

## Item 2

17th April 2025



**Glasgow City Council**

**Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee**

**Report by the Chief Executive**

**Contact: Michelle Booth, Head of Policy and Corporate Governance**

### **Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027**

#### **Purpose of Report:**

This paper provides Committee with the findings from the Open Government: Open Call for Ideas undertaken to inform the development of Glasgow's second Open Government Action Plan, and an update on the proposed next steps to further shape the open government commitments for inclusion within the Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027 and the work of services and the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (GCPP).

#### **Recommendations:**

The Committee is asked to:

- Consider the findings from the Open Government: Open Call for Ideas 2024;
- Note that these findings will inform the further development of the second Open Government Action Plan and its mainstreaming into the work of services and the GCPP structures; and
- Note the proposed next steps for the completion of the Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

# 1 Background

1.1 The Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2021-2023 focussed on improving upon ongoing reforms and demonstrating clear improvement from current practice, within 4 Open Government Commitments developed across key themes:

- Participatory democracy
- Exploring an open government digital engagement platform
- Co-creating an open data hub with communities, and
- Building awareness and communications on open government.

The plan represented our first steps and built momentum for future Open Government programmes, we completed this plan in September 2023 and undertook end-of-commitment assessments and a final learning exercise with the Glasgow Open Government Steering Group in September 2024.

1.2 An Open Government Action Plan is a core requirement for Glasgow's membership of the Open Government Partnership, and we are now in the development/co-creation phase for a second Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027. This started with an Open Call for Ideas for communities, third sector organisations and businesses. This initial engagement explored awareness of Open Government, policy priorities for the second Action Plan, and an opportunity to suggest reforms, improvements or priority service areas to progress openness, transparency, accountability and participation. We asked organisations and communities to share ideas, views, and suggestions about improving how we work in Glasgow City Council, and with Community Planning Partners, so that we are all able to understand the work of local government, to influence it effectively, and be able to hold us to account.

1.3 The Open Call for Ideas was undertaken between 9 August and 26 September 2024. The consultation was distributed to a range of stakeholders and organisations and was made available to the public on the Council's Consultation Hub. It was promoted on the Council's website and through social media channels and direct SmartSurvey links sent to Community Councils, Area Partnerships, and to Glasgow Open Government Steering Group members. The Open Call received 111 responses, with 57 proposed commitments or suggestions for improvement, and 32 respondents signing up to attend future workshops to develop Action Plan 2. The findings from the Open Call will be published on the Council's website and feedback provided to all participants following consideration by Committee members.

1.4 This paper provides Committee with a summary of the findings from the Open Government: Open Call for Ideas 2024 undertaken to inform the development of Glasgow's second Plan, and an update on the proposed next steps to further shape the open government commitments for inclusion within the Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027 and its mainstreaming into the work of services and the GCPP.

## **2 Open Call for Ideas 2024: Summary of Findings**

- 2.1 The full report on the findings of the Open Government: Open Call for Ideas 2024 is attached at Appendix One. Respondents provided a large range of views on the focus for the Open Government Action Plan over the next four years, many of which are focussed on improvements in understanding the work of local public services and being able to influence services and decisions effectively. Open Government values and principles have been reflected by respondents - public participation, accountability and transparency, accessibility and access to services, and trust in government. In addition, respondents have highlighted key open government policy themes such as financial transparency, climate change, young people, and health – however they have also raised a number of more specific Council Service comments and suggestions which run throughout the qualitative questions.
- 2.2 The key issues raised within the Open Call for Ideas as a focus for the next Open Government Action Plan were:
- Public Participation and Democracy
  - Trust in Local Government
  - Transport and Travel
  - Poverty and Inequalities
  - Accessibility and Access to Public Services
  - Health and Social Care
  - Transparency and Accountability
  - Financial Transparency and Budgets
  - Young People, and
  - Education and Childcare

## **3 Next Steps: Open Government Action Plan 2**

- 3.1 The Summary Findings will be published on Glasgow City Council's Open Government webpage and issued to all participants who provided contact details for further information and participation in Open Government in Glasgow.
- 3.2 The actions with the new plan will now be considered as part of the performance monitoring of services through regular reporting and scrutiny to ensure the principles of Open Government are embedded into business as usual. Given the synergies between the areas of interest highlighted in section 2.2 and the responsibilities of Glasgow's Community Planning Partners, the new Performance Framework for the GCPP's new Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2024-2034 will also incorporate these principles into its city wide measures.
- 3.3 A draft Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027 will be submitted to the Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee in September 2025.

## 4 Policy and Resource Implications:

### Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	No financial implications identified
<i>Legal:</i>	No legal implications identified
<i>Personnel:</i>	No personnel implications identified
<i>Procurement:</i>	No procurement implications identified

**Council Strategic Plan:** Grand Challenge 4: Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way for our communities.

Mission 2: Run an open, well governed Council in partnership with all our communities.

### Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

*Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.* There is no direct contribution to the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25, however the Open Government agenda supports the ethos on participation and empowerment.

*What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?* No significant equality impacts identified at this stage – however the implementation of an Open Government Plan 2 is anticipated to have a positive impact. This is currently being considered in the development phase of the Action Plan to ensure we take account of equality and inequality issues relevant to each of our Open Government commitments and themes.

*Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.* No direct impact on socio-economic disadvantage at this stage - Glasgow's Open Government Plan 2 has the potential to indirectly impact on socio-economic issues during implementation of its commitments, for example through further participatory democracy.

### Climate Impacts:

*Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:* The Open Government Action Plan does not directly contribute to Climate Plan action, however there is strong alignment to Climate Plan Theme 1 on Communication and Community Empowerment. The potential to include a Climate Plan open government action within our second Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow will be pursued.

*What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?*

No potential climate impacts identified

*Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?*

No contribution to Glasgow's net zero carbon target

**Privacy and Data Protection impacts:**

No privacy or data protection impacts identified

## **5. Recommendations**

### **5.1 The Committee is asked to:**

- Consider the findings from the Open Government: Open Call for Ideas 2024;
- Note that these findings will inform the further development of the second Open Government Action Plan and its mainstreaming into the work of services and the GCPP structures; and
- Note the proposed next steps to co-create the Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow 2025-2027.