

Police resourcing and community coverage during major events – Motion, as adjusted approved.

13 Bailie Lalley, seconded by Councillor O’Lone moved that:-

“Council notes that Glasgow hosts a growing number of large-scale cultural, sporting and entertainment events each year, including Summer Sessions in Kelvingrove Park, the TRNSMT music festival, major football matches, and large-scale unofficial celebration events. These events are often planned well in advance, are recurring in nature, and take place most frequently during the spring and summer months.

Council further notes that policing these events requires the redeployment of significant Police Scotland resources. As a result, officers are frequently moved away from routine duties and neighbourhood policing in communities across the city. This has the effect of leaving smaller communities with reduced police coverage at times when residents reasonably expect a visible and accessible local police presence.

Council recognises that the policing demands associated with major events in Glasgow are predictable, recurring and increasing in scale, and that these pressures require long-term and strategic resourcing rather than reliance on short-term redeployment from neighbourhood policing teams.

Council acknowledges the importance of major events to Glasgow’s economy, cultural life and national profile, and recognises that ensuring public safety at these events is essential. However, Council also recognises that the current level of police resourcing does not adequately reflect the cumulative and disproportionate pressures placed on policing in cities such as Glasgow, which host a significant number of national and international events each year.

Council is concerned that continued pressure on police resources risks undermining neighbourhood policing, reducing reassurance for residents, and weakening community confidence in public safety during periods of high demand.

Council therefore agrees to write to the Scottish Government calling for increased and sustained funding for Police Scotland to reflect the additional and ongoing demands associated with policing major events in Glasgow. Council further agrees to request that future police funding settlements take account of the unique pressures faced by cities that host large-scale events, and to seek engagement with Police Scotland on how neighbourhood policing capacity and community reassurance can be maintained during major event periods.”

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

DELETE paragraph 6 and replace with:

“Council therefore agrees to write to the Scottish Government, Police Scotland and COSLA seeking engagement on whether current police funding and resource allocation arrangements adequately reflect the additional and recurring demands experienced by cities hosting major national and international events.

Council further agrees to request that future consideration be given to how national policing resources can continue to support both the safe delivery of major events and the maintenance of effective neighbourhood policing and community reassurance in host communities.

Council also agrees to request a report to the Glasgow Safe Partnership by the end of the year outlining the impact of major events on neighbourhood policing capacity, community reassurance and wider community safety outcomes, together with any lessons learned and opportunities to strengthen future planning and partnership working.”

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

After paragraph two ending “...local police presence.”, insert additional paragraph:

“Council notes that the proportion of respondents who said police in their local area were doing an excellent or good job has declined from 61% in 2012-13 to 45% in 2023-24. In the “Best Value in policing: Joint Best Value audit of Policing in Scotland”, published in January 2026, Audit Scotland and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland found that current performance reporting cannot show if policing in Scotland is achieving its strategic goals. Whilst public trust in the police remains high, confidence in local policing has been declining.”

Add additional final paragraph at the end of motion:

“Council also agrees to bring a paper to Safe Glasgow outlining how police resources are used for major planned and unplanned events in the city and what opportunities exist through the Glasgow Events Strategy and Events Board to ensure better resource planning around events.”

During the debate, Bailie Lalley, with the approval of his seconder, accepted the amendments by Bailie McCabe and Councillor Molyneux, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

“Council notes that Glasgow hosts a growing number of large-scale cultural, sporting and entertainment events each year, including Summer Sessions in Kelvingrove Park, the TRNSMT music festival, major football matches, and large-scale unofficial celebration events. These events are often planned well in advance, are recurring in nature, and take place most frequently during the spring and summer months.

Council further notes that policing these events requires the redeployment of significant Police Scotland resources. As a result, officers are frequently moved away from routine duties and neighbourhood policing in communities across the city. This has the effect of leaving smaller communities with reduced police coverage at times when residents reasonably expect a visible and accessible local police presence.

Council notes that the proportion of respondents who said police in their local area were doing an excellent or good job has declined from 61% in 2012-13 to 45% in 2023-24. In the “Best Value in policing: Joint Best Value audit of Policing in

Scotland”, published in January 2026, Audit Scotland and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland found that current performance reporting cannot show if policing in Scotland is achieving its strategic goals. Whilst public trust in the police remains high, confidence in local policing has been declining.

Council recognises that the policing demands associated with major events in Glasgow are predictable, recurring and increasing in scale, and that these pressures require long-term and strategic resourcing rather than reliance on short-term redeployment from neighbourhood policing teams.

Council acknowledges the importance of major events to Glasgow’s economy, cultural life and national profile, and recognises that ensuring public safety at these events is essential. However, Council also recognises that the current level of police resourcing does not adequately reflect the cumulative and disproportionate pressures placed on policing in cities such as Glasgow, which host a significant number of national and international events each year.

Council is concerned that continued pressure on police resources risks undermining neighbourhood policing, reducing reassurance for residents, and weakening community confidence in public safety during periods of high demand. Council therefore agrees to write to the Scottish Government, Police Scotland and COSLA seeking engagement on whether current police funding and resource allocation arrangements adequately reflect the additional and recurring demands experienced by cities hosting major national and international events.

Council further agrees to request that future consideration be given to how national policing resources can continue to support both the safe delivery of major events and the maintenance of effective neighbourhood policing and community reassurance in host communities.

Council also agrees to request a report to the Glasgow Safe Partnership by the end of the year outlining the impact of major events on neighbourhood policing capacity, community reassurance and wider community safety outcomes, together with any lessons learned and opportunities to strengthen future planning and partnership working.”

The motion as adjusted was approved unanimously.