

Q.1	Asked by: Councillor Rashid Hussain
Tabled Question	<p>"Will the Leader of the Council join me in welcoming the UK Labour Government's £280 million investment in Scotland through the Pride in Place programme, which includes millions of pounds for Glasgow, as well as the additional £12 million investment via the Pride in Place Impact Fund, from which Glasgow will receive £1.5 million?"</p>
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council and City Convener for City Region Economy and Just Transition
<p>While any investment in Glasgow's communities is welcome, we must be honest about the limitations and challenges this programme presents.</p> <p>The UK Government has confirmed that two Glasgow neighbourhoods will receive up to £20 million each over the next decade, targeting areas with high deprivation and weak social infrastructure. But we know that Manchester, Liverpool and Leeds each getting twice that amount and Birmingham is three times as much. Once again, Glasgow is being short-changed by a UK government. £41.5 million spread over 10 years will make little material impact for a city of our size. Once again, it seems we are being expected to join Labour in welcoming crumbs from Westminster's table, rather than standing up and demanding a fair share for our city</p> <p>It is also still unclear whether this is genuinely new money or whether it will be top-sliced from the successor to the Shared Prosperity Fund. If it is, that would be deeply damaging to a wide range of vital programmes, including our innovation districts and our work to tackle the climate emergency.</p> <p>The funding also comes with significant strings attached. Capital allocations should come to the Council in a way that allows our elected Members to make decisions based on the needs of our communities. Instead, for this programme, the final selection of neighbourhoods and the list of approved interventions will be decided by the UK Government. Officers are working at pace to prepare a shortlist for CAC next week, but the timetable is extremely tight. The requirement to establish new Neighbourhood Boards – while they might sound like a nice idea - also risks duplicating existing local governance and bypassing this Council's democratic structures.</p> <p>While the programme's stated aims – building stronger communities, creating thriving places, and empowering people – reflect our own priorities, the top-down approach and lack of local control are deeply concerning. Glasgow's communities deserve investment shaped by their own needs, not imposed from Westminster.</p> <p>We will do everything we can to maximise the benefit for our communities of this limited and constrained funding pot, but we will also continue to challenge the UK Government's approach and demand fair, locally led investment that respects Scotland's devolved institutions and Glasgow's leadership.</p>	

Q.2	Asked by: Bailie Soriya Siddique
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant Convenor provide an update on the actions taken to date following the motion Women's Safety Motion in April 2025, and outline any planned next steps?”
Responder	Bailie Anne McTaggart, City Convener for Communities and Equalities
<p>The composite motion passed by the council in April contained around 15 separate actions or items, largely to be completed by colleagues in NRS or Education.</p> <p>I understand around 9 are tracking green, a further 4 are amber and two are not yet begun.</p> <p>Rather than go through each item in detail here, I'm happy to ask the Chief Executive to share details with all members.</p> <p>In addition to the actions set out in the motion, officers have been working with members on procuring personal safety alarms and I know Bailie Siddique has been helping officers with their work on that.</p> <p>The period for members to indicate if they wanted a personal safety alarm closed last week and I understand that around 60 alarms will be issued to members next month.</p>	

Q.3	Asked by: Councillor Robert Mooney
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant Convenor provide an update on staffing levels within the People Make Glasgow Communities Team, and outline what impact any reductions have had on the delivery of community empowerment objectives and venue management support?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>There are currently four full-time officers within the Property Asset Management Team dedicated to the People Make Glasgow Communities (PMGC) process. This team is supported by officers in Glasgow Life, Legal and Administration, and the Corporate Community Empowerment Team.</p> <p>Since its launch in February 2021, PMGC has received around 850 expressions of interest. Approximately 65% relate to specific facilities, with the remainder seeking property in particular areas. Around 73% of these have now been closed. Following the initial surge in interest, demand has stabilised, and staffing levels have been adjusted accordingly.</p> <p>At its inception, the PMGC team included 10 members—four full-time GCC staff, five graduates, and one secondee from Glasgow Life. The graduates played a key role in developing processes, templates, and the website. With these now embedded, their roles concluded, and the current staffing reflects the ongoing workload. The Glasgow Life secondee is no longer required, with support now provided through existing GL structures.</p> <p>The pace of progress is largely determined by the capacity of community organisations to mobilise, secure resources, and establish appropriate governance. The PMGC process has successfully enabled several groups to take on operational responsibility for assets, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park Villa Community Sports Hub</li> <li>• Queens Park Sports Pavilion</li> <li>• Barlia Sports Centre</li> <li>• Geoff Shaw Community Centre</li> <li>• Nethercraigs Sports Complex</li> </ul> <p>While staffing has reduced from the initial set-up phase, the current team continues to support community empowerment objectives and venue management. The programme continues to play a vital role in enabling local organisations to take meaningful control of assets, helping to strengthen neighbourhoods and build long-term capacity across the city.</p>	

Q.4	Asked by: Councillor Cecilia O'Lone
Tabled Question	<p>"To ask the relevant Convenor to explore with Glasgow Life that the recent artefacts from the excavation at Spoutmouth in the Gallowgate are included as a display within the redevelopment of the Peoples Palace, to further document the city's social history taking us back to medieval times?"</p>
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations
<p>Spoutmouth at Gallowgate is a medieval site. There is a standard process across Scotland about what happens to the artefacts discovered during any archaeological dig.</p> <p>Artefacts from excavations in Scotland (as well as chance archaeological finds) have to go through the Scottish Treasure Trove system as a legal requirement. These artefacts are reported to the Scottish Treasure Trove Unit by finders/commercial archaeological companies/university researchers, etc. If they are claimed as Treasure Trove, they are advertised to Accredited Scottish museums to allow them to submit a written application for the excavated material.</p> <p>As the Gallowgate site is within Glasgow Life Museums' core geographical collecting area for Archaeology, the Museum team, through the Archaeology Curator will submit a written application for this material when it goes through the Scottish Treasure Trove system.</p> <p>Other museums may consider submitting an application. However, it is up to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel to recommend which museum the artefacts are allocated to, and they inform the King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer (The Crown's representative in Scotland) of their recommendation. The KLTR makes the final decision on museum allocation.</p> <p>Regarding display of artefacts from this Gallowgate site as part of the re-development of the People's Palace, the Peoples' Palace Team, are aware of the dig and, as part of the project development, will consider including some of the artefacts. Provand's Lordship explores medieval Glasgow and is also an opportunity to display some of the artefacts.</p> <p>Sometimes the Scottish Treasure Trove process can take a while (sometimes years). It is possible to make a special application can be made to the Treasure Trove Unit to borrow items in advance of their allocation to a museum, for display purposes.</p>	

Q.5	Asked by: Bailie Martha Wardrop
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant City Convener when rent controls will be introduced in Glasgow?"
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
<p>The Housing (Scotland) Bill 2025 was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 30 September and is now awaiting Royal Assent. Once enacted, the legislation will give councils new powers to assess rent conditions and recommend areas for rent control designation where necessary to protect tenants' social and economic interests.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council will be required to submit its first rent condition report to Scottish Ministers by 31 May 2027. This report must set out whether the council recommends any part of the city be designated as a Rent Control Area. If Ministers agree that rent controls are justified and proportionate, an eight-week public consultation would follow before regulations are laid to formally designate the area.</p> <p>This means rent controls could be introduced in Glasgow from late 2027 at the earliest, subject to thorough assessment, consultation, and ministerial approval.</p> <p>The Bill sets out a framework for rent regulation, including a cap on annual rent increases at Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1%, up to a maximum of 6% in exceptional cases. These controls would apply both during tenancies and between tenancies in designated areas.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council officers are actively involved in the Scottish Government's Rent Control Working Group and have expressed interest in being a pathfinder authority. Discussions are already underway on how rental data will be collected and analysed, and how systems will be designed to support the new assessment process.</p> <p>This is a significant step forward in tackling affordability pressures in the private rented sector, and Glasgow is committed to playing a leading role in shaping and delivering fairer housing outcomes for tenants across the city.</p>	

Q.6	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	<p>"To ask the relevant City Convener whether they think it is acceptable that trans people in Glasgow are waiting, as has been reported through a Freedom of Information request, 224 years for their first NHS Gender Clinic appointment and what action is being taken to help reduce this waiting time to a more reasonable standard?"</p>
Responder	Councillor Cunningham, City Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Older People
<p>Thank you, Councillor Bruce, for your question. Unfortunately, I can't give a direct answer at this stage because the source of the data and how it was interpreted to arrive at a waiting time of 224 years isn't clear. I'm happy to look into this further if more details become available.</p> <p>What I can confirm is that, as of the end of September, there are 4,098 people waiting for their first appointment. The Sandyford Clinic's own website shows waiting times of around seven years for Adult Gender Services and six years for Young People's services. Let me be clear: six and seven years is far too long, and both I and the HSCP are committed to reducing these waits. But, to state the obvious, those figures are a long way from the 224 years mentioned in your question.</p> <p>There are several reasons behind the backlog. First, Sandyford is one of only four services in Scotland, yet it covers 59% of the Scottish population. Demand massively outweighs available resources. On top of that, there's been an unprecedented rise in demand, which means we've had to focus on managing internal waiting lists. That inevitably affects how quickly new patients can be seen.</p> <p>Recruitment is another challenge. Staff turnover is low, but very few people apply when posts are advertised. Although the service has received an extra £500,000, this funding is non-recurring, which limits our ability to recruit permanently. We are in continual discussion with the Scottish Government about additional resources.</p>	

Q.7	Asked by: Bailie Christy Mearns
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener when Glasgow’s universal free public transport pilot will commence and how many Glasgow citizens will benefit from free public transport during this time?”
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery
<p>The free public transport pilot is set to launch in early 2026, involving 1,000 residents. With the scope of the study commissioned by the Council and previously reported to committee, the pilot aims to explore how free access to public transport affects travel choices, access to services, and participants’ overall wellbeing.</p> <p>In line with the scoping study previously undertaken, participants will receive SPT Zonecards covering all of Glasgow for a study period of up to seven weeks. The pilot is designed to gather robust data, and is split into two cohorts, with a broad Representative Group and a Pathfinder Group focusing on those facing particular barriers. NHS Glasgow is supporting this strand, offering participants and analytical expertise.</p>	

Q.8	Asked by: Councillor Zen Ghani
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Treasurer does he welcome the sixth annual Understanding Child Poverty in Glasgow report and how devolved policies such as the Scottish Child Payment have contributed to overall lower levels of poverty, as compared to the rest of the UK?”
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Treasurer and City Convenor for Financial Inclusion
<p>Let us be clear. Glasgow City Council's Sixth Annual Understanding Poverty Report does not shy away from the facts. It shows progress, yes, but it also shows the scale of the challenge we face. One in three children in our city still lives in poverty. That is unacceptable. But unlike some, we are not standing still. Our understanding of poverty is deeper and more data-driven than ever before. Through the Centre for Civic Innovation, we are combining hard evidence with lived experience to design services that meet the real needs of families. Poverty in Glasgow is not one-dimensional. It is tied to insecure work, disability, housing costs and the rising price of essentials. Tackling it requires joined-up action across public, voluntary and community sectors.</p> <p>And let us give credit where it is due. Devolved Scottish Government policies are making a measurable difference. The Scottish Child Payment, now £25 per week per eligible child, is one of the most effective anti-poverty measures anywhere in the UK. It is lifting thousands of children out of relative poverty. Alongside that, Best Start Grants, Best Start Foods and Discretionary Housing Payments are reducing pressure on household budgets. Expanded funded childcare is helping parents, especially women, to work or train. Scotland has also mitigated the worst impacts of UK welfare reforms, including the bedroom tax, giving vulnerable households some stability.</p> <p>These policies strengthen Glasgow's own anti-poverty strategy. Our approach is aligned with the Scottish Government's Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan. We share a commitment to a whole-family approach and a no wrong door principle. Together, these measures are improving wellbeing, reducing hardship and laying the foundations for long-term change.</p> <p>But let us not pretend the job is done. High housing costs, in-work poverty and the cost-of-living crisis remain huge obstacles. Meeting Scotland's statutory target of reducing child poverty to below 10 per cent by 2030 will require continued investment and collaboration. That is the reality.</p> <p>So, when opponents talk about poverty as if it is a political soundbite, I say this: we are delivering real solutions. We are working with partners. We are fighting for families. And we will keep pressing Westminster to do its part, because austerity and regressive policies like the Two-Child Benefit Cap make our work harder and keep children in poverty. Glasgow deserves better. Scotland deserves better. And we will not stop demanding it.</p> <p>I have said before and I will say again: the delay in setting the UK budget is not just an inconvenience, it has real consequences for Scotland and for Glasgow. And it is not only the delay, it is the political choices being made in Westminster.</p> <p>We hoped the Two-Child Benefit Cap would be scrapped. Those hopes were crushed within weeks of the new UK Government taking office. The Autumn Budget piled on more pressure, hitting families hardest, especially those with disabilities. Add to that the hike in National</p> <p>..../</p>	



Insurance Contributions, which is draining resources from councils and the very organisations on the frontline of tackling poverty. Essential services are being put at risk.

Let us be honest. The next budget is unlikely to bring compassion from a government wedded to austerity. Fiscal responsibility matters, but responsibility does not mean punishing the poorest. The Chancellor must stop policies that pit pensioners afraid to heat their homes against children growing up hungry.

Rachel Reeves has a choice. She can restore confidence, rebuild capacity and break free from the tired orthodoxy that has held Britain back. Councils are not a burden, they are a solution. We can build homes, drive growth and improve life chances. Public investment is not a drain, it is a foundation for stronger communities and a healthier economy.

I am ready to write to the UK Treasurer and Glasgow MPs to make that case.

Q.9	Asked by: Councillor Blair Anderson
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Treasurer, in light of the upcoming devolution of further flexibility on council tax surcharges, how many second and empty homes, and how many homeless households, there currently are in Glasgow?”
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Treasurer and City Convenor for Financial Inclusion
<p>Thank you for your question, Councillor Anderson.</p> <p>I can confirm that there are currently 4,443 in temporary accommodation in Glasgow. Of this figure 1961 are being accommodated in hotels and B&amp;B.</p> <p>Council Tax records indicate there are 8,562 unoccupied properties across the city. Of these, 2,715 have been empty for up to six months – many of which are temporarily vacant due to ongoing refurbishment or repair work.</p> <p>A further 1,967 properties have been empty between six and twelve months, while 1,588 have been vacant for over a year. These longer-term empty homes are subject to the Council Tax premium.</p> <p>Since 2017, our Empty Homes Team has successfully brought 2,982 properties back into use – including 463 homes since 1 April this year alone.</p> <p>We’re actively deploying the £11 million in acquisition funding we’ve received, which has already enabled 117 homes to be brought back into use. In addition, we’re making strategic use of Compulsory Purchase Orders. Since 2019, the Council has promoted 74 CPOs in partnership with Registered Social Landlords, helping to return these properties to productive use as affordable housing.</p> <p>Earlier this year, we contacted 2,500 owners of long-term empty homes to highlight the support available to help bring their properties back into use. Nearly 300 owners responded, and our officers are now working through these cases to identify opportunities for collaboration.</p> <p>This is a proactive and sustained effort to tackle empty homes and increase housing supply in Glasgow – and we’ll continue to use every tool available to make progress.</p>	

Q.10	Asked by: Councillor Jill Brown
Tabled Question	“Can the Convenor explain why a Council-owned property in the Botanic Gardens has remained empty since 2021 and is only let out for 45 days a year via Itison, rather than being brought into use to help address Glasgow's housing crisis?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>The property in question, located within the Botanic Gardens, forms part of the Council's Common Good estate.</p> <p>It is also subject to a Fields in Trust agreement which were put in place by Labour in 2016. Both frameworks place legal and practical limitations on how the land and buildings can be used, particularly in relation to residential development, and with a wider view of protecting community access to green space.</p> <p>Property officers continually assess the Council's estate to identify assets that could help address Glasgow's housing emergency. However, potential use must ensure the property can be suitably separated from its surroundings and provided with secure, independent access and egress. In this case, overnight access to the park presents a significant constraint, alongside the legal protections already in place.</p>	

Q.11	Asked by: Bailie Anthony Carroll
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Treasurer when the City's Capital Board will consider Whitehill Pool's business case?"
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Treasurer and City Convenor for Financial Inclusion
<p>Officers from Glasgow Life, supported by the Council's Property Team, have been working on an options appraisal for Whitehill Swimming Pool. The facility has remained closed since the Covid pandemic due to a range of issues including the condition of the pool plant, heating and ventilation systems, underground services, and more recently, the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC).</p> <p>A range of options is being considered, and a detailed appraisal will be presented at the next meeting of the Capital Planning Board. This paper is not yet a full business case, but it will outline potential routes forward and the estimated costs associated with each.</p> <p>The aim is to ensure elected members are fully informed of the challenges and opportunities, and to highlight the potential impact on the Council's wider capital programme should significant investment be proposed.</p> <p>Any decision to invest in Whitehill Pool will be subject to the Council's budget-setting process.</p>	

Q.12	Asked by: Bailie Linda Pike
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets to provide an update on the recent Gambling Summit hosted in Glasgow?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>I am delighted to report back on the Gambling Summit, I recently hosted “Standing Strong for a Safer Scotland”, building on efforts first launched at a development day in Shettleston over six years ago.</p> <p>Organised by the RCA Trust in collaboration with numerous partners, including Glasgow Life, Fast Forward, GamCare Scotland, Gamble Aware, Cyrenians, Simon Community Scotland, and the John Hartson Recovery Workshop, the summit aimed to advance community-wide strategies against gambling-related harm.</p> <p>Since the initial 2019 meeting and a subsequent two-day summit in 2021, recognition of the connection between gambling harms and issues such as debt, depression, suicide, homelessness, and other addictions has grown substantially among Scottish service providers. The summit brought together over 250 people and a diverse range of stakeholders—community leaders, service providers, researchers, policymakers, and those directly affected—to exchange expertise and reinforce combined efforts to prevent and mitigate gambling harm.</p> <p>Participants heard about Simon Community Scotland’s toolkit to address gambling harms and ALIA, a website developed for women by women experiencing harm from gambling. Other speakers included PFA Scotland, the collective voice for football players in Scotland, speaking about industry links; Govan Youth Information Project on gambling’s targeting of young people, and the University of Glasgow Gambling Research Group study highlighting gambling-related harm in retirement and the experiences of those indirectly impacted.</p> <p>The Scottish Government, a key supporter of both Summits, were also speakers and spoke of their commitment to approaching gambling as a public health issue with a focus on harm reduction, working alongside the UK Government, which holds the main responsibility for gambling regulation under the Gambling Act 2005. Unfortunately, no UK Government representative took part.</p>	

Q.13	Asked by: Councillor Jill Pidgeon
Tabled Question	“Can the Relevant Convenor provide details on capital investment in the school estate, specifically clarifying how much of this is allocated to maintenance rather than new or upgraded infrastructure?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>Glasgow's school estate has benefited from sustained capital investment over the past two decades. In 2013, the Council launched the 4Rs programme, delivering £255 million for new primary schools and early years facilities, alongside major refurbishments. This ensured no pre-12 establishment remained in poor (C or D) condition.</p> <p>In 2017, a further £50 million was allocated to continue upgrading the learning estate. This supported the construction of new schools including Blairdardie, Carntyne and North Kelvinside Primaries, and funded extensions at Hillpark, Lourdes, St Andrews, St Mungo's, St Paul's and St Thomas Aquinas. Eight additional schools received refurbishment investments of over £1 million each, with further capital interventions across the estate. Successive budget uplifts have increased this investment to £74 million.</p> <p>More recently, £37 million has been committed to the new Gaelic Medium Education school at the former St James' Primary site and the redevelopment of Linburn Academy.</p> <p>As part of the 2025 to 2028 budget, a further £7 million has been allocated to ensure our schools remain in good condition. This funding is being used for significant capital interventions across the estate.</p> <p>Repairs and maintenance are funded through the annual revenue budget managed by NRS. Capital funding is strictly used for works that enhance or extend the life of assets.</p>	

Q.14	Asked by: Councillor Audrey Dempsey
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant City Convener please update us on what plans, if any, they have to ensure female only homeless accommodation is available for those vulnerable women and girls seeking safety as a result of Glasgow's ongoing and rising housing emergency?”
Responder	Councillor Allan Casey, City Convener for Workforce and Homelessness and Addiction Services

Glasgow's Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) recognises the gendered nature of homelessness and the specific vulnerabilities faced by women and girls. We are absolutely committed to ensuring that safe, appropriate accommodation is available for those seeking refuge and support.

Currently, HSCP directly provides two women-only residential supported services. In addition, we commission several more through trusted third sector partners. This network of provision is designed to reflect the diverse needs of women experiencing homelessness, and we continue to work closely with voluntary and statutory partners to strengthen it.

As part of the “All In for Glasgow” Wayfinder Phase 2 programme, we are reviewing all purchased residential supported services. Gender-specific provision will be a central focus of this review, ensuring that women's safety and dignity remain at the heart of our approach.

Beyond supported accommodation, we have access to over 2,400 temporary furnished flats, which are regularly used to house women in need. While emergency accommodation such as hotels and B&Bs is still used in some cases, we work proactively with partners including Police Scotland, third sector organisations, and accommodation providers to put robust safeguarding measures in place.

In one such site, we have created a dedicated space for families and vulnerable women, with tailored support available. We have also invested in staff training to deepen understanding of trauma and its gendered impacts, and recently reviewed our approach to supporting women and children affected by domestic abuse.

We are clear that mixed-gender accommodation is not ideal for many women, and we are working to reduce reliance on it. Demand continues to exceed capacity, but our response is evolving, and we are determined to ensure that women and girls in Glasgow have access to safe, respectful and empowering accommodation when they need it most.

Q.15	Asked by: Councillor Thomas Kerr
Tabled Question	<p>"Can the City Convener for Communities and Equalities update the Chamber on what engagement she has had with the Scottish Pantry Network, based in my Ward, which has had funding previously agreed by this council withdrawn putting vital services at risk?"</p>
Responder	Bailie Anne McTaggart, City Convener for Communities and Equalities
<p>During the pandemic, officers in Financial Inclusion worked closely with the Scottish Pantry Network on a proposal to use Covid funding to support food provision. Their proposal was to do this at a site outwith the city boundary, which was an additional factor to be considered.</p> <p>At the time, the Council believed it had identified a way to make this funding available and advised the organisation accordingly.</p> <p>Unfortunately, further due diligence revealed that it was not possible to provide the funding in the way originally planned. This was deeply regrettable.</p> <p>We recognise that there was a lack of communication and engagement with the Scottish Pantry Network on this matter, and the Chief Executive has already apologised. I also want to add my own apology that we were unable to make this project work as intended.</p> <p>Officers in Economic Development continue to engage with the organisation to explore any future funding opportunities they may be eligible to apply for.</p>	



Q.16	Asked by: Bailie Anthony Carroll
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what review of the Council’s apps has taken place to ensure that we see improvements during our procurement of digital services?”
Responder	Councillor Greg Hepburn, City Convener for Open Government and Council Business Manager

In September 2023, the City Administration Committee approved the Council’s Road to Multi-Source Strategy, known as R2MS. This is a big step forward in how we deliver digital and ICT services.

The strategy breaks our services into five areas, which we’re moving to procure in phases as we transition away from the current provider. These are:

- Network Services
- Compute and Storage Services
- Service Desk
- Digital Workplace Services
- Applications and Data Management

Since April this year, we’ve been working under a multi-source model. We now have two Managed Service Providers in place: Commsworld for Network Services, which was the first tower to be procured, and CGI for the other four towers.

On 18 September, the Contracts and Property Committee approved the award for the second tower – Compute and Storage Services – to DataVita. Planning is already underway to make sure the transition is smooth and the exit from the incumbent provider is well managed.

The Applications and Data Management tower isn’t due for re-procurement yet, but we’re reviewing the entire applications estate to keep it current, secure and fit for purpose. That estate is huge, with more than 700 applications used across the Council Family.

Under R2MS, we’ve invested heavily in modernisation. We’ve strengthened infrastructure resilience and introduced advanced performance monitoring tools to make sure applications run smoothly.

This work will continue and will give us valuable insight when we move to re-procure that tower in late 2026 or early 2027.

Our goal is clear: to build a digital environment that is robust, agile and ready to meet the needs of our staff and the citizens we serve.