



Glasgow City Council

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

Report by Executive Director of Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

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Briefing Note on the Petition

Purpose of Report:

To provide information on the Petition “Whose Glasgow Green”

Recommendation:

The Committee is requested to note the contents of the report.

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide information on the Petition – Whose Glasgow Green
- 1.2 The Council received a petition on 4 December 2025 entitled “Whose Glasgow Green” for consideration on behalf of individuals with 86 signatures, 25 of which have been validated in accordance with the criteria approved by the Executive Committee regarding the submission of petitions.
- 1.3 The Petitioner suggests that Glasgow Green should be used primarily as a recreational space and requests that plans should be shared with the community, consulted and that their views taken on board.

2. Background

- 2.1 Festivals, concerts, live music and major events are lead drivers of visitation.
- 2.2 The events sector increases the economic value of tourism to the city allowing for investment into city amenities. Importantly, events in parks links to the social and personal benefits participating in activity in parks and open spaces brings.

3. Event Community Engagement

- 3.1 Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability have a robust community engagement process for major events held in parks. The engagement process is one of the ways the impact is mitigated. Officers also continue to explore alternatives to Glasgow Green for events, and many new events are relocated elsewhere in the city.
- 3.2 Although the approval of park use for events is delegated to officers, there is a commitment to ensure that the communities potentially impacted by events are part of the engagement process.
- 3.3 To assist with this, when a major event is scheduled, the Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability Events team engage with communities via a number of different methods:
 - Email communication in advance
 - Online drop-in sessions for community representatives and elected members
 - In person drop-in events open to all members of the community
 - Regular updates as the event approaches
 - Contact route for reporting issues during the event build, delivery and de-rig
 - Post-event debrief

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3.4 This allows the community to both review the plans around the event and to make comment/recommendations to minimise the potential impact. This includes:

- Transport plan/road closures
- Stewarding and Policing plan
- Area of park being occupied
- Duration of event
- Content of event

4. Glasgow Green

4.1 Glasgow Green has a long history as a designated event space and plays an important role in supporting Glasgow's ambition to be a leading cultural destination for events and maintaining the accolade of UNESCO City of Music. This is further outlined in the Glasgow Events Strategy 2035. This strategy sets out a vision for the city to host a diverse range of events that contribute to its cultural vibrancy and economic growth.

4.2 Glasgow Green is one of the few areas of the city able to host major events and as such, the impact on the community can be significant at specific times throughout the year. There is an almost static number of events held on the Green year on year and although a number of them are commercial and have a longer duration, the majority of events are community and charity based.

4.2.1 Glasgow Green Events

| Year | Total Number Permission Granted | Commercial Events | Commercial Event Duration (approx) |
|------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 2023 | 74 | 3 (TRNSMT, Worlds, GSR, funfair) | 7 weeks |
| 2024 | 79 | As above | As above |
| 2025 | 74 | As above | 13 weeks |

5. Winter Wonderland 2025

5.1 There are occasions, unfortunately, where procurement timescales shorten both the engagement window and the delivery window for operators. The recent example of the Winter Wonderland hub highlighted these challenges.

5.2 Whilst not ideal, there was advanced engagement with the community representatives but this took place after the event was announced.

5.3 Due to George Square closure, Glasgow City Council trialled the use of the Green for part of the City's Christmas activity and this is contracted to take place both in 2025 and 2026.

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- 5.4 Officers will co-ordinate both a debrief organised with the community and engagement in advance of the 2026 activity to ensure any issues of concern are discussed and resolved in advance of the event taking place.
- 5.5 Although the Winter Wonderland event did occupy an area of the Park, it was fully accessible throughout its delivery with elements of restrictions during the build and de-rig due to safety reasons. The wider park was available throughout.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The importance of engaging with local communities potentially impacted by events to minimise disruption wherever possible is a priority. Every effort is made to engage and communicate with residents and stakeholders in advance of events. However, it is important to recognise that parks such as Glasgow Green are shared spaces for all citizens and businesses alike.
- 6.2 Every effort is made to keep parks open and accessible wherever possible. However, for public safety reasons during programmed events, there are short periods where Glasgow Green users may need to be diverted to other available areas of open space. This is deemed a reasonable adjustment to balance the needs of the immediate community while continuing to support not only major visitor events but also a wide range of small-scale community events across the city.
- 6.3 There remains an ongoing commitment to keep events under review and wherever possible improve on the mitigations in place to minimise disruption and impact to local communities in and around Glasgow Green.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 It is recommended that the content of the report is noted.

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