

Q.1	Asked by: Councillor Jill Brown
Tabled Question	“The Accounts Commission has criticised the lack of scrutiny around loss-of-office payments to senior officers. Does the City Treasurer accept that, under their watch, a culture of secrecy and lack of transparency was allowed to develop and what steps will they take now to reverse it?”
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>“I welcome the accounts commission’s report, and I note they have welcomed the work we have done to improve the council’s governance and decision making. I regret that, as the commission says, officers did not act in a way that was consistent with the principles of public life in Scotland. The member says we have a culture of secrecy, and a lack of transparency. She may not be aware – it was before her time as it was before mine – but Audit Scotland told us in 2010 that members should approve exit packages for senior officers. The council decided not to enact that recommendation. I am pleased we have now reversed that decision.</p> <p>What steps will we take to reverse Labour’s culture of secrecy? Well, an extensive independent report was commissioned by the council and considered at the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee in March. That report led us to decide, at CAC and here, to amend our scheme of delegations and committee terms of reference to ensure that proposals for senior officer to have access to early retirement or redundancy are considered by a committee of the council.</p> <p>Lord Provost I confess I am bewildered by the fact the member doesn’t seem to know the answer to this question herself. She chaired the committee which first considered this report. The changes we have made were considered by WECCE, by CAC and by full council. Important and significant though Audit Scotland’s intervention is, they say themselves that they have conducted no new primary research, relying on the investigation they praise us for commissioning. She could have asked this question at any time since 2010 and certainly at the many opportunities we have had to discuss this matter this year. I can only imagine she is pretending not to understand this for effect.”</p>	

Q.2	Asked by: Bailie Eva Murray
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant Convenor provide an update on the actions taken to date following the motion passed before the summer recess on Violence Affecting Young People, and outline any planned next steps?”
Responder	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education
<p>“Since the motion on violence affecting young people was passed before the summer recess, we’ve taken swift and focused action across Glasgow’s schools. Tackling violence, discrimination and safeguarding children is a top priority, and we’re working hard to ensure staff are equipped to respond confidently and effectively.</p> <p>We’ve delivered targeted professional learning to upskill staff, including training on the Digital Discourse Initiative, which helps educators challenge harmful ideologies spread online. This work is vital in helping young people recognise and resist online hate and misinformation. Our partnership with Police Scotland has also been strengthened. A new strategic oversight group now supports the work of School Engagement Officers, who are based in most secondary schools. These officers work closely with pastoral care teams to address issues like knife crime, substance misuse and antisocial behaviour, and help divert young people from entering the criminal justice system.</p> <p>We continue to deliver impactful programmes such as Sense Over Sectarianism, which promotes tolerance and challenges hate in upper primary schools, and the Mentors in Violence Prevention programme, now active in 21 secondary schools. This initiative empowers senior pupils to lead peer-to-peer discussions on gender-based violence, consent and healthy relationships.</p> <p>Looking ahead, we’re planning a pilot MVP programme for primary schools to ensure early intervention and positive messaging from a younger age. Our Social Inclusion Officers are working closely with schools to support delivery and embed these approaches into everyday learning.</p> <p>This is a city-wide effort, and I’m proud of the collaborative work taking place across education, police and community partners to protect and support Glasgow’s young people.”</p>	

Q.3	Asked by: Thomas Rannachan
Tabled Question	<p>“To ask the relevant Convenor what discussions have taken place between appropriate departments and officers regarding the increasingly congested programme of roadworks across Glasgow, and what measures have been considered or implemented to mitigate disruption to communities?”</p>
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>“As City Convener, I’m proud to say that Glasgow is seeing a record level of investment in our roads infrastructure - part of the SNP-led Council’s commitment to improving the everyday experience of residents across the city. Roads and transport consistently rank among the top priorities for Glaswegians, and we’ve responded with bold action.</p> <p>This year’s capital budget includes a substantial uplift in funding for road maintenance and improvement works, reflecting the scale of the challenge and the ambition to deliver lasting change. But with investment comes activity - and yes, that means more roadworks. In 2024/25 alone, over 12,600 separate works were recorded across Glasgow, with just over 1,500 directly promoted by the Council. The remainder were carried out by statutory undertakers such as utilities, who have legal powers to undertake works independently.</p> <p>To manage this, we use the Scottish Road Works Register (SRWR) - a national database that coordinates all planned and emergency works. It ensures transparency and helps us minimise disruption by identifying potential conflicts early. Our officers also meet regularly with utility companies and other stakeholders through the Roads Authorities and Utilities Committee (RAUC), where long-term programmes are shared and coordinated.</p> <p>We know how frustrating roadworks can be, especially when they seem to overlap or drag on. That’s why our project teams work closely with operational staff to plan efficiently, communicate clearly, and respond quickly to emerging issues. We’re also exploring smarter technologies to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion during works.</p> <p>Ultimately, this investment is about delivering safer, smoother roads for everyone - whether you walk, cycle, drive or use public transport. It’s a balancing act, but one we’re committed to getting right for Glasgow.”</p>	

Q.4	Asked by: Bailie Kevin Lalley
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant Convenor what consideration has been given to offering discounted Glasgow Life Gym membership to retired Council employees, in recognition of their service and to support their continued health and wellbeing?”
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations
<p>“I appreciate the suggestion to offer discounted Glasgow Life gym memberships to retired Council staff in recognition of their service. Glasgow Life is committed to promoting health and wellbeing across our communities, and our current staff discount scheme supports that aim while also helping with recruitment and retention.</p> <p>At present, the discount is available to employees of Glasgow Life, the Council, and other arms-length bodies. Extending it to retired staff, however, presents real challenges. The scale of potential eligibility is vast, and we don’t have a simple way to verify retired status across all organisations. More importantly, offering further discounts would reduce vital membership income - currently covering around 40% of our operating costs - and could impact service quality.</p> <p>We’ve chosen to maintain a fair pricing policy, with concessions based on ability to pay rather than employment history. That said, we do offer an affordable ActivClub membership at £20 per month, or £12 for those on means-tested benefits, ensuring retired residents can still access high-quality facilities and stay active.”</p>	

Q.5	Asked by: Councillor Jon Molyneux
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on the work being done to ensure that no external contract puts the council at risk of indirectly supporting genocide, and to which committee any changes which flow from this work will be reported?”
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
<p>Following the City Administration Committee’s decision last December, the Council’s procurement and commissioning teams have issued Professional Integrity Certificates to all existing contractors. These certificates require contractors to confirm that they do not exploit assets in illegal settlements, comply with international humanitarian law, and have taken reasonable steps to ensure their supply chains do the same. The certificate is also a standard requirement for any organisation bidding for a Council contract.</p> <p>To date, 950 suppliers have been contacted, with 35% yet to respond. However, when excluding contracts where a certificate may not be required - such as those ending by December 2025 or valued under £10,000 over two years - the CPU reports that only 11% of responses remain outstanding. Among HSCP suppliers, 30% have not yet responded, though many are currently being reviewed as part of a live tendering process, which should reduce this number.</p> <p>The next step will be to issue letters to non-responding suppliers, requiring them to return the certificate within seven days. So far, no contractor has reported non-compliance, and no bidder has been excluded from a tendering exercise due to grave professional misconduct under this process.</p> <p>The Council continues to engage with the Scottish Procurement &amp; Property Directorate, which has advised public bodies to use the updated UN Database of companies operating in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as part of their due diligence. However, the Scottish Government does not receive advance notice of updates to the Database or the suppliers under investigation.</p> <p>Any updates from this work will be reported to the Contracts and Property Committee. If any operational decision is made to terminate a contract or exclude a bidder due to grave professional misconduct, this will also be reported to the Committee for noting.</p>	

Q.6	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	<p>“To ask the relevant City Convener whether they support the continued expansion of the Early Adopter Community Childcare pilot and if they would advocate for further universal expansion of fully funded childcare hours to all children aged between 9 months and 2 years?”</p>
Responder	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education
<p>“Glasgow is one of six early adopter local authorities selected nationally to explore how childcare provision might be expanded for both children under the age of two and school-aged children. This initiative is being driven by a shared priority between the Scottish Government and Glasgow City Council to tackle child poverty. While universal expansion of fully funded childcare for children aged 9 months to 2 years is recognised as a long-term ambition, it presents significant challenges. Care for children under two is substantially more expensive due to higher adult-to-child ratios - one adult is required for every three children - and the absence of an existing universal infrastructure, unlike the system for 3- and 4-year-olds which took five years to expand despite being well-established.</p> <p>Any future expansion would require not only substantial revenue to grow the childcare workforce but also capital investment to secure appropriate accommodation. Current funding is limited, with only £1 million allocated for 2025/26 to support pilot work across both under 2 and school-aged childcare. The Scottish Government has emphasised a community-led approach, encouraging local authorities to work closely with families and providers to understand what models might be most effective.</p> <p>Since April 2024, Glasgow has initiated three key projects focused on children under two. The first involves partnerships with third sector organisations delivering community-based childcare models that include strong family support and high-quality learning experiences. These are being piloted in areas with high levels of poverty. The second is a co-design project led by Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector (GCVS), which has engaged parents in three of the city’s poorest wards - Drumchapel/Anniesland, Southside Central, and East Centre -to understand their aspirations and needs. The third project, led by Starcatchers, takes a child rights-focused approach and is working across the ten poorest wards in the city to explore the lived experiences of very young children in childcare settings, engaging directly with staff, parents, and children.”</p>	

Q.7	Asked by: Bailie Anthony Carroll
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what discussions have taken place with the Scottish Government and third sector partners regarding the prospect of a well-regulated welcome centre to assist our city’s homeless?”
Responder	Councillor Allan Casey, City Convener for Workforce and Homelessness and Addiction Services
<p>“I’ve been working closely with officers from Homelessness Services, who are actively engaging with Glasgow City Mission to clarify their operating model for the coming winter. Our shared priority is to ensure a strong and effective operational interface that supports those most at risk during severe weather. These discussions are ongoing and form a key part of the development of the HSCP’s winter operational plan, which we’re shaping in collaboration with City Mission and other key stakeholders.</p> <p>In addition, I’ve been in direct contact with the Cabinet Secretary for Housing to explore what financial support may be available from the Scottish Government to assist Glasgow City Mission in operating an accommodation-based Rapid Rehousing Welcome Centre. I’ve also reaffirmed the Council’s longstanding commitment to supporting the Mission, particularly through maintaining robust and effective operational collaboration.</p> <p>It’s important to be clear that the Council is already funding an exceptionally high level of emergency accommodation. Redirecting resources to City Mission would not increase the overall emergency capacity - it would simply reallocate existing provision. That’s why we continue to work closely with both the Scottish and UK Governments to secure the level of funding needed to respond to the growing pressures of homelessness across the city.”</p>	

Q.8	Asked by: Bailie Ann Jenkins
Tabled Question	“Given the Herald’s recent report stating that only 11% of the £97 million allocated for cladding remediation has been spent, can the relevant Convenor provide an update on the progress of addressing dangerous cladding on buildings in Glasgow, and clarify the reasons behind the limited rate of expenditure to date?”
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
<p>The funding and implementation of the programme for cladding remediation is the responsibility of the Scottish Ministers and not local authorities.</p>	



Q.9	Asked by: Councillor Stephen Docherty
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant Convenor please confirm why Glasgow City Council is spending millions of pounds transporting waste to external facilities instead of utilising our own?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

“Glasgow City Council does make use of its own facilities to manage waste wherever possible. Our transfer stations and the Material Recovery Facility at Blochairn handle significant volumes of recyclables, and all general household waste is sent to the Glasgow Recycling and Renewable Energy Centre at Polmadie, where it is converted into energy.

However, like many major cities, we do not yet have the full infrastructure required to process every waste stream locally. Some materials require specialist treatment or facilities that are not currently available within the city boundary. That is why we work with accredited external contractors to ensure waste is treated responsibly and in line with environmental standards.

This approach is not unique to Glasgow. London sends much of its residual waste to the Belvedere Energy-from-Waste facility, using barges on the Thames to reduce emissions. Manchester contracts with SUEZ and Biffa for waste collection and processing, with materials sent to facilities outside the city. Liverpool outsources its services to Liverpool Streetscene Services Ltd, and Birmingham sends a significant proportion of its waste to the Tyseley Energy Recovery Facility.

In Glasgow, food waste from flats is sent to Energen Biogas in Cumbernauld, garden waste goes to Levensseat in South Lanarkshire, and some recyclables are processed in Northern Ireland and Yorkshire. These decisions are based on cost-efficiency, environmental impact and the availability of appropriate treatment facilities.

We are investing in the future. The Council has committed to building a new, state-of-the-art facility at Easter Queenslie, backed by £15 million in Council funding and £17 million from the Scottish Government’s Recycling Improvement Fund. This new plant will be operational by 2027 and will significantly increase our ability to process recyclables locally.

Until then, our priority remains ensuring Glasgow’s waste is managed to the highest standards, whether that is within the city or through trusted external partners.”

Q.10	Asked by: Councillor Elaine Gallagher
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant City Convener what is the timeline for NRS to complete the recruitment exercise for the new cleansing and parking warden posts that was scheduled for July?"
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>"The recruitment exercise for new cleansing and parking warden posts, part of the wider investment in over 300 roles across Cleansing, Parks, Parking and Roads, has been progressing steadily since the successful job fair held in late March and early April. That event attracted over 3,000 applications, including more than 300 for parking attendant roles alone. Initial appointments began in June, with Nightshift and Roads teams seeing the first new recruits. By the end of July, 174 of the 346 posts had been filled, and these staff have since been working alongside existing teams in communities across the city. As of now, 90% of posts in cleansing, parks, pest control and roads have been filled, with most staff either fully deployed or completing final induction and training.</p> <p>The most time-consuming part of the process has been recruitment checks, which rely on applicants providing references and documentation. Delays have also been caused by candidates declining offers or failing to attend training, requiring some posts to be re-advertised. This process is still ongoing for a small number of roles.</p> <p>Parking attendant recruitment has proven particularly challenging. Of the 100 posts, only 34 were filled in the first round due to a lack of suitable candidates. A second recruitment campaign is now planned, with posts being re-advertised from 19th September.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the full complement of Local Neighbourhood Clean Teams has now been recruited. Each team - comprising a driver and two operatives - will respond directly to Elected Member requests, tackling issues such as fly-tipping, litter and weeding. Details of how this service will operate will be circulated to all Members by the end of this week."</p>	

Q.11	Asked by: Councillor Alex Kerr
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Treasurer what impact the UK Government's decision to hold their budget in late November is likely to have on the process of setting Glasgow's budget?"
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>"The UK Labour Government's decision to delay the Autumn Statement until 26 November, without any prior notice to the Scottish Government, is deeply disrespectful and shows a complete disregard for the realities of devolved governance.</p> <p>The Scottish Government was given no warning, no opportunity to plan, and no consideration of the consequences. This is not how responsible intergovernmental relations should operate. It is yet another example of Westminster treating Scotland as an afterthought, and it undermines the ability of the Scottish Government to deliver a timely and well-considered budget.</p> <p>This delay has serious implications. The Cabinet Secretary for Finance has already indicated that it is highly unlikely the Scottish Budget will be published before Christmas. That means less time for scrutiny, less time for planning, and more uncertainty for councils, public services and communities across Scotland.</p> <p>Labour's first year in government has been marked by economic instability, rising borrowing costs, and a £40 billion black hole in the public finances. Their refusal to take responsibility for this mess, while clinging to rigid fiscal rules and vague promises, is making a difficult situation worse.</p> <p>Despite this, I am focused on preparing Glasgow for the challenges ahead. We have already begun this work, with the Financial Outlook presented to the City Administration Committee last month. I have convened a cross-party Political Oversight Group to ensure we are ready to respond when the Scottish Budget is finally published.</p> <p>We have a strong track record of delivering balanced budgets in Glasgow. While Labour's mismanagement at Westminster adds to the challenge, I remain confident that we will bring forward a responsible and fair budget for our city."</p>	

Q.12	Asked by: Councillor Eva Bolander
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets for an update on the £7M cleansing investment?"
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>"I'm proud to update colleagues on the impact of the Council's £7 million investment in cleansing services – an investment that's already making a real difference across Glasgow.</p> <p>This funding has allowed us to recruit over 200 new staff into frontline cleansing and parks roles. Following a hugely successful job fair earlier this year, we saw thousands of applications come in, showing just how much interest there is in helping keep our city clean. The first new recruits joined our nightshift teams in June, and by July, they were operating at near full strength - quietly working through the night to ensure our streets are clean and ready for the day ahead.</p> <p>Since then, we've continued to bring new staff on board, with many now fully trained and working alongside existing teams in communities across the city. We've also filled the full complement of our Local Neighbourhood Clean Teams, who are already responding to issues like fly-tipping, litter, and weeding - directly supporting elected members and residents.</p> <p>As I've updated the Chamber, recruitment hasn't been without its challenges, but we've kept momentum going and continue to fill the final few posts.</p> <p>We've also ramped up our communications, with dedicated support from our Comms team to ensure residents see and hear about the work being done. Social media updates are now live, video content is being shared, and we're developing a new web presence to provide ward-level updates and workplans.</p> <p>This investment is a clear demonstration of the SNP's commitment to cleaner, safer neighbourhoods - and I'm confident residents will continue to see the benefits in the weeks and months ahead."</p>	

Q.13	Asked by: Bailie Martha Wardrop
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on the preparations for the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games?"
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council
<p>"Preparations for the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games are progressing well, with major milestones already achieved since the city was announced as host in October 2024. The Organising Committee has passed the "one year to go" mark, launched the official mascot Finnie, and appointed key delivery partners under the new delivery model.</p> <p>A recent visit from the Commonwealth Sport Coordination Committee and Games Associations was a success, with positive feedback on Glasgow's readiness. The Games, running from 23 July to 2 August 2026, will be the UK's largest sporting event next year, featuring 10 sports and 6 para sports across 11 days, welcoming 3,000 athletes from 74 nations.</p> <p>Glasgow's venues - Scotstoun Stadium, Tollcross International Swimming Centre, the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome, and the SEC Campus - are central to the programme. Upgrades are already underway, including a new athletics track at Scotstoun and improvements at Tollcross and the Velodrome.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Life are working closely with the Organising Committee on city operations, venue agreements, and safety planning. Governance structures are in place, including a weekly Programme Board and a Political Oversight Group to keep elected members informed. The first meeting of the POG will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October.</p> <p>Plans for the Glasgow 2026 Games Festival are also advancing. Running from May to August, the festival will blend sport, culture and community, building on the city's existing events like the Merchant City Festival and Glasgow Mela. Glasgow Life is working with national partners to ensure an inclusive and vibrant programme.</p> <p>Importantly, the city remains committed to ensuring no direct public spend on the Games, with robust cost recovery mechanisms in place. Our focus is on delivering a successful Games while maximising legacy opportunities for Glasgow's communities."</p>	

Q.14	Asked by: Councillor Jon Molyneux
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what test the Council applies to assess whether air pollution is prejudicial to health, in order to use statutory nuisance powers under the Environmental Protection Act?”
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery
<p>“I can advise that there is no single test that officers would apply to determine whether any particular set of circumstances amounted to either a statutory nuisance or would be prejudicial to health in terms of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Officers will take into account legislative requirements and relevant guidance to assess the individual conditions of any particular case in their determination.</p> <p>It should be noted that officers may also consider air pollution complaints in the context of other relevant legislation, such as the Clean Air Act 1993, depending on circumstances.</p> <p>The term ‘prejudicial to health’ is defined in the 1990 Act as ‘injurious, or likely to cause injury, to health’ and it could be the case that air pollution may have the potential to be injurious to health in some circumstances. Although the statutory nuisance provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 are not overly prescriptive, officers will take account of relevant legal case law and court judgements that have further defined both statutory nuisance and prejudicial to health definitions over many years in assessing any particular case.”</p>	

Q.15	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant City Convener how local residents are able to access all greenspace available within Cathkin Park?"
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>"Local residents have unrestricted access to all of the park currently, with the exception of the football pitch which is leased to the Jimmy Johnstone Football Club (JJFC).</p> <p>JJFC have recently undertaken significant improvement works to the pitch including the repair of underground drainage and improvements to the root zone of the grass surface to improve the quality of the surface.</p> <p>Having completed the works JJFC have organised an "open day" to which the ward councillors have been invited (Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October @ 10:00). This will – no doubt – be an opportunity to engage the club directly on their plans for access to the pitch including their proposed formal games schedule, during which times public access is prohibited.</p> <p>JJFC have agreed to provide public access to the football surface at other times, however, this will remain under review as the effect this has on the recently improved playing surface is monitored. JJFC are committed to enabling as much community-based activity on the pitch as the surface is able to support."</p>	

Q.16	Asked by: Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what steps the council has taken to create dementia friendly spaces within parks and other community facilities across the city?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>“Creating dementia-friendly spaces across Glasgow is something I’m deeply committed to, and I’m proud of the progress we’ve made in making our parks, venues and community facilities more inclusive and supportive for people living with dementia.</p> <p>Through Glasgow Life, we’ve embedded dementia-friendly principles into our libraries and community venues, all of which now hold Community Partnership Status from Alzheimer Scotland. This means improved layouts, lighting, signage and trained staff - all designed to make these spaces welcoming and accessible. Our libraries also host dementia-friendly activities like Memories Scotland reminiscence sessions and the Be Well+ programme, which supports vulnerable and isolated residents through social and wellbeing-focused events.</p> <p>At Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, we’ve just launched a new season of our Dementia Friendly Music Programme, running monthly until February 2026. These free concerts offer a safe, stimulating environment where music helps reconnect people with cherished memories. We also take performances directly into care homes, with shows like <i>Jack in the Box</i> bringing joy and connection to those unable to travel.</p> <p>In sport, our Dementia Walking Football Programme at Toryglen continues to thrive, thanks to renewed funding from the McLay Dementia Trust. It’s a powerful example of how physical activity, adapted games, and social interaction can enrich lives and reduce isolation. We’re also actively seeking new funding to expand our reach - most recently applying to Age Scotland and the Scottish Government to deliver free concerts in Glasgow’s most deprived areas.</p> <p>Across all of this work, we’re collaborating with partners like Alzheimer Scotland and Playlist for Life to ensure our programmes are well-integrated and responsive to community needs. Our goal is simple: to make Glasgow a city where people living with dementia feel safe, supported, and truly part of the community.”</p>	