Glasgow Begging Strategy Annual Report 2023/24 noted.

2 With reference to the minutes of 2nd March 2023 (Print 6, page 612) noting the Glasgow Begging Strategy Steering Group annual progress report there was submitted a report by Councillor Allan Casey, Chair of the Glasgow Begging Strategy Steering Group, regarding the Glasgow Begging Strategy (GBS) Annual Report 2023/24, advising

(1) of the context and challenges associated with street begging that continued to be affected by the ongoing cost of living crisis and other related economic and resourcing concerns, as detailed in the report;

(2) that at a meeting of the City Administration Committee on 30th November 2023 (Print 6, page 25) a housing emergency had been declared due to unprecedented pressures faced by the Council in relation to homelessness and was recognised within the context of the GBS and officers and project partners continued to support efforts to mitigate against the worst impacts of related issues;

(3) that the Glasgow Helps scheme signposted users to support services available across the city and now included connecting people to local organisations who tackled homelessness in Glasgow via the Street Support Network;

(4) of the GBS Action Plan delivery to date and future activity proposals, as detailed in the report and associated appendices; and

(5) of key projects updates and that despite the continued challenges faced over the past 12 months, progress with the GBS remained positive.

After consideration, the committee noted the progress made with the Glasgow Begging Strategy to date and the planned activity for the next year.