

## PETITION FOR CONSIDERATION

ITEM NUMBER	DATE RECEIVED	PETITION TITLE AND PETITION STATEMENT	WARD(S) AFFECTED	TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURES
1	4th December 2025	<p><b>“Whose Glasgow Green”</b></p> <p>Glasgow Green is a cherished publicly owned space managed by the City Council. This petition concerns use of the Green for commercial events, focussing first on the 2025 Christmas Hub on the Green, but then on the wider context of increase frequency of events across the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Christmas Hub. No local consultation took place before this event was announced in the press. We receive no clear information about the type of event, which seems to be primarily a fairground. Moving it from George Square in the city centre places it in an otherwise quiet residential area.</li> </ul> <p>We find the proposed duration (November into January) unreasonable, as well as 10 till 10 daily opening hours. We ask the Council to reconsider and limit these arrangements to mitigate the noise and other disruption to the area.</p> <p>The Green is or should be primarily a recreational space for the people of Glasgow. However, events held in 2025 have already limited public access and disrupted movement in the area for extended periods of time while events are set up and dismantled. We call on the Council to share future plans for <b>all</b> proposed events through timely advance consultation with</p>	9	86

	<p>residents and their representatives, and to take account of their views. At present we feel disregarded and fail to see any balance between the adverse effects of events and any benefits to the local community.</p>		
	<p><b>Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition as follows:-</b></p> <p>“Members of Calton Community Council have, over recent years, attended engagement sessions with the City Council and DF, in the case of TRNSMT, about forthcoming events, primarily TRNSMT but also the Orange Walks and the World Pipe Band Championships that impinge on open public use of the Green.</p> <p>For TRNSMT we have joined the pre-event site walk-round</p> <p>We have also joined the online debrief sessions for TRNSMT, which are held several months after the event.</p> <p>No minutes or record of these meetings have been issued, though some notice has been taken of our concerns.</p> <p>The first indication that the Community Council and residents had of the forthcoming, and now happening, Christmas Hub, or Winter Wonderland, was in the press in early September.</p> <p>On 10 September, NRS Events Team issued an email outlining the forthcoming Winter Offering.</p> <p>This was discussed briefly the following day, Thursday 11 September, at the regular, monthly meeting of Calton Community Council at which no Ward Councillors were present.</p>		

	<p>See excerpt below:</p> <p><b>“8. Local Issues, Noticeboards, Litter-Picking and Elections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair attended meeting at the People’s Palace on future use of the museum.</li> <li>• Noticeboards: Charlie Kleboe-Rogers to liaise with Meabh Bradley.</li> <li>• Parking: Concerns raised about parking on Glasgow Green (impacting cycle lanes), Millroad Drive (blocking pavements), and commuter parking issues, MB to check restrictions and provide contacts.</li> <li>• Community Council elections: Applications open for new members.</li> <li>• Christmas 2025 Winter Village: Proposed for Glasgow Green, 30 Nov – 7 Jan (10am–10pm). Concerns raised over use of the Green instead of George Square.</li> <li>• Public toilets on Glasgow Green currently cost 20p (card payment); expected to become free by summer 2026.</li> <li>• Litter-picking: 12 bags collected on Millroad Street. Community team has completed 7 actions from local lost with work ongoing.”</li> </ul> <p>On Friday 12 September, CCC chair wrote the following email to Glasgow City Council:</p> <p>Subject: Re: Christmas Hubs 2025 (OFFICIAL)</p> <p>Hello,</p> <p>Thank you for forwarding the information below, which was discussed at the Calton Community Council meeting yesterday evening.</p> <p>This is a new venture that is proposed for Glasgow Green and, as such, it</p>	
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	<p>would have been politic to have discussed it in advance not only of your email but of press releases, with the people who live near Glasgow Green and in the surrounding community. Instead we have an email that appears to be a done deal, although we heard yesterday that a final decision has not been made. Perhaps you can clarify the status of this proposed event?</p> <p>You state that the event will be held on 39 consecutive days, with the attractions open for 12 hours each day, which is certainly the longest any event has been held for. This is a residential area.</p> <p>We have many questions that we hope you will answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Where in the Green do you propose the event be held?</li><li>2. What is the total ground area of the Green that you propose to be used?</li><li>3. Will the event be only on hard standing, or will it extend on the grassed areas?</li><li>4. If the latter, what arrangements will be made to protect the grass?</li><li>5. How many days of set-up do you envisage?</li><li>6. Similarly, how many days for take down are you planning for?</li><li>7. What hours of work will these 2 operations be limited to?</li><li>8. Do you envisage the Winter Hub being enclosed by a fence?</li><li>9. If so, do you propose an entrance charge, which will, of course, exclude some people?</li><li>10. What level of noise will be heard within the adjacent residential properties and how will this be monitored?</li><li>11. Many people commute regularly through the Green, either on foot or by bike. Will all the roads/pathways through the Green be left open for public use?</li><li>12. Likewise, numerous people use the Green every day for walking, with or without a dog, for running and for playing ball games on the grass. The</li></ol>	
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	<p>playparks in the Green are well-used too and there are walking tours within the Green. Will any or all these activities be affected in some way?</p> <p>13. Will there be any changes to the use of the roadways adjacent to the Green as there is for other events?</p> <p>14. No doubt the City Council will charge the Concession Holder for use of the Green. Will there be a direct financial benefit to the people in Calton, via the Community Council or otherwise?</p> <p>While there are people in the area who will welcome such an event, particularly in a more pleasant environment than, say, St Enoch Square, there appears to have been no consideration of the people whose homes overlook the Green. These people are already faced with a high wooden wall of a fence during TRNSMT, or camper vans outside their homes for other events, additional parking outside their homes, restricting access as well as roads being used by coaches, delivery vehicles etc.</p> <p>I look forward to your comprehensive and timely response. Many thanks and best wishes Tricia Fort Chair, Calton Community Council”</p> <p>On 15 September, this reply was received:</p> <p>Hi Tricia</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence regarding the proposed Winter Hub at Glasgow Green.</p> <p>First and foremost, I want to apologise unreservedly for the delay in engaging</p>	
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	<p>with the community on this matter. We recognise that residents and local groups should have been informed well in advance of any public announcements or press coverage. The timing of the procurement process, particularly the closed scoring of tenders, limited what could be shared publicly. However, this does not excuse the lack of early communication, and we are truly sorry for the frustration and concern this has caused.</p> <p><b>Current Status of the Event</b></p> <p>Glasgow City Council is currently considering a recommendation to award the contract for the Winter Hubs through our Contracts and Property process. The proposed Winter Hub at Glasgow Green would run from 30 November 2025 to 7 January 2026, as part of a broader festive programme that also includes St Enoch Square.</p> <p>This new approach follows a strategic review of the city's festive offering and the temporary closure of George Square for refurbishment. The Winter Hubs are intended to be family-focused, inclusive, and community-oriented, combining commercial, civic, and cultural elements.</p> <p><b>Response to Specific Questions</b></p> <p><b>1. Location within Glasgow Green:</b> The exact footprint is still under review. Final placement will be determined through the licensing process and in consultation with relevant agencies. Main area used will be the west side of the 'Green' from McLennan Arch to Nelsons monument</p> <p><b>2. Total ground area:</b> This will be confirmed as part of the Temporary Public Entertainment Licence (TPEL) application, which will include detailed site plans.</p>	
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	<p>3–4. <b>Use of grassed areas:</b> If any grassed areas are used, appropriate ground protection will be required under these conditions. A monetary bond for reinstatement damage will be in place.</p> <p>5–7. <b>Set-up and take-down:</b> These operational phases will be time-limited and subject to conditions set by Environmental Health. Working hours will be restricted to minimise disruption.</p> <p>8–9. <b>Fencing and access:</b> No perimeter fencing will be in situ, but some specific areas may be enclosed for safety and operational reasons. While certain attractions may carry a charge, the event will include free-to-access elements, including a Community Hub.</p> <p>10. <b>Noise levels:</b> Noise will be monitored and controlled under TPEL conditions. Environmental Health officers will assess and enforce limits to protect residential amenity.</p> <p>11–12. <b>Public access and daily use:</b> The Council is committed to maintaining access to key paths and recreational areas, therefore no planned closed pathways Any temporary restrictions will be clearly communicated, with alternative routes provided where necessary.</p> <p>13. <b>Roadway changes:</b> whilst we do not anticipate any road closures for this event, any changes to surrounding roads will follow standard event traffic management protocols and will be shared with the community in advance.</p> <p>14. <b>Community benefit:</b> While the Council will receive income from the concessionaire, our approach to community benefit goes far beyond financial considerations. It is rooted in active inclusion, meaningful engagement, and shared value. The Winter Hub is being designed to ensure that local residents and community groups are not just spectators, but participants, access free</p>	
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	<p>and inclusive activities. Our goal is to encourage a festive environment that reflects and celebrates the local community, supports wellbeing, and strengthens connections across the city.</p> <p>Once the event operator is officially confirmed, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Share full operational details, including site layout and timings.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Host community engagement sessions to gather feedback and address concerns.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Work with the concessionaire to ensure the event is delivered in a way that respects and supports the local community.</li></ul> <p>Warm regards Frankie O'Rourke Group Manager- Neighbourhood Liaison &amp; Events”</p> <hr/> <p>As of today, 12 November, the bullet points above have not been met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> We do not have full details, including working hours for set-up and takedown, eg noise level limits, contact details</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> There have been no engagement sessions</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> The concessionaire has already blocked an access to the Green with no signage or alternative route during construction.</li></ul> <hr/> <p>The Winter Offering was again discussed at our October Public Meeting: see the, as yet, unapproved minutes (our November meeting is tomorrow), 13 November, but this is an excerpt. Both Councillor O'Lone and Bailie Pike attended the meeting:</p>	
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	<p><b>“Local Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Issues – the use of Glasgow Green and the failure of GCC to speak to local residents before they decide what's going on           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ MoP – wanted to raise the issue of the Xmas hub whatever it might be – there has been a complete lack of transparency of what is being planned</li> <li>◦ Increase in events over the year</li> <li>◦ Noise, pressure on roads, parking and access to the Green</li> <li>◦ The Green should be an open space for everyone for their leisure and this is being edged to the side for events for profit for private organisations</li> <li>◦ This comes back to what was mentioned before – we don't know what this brings to the council – if this were filling council coffers it might be different</li> <li>◦ There is also an impact on local businesses, people come to spend at the event and they don't spend in local businesses</li> <li>◦ MoP - I moved to Glasgow a couple of years ago – prior to that I lived in Liverpool. I am shocked by the lack of local democracy, the remoteness of GCC, not being available or contactable – this is very negative and has a negative impact on people caring about their own neighbourhood. I don't know what actions could be proposed, we need local councillors to be talking to us and to be accessible, we need to be talking to other groups and other groups e.g. Glasgow Life, we need to consider if petitions can have an effect, how do we improve the situation so that we are not presented with fait accomplis and our needs disregarded?</li> <li>◦ TF – I am happy to write to Francine O'Rourke about this and us being told that the event is taking place</li> <li>◦ Linda Pike as far as petitions are concerned – the CCC can submit, a MoP can submit a petition</li> <li>◦ Q – TF - is this on the city website? We can use private organisations, or we can submit to the city council via the website –</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>we have to ask the GCC if we can issue that petition? TF this is how the city councils petitions work – it has to be approved by the council before it goes on to the website – or you can use for example - change.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o The city council site has to be someone who lives in Glasgow – would the council approve a petition to be published that criticises it?</li><li>o Linda Pike – chairs the committee who considers petitions – as a community council you don't need to get signatures – the hub will be the same as the George Square market it's just being relocated because George Square is closed – I don't think it is affecting the local businesses</li><li>o People do spend money locally</li><li>o Allan Scott – I work for the council as an enforcement officer - I am involved in 'policing' St Enoch and George Sq events at Xmas – what is being held at the Green is much larger than what is usually held at the Square – for example, the ice rink will be double the size, for 37 consecutive days from 10 in the morning to 10 at night</li><li>o There are all the different things that are on at the Green – the longest thing that is on at the Green is the shows during the (Glasgow) fair</li><li>o To put this on for 37 days without telling people is shocking</li><li>o MoP – you have said this is happening and the contracts have only been given out – I am not totally against it but I think that they have made it very plain that it is going to be on a much larger scale and it is going to detract from it being about Xmas – particularly at this time of year, it is Xmas for us and we want access to the local park and the local green – there is nothing clear to say that we are going to be able to access the green – no guarantees that we won't be expected to pay – you should have looked at the scale and it will not benefit the city or the taxpayers. It's important that we get it right</li></ul>	
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	<p>for the people that live here – reiterate the lack of transparency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Q - CCC are you able to pass some motion about this? No.</li><li>o TF – we will get a small group of people together to submit a petition and as well as putting it forward we can put signatures on this</li><li>• Cecelia O'Lone – this is what I was going to speak about in the councillors report section – I have raised a concern about the number of events on the Green and the spread of the events – including one event where cars were parked on the Daisy Park on the grass – I have raised that there is a lack of consultation in the community, that these events were happening every weekend for 6 weeks during July and August. I have raised it, and I have a meeting next week – why are the local community not consulted and how can we manage the community and their way of life during these events?</li><li>• Linda Pike – to answer a couple of questions – there are no hoardings round the Xmas market – TF we have no details about what is happening about this market. We had an email saying that this was about to happen and that is it</li><li>• Laura Scott – I find it astonishing that the CCC will get a notification about one trader setting up one stall at the Doulton fountain and we get NO notification of an event of this size</li><li>• <b>ACTION - Arthur McJimpsey and MoP to look at the GCC website to craft a petition to submit about this</b></li><li>o Arthur McJimpsey – I joined because I stay facing Glasgow Green and the noise is getting beyond a joke and I have considered moving away as have many others on the block</li></ul> <hr/> <p>A “permission to use” letter for the event was issued on Monday 03 November, which was clearly incorrect. An updated version was issued just after midday on Tuesday 04 November, several hours after construction activities began on the Green.</p>		
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	<p>On 30 October, an online debrief was held about the summer's TRNSMT was held, attended by the MoP referred to above and a member of the Community Council. At this meeting, tentative arrangements were made for an in-person meeting with Frankie O'Rourke. This was firmed up over the next few days and a meeting was held on Wednesday 05 November with Frankie O'Rourke and Andy McColl of NRS at their Glasgow Green office.</p> <p>To ensure structure to the meeting, Calton CC provided the agenda and has circulated this record:</p> <p><b>"Meeting on 5 November 2025 to discuss the planned Christmas Hub on Glasgow Green</b></p> <p><b>Attended by GCC representatives Frankie O'Rourke and Andy McColl, Calton Community Council members Tricia Fort (Chair) and Arthur McJimpsey, and local resident Jo Shoba</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2025 dates.</li></ul> <p>Set up start requested from 3 November, agreed as 4 November. Public end date 4 January. Open daily 10 am to 10pm except Xmas day. Derigging to be complete on 11 January. Daily pre servicing on site from 8am. Public to be off site by 10.30pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monitoring and control.</li></ul> <p>GCC Events team on site throughout. Spot checks by GCC licensing team. Telephone line to GCC Noise team open, but complains line logged in first instance by organisers.</p>	
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	<p><b>Layout</b> from Needle west. Market stalls on riverside. All hard standing within Green will be available for a recreational walking and cycling. Public open access to site, not ticketed, no fencing off. Free entry toilets.</p> <p><b>*GCC reps agreed to provide residents with a site map.</b></p> <p>Information is also available on Glasgow Life and organisers' website</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Safety/security</b> There will be an increased police presence. Stewards employed according to ratio agreed in licensing conditions.</li><li><b>2. Alcohol and food licensing.</b> A single Temporary Public Entertainment License covers the site. Noted that Calton Community Council has not had sight of this.</li><li><b>3. Noise.</b> Legal noise limits apply. See above: residents who complain by phone will be speaking to event organisers direct. Generators for ice rink and fair rides will be adjacent to residences on Greendyke Street; no information was given on legality of this siting ie whether permitted distances apply; also no information on operating hours of generators.</li><li><b>4. Travel.</b> There will be no road closures and on street parking will be as normal, monitored by traffic wardens. The Golden Z Walking Trail will be open from 20 November, and is to encourage the public to attend the hub on foot via the Saltmarket and McLellan Gate entrance to Green. No additional cycle racks will be provided.</li><li><b>5. Plans beyond 2025.</b> George Square unavailable 2025 and 2026. GG Hub contract awarded for two years (not three as reported in press). Commercial profitability key factor in continuation beyond 2026. The value of the current contract was not disclosed.</li></ol> <p><b>Glasgow Life</b> is lead on winter events throughout the city and responsible for public consultation, eg Xmas fairs.”</p>	
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	<p>Please note: at the time of the meeting, there was no site plan available, but information given at the meeting led to the view that generators would be positioned close to neighbouring flats.</p> <p>A schematic site plan was issued on Monday 10 November, which allays this concern, although the build-up is not yet complete.</p>		
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