

Child Friendly City - Motion as adjusted approved, after division.

13 Councillor Richard Bell, seconded by Councillor Ruairi Kelly, moved that

"Council welcomes Glasgow's participation in the Urban95 programme which challenges cities to ask the question: 'If you experienced the city from 95cm above the ground, what would you change?', and recognises the growing international evidence that designing neighbourhoods, transport systems, public spaces and local services from the perspective of babies, young children and their carers can improve outcomes not only for children but for entire communities.

Council acknowledges that children are among those most affected by decisions about streets, transport and the built environment; that child-friendly neighbourhoods support healthier lifestyles, active travel, social connection, cleaner air, inclusion and community wellbeing; and that planning and transport policy should apply a clear "child lens" to decision-making.

Council recognises that public authorities should engage meaningfully with children and families, prioritise safe and accessible streets, child friendly public realm and public art, support independent mobility and play, reduce road danger at source, and ensure that children's rights and experiences are embedded within transport, planning and placemaking decisions.

Council further recognises that play is not confined to designated playgrounds and that children naturally play in streets, paths, greenspaces, vacant land, housing environments and other informal spaces.

Council therefore recommits to the 2018 National Position Statement on Outdoor Play and Learning and to embedding playing and learning outdoors as an everyday activity.

Council commits to becoming a 'Child Friendly City' and reaffirms its ambition for Glasgow to be the best place for a child to grow up, irrespective of their postcode or family circumstances, and will support and celebrate outdoor play and learning as a fundamental part of growing up in Glasgow.

Council instructs the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and other relevant senior officers, to:

- Prepare a "State of Play" report for consideration by the Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee within three committee cycles (by Jan 2027) setting out how learning from Urban95, Glasgow's Child Poverty Programme and emerging best practice in child-friendly planning, placemaking and transport design can be further embedded across council policy and service delivery;
- Identify opportunities within the implementation of National Planning Framework 4, the City Development Plan, transport planning, regeneration programmes and active travel investment to support children and families.

- Ensure that future planning guidance, masterplans and major regeneration frameworks are assessed through a child-friendly and family-friendly lens, including consideration of play, independent mobility, access to greenspace, community connection and children's rights;
- Implement a Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods Tactical Urbanism Programme, informed by Urban95, ongoing award-winning Play Sufficiency Assessment conversations with and including children and young people, and international best practice, prioritising communities experiencing the highest levels of child poverty and utilising low-cost, high-impact interventions such as play streets, traffic-calming measures, street greening, improved crossings, seating, temporary public realm improvements, opportunities for informal play and safer walking and wheeling routes for young children and their carers;
- Develop a Family Friendly Parks Framework for Glasgow's parks and greenspaces (by Jan 2027), with the aim of ensuring that every major park contains features that actively welcome babies, children, young people and their families, including opportunities for natural play, accessible toilets, seating, shelter, drinking water, play trails, community growing, outdoor learning and facilitated family activity;
- Develop demonstrator projects within Croftcroighn Park and Cranhill Park, reflecting their location within communities experiencing some of the highest concentrations of child poverty in the city, including proposals for natural play, play trails, informal play spaces, intergenerational seating and gathering areas, shelter, community growing opportunities, family facilities, partnership working with local organisations, families and schools, and the identification of external funding opportunities;
- Develop, as envisaged within the new City Development Plan, a child-friendly public art policy and creative placemaking approach (by Jan 2027) supporting interactive, playful and accessible installations that encourage exploration, imagination, learning and community pride."

Councillor Docherty, seconded by Councillor Ahmed, moved as an amendment that:-

- (1) After the paragraph beginning with "Council commits to becoming a 'Child Friendly City'" please insert new paragraph which should read as:

"Council notes, however, that the SNP Administration has held executive responsibility for Council policy since 2017 and that many of the challenges identified within this motion, including inequalities in access to quality play provision, greenspace, active travel infrastructure and child-friendly neighbourhoods, continue to affect children and families across Glasgow despite previous commitments, strategies and regeneration programmes. Council notes that Glasgow has adopted a succession of policies, strategies and action plans intended to improve outcomes for children and young people but believes that the persistence of many of these challenges demonstrates the need for greater focus on delivery and accountability. Council therefore

believes that Members and the public are entitled to a clear assessment of what has been delivered, what remains outstanding and what measurable outcomes have been achieved, and that future progress should be judged on demonstrable improvements in children's lives rather than the adoption of further strategies and frameworks alone.”

- (2) insert a new paragraph, which should read as:

“Council further notes that aspirations to create child-friendly and family-friendly neighbourhoods must be matched by the maintenance of existing public amenities and infrastructure, including public toilets, parks, play facilities and public spaces. Council recognises that neighbourhoods which work well for young children should also be accessible and welcoming for disabled people, older people and those with caring responsibilities.”

- (3) in the paragraph beginning with “Prepare a “State of Play” report” insert a new sentence, which should read as:

“, while also assessing progress made against existing Council commitments relating to child poverty, play sufficiency, active travel, neighbourhood regeneration and children's wellbeing, identifying areas where expected improvements have not been achieved and setting out specific actions to address these shortcomings; and including an assessment of the condition, accessibility and maintenance of existing play infrastructure across the city, including outstanding repairs, average repair times, equipment taken out of service and any geographic inequalities in provision;”

- (4) after previous new sentence, add a new paragraph, reading:

“Review current arrangements for the inspection, maintenance and repair of play infrastructure and family facilities within parks and public spaces across the city, including toilets, seating, accessible routes and play equipment, and identify options to reduce repair times, address maintenance backlogs, improve accessibility, and enhance the quality and availability of facilities for children, families, older people and disabled people;”

- (5) in paragraph beginning with: “Implement a Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods Tactical Urbanism Programme” insert a new sentence:

“with annual reporting to the appropriate committee on delivery against programme objectives and outcomes achieved;”

- (6) in the proceeding paragraph, after “accessible” please insert: “and well-maintained” and in the same paragraph, after “family activity,” add

“and that the Framework incorporates inclusive design principles and considers the needs of disabled people, older people and carers;” and

- (7) insert one final paragraph at the end, which should read as:

“Council instructs the Chief Executive to provide annual progress reports to the appropriate committee outlining delivery against Child Friendly City objectives, including measurable indicators relating to access to greenspace, play opportunities, active travel provision and neighbourhood inequalities affecting children and families.”

Bailie Mearns, seconded by Councillor Molyneux, moved as an amendment that:

- (1) in bulleted list of instructions, in instruction two, after “support children and families”, add:

“, including testing technical design options for active travel infrastructure with children and parents/carers, with a view that all new active travel infrastructure is designed with users age 6+ in mind.”

- (2) in bulleted list of instructions, in final bullet point, replace “installations that encourage” with “public realm that encourages”, and add at end of sentence “and report on how children will be involved in the creation of City Development Plan 2”

- (3) after the bulleted list, add additional bullets:

- Engage with landlords to ensure that play areas, communal spaces, and facilities for tenants are accessible to children of all abilities, promoting inclusivity and equality from the earliest stages of life.
- Map existing examples of high quality, child friendly spaces in Glasgow and consider how the Council can better promote these spaces and support their development.
- Consider options to extend the number of Street Play days and better support residents who want to hold Street Play days.
- Continued support for enforcement of school streets and anti-idling measures, improvement of pedestrian and cyclist environments at schools, provision of cycling training, and walking and cycling buses that facilitate shifting to active travel.
- Advocate for national funding to secure green barriers within school playgrounds to reduce risk to children from vehicular particulate matter which is known to cause serious health harms;
- Advocate for funding to replace 3G sports pitches in schools with pitches over 10 years old, due to health harms associated with the materials and the need for investment to replace surfaces which are being used beyond their stated lifecycle;
- Develop a Play Sufficiency toolkit, assessment criteria and action plan for schools to build on the positive work being carried out elsewhere across the city and to ensure that all children have equal access to quality play opportunities in school, utilising the £350,000 funding agreed in this year’s Council budget and drawing on the expertise of the working group formed to facilitate a review;

- Ensure that play pedagogy is being strongly embedded across all schools and set an ambitious target for the number of schools opting in to the Play Pedagogy award;
- Consider options to bring forward council-run, fully outdoor early years childcare to support expanded hours, increase sustainable provision, meet high levels of demand for outdoor nurseries, and support the rights of every child to access quality play opportunities
- Prepare for the expansion of childcare as announced in the PfG by conducting an assessment of current after-school provision in the city, including for children who have additional needs, and what steps need to be taken towards expanding this for all families who need it.

Bailie Hoy, seconded by Councillor Massie, moved as an amendment that:

- (1) add after - Identify opportunities within the implementation of National Planning Framework 4, the City Development Plan, transport planning, regeneration programmes and active travel investment to support children and families....

“This will include considering the negative impact of current advertising practice on the health and wellbeing of children and using planning legislation and the creation of an ethical advertising policy to reduce the level and impact of harmful advertising in areas frequented by children and young people.”

- (2) add after - Ensure that future planning guidance, masterplans and major regeneration frameworks are assessed through a child-friendly and family-friendly lens, including consideration of play, independent mobility, access to greenspace, community connection and children's rights...

“including taking consideration of Living Streets guidance for safe pedestrian access for babies, toddlers, early years and school aged children and planning new build estates and street redesign around their needs”;

- (3) insert a new paragraph at the end:

“Council considers bus franchising to be a central pillar of providing genuinely affordable public transport to all families and therefore the Council requests that the leader writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport requesting a clear timeline for progressing bus franchising in line with the demands of the Better Buses for Strathclyde campaign”

Councillor Bell, with the approval of his seconder, accepted the amendments by Bailie Mearns and Bailie Hoy, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council welcomes Glasgow's participation in the Urban95 programme which challenges cities to ask the question: 'If you experienced the city from 95cm above the ground, what would you change?', and recognises the growing international evidence that designing neighbourhoods, transport systems, public spaces and local services from the perspective of babies, young children and their carers can improve outcomes not only for children but for entire communities.

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- Identify opportunities within the implementation of National Planning Framework 4, the City Development Plan, transport planning, regeneration programmes and active travel investment to support children and families. including testing technical design options for active travel infrastructure with children and parents/carers, with a view that all new active travel infrastructure is designed with users age 6+ in mind."
- This will include considering the negative impact of current advertising practice on the health and wellbeing of children and using planning legislation and the creation of an ethical advertising policy to reduce the level and impact of harmful advertising in areas frequented by children and young people."
- Ensure that future planning guidance, masterplans and major regeneration frameworks are assessed through a child-friendly and family-friendly lens, including consideration of play, independent mobility, access to greenspace, community connection and children's rights This will include considering the

negative impact of current advertising practice on the health and wellbeing of children and using planning legislation and the creation of an ethical advertising policy to reduce the level and impact of harmful advertising in areas frequented by children and young people.”;

- Implement a Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods Tactical Urbanism Programme, informed by Urban95, ongoing award-winning Play Sufficiency Assessment conversations with and including children and young people, and international best practice, prioritising communities experiencing the highest levels of child poverty and utilising low-cost, high-impact interventions such as play streets, traffic-calming measures, street greening, improved crossings, seating, temporary public realm improvements, opportunities for informal play and safer walking and wheeling routes for young children and their carers;
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- Develop, as envisaged within the new City Development Plan, a child-friendly public art policy and creative placemaking approach (by Jan 2027) supporting interactive, playful and accessible installations and public realm that encourages exploration, imagination, learning and community pride." and report on how children will be involved in the creation of City Development Plan 2"
- Engage with landlords to ensure that play areas, communal spaces, and facilities for tenants are accessible to children of all abilities, promoting inclusivity and equality from the earliest stages of life.
- Consider options to extend the number of Street Play days and better support residents who want to hold Street Play days.
- Continued support for enforcement of school streets and anti-idling measures, improvement of pedestrian and cyclist environments at schools, provision of cycling training, and walking and cycling buses that facilitate shifting to active travel.
- Advocate for national funding to secure green barriers within school playgrounds to reduce risk to children from vehicular particulate matter which is known to cause serious health harms;
- Advocate for funding to replace 3G sports pitches in schools with pitches over 10 years old, due to health harms associated with the materials and the need

for investment to replace surfaces which are being used beyond their stated lifecycle;

- Develop a Play Sufficiency toolkit, assessment criteria and action plan for schools to build on the positive work being carried out elsewhere across the city and to ensure that all children have equal access to quality play opportunities in school, utilising the £350,000 funding agreed in this year's Council budget and drawing on the expertise of the working group formed to facilitate a review;
- Continue to ensure that play pedagogy is being strongly embedded across all schools and set an ambitious target for the number of schools opting in to the Play Pedagogy award;
- Consider options to bring forward council-run, fully outdoor early years childcare to support expanded hours, increase sustainable provision, meet high levels of demand for outdoor nurseries, and support the rights of every child to access quality play opportunities
- Prepare for the expansion of childcare as announced in the PfG by conducting an assessment of current after-school provision in the city, including for children who have additional needs, and what steps need to be taken towards expanding this for all families who need it;
- Council considers bus franchising to be a central pillar of providing genuinely affordable public transport to all families and therefore the Council requests that the leader writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport requesting a clear timeline for progressing bus franchising in line with the demands of the Better Buses for Strathclyde campaign."

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 29 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Docherty and 43 for the motion as adjusted, which was accordingly declared to be carried.