

Q 1	Asked by: Councillor Paul Carey
Tabled Question	"Can the relevant City Convener confirm whether any other senior officers have been provided with loss-of-hour payments upon leaving the Council or its ALEOs?"
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>I have assumed that you mean compensation for loss of office, rather than hours.</p> <p>These payments as per the Local Government Accounts Regulations which determine the reporting of information in a Remuneration Report as part of the council's Final Accounts. Senior Officers are determined to be Grade 12 and above. Note that information on all exit packages are reported in the Remuneration Report.</p> <p>Since 2021 3 senior officers have left the council with compensation for loss of office payments and one officer has left an Aleo.</p> <p>Prior to that 2013 was the last time a compensation for loss of office payment was made to a senior officer.</p>	

Q 2	Asked by: Councillor Jill Brown
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant City Convener explain why the Council was unable to demonstrate effective scrutiny, governance, and transparency in its decision-making regarding the exit of five senior officers between 2021 and 2024, as highlighted in the EY annual audit report?”
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council
<p>I’m somewhat surprised that the chair of the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee doesn’t already know the answer to this question, particularly when it’s comprehensively explained in the Brodies and KC reports, which were commissioned by the Chief Executive and presented at the special meeting of FASC, which she chaired, and again at WECCE and CAC.</p> <p>So, as a reminder: proper scrutiny and governance were not possible because key information was withheld from Councillors. Senior officers, and specifically the former Chief Executive, failed to follow the scheme of delegations in place at the time, which required these matters to come before elected members. That is the issue referred to by the EY Audit Report and as Cllr Brown should be aware, since these failures came to light, comprehensive action has been taken to ensure that they can’t be repeated.</p>	

Q 3	Asked by: Bailie Soryia Siddique
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener advise if the City Administration has any plans to restore 24-hour CCTV monitoring?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>There are currently no plans to reinstate 24-hour live CCTV monitoring. However, all cameras remain fully operational and record 24/7. Police Scotland can access and review footage as needed to support investigations and criminal justice proceedings.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council is in the process of finalising a Memorandum of Understanding with Police Scotland, which will allow access to live CCTV feeds outside the current operational hours of 3am to 3pm. Any such access will be subject to a threat, risk, and harm assessment, in line with the agreed terms of the MOU</p>	

Q 4	Asked by: Councillor Thomas Rannachan
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant City Convener advise what discussions have taken place with event organisers at Hampden Park regarding the use of virtual-only ticketing, and what consideration has been given to the potential exclusion of individuals without access to digital technology? ”
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations
<p>To date, there have been no discussions between Glasgow Life officers and Hampden officials about ticketing. All ticketing strategies and commercial decisions for events at Hampden are the sole responsibility of the SFA and their commercial partners.</p> <p>Glasgow’s Community Learning and Development Plan (2024–2027) acknowledges the impact of digital poverty and commits to supporting those most affected. Glasgow Life and partner organisations will continue delivering digital skills training and support to ensure everyone can access digital learning and essential online services.</p>	

Q 5	Asked by: Councillor Elaine Gallagher
Tabled Question	To ask the relevant City Convener advise how the Council is upholding its agreed duties from the Council motion of 22nd June 2023, to protect the rights of transgender and non-binary people from the impact of the culture war and hostile anti-LGBTQ+ environment?
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council
<p>It was clear at the time of your original motion that the climate for LGBTQ+ people—especially trans people—was becoming increasingly hostile. Sadly, in the time that has passed, that environment has not improved. In fact, recent legal decisions and public discourse have only intensified the pressure and fear many trans people feel. We recognise that this is not just political — it is personal and painful, and it has real consequences for people’s safety, dignity and rights.</p> <p>We are determined to be an ally and to act. Since your motion was passed, we have been working to move from words to tangible progress. The LGBTI Forum has been re-established, chaired by Bailie McTaggart, and has become a valuable space for listening, learning and engaging directly with LGBTI communities. This forum is actively involved in shaping the city’s Equalities Outcomes and ensuring lived experience is at the heart of our policies.</p> <p>A dedicated subgroup of the Forum is exploring the creation of a physical LGBTQ+ hub in Glasgow — a safe, inclusive space for community building, support and celebration. Discussions with City Property and partners are ongoing, and the energy and commitment from community members involved in the process is deeply encouraging.</p> <p>We also continue to prioritise inclusive education. Our partnership with the TIE campaign is helping ensure our schools are places where all young people — including trans and non-binary pupils — feel safe, seen and supported. From professional development for staff to citywide events like ALLIES and Pride Lite, this work sends a clear message to young people: you belong here.</p> <p>Beyond education, Glasgow Life is working to promote trans inclusion across culture and sport, ensuring that city venues, events and services are accessible and welcoming to trans individuals. Our equalities teams are also supporting frontline staff to better understand the realities faced by trans residents and how to respond with empathy and respect.</p> <p>We know that symbolic gestures are not enough. Trans people across the UK — and here in Glasgow — are being targeted and marginalised. The Council is committed to standing with our trans communities not just in principle, but through ongoing and practical action. We remain resolute in our belief that Glasgow should be a city where everyone can live authentically, safely, and with pride.</p>	

Q 6	Asked by: Councillor Jon Molyneux
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Treasurer what progress has been made in exploring how Glasgow’s Common Good funds can support an annual civic fireworks display?”
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations

Glasgow Life previously estimated that reinstating the traditional free Civic Bonfire Night fireworks display would cost around £330,000. This figure reflects the scale of the event — accommodating 25,000 people — and the need for a high-quality display. Safety and security requirements are a major factor in these costs.

Currently, Glasgow Life is exploring the feasibility of delivering a similar event within a reduced budget of approximately £100,000, potentially through the Common Good Fund. The event would still be free to attend, take place around Bonfire Night, and aim to deliver meaningful impact and quality.

This work is nearing completion but remains challenging. Safety and security costs are still substantial and may leave limited funding for a display of adequate scale.

Glasgow Life will report the outcome of this assessment within the next two weeks.

Q 7	Asked by: Councillor Cecilia O'Lone
Tabled Question	"Can the relevant City Convener advise what discussions have taken place with Lidl to encourage them to locate to Dalmarnock ?"
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
<p>Lidl has been in talks with GCC Planning and Property for several years about a store at Springfield Road/Dalmarnock Road. Original planning permission was granted in 2022, and an amended application for a larger store was approved in October 2024, pending further ground contamination testing. Lidl is working to meet remaining conditions and aims to begin construction soon.</p> <p>Though the site is outside a designated town centre, it is seen as suitable for a supermarket because it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalizes a vacant site • Benefits the local community by meeting shopping needs • Is centrally located near residential areas with good public transport • Supports sustainable design and energy efficiency <p>The planning service continues to work with Lidl, Aldi, and other supermarket providers on their long-term plans. The Council's Food Plan highlights areas lacking access to fresh food, an issue being addressed in the City Development Plan.</p>	

Q 8	Asked by: Councillor Donna McGill
Tabled Question	“To ask the Council Leader what efforts they are making to secure recognition of, and support for, the specific challenges faced by Glasgow in regard to housing pressures in the city with the UK Government?”
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council
<p>Glasgow faces a combination of housing pressures that are unique in the UK and I've repeatedly asked UK ministers to come to Glasgow and witness first-hand the impact of their decisions, which within a very short space of time turned long-standing but well-managed pressures into a crisis.</p> <p>And I want to be clear that while that crisis has been caused by changes to the way the Home Office processes asylum decisions, asylum seekers and refugees are not the cause of the challenges we face – the cause is a failure of Westminster policies. Glasgow has for many years been the largest asylum dispersal authority in the UK and we remain firmly committed to being a place of sanctuary, dignity and welcome for those who have fled war, persecution and hardship. The contribution of people seeking asylum and refugees to our communities is real and meaningful. The challenges we face now are structural and demand a fairer, better funded and more coordinated response from the UK Government.</p> <p>The continued over-reliance on Mears properties, the lack of effort to expand provision elsewhere in Scotland, Glasgow's world-leading homelessness duties, and a failing asylum system have created intense pressure. As a result, the city spends tens of millions of pounds annually on hotel and B&B accommodation — often unsuitable for long stays — simply to meet basic needs.</p> <p>Despite this, Glasgow continues to propose improvements, including becoming a pilot for local authority-led asylum accommodation, delivering support that is safe, effective and compassionate. We've consistently argued that people seeking asylum should be allowed to work — to reduce hardship, provide dignity and support our economy. And we continue to engage constructively, even if this isn't reciprocated. No UK Government minister attended the recent roundtable hosted by the Scottish Refugee Council with the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice. Furthermore, the Minister for Asylum cancelled her planned trip to Glasgow at the last minute. That kind of political absence makes progress really difficult, yet we stand ready to engage and continue to reach out.</p> <p>Let's be clear: asylum seekers and refugees should not be used as political pawns. They are people, many fleeing unimaginable trauma, and they deserve safety, dignity and opportunity. Glasgow will always stand up for their rights and push back against policies and rhetoric that dehumanise and divide.</p>	

Q 9	Asked by: Councillor Dan Hutchison
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant City Convener if they agree that the reduction of bins in parks is causing more loose litter in our city parks?"
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>As part of a strategic review of waste collection across Glasgow City Council's parks, a significant overhaul of the bin infrastructure was carried out. While some parks have seen a reduction in the number of physical bins, the overall waste capacity has increased through the installation of larger, more efficient bins. These new bins are strategically positioned at park entrances and along main pathways, reducing the need for vehicles to reverse within parks, improving both operational efficiency and safety.</p> <p>Feedback from park users and assessments conducted by council officers indicate that this change has not led to an increase in litter. In fact, the strategic placement of larger capacity bins at key access points has likely improved waste management. By reducing the number of vehicles reversing within parks, this new approach significantly enhances safety, particularly for families with young children and other park users who may not always be aware of vehicle movements.</p> <p>In addition to improving safety, the new waste collection system has delivered several other key benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety: The reduction of reversing vehicles within parks minimizes risks to pedestrians, enhancing the overall safety of park visitors. • Carbon Reduction: Fewer vehicle movements within parks help to reduce the carbon footprint by cutting down on vehicle travel time and fuel consumption. • Cost Savings: Optimized collection routes and the use of larger bins contribute to reduced operational costs, allowing for more efficient resource allocation. • Sustainability: By modernizing the waste infrastructure, the council is taking a more sustainable approach to waste management, reducing environmental impact. • Improved Park Appearance and Cleanliness: Larger bins reduce the risk of overflow, keeping parks cleaner and more aesthetically pleasing for visitors. • Community Engagement: The bin locations were determined based on a combination of data, user feedback, and footfall information. Regular monitoring and public feedback allow for continuous improvements in the waste collection system. • Long-term Infrastructure Investment: The new bins are designed to last longer and require less maintenance, ensuring a more reliable and durable waste management solution for parks. • <p>This investment reflects Glasgow City Council's commitment to improving park facilities, enhancing the user experience, and contributing to environmental sustainability. Through these changes, parks across the city are becoming cleaner, safer, and more efficiently managed, benefiting both residents and visitors alike.</p>	

Q 10	Asked by: Councillor Sharon Greer
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener why Council Taxpayers are facing rising bills while Glasgow is branded Scotland’s pothole capital, with over 9,200 open reports?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>Glasgow City Council is committed to maintaining its nearly 2000km urban road network, which faces constant challenges due to heavy traffic. The latest data from the Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS) 2024 shows that 70.8% of the city’s roads are in an acceptable condition, outperforming the Scottish average of 65.9%. To further improve road quality, the Council has adopted a risk-based approach to pothole identification and repair, aligned with national guidance in the Roads Safety Inspection and Repair Policy.</p> <p>As part of this approach, Council officers conduct routine Safety Inspections and Road Condition Inspections to identify and categorise potholes for repair. The public can also report potholes via the Council’s website, which are then assessed and prioritised based on risk. ‘Actionable’ potholes, classified as high risk, are repaired quickly, with the highest-risk potholes addressed within one working day.</p> <p>The Council aims to complete repairs for actionable potholes within 55 working days, with temporary fixes followed by permanent solutions on busy roads. Lower-risk potholes, while sometimes appearing to be left for longer, are incorporated into future maintenance programs to ensure cost-effectiveness and lasting repairs.</p> <p>Recent efforts have yielded significant results: Over the past two years, the Council has seen a 19% reduction in overall pothole reports and a 28% reduction in actionable potholes. From 1/04/23 to 31/03/24, there were 35,800 pothole reports, with 13,226 classified as actionable. From 1/04/24 to 31/03/25, those numbers decreased to 29,164 and 9,474 actionable reports, respectively.</p> <p>The Council’s Roads Investment Strategy focuses on optimising road maintenance, targeting areas with the most need and providing both preventative and corrective treatments.</p> <p>With an additional £20M capital investment over the next three years – utterly dwarfing what Labour put into their budget - the Council plans to carry out over 1000 road resurfacing projects and 350,000 sq metres of patching. This investment is expected to raise the percentage of roads in acceptable condition to 78.3%, further reducing the number of potholes on Glasgow’s roads.</p>	

Q 11	Asked by: Councillor Sharon Greer
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Treasurer what is the Council's current position on the Visitor Levy consultation, and how might any revenue be used?"
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>In January, the City Administration Committee approved moving forward with a formal consultation on a Visitor Levy Draft Scheme. The consultation ran from 7th February to 2nd May 2025, reaching a wide range of stakeholders and the public via the Council's Consultation Hub and social media channels.</p> <p>Responses are now being reviewed to inform a final report with recommendations on the levy. The Draft Scheme proposed investment in three key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Operations and Infrastructure • Culture & Events • Destination Marketing and Management <p>The final report will provide an update on feedback received for these proposed areas.</p>	

Q 12	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	" To ask the relevant City Convener what action is being taken to ensure trans and non-binary people are still included within sport within schools and grassroots community groups?"
Responder	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education
<p>Education Services are committed to ensuring all children, including trans and non-binary pupils, can participate in physical activity and sport in schools and communities. Our approach prioritizes equity, respect, and safety, aiming to create welcoming environments where all young people thrive.</p> <p>Key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed-gender sport in primary schools to encourage early inclusive participation. • Secondary initiatives like the PEPASS girls' netball league, with over 600 pupils, including trans girls. • Super 7s, allowing young people to compete based on gender identity. • Gender-neutral Gymfest and Floor & Vault events. • A fully inclusive citywide dance programme promoting positive gender inclusion. • Open sports leadership pathways for all pupils, regardless of gender identity. <p>We ensure safety by following national and sport-specific guidelines. Non-contact sports are fully inclusive, with more specific regulations for competitive levels.</p> <p>We work closely with schools to support trans and non-binary pupils, ensuring they engage in sport in line with their identity. We continue to challenge cisnormativity in schools, advocating for policies that respect and validate trans identities while staying within legal standards.</p> <p>This includes addressing any school practices or policies that may inadvertently perpetuate exclusion or invisibility for trans and gender-diverse students. Our goal is to create a truly inclusive environment where LGBTQI+ young people are celebrated, feel safe, and are free from stigma, bullying, or microaggressions. We remain dedicated to supporting and amplifying their voices in our schools, ensuring they are seen, heard, and valued.</p>	

Q 13	Asked by: Councillor Ken Andrew
Tabled Question	<p>“To ask the Council Leader to comment on the recent news that Glasgow has been included in the list of Europe’s top cities, that we’re one of only two UK cities to have been awarded EU Mission Status and that several city projects have been shortlisted in the 2025 Scottish Transport Awards?”</p>
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council
<p>Thank you, Cllr Andrew and of course I’m absolutely thrilled that world-leading consultants Resonance have again recognised what’s great about our great city. After ranking us 61st in the world’s best cities, this month they’ve named us the 28th best in Europe. Make no mistake colleagues, these rankings are noticed. They have impact. Resonance is used to inform major global investment decisions and uses robust metrics to measure us against competitors. There’s two things which really please me about our latest recognition. The first is what Resonance says about us. That we’re an authentic, affordable, educated, cultured and hospitable city of working-class values. And secondly, yet again we’re ranking above our competitors down the road. Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Birmingham are once again in Glasgow’s shadow.</p> <p>Mission City is no less significant. It recognises our continuing strides to being a healthier, more sustainable city and brings us together with our European peers similarly committed to the climate agenda. Along with our friends in Bristol, we’re one of only two cities in the UK to secure Mission Status, something which has the potential to open new funding streams to take forward our climate action. And I’m sure the vast majority of colleagues in this Chamber will welcome Glasgow having formalised connections with our friends across the European Union. And added to this is the shortlist of the city-wide projects in the Scottish Transport Awards, not least the pioneering Connecting Woodside project in Cllr Andrew’s ward. And I’m sure all colleagues will be hoping that the transformational work undertaken in neighbourhoods like Woodside is recognised with a win.</p>	

Q 14	Asked by: Councillor Abdul Bostani
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Treasurer to update the Council on developments into the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee report into the outcome of an Independent Review into Exit Packages of Former Senior Officers at Glasgow City Council?”
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>The independent investigation commissioned by the Council's political leadership confirmed that the enhanced pension awarded to the former Chief Executive, Annemarie O'Donnell, was not lawfully authorised. At the time of her departure in 2024, the Council was required to make a payment — known as a 'strain on the fund' — of around £300,000 to Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF) to enable immediate pension access.</p> <p>However, in recent weeks, the former Chief Executive contacted both SPF and the Council to seek an arrangement whereby she would be treated as if she had simply left on normal pension terms. This resulted in two key repayments: first, any additional sums paid to her since she left have been repaid to SPF; and second, the strain on the fund has been repaid to the Council by SPF. These actions return the financial position to what it would have been under a standard retirement, and the appropriate disclosures will be made in the Council's accounts.</p> <p>While we welcome her decision to repay the money and forgo future payments, it is deeply regrettable that this episode occurred in the first place. It is only through the diligence and persistence of the SNP Group and the current City leadership — alongside Council officers — that we have reached this outcome.</p> <p>I am pleased that we have made the changes today to the scheme of delegations which ensures that this can never happen again.</p>	

Q 15	Asked by: Bailie Martha Wardrop
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Convener for Housing what work is taking place with housing associations to gather data on under occupied homes across the city?”
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
<p>Analysis from Scotland’s Census 2022 by NRS shows that three-bedroom homes have the highest levels of under-occupation across all tenures, with 6.6% of social sector homes under-occupied by 2+ rooms. DWP data reveals that 13,863 working-age tenants in Glasgow are receiving a 14% rent reduction due to under-occupation, and 2,026 tenants face a 25% reduction for under-occupying by one or more bedrooms.</p> <p>In 2024, NRS relaunched the Citywide Housing Transfer Incentive Scheme, aimed at helping households under-occupying larger family homes in the social sector move voluntarily to homes better suited to their needs. Since the relaunch, 6 moves have been completed, freeing up family-sized social housing, with 27 additional applications currently being processed. This initiative has been further promoted through Local Letting Community meetings with NRS and HSCP, ensuring under-occupation is highlighted and the incentive scheme is actively encouraged to help meet housing needs across the city.</p>	

Q 16	Asked by: Bailie Anthony Carroll
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what representations have been made to the Scottish and UK Governments in securing capital funding for any future options agreed after Summer recess towards a long term future of Whitehill Pool?”
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations

As city convenor and chair of Glasgow Life, I regularly engage with national and central governments for financial support for sports and cultural services in Glasgow, given their significant social, health, and economic value.

Whitehill Pool, along with other Glasgow venues, is part of a broader national review of Scotland's sports facilities, commissioned by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care. sportscotland is leading this comprehensive review, assessing the condition, accessibility, and distribution of facilities. Glasgow Life is actively contributing to ensure the city's needs are addressed in this national context, which will help shape the future of an Active Scotland.

Glasgow faces challenges in maintaining and upgrading sports facilities due to rising costs and strained local authority budgets. The national estate review, concluding by the end of 2025, will establish a baseline of available facilities and inform future investment decisions.

In 2023, the UK Government allocated £80m through the Swimming Pool Support Fund to help English pools at risk of closure or high energy costs. Unfortunately, no similar funding has been provided for Scotland.

At the Dennistoun meeting, the discussion focused on transport for Whitehill Swimming Club members, not the wider public. We agreed to engage with the Club to better understand their needs and explore transport options, with progress expected in the coming weeks.