



Glasgow City Council

**Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration
City Policy Committee**

**Report by George Gillespie, Executive Director of
Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability**

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Item 1

19th August 2025

**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM ECONOMY, HOUSING, TRANSPORT AND
REGENERATION CITY POLICY COMMITTEE**

Purpose of Report:

To receive responses to the questions raised at the Economy, Housing,
Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee of 3rd June 2025

Recommendations:

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

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐

consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

**Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration
City Policy Committee**

**Questions from Elected Members at meeting
held on 3rd June 2025**

Item 2	Economic Development Update		Chief Executive's Office
	Councillor Vallis: 29 new businesses have been created. What sector do these new businesses fall into?		
Answer	STAC: Cohort 3, May'23	Sector	
	Happy Leaf	Smart home	
	Seluna	Medtech	
	STAC: Cohort 4, Mar'24		
	Orchy MG	Mobility tech	
	FocaliseAI	AI tech for good	
	LU Innovations	Femtech	
	MyFarm	Agritech	
	UFarms	Agritech	
	RFiot	Sensor tech	
	Atypical Cosmetics	Wellness tech	
	Kyoobit	Event tech	
	BennuAI	Recycling tech	
	STAC: Cohort 5, Jan'25		
	Northern Light Microscopy	Photonics	
	Cykelworx Design	Sport tech	
	EcoMarine Innovations	Marine tech	
	LumiAlres	Photonics	

	halo Velinkx Weeteq STAC: Infinity G: Cohort 1, Oct'25 Alessia AevaSpec RX Watt Scotia Biotech Vocabua ECHOVI ForceBiology SepSense QuantCore Indielab Games: UK Games Accelerator 2024 Neon Wave Studios Madd Studio	Driverless vehicles Mobility tech Semiconductors Fintech Safety tech Sensor tech Biotech Edtech Agritech Biotech Biotech Quantum tech Gaming Gaming		
Item 2	Economic Development Update Bailie Carroll: Can figures be provided in relation to co-operatives?			Chief Executive's Office
Answer	<p>Glasgow is home to about 100 co-operatives, or 17% of Scotland's total of 564. During 2024 to 2025, there were two new direct engagements between Glasgow co-operatives and Business Glasgow, delivered through the Advisory Service, the Business Growth Framework and the Green Business Grant. This activity complemented the broader support offered at the "Co-ops and the Council" event in late 2024.</p> <p>The Economic Development (ED) team is working with Media Co-op to secure a shared co-operative workspace that will bring third-sector organisations together. ED is also supporting GECCO (Glasgow's Empowering Communities Co-operative) to deliver employability contracts across the city. At a strategic level, ED</p>			

	remains in dialogue with Co-operate Scotland following last year's "Co-ops and the Council" event, and it is contributing to the costs of the Democratic Business Summit, which will be hosted in Glasgow in late 2025.	
Item 2	Economic Development Update Bailie Carroll: Can information be provided on what innovations that had taken place with other authorities?	Chief Executive's Office
Answer	<p>The Council works with its partner local authorities in Glasgow City Region on the innovation agenda and the UK Government funded Innovation Accelerator programme was directed to the city-region both in recognition of this work and to support it. Further activity has led to the development of a Regional Innovation Action Plan, which can be accessed here, and which was co-created with Scottish Enterprise and Innovate UK. Two of the city-region's three Innovation Districts are in Glasgow City, with the third being the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District Scotland (AMIDS), located in the Renfrewshire Council area by Glasgow Airport. Glasgow City Region also works closely with its two peer Combined Authority partners in Greater Manchester and West Midlands on the Innovation Accelerator programme and related policy, with further details across the three regions available at the link here.</p>	
Item 4	Open Space Strategy action programme update Councillor Bolander: Can further detail be provided on what the 2 quality standards are?	NRS
Answer	<p>1.1 The Council's Open Space Strategy (OSS) sets out the Council's approach to the use of open space and how to plan for it. A central focus of the OSS is on the use of Open Space standards to inform the council's understanding of how and where publicly usable open space needs to be provided and/or enhanced. The OSS sets out Accessibility and Quality Standards, with a view to making sure householders have local access to a good quality, multifunctional open space, attractive to all members of the community. It also sets out a Quantity Standard (with a view to making sure there is a sufficient quantity of publicly usable open space in that part of the City). Quality Assessments look at size, configuration, provision for the needs of different groups and also maintenance and condition.</p>	

1.2 However, the Open Space Standards do not apply in the City Centre. Instead, the OSS takes a different approach to planning and delivering publicly usable open space and public realm in the City Centre, which recognises the detailed work and public engagement which has taken place to bring forward the City Centre District Regeneration Frameworks and the work that has informed the City Centre Strategic Development Framework. These documents set out how the open space and public realm needs of the City Centre should be met and form the basis for planning for open space enhancement/creation in the City Centre.

1.3 These approaches to the provision/enhancement of open space have been incorporated into the Supplementary Guidance SG6; Green Belt and Green Network to form the basis of the Council's planning policy approach to developer contributions for public open space.

2 City Centre Priorities

2.1 The City Centre Strategic Development Framework and the District Regeneration Frameworks emphasise:

- Greening the city centre
- Creating high-quality public spaces
- Supporting health, wellbeing, and climate resilience
- Prioritising areas like George Square, Buchanan Street, Blythswood Hill, and the Riverside for enhancement

Developer contributions collected under SG6 in the City Centre are directed toward delivering these strategic goals and on identified opportunities for open space or public realm creation or enhancement, with contributions towards food growing and outdoor sports also expected from residential developments throughout the city centre.

Item 4	<p>Open Space Strategy action programme update</p> <p>Councillor Bolander:</p> <p>Can information be provided on the open spaces within the city centre and how many planning applications are coming forward for the use of these open spaces?</p>	NRS
Answer	<p>There are 3 areas designated as “public parks and gardens” in the city centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Blythswood Sq. ○ The edge of Glasgow Green ○ Cathedral Square / St Nicholas gardens <p>None of these sites have had any planning applications</p> <p>Other areas identified in the Open Space Map in the City centre include communal gardens, amenity gardens, play areas, green corridors, civic spaces- there are no planning applications associated with these spaces apart from the application for George Square as part of the Avenues.</p>	