Q 1	Asked by: Councillor Robert Mooney
Tabled Question	"To ask the Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations how many Glasgow Life facilities it intends to reopen with the additional £1.1m provided in the 2022/23 Budget, given that a number of facilities, including Ruchill Community Centre, will need substantial amounts of money to bring them up to an acceptable standard for reopening?"
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations

I appreciate that at the time of drafting the question you wouldn't have known that there was a report coming to CAC meeting which was held yesterday but there has been discussion this week on this subject of the additional £1.1m provided in the 2022/23 Budget to support the reopening of community facilities. The report provided was considered and approved yesterday and is of course available on the council website.

As you'll be aware the budget paper in February had stated:

'In consultation with local communities and taking a prioritised approach, this will support further ongoing re-opening of community centres and other local venues.'

As considered and approved at the City Administration Committee yesterday, a set of criteria is being developed to assess each venue which will inform the priorities for re-opening venues.

Alongside this, a public consultation process is also being developed to ensure that that there is appropriate stakeholder engagement and that their views inform the final decisions/selection. Furthermore, whilst developing the assessment criteria and consultation process, a financial modelling exercise will also be undertaken to identify updated operating costs for each venue including and any significant maintenance works that maybe required.

The criteria developed falls into 3 broad categories:

Firstly, Place (– including whether the venue is located in a Thriving Place, an SIMD area or an identified Community Hub ward),
Secondly, Demand & Impact on the Community (including the pre-pandemic usage, anticipated demand at this point, potential impact of re-opening on other venues where service providers may have relocated)
And thirdly, Financial, which will include the level of investment required and condition of the building.

The community consultation process is informed by national and international guidance that promotes effective engagement and participation to enable communities to achieve more influence in decisions which affect them.

In terms of your specific question on Ruchill Community Centre I can inform you that this centre requires approximately £220k of works and expenditure to re-open:

In terms of the other community facilities, there are a number under where interest has been lodged by third parties through the People Make Glasgow Communities programme (PMGC).

And there are further 3 buildings which require additional works amounting to approximately £50k in total.

The remainder of the community facilities should be able to re-open without the need of additional capital investment.

Q 2	Asked by: Councillor Frank McAveety
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant Convener what discussions have taken place between the Council and ScotRail following the dramatic timetable reductions across the City?"
Responder	Cllr Angus Millar, Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

The Council is part of a Strategic Transport Group with SPT and Transport Scotland and uses this platform for regular liaison on strategic transport issues. Officers also sit on a Regional Transport Strategy working group of local authorities led by SPT where the Fit for the Future timetable changes were discussed at the time, and directly engages with SPT and Transport Scotland on event planning and transport resilience.

The Council has liaised with SPT on timetable reductions recently and, in turn, as the Regional Transport Authority, SPT has had regular meetings with ScotRail on the changes.
SPT state that the exceptional circumstances brought about by Covid, including reductions in demand for rail travel and the disruption to driver training have been noted and, through the previously mentioned arrangements, concerns have been raised with ScotRail that there is a significant danger that reduced service levels could result in long term modal shift to private car journeys.

As such, the recent timetable changes should be viewed only as a temporary arrangement reflecting uniquely challenging circumstances and, in time, there should be a return to the pre-Covid timetable.

Members may recall the ScotRail announcement in February 2022 to add 150 more services to the timetable in Scotland and it's hoped that additional services may be introduced over time as demand recovers post-Covid.

The recently adopted Glasgow Transport Strategy Policy Framework contains a policy advocating lobbying Transport Scotland and ScotRail to ensure citizens of Glasgow and the regional travel catchment of Glasgow continue to benefit from an extensive and efficient rail system".

Q 3	Asked by: Councillor Cecilia O'Lone
Tabled Question	"To ask the Leader of the Council to join us in congratulating Homeless Project Scotland's Co-Founders Colin McInnes and Fraser Riddell on receiving the UK's Points of Light award recently at Downing Street?"
Responder	Cllr Allan Casey

Yes. On behalf of the City Government, I congratulate Mr McInnes and Mr Riddell on their receipt of the Points of Light Award. For members who may not be aware of the Points of Light Award, it has been awarded by UK Prime Ministers since 2014 for volunteering work.

It's perhaps appropriate to also congratulate all those in Glasgow recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

People like Anne Doherty from Knightswood, awarded a British Empire Medal for her 44 years long service as a clinical assistant at the Royal Hospital for Children and Yorkhill Children's Hospital; Katrina Bowes and Brian Hughes for services to education; Azeem Ibrahim for services to the union, diversity, and foreign policy; Elizabeth King for services to young people and Chloe Lawson and Helen Watson for services to vulnerable people.

And from within Glasgow City Council, Annemarie O'Donnell was awarded an OBE, and Colin Edgar and Denise Hamilton were awarded MBEs for their work in delivering a safe COP26.

I am sure the chamber will join us in offering our congratulations to all those who go above and beyond to support and serve the city.

Q 4	Asked by: Bailie Soryia Siddique
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant Convener for an update on this Council's ongoing dialogue with the Scottish Government to provide resources to prevent the further deterioration of our City's pre-1919 tenement stock?"
Responder	Councillor Kenny McLean, Convener for Housing Development, Built Heritage and Land Use

Tenements are fundamental to Glasgow's housing mix, indeed to the very identity of the city and will continue to be so, so their protection is crucial.

At present, there are 77,200 pre-1919 properties in the city's housing stock, a quarter of all households. Of these, 23% are owned by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), with the remainder in private ownership.

A sample survey of private sector pre-1919s found that 5% were in a state of serious disrepair, with repair and maintenance issues in varying degrees found in the rest of the stock. We recognise that this poses a challenge to the owners given the cost of repair can be significant.

The Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm City Policy Committee received an update report on this last year. The Safeguarding pre1919 Tenement Stock Report put forward a series of recommendations including continuing to work with Housing Associations to deliver tenement repair programmes, undertaking additional research on ways to make the pre-1919 tenements more energy efficient and piloting a gutter repair initiative in pilot areas. Alongside this work, officers were tasked with discussing potential funding with the Scottish Government.

In these discussions the challenge of maintaining the city's older tenement stock has been put forward and acknowledged. There are no easy answers to this long-standing issue, not least because of the challenge – albeit not insurmountable – to provide financial support to private owners.

The Scottish Government, alongside Glasgow City Council and Govanhill and Southside Housing Associations continue to support the repairs and acquisitions programme taking place in Govanhill - in Bailie Siddique's ward - and I am sure she will agree with me that this work has had a transformative impact on the housing stock in the area. This is a model that we are keen to replicate in other parts of the city as funding allows.

Therefore, whilst there is no current additional Scottish Government funding to address disrepair within the pre-1919 housing stock, we remain in contact about this issue given the challenge it poses to the city's housing mix. I have agreed with colleagues to write to the relevant minister in the Scottish Government seeking an update on this matter and requesting further dialogue to progress solutions.

Q 5	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	"To ask the Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Equalities to provide an update on conversations he has had with Police Scotland around additional protections that can be put in place to protect those accessing sexual and reproductive healthcare from harassment."
Responder	Councillor Chris Cunningham, Convener for Health, Care & Caring and Equalities

Can I begin by both thanking Cllr Bruce for the question and by making it clear that I am fully supportive of buffer zones being put in place around health care facilities, including Sandyford Central, the Royal Infirmary and The Queen Elizabeth University Hospital.

I also support the proposals to do this on a national basis which is currently being consulted on as part of Gillian MacKay MSPs proposed Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill.

I understand however that there are a number of legal issues which need to be considered about progressing on this basis, not least balancing the ECHR rights to protest with the right to access healthcare.

The Society of Local Authority Lawyers and Administrators in Scotland (SOLAR) has been represented by both Glasgow and Edinburgh City Councils on this matter and have been engaged in conversations around buffer zones through the COSLA Community Wellbeing Board which former Cllr Jennifer Layden sat on.

SOLAR sought the advice of a QC on the legality of local authorities putting bye-laws in place for buffer zones. That advice is clear that Council's do not have the power to do that. A summary of that advice was provided to COSLA in November 2021 and I will provide a link to that advice in the written answer to this question. We have also been invited to take part in the Abortion Services summit being hosted by the First Minister next week and at which the Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership are presenting.

I have not yet had any direct discussions with Police Scotland about this, but Sandyford management have been in regular contact with Police Scotland and have recently met with the Glasgow North West Local Area Commander to discuss this issue further and the local policing response to it. I understand that the Scottish Government have also had discussions with Police Scotland at a strategic level to discuss this with them.

Finally, Sandyford Central have implemented an internal Standing Operating Procedure to ensure that patients and staff can access the building in a way that limits the fear and intimidation that these protests can illicit in some who are accessing the services provided there.

I hope therefore that Cllr Bruce will see that I, and this City Government, are fully supportive of both the principle of buffer zones themselves and of the legislation which I hope will pass the various legal and technical hurdles that it faces and becomes law as soon as possible.

Q 6	Asked by: Councillor Jon Molyneux
Tabled Question	"To ask the Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Equalities if he will honour a commitment made by his predecessor during the recent election campaign to hold a summit meeting with foster and kinship carers and their trade union representatives?"
Responder	Councillor Chris Cunningham, Convener for Health, Care & Caring and Equalities

Can I thank Cllr Molyneux for the question, and I am happy to confirm that I will indeed convene a summit on the issue later this year, although I will obviously need to consider this with the Chief Officer of the HSCP and I would wish to involve the wider kinship and foster carer group beyond the relatively small number involved in the IWGB.

I'm also happy to report that I have already met with Foster Carers from the Independent Workers union of Great Britain and I look forward to meeting with other foster care groups as we move forward. The exact nature and format of the Summit is obviously something that will need to be developed over the coming weeks.

At this stage I would be reluctant to go into too much detail on the issues and concerns that lie behind Cllr Molyneux's question although I note that discussions remain ongoing between the Scottish Government and COSLA regarding the recommendations from the National Care Allowance Review and we still await the outcome of these discussions.

I would also note the increases in foster care allowances that were agreed following both this year's Budget and the decisions of the Integrated Joint Board in March, although I fully appreciate that in the current environment the issue of allowances is going to be significant.

I recognise that all of these are issues that will neither be resolved easily nor necessarily by a Summit on the matter, and I will be happy to engage in further discussion off line should that be of assistance.

Q 7	Asked by: Bailie Anthony Carroll
Tabled Question	“To ask the relevant Convener how many flatted properties currently have access to food waste recycling?"
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly

In the city there is approximately 13,000 240- litre food waste bins for flatted properties and 377 500-litre bins located near flatted properties

Q 8	Asked by: Councillor Eva Bolander
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery for an update on the work of the City Centre Taskforce?"
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

"The City Centre Task Force brings together the Council, businesses and other partners to provide an immediate response to the impacts of Covid and to help steer the city centre through the wider and longer-term changes ahead.

Co-chaired by myself and Stuart Patrick, Chief Executive of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, membership includes representatives from the Scottish and UK Governments and core city centre sectors including hospitality, transport and Further Education.

We know that the pandemic accelerated and exacerbated existing trends in the decline of high street retail, on top of a sharp drop as in footfall. A recent report - Scotland's Urban Age 2022 - details challenges and potential solutions of the issues facing City Centres *everywhere* given the pandemic, Brexit, responses to the climate emergency and the evolving models of how people shop and live. Rather starkly it predicts a further 40% rise in online shopping. This evidence-based work is informing our action plan.

The Task Force is a central player in securing support and resources from the national governments to meet these challenges. One example is the £8 million investment secured for city centre businesses through the COVID Discretionary Grant programme, and we continue to engage with Scottish and UK Governments around the powers and resources required to support the strategic development and recovery of the city centre.

Most recently Glasgow has been awarded £1.95m in funding from the Scottish Government City Centre Recovery Fund. This investment is a significant contribution to our City Centre Recovery efforts and I know will be welcomed by the local business community.

Q 9	Asked by: Councillor Declan Blench
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery of efforts being made post COP26 to ensure Glasgow remains a frontrunner city in the race to carbon zero?"
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

As colleagues will be aware, Glasgow remains host city of COP26 until the handover to COP27 hosts Sharm El-Sheikh later this year and it remains our intention to promote Glasgow, our sustainability ambitions and achievements, and our city as a place for green investment during that time and, indeed, beyond.

Since COP and our road to Net Zero was last discussed in this Chamber, Glasgow has become one of only two UK cities selected to join the EU Mission for 100 climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030. Around 350 European cities applied to the programme, which assists cities in reducing emissions and pioneer innovative approaches to sustainability with citizens and stakeholders.

Members may also be aware of C40, the influential network promoting the work of the world's major cities within the sustainability agenda. Glasgow is working with C40 as one of its Thriving Cities, a two-year programme with partners including Glasgow University to begin shaping a more prosperous, healthier and greener city and city economy.

Thriving Cities work feeds into the wider citizen engagement agenda, with an event in April bringing together C40, stakeholders and communities to propose co-created solutions to flood risk, biodiversity loss, derelict and polluted land regeneration, and active and inclusive travel.
We have increased our international profile through various networks such as ICLEI, the Resilient Cities Network and Eurocities and recently launched Women4Climate with global 20 cities globally including Barcelona, Montréal, Mumbai and New Orleans, offering mentorship programmes to women committed to tackling the climate emergency.

One of the agendas Glasgow has been at the vanguard of is the financing of transition. Following the appointment of a Green Economy Manager we are in the process of putting in place a Green Economy Team. This will be absolutely vital in building the capacity to progress the Green Deal and business cases for our Greenprint for Investment.

And of course, core work, from yesterday's adoption of the Adaptation Plan, engagement with citizens and school children, our active travel and transport strategies continues.

Q 10	Asked by: Councillor Martha Wardrop
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant Convener if engagement has taken place with the Scottish Government about the funding required to progress a business case for bus franchising, as set out in the recent Systra Study?"
Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

As Cllr Wardrop is aware, through the development of the Glasgow Transport Strategy Policy Framework the Council has closely engaged with other partners on options around the future of bus governance within the city.

The GTS states that we will continue to explore alternative options for bus governance in Glasgow in line with the options laid out in the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 – including formation of a municipal bus company, development of a bus franchising system and development of a statutory Bus Service Improvement Partnership (BSIP). The strategy makes clear that additional capital and revenue funding is likely to be required from the Scottish Government/ Transport Scotland to make any change in bus governance feasible.

The Systra scoping report on bus governance options was published in 2021 and informed both GTS Policy Framework and SPT Regional Transport Strategy, with the latter due for consultation this summer. It should also be noted there is currently a resource focus within the Council on delivering the Transport Scotland funded Bus Partnership Fund elements, with delivery milestones in early 2023. That work is key to unlocking further funding from the Bus Partnership Fund which should benefit bus users in Glasgow and the wider region. There are likely to be a number of workstreams from the GTS, RTS and Bus Partnership Fund that continue to progress the issue of bus governance and help to progress the development of options.

The powers being made available by the Transport Act present significant opportunities for Glasgow, and the City Government is committed to working towards making as full use of them as possible. The Systra study though tells us this will take time, with a range of significant resource, regulatory and practical considerations. It should be noted that the regulations to enact the bus governance elements of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 are still not published, though we anticipate the regulations on municipal operations will be published in 2022, with those for BSIPs and franchising following in 2023. These will help progress thinking around how to progress discussions and development of alternative bus governance options, including the potential development of business cases.

It is anticipated that the topic of funding for any potential bus governance changes would be discussed with Transport Scotland and other partners as part of further bus development workstreams. Further details are also awaited from Transport Scotland on the Community Bus Fund, referenced in the recent National Transport Strategy 2 Delivery Plan, and the Council will engage with all stakeholders as the details of the regulations and the processes and associated opportunities for Glasgow become clear.

Q 11	Asked by: Councillor Cecilia O'Lone
Tabled Question	"To ask the Leader of the Council if her decision at the Langside Area Partnership to stop consideration of the £1m spend as "this is not communities deciding" will now stop the programme until an appropriate process is in place across the city for communities to be actively involved in the decision making?"
Responder	Cllr Susan Aitken, Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition

Cllr O'Lone is mistaken. I made no such decision. I am not the only member of the Langside Area Partnership and I do not chair it. I made my views known of course, as did others, but the decision to continue this paper until after recess was one that the Area Partnership made unanimously rather than a decision that I made on its behalf. Nor is it accurate to say that this investment has been stopped. Langside will still get it's million pounds additional funding for Neighbourhood Improvements but it will be allocated in a way that responds to the needs and wishes of local communities.

Clearly a decision taken at Langside Area Partnership does not have a binding impact on decisions other Area Partnerships might take themselves.

It is for each Area Partnership to make its own decisions about papers which are brought before it and continuing papers is not unusual.

I understand that community engagement was raised at other Partnerships and officers in the Community Empowerment Team will, I am sure, be considering the processes they can put in place which can gather the views of local communities about how and where to direct this additional spending coming to neighbourhoods.

Work continues through the Centre for Civic Innovation on new Citizens Panels which will be in place in all wards next year and who would be central to discussions of any funding of this nature in future.

Q 12	Asked by: Bailie Jim Kavanagh
Tabled Question	"The UK Government has allocated additional covid money to the Scottish Government, can the City Treasurer indicate how much of that money has been provided to Glasgow and whether there are still monies to be allocated?
Responder	Councillor Ricky Bell, Convenor for Financial Inclusion / City Treasurer / Depute Leader

Audit Scotland in its report "Scotland's financial response to Covid-19" confirmed that the UK Government had provided total funding of £14.4bn to the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government has allocated a total of £15.5bn with £1.1bn being added to the UK allocation from within the Scottish Budget.
As at 31st December 2021 Scottish Government had actually spent £11.8m.

This spend includes spend on Health and Social Care, Business Support and resources to Local Authorities.

Funding to Local Authorities came in a variety of ways with resources provided directly to Education and HSCP to enhance service levels and aid recovery in addition to Actual Covid Funding.

Glasgow City Council has received direct Covid Funding of £161.9m to the end of 21/22 and has allocated spend of £129.7m leaving a balance (as per the outturn report) of £32.2m to be carried forward to deal with ongoing Covid Pressures in 22/23.

A high percentage of Business Grants and other hardship payments were managed by Glasgow City Council but we were acting as an agent for Scottish Government in these and so didn't account for them directly.

Q 13	Asked by: Councillor Laura Doherty
Tabled Question	"Can the City Convenor for Culture, Sport and International Cooperation provide an overview of what cultural highlights we can look forward to this summer?"
Responder	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convenor for Culture, Sport and International Cooperation

Thank you for your question and after the disruption of recent years I'm sure we're all relieved and delighted to see a summer programme of events and activities restored.

Just last weekend, over 40,000 people flocked to Kelvingrove Park to enjoy the first-ever Dandelion Festival. A celebration of community growing, Dandelion brought together music and art with science and technology to inspire Glaswegians.

This coming weekend, the Glasgow Mela returns. Sunday's free event will feature local artists and performers and national and international acts and a programme of participatory activities.

Refugee Festival Scotland is also underway, a highlight of which is Glasgow Museums workshop at Kelvingrove collecting Glasgow's migration stories.

The Merchant City Festival programme has been launched, with a weekend of entertainment taking place from Thursday July 28th to Sunday July 31st July. Highlights include a geared to children and families in Merchant Square and Guinness World Record attempt for a giant marble installation in George Square. And across the weekend of August 12th and 13th, the World Pipe Band Championships return to Glasgow Green.

Looking a bit beyond, it's hugely exciting that Glasgow will host the 2022 finals of the Billie Jean King Cup at the Emirates Arena in November. As this Chamber is aware, Glasgow's international reputation for successfully hosting the event is thriving like never before and we can look forward to many many more coming to this great city in the future.

Q 14	Asked by: Councillor Anne McTaggart
Tabled Question	"To ask the City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets for an update on the Clean Glasgow campaign and how we are taking action on environmental crime?"
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

Littering and fly-tipping remains a major issue in Glasgow and one of the most common complaints from constituents. We're far from alone in that regard but that's no reason for complacency or inaction.

As Neighbourhoods convener, the impact of environmental crime will be a main area of focus.
Tackling these issues enhances not only the appearance of local communities but improves perceptions of safety, promotes pride in local areas and can nurture a sense of community involvement. Members may already be aware of the increasing visibility of community-led action across the city on this issue in recent months.

In addition to the return of fill cleansing teams post-pandemic, the primary actions to address the issues will be the current budget investment in Neighbourhood Enforcement Teams, and localised weeks of action and deep cleans.
It will also involve detecting and disrupting those responsible for environmental crime.

Q 15	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	"To ask the relevant Convener whether they would explore financial support for residents living adjacent to the White Cart Waterway who are adversely impacted by the spread of giant hogweed?"
Responder	Councillor Ruairi Kelly

The Council currently has a herbicide programme for the control of invasive weeds across areas where land is owned and managed by the authority. This involves four applications of herbicide from late March through until September each year.

I am aware that the sites in this area are mixed in terms of ownership and in a number of cases very difficult to access due to the nature of the topography.

Officers met with Colleagues from Scotland's nature agency 'Nature Scot' last year to discuss specific challenges relating to hogweed on river embankments. They confirmed their intention to develop a document setting out a strategic approach to control of riparian invasive plants, similar to a previous approach to controlling invasive rhododendron . Officers are currently seeking an update on progress.

Officers are also reviewing a potential funding scheme that may support the control of invasive species on a wider scale. However, this won't be available until next year at the earliest and if available would be managed by GCC.

On that basis I cannot confirm any current funding support but can report back after further discussions with Nature Scot and our potential funding bid for next year.

Q 16	Asked by: Councillor Holly Bruce
Tabled Question	"To ask the Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery, what work has been done in collaboration with SPT and partner bus companies, to safeguard woman, queer folk and vulnerable people on-board and at bus stops and what pathways are there for people to report harassment on-board and at bus stops."

Responder	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

Glasgow City Council's adopted Transport Strategy contains a specific policy around personal security of people travelling in the city. It has been included in response to input from stakeholders and the public.

The policy requires that "transport projects are designed to ensure safe and personally secure environments for all, whilst recognising that some groups suffer particular personal security issues on public transport services such as women, the LGBTQ+ community and people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds".

The policy requires us to "work with all transport operators, SPT and Transport Scotland to enhance security measures on and adjacent to public transport services and promote measures already in place, including promotion of how to report incidents including the British Transport Police text number & Police Scotland, and measures to raise awareness of hate crimes such as display of the national Hate Crime Charter".

It also requires the Council to "develop a collaborative campaign to promote personal security working with bus and rail operators, SPT, taxi operators, Police Scotland and others." This is a priority to support increased use of buses by young people under the free bus travel for under 22s initiative.

And to "work with SPT to enhance live public transport information to give travellers increased confidence on arrival times of buses through live tracking to avoid long periods at bus stops."

The Council will engage with SPT and transport operators to collectively deliver this policy & related actions, as much of it is outwith our control.

The topic of personal security was raised in the Glasgow Bus Partnership in June. The SPT Chief Executive has been in regular dialogue with partners about the safety and security of passengers over the last year, and recently convened a meeting of key stakeholders from the transport industry and police to discuss joint approaches to this. The meeting, which the council attended, was positive and another one is being arranged for later this summer.