

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enquiries from Elected Members</b></p>	
	<b>Responses to Questions</b>
<b>Item 1</b>	<b>Q&amp;A's</b>
Question 1	Bailie Kavanagh asked for clarification on the value of the figures provided for absence.
Answer	The figures provided show the average days lost per employee for the period Quarter 1 to Quarter 3 of 2024-25 financial year. Absence is monitored in terms of average days lost per employee, rather than by other means eg. Percentages or total days as this allows more meaningful comparison both within the council and also with other external organisations. The final figures for 2024-25 are being prepared and will be provided once available.
<b>Item 2</b>	
Question 2	Bailie Kavanagh queried the creation of the Budget Support Fund and its link to the recent changes by Strathclyde Pension Fund to contribution rates.
Answer	<p>There is no link between the reduction in employer contribution rates by Strathclyde Pension Fund from 1 April 2024 and the Budget Support Fund. The Budget Support Fund was established in 2022-23 as a result of accounting regulation changes to provide councils with flexibility on accounting for service concessions. This was approved by City Administration Committee on 23 March 2023. A link to the report is noted below.</p> <p><a href="https://onlineservices.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/viewDoc.asp?c=P62AFQDNZ30GZLUTUT">https://onlineservices.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/viewDoc.asp?c=P62AFQDNZ30GZLUTUT</a></p>
<b>Item 3</b>	
Question 3	Councillor Belic queried para 4.26 in the NRS report on the Tidal Weir and why the works had taken so long to be instructed since the failure of the embankment.
Answer	<p><b>Weir Failure</b></p> <p>After failure of the Tidal Weir North gate in 2017 funding became available in 2018 to carry out repairs. Works to repair the North Gate started 2019 and were completed in 2021. During the works the opportunity was taken to carry out further major investigation of the other two gates. This uncovered issues with these two gates which were out with the original scope of works and cost prohibitive.</p>

	<p>At this stage a decision was taken to seek additional funding for a second phase of the works to ensure the future of the Tidal Weir. £3M funding for the second phase was approved in 2022/23 budget.</p> <p>After a rigorous procurement process a design consultant was appointed late 2023. The works to repair the gate and still allow free passage to boats are complex. In the period between 2023 and the present a major feasibility study was undertaken to develop the best design solution.</p> <p>The detailed design and production of contract documents has been completed.</p> <p>At present we are in the procurement stage working towards appointing a Contractor to start the works on site late this year.</p> <p>The duration of the works will be approximately two years and will ensure the future of the Tidal Weir.</p> <p><b><u>Embankment Failure</u></b></p> <p>After the embankment failure at Adelphi Street in 2017 there was no funding available at this time to repair the banks. Originally it was estimated between six and eight million was required to carry out a full stabilisation and repair. Since the failure of the embankment, the Council has put in place a continuous monitoring regime to check for any further movements on the embankment.</p> <p>This confirmed that the embankment has stabilized and due to this a more cost-effective solution is being developed. The £1M funding for this became available in 2022/23.</p> <p>To reduce the risk of a further gate failure impacting the embankment works they are not programmed to start until the gate repairs are well underway in 2025/2026.</p>
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**This paper will be considered at the start of the committee agenda however requests for clarification on the answers can be made via the committee clerk in advance of the committee meeting.**