

MINUTES
OF
GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL.

Hybrid meeting, 26th June 2025.

Present: The Lord Provost, Jacqueline McLaren (Chair).

JAMES ADAMS	LAURA DOHERTY	NORMAN MacLEOD
SAQIB AHMED	STEPHEN DORNAN	ELAINE McSPORRAN
SUSAN AITKEN	SEAN FERGUSON	ANNE McTAGGART
IMRAN ALAM	ELAINE GALLAGHER	LEÒDHAS MASSIE
BLAIR ANDERSON	MARIE GARRITY	CHRISTY MEARNIS
KEN ANDREW	ZEN GHANI	ANGUS MILLAR
ALEXANDER BELIC	ALLAN GOW	MALCOLM MITCHELL
RICHARD BELL	WILLIAM GRAHAM	JON MOLYNEUX
DECLAN BLENCH	SHARON GREER	ROBERT MOONEY
EVA BOLANDER	GREG HEPBURN	MARGARET MORGAN
ABDUL BOSTANI	FIONA HIGGINS	EVA MURRAY
PHILIP BRAAT	SEONAD HOY	CECILIA O'LONE
JILL BROWN	MHAIRI HUNTER	JILL PIDGEON
HOLLY BRUCE	RASHID HUSSAIN	LINDA PIKE
BILL BUTLER	DAN HUTCHISON	HANIF RAJA
GRAHAM CAMPBELL	FYEZA IKHLAQ	DAVENA RANKIN
CHRISTINA CANNON	EUNIS JASSEMI	THOMAS RANNACHAN
PAUL CAREY	ANN JENKINS	LANA REID-MCCONNELL
ANTHONY CARROLL	LILITH JOHNSTONE	ROZA SALIH
JOHN CARSON	RUAIRI KELLY	FRANNY SCALLY
ALLAN CASEY	ALEX KERR	SORYIA SIDDIQUE
ANNETTE CHRISTIE	KEVIN LALLEY	KIERAN TURNER
CHRIS CUNNINGHAM	PAUL LEINSTER	CATHERINE VALLIS
STEPHEN CURRAN	FRANK McAVEETY	MARTHA WARDROP
JOHN DALY	PAUL MCCABE	ALEX WILSON
AUDREY DEMPSEY	ELAINE McDOUGALL	
STEPHEN DOCHERTY	DONNA McGILL	

DEACON CONVENER

LORD DEAN OF GUILD

Apology: Thomas Kerr.

Attending: M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; D Hutchison, Executive Director of Education Services; R Emmott, Executive Director of Finance; G Gillespie, Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and

Sustainability; and C Edgar, Director of Communication and Corporate Governance.

Lord Dean of Guild – Welcome.

1 The Lord Provost congratulated the newly appointed Lord Dean of Guild, Tony McElroy and welcomed him to his first full Council meeting. Mr McElroy replied in suitable terms.

Minutes approved.

2 The minutes of the Council meeting of 15th May 2025 (Print 2, pages 1 to 108) were submitted and approved.

Minutes of committees submitted and approved.

3 The minutes of the undernoted committees were submitted and approved:-

- (1) City Administration Committee of 8th and 22nd May and 5th June 2025 (Print 2, pages 109 to 124);
- (2) City Policy Committees
 - (a) Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration of 3rd June 2025 (Print 2, pages 125 to 132);
 - (b) Education, Skills and Early Years of 5th June 2025 (Print 2, pages 133 to 136);
 - (c) Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods of 10th June 2025 (Print 2, pages 137 to 140);
 - (d) Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring of 27th May 2025 (Print 2, pages 141 to 144); and
 - (e) Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement of 29th May 2025 (Print 2, pages 145 to 148);
- (3) Contracts and Property Committee of 12th June 2025 (Print 2, pages 149 to 156);
- (4) Licensing and Regulatory Committee of 7th, 21st and 28th May and 4th and 11th June 2025 (Print 2, pages 157 to 180);
- (5) Personnel Appeals Committee of 7th, 20th and 27th May 2025 (Print 2, pages 181 to 186);

- (6) Planning Applications Committee of 6th and 20th May and 3rd June 2025 (Print 2, pages 187 to 192);
- (7) Planning Local Review Committee of 13th and 27 May and 10th June 2025 (Print 2, pages 193 to 198);
- (8) Scrutiny Committees
 - (a) Finance and Audit of 21st May 2025 (Print 2, pages 199 to 202); and
 - (b) Operational Performance and Delivery of 7th May and 4th June 2025 (Print 2, page 203 to 211).

Scheme of Delegated Functions approved.

4 There was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration detailing a Scheme of Delegated Functions to committees regarding the decision of the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Strategic Partnership on 25th March 2025 to increase the maximum grant that can be awarded through delegated powers from Area Partnership budgets from £500 to £750 and to update the job title of Executive Director of Financial Services, previously the Executive Director of Finance.

After consideration, the Council approved the changes to the Scheme of Delegated Functions. The approved Scheme is printed as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

Changes to committees approved.

5 The Council approved the following appointments and changes to committees:-

<i>Committee etc</i>	<i>Appointment</i>
Bailie	Remove Rashid Hussain and appoint Marie Garrity as Bailie
City Administration Committee	Remove Jill Pidgeon and appoint Soryia Siddique
Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee	Remove Saqib Ahmed and appoint Catherine Vallis
Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee	Remove Jill Pidgeon and appoint Davena Rankin
Emergency Committee	Remove George Redmond and appoint Rashid Hussain

Environment & Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee	Remove Donna McGill and James Adams and appoint Greg Hepburn and Sharon Greer
Licensing Board	Remove Rashid Hussain and appoint Kevin Lalley
Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Remove Jill Pidgeon and appoint Kevin Lalley
Net Zero and Climate Change Monitoring City Policy Committee	Remove Rashid Hussain and appoint Thomas Rannachan
Operational Performance and Delivery Scrutiny Committee	Remove Catherine Vallis and appoint Thomas Rannachan
Senior Officer Workforce Committee	Remove George Redmond and Elaine McDougall and appoint Rashid Hussain and Catherine Vallis
Strathclyde Pension Fund Committee	Remove Ruairi Kelly and appoint Alex Kerr
Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee	Remove John Carson and appoint Davena Rankin

Appointments and representation on outside bodies approved.

6 The Council approved the following appointments and changes to its representation on outside bodies:-

<i>Organisation.</i>	<i>Appointment</i>
Armed Forces Champion	Remove Alex Wilson and appoint Abdul Bostani
COSLA Convention	Remove George Redmond and Soryia Siddique and appoint Rashid Hussain and Catherine Vallis
Glasgow City Integration Joint Board	Remove Paul McCabe as substitute and appoint Mairi Hunter
Culture and Sport Glasgow Limited (Glasgow Life)	Remove Laura Doherty and appoint Linda Pike
Newlands/Auldburn Area Partnership	Appoint Leòdhas Massie as Chair

Violence Against Women Partnership

Remove Holly Bruce as Chair and
appoint Anne McTaggart

Questions.

7 Answers to the following questions, of which notice had been given under Standing Order No 11, were given as undernoted:-

<i>Question by</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Answered by</i>
Councillor Lilith Johnstone	To ask the relevant City Convener what assurance can be given to the residents of Glasgow that the funds allocated through the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF) will be fully spent during this Council term?	Councillor Laura Doherty City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Councillor Fiona Higgins	Following the Ruchill Community Centre decision, can the relevant City Convener let us know when officers will be meeting with local members and the community to set out next steps?	Councillor Laura Doherty City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Councillor Jill Pidgeon	To ask the relevant City Convener what steps are being taken to mitigate the increase in vape usage in the city's schools?	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education and Early Years
Councillor Jill Brown	To ask the relevant City Convener whether the Council or Friends of Groups are liable for insurance regarding maintenance works being undertaken in the city's parks?	Councillor Laura Doherty City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

Councillor Blair Anderson	To ask the relevant City Convener how many young people in S1-S3 will receive free school meals as a result of the recently announced funding for increased free school meal expansion in Glasgow and 7 other local authorities?	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education and Early Years
Bailie Martha Wardrop	To ask the relevant City Convener if an options appraisal has been completed for a permanent new Care Experienced Hub in the city centre which would be a place for young people to gather, have fun and find support across all areas including housing, money, mental health and employment?	Councillor Richard Bell Depute Leader and City Treasurer and Convener for Financial Inclusion
Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell	To ask the relevant City Convener to comment on Glasgow's improved ranking in the Climate Action Scorecard, with the council now tenth ranked in the UK and joint second outside London?	Councillor Angus Millar City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport
Councillor Stephen Docherty	To ask the relevant City Convener whether the Council has been reimbursed yet for the demolition of the India Building in Bridge Street?	Councillor Ruairi Kelly City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
Bailie Anthony Carroll	To ask the relevant City Convener what review there has been regarding accessibility of bin hubs within the pilot areas, in particular in reference to any feedback provided by residents?	Councillor Laura Doherty City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

Bailie Seonad Hoy	To ask the relevant City Convener if following the Scottish Parliament's agreement of the Scottish Languages Bill, if the administration will be updating the Council's Gàidhlig language plan and introducing a Scots language plan?	Councillor Greg Hepburn City Convener for Open Government, Council Business Manager
Councillor Malcolm Mitchell	To ask the Leader of the Council for her thoughts on the implications of the UK Spending Review for Glasgow?	Councillor Susan Aitken Leader and Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition
Councillor Dan Hutchison	To ask the relevant City Convener if they agree with me that plans by Reform leadership in England to prevent new staff from joining the local government pension scheme and threatening to cut the pay of existing staff would be disastrous for recruitment and retention for crucial public services?	Councillor Richard Bell Depute Leader and City Treasurer and Convener for Financial Inclusion
Councillor Zen Ghani	To ask the City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use for an update on how the Council is protecting the city's built heritage?	Councillor Ruairi Kelly City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
Councillor Jill Pidgeon	Can the relevant City Convener explain to users of Tollcross Park why our world-renowned Rose Garden has been allowed to become overrun with weeds and debris, and what steps will be taken to prevent this from happening	Councillor Laura Doherty City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

again?

Councillor Jill Brown	Could the relevant City Convener clarify whether Friends of Groups require permission to carry out maintenance in the parks they support, and if so, could you please explain the reasons for this requirement?	Councillor Laura Doherty City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Councillor Blair Anderson	To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on proposals for road user charging in the city, following the Scottish Government's recent commitment to empower councils to introduce schemes?	Councillor Angus Millar City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport

Emergency motion Response to US Military Action in Iran – Motion as adjusted approved.

8 Councillor Leinster, seconded by Bailie Pike, moved that

“Council expresses grave concern at the escalating crisis in the Middle East following the recent unilateral military strike ordered by US President Donald Trump against Iranian targets.

Council condemns this reckless and destabilising action and considers it a dangerous provocation that threatens to escalate into a wider regional conflict.

Council further notes with concern that this latest escalation appears to have been carried out in concert with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu whose government continues to wage a devastating campaign in Gaza. At a time when the international community is calling for an immediate ceasefire and accountability for war crimes, this strike on Iran shifts global attention away from the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and undermines efforts to secure justice and peace for the Palestinian people.

Council recognises that the Iranian government has itself been a bad actor on the international stage - with a deeply troubling human rights record, including violent repression of dissent, discrimination against women and minorities, and support for proxy forces across the region. However, Council believes that these serious issues cannot and must not be addressed through military escalation. The only credible path to peace, stability and accountability - both within Iran and in the wider region - lies in sustained, principled diplomacy rooted in international law and human rights.

Council reaffirms its belief in respect for international law, which exists precisely to prevent unilateral acts of aggression and to uphold the statement in the preamble to the UN Charter which calls '*to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained*'. The use of force without a clear legal mandate undermines the global rules-based order, erodes the legitimacy of international institutions, and increases the risk of a spiral into further violence and instability.

Council expresses the genuine hope that the ceasefire which appears to have been agreed holds. However, Council recognises that recent ceasefires in the region have been short-lived, undermined by continued aggression and a failure to engage in meaningful diplomacy or adherence to international law.

Council therefore:

1. Urges the UK Government to unequivocally oppose unilateral military actions that risk further conflict in the Middle East and to work constructively with international partners to restore calm and pursue peaceful solutions;
2. Calls on the US Government to exercise restraint, prioritise diplomacy, and recommit to working within the framework of international law;
3. Reaffirms Glasgow's status as a city of peace and international solidarity."

Councillor Hussain, seconded by Councillor Carson, moved as an amendment:-

(1) at paragraph 4,

(a) after "and support for proxy forces across the region" insert:

"Council also expresses serious concern regarding Iran's nuclear ambitions, which poses a significant threat to regional and global security.";

(b) after "international law and human rights" insert new sentence as follows:

"and welcomes the UK Governments calls for de-escalation and diplomacy as the route to peace.";

(2) remove the first resolution of "Urges the UK Government to unequivocally oppose unilateral military actions that risk further conflict in the Middle East and to work constructively with international partners to restore calm and pursue peaceful solutions;" and replace with the following:

"1 Calls upon the UK Government to reaffirm its commitment to diplomacy, support renewed talks around a long-term peace framework, and press for a peaceful resolution, through diplomacy, in partnership with international allies"; and

(3) add 2 resolutions as follows:

- “4. Reaffirms our unwavering commitment to achieving lasting peace globally, including in Gaza and Ukraine.”; and
- 5. Welcomes the UK Government efforts to assist British nationals in the region and offers any assistance that may be required.”

Councillor Massie, seconded by Councillor Bruce, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) after paragraph 3 ending “...the Palestinian people.”, insert:

“Council recognises Israel’s unprovoked attack on Iran as a deliberate attempt to break negotiations which would see the threat of nuclear war in the region decrease and therefore delegitimise its own maintenance of nuclear weapons.”;

- (2) after paragraph 4 ending “...and human rights.”, insert:

“Council also recognises the right of every society to develop organically towards being a free and fair society without the looming threat of international actors such as the US who would have Iran not free but subject to its own social, political financial hegemony.”;

- (3) after paragraph 5 ending “...violence and instability.”, insert 3 additional new paragraphs:

“Council recognises Glaswegians have regularly stood up against breaches of international and humanitarian law in the Middle East in recent months and years through regular peaceful protests, including protests which target those who are considered by some to be complicit in the genocide being committed in Gaza.

Council condemns the UK Government’s intention to proscribe Palestine Action as a terrorist group. Council believes this is a pathetic, authoritarian over-reaction to spray paint-based peaceful protest against the UK Government’s active military support for the genocide in Gaza.

Council supports those - including those in Glasgow - who peacefully protest in support of the Palestinian people’s right to self-determination. Council believes that if Palestine Action are proscribed as a terror group that this would constitute an unacceptable attack on the right to protest and would support Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in not charging or prosecuting peaceful protestors.”; and

- (4) at the end of the bulleted list, add 3 additional actions:

- “3 Reaffirms Glasgow’s status as a city of peace, international solidarity and opposes militarism in all its forms.
- 4 Requests the Leader of the Council writes to the Home Secretary to convey the Council’s strong objections to the proscription of Palestine Action.

- 5 Requests the Leader of the Council writes to the Lord Advocate asking her to issue non- prosecution guidance on any offences relating to membership of or support for Palestine Action.”

During the debate, Councillor Leinster, Councillor Hussain and Councillor Massie, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:

“Council expresses grave concern at the escalating crisis in the Middle East following the recent unilateral military strike ordered by US President Donald Trump against Iranian targets.

Council condemns this reckless and destabilising action and considers it a dangerous provocation that threatens to escalate into a wider regional conflict.

Council further notes with concern that this latest escalation appears to have been carried out in concert with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu whose government continues to wage a devastating campaign in Gaza. At a time when the international community is calling for an immediate ceasefire and accountability for war crimes, this strike on Iran shifts global attention away from the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and undermines efforts to secure justice and peace for the Palestinian people.

Council recognises that the Iranian government has itself been a bad actor on the international stage - with a deeply troubling human rights record, including violent repression of dissent, discrimination against women and minorities, and support for proxy forces across the region. Council also expresses serious concern regarding Iran’s nuclear ambitions, which poses a significant threat to regional and global security. However, Council believes that these serious issues cannot and must not be addressed through military escalation. The only credible path to peace, stability and accountability - both within Iran and in the wider region - lies in sustained, principled diplomacy rooted in international law and human rights and welcomes the UK and Scottish Governments’ calls for de-escalation and diplomacy as the route to peace.

Council also recognises the right of every society to develop organically towards being a free and fair society without the interference of international actors.

Council reaffirms its belief in respect for international law, which exists precisely to prevent unilateral acts of aggression and to uphold the statement in the preamble to the UN Charter which calls ‘*to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained*’. The use of force without a clear legal mandate undermines the global rules-based order, erodes the legitimacy of international institutions, and increases the risk of a spiral into further violence and instability.

Council expresses the genuine hope that the ceasefire which appears to have been agreed holds. However, Council recognises that recent ceasefires in the region have been short-lived, undermined by continued aggression and a failure to engage in meaningful diplomacy or adherence to international law.

Council recognises Glaswegians have regularly stood up against breaches of international and humanitarian law in the Middle East in recent months and years through regular peaceful protests and believes the right to protest peacefully is fundamental in a free and open society and must never be criminalised.

Council therefore:

1. Calls upon the UK Government to oppose unilateral military action in the Middle East which risks inflaming further conflict, to reaffirm its commitment to diplomacy, support renewed talks around a long-term peace framework, and press for a peaceful resolution, through diplomacy, in partnership with international allies
2. Calls on the US Government to exercise restraint, prioritise diplomacy, and recommit to working within the framework of international law;
3. Reaffirms Glasgow's status as a city of peace and international solidarity, opposed to aggressive unilateral military action.
4. Reaffirms our unwavering commitment to achieving lasting peace globally, including in Gaza and Ukraine
5. Welcomes the UK Government efforts to assist British nationals in the region and offers any assistance that may be required.

The motion, as adjusted was unanimously approved.

Emergency motion Palestine Action – Motion as adjusted approved, after division.

9 Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Bruce, moved that

“Council recognises Glasgow's proud tradition of standing up against apartheid and injustice around the world, as evidenced through Glaswegians' involvement in the Anti-Apartheid Movement and support for Nelson Mandela.

Council recognises Glaswegians have continued that tradition in standing up against apartheid in Palestine through regular peaceful protests, including protests which target those who are considered by some to be complicit in the genocide being committed in Gaza.

Council condemns the UK Government's intention to proscribe Palestine Action as a terrorist group. Council believes this is a pathetic, authoritarian over-reaction to spray paint-based peaceful protest against the UK Government's active military support for the genocide in Gaza.

Council supports those - including those in Glasgow - who peacefully protest in support of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Council believes that if Palestine Action are proscribed as a terror group that this would constitute an unacceptable attack on the right to protest and would support Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in not charging or prosecuting peaceful protestors.

Council asks the Leader of the Council to urgently write to the Home Secretary to convey the Council's strong objections to the proscription of Palestine Action. Council also asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Lord Advocate asking her to consider the appropriateness of issuing non-prosecution guidance on this matter as she has rightly done previously for other unjust decisions of UK Governments."

Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Campbell, moved as an amendment

(1) at paragraph 5,

- (a) delete 'Council asks the Leader of the Council to urgently write to the Home Secretary', and replace with

"Council requests that the Leader of the Council to urgently write to the Home Secretary"; and

- (b) delete "Council also asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Lord Advocate asking her to consider the appropriateness of issuing non-prosecution guidance on this matter as she has rightly done previously for other unjust decisions of UK Governments.", and replace with

"Council requests that the Leader of the Council to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice seeking her views on this decision by the UK Government and asking her whether she intends to engage with the Lord Advocate around the issuing of non-prosecution guidance."

Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Butler, moved as an amendment to delete all and replace with the following:

"Council condemns the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and reiterates its call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, the release of all hostages, unimpeded access to humanitarian aid, and a political solution that recognises the rights and security of both Palestinians and Israelis.

Council recognises the deep concern held by many in society over the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and supports the right to free and fair demonstration in accordance with democratic principles."

During the debate, Councillor Anderson and Councillor Bell, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendment resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council recognises Glasgow's proud tradition of standing up against apartheid and injustice around the world, as evidenced through Glaswegians' involvement in the Anti-Apartheid Movement and support for Nelson Mandela.

Council recognises Glaswegians have continued that tradition in standing up against apartheid in Palestine through regular peaceful protests, including protests

which target those who are considered by some to be complicit in the genocide being committed in Gaza.

Council condemns the UK Government's intention to proscribe Palestine Action as a terrorist group. Council believes this is a pathetic, authoritarian over-reaction to spray paint-based peaceful protest against the UK Government's active military support for the genocide in Gaza.

Council supports those - including those in Glasgow - who peacefully protest in support of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Council believes that if Palestine Action are proscribed as a terror group that this would constitute an unacceptable attack on the right to protest and would support Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in not charging or prosecuting peaceful protestors.

Council requests that the Leader of the Council to urgently write to the Home Secretary to convey the Council's strong objections to the proscription of Palestine Action. Council requests that the Leader of the Council to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice seeking her views on this decision by the UK Government and asking her whether she intends to engage with the Lord Advocate around the issuing of non-prosecution guidance."

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 31 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Adams and 47 for the motion as adjusted with 1 abstention.

The motion as adjusted was accordingly declared to be carried.

Adjournment.

10 In terms of Standing Order No 17, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1300 hours until 1400 hours.

Resumption of meeting.

11 The meeting resumed at 1400 hours and the sederunt was taken as follows:-

Present: Chair, Lord Provost Jacqueline McLaren

JAMES ADAMS	STEPHEN DORNAN	ANNE McTAGGART
SAQIB AHMED	SEAN FERGUSON	LEÒDHAS MASSIE
SUSAN AITKEN	ELAINE GALLAGHER	CHRISTY MEARNS
IMRAN ALAM	MARIE GARRITY	ANGUS MILLAR
BLAIR ANDERSON	ZEN GHANI	MALCOLM MITCHELL
KEN ANDREW	ALLAN GOW	JON MOLYNEUX
ALEXANDER BELIC	WILLIAM GRAHAM	ROBERT MOONEY
RICHARD BELL	SHARON GREER	MARGARET MORGAN
DECLAN BLENCH	GREG HEPBURN	EVA MURRAY

EVA BOLANDER	FIONA HIGGINS	CECILIA O'LONE
ABDUL BOSTANI	SEONAD HOY	JILL PIDGEON
PHILIP BRAAT	MHAIRI HUNTER	LINDA PIKE
JILL BROWN	RASHID HUSSAIN	HANIF RAJA
HOLLY BRUCE	DAN HUTCHISON	DAVENA RANKIN
BILL BUTLER	FYEZA IKHLAQ	THOMAS RANNACHAN
GRAHAM CAMPBELL	EUNIS JASSEMI	LANA REID-MCCONNELL
CHRISTINA CANNON	ANN JENKINS	ROZA SALIH
PAUL CAREY	LILITH JOHNSTONE	FRANNY SCALLY
ANTHONY CARROLL	RUAIRI KELLY	SORYIA SIDDIQUE
JOHN CARSON	ALEX KERR	KIERAN TURNER
ALLAN CASEY	KEVIN LALLEY	CATHERINE VALLIS
ANNETTE CHRISTIE	PAUL LEINSTER	MARTHA WARDROP
CHRIS CUNNINGHAM	FRANK McAVEETY	ALEX WILSON
STEPHEN CURRAN	PAUL MCCABE	
JOHN DALY	ELAINE McDOUGALL	
AUDREY DEMPSEY	DONNA McGILL	
STEPHEN DOCHERTY	NORMAN MacLEOD	
LAURA DOHERTY	ELAINE McSPORRAN	

Apology: Thomas Kerr.

Attending: M Millar, Director of Legal and Democratic Services; D Hutchison, Executive Director of Education Services; R Emmott, Executive Director of Financial Services; and C Edgar, Director of Communication and Corporate Governance

Supporting Young People in our Communities - Motion as adjusted approved.

12 Councillor Aitken, seconded by Councillor Doherty, moved that

“Council expresses its deep concern about recent incidences of violence involving young people in Glasgow and elsewhere in Scotland and acknowledges that this is enormously worrying for our communities. Council mourns the deaths of Kory McCrimmon, Amen Teklay, Kayden Moy and any death or serious injury of a young person as a tragic and needless waste of young lives and potential.

Council understands the challenges that modern life can pose to young people, including pressures around body image and self-worth and the propagation of unobtainable and damaging lifestyles and ideologies through social media. Council also recognises the particularly acute impact of the Covid pandemic response on today's children and young people, with the loss during lockdown of life opportunities and learning taken for granted by previous generations.

Council understands that the vast majority of young people are not involved in violence and do not carry weapons but believes that the increasing vulnerability of some to becoming drawn into violent behaviour requires urgent work to understand the reasons behind this and develop early, effective responses. Council

understands that well-established protocols are in place to ensure swift multi-agency co-operation following a major incident and acknowledges that officers from the Council and HSCP have already been working closely with Police Scotland. Council further acknowledges the wide range of existing multi-agency interventions taking place in communities across Glasgow with and for young people, whether led by the Council family, community planning partners such as Police Scotland, or by third sector and community-led organisations, and believes that sustained youth work on the streets and in neighbourhoods is vital to reaching young people at risk of becoming involved in violence or criminal activity, and that youth work along with access to good quality outdoor space, education and training, and other support services are crucial to creating engaged, resilient and fulfilled young people.

Council acknowledges and welcomes the activism of community groups, such as Parents Against Knives led by the parents of Kory McCrimmon. Council also welcomes the attention paid to this issue by the First Minister and Scottish Government, including the recent Youth Violence summit and the announcement of increased funding for the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) of £1.2m. Council recalls the terrible statistics related to violence and knife crime that led to the creation of the VRU in 2005; commends its excellent and well-studied work on the prevention of gang violence; and believes that many young people are alive today because of their pioneering interventions and the 'public health policing' approach adopted in Scotland. Council recognises both that the recent incidences of violence involving young people are not of the scale experienced 20 years ago and that the current context is different and more complex but believes that the lessons learned then about evidence-based approaches, multi-agency co-operation and early intervention remain applicable today.

Council recognises however that the deep concerns about the emergence of a new wave of youth violence require a re-energised response by all agencies to tackle generational challenges in the lives of our city's young people, along with a fresh approach to new challenges that they face in the social media age; and further recognises that, while no single organisation or layer of government has the answer to a challenge that requires a whole society response, Glasgow City Council has a key role to play, both through the delivery of our own services and also as a convener of other agencies.

Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to bring an update paper to the appropriate committee in the earliest possible cycle after recess, detailing the discussions and actions officers have already undertaken in response to specific recent incidences of violence; outlining existing work by the Council family, or by other organisations funded through the Council, with young people in communities, and particularly young people at risk of becoming involved in violence; and making recommendations to councillors on ways in which existing funding streams could be used to extend and enhance ongoing youth work carried out by the Council family or in partnership with others."

Bailie Murray, seconded by Bailie Lalley, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) at paragraph one, delete "recent incidences of violence involving young people" and replace with:

“recent incidents of violence affecting young people”;

- (2) after paragraph 6, insert the following new paragraph:

“Council recognises that structural disadvantage, poverty, exclusion, and racism are contributing risk factors in violence affecting young people, and must be addressed through inclusive, trauma-informed, and anti-poverty strategies.”;

- (3) at paragraph 2 beginning “Council understands that well-established protocols are in place...”, insert after “or in partnership with others”:

“This should include a place-based lens, beginning with communities experiencing the most acute challenges, where partnership approaches can be strengthened or newly developed in response to local need.”;

- (4) at paragraph 4

- (a) at sentence beginning “Council recalls the terrible statistics...”, after “Council recognises both that the recent incidences of violence involving young people are not of the scale experienced 20 years ago”, replace with

“Council recognises both that the recent incidents of violence affecting young people are not of the scale experienced 20 years ago”; and

- (b) after “multi-agency co-operation and early intervention remain applicable today”, insert

“and that this must include adopting a public health approach which prioritises prevention, early intervention, and support across the life course.”;

- (5) in the final paragraph, after “Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to bring an update paper...”, add the following paragraphs

“Council further instructs officers to explore how all young people can be meaningfully involved in shaping the direction of local strategies and services in response to these challenges, including through co-production approaches. Recognises the important role of third sector organisations and community policing in engaging young people who may be harder to reach or at risk of disengagement.

Council further requests that the Chief Executive consider convening a Multi-Agency Youth Strategy Taskforce, to coordinate a city-wide, public health-based response to violence affecting young people. This should include representation from Glasgow City Council departments, HSCP, Police Scotland, education, NHS, third sector organisations, and youth

representatives, and be linked to place-based pilot work, including in communities who have been affected by violence.

Council further asks that a rapid needs and assets assessment is commissioned, focusing on communities where recent incidents have taken place. This should map existing resources and risks, involve youth consultation, and be co-designed with local organisations to build an evidence base for targeted investment and support.”

Councillor Anderson, seconded by Bailie Wardrop, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) at paragraph 3, at the end of the sentence ending “...and fulfilled young people”, insert

“Council recognises that young people are living increasingly virtual lives with fewer opportunities and spaces for in-person, recreational and social interactions which foster a sense of community and purpose. Council commends all organisations providing these opportunities and spaces agrees that this type of work should be supported to grow and that provision of opportunities and spaces like this are important considerations in planning, parks, culture and leisure, and community-led decision-making.”;

- (2) after paragraph 5, at the end of the sentence ending “...of other agencies.”, insert 2 new additional paragraphs:

“Council also recognises the importance of having an informed and evidence-led debate on this issue which does not stigmatise young people, unduly sensationalise the discussion, or provoke undue fear in young people which then leads to increased carrying of weapons.

Council recognises the excellent work done by Education Services on pupil voice and participation by young people in decision-making in schools. Council notes, however, that young people ought to feel meaningfully involved in the decisions affecting all aspects of their lives, not just their education, and recognises that public bodies, including the Council and Glasgow Life, should continually work to improve the way they empower and listen to young people when making decisions that affect them. Council looks forward to the re-establishment of a Glasgow Youth Council and believes that this would represent an opportunity to further embed the youth voice in decision-making.”

During the debate Councillor Aitken, Bailie Murray and Councillor Anderson, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:

“Council expresses its deep concern about recent incidences of violence affecting young people in Glasgow and elsewhere in Scotland and acknowledges that this is enormously worrying for our communities. Council mourns the deaths of Kory McCrimmon, Amen Teklay, Kayden Moy and any death or serious injury of a young person as a tragic and needless waste of young lives and potential.

Council understands the challenges that modern life can pose to young people, including pressures around body image and self-worth and the propagation of unobtainable and damaging lifestyles and ideologies through social media. Council also recognises the particularly acute impact of the Covid pandemic response on today's children and young people, with the loss during lockdown of life opportunities and learning taken for granted by previous generations.

Council understands that the vast majority of young people are not involved in violence and do not carry weapons but believes that the increasing vulnerability of some to becoming drawn into violent behaviour requires urgent work to understand the reasons behind this and develop early, effective responses. Council understands that well-established protocols are in place to ensure swift multi-agency co-operation following a major incident and acknowledges that officers from the Council and HSCP have already been working closely with Police Scotland.

Council further acknowledges the wide range of existing multi-agency interventions taking place in communities across Glasgow with and for young people, whether led by the Council family, community planning partners such as Police Scotland, or by third sector and community-led organisations, and believes that sustained youth work on the streets and in neighbourhoods is vital to reaching young people at risk of becoming involved in violence or criminal activity, and that youth work along with access to good quality outdoor space, education and training, and other support services are crucial to creating engaged, resilient and fulfilled young people.

Council recognises that young people are living increasingly virtual lives with fewer opportunities and spaces for in-person, recreational and social interactions which foster a sense of community and purpose. Council commends all organisations providing these opportunities and spaces agrees that this type of work should be supported to grow and that provision of opportunities and spaces like this are important considerations in planning, parks, culture and leisure, and community-led decision-making. This should include a place-based lens, beginning with communities experiencing the most acute challenges, where partnership approaches can be strengthened or newly developed in response to local need.

Council acknowledges and welcomes the activism of community groups, such as Parents Against Knives led by the parents of Kory McCrimmon. Council also welcomes the attention paid to this issue by the First Minister and Scottish Government, including the recent Youth Violence summit and the announcement of increased funding for the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) of £1.2m. Council recalls the terrible statistics related to violence and knife crime that led to the creation of the VRU in 2005; commends its excellent and well-studied work on the prevention of gang violence; and believes that many young people are alive today because of their pioneering interventions and the 'public health policing' approach adopted in Scotland. Council recognises both that the recent incidences of violence affecting young people are not of the scale experienced 20 years ago and that the current context is different and more complex but believes that the lessons learned then about evidence-based approaches, multi-agency co-operation and early intervention remain applicable today, and that this must include adopting a public

health approach which prioritises prevention, early intervention, and support across the life course.

Council recognises however that the deep concerns about the emergence of a new wave of youth violence require a re-energised response by all agencies to tackle generational challenges in the lives of our city's young people, along with a fresh approach to new challenges that they face in the social media age; and further recognises that, while no single organisation or layer of government has the answer to a challenge that requires a whole society response, Glasgow City Council has a key role to play, both through the delivery of our own services and also as a convener of other agencies.

Council also recognises the importance of having an informed and evidence-led debate on this issue which does not stigmatise young people, unduly sensationalise the discussion, or provoke undue fear in young people which then leads to increased carrying of weapons.

Council recognises the excellent work done by Education Services on pupil voice and participation by young people in decision-making in schools. Council notes, however, that young people ought to feel meaningfully involved in the decisions affecting all aspects of their lives, not just their education, and recognises that public bodies, including the Council and Glasgow Life, should continually work to improve the way they empower and listen to young people when making decisions that affect them. Council looks forward to the re-establishment of a Glasgow Youth Council and believes that this would represent an opportunity to further embed the youth voice in decision-making.

Council recognises that structural disadvantage, poverty, exclusion, and racism are contributing risk factors in violence affecting young people, and must be addressed through inclusive, trauma-informed, and anti-poverty strategies.

Council strongly supports a coordinated city-wide, public health-based response to violence affecting young people, including representation from third sector organisations, Glasgow City Council departments, HSCP, Police Scotland, education, NHS, and youth representatives, linked to place-based work, including in communities who have been affected by violence, and seeks to actively pursue this approach to addressing the complex and long-term issues affecting young people in our city.

Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to bring an update paper to the appropriate committee in the earliest possible cycle after recess, detailing the discussions and actions officers have already undertaken in response to specific recent incidences of violence, in particular how the needs and assets of communities where recent incidents have taken place are assessed and targeted; outlining existing work by the Council family, or by other organisations funded through the Council, with young people in communities, and particularly young people at risk of becoming involved in violence; and making recommendations to councillors on ways in which existing funding streams could be used to extend and

enhance ongoing youth work carried out by the Council family or in partnership with others.

Council further instructs the Chief Executive to explore how all young people can be meaningfully involved in shaping the direction of local strategies and services in response to these challenges, including through co-production approaches, recognising the important role of third sector organisations and community policing in engaging young people who may be harder to reach or at risk of disengagement.

The motion, as adjusted, was unanimously approved.

Glasgow Against Online Hate – Motion as adjusted approved.

13 Bailie Hussain, seconded by Bailie Jenkins, moved that

“Council reaffirms Glasgow's proud history as a city of diversity, solidarity, and anti-racism, and reiterates its firm stance against all forms of hatred, discrimination, and extremism.

Council condemns the rise of far-right ideology across the UK and Europe, including the increasing spread of extremist narratives through social media and online platforms. Council is deeply concerned by the use of digital spaces to promote racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, and other forms of hate.

Council is also alarmed by recent reports from organisations such as Hope Not Hate and the Centre for Countering Digital Hate, which highlight the growing influence of far-right figures online, and the real-world harm that online hate can fuel - including harassment, intimidation, and violence.

Council reaffirms that Glasgow is a city of inclusion, compassion, and equality for all who live here, regardless of race, religion, background, or identity.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Publicly reaffirm its opposition to extremism.
2. Work with community organisations, equalities groups, and education providers to raise awareness of the dangers of far-right extremism and online hate.
3. Support national efforts to strengthen regulation of online platforms and tackle the spread of harmful and extremist content online.
4. Write to the UK and Scottish Governments urging further action to tackle online hate speech, protect communities targeted by the far right, and support public education on the dangers of extremism.
5. Agrees to write to the Scottish Government, COSLA, and the Standards Commission for Scotland to request the development of formal guidance and support mechanisms - similar to those promoted by the Local Government Association in England - to protect councillors from online abuse, ensure

appropriate reporting mechanisms are in place, and offer mental health and digital safety support to affected members.

6. Give renewed impetus to reviewing the social media platforms utilised by Glasgow City Council to enhance civil discourse, and how it can effectively maintain communication with the people of Glasgow considering a range of means, including local media, local community networks, websites, print and post."

Bailie Christie, seconded by Councillor Campbell moved as an amendment:-

- (1) at paragraph 2, insert "anti-Irish racism" between "antisemitism, Islamophobia";
- (2) at the end of paragraph 2, insert
"– and condemns this and the use of online and other media by any elected member to spread fear and hate."; and
- (3) in the final paragraph after bullet 3 "Support national efforts", insert a new bullet point
"Learn from international best practice through engagement with the Eurocities network and Nordic Safer Cities initiative."

Bailie Hoy, seconded by Bailie Carroll, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) after paragraph 3 ending "and violence.", insert new additional paragraph:
"Council welcomes the work of the Jo Cox Foundation and Compassion in Politics to make politics less toxic and safer for elected representatives."; and
- (2) at the end of the bulleted list, add 4 additional actions:
"7 Encourage elected members to engage with briefings on Operation Ford and to sign up to the Jo Cox Foundation and Compassion in Politics Civility Pledge.
8. Explore the viability of offering a similar service to that offered to Council staff, such as counselling sessions to elected members who have been the targets of significant levels of abuse, to allow them to process the trauma they have experienced and to continue to fulfil the requirements of their role effectively.
9. Work with Police Scotland on crime prevention surveys for elected members' work and home space where elected members are concerned about a threat to their wellbeing.
10. Call on the Ethical Standards Commissioner to closely examine organised complaints campaigns and have due regard to the fact that they might be contributing to organised or stochastic harassment."

During the debate Bailie Hussain, Bailie Christie and Bailie Hoy, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:

Council reaffirms Glasgow's proud history as a city of diversity, solidarity, and anti-racism, and reiterates its firm stance against all forms of hatred, discrimination, and extremism.

Council is deeply concerned by the use of digital spaces to promote racism, antisemitism, anti-Irish racism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, and other forms of hate – and condemns this and the use of online and other media by any elected member to spread fear and hate.

Council is also alarmed by recent reports from organisations such as Hope Not Hate and the Centre for Countering Digital Hate, which highlight the growing influence of far-right figures online, and the real-world harm that online hate can fuel - including harassment, intimidation, and violence.

Council welcomes the work of the Jo Cox Foundation and Compassion in Politics to make politics less toxic and safer for elected representatives.

Council reaffirms that Glasgow is a city of inclusion, compassion, and equality for all who live here, regardless of race, religion, background, or identity.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Publicly reaffirm its opposition to extremism.
2. Work with community organisations, equalities groups, and education providers to raise awareness of the dangers of far-right extremism and online hate.
3. Support national efforts to strengthen regulation of online platforms and tackle the spread of harmful and extremist content online.
4. Write to the UK and Scottish Governments urging further action to tackle online hate speech, protect communities targeted by the far right, and support public education on the dangers of extremism.
5. Learn from international best practice through engagement with the Eurocities network and Nordic Safer Cities initiative.
6. Agrees to write to the Scottish Government, COSLA, and the Standards Commission for Scotland to request the development of formal guidance and support mechanisms – similar to those promoted by the Local Government Association in England – to protect councillors from online abuse, ensure appropriate reporting mechanisms are in place, and offer mental health and digital safety support to affected members.
7. Give renewed impetus to reviewing the social media platforms utilised by Glasgow City Council to enhance civil discourse, and how it can effectively maintain communication with the people of Glasgow considering a range of means, including local media, local community networks, websites, print and post.
8. Encourage elected members to engage with briefings on Operation Ford and to sign up to the Jo Cox Foundation and Compassion in Politics Civility

- Pledge.
9. Explore the viability of offering a similar service to that offered to Council staff, such as counselling sessions to elected members who have been the targets of significant levels of abuse, to allow them to process the trauma they have experienced and to continue to fulfil the requirements of their role effectively.
 10. Work with Police Scotland on crime prevention surveys for elected members' work and home space where elected members are concerned about a threat to their wellbeing.
 11. Call on the Ethical Standards Commissioner to closely examine organised complaints campaigns and have due regard to the fact that they might be contributing to organised or stochastic harassment.

The motion, as adjusted, was unanimously approved.

Request to Police Scotland to ban use of facial recognition technology – Motion as adjusted approved, after division.

14 Bailie Wardrop, seconded by Bailie Carroll, moved that

“Council notes that Police Forces in England and Wales have been using Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) since 2015 and they have expanded its use in recent years. Some police forces also use what is called "Live Facial Recognition" which involves scanning public spaces and crowds in real time, matching faces against a database of images.

Council also notes that Police officers have used facial recognition in various community contexts, including protests, sporting events, concerts, and in busy shopping streets.

Council acknowledges that while the technology is in use, there have been legal challenges regarding its use. In the Ed Bridges' case, the Court of Appeal said South Wales Police's use of live facial recognition violated privacy rights and broke data protection and equality laws.

Council notes that in 2017, Police Scotland's initial ambition to introduce Live Facial Recognition (LFR) by 2026 as part of their 10-year strategy, 'Policing 2026', however notes their later confirmation in 2020 to not advance this, after a report by the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing stated that there was 'no justifiable basis for Police Scotland to invest in this technology', as well as describing the potential use of LFR as 'a radical departure from Police Scotland's fundamental principle of policing by consent'.

Council acknowledges an assessment of the reliability, efficacy, and fairness of Police Scotland's use of retrospective facial recognition (RFR) in March 2025 showed the impracticality of enforcing due to a lack of meaningful data collection.

Council understand that the outcome of the Live Facial Recognition (LFR) National Conversation was considered by the Police Authority's Policing Performance

Committee on 10th June 2025. Currently, the Scottish Police Authority is not consulting on the introduction of LFR but instead its potential introduction, and that the initial national conversation happening around this is to decide whether or not this work should be taken forward.

Council also notes Police Scotland's response to a Freedom of Information (FOI) request on 31st March 2025 stating they are considering enhancing CCTV resources with the introduction of Briefcam's object matching software, which also has capabilities to match faces live, although it has been stated they will not use this element of the technology if updated.

Council notes its concerns that there is no specific legislation in the UK that governs the use of facial recognition technology by Police, and shares Stop Watch's issues with the technology that it "has been found to amplify and entrench discriminatory policing – particularly in regard to women and racially minoritised communities".

Council also notes the European Union has already taken action to ban such technologies and since 2nd February 2025, unacceptable AI technologies including live facial recognition in public spaces, untargeted scraping of facial images from the internet or CCTV footage, and biometric-based categorization that infer sensitive information such as ethnic origin, political beliefs, sexual orientation or religion, with the aim of categorising and potentially resulting in discriminatory treatment, are prohibited.

Council requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Chair of the Scottish Police Authority to indicate that it is the view of Glasgow City Council that further work should not progress around the introduction of LFR in Police Scotland."

Bailie McCabe, seconded by Councillor Leinster, moved as an amendment that the final 3 paragraphs be deleted and the following inserted:

"Council understands that technological advances can bring benefits to the police and other justice agencies in detecting, preventing and prosecuting crime. However, Council believes that the Scottish Police Authority must ensure that any use of technology is fit for purpose and non-discriminatory and that robust guidance and oversight are in place. Furthermore, any use of technology must respect the rights of our citizens.

Council reaffirms its commitment to digital human rights citizens and recommits to the core values outlined in our Digital Strategy 2024–2030:

- Be Accessible and Inclusive
- Protect and Secure
- Be Open and Transparent
- Involve and Empower
- Collaborative and in Partnership

In addition, Council commends the work of the Eurocities Digital Forum and Working Group on Digital Citizenship which has successfully advocated for

protections under the EU Artificial Intelligence Act, and Council recommits to our membership of this and the Cities Coalition for Digital Rights, bringing together cities from around the world to share experience and best practice in upholding, promoting and expanding the digital rights of our citizens.

Council believes that these values must apply to all organisations working in the city, in particular public bodies including Police Scotland.

Council further believes that live FRT raises significant ethical issues and the need for proper and ongoing public scrutiny is paramount, including a new comprehensive legislative framework.

Council requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Chair of the Scottish Police Authority to indicate that it is the view of Glasgow City Council that the factors above be taken into consideration when deciding whether or not to progress with trials or implementation of live FRT by Police Scotland.”

Councillor Vallis, seconded by Councillor Mooney, moved as an amendment to delete all and insert the following:

“Council notes that facial recognition technology (FRT) is being explored and used by police forces across the UK and internationally.

Council recognises that in Scotland, the deployment of LFR has been cautious, and welcomes the current public engagement and oversight being undertaken through the Scottish Police Authority and the national conversation on this issue.

Council believes that investment in front-line policing must remain a priority, and that greater resources should be directed towards local police visibility and community safety initiatives.

Council further believes that improved court resourcing is necessary to ensure that justice is not delayed, and that technology must not be used as a substitute for properly funded and staffed justice services.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Work with Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority through the SAFE Glasgow Partnership to monitor any future consideration of facial recognition technology and ensure use of the technology is evidence-led. Call on Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority to ensure that any future consideration of facial recognition technology is evidence-led and that the Partnership is included in those considerations.
2. Reaffirm the Council’s commitment to properly resourced community policing and a justice system that delivers timely and fair outcomes for victims, witnesses and the public.”

During the debate Bailie Wardrop, Bailie McCabe and Councillor Vallis, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

“Council notes that Police Forces in England and Wales have been using Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) since 2015 and they have expanded its use in recent years. Some police forces also use what is called "Live Facial Recognition" which involves scanning public spaces and crowds in real time, matching faces against a database of images.

Council also notes that Police officers have used facial recognition in various community contexts, including protests, sporting events, concerts, and in busy shopping streets.

Council acknowledges that while the technology is in use, there have been legal challenges regarding its use. In the Ed Bridges' case, the Court of Appeal said South Wales Police's use of live facial recognition violated privacy rights and broke data protection and equality laws.

Council notes that in 2017, Police Scotland's initial ambition to introduce Live Facial Recognition (LFR) by 2026 as part of their 10-year strategy, 'Policing 2026', however notes their later confirmation in 2020 to not advance this, after a report by the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing stated that there was 'no justifiable basis for Police Scotland to invest in this technology', as well as describing the potential use of LFR as 'a radical departure from Police Scotland's fundamental principle of policing by consent'.

Council acknowledges an assessment of the reliability, efficacy, and fairness of Police Scotland's use of retrospective facial recognition (RFR) in March 2025 showed the impracticality of enforcing due to a lack of meaningful data collection.

Council understand that the outcome of the Live Facial Recognition (LFR) National Conversation was considered by the Police Authority's Policing Performance Committee on 10 June 2025. Currently, the Scottish Police Authority is not consulting on the introduction of LFR but instead its potential introduction, and that the initial national conversation happening around this is to decide whether or not this work should be taken forward.

Council also notes Police Scotland's response to a Freedom of Information (FOI) request on 31 March 2025 stating they are considering enhancing CCTV resources with the introduction of Briefcam's object matching software, which also has capabilities to match faces live, although it has been stated they will not use this element of the technology if updated.

Council notes its concerns that there is no specific legislation in the UK that governs the use of facial recognition technology by Police, and shares police transparency campaign groups' issues with the technology that it "has been found to amplify and entrench discriminatory policing – particularly in regard to women and racially minoritised communities".

Council understands that technological advances can bring benefits to the police and other justice agencies in detecting, preventing and prosecuting crime. However, Council believes that the Scottish Police Authority must ensure that any use of technology is fit for purpose and non-discriminatory and that robust guidance and oversight are in place. Furthermore, any use of technology must respect the rights of our citizens.

Council reaffirms its commitment to digital human rights citizens and recommits to the core values outlined in our Digital Strategy 2024–2030:

- Be Accessible and Inclusive
- Protect and Secure
- Be Open and Transparent
- Involve and Empower
- Collaborative and in Partnership

In addition, Council commends the work of the Eurocities Digital Forum and Working Group on Digital Citizenship which has successfully advocated for protections under the EU Artificial Intelligence Act, and Council recommits to our membership of this and the Cities Coalition for Digital Rights, bringing together cities from around the world to share experience and best practice in upholding, promoting and expanding the digital rights of our citizens.

Council believes that these values must apply to all organisations working in the city, in particular public bodies including Police Scotland.

Council further believes that live FRT raises significant ethical issues and the need for proper and ongoing public scrutiny is paramount, including a new comprehensive legislative framework.

Council believes that investment in front-line policing must remain a priority. Council therefore resolves to:

1. Work with Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority through the SAFE Glasgow Partnership to monitor any future consideration of facial recognition technology and that the Partnership is included in those considerations.
2. Reaffirm the Council's commitment to properly resourced community policing and a justice system that delivers timely and fair outcomes for victims, witnesses and the public."

Council requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Chair of the Scottish Police Authority to indicate that it is the view of Glasgow City Council that the factors above be taken into consideration when deciding whether or not to progress with trials or implementation of live FRT by Police Scotland.

The motion, as adjusted, was unanimously approved.

Adjournment.

15 In terms of Standing Order No 17, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1545 hours until 1555 hours.

Resumption of meeting.

16 The meeting resumed at 1555 hours and the sederunt was taken as follows:-

Present: Chair, Lord Provost Jacqueline McLaren

JAMES ADAMS	STEPHEN DOCHERTY	DONNA McGILL
SAQIB AHMED	LAURA DOHERTY	NORMAN MacLEOD
SUSAN AITKEN	STEPHEN DORNAN	ELAINE McSPORRAN
IMRAN ALAM	SEAN FERGUSON	ANNE McTAGGART
BLAIR ANDERSON	ELAINE GALLAGHER	LEÒDHAS MASSIE
KEN ANDREW	MARIE GARRITY	CHRISTY MEARNIS
ALEXANDER BELIC	ZEN GHANI	ANGUS MILLAR
RICHARD BELL	ALLAN GOW	MALCOLM MITCHELL
DECLAN BLENCH	WILLIAM GRAHAM	JON MOLYNEUX
EVA BOLANDER	SHARON GREER	ROBERT MOONEY
ABDUL BOSTANI	GREG HEPBURN	MARGARET MORGAN
PHILIP BRAAT	FIONA HIGGINS	EVA MURRAY
JILL BROWN	SEONAD HOY	CECILIA O'LONE
HOLLY BRUCE	MHAIRI HUNTER	JILL PIDGEON
BILL BUTLER	RASHID HUSSAIN	LINDA PIKE
GRAHAM CAMPBELL	DAN HUTCHISON	HANIF RAJA
CHRISTINA CANNON	FYEZA IKHLAQ	DAVENA RANKIN
PAUL CAREY	EUNIS JASSEMI	THOMAS RANNACHAN
ANTHONY CARROLL	ANN JENKINS	LANA REID-MCCONNELL
JOHN CARSON	LILITH JOHNSTONE	ROZA SALIH
ALLAN CASEY	RUAIRI KELLY	FRANNY SCALLY
ANNETTE CHRISTIE	ALEX KERR	SORYIA SIDDIQUE
CHRIS CUNNINGHAM	KEVIN LALLEY	KIERAN TURNER
STEPHEN CURRAN	PAUL LEINSTER	CATHERINE VALLIS
FEARGAL DALTON	FRANK McAVEETY	MARTHA WARDROP
JOHN DALY	PAUL MCCABE	ALEX WILSON
AUDREY DEMPSEY	ELAINE McDOUGALL	

DEACON CONVENER

LORD DEAN OF GUILD

Apology: Thomas Kerr.

Attending: M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; D Hutchison, Executive Director of Education Services; R Emmott, Executive Director of Financial Services; and C Edgar, Director of Communication and Corporate Governance.

UK EU settlement - Soft Reset for a Hard Brexit – Motion approved, after division.

16 Bailie Christie, seconded by Councillor Leinster, moved that

"Council notes the UK-EU summit on 19 May 2025 which was a long-overdue step toward rebuilding a constructive, cooperative relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Council further notes the agreements reached include some trade alignment, youth experience, security cooperation and joint defence initiatives. Council believes that the removal of obstacles to food and agricultural exports, greater support for energy trading and an indication of rejoining the Erasmus exchange scheme for students, are all positive aspects of the UK-EU agreement but cautions that there are still much to be finalised.

Council cautiously welcomes these initial steps, which are sensible and mutually beneficial, but believes that deeper and more meaningful cooperation must and can be built by Westminster with the EU, and Council agrees that we must not stop here. Council further agrees that lack of consultation with local government and the Scottish Government on key aspects of the deal, particularly on industries important to Scotland like fishing, was an affront to devolution, and asserts that the UK Government must work collaboratively with devolved governments, regions and cities in developing its priorities - as the EU does with its Member States.

Council notes that Glasgow has been unfailing in its commitment to European cooperation as detailed in recent reports to both the WECCE and Net Zero Committees; with Glasgow's ongoing collaboration with our European twins and other peer cities and networks like Eurocities, and reinforces the sentiment of the May 2024 motion which called for a UK European Youth Mobility Scheme, reinforcing our place as a proud European city and continued support for peace and unity in Europe.

Council agrees that whilst there is movement in the UK-EU agreement on plant and animal health, Energy and Net Zero Cooperation and defence partnership which are indicators of progress, Council believes that we will only truly put the harm of Brexit behind us when Scotland is independently able to determine its future with and in Europe.

Council further agrees that in the meantime the UK Government should step outside its self-imposed 'red lines' to embrace closer alignment, in particular towards a pathway for rejoining the Single Market and Customs Union and other matters.

Council endorses the Calls by the European Movement, IETM (International network for contemporary performing arts) and others to improve a reset by taking the following measures:

- Youth Experience Scheme - extend to a more ambitious scheme that would enable young people to live, work, and study across the UK and EU as envisioned by the original youth mobility scheme, a clear move toward restoring people-to-people ties.
- Rejoin Erasmus+ - make a firm commitment on fully participating in this programme
- Deal for Musicians and Touring Artists - ease restrictions, ensuring to reach agreements on frictionless touring between the UK and Europe
- Rejoin Creative Europe - restoring access to this essential cultural funding and collaboration programme.
- Remove red tape for workers - recognise the need for improved professional mobility and formal qualification frameworks
- European Environment Agency - take steps toward rejoining or cooperating with the EEA on environmental data and policy.
- Mutual Recognition of Conformity Assessments - remove the barriers that result in UK goods facing costly duplication of testing for EU markets.

Council reaffirms that Scotland's best future lies as an independent country within the European Union but we will engage constructively and positively in the next phase of negotiations if the UK is to successfully reset its relationship with Europe. Council believes that the UK must work in partnership with the cities, regions and devolved governments which have shown consistent constructive cooperation with Europe; and Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the UK Prime Minister to state this and our support for the above Calls for action.

Council further instructs the Chief Executive to write to the EU Ambassador to the UK noting this correspondence and content, and to invite the Ambassador to visit Glasgow again, reiterating that we are city that is open for economic, social, and cultural collaboration, eager to discuss opportunities arising from the UK - EU reset and our ongoing engagement, alongside welcoming the Ambassador to our ongoing 850th anniversary celebrations which will have Glasgow's place in Europe at its heart."

Councillor Carson, seconded by Councillor Curran, moved as an amendment that:

- (1) at paragraph 2, after "are all positive aspects of the UK-EU agreement" insert full stop and remove rest of paragraph;
- (2) at paragraph 3, remove all and insert two new paragraphs, which should read as:

"Council welcomes early signs of improved UK-EU cooperation and believes that deeper collaboration is both possible and necessary, particularly in sectors critical to Glasgow. Council supports greater involvement of local authorities in shaping international engagement and urges both the UK and Scottish Governments to consult directly with cities and regions – ensuring local voices are heard.

Council notes that the Scottish Government has failed to involve local government in its European engagement strategy, despite repeated calls by

COSLA. Council believes that Glasgow's interests are best served by practical cooperation, not constitutional grandstanding.”;

- (3) at paragraph 5 delete all and replace with:

“Council believes that while Brexit has created challenges, the focus must now be on repairing relationships and forging stronger links to the EU through pragmatic cooperation. Council believes that this can only be done together, not constitutional division.”;

- (4) delete paragraph 6 and replace with:

“Council regrets that the SNP continue to promote constitutional upheaval over constructive cooperation. Labour believes Glasgow's interests lie in working with both governments to rebuild our relationships through diplomacy and delivery – not division.” and

- (5) delete paragraph 8 and replace with:

“Council reaffirms Glasgow's role as a European-facing city that is proud of its international outlook. Council believes that we must maximise opportunities for cooperation and partnership.”

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 27 voted for the amendment by Councillor Carson and 48 for the motion as adjusted, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

Adjournment.

17 In terms of Standing Order No 5 (12), the time being after 1630 hours, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting, the remaining items of business being 9(e), 9(f) and 9(g).