

Q.1	To be asked by Councillor Lilith Johnstone
Tabled Question	“In light of the recent Council decision to provide a public holiday for Council staff during Scotland’s World Cup game, can the City Treasurer confirm what assessment has been made of the impact on childcare provision across the city?”
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>Parents of three-to-five year olds are entitled to up to 1140 funded hours of early learning and childcare each year, and this entitlement is unaffected. Any hours that would have been used on the public holiday can be moved to another day, so no family loses provision. Early years settings will support parents to reschedule these hours in a way that works for them.</p> <p>For younger children and for vulnerable families who receive bought in childcare, the same flexibility applies. These hours can also be reallocated across the year, ensuring continuity of support.</p> <p>In short, while local adjustments will be needed, all funded childcare entitlements are protected and families will still receive their full allocation through alternative arrangements.</p>	

Q.2	To be asked by Councillor Rashid Hussain
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant Convenor: What procedural improvements will be introduced to ensure that future road closures are planned, communicated, and overseen more effectively, particularly in light of the issues previously experienced at the Darnley Mains junction?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

Thank you for the question. The recent works at Leggatston Road in Darnley presented a unique set of challenges, and while the scheme was carefully planned, we fully recognise the disruption that residents experienced at certain points.

From the outset, officers identified the constraints posed by the adjacent M77, the large retail park and the single entry and exit serving the housing estate. Because of this, we undertook early and extensive engagement with Transport Scotland to coordinate movement on and off the motorway, and with the retail park to agree suitable dates, phasing and traffic management arrangements. Four Variable Messaging Signs were installed in the surrounding area well in advance of the works to alert motorists and residents to the timing and duration of the closure.

Despite these preparations, delays did occur at times when residents were leaving the estate. The mid-week morning peak proved to be much more variable than was forecast at the planning stage. What operated smoothly one day did not necessarily do so the next. Once this became clear on site, officers adjusted working hours so that peak traffic could clear before construction resumed, and traffic was managed dynamically throughout the day to relieve pressure where possible.

Although very few locations in Glasgow present this specific combination of constraints, we are committed to learning from this experience. Future schemes will place a stronger focus on understanding how traffic demand fluctuates across the week, rather than relying solely on typical daily patterns. Earlier adjustments to working times will be considered where needed, and stakeholder engagement will remain at the centre of planning, with close coordination across agencies and open communication with local communities.

These improvements will help ensure that future road closures are planned, communicated and overseen more effectively, supporting smoother and safer journeys for residents while enabling essential infrastructure works to proceed efficiently.

Q.3	To be asked by Councillor Robert Mooney
Tabled Question	“Can the relevant Convenor confirm how many designated disabled parking bays have been removed or lost over the past five years, and set out what actions the Council intends to take to reinstate, replace, or rectify this reduction in accessible on-street parking for disabled residents?”
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convenor for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

Thank you for your question. Officers advise that there has been no loss of designated disabled parking bays across the city over the past five years. When any transport or public realm scheme requires changes to on street parking, existing disabled bays are always relocated as close as possible to their original position. This ensures that overall provision for disabled residents in the area is fully maintained.

In some cases, schemes have actually increased accessible parking. A current example is the work on St George’s Road, where the number of designated disabled bays has risen from two to six.

It is also important to highlight that Blue Badge holders can park free of charge and without time limit in any shared use or pay and display bay, provided their badge is displayed. This means that accessible parking opportunities extend far beyond designated bays alone.

Where a specific need for a designated disabled parking space is identified, residents can raise this with the parking projects team. These requests are assessed and can be incorporated into future amendments to parking schemes to ensure provision continues to meet local needs.

The Council remains committed to protecting and improving accessible parking for disabled residents and will continue to review opportunities to strengthen provision as part of ongoing transport and public realm projects.

Q.4	"To be asked by Bailie Soryia Siddique"
Tabled Question	"Can the relevant Convenor advise what enforcement action the Council has taken to prevent further disrepair or demolition of heritage buildings in North Laurieston?"
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use

Thank you for your question. The Council has a range of statutory powers under Housing, Building Standards, Environmental Health and Planning legislation that can be used to protect historic buildings across Glasgow, including those in North Laurieston. These powers exist to safeguard buildings of heritage value. However, the legal responsibility for repairing a building always lies with its owner. Aside from limited shared duties under the Tenements (Scotland) Act 2004, there is no general legal requirement for an owner to maintain their property, even where that property has historic significance.

Because of this, the Council's primary approach to tackling Buildings at Risk is to work directly with owners. Officers focus on encouraging essential repairs, preventing further deterioration and identifying sustainable long-term solutions through sale or redevelopment. While the Council can intervene through enforcement notices or emergency works, these measures are costly, complex and time consuming. They are therefore only used in exceptional circumstances, as outcomes can be uncertain despite significant investment.

As part of the North Laurieston Masterplan process, officers have carried out external condition assessments on several properties in the area. These reports provide an evidence base and may support future statutory action where necessary. The Masterplan will also recommend that statutory powers could be required to address serious disrepair and long-term vacancy if owners fail to act. The Masterplan is due to be presented to committee later this month.

The possibility of enforcement can prompt action. For example, the prospect of statutory intervention helped accelerate repairs by owners at Carlton Place. Officers will continue to use the full range of tools at their disposal to protect heritage buildings while prioritising constructive engagement with owners wherever possible.

Q.5	To be asked by Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what work is underway to action the Public Toilet Strategy?”
Responder	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
<p>Thank you for the question. The Council recognises that access to clean, safe and accessible public toilets is essential for health, wellbeing and personal dignity. In October 2023 the Council agreed to develop Glasgow’s first Public Toilet Strategy, shaped by the earlier petition on improving provision across parks and public spaces and informed by extensive public engagement.</p> <p>The Public Toilet Strategy 2025 to 2035 sets the strategic direction for the next decade. It is built around six themes: health and wellbeing, sustainability, inclusivity and equality, accessibility, safety and security and support for the local economy. Its development was supported by the British Toilets Association and a citywide public survey carried out in November 2024.</p> <p>Following the presentation of the Strategy to the ELN Committee in March 2025, officers have prioritised the procurement of a new contract to replace the current agreement with Healthmatic Ltd, which expires in April 2027. Lessons learned from the existing contract are informing this work. The new contract will support key actions in the Strategy, including improved and more inclusive facilities, with input from groups such as the Feminist Urbanism network.</p> <p>The Corporate Procurement Unit will shortly issue a Prior Information Notice to engage the market and help shape the future service, including opportunities to enhance provision in parks and the city centre. Officers also continue to seek additional funding to support wider improvements.</p> <p>An additional project officer, funded through the recent budget, will now support delivery of the Strategy’s 21 actions, working with partners across the Council family and external stakeholders.</p> <p>A fuller progress update will be brought to the ELN Committee before the summer recess.</p>	

Q.6	To be asked by Councillor Jon Molyneux
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener what plans are in place for the reopening of George Square later in the year?”
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council and City Convener for City Region, Economy and Just Transition

Thank you for your question. I am pleased to confirm that the redevelopment of George Square continues to progress on schedule, with work on track for reopening later this year.

Recent progress on site includes the laying of new high quality stone surfacing along the north side of the Square and the successful planting of new trees that form an important part of the redesigned civic space.

George Square is expected to reopen to the public by the end of August. Alongside the physical completion of works, a cross-service team within the Council is currently developing plans for a formal reopening event. This is expected to take place in September and will include a civic reception for elected members, community representatives, local businesses, the contractor and representatives of both Governments. Elected members will receive further details in the coming months.

The refurbished Square will deliver a renewed and inclusive civic space that meets the expectations of residents and visitors alike, and the Council continues to work closely with partners to ensure a successful reopening at the end of the summer.

Q.7	To be asked by Bailie Seonad Hoy
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant city convenor to what extent the council was involved in Police Scotland’s introduction of a temporary dispersal zone in the city centre and what assurances they have received that this will not curtail the public’s right to assemble and protest?”
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

Thank you, Lord Provost. As members will be aware, Police Scotland has specific temporary powers under the Anti Social Behaviour (Scotland) Act 2004 which allow them to introduce a dispersal zone for up to three months in order to address problematic group behaviour. These powers permit officers to direct groups of two or more people to leave an area where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that their presence may lead to antisocial behaviour.

The temporary dispersal zone in the city centre has been introduced by Police Scotland to respond to identified and evidenced antisocial behaviour in a localised area within the city centre. The intention of this is to reduce disorder, lower fear of crime and improve safety for residents, workers and visitors. The police have been clear that this action follows concerns raised by the public and by local businesses and is intended to provide reassurance and promote a safe and welcoming city centre.

Although Police Scotland has a duty to consult the council, the decision to introduce a dispersal zone and to use these statutory powers sits entirely with the police, not the council. As part of that consultation, I met with the Divisional Commander for Greater Glasgow and the Superintendent for Operations along with the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and the Director of Legal and Administration. At that meeting Police Scotland outlined the evidence supporting the creation of the zone and provided assurances that the approach to implementation and enforcement would be proportionate and based on necessity.

Police Scotland has also met with local elected members, community representatives, business leaders and other stakeholders. The impact of the dispersal zone will be closely monitored by the police, with updates over the next three months.

On the matter of the right to assemble and protest, section 21 of the Act makes clear that dispersal powers cannot be used against groups engaged in peaceful picketing due to a trade dispute or those taking part in a notified public procession. Peaceful protest is, of course, entirely lawful and protected, including within a dispersal zone.

It is very important to stress that this zone has been introduced in relation to localised issues of suspected crime and antisocial behaviour, that the Police are clear that enforcement will be targeted and proportionate in addressing these concerns, and that the legislation is clear that it cannot be applied to peaceful protest. I most recently met with Police Scotland in my capacity as a local member for the city centre this week and again received further assurances to this effect.

Q.8	To be asked by Councillor Robert Mooney
Tabled Question	<p>“To ask the relevant Convenor: Following the recent decision to introduce charges for guided tours of the City Chambers, can the Convenor confirm whether these charges will also apply when Councillors themselves take groups, such as disabled groups or community organisations, on a tour of the Chamber?”</p>
Responder	Councillor Greg Hepburn, City Convenor for Open Government and Business Manager
<p>Work continues in relation to this aspect of the budget, however, it will not lead to charges being introduced for Councillors to show guests the City Chambers, rather, this is exploring options to see if there are new visitor experiences that could be offered.</p>	

Q.9	To be asked by Councillor Malcolm Mitchell
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Treasurer to reflect on Glasgow's 2026/27 budget, now that all council budgets in Scotland have been set.”
Responder	Councillor Richard Bell, City Convenor for Financial Inclusion and City Treasurer
<p>Glasgow's budget for 2026/27 is a budget that invests in our services while avoiding unnecessarily large increases in Council Tax for hard pressed Glaswegians. It invests in an enhanced gully cleaning programme, increases street cleaning squads and increases local Area Budgets which support local and third sector organisations.</p> <p>My primary focus as City Treasurer is Glasgow's own budget, but it is also helpful to consider how other authorities have approached their financial challenges. Glasgow has its own unique pressures, but that does not prevent us from learning from neighbouring councils across Scotland. Looking at local government budgets from a national perspective is also part of my role as Resources Spokesperson for COSLA.</p> <p>Council Tax is often the headline element of any budget. Some colleagues were critical of the modest above inflation rise of 5.9 per cent. This increase ensured that we could avoid deeper service reductions and instead make investments that would otherwise have been impossible.</p> <p>It is also worth noting the Council Tax decisions taken by neighbouring authorities: East Renfrewshire at 6 per cent, South Lanarkshire at 6.5 per cent, North Lanarkshire at 7 per cent, West Dunbartonshire at 7.8 per cent and Inverclyde at 7.9 per cent.</p> <p>The financial pressures facing councils across Scotland are driven substantially by the wider economic environment, including the cost-of-living crisis shaped by decisions taken by the UK Government.</p> <p>This administration remains focused on investing in our citizens and in frontline services while taking a balanced and responsible approach to local taxation.</p>	

Q.10	To be asked by Councillor Elaine McSparran
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Convener for Education and Skills will she join me in congratulating the Glasgow schools recognised at the Scottish School Awards.”
Responder	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education
<p>I am very pleased to join you in congratulating the Glasgow schools and education teams recognised at this year’s Scottish School Meal Awards. These achievements are not only a testament to the hard work of our catering staff, teachers, and school communities, but also a reflection of Glasgow’s broader ambition to build a fairer, healthier, and more sustainable food system for all our children – and wider citizens.</p> <p>The recognition received across multiple categories – from Parkhill Secondary winning the Hospitality Education Award, to Glasgow Gaelic School being named Sustainable School of the Year, and our own Cookfreeze Central Production Unit securing the Special Award – highlights the innovation and commitment that exists across our city. These successes sit alongside Glasgow City Council being Highly Commended for the Healthy Living Award, demonstrating how seriously we take our responsibility to provide nutritious, high-quality meals.</p> <p>At a time when food insecurity and the cost-of-living crisis continue to affect families, these achievements show what can be accomplished through dedication, creativity, and a shared focus on ensuring every young person has access to good food.</p> <p>They also strengthen Glasgow’s growing reputation as a leader in both food sustainability and school meal excellence.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly congratulate everyone involved.</p>	

Q.11	To be asked by Councillor Declan Blench
Tabled Question	“To ask the Leader of the Council does she agree that the film " Everybody to Kenmure Street” documents people power and our city’s heritage of welcome and civil resistance?”
Responder	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council and City Convener for City Region, Economy and Just Transition
<p>Thank you Cllr Blench for raising this question. Yes, I do agree that Everybody to Kenmure Street captures a powerful moment of people-led action and speaks directly to Glasgow’s long tradition of solidarity.</p> <p>Many colleagues will remember being in this very Chamber on Thursday 13 May 2021. Many of us felt horror, many felt helpless, and many felt anger as the scenes unfolded. However, due to the action of the Pollokshields community and wider Glaswegians that day – we also felt hope and pride.</p> <p>And I continue to have that pride in both my colleagues Bailie Roza Salih who led with her friends the Glasgow Girls campaign against dawn raids, was there that day organising, and of course you, who was amongst the first on the scene.</p> <p>However, the events on Kenmure Street in May 2021 were not organised by any single group or institution; they were driven by ordinary residents who refused to accept an injustice taking place quite literally on their doorstep. The film documents this clearly. It shows neighbours, community organisers, and passers-by coming together with a shared sense of responsibility and compassion.</p> <p>Glasgow has always been shaped by movements for social justice—from housing struggles led by Cathy McCormack in the East End, to anti-motorway organising by Colin MacLeod in Pollok Park, to the many campaigns that have defended the rights and dignity of our diverse communities. The Kenmure Street episode reflects that heritage.</p> <p>What makes the film significant is not only that it records what happened, but that it preserves the voices and experiences of those involved. It reminds us that civic courage often emerges from the grassroots and that collective action can have real, immediate impact.</p> <p>For these reasons, the film stands as an important record of people power in Glasgow and a testament to the city’s enduring commitment to welcome and fairness.</p>	



Q.12	To be asked by Councillor Dan Hutchison
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant city convenor what conversations have been held with SPT in light of the announcement of extended opening hours and about their decision to remove the free staff travel which was previously provided to ensure staff can get to and from work safely?”
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

Thank you for the question.

Glasgow City Council very much welcomes SPT’s commitment to extended Subway operating hours. Moving to extended operating hours has the potential to better support connectivity around Glasgow in the evenings and on Sundays, and this is a service improvement the Council has long advocated for.

While this change is linked to SPT’s ongoing Subway modernisation programme, the articulation of a clear plan for later opening is something I know people across Glasgow will welcome.

Staffing arrangements for the Subway, including any staff travel arrangements, are matters for SPT as the operator and employer, and the Council has no role in these. The Council will however continue to engage with SPT on their arrangements for extending operating hours as these develop.

Q.13	To be asked by Bailie Martha Wardrop
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener if the Council can urge the Scottish Government to change the law to support not for profit procurement in the provision of residential care for children?”
Responder	Councillor Cunningham, City Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Older People

Thank you for the question. The Council has long supported the principle that residential care for children should be delivered on a not-for-profit basis, ensuring that public funds are used to support children’s wellbeing rather than private profit. Recent national legislation represents an important step forward and provides a foundation for further action.

The Children (Care, Care Experience and Services Planning) (Scotland) Bill, passed by the Scottish Parliament on 19 March 2026, strengthens the Scottish Government’s ability to regulate the role of profit in children’s residential care. Section 8 of the Bill introduces new powers for Ministers through amendments to the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010. These powers require residential childcare providers to supply financial information to the Scottish Government and allow Ministers to explore options for limiting profit within the sector. This increased transparency is designed to support a shift towards models of provision where children’s outcomes, stability and support are prioritised.

Importantly, a Residential Childcare Futures Reference Group will be created, bringing together partners from national and local government, social work and organisations representing care experienced young people. The group will help define what profit means in practice and will advise Ministers on further regulatory steps to strengthen the move towards not-for-profit provision.

Given these developments, the Council is well placed to continue urging the Scottish Government to go further. The new legislation enables Ministers to consider additional regulation, but local authorities have a clear interest in encouraging stronger national action to ensure that future residential childcare provision supports The Promise and delivers care that is nurturing, stable and not driven by profit. We will therefore continue to advocate for the use of these new powers to shape a more sustainable, ethical, and child-centred residential care system, and for further legislative change if required to deliver a predominantly not for profit model across Scotland.

Q.14	To be asked by Councillor Ken Andrew
Tabled Question	“To ask the City Convener for Housing and Development does he agree that unused and in disrepair phone boxes, ATMs and kiosks are a blight on our streets and we should be either repurposing or decluttering these?”
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use

Thank you for the question. I agree that unused or poorly maintained phone boxes, ATMs and kiosks can have a negative impact on the look and feel of our streets.

When these structures fall into disrepair, they create clutter, limit accessibility and detract from the quality of public spaces. Wherever possible, we should either remove them or find positive ways to repurpose them.

These assets are not owned by the Council. They belong to BT and other telecommunications providers who operate as statutory undertakers, which gives them independent powers to install and retain this infrastructure. While installations in the city centre require planning permission and sometimes advertisement consent, the Council’s ability to refuse them is limited. Once installed, responsibility for maintenance or removal remains entirely with the provider, and securing action can be difficult. For example, officers have made repeated attempts to engage with BT regarding redundant phone boxes on West George Street, but progress has been limited.

Despite these challenges, officers continue to use every available route to encourage providers to repair, improve or remove outdated units. Alongside this, there is growing interest in creative reuse where communities support it. Old phone boxes, for example, can become mini libraries, defibrillator points, community information hubs or even small art installations, and we know that local artists, including those linked to Glasgow International, are keen to explore opportunities like these.

Where repurposing is not practical, removal remains the most effective way to improve the local environment. Our overall aim is to reduce unnecessary street clutter while supporting thoughtful, community led reuse where it adds value. We will continue to work with asset owners and partners to achieve that.

Q.15	To be asked by Bailie Martha Wardrop
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener if the Council has any plans to commemorate the centenary of the General Strike?”
Responder	Councillor Allan Casey, City Convener for Workforce and Homelessness and Addiction Services

Thank you for the question. At present the Council does not have a dedicated civic programme to commemorate the centenary of the 1926 General Strike. However, a number of Glasgow-based organisations within the city’s wider civic and cultural landscape are actively marking the anniversary, and the Council is aware of and supportive of these sector-led activities.

Glasgow Trades Union Council is hosting events as part of the national centenary programme, including the Glasgow launch of *The Future in Our Past: The General Strike, 1926/2026*, which reflects on the history and impact of the strike. In addition, Glasgow organisations are participating in the General Strike 100 partnership, a UK-wide collaboration involving museums, libraries and community groups to share exhibitions, talks and historical resources throughout 2026.

Further commemorative activity relevant to Glasgow is taking place across Scotland, including lectures and public events that explore the legacy of the strike and Scotland’s specific contribution to it.

While these commemorations are not being delivered directly by the Council, they ensure that the city’s strong historical association with the labour movement is recognised during this centenary year. The Council will continue to support partners where appropriate and highlight opportunities for the public to participate in these events.

Q.16	To be asked Councillor Elaine Gallagher
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant City Convener how many Glasgow school pupils will get a free school meal from August and what the average saving is to families?”
Responder	Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education
<p>Thank you for the question. From August, the rollout of universal free school meals for all will make a significant difference to families across Glasgow.</p> <p>There are currently 5,945 Primary 7 children in the city. Of these, 3,312 pupils already qualify for a free school meal through existing financial entitlements. This means that around 2,633 additional pupils, who do not currently meet the financial criteria, will now benefit from a free school meal every day.</p> <p>For those families, the introduction of universal free school meals represents a direct saving of £1.90 per child per day. Over a full school week this amounts to £9.50, and across an academic year the saving exceeds £361 per child. For many households, particularly those who may not qualify for financial assistance but still face cost pressures, this will provide very welcome support.</p> <p>Overall, this change means that every pupil in Glasgow will now receive a free school meal, with thousands of families benefitting from reduced household costs and children benefitting from a nutritious meal each day.</p>	