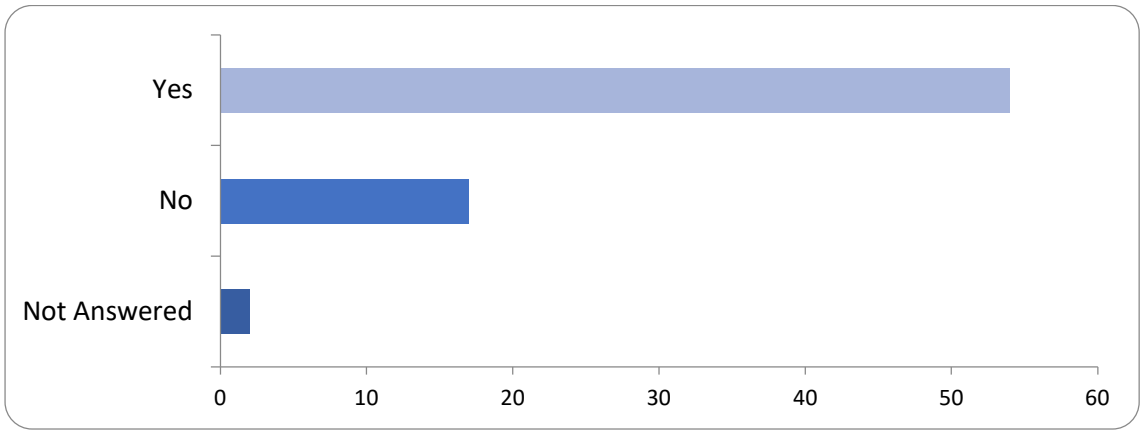
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	58	79.45%
No	15	20.55%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Please explain why

There were 64 responses to this part of the question.

9: Do you think the modern housing at Woodside is special?

There were 71 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	54	73.97%
No	17	23.29%
Not Answered	2	2.74%

Please explain why

There were 61 responses to this part of the question.

10: Please use the space below to tell us more about your experience and views on the modern housing at Woodside, and this kind of heritage in Scotland:

We welcome any information including links to online archival material, video, social media accounts etc.

There were 29 responses to this part of the question.

Public Engagement - Online Survey Responses (where we have permission to publish)

Name / Organisation	Relationship to Housing Blocks	Do you think the Housing Blocks are part of Scotland's heritage?	Do you think the Housing Blocks are special?	Comments
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	It's an iconic building set, which I look for every time I pass by on the motorway. I have visited the site out of interest, and noticed its success as an architectural community hub. During lockdown, the people that lived there were out on the balconies sunning, and one man zoomed past me with skis strapped to roller wheels, he propelled himself forwards with the ski sticks. Unique architecture, with special features such as the brick openings. Great example of a community living complex. Unique architectural features, rich character and history.
Karen Nugent	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I have admired this housing scheme at Woodside since I was an architecture student in the 90s living nearby. I loved the distinctive curved corners on the window openings, the stair towers and walkways and the brick detailings it felt solid, friendly and futuristic. The materials looked good quality and it felt like a good antidote to the high rise flats that gave architects a bad name at that time. They seem like a positive answer to communal housing that moves on from the tenement without losing a sense of place as some high rise schemes did. The distinctive orange engineering brick and curved window openings feel appropriate to Glasgow, tough and friendly at the same time. The building fabric looks in good condition and the detailing has stood the test of time, which isn't always the case for modern buildings. There is a distinctive

				character to the building design that gives the housing a sense of place and the scale and enclosure of the scheme works well.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	I have always hated this building. Have lived in west end for 40 years. Have had a few friends live in these houses. They are an eyesore and contribute greatly to the general ‘nothingness’ and gloominess of the St.Georges Cross area. Hideous. Look like an East German prison camp. Bleak and uninspiring.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I ised to live at St George's Cross & used to pass this building. It's such an interesting design & no other like it in glasgow. They were peoples homes & part of society. The architecture is unique.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	They are absolutely horrible and should be pulled down and new social housing built in its place It’s an eyesore
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	Live close by and often in the estate to use Woodside pool
Malcolm Mitchell	Casual observer (I know the site,	Yes	Yes	I am a retired Architect interested in Glasgow heritage. I have worked for 45 years mainly in Glasgow and coincidentally 4 years at Boswell Mitchell and

	eg. I live or work nearby)			Johnston. I have a particular interest in Housing and conservation of historic buildings. I have visited the BMJ Woodside development a few times It is a unique housing design by a Glasgow/Scottish Architect. It is not a pastiche of housing elsewhere. It provides a modern take on tenements housing. It also seems to have been resilient and not fallen out of favour by its residents. Unique design as previous statement
Anonymous	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	I moved here with my young family in 2000. We bought the flat from the original tenant who had been there since the opening and raised her own family there. Good example of social housing adjacent to city centre and to traditional dwellings The brutalist style of architecture is often unloved, but the good design of the living spaces here is an example of how this style can be successful in its intentions. I like the playful motifs on the gable end.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	As a child in the 70's I visited my Gparents in Riddrie every Sunday, driving from Clydebank along the new Expressway onto the new M8 to Riddrie. I watched from the back seat of the car as these new modern fancy houses were built. It took me a couple of months to figure out why they didn't look quite right ie the windows were upside down, the flat sill was at the top and the curved top was at the bottom. So different from my gparents 'house for hero's' in Riddrie. I was envious of the football pitches at the 'front' of the buildings. No need to avoid the No Ball Games sign. To me as an adult married to someone from this area it was a very good attempt to keep the community together. To create housing that created spaces for all people in the community as it was at that time. Play spaces, spaces for cars, the only thing missing was gathering spaces for mums and the elderly. But the elderly of the community were going to be housed in Dundas court with their own community facilities do none were provided in Woodside

				It is an example of urban planning that caters to the needs of the people not just the whims of planners and architects. They had learned that people don't like high rises so developed high density low rise accommodation that included facilities people wanted, schools, nurseries swimming pool play areas pedestrianised access to the wider community (ahead of its time)
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I grew up in the area and these flats have always been a part of my landscape. They are strikingly beautiful and the design fascinated me as a child, they were unlike anything else I'd seen. Their reputation was very poor though, we knew them as a dangerous place to go. A mix of pensioners living there and people you wouldn't want to meet on a dark night, or in one of the many dark corridors in the flats. I remember visiting family friends there and being blown away that some flats were up and down stairs. This and the twisty turny rabbit warren corridors made the whole place feel like it was full of the unexpected. Their bad reputation in the 80/90s made me sad, they looked and felt like a special place that had been neglected. I'm glad people are taking them seriously now. They very clearly encapsulate a particular time in the city. Their design is special and worth celebrating. It's unique and interesting and the city of Glasgow should do more to look after its history.
Anonymous	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	I lived at Raglan Street between 2008 and 2022 These were solid, well made and offered good sized accommodation more so than more recent developments. It's brutalism, it's part of Glasgow's history.

Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	As a person who drives up Garscube Road most weeks, and cycles most months. Ugly modern and of limited architectural significance. I'd be surprised if they don't leak, are mouldy and cost a fortune to heat and maintain.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	No	I live nearby and am very concerned about these flats. They are not kept well or respected by the residents and a number of high profile crimes continue to be committed in and around these buildings. The layout gives rise to crime as people with malicious intent are able to both get in and out without being observed and people without criminal intent struggle to have positive interactions with their neighbours due to the criminal activity which takes places. If it wasn't for the one council employee / caretaker who cleans the stairwell then the whole place would be disgusting due to the lack of respect for the buildings shown by a number of residents. It is very frightening to walk past these buildings at night especially the stairwells, and whilst there may be low level architectural interest there are far more beautiful and architecturally valuable buildings nearby (the Gillespie Kidd coia churches for example) which the community would be better to focus on preserving. There are a number of houses and flats of architectural significance. Not these ones. It would have been more valuable architecturally to save the halls of residence at St Andrews teacher training college as representative of this style. It's a mess. It's unclean, dangerous and not worth saving.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	Studied at GSA, regularly used the swimming pool at the centre of the estate. I loved how there were always kids playing on the streets around them as it feels like a safe place to live.

				Unique architectural style. Excellent urban design with a mix of mud density housing, amenities, shops, schools and parks all in close proximity.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	They are architecturally unique, and visible when entering Glasgow along the M8. There are no similar examples of such a complete coherent and well kept complex of buildings in Glasgow.
Anonymous	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	No	Several family members lived in this block and surrounding blocks. Gr floor townhouses were ok. The 3 bedroom units with one of bedrooms on gr floor that faced out towards the street were a poor design. These rooms suffered from extreme damp and mold especially with that flat roof. Unsure if this problem was rectified. Upper flats had issues with security especially units that tenants had to come off the corridor and walk down a hidden set of stairs to gain access to their homes. Still a good location with local amenities and good sized accommodation. Most housing throughout the decades has played an important role in all Scottish cities. Albeit some controversial builds that have garnered criticism in later years were groundbreaking at the their time of conception. I just don't think this particular scheme is anything special!
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I was part of a rent control campaign in the flats in 2011 and have friends that stay in them One of the best examples of social housing in the city —hopeful, aesthetically considered spaces that create a real sense of place and community Nowhere else in north glasgow retains 70s flats of this quality

Isabel Garriga	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	After I finished my architecture degree at the Mac, I got my first job working for Gordon Murray and Alan Dunlop Architects (sadly the practice no longer exists) and after 6 months I bought my first flat in Manresa Place and it was directly across one of these wonderful buildings, I lived in maryhill for over 10 years and me and my little cairn terrier Haggis used to walk around all the different gardens, the pedestrian lanes full of terraces, courtyards, playgrounds and raised walkways and bridges. Our living room balcony overlooked one of the large blocks and the motorway behind, the view was amazing, people coming and going up and downs with the constant flow of cars in the distance. Haggis loved staring at the block across the road to make sure the whole neighbourhood heard him bark, I am sure they were relieved when we moved away! The urban spaces between buildings are very well designed, creating different pockets of space with different levels of privacy, sunlight, level changes as well as different ways of accommodating more mundane items such as bins in dedicated brick stores throughout the development. It also appears there is a wide variety of flat types, some even double height. A fantastic project that should be recognised, understood and cherished. it is very special, both because of its intriguing architecture, the restraint with scale and it urban contribution to the city
Callum	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	They are distinct architectural style. Good quality housing.
Andrew Younger	I live there / I used to live there	No	Yes	The homes are structurally damp, two years of examination by an Expert Witness, two years of bodging from the majority owner and previous owners all the way back to Corporation of Glasgow the original owner and the problems of structural damp and condensation from thermal bridging never been resolved. The buildings must be given over to External Wall Insulation as per The McLean Architects report of 2009. Only way resolve the problems and secure the long term future these residential building is to follow the competent route.

				Present majority owner is from past bodges incompetent and failed resolve the problems. They are quirky in their design and internal layout. Also the Balcony walkway although problematic from water ingress flats below (nothing could be resolved from competent management) this feature is rare in modern buildings. Although I note that nearby Napier Street, those flats have a separate walkway to prevent I.E. thermal bridging problems.
Jamie Mason	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I regularly get the bus past the houses on St George's road. They have always interested me as they are unique in terms of the architecture of Glasgow. I always think of the utopian ideals of social housing when I see them rather than the miserable situation we have now They are relatively unique in their design and speak of the utopian ideals of social housing. The welfare state was an important part of postwar Britain which had a large impact on the architecture of the country. I believe this should be preserved to remind people of this impact as in the present there are no large social developments. It's brick construction and design is unique in Glasgow
John Beaumont	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	My gran's house was there and my aunt now lives in the same house. The area had a great sense of community and the houses were good sized family homes. The buildings are unique and are easily recognisable but have been neglected over the years. The lower ground houses have patios which I remember all the neighbours would go out and chat to each other as the kids played until it got dark. The development is set back off the main road meaning kids can safely wander around with their mates and explore. I also went to the local primary school and played around the area with my friends. They should be preserved and the buildings should have investment. It is close to the city centre , has good transport links, two schools, swimming pool, library and green spaces. I hope it sees investment and future families can create the great memories I have.

				They are significant of the era but can be brought up to modern standards - Glasgow demolished many old buildings which should've been preserved , this mistake shouldn't be allowed to continue Yes. It was and still is a great place to live and raise a family. Invest in it and do not raise to the ground and start again.
Jason haggerty	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	Drive past this all the time, lived in the area all my life They are hideous buildings, not architecturally important and nobody would ever spend time going to visit these buildings. They are special in the way that i think they should be brought down. There are so many listed buildings that are beautiful, these simply are not.
Nicole mcmanus	I live there / I used to live there	No	No	They have not been modernised in years , the buildings are not nice looking , the living rooms are drowned out by the trees growing in close proximity to the buildings , the toilets do not have windows It's needs upgraded
Luis Diaz	Other	Yes	Yes	I am a historian of housing in the UK. I study both well-known and lesser-known estates from the point of view of spaces and sequences which affect either a sense of alienation or belonging. The Woodside estate is on my shortlist of case-studies. This type of architecture is significant as a reflection of an approach to solving housing issues that is under-appreciated. Low-rise housing, such as Woodside, particularly those in brick often display an attention to massing, spatial articulation, sense of place and arrival absent from tall blocks and housing designed using pre-fabricated systems. It is important to separate these projects from those that are more generic.

				The massing aims to provide a sense of identification of units, so that on arrival to the estate one can distinquish where one's flat is. The entries to the lower level residences are well-considered, with gaps between low-rise entensions that break the scale down and mediate it with the pavement. The access deck has been kept to only one level avoiding a sense of repetition. The whole design has evidence of appropriate articulation of the building at the bottom, middle and upper levels - a trait maintained from classical architecture. The site layout is well done, with courts and setbacks providing the potention for good urban spaces - these are not currently in the best state and require attention.
Kim Hollis	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	My family, Mum, Dad, Brother and myself, moved there after having to sell our tenement house in Raeberry Street, Maryhill as they were going to be demolished. My parents had to ballot to see what house we got. We lived at [redacted] Braid Square and were all very happy that we were going to live in a ground floor, back and front door, 3 bedroom, 2 toilet/1 bath house. My brother and I were really excited at having our very own rooms. We had a very happy childhood there with a great community feel and lots of friends. They were considered a big step up in living standards when we moved from our run down tenements at that time. The buildings seem to have aged well. I pass them on the motorway and they still don't look out of place or run down, maybe because they're red brick and not concrete or grey.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I know the building when travelling to/from St George's Cross. It is an elegant, well considered design that though somewhat based on the traditional Glasgow tenement takes it forward with a more sculptural form. Unlike the tenements, it is brick built and beautifully done. It sits well in a mixed architectural neighbourhood of traditional tenement, high flats and classically former public buildings. It provide an essential punctuation point to the start of St George's Road from Garscube Road - with the first block set back and a further more powerful one on the street.

				It has been used as the setting for a number of TV shows and short films and is an important (and overlooked) gem of a building.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I'm an observer of the built environment in Glasgow A good example of careful planning and place, using sensitivity in terms of materials used. This block is so beautiful in the setting sun too! A new variation on the tenememtal vernacular
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I have a keen interest in the history of my city and this housing is critical to the city's story in the 20th century. Especially with its close proximity to the motorway. As a young person from Glasgow, currently studying at the Glasgow school of art, I am interested to see how this housing could be integrated and reused as part of a redeveloped Woodside community as opposed to the demolition of modernist neighborhoods at wyndford and sight hill. Post war housing like this is a critical part of Glasgow and Scotland's social history. Almost equally as much as tenements and blackhouses. The housing strategy of the time had many issues but so did the developed driven tenement construction of the previous century. I do not agree that this typology should be in any way frowned upon and disregarded as it so often is. Glasgow is a stone and concrete city and yet this brutalism is red brick. It is unique and sculptural. I think with its proximity to the motorway, this block more than others encapsulates the vision of Glasgow in its era.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I regularly walk pass the development. It's bright and despite is monolithic structure its colourful. It asserts a modern an new approach. People who live there look after the buildings which suggests pride. It adds to an array, a microcosm of design through the ages.

				It promotes an ideology of the time: a new approach to living. However, its structure helps to creat community and a throwback to tenemental living. Modernism, as a design concept, is not a failure in itself; it fails only because of a lack of respect by people who use it. As I walk passed it seems respected to me. It delivers a message of Glasgow's vibrant housing history, which has its own story to tell. It's special because it provides people with a home and a community. It marks a part of housing and social history which must be recognised. It has evolved its own identity and personality. It reflects, not fully, the principles of Le Corbusiere!
Hetty Startup	This is the first time I've heard about the modern housing at Woodside	Yes	Yes	I was in Glasgow for work in the early to mid 1980s. Connected with the Glasgow School of Art and with colleagues who lived in Maryhill by the CR Mackintosh church. Familiar with the architectural history of distinctive housing in this part of Scotland: neo-classical terraces, tenements, etc It is important that large cities like Glasgow with its significant contributions to national arcs of history about 1) industrialization (ship-building/the Clyde) and 2) architecture more generally, but also specifically the Glasgow school designers - have a representation of the different eras of housing design that were chosen for parts of the city. This scheme recalls tenement design and so build on existing traditions of house design. the decorative brickwork and the forms/modeling made by the brickwork in the facades
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	
Anonymous	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Not Answered	Moved in 2007 and lived there until 2013. Still have friends living there. Loved the unusualness

				They talk to large developments that grew in glasgow and lots of others have gone (highrises) The style of the internal two storey living I have not seen a lot of
Anonymous	I've heard about the housing (eg. social media, internet)	Yes	Yes	Walked past it on the way to work and was always impressed by its stark boldness and originality. Its the development of the tenement and walk up housing.
Anonymous	I am familiar with the development from when studying architecture in Glasgow	Yes	Yes	An image of the flats appears on the back cover of Frank Wordsall's book The Glasgow Tenement and the author makes reference to the flats. Presumably he saw it as a return to the more human scale of the tenement following the modern movement high flats. While it is overstating the case to say that it is a precursor to post-modernism (it is essentially in the modern movement), the articulated and playful modelling of the building and it's more human scale in brick points to a rejection of the preceding brutalist and high rise past back to a lower rise. Mass housing with a human scale
Anonymous	This is the first time I've heard about the modern housing at Woodside	Yes	Yes	
Ishbel Leddy	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	Saw it during walk from the canal to Maryhill Road and was instantly struck by its look and wanted to find out more about its origins. It looked to me like architects had tried it design a functional but interesting housing development. I have no idea about what the interior of the flats are like or how they are as living spaces. Scottish architects office. Interesting exposed brick rather than harled as so many post war houses were.

Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I live in St George's Cross area and regularly pass the buildings on North Woodside Rd and in the vicinity of Woodside Pool. My Dad's home was cleared from near Mandresa Pl in the 60's for the motorway. The quite different red brick building must have seem ultra modern and so different to anything else in Glasgow. I love the simple brick artwork at the far east of the blocks on Braid Square. They are quite unique and tell of a time after the majority of tenements were cleared when a bit of forward thinking and innovative design was presented. Unique family homes.
Klaas Wynne	Other	Yes	Yes	Not enough knowledge to say The houses have a very special 1970s style and still look nice. A refreshing change from the usual pebble dashed housing estates
Anonymous	I've heard about the housing (eg. social media, internet)	No	No	HES should not have sites from the 20th century at this time, plus HES has many sites requiring repairs and these should be the priorty so viisitors can visit and not waste money in the sillt endevour
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I work in the architectural industry and first discovered this estate when I first moved to Glasgow over two years ago. Absolutely. Braid Square and the surrounding development is an exemplar of mass modern housing in post-war Britain. It seems as though we as a country have shied away from our modernist past and it would be a shame for this development to go unnoticed, or worse, "regenerated". Modern developments such as this set precedent for the types of homes we strive to live in today. Good spatial planning, natural sunlight, community etc. If only the architecture schools teach this more!

Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I live at the other end of North Glasgow. As a child when i would go to the old Woodside dentist or health centre (which was 2 mins away from these flats), i would know i am going into town with my mum as i would have to walk by these flats. Anytime im on the motorway i know i am almost home when i see these flats, feels like a safe space when you see houses you recognise as it feels like home As it has a rare design of windows, there is none in Glasgow apart from these and the ones in finnieston (i dont know if the finnieston ones have been demolished, used tk be nearby William St Clinic) Theres no housing in Woodside that is the same to anywhere else in Glasgow
Anonymous	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	I lived in this block of flats for the first 12 years of my life. This neighbourhood contributed so positively to the adult that I am today! Everyone knew each other / looked out for each other! All the kids were pals and with each other, I had two best friends that lived next door and two doors down! Our mothers were friends The location allowed me to walk to school, Shops, youth club (before that was taken away due to cuts) I learned how to use public transport because there was so much of it around the area! It would be a massive loss to the community if the building was replaced with mundane ‘luxury’ flats that contribute nothing to society and only benefit international investors! NO MORE LUXURY STUDENT FLATS! Because they contribute to the people of Glasgow! I am who I am because of where I live, the community I grew up in, the people I was surrounded by.

				By replacing existing communities that have been there for years, how does that contribute to anything. All it contributes it to the inevitable landlord that will buy to let! Was my first home!
Anonymous	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	I moved into [redacted] Braid Sq in 2007, I've lived here for the past 7 years. I don't have much historical knowledge about the building, but in recent years I've had to liaise with queens factoring regarding repairs and basic maintenance of the building. This kind of complexes of social housing are a very important part of Glasgow's history, besides, the architecture and design to create community are excellent. I have the fear that if they do not become a listed building they will end up demolished like many other social housing buildings. As I said above, the sense of community is strong and strong diversity. For instance, myself Spaniard, my left neighbour Chinese, my right neighbour Sirian, and my neighbour downstairs Nigerian. All these people are brought together to create a strong sense of community due to the excellent design to create community.
Anonymous	Other (BMJ Architects)	Yes	Yes	Post WWII, Scotland was faced with a major housing shortage and BMJ Architects was commissioned to master-plan and design several large housing developments in Glasgow and Dunbartonshire. In 1963 the practice developed one of Glasgow's largest new housing developments in Pollokshaws, which included the tallest prefabricated building in Europe. This was followed a decade later by a commission from the then Corporation of the City of Glasgow to design a medium-rise mass housing scheme at Woodside comprising two 8-storey blocks containing 203 dwellings

				– mainly maisonette apartments. The scheme included elevated walkways and amenity areas. The design was led by Ninian Johnston, who had taken up employment as an assistant with George A Boswell in 1937. Following war service, which was spent serving in India with the Royal Engineers, he returned to the firm of Boswell Mitchell as a partner. By 1950, the firm had been re-styled Boswell Mitchell & Johnston, and Ninian remained a partner until he retired in 1976. Ninian worked alongside the project Architect and designer Nori Toffolo, an associate at the practice at the time, during a period that stretched to 40 years of service. The Woodside scheme was one of the last major projects that Ninian worked on. The housing was built between 1970 and 1974 by building contractor Leggat. The flats form a very distinctive group of buildings north of the city centre. Their appearance stands out with an air of quiet monumentality, and the use of redbrick in low relief and projecting bays adds a lot of visual interest.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I am a frequent user of the North Woodside pool and I also have a friend who is a resident of the estate and I absolutely adore it. The design, the details, the quality of the built environment and it's reference to a Georgian square in its shape are amazing and unique in Glasgow. It is strangely disconnected from the city by the M8 (as the entire area north of the centre) but it could easily be integrated more and is absolutely worth protecting at any cost. Glasgow experimented with so many types of housing in the 1960s and 70s and many of them were poorly designed and built and have been demolished in the meantime. This is a rare high-quality design in a human scale that can easily be integrated and expanded into the changing city and become a more attractive place to live in the future. It's a rare design and absolutely special, and it is very beautiful.
Holly Marney	I live there / I used to live there	Yes	Yes	I live at [redacted] Braid Square. I'm a property owner. I have lived in this area all my life and this property for 5.5 years.

				The Brutalist architectural style, which emphasises natural light is evident on Braid Square and fits well with the nearby St Columba's church, a notable example of the architectural style. As well as that I believe the formation of the buildings should be preserved, as the square is a green space where lots of children play safely.
Lesley fairley	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	No	No	Modern you surly me damp Unless you take account of the waste of money they are There is no modern housing the high rise across road are 57 yrs old raglan street put my daughter in hospital due to damp mould and now she's in damp 2 bed house with husband and 3 mixed sex kids
Allan Martin	Other	Yes	Yes	I have lived in Glasgow all my life and recall the housing being constructed. I studied architecture at Strathclyde University (1980 -1986) and eventually joined Young & Gault Architects (Y&G) in 1999. Y&G were based at Spiers Wharf and I would often pass the housing at Woodside on my way to/ from work. Following redundancy from Y&G I secured employment with Boswell Mitchell & Johnston, architects of the Woodlands housing and now 'BMJ Architects'. Norrie Toffolo was the project architect for the housing for Boswell Mitchell & Johnston under partner Ninian Johnston. Long before I joined BMJ, I was always impressed by this development. They possess a quiet monumentality and a lot of care has been taken in the design to add visual interest. The medium rise scale and use of redbrick is redolent of the tenements that would have probably stood on the site previously. The variety of surface planes, textures and use of motifs in low relief brickwork on gables gives the development a unique identity. I am particularly fond of the gable with the pierced openings that to me is derivative of Louis Khan. The form is visually striking especially when direct sun light plays across the planes of projecting bays and recessed openings - highlighting a concern for a depth of modelling that is missing in similar developments of the time.

				The development represents an example of a change point in thinking about social housing provision - a move away from high rise back to medium scale and the advent of housing associations, community architecture and community engagement in the design process. I cannot think of a similar development in the city. The massing and form embrace variety of visual expression and a sculptural approach. It represents a response to the grain and scale of the Victorian city that had bee fragmented by the war, slum clearance and creating corridors for infrastructure influenced by the Bruce Plan The influence of world renown architects such as Louis Khan is evident in the use of form, pierced brickwork etc. I also think personally there is a deal of reference to what was happening in similar developments in England e.g. in London under the GLA.
Douglas Robertson	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	Have carried extensive research on tenement improvement in Glasgow over 40 years. Woodside CDA and thus these flats represent a crossroads, where clearance and new build in effect ended, and the tenement improvement / renewal strategy began. I also think the architecture here is interesting if a bit brutal. However, when compared to the Partick CDA, where two freestanding 'fishing village' developments were built Woodside was an attempt at a tenement neighbourhood with that urban mass. That said the landscaping was poor. It was perhaps Glasgow's if not Scotland's only attempt to re-create a modern tenement development within a Comprehensive Cleance Area. So its ambition and design are in my opinion unique.
Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	Friends and also work related. I'm not pretending there were no issues, there always is in such housing estates, but there wasn't the malevolence found in others nearby. The change from the older tenements of Glasgow which were literally slums to try something new.

				Not just new housing but a new look, a new style, a direct contrast to the travesty of the high-rise. As above it provided a view of how alternative housing could be. Not just tenements, high-rise or 4 in a block. It's different.
Malcolm Fraser	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	Muscular and urban - quintessentially Glaswegian It's both traditional, in its tenemental and central courtyard form and romantic masonry, and modern in its deck access, with just enough post-modernism in its restrained decorative use of brick.
Anonymous	Other	Yes	Yes	Have only really become aware of these buildings in the past month. Looking to purchase a property in the area I viewed a maisonette in Braid Square, before having an offer accepted on another maisonette, with different layout, in a similar block in North Woodside Road. Have been really struck by the distinctiveness of this housing - a brutalist design, but in brick rather than concrete. I think the exteriors are visually very striking, and I admire the simplicity and boldness of the design. From what little I've been able to find out, they connect to a time when Glasgow was seeking to improve domestic living conditions and the urban landscape of the city at a time when older buildings were no longer fit for purpose and having a very negative effect on place and people. A bold decision was taken to build something new and different. But these blocks in Woodside are of a more human scale than the high rise blocks, and the colour of the brick is in keeping with the sandstone tenements of the city - and it glows when the sun shines on it! These blocks are so very distinctive in appearance and design. The blocky simplicity of the structure also echoes and complements the more traditional tenements and industrial buildings, but without the flourishes and ornament of older buildings. They are striking in appearance, from different angles. Internally, they provide a balanced and spacious home. The laundry/drying

				areas also are pretty special - not only for those who live there, but as incoporated into the visual appearance of the buildings.
Anonymous	Other	Yes	Not Answered	I can remember my father working on the Woodside Housing project, on his drawing board in the box room at home, when I was in my early teens. Looking over his shoulder at the developing concept sketches was the inspiration for me to enter the profession a few years later. A departure from the more prevalent high rise social housing being developed in Glasgow at the time, the Woodside Housing development draws comparisons to the traditional Glasgow tenement housing of the late 19th, early 20th century and the more positive aspects of that social housing model, unfortunately recognised all too late after the post war housing boom. Broadly following the original street frontages of the buildings which were demolished to make way for the new housing, the form, scale and sense of place presented by the buildings is reflective of the Glasgow tenement model. As is the case with tenement back courts, the courtyards and spaces within and around the Woodside buildings become the focus of resident's social interaction. The relatively restrained, but effective, facade modelling and brick detailing is sufficient to be able to distinguish each dwelling from its neighbour, each side and above and below. A high percentage of the dwellings are provided their own front door accessed from the street, with the ground floor maisonettes having their own small garden, accessed via patio doors. Upper floor deck accessed dwellings have their entrances recessed from the circulation route, providing a zone of defensible space for parking prams and bikes etc.. The above is an observation of the development's Architectural response and contribution to the urban fabric of Glasgow. I have never lived in or near the buildings and, therefore, I cannot comment on the development's success, or otherwise, as a social housing model. If I have a criticism of the development, it would be that there could have been more afforded in the way of soft landscaping and trees within the development framework. However, as a piece of urban design, I think the development has worn pretty well over the past 50 years, if I may say so myself.

				The development is a good example of an appropriate contemporary response to social housing in a traditionally tenemental city.
Kenneth Findlay	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	As an Architect based in Glasgow I have spent many of my early years involved with Glasgow victorian tenement refurbishment housing projects across the city in the drive to retain the character of many varied architectual characters,community and dynamic living spaces which is an essential vibrance known to Glasgow. I have often passed by the Woodside housing development during my design review of St Georges in the Field conversion to a flatted proposal and believe its design and delivery in a changing 1970`s provides a brave modern interpretation of varied community living as a balance to the traditional sandstone tenemental street scape which was under constant threat of demolition in the 70`s. The Woodside design solution,scale and variety of living accommodation is clearly expressed in the modelling of this honest brick building envelope adding visual interest. The arrangement of the individual building blocks connect successfully to the street providing a sense of place between the public and private spaces. Glasgow city contains an extensive number examples of historical unique and modern architecturally expressive public and dwellings that reflects the continued inventive design spirit delivered over a significant growth of the cities commercial and housing character. My opinion is that Woodside housing is clearly a successful example of that inventive and brave design spirit and should be considered as part of Scotlands Heritage portfolio. The development provides a considered well designed solution which is evident by the its strong urban appearance against a varied mixure of recent dwelling properties and open public spaces.

Anonymous	Casual observer (I know the site, eg. I live or work nearby)	Yes	Yes	I have always admired this housing. I am an architect. These flats are a lovely example of social housing where the architect has clearly considered the lives and needs of those who were to live there. This was a rare thing in the era these were designed and constructed. As above these flats have clearly been designed with the end users in mind. A great deal of care, thought and consideration is apparent in the design.
Cameron Sinclair Malcolm	Other	Yes	Yes	The housing scheme at Woodside is a big and bold expression of 20th century modernism. It is unique in that it remains largely unchanged since it was built while most of its contemporaries in the central belt have suffered from ill considered interventions which have had an adverse effect on their character and significance. The quality of the design, detailing and construction of the housing has played a pivotal role in its preservation as it has rendered significant repairs or modifications unnecessary. It is ironic that I ended up working with the scheme's project architect, a creative exponent of this style of Architecture, after having spent my youngest years living in a high rise flat in 1960's Clydebank. When I was seven years old my world was turned from black and white to technicolour when my family were given the opportunity to move from a poorly maintained tenement flat into this new style of living. Witnessing the positive effects that this built environment had on myself my family and my friends in the immediate post war era led to my interest in Architecture and in particular how well designed and constructed buildings can enhance and shape our lives. This is why I consider it is so important that the architectural style of this period is given the same recognition as previous styles and that good examples are preserved.
Docomomo	Other	Yes	Yes	• We are very pleased to see that the Woodside CDA Area B medium-rise complex has been proposed for listing. In terms of architectural and urbanist significance, it represents an important transitional point between the 'high modernism' of late 1950s and 1960s Glasgow mass

				housing and the neo-tenemental housing-regeneration patterns of the 1980s and 1990s. • The blocks, with their distinctly post-modern curved window extrusions and shapes, and their dramatic linking bridge in the middle of the group, are strikingly and creatively different from the more conventionally modernist deck access complexes of the late 1960s, such as Springburn B, Darnley or St Andrews Drive, and their arrangement goes some way towards the 'return to the street' that characterises the later period. • The somewhat 'expressionistic' and post-modernist use of brick, and the turn away from system building towards essentially 'traditional' construction in modern housing, also anticipates the urban renewal projects of the 80s and 90s in areas such as GEAR, the Maryhill Road corridor or the first phases of the Hutchesontown and Crown Street developments. • In terms of its historical, or socio-historical significance, the development also seems to presage the trend of sensitive renewal, if not outright gentrification, of the inner north-west of the city, with new housing interventions: it was built at almost exactly the same time as the beginnings of community-led conservation of the nearby Woodlands area in the early 1970s. • We note that recent refurbishments (for example window replacement) have not lessened or compromised the overall *impact* of the estate which is robust, with characterful use of variation to the elevations. Interest is primarily found in the external massing, an intact plan form and detailing of the estate exteriors - not the interiors of the flats. • Today, it seems fairly clear from contact with local residents that this area is not now one that suffers from significant stigmatisation or urban decay, but is instead distinctly 'coming up' in the world, as something of an extension to the Woodlands and Great Western Road districts - so there can be little argument against the listing in terms of 'ivory-tower' academicism!

Twentieth Century Society	Other	Yes	Yes	The housing blocks are mentioned by name in Williamson, Riches and Higgs' 'The Buildings of Scotland'. The blocks are regarded as uniquely Scottish, and well deserving of place in the country's heritage. They were designed to reference the earlier tenement typology; 'The Buildings of Scotland' views them as "a pioneering attempt to return to the colour and some of the forms (e.g. the oriel windows) of the turn-of-the-century tenement" (The Buildings of Scotland pub. 1990, p. 299). The colour referenced is the pink brick of the blocks, at the time unusual in urban Scottish architecture; the "return" with this colour could be a reference to the red Dumfries and Ayrshire Permian sandstone found across Georgian and Victorian Glasgow, with the unique decision to clad the blocks in exposed brick of a similar shade. Dr Alistair Fair, Reader in Architectural History at the University of Edinburgh, views the housing estate as an early example of post-1970 "new tenement" architecture; a foil to the previous large-scale modernist housing estates found post-war both locally and across the UK, and a modern interpretation of historic Scottish housing typologies. The Twentieth Century Society believes the Woodside modern housing to be special and of significance. This is due to the factors previously provided in the section 'Do you see the housing blocks as part of Scotland's heritage?', as well as other aspects of their original design and current condition. To the best of our knowledge, the layout, plan and intactness of the site do not appear to have been undermined through renewal or demolition; small-scale refurbishment such as window or door replacement do not undermine the general historic qualities of the housing that are on show. The design of the housing here is novel compared to that of earlier CDAs in the inner city, lacking the adoption of Corbusian point and slab blocks in open space found elsewhere in the city's post-war building stock. The development of urban design, and a rejection of earlier modernist approaches, led to a spatial organisation of blocks in a dense, 'urban' pattern with streets and squares. The design is still modernist, but with a "critical view of precedent and a creative approach to context" (Dr Alistair Fair). The design of the facades is playful and deliberate, with projections and curves in window bays, walls, and

				circulatory towers. The buildings are noticeable for maintaining their elevated walkways; the housing is unusual for their retention after the publications of Alice Coleman and the removal of other contemporary walkways across the country. The bright exposed brick found here would become commonplace later throughout Scotland in the later parts of the twentieth century. Its use across the housing blocks is an early example of this material choice. In many ways, these blocks were reactive to the designs of earlier large-scale housing projects, and indicate a criticality ahead of their time.