

**MINUTES**  
**OF**  
**GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL.**

Hybrid meeting, 10th September 2026.

**Glasgow City Council.**

Present: The Lord Provost, Jacqueline McLaren (Chair).

|                  |                  |                     |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| CHRISTY MEARNES  | STEPHEN DOCHERTY | PAUL MCCABE         |
| JAMES ADAMS      | LAURA DOHERTY    | ELAINE MCDOUGALL    |
| SAQIB AHMED      | STEPHEN DORNAN   | DONNA MCGILL        |
| SUSAN AITKEN     | SEAN FERGUSON    | NORMAN MACLEOD      |
| IMRAN ALAM       | ELAINE GALLAGHER | ELAINE MCSPORRAN    |
| BLAIR ANDERSON   | MARIE GARRITY    | ANNE MCTAGGART      |
| KEN ANDREW       | ZEN GHANI        | LEÒDHAS MASSIE      |
| ALEXANDER BELIC  | ALLAN GOW        | ANGUS MILLAR        |
| RICHARD BELL     | WILLIAM GRAHAM   | MALCOLM MITCHELL    |
| DECLAN BLENCH    | SHARON GREER     | JON MOLYNEUX        |
| EVA BOLANDER     | GREG HEPBURN     | ROBERT MOONEY       |
| ABDUL BOSTANI    | FIONA HIGGINS    | MARGARET MORGAN     |
| PHILIP BRAAT     | SEONAD HOY       | EVA MURRAY          |
| JILL BROWN       | MHAIRI HUNTER    | CECILIA O'LONE      |
| BILL BUTLER      | RASHID HUSSAIN   | JILL PIDGEON        |
| GRAHAM CAMPBELL  | DAN HUTCHISON    | LINDA PIKE          |
| CHRISTINA CANNON | FYEZA IKHLAQ     | HANIF RAJA          |
| PAUL CAREY       | EUNIS JASSEMI    | DAVENA RANKIN       |
| ANTHONY CARROLL  | ANN JENKINS      | THOMAS RANNACHAN    |
| JOHN CARSON      | LILITH JOHNSTONE | GEORGE REDMOND      |
| ALLAN CASEY      | JIM KAVANAGH     | LANA REID-MCCONNELL |
| ANNETTE CHRISTIE | RUAIRI KELLY     | ROZA SALIH          |
| CHRIS CUNNINGHAM | ALEX KERR        | FRANNY SCALLY       |
| STEPHEN CURRAN   | THOMAS KERR      | SORYIA SIDDIQUE     |
| FEARGAL DALTON   | KEVIN LALLEY     | KIERAN TURNER       |
| JOHN DALY        | PAUL LEINSTER    | CATHERINE VALLIS    |
| AUDREY DEMPSEY   | FRANK MCAVEETY   | MARTHA WARDROP      |

Attending: E Rodger (Clerk), M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; S Millar, Chief Executive; J McGhee, Interim Executive Director of Education Services; R Emmott, Executive Director of Finance; G Gillespie, Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; and C Edgar, Director of Communication and Corporate Governance.

## **Minutes approved.**

**1** The minutes of the Council meeting of 25th June 2026 (Print 3, pages 1 to 23) were submitted and approved.

## **Minutes of committees submitted and approved.**

**2** The minutes of the undernoted committees were submitted and approved:-

- (1) Senior Officer Workforce Committee of 12th August 2026; Print 3, pages 25 to 26;
- (2) City Administration Committee of 18th June and 6th and 20th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 27 to 50);
- (3) City Policy Committees:-
  - (a) Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration of 18th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 51 to 54);
  - (b) Education, Skills and Early Years of 20th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 55 to 60);
  - (c) Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods of 25th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 61 to 66);
  - (d) Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring of 11th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 67 to 68); and
  - (e) Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement of 13th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 69 to 76);
- (4) Contracts and Property Committee of 6th and 27th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 77 to 90);
- (5) Licensing and Regulatory Committee of 17th and 24th June and 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th June 2026 (Print 3, pages 91 to 118);
- (6) Personnel Appeals Committee of 16th June , 21st July and 11th and 26th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 119 to 126);
- (7) Planning Applications Committee of 16th June and 4th and 18th August 2026; Print 3, pages 127 to 134);
- (8) Planning Local Review Committee of 23rd June and 11th and 25th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 135 to 140);

- (9) Scrutiny Committees:-
- (a) Finance and Audit of 17th June and 19th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 141 to 150); and
  - (b) Operational Performance and Delivery of 5th August 2026 (Print 3, pages 151 to 154); and
- (10) Strathclyde Pension Fund Committee of 23rd June 2026 (Print 3, pages 155 to 158).

### **Changes to Scheme of Delegated Functions approved.**

**3** There was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration detailing a Scheme of Delegated Functions to committees, the Lord Provost and the Depute Lord Provost, the Chief Executive, Executive Directors and other officers, highlighting a number of changes to the existing scheme.

After consideration, the Council approved the Scheme of Delegated Functions as submitted. The approved Scheme is printed as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

### **Appointment of Leader of Council approved, after division.**

**4** Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Cannon, moved that Councillor Richard Bell be appointed as Leader of the Council.

Councillor Adams, seconded by Bailie Jenkins, moved as an amendment that Councillor Rashid Hussain be appointed as Leader of the Council.

Councillor Molyneux, seconded by Bailie Wardrop, moved as an amendment that Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell and Bailie Anthony Carroll be appointed Co-Leaders of the Council.

Councillor Hutchison, seconded by Councillor Massie, moved as an amendment that Bailie Seonad Hoy be appointed as Leader of the Council.

On a vote being taken electronically and by roll call, 3 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Hutchison, 8 for the amendment by Councillor Molyneux, 29 for the amendment by Councillor Adams and 37 for the motion, with 3 abstentions.

As there was no overall majority the amendment by Councillor Hutchison, having the fewest votes, was dropped.

On a further vote being taken electronically and by roll call, 8 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Molyneux, 29 for the amendment by Councillor Adams and 37 for the motion, with 5 abstentions.

As there was no overall majority the amendment by Councillor Molyneux, having the fewest votes, was dropped.

On a further vote being taken electronically and by roll call, 29 members voted for the amendment and 37 for the motion, with 12 abstentions.

The motion was accordingly declared to be carried and Councillor Richard Bell was appointed Leader of the Council.

### **Changes to committees approved.**

**5** The Council approved the following appointments:-

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| (1) Depute Leader of the Council and City Convener for Housing and Development                                                                                                                                                                       | Change from Richard Bell to Ruairi Kelly         |
| (2) Business Manager and City Convener for Open Government                                                                                                                                                                                           | Change from Greg Hepburn to Christina Cannon     |
| (3) City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion                                                                                                                                                                                         | Change from Richard Bell to Greg Hepburn         |
| (4) City Convener for Education and Early Years                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Change from Christina Cannon to Elaine McSporran |
| (5) Confirmed that, the current Depute Leader, City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion title would change to Depute Leader and City Convener for Housing and Development. That post would be paid the current Depute Leader salary. |                                                  |

The post of City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion would be paid a current City Convener salary.

The scheme of allowances would be updated accordingly; and

| <i>(6) Committee etc</i>      | <i>Appointment</i>                               |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Bailie                        | Remove Seonad Hoy and appoint Leòdhas Massie     |
| Scottish Gaelic Champion      | Appoint Malcolm Mitchell                         |
| City Administration Committee | Remove Jill Brown and appoint Eunis Jassemi      |
|                               | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Elaine McSporran |

|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Emergency Committee                                                              | <p>Appoint Richard Bell as Chair</p> <p>Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Ruairi Kelly</p> <p>Appoint Ricky Bell as Chair</p> |
| Senior Officer Workforce Committee                                               | <p>Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Ruairi Kelly</p> <p>Appoint Ricky Bell as Chair</p>                                      |
| Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee                                             | <p>Remove Malcolm Mitchell and appoint Elaine McSporran</p>                                                                 |
| Operational Performance and Delivery Scrutiny Committee                          | <p>Remove Thomas Rannachan and appoint Jill Brown</p> <p>Remove Ricky Bell and appoint Graham Campbell</p>                  |
| Education Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee                           | <p>Remove Graham Campbell and appoint Roza Salih</p> <p>Appoint Malcolm Mitchell as Chair</p>                               |
| Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee                    | <p>Remove Elaine McSporran and appoint Linda Pike</p> <p>Appoint Linda Pike as Chair</p>                                    |
| Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee                   | <p>Remove Christina Cannon and appoint Susan Aitken</p>                                                                     |
| Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee | <p>Remove Linda Pike and appoint Christina Cannon</p> <p>Appoint Roza Salih as Chair</p>                                    |
| Local Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff                                   | <p>Remove Graham Campbell and appoint Malcolm Mitchell</p>                                                                  |
| Planning Applications Committee and Planning Local Review Committee              | <p>Remove Thomas Rannachan and appoint Paul Carey</p>                                                                       |

## **Appointments and representation on outside bodies approved.**

**6** The Council approved the following appointments and changes to its representation on outside bodies:-

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clyde Gateway URC                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Remove Cecilia O'Lone and appoint George Redmond                                                   |
| Glasgow Life Board                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Re-appoint Siobhan Nairn, Anita Salwan and Glen Gribbon as Board Members                           |
| Glasgow City Region Cabinet                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Richard Bell as Chair                                              |
| COSLA Leaders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Richard Bell                                                       |
| COSLA Convention                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Richard Bell                                                       |
| Scottish Cities Alliance                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Richard Bell                                                       |
| Core Cities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Richard Bell                                                       |
| University of Glasgow Court                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Remove Susan Aitken and appoint Ruairi Kelly                                                       |
| Champions Board                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Remove Richard Bell and Christina Cannon and appoint Ruairi Kelly and Elaine McSporran             |
| Strathclyde Pension Fund                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Maintain Richard Bell as Chair until 1st October 2026 and thereafter appoint Greg Hepburn as Chair |
| City Property (Glasgow) LLP, City Property (Investments) LLP; City Property Glasgow (Operations SL) Ltd; City Property Glasgow (Operations SL1) LLP; City Property Glasgow (Operations SL2 ) LLP; City Property Glasgow (Operations SL3) LLP | Remove Richard Bell and appoint with Malcolm Mitchell                                              |

|                                              |                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Glasgow City Region Education Committee      | Remove Christina Cannon and appoint Elaine McSporran |
| Glasgow Dean of Guild Court Trust            | Remove Thomas Kerr and appoint Elaine McSporran      |
| COSLA Children and Young People Policy Board | Remove Christina Cannon and appoint Elaine McSporran |
| Glasgow Community Planning Partnership       | Remove Richard Bell and appoint with Greg Hepburn    |

### **Correspondence noted.**

- 7** There were submitted and noted letters from:-
- (1) Glasgow MPs, House of Commons in response to a motion on the Outcome of Scottish Parliament Elections in Glasgow approved by this Council on 14th May 2026 (Print 2, page 14);
  - (2) Kirsty McNeill, Secretary of State for Scotland in response to a motion on the Outcome of Scottish Parliament Elections in Glasgow approved by this Council on 14th May 2026 (Print 2, page 14); and
  - (3) Dr Donald Rukare, President of Commonwealth Sport, dated 7th August 2026.

### **Questions.**

**8** Answers to the following questions, of which notice had been given under Standing Order No 11, were given as undernoted:-

| <i>Question by</i>          | <i>Question</i>                                                                                                                                                                            | <i>Answered by</i>                                                                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Councillor Stephen Docherty | To ask the relevant Convenor what further engagement will take place with the joint trade unions regarding implementation of the new Pay and Grading Structure?                            | Councillor Allan Casey, City Convener for Workforce and Homelessness and Addiction Services |
| Councillor Catherine Vallis | Audit Scotland's report concludes that governance, performance management and financial planning require further improvement before Glasgow City Council can demonstrate Best Value, while | Councillor Greg Hepburn, City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion           |

17 high-risk Grade 1 audit recommendations remain outstanding. After almost a decade of SNP leadership of the Council, why is Glasgow falling short of the standards set by Scotland's local government watchdog?

Councillor Lilith Johnstone

Given that parents are legally required to register the birth of a child within 21 days, can the relevant Convenor advise whether Glasgow City Council is currently able to offer birth registration appointments within that period and, if not, what action is being taken to address this?

Councillor Christina Cannon, Council Business Manager and City Convener for Open Government,

Councillor Robert Mooney

Can the relevant Convenor explain what engagement the Council has had with Housing Associations regarding reports of damaged back court fences and poor garden maintenance, and whether it considers it acceptable for such issues to be treated as a low priority by landlords?

Councillor Ruairi Kelly, Depute Leader of the Council and City Convener for Housing and Development

Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell

To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on what support the Scottish and UK Governments have offered the Council to help tackle our homelessness emergency and funding crisis in wider HSCP service provision?

Councillor Allan Casey, City Convener for Workforce and Homelessness and Addiction Services

Bailie Anthony Carroll

To ask the Leader of the Council what conversations have been had with national Governments to ensure financial support not only in resolving Equal Pay, but further supporting and

Councillor Richard Bell, Leader of the Council and Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition

|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                           | mitigating the financial impact on workers in detriment?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                  |
| Bailie Paul McCabe        | To ask the Leader of the Council for an update on city centre safety?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Councillor Richard Bell, Leader of the Council and Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition |
| Bailie Christy Mearns     | To ask the relevant City Convener what progress has been made to improve night buses in Glasgow?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport      |
| Bailie Hanif Raja         | Can the relevant Convenor provide an update on the Council's plans for the fire-damaged and now vacant sites at Albert Cross, following the devastating fires in 2019 and 2020 and the subsequent building collapse in July 2025?                                                                                                     | Councillor Ruairi Kelly, Depute Leader of the Council and City Convener for Housing and Development              |
| Bailie Margaret Morgan    | To ask What engagement has the City Convener for Housing and Development had with the Scottish Government about support for the Council to tackle Glasgow's housing emergency?                                                                                                                                                        | Councillor Ruairi Kelly, Depute Leader of the Council and City Convener for Housing and Development              |
| Bailie Soryia Siddique    | Can the relevant Convenor provide a progress update on the required refurbishment of Govanhill Library roof?                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations                            |
| Councillor Audrey Dempsey | Following the BBC documentary, Welcome to Glasgow, which presented a deeply troubling picture of our city and highlighted serious concerns around poverty, homelessness, addiction, crime and the unrest amongst some of our communities, can the Leader of the council explain why neither she, nor any representative of her party, | Councillor Allan Casey, City Convener for Workforce and Homelessness and Addiction Services                      |

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                          | would agree to be interviewed or provide substantive comment for the programme?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |
| Bailie Martha Wardrop    | To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on progress of work to complete the new rent control assessment delivery process by May 2027?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Councillor Ruairi Kelly, Depute Leader of the Council and City Convener for Housing and Development              |
| Councillor John Daly     | <p>The Council's Visitor Levy committee report estimates that the proposed 5% levy could generate between £15.9 million and £16.1 million in net income each year, with proposals for how the money will be spent still to be brought forward for approval.</p> <p>Given the serious concerns around crime, antisocial behaviour and disorder in Glasgow city centre, will the Council commit to ensuring improving public safety, with particular reference to the possibility of support for increasing visible police presence, within the city centre, when deciding how the levy revenue is allocated?</p> | Councillor Greg Hepburn, City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion                                |
| Councillor Paul Leinster | To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on efforts to improve the bus passenger experience in Glasgow?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport      |
| Councillor Allan Gow     | To ask the Leader of the Council for his view on the Scottish Government's Programme for Government?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Councillor Richard Bell, Leader of the Council and Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition |

## **Adjournment.**

**9** In terms of Standing Order No 17, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1305 hours until 1400 hours.

## **Resumption of meeting.**

**10** The meeting resumed at 1400 hours and the sederunt was taken as follows:-

Present: The Lord Provost, Jacqueline McLaren (Chair).

|                  |                  |                     |
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| CHRISTY MEARNS   | STEPHEN DOCHERTY | NORMAN MACLEOD      |
| JAMES ADAMS      | LAURA DOHERTY    | ELAINE MCSPORRAN    |
| SAQIB AHMED      | STEPHEN DORNAN   | ANNE MCTAGGART      |
| SUSAN AITKEN     | SEAN FERGUSON    | LEÓDHAS MASSIE      |
| IMRAN ALAM       | ELAINE GALLAGHER | ANGUS MILLAR        |
| BLAIR ANDERSON   | MARIE GARRITY    | MALCOLM MITCHELL    |
| KEN ANDREW       | ALLAN GOW        | JON MOLYNEUX        |
| ALEXANDER BELIC  | WILLIAM GRAHAM   | ROBERT MOONEY       |
| RICHARD BELL     | SHARON GREER     | MARGARET MORGAN     |
| DECLAN BLENCH    | GREG HEPBURN     | EVA MURRAY          |
| EVA BOLANDER     | FIONA HIGGINS    | CECILIA O'LONE      |
| ABDUL BOSTANI    | SEONAD HOY       | JILL PIDGEON        |
| PHILIP BRAAT     | MHAIRI HUNTER    | LINDA PIKE          |
| JILL BROWN       | RASHID HUSSAIN   | HANIF RAJA          |
| BILL BUTLER      | DAN HUTCHISON    | DAVENA RANKIN       |
| GRAHAM CAMPBELL  | FYEZA IKHLAQ     | THOMAS RANNACHAN    |
| CHRISTINA CANNON | EUNIS JASSEMI    | GEORGE REDMOND      |
| PAUL CAREY       | ANN JENKINS      | LANA REID-MCCONNELL |
| ANTHONY CARROLL  | LILITH JOHNSTONE | ROZA SALIH          |
| JOHN CARSON      | RUAIRI KELLY     | FRANNY SCALLY       |
| ALLAN CASEY      | KEVIN LALLEY     | SORYIA SIDDIQUE     |
| ANNETTE CHRISTIE | PAUL LEINSTER    | KIERAN TURNER       |
| CHRIS CUNNINGHAM | FRANK MCAVEETY   | CATHERINE VALLIS    |
| STEPHEN CURRAN   | PAUL MCCABE      | MARTHA WARDROP      |
| FEARGAL DALTON   | ELAINE MCDUGALL  |                     |
| JOHN DALY        | DONNA MCGILL     |                     |

Attending: E Rodger (Clerk), M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; S Millar, Chief Executive; J McGhee, Interim Executive Director of Education Services; R Emmott, Executive Director of Finance; G Gillespie, Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; and C Edgar, Director of Communication and Corporate Governance.

## **Programme for Government – Emergency motion as adjusted approved, after division.**

**11** Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Kelly, moved that

“Council welcomes the publication of the Scottish Government’s Programme for Government, Ambitious for Scotland. The PfG seeks to deliver tangible improvements in the lives of our people and creating new opportunities for all to succeed by focusing on eradicating child poverty; growing the economy; tackling the climate emergency and delivering a stronger NHS and public services.

Council supports the aims of eradicating child poverty and supporting families with the cost of living; recognises the ambition to go further by transforming the childcare offer for families, delivering a £2 bus fare cap across all of Scotland, and investing record public sector funding in affordable housing; welcomes the focus on ensuring support for families is integrated, person-centred and accessible, including through delivery of the £20 million Whole Family Support Third Sector Fund; supports the commitment to build on action set out in the Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan for 2026-31, which is estimated to keep 100,000 children out of relative poverty this year.

Council further welcomes its aims for a strong and sustainable economy; welcomes the commitment to deliver economic growth and make Scotland the best place to invest and do business; recognises that raising living standards through supporting the creation of more good, secure and well-paid jobs, can help generate the resources needed to invest in high-quality public services; and welcomes continued investment in infrastructure, connectivity and innovation so that more opportunities can be realised in Scotland.

Council knows that Glasgow will have a huge part to play in ensuring that our economy, climate and all communities benefit from a green industrial transition, through decarbonising heat in buildings by 2045; introducing a Heat in Buildings Bill, while also supporting clean heating and energy efficiency measures for around 100,000 properties in Scotland, enabling the scale up of heat networks; and by investing in a transport network that is more resilient.

Council also realises that no problem in Scotland is solved by one public body, or one policy choice, and supports the aim to simplify the public sector landscape to best deliver for the people of Scotland, and welcomes the opportunity for dialogue over the coming months with SG and other partners about the reform of local government.

While there is much in the PfG to commend, Council notes that the seriousness of the housing emergency is not as acutely addressed as we believe it should be. While we welcome a wider move towards prevention instead of crisis management; it is undeniable that we are currently still in a crisis which requires an ongoing emergency response, including additional funding provided to support the impact of Scottish Government policy on Glasgow.

Council also acknowledges that Glasgow City Council, along with our cities other elected representatives, needs reassurance that the Scottish Government can go as far as it can in this Programme for Government to help Glasgow help Scotland meet these ambitions.

Council therefore asks that the Chief Executive write to relevant Ministers to ask them that they continue the work being undertaken already between GCC Officers and SG Civil Servants and:

- Ensure that funding for the 110,000 affordable homes due to be delivered by 2032 is allocated by need and not divided equally among 32 Local Authorities, recognising Glasgow's particular circumstances but also particular ability to deliver compact urban growth, local living and rebalanced development.
- Go further than simply supporting progress on Clyde Metro proposals and recognise the strategic regional and national imperative for a link between central Glasgow and Glasgow Airport, via the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, GRID, Renfrew and the AMID.
- Acknowledge the significant work already undertaken by Glasgow City Region in advancing the next stage of regional devolution during the upcoming dialogue on local government reform, and ensure that it can act as a pathfinder for devolution of economic development, transport, planning and skills powers to help the Scottish Government deliver their ambitious agenda."

Councillor Bill Butler, seconded by Councillor Catherine Vallis, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) in the first paragraph, remove "welcome" and replace with "notes" and in the same paragraph, delete all after "Scotland";
- (2) in the second paragraph, remove "supports the aims of" and replace with: "welcomes the aims in the Programme for Government relating to delivering economic growth, a green industrial transition,"
- (3) In the same paragraph, after "child poverty" delete the rest of the paragraph and replace with:  
  
"but notes that the people of Glasgow have been promised radical change by the SNP before and been delivered with very little very slowly."
- (4) delete the next two paragraphs;
- (5) in the paragraph beginning with "Council also realises" after "Council" remove all and replace with:  
  
"expresses concern over austerity dressed up as "public sector reform" and notes that Unite the Union called the Scottish Government's proposals to cut the number of health boards from 14 to 2 "a slash and burn programme for the NHS".

- (6) In the following paragraph, delete:

“While there is much in the PfG to commend”, “as acutely” & “While we welcome a wider move towards prevention instead of crisis management;”

After this paragraph, insert a new paragraph, which should read as:

“Council notes that Glasgow continues to face acute housing pressures, including rising homelessness presentations, record demand for temporary accommodation and a shortage of affordable and social housing. Council further notes the acknowledgement by the city's Housing Convenor that Glasgow has not met its affordable housing delivery ambitions and believes this underlines the need for additional support and investment to help meet the city's housing needs.”

- (7) After the paragraph beginning with “Council also acknowledges that Glasgow City Council” insert a new paragraph, which should read as follows:

“Council recognises that many of the ambitions contained within the Programme for Government are underpinned by the increased resources made available to the Scottish Government through the largest funding settlement since devolution, delivered by the UK Labour Government. Council believes that this significant additional investment should be used to support local government, accelerate affordable housing delivery, tackle homelessness and invest in strategic infrastructure projects that will support economic growth across Glasgow and Scotland.”

- (8) delete this paragraph:

“Acknowledge the significant work already undertaken by Glasgow City Region in advancing the next stage of regional devolution during the upcoming dialogue on local government reform, and ensure that it can act as a pathfinder for devolution of economic development, transport, planning and skills powers to help the Scottish Government deliver their ambitious agenda”

Bailie Carroll, seconded by Councillor Anderson, moved as an amendment-

- (1) at the end of paragraph five ending “...reform of local government.”, add:

“However, Council expresses serious concerns over plans to massively centralise oversight of health services and to take social care away from local democratic accountability, and believes that attempting to force through these reforms at a time when social care services are in desperate financial crisis is the wrong priority. Council also expresses a strong preference for other core functions of Integration Joint Boards and Health and Social Care Partnerships to be transferred to local or regional government rather than transferred to new strategic health boards, such as child protection and children's services, social work, homelessness and addiction services.”

(2) After paragraph seven ending "...meet these ambitions.", add new section:

"Council regrets the opportunities which were missed in the Programme for Government and believes that the Scottish Government should have set out:

- plans to roll out the £2 bus fare cap to all of Scotland on the same timetable as in Strathclyde
- detailed proposals for a Better Buses Bill to make it easier to take back public control of our bus network
- substantial increases of investment within our affordable housing supply programme & commit to cover our homelessness pressures in full
- how it will implement the Scottish Parliament's decision to endorse the campaign to Boycott, Divest from, and Sanction Israel in response to the genocide in Palestine
- legislation to ban conversion therapy of LGBTQ+ people in Scotland
- a moratorium on planning approvals for hyperscale AI data centres
- a detailed plan to expand the provision of funded childcare, along with the workforce plan that is required to make any expansion possible
- a timescale for the Scottish Government's takeover of responsibility of the Clyde Tunnel's maintenance
- how it will meaningfully empower local authorities in the years before any reorganisation takes effect, such as through a general power of competence for revenue-raising or plans to empower councils to implement congestion charging
- plans of ensuring a new Local Government tax model is created within this Parliament"

(3) in the bulleted list, in the third action, after "Acknowledge the...", replace text with:

"Acknowledge the potential to deliver meaningful regional governance for the Glasgow City Region during the upcoming dialogue on local government reform. Council considers this should go beyond the existing City Region Cabinet model, ensuring simple and coherent governance which replaces duplicative local and regional structures within a transparent, accountable, democratic model that is able to receive substantial devolved powers, including over economic development, transport, planning and skills, alongside broad fiscal powers. Council also considers that the geography for any regional governance should be principally defined by the travel-to-work area, meaning that it need not encompass entire areas of the current City Region authorities. Council calls on all regional partners and political parties to engage seriously and credibly with this proposition, not retreat into parochialism, and instructs the Chief Executive to cooperate with regional peers to create a space for constructive, cross party dialogue on how this may be developed."

(4) add fourth action to end of bulleted list:

“Publish the recent consultation of its consultation on replacing the Council Tax and commit to publishing a timetable for replacing Council Tax within the current parliamentary term, also setting out whether the Scottish Government supports a modern, progressive property- and land- based tax system, as endorsed by this Council, how local councils will be engaged in the process of designing and implementing a replacement tax system, whether further tax devolution to councils, such as Non Domestic Rate setting, will also be considered to support public investment and public service reform, and how emerging ideas around regional empowerment can also interact with local tax reform, including helping to address the tax base inequality that is known to hinder Glasgow.”

Councillor Bell, with the approval of his seconder, accepted the amendment by Bailie Carroll, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

“Council welcomes the publication of the Scottish Government’s Programme for Government, *Ambitious for Scotland*. The PfG seeks to deliver tangible improvements in the lives of our people and creating new opportunities for all to succeed by focusing on eradicating child poverty; growing the economy; tackling the climate emergency and delivering a stronger NHS and public services.

Council supports the aims of eradicating child poverty and supporting families with the cost of living; recognises the ambition to go further by transforming the childcare offer for families, delivering a £2 bus fare cap across all of Scotland, and investing record public sector funding in affordable housing; welcomes the focus on ensuring support for families is integrated, person-centred and accessible, including through delivery of the £20 million Whole Family Support Third Sector Fund; supports the commitment to build on action set out in the *Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan for 2026-31*, which is estimated to keep 100,000 children out of relative poverty this year.

Council further welcomes its aims for a strong and sustainable economy; welcomes the commitment to deliver economic growth and make Scotland the best place to invest and do business; recognises that raising living standards through supporting the creation of more good, secure and well-paid jobs, can help generate the resources needed to invest in high-quality public services; and welcomes continued investment in infrastructure, connectivity and innovation so that more opportunities can be realised in Scotland.

Council knows that Glasgow will have a huge part to play in ensuring that our economy, climate and all communities benefit from a green industrial transition, through decarbonising heat in buildings by 2045; introducing a Heat in Buildings Bill, while also supporting clean heating and energy efficiency measures for around 100,000 properties in Scotland, enabling the scale up of heat networks; and by investing in a transport network that is more resilient.

Council also realises that no problem in Scotland is solved by one public body, or one policy choice, and supports the aim to simplify the public sector landscape to best deliver for the people of Scotland, and welcomes the opportunity for dialogue

over the coming months with SG and other partners about the reform of local government.

However, Council notes caution over plans to centralise oversight of health services and take social care away from local democratic accountability. Council also expresses a strong preference for other core functions of Integration Joint Boards and Health and Social Care partnerships to be transferred to local or regional government.

While there is much in the PfG to commend, Council notes that the seriousness of the housing emergency is not as acutely addressed as we believe it should be. While we welcome a wider move towards prevention instead of crisis management; it is undeniable that we are currently still in a crisis which requires an ongoing emergency response, including additional funding provided to support the impact of Scottish Government policy on Glasgow.

Council also acknowledges that Glasgow City Council, along with our cities other elected representatives, needs reassurance that the Scottish Government can go as far as it can in this Programme for Government to help Glasgow help Scotland meet these ambitions.

Council regrets the opportunities which were missed in the Programme for Government and believes that the Scottish Government should have set out:

- substantial increases of investment within our affordable housing supply programme & commit to cover our homelessness pressures in full
- how it will implement the Scottish Parliament's decision to endorse the campaign to Boycott, Divest from, and Sanction Israel in response to the genocide in Palestine
- legislation to ban conversion therapy of LGBTQ+ people in Scotland
- a detailed plan to expand the provision of funded childcare, along with the workforce plan that is required to make any expansion possible a timescale for the Scottish Government's takeover of responsibility of the Clyde Tunnel's maintenance
- how it will meaningfully empower local authorities in the years before any reorganisation takes effect, such as through a general power of competence for revenue-raising or plans to empower councils to implement congestion charging
- plans of ensuring a new Local Government tax model is created within this Parliament

Council therefore asks that the Chief Executive write to relevant Ministers to ask them that they continue the work being undertaken already between GCC Officers and SG Civil Servants and:

- Ensure that funding for the 110,000 affordable homes due to be delivered by 2032 is allocated by need and not divided equally among 32 Local Authorities, recognising Glasgow's particular circumstances but also

particular ability to deliver compact urban growth, local living and rebalanced development.

- Go further than simply supporting progress on Clyde Metro proposals and recognise the strategic regional and national imperative for a link between central Glasgow and Glasgow Airport, via the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, GRID, Renfrew and the AMID.
- Acknowledge the significant work already undertaken by Glasgow City Region in advancing the next stage of regional devolution during the upcoming dialogue on local government reform, and ensure that it can act as a pathfinder for devolution of economic development, transport, planning and skills powers to help the Scottish Government deliver their ambitious agenda.
- Publish the recent consultation of its consultation on replacing the Council Tax and commit to publishing a timetable for replacing Council Tax within the current parliamentary term, also setting out whether the Scottish Government supports a modern, progressive property- and land- based tax system, as endorsed by this Council, how local councils will be engaged in the process of designing and implementing a replacement tax system, whether further tax devolution to councils, such as Non Domestic Rate setting, will also be considered to support public investment and public service reform, and how emerging ideas around regional empowerment can also interact with local tax reform, including helping to address the tax base inequality that is known to hinder Glasgow.”

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 29 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Butler and 45 for the motion as adjusted, with 1 abstention.

The motion as adjusted, was accordingly declared to be carried.

### **Stonyhurst Street Fire – Motion as adjusted approved.**

**12** Bailie Hoy, seconded by Councillor Hutchison, moved that:-

“Council condemns in the strongest possible terms the wilful fire raising which has caused significant damage to tenements on Stonyhurst Street in Possilpark.

Council thanks the firefighters who tackled and extinguished the blaze, leading to no injuries.

Council notes that these tenements had been empty long term and were being refurbished by NG Homes at the time of this arson attack. Council acknowledges the importance of refurbishment projects of this kind to provide much needed social housing for all people experiencing housing need in the city, in line with social housing providers' fair and transparent allocations policies.

Council condemns all actors, including politicians, who have been fomenting community tensions based on lies and rumours and reminds those responsible that their actions have negative real world consequences.

Council commits to working with NG Homes to ensure that this project is still able to be delivered, playing its part in easing the impact of the housing emergency."

Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Gow, moved as an amendment that:-

- (1) in paragraph 3 after 'NG Homes' ADD 'with significant financial support from Glasgow City Council';
- (2) in paragraph 3, line 2 after 'Council' ADD 'welcomes the over 3500 empty properties which have been brought back into use in the city in the past 7 years.';
- (3) in paragraph 5 after 'housing emergency' ADD 'and supporting wider regeneration of Possilpark – Council further notes that North Glasgow more generally is awaiting a pipeline of 5,500 new homes: 1,000 of which are planned for the Cowlares development adjacent to Saracen Street and Stonyhurst Street."

Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Mooney, moved as an amendment that:-

- (1) after paragraph 2, please insert:

"Council calls on Police Scotland to prioritise the criminal investigation into this attack and ensure all available resources are deployed to identify those responsible. Council further requests that officers engage with Registered Social Landlords across the city to undertake a review of security arrangements at social housing development and refurbishment sites and identify any additional measures required to prevent vandalism, arson and other acts of criminal damage."

- (2) after paragraph 4, please insert:

"Council recognises the importance of timely and accurate public information in maintaining community cohesion and confidence in social housing developments. Council therefore requests that officers work with Registered Social Landlords to improve early community engagement and communication around future housing developments, ensuring that accurate information is readily available and misinformation can be challenged quickly where it arises."

During the debate Bailie Hoy, Councillor Kelly and Councillor Higgins, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council condemns in the strongest possible terms the wilful fire raising which has caused significant damage to tenements on Stonyhurst Street in Possilpark.

Council thanks the firefighters who tackled and extinguished the blaze, leading to no injuries.

Council calls on Police Scotland to prioritise the criminal investigation into this attack and ensure all available resources are deployed to identify those responsible. Council further requests that officers engage with Registered Social Landlords across the city to undertake a review of security arrangements at social housing development and refurbishment sites and identify any additional measures required to prevent vandalism, arson and other acts of criminal damage.

Council notes that these tenements had been empty long term and were being refurbished by NG Homes with significant financial support from Glasgow City Council at the time of this arson attack. Council welcomes the over 3500 empty properties which have been brought back into use in the city in the past 7 years and acknowledges the importance of refurbishment projects of this kind to provide much needed social housing for all people experiencing housing need in the city, in line with social housing providers' fair and transparent allocations policies.

Council condemns all actors, including politicians, who have been fomenting community tensions based on lies and rumours and reminds those responsible that their actions have negative real world consequences.

Council commits to working with NG Homes to ensure that this project is still able to be delivered, playing its part in easing the impact of the housing emergency and supporting wider regeneration of Possilpark – Council further notes that North Glasgow more generally is awaiting a pipeline of 5,500 new homes: 1,000 of which are planned for the Cowlares development adjacent to Saracen Street and Stonyhurst Street.”

The motion, as adjusted, was thereafter unanimously approved.

### **Child Friendly City - Motion as adjusted approved, after division.**

**13** Councillor Richard Bell, seconded by Councillor Ruairi Kelly, moved that

"Council welcomes Glasgow's participation in the Urban95 programme which challenges cities to ask the question: 'If you experienced the city from 95cm above the ground, what would you change?', and recognises the growing international evidence that designing neighbourhoods, transport systems, public spaces and local services from the perspective of babies, young children and their carers can improve outcomes not only for children but for entire communities.

Council acknowledges that children are among those most affected by decisions about streets, transport and the built environment; that child-friendly neighbourhoods support healthier lifestyles, active travel, social connection, cleaner air, inclusion and community wellbeing; and that planning and transport policy should apply a clear "child lens" to decision-making.

Council recognises that public authorities should engage meaningfully with children and families, prioritise safe and accessible streets, child friendly public realm and public art, support independent mobility and play, reduce road danger at source, and ensure that children's rights and experiences are embedded within transport, planning and placemaking decisions.

Council further recognises that play is not confined to designated playgrounds and that children naturally play in streets, paths, greenspaces, vacant land, housing environments and other informal spaces.

Council therefore recommits to the 2018 National Position Statement on Outdoor Play and Learning and to embedding playing and learning outdoors as an everyday activity.

Council commits to becoming a 'Child Friendly City' and reaffirms its ambition for Glasgow to be the best place for a child to grow up, irrespective of their postcode or family circumstances, and will support and celebrate outdoor play and learning as a fundamental part of growing up in Glasgow.

Council instructs the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and other relevant senior officers, to:

- Prepare a "State of Play" report for consideration by the Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee within three committee cycles (by Jan 2027) setting out how learning from Urban95, Glasgow's Child Poverty Programme and emerging best practice in child-friendly planning, placemaking and transport design can be further embedded across council policy and service delivery;
- Identify opportunities within the implementation of National Planning Framework 4, the City Development Plan, transport planning, regeneration programmes and active travel investment to support children and families.
- Ensure that future planning guidance, masterplans and major regeneration frameworks are assessed through a child-friendly and family-friendly lens, including consideration of play, independent mobility, access to greenspace, community connection and children's rights;
- Implement a Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods Tactical Urbanism Programme, informed by Urban95, ongoing award-winning Play Sufficiency Assessment conversations with and including children and young people, and international best practice, prioritising communities experiencing the highest levels of child poverty and utilising low-cost, high-impact interventions such as play streets, traffic-calming measures, street greening, improved crossings, seating, temporary public realm improvements, opportunities for informal play and safer walking and wheeling routes for young children and their carers;
- Develop a Family Friendly Parks Framework for Glasgow's parks and greenspaces (by Jan 2027), with the aim of ensuring that every major park contains features that actively welcome babies, children, young people and

their families, including opportunities for natural play, accessible toilets, seating, shelter, drinking water, play trails, community growing, outdoor learning and facilitated family activity;

- Develop demonstrator projects within Croftcroighn Park and Cranhill Park, reflecting their location within communities experiencing some of the highest concentrations of child poverty in the city, including proposals for natural play, play trails, informal play spaces, intergenerational seating and gathering areas, shelter, community growing opportunities, family facilities, partnership working with local organisations, families and schools, and the identification of external funding opportunities;
- Develop, as envisaged within the new City Development Plan, a child-friendly public art policy and creative placemaking approach (by Jan 2027) supporting interactive, playful and accessible installations that encourage exploration, imagination, learning and community pride."

Councillor Docherty, seconded by Councillor Ahmed, moved as an amendment that:-

- (1) After the paragraph beginning with "Council commits to becoming a 'Child Friendly City'" please insert new paragraph which should read as:

"Council notes, however, that the SNP Administration has held executive responsibility for Council policy since 2017 and that many of the challenges identified within this motion, including inequalities in access to quality play provision, greenspace, active travel infrastructure and child-friendly neighbourhoods, continue to affect children and families across Glasgow despite previous commitments, strategies and regeneration programmes. Council notes that Glasgow has adopted a succession of policies, strategies and action plans intended to improve outcomes for children and young people but believes that the persistence of many of these challenges demonstrates the need for greater focus on delivery and accountability. Council therefore believes that Members and the public are entitled to a clear assessment of what has been delivered, what remains outstanding and what measurable outcomes have been achieved, and that future progress should be judged on demonstrable improvements in children's lives rather than the adoption of further strategies and frameworks alone."

- (2) insert a new paragraph, which should read as:

"Council further notes that aspirations to create child-friendly and family-friendly neighbourhoods must be matched by the maintenance of existing public amenities and infrastructure, including public toilets, parks, play facilities and public spaces. Council recognises that neighbourhoods which work well for young children should also be accessible and welcoming for disabled people, older people and those with caring responsibilities."

- (3) in the paragraph beginning with "Prepare a "State of Play" report" insert a new sentence, which should read as:

“, while also assessing progress made against existing Council commitments relating to child poverty, play sufficiency, active travel, neighbourhood regeneration and children's wellbeing, identifying areas where expected improvements have not been achieved and setting out specific actions to address these shortcomings; and including an assessment of the condition, accessibility and maintenance of existing play infrastructure across the city, including outstanding repairs, average repair times, equipment taken out of service and any geographic inequalities in provision;”

- (4) after previous new sentence, add a new paragraph, reading:

“Review current arrangements for the inspection, maintenance and repair of play infrastructure and family facilities within parks and public spaces across the city, including toilets, seating, accessible routes and play equipment, and identify options to reduce repair times, address maintenance backlogs, improve accessibility, and enhance the quality and availability of facilities for children, families, older people and disabled people;”

- (5) in paragraph beginning with: “Implement a Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods Tactical Urbanism Programme” insert a new sentence:

“with annual reporting to the appropriate committee on delivery against programme objectives and outcomes achieved;”

- (6) in the proceeding paragraph, after “accessible” please insert: “and well-maintained” and in the same paragraph, after “family activity,” add

“and that the Framework incorporates inclusive design principles and considers the needs of disabled people, older people and carers;” and

- (7) insert one final paragraph at the end, which should read as:

“Council instructs the Chief Executive to provide annual progress reports to the appropriate committee outlining delivery against Child Friendly City objectives, including measurable indicators relating to access to greenspace, play opportunities, active travel provision and neighbourhood inequalities affecting children and families.”

Bailie Mearns, seconded by Councillor Molyneux, moved as an amendment that:

- (1) in bulleted list of instructions, in instruction two, after “support children and families”, add:

“, including testing technical design options for active travel infrastructure with children and parents/carers, with a view that all new active travel infrastructure is designed with users age 6+ in mind.”

- (2) in bulleted list of instructions, in final bullet point, replace “installations that encourage” with “public realm that encourages”, and add at end of sentence

“and report on how children will be involved in the creation of City Development Plan 2”

(3) after the bulleted list, add additional bullets:

- Engage with landlords to ensure that play areas, communal spaces, and facilities for tenants are accessible to children of all abilities, promoting inclusivity and equality from the earliest stages of life.
- Map existing examples of high quality, child friendly spaces in Glasgow and consider how the Council can better promote these spaces and support their development.
- Consider options to extend the number of Street Play days and better support residents who want to hold Street Play days.
- Continued support for enforcement of school streets and anti-idling measures, improvement of pedestrian and cyclist environments at schools, provision of cycling training, and walking and cycling buses that facilitate shifting to active travel.
- Advocate for national funding to secure green barriers within school playgrounds to reduce risk to children from vehicular particulate matter which is known to cause serious health harms;
- Advocate for funding to replace 3G sports pitches in schools with pitches over 10 years old, due to health harms associated with the materials and the need for investment to replace surfaces which are being used beyond their stated lifecycle;
- Develop a Play Sufficiency toolkit, assessment criteria and action plan for schools to build on the positive work being carried out elsewhere across the city and to ensure that all children have equal access to quality play opportunities in school, utilising the £350,000 funding agreed in this year's Council budget and drawing on the expertise of the working group formed to facilitate a review;
- Ensure that play pedagogy is being strongly embedded across all schools and set an ambitious target for the number of schools opting in to the Play Pedagogy award;
- Consider options to bring forward council-run, fully outdoor early years childcare to support expanded hours, increase sustainable provision, meet high levels of demand for outdoor nurseries, and support the rights of every child to access quality play opportunities
- Prepare for the expansion of childcare as announced in the PfG by conducting an assessment of current after-school provision in the city, including for children who have additional needs, and what steps need to be taken towards expanding this for all families who need it.

Bailie Hoy, seconded by Councillor Massie, moved as an amendment that:

- (1) add after - Identify opportunities within the implementation of National Planning Framework 4, the City Development Plan, transport planning, regeneration programmes and active travel investment to support children and families....

“This will include considering the negative impact of current advertising practice on the health and wellbeing of children and using planning legislation and the creation of an ethical advertising policy to reduce the level and impact of harmful advertising in areas frequented by children and young people.”

- (2) add after - Ensure that future planning guidance, masterplans and major regeneration frameworks are assessed through a child-friendly and family-friendly lens, including consideration of play, independent mobility, access to greenspace, community connection and children's rights...

“including taking consideration of Living Streets guidance for safe pedestrian access for babies, toddlers, early years and school aged children and planning new build estates and street redesign around their needs”;

- (3) insert a new paragraph at the end:

“Council considers bus franchising to be a central pillar of providing genuinely affordable public transport to all families and therefore the Council requests that the leader writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport requesting a clear timeline for progressing bus franchising in line with the demands of the Better Buses for Strathclyde campaign”

Councillor Bell, with the approval of his seconder, accepted the amendments by Bailie Mearns and Bailie Hoy, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council welcomes Glasgow's participation in the Urban95 programme which challenges cities to ask the question: 'If you experienced the city from 95cm above the ground, what would you change?', and recognises the growing international evidence that designing neighbourhoods, transport systems, public spaces and local services from the perspective of babies, young children and their carers can improve outcomes not only for children but for entire communities.

Council acknowledges that children are among those most affected by decisions about streets, transport and the built environment; that child-friendly neighbourhoods support healthier lifestyles, active travel, social connection, cleaner air, inclusion and community wellbeing; and that planning and transport policy should apply a clear "child lens" to decision-making.

Council recognises that public authorities should engage meaningfully with children and families, prioritise safe and accessible streets, child friendly public realm and public art, support independent mobility and play, reduce road danger at source, and ensure that children's rights and experiences are embedded within transport, planning and placemaking decisions.

Council further recognises that play is not confined to designated playgrounds and that children naturally play in streets, paths, greenspaces, vacant land, housing environments and other informal spaces.

Council therefore recommits to the 2018 National Position Statement on Outdoor Play and Learning and to embedding playing and learning outdoors as an everyday activity.

Council commits to becoming a 'Child Friendly City' and reaffirms its ambition for Glasgow to be the best place for a child to grow up, irrespective of their postcode or family circumstances, and will support and celebrate outdoor play and learning as a fundamental part of growing up in Glasgow.

Council instructs the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and other relevant senior officers, to:

- Prepare a "State of Play" report for consideration by the Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee within three committee cycles (by Jan 2027) setting out how learning from Urban95, Glasgow's Child Poverty Programme and emerging best practice in child-friendly planning, placemaking and transport design can be further embedded across council policy and service delivery
- Identify opportunities within the implementation of National Planning Framework 4, the City Development Plan, transport planning, regeneration programmes and active travel investment to support children and families. including testing technical design options for active travel infrastructure with children and parents/carers, with a view that all new active travel infrastructure is designed with users age 6+ in mind."
- This will include considering the negative impact of current advertising practice on the health and wellbeing of children and using planning legislation and the creation of an ethical advertising policy to reduce the level and impact of harmful advertising in areas frequented by children and young people."
- Ensure that future planning guidance, masterplans and major regeneration frameworks are assessed through a child-friendly and family-friendly lens, including consideration of play, independent mobility, access to greenspace, community connection and children's rights This will include considering the negative impact of current advertising practice on the health and wellbeing of children and using planning legislation and the creation of an ethical advertising policy to reduce the level and impact of harmful advertising in areas frequented by children and young people.";
- Implement a Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods Tactical Urbanism Programme, informed by Urban95, ongoing award-winning Play Sufficiency Assessment conversations with and including children and young people, and international best practice, prioritising communities experiencing the highest levels of child poverty and utilising low-cost, high-impact interventions such as play streets, traffic-calming measures, street greening, improved crossings, seating, temporary public realm improvements, opportunities for informal play and safer walking and wheeling routes for young children and their carers;
- Develop a Family Friendly Parks Framework for Glasgow's parks and greenspaces (by Jan 2027), with the aim of ensuring that every major park contains features that actively welcome babies, children, young people and

their families, including opportunities for natural play, accessible toilets, seating, shelter, drinking water, play trails, community growing, outdoor learning and facilitated family activity.

- Develop demonstrator projects within Croftcroighn Park and Cranhill Park, reflecting their location within communities experiencing some of the highest concentrations of child poverty in the city, including proposals for natural play, play trails, informal play spaces, intergenerational seating and gathering areas, shelter, community growing opportunities, family facilities, partnership working with local organisations, families and schools, and the identification of external funding opportunities;
- Develop, as envisaged within the new City Development Plan, a child-friendly public art policy and creative placemaking approach (by Jan 2027) supporting interactive, playful and accessible installations and public realm that encourages exploration, imagination, learning and community pride." and report on how children will be involved in the creation of City Development Plan 2"
- Engage with landlords to ensure that play areas, communal spaces, and facilities for tenants are accessible to children of all abilities, promoting inclusivity and equality from the earliest stages of life.
- Consider options to extend the number of Street Play days and better support residents who want to hold Street Play days.
- Continued support for enforcement of school streets and anti-idling measures, improvement of pedestrian and cyclist environments at schools, provision of cycling training, and walking and cycling buses that facilitate shifting to active travel.
- Advocate for national funding to secure green barriers within school playgrounds to reduce risk to children from vehicular particulate matter which is known to cause serious health harms;
- Advocate for funding to replace 3G sports pitches in schools with pitches over 10 years old, due to health harms associated with the materials and the need for investment to replace surfaces which are being used beyond their stated lifecycle;
- Develop a Play Sufficiency toolkit, assessment criteria and action plan for schools to build on the positive work being carried out elsewhere across the city and to ensure that all children have equal access to quality play opportunities in school, utilising the £350,000 funding agreed in this year's Council budget and drawing on the expertise of the working group formed to facilitate a review;
- Continue to ensure that play pedagogy is being strongly embedded across all schools and set an ambitious target for the number of schools opting in to the Play Pedagogy award;
- Consider options to bring forward council-run, fully outdoor early years childcare to support expanded hours, increase sustainable provision, meet high levels of demand for outdoor nurseries, and support the rights of every child to access quality play opportunities

- Prepare for the expansion of childcare as announced in the PfG by conducting an assessment of current after-school provision in the city, including for children who have additional needs, and what steps need to be taken towards expanding this for all families who need it;
- Council considers bus franchising to be a central pillar of providing genuinely affordable public transport to all families and therefore the Council requests that the leader writes to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport requesting a clear timeline for progressing bus franchising in line with the demands of the Better Buses for Strathclyde campaign.”

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 29 members voted for the amendment by Councillor Docherty and 43 for the motion as adjusted, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

### **Restoring confidence in Glasgow city centre – Motion dealt with, after division**

**14** Councillor Rashid Hussain, seconded by Councillor Jill Pidgeon, moved that

“Council recognises Glasgow City Centre's vital role as the economic, cultural and civic heart of Scotland's largest city, supporting employment, investment, tourism and leisure, and making a significant contribution to the city's prosperity and reputation.

Council notes that recent public debate, including that generated by the BBC Disclosure documentary "Welcome to Glasgow", has brought renewed attention to concerns regarding antisocial behaviour, violence, environmental quality and perceptions of safety within parts of Glasgow City Centre. While Council recognises that such coverage does not represent the entirety of city centre life, nor the experience of the overwhelming majority of those who live, work and visit there, it would be wrong to dismiss the concerns that have been highlighted or the impact they are having on public confidence.

Council further notes that many of the issues highlighted in recent weeks are not new. Concerns regarding public safety, antisocial behaviour, environmental quality and the condition of key city centre locations have been raised repeatedly by residents, businesses, community organisations and elected members over a number of years. While a range of strategies, action plans and initiatives have been introduced, many of these concerns remain evident and it is reasonable to question whether sufficient progress has been made.

Council recognises the efforts of frontline staff, Police Scotland, community organisations and businesses working to improve conditions within the city centre. However, residents, businesses and visitors are entitled to expect visible and sustained improvement. The persistence of these issues raises legitimate concerns regarding the effectiveness of the response from both the City Administration and the Scottish Government. Following almost two decades of SNP Government in Scotland and more than a decade of SNP leadership at Glasgow City Council, many of the concerns repeatedly raised by residents and businesses remain unresolved. Despite successive commitments and interventions, visible improvements have too

often failed to match public expectations. Council therefore believes that greater urgency, leadership and accountability are required to restore public confidence and deliver meaningful improvement.

Council believes that Glasgow's reputation is best protected not through denial of these challenges, nor through exaggerated characterisations of the city, but through an honest assessment of current conditions and a determination to deliver meaningful improvement. Recognising and addressing legitimate concerns is not talking Glasgow down; it is demonstrating a commitment to making Glasgow better.

Council therefore:

- Calls on Police Scotland and the Scottish Government to work with Glasgow City Council on establishing a dedicated Glasgow City Centre Policing Unit, providing a sustained and highly visible policing presence focused on antisocial behaviour, violence, acquisitive crime, drug dealing and other city centre disorder; and requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Chief Constable and Cabinet Secretary for Justice seeking formal discussions on its establishment.
- Instructs the Chief Executive to seek a commitment from the Scottish Government for additional resources for Glasgow City Centre, recognising the particular pressures experienced by Scotland's largest city and its role as a national economic, cultural, retail and visitor destination.
- Instructs officers, working with Police Scotland, to develop a 12-month City Centre Safety Action Plan, identifying priority locations for enhanced visible policing, community enforcement and coordinated intervention, using crime, antisocial behaviour and other available evidence to target resources.
- Instructs NRS to bring forward proposals to establish an enhanced city centre cleansing and environmental enforcement programme, targeting persistent hotspots for litter, graffiti, fly-tipping, overflowing bins and other environmental problems, with clear service standards and named priority locations.
- Instructs officers to develop options for a dedicated rapid-response city centre environmental team, capable of responding quickly to graffiti, damaged street furniture, overflowing bins, fly-tipping and other defects which visibly undermine the city centre environment.
- Instructs officers to undertake an urgent audit of city centre CCTV, including camera coverage, operational availability, monitoring arrangements and identified blind spots, and to bring forward proposals for additional or upgraded CCTV where evidence demonstrates a need.
- Instructs officers to work with Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Police Scotland and third-sector organisations on a coordinated city centre outreach plan for people experiencing homelessness, addiction or acute vulnerability, including clearer routes into treatment, accommodation and support.

- Instructs officers to establish a City Centre Business and Community Safety Forum, bringing together businesses, residents, Police Scotland, transport operators, the city centre BID, hospitality representatives and relevant third-sector organisations, meeting regularly to identify emerging problems and scrutinise delivery of agreed actions.
- Instructs officers to develop proposals for a programme of targeted improvements at key city centre gateways and identified problem locations, including approaches to Central Station, Union Street, Argyle Street, Sauchiehall Street and St Enoch, addressing cleanliness, lighting, damaged infrastructure, public realm and perceptions of safety.
- Instructs officers to publish a quarterly City Centre Performance Dashboard, including available data on violent crime, antisocial behaviour, environmental complaints, cleanliness, enforcement activity, footfall, commercial vacancies and progress against the City Centre Safety Action Plan.
- Instructs officers to review whether existing Council enforcement resources and operating hours provide sufficient visible coverage during evenings and weekends, and to report on options for strengthening the Council's presence at the times and locations experiencing the greatest problems.
- Calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that Police Scotland, addiction services, homelessness services and other relevant public services in Glasgow have sufficient resources to respond to the particular pressures experienced within the city centre.
- Instructs the Executive Director of NRS, in consultation with relevant services and partners, to report to the appropriate committee within three months on implementation of these actions and proposals, including costs, funding options, responsible agencies and clear delivery timescales, with progress thereafter reported quarterly."

Councillor Millar, seconded by Councillor Aitken, moved as an amendment to delete all and replace with the following:-

"Council recognises Glasgow City Centre's vital role as the economic, cultural and civic heart of Scotland's largest city, supporting employment, investment, tourism and leisure, and making a significant contribution to the city's prosperity and reputation.

Council notes that recent public debate has brought renewed attention to concerns regarding antisocial behaviour, violence, environmental quality and perceptions of safety within parts of Glasgow City Centre. While Council recognises that recent coverage does not represent the entirety of city centre life, nor the experience of the overwhelming majority of those who live, work and visit there, it would be wrong to dismiss the concerns that have been highlighted or the impact they are having on public confidence.

Council further notes that many of the issues highlighted in recent weeks are not new. Council notes that it has sought to assist Police Scotland in addressing the localised issues of crime and antisocial behaviour around the Four Corners and St Enoch Square, for example, through supporting the establishment of the city centre dispersal zone. Council further notes that senior officers and Police Scotland are closely engaged in tackling these issues on an ongoing basis through the operational City Centre Strategic Group established to share information and develop co-ordinated responses to anti-social behaviour and crime in city centre.

Council recognises the efforts of frontline staff, Police Scotland, community organisations and businesses working to improve conditions within the city centre. Council recalls its additional investment in city centre environmental operations through recent Budget decisions, and notes the ongoing implementation of a City Centre Operations Action Plan via the City Centre Task Force, which is seeing further targeted work to address challenges such as cleansing and commercial waste enforcement. Council further welcomes the recent establishment of the Let's Go Glasgow Business Improvement District and its operations activity focused on graffiti removal and CCTV monitoring within the city centre. Council believes that effectively addressing these challenges will require a continued deepening of the partnership working and strategic initiatives already in place, and will require additional resources and a concerted effort to address both the symptoms and root causes of antisocial behaviour in the city centre.

Council therefore:

- Instructs the Chief Executive to seek a commitment from the Scottish Government for additional resources for Glasgow City Centre, recognising the particular pressures experienced by Scotland's largest city and its role as a national economic, cultural, retail and visitor destination.
- Calls on Police Scotland and the Scottish Government to increase city centre policing resources, providing a sustained and highly visible policing presence focused on antisocial behaviour, violence, acquisitive crime, drug dealing and other city centre disorder; and requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Chief Constable and Cabinet Secretary for Justice seeking formal discussions on the deepening, resourcing and formalisation of partnership structures to support the strategic coordination of policing in the city centre.
- Instructs officers to bring to committee an updated City Centre Operations Action Plan, reflecting activity to be delivered by the Let's Go Glasgow BID as well as by NRS, setting out plans for enhanced cleansing, enforcement and graffiti removal activity, and including a targeted programme of interventions focused on environmental management and public safety at key city centre gateways and identified hotspots.
- Further instructs officers to explore opportunities to attract further resources to support and extend this Action Plan, including from Scottish and UK Government and potential revenue streams including the forthcoming Transient Visitor Levy scheme.

- Requests that the Convener for Homelessness and Addictions and the Convener for Housing update Council on the progress of ongoing engagement with the Scottish and UK governments on assistance to address the unique combination of pressures driving homelessness in Glasgow.
- Notes the regular publication by the City Centre Task Force of the City Centre Performance Dashboard, which includes a range of datasets including footfall and commercial performance, and instructs officers to identify opportunities to include further datasets including on crime and antisocial behaviour and environmental indicators.
- Instructs the Chief Executive to ensure that a report is brought to the relevant committee within two cycles presenting progress against these actions, with regular reporting to be brought thereafter.”

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

After sentence ending “...parts of Glasgow City Centre.” in paragraph two, delete the rest of the motion and replace with:

“Council believes that such coverage, and the social media statements encouraging vigilante action and so-called “street patrols” are right-wing provocations and bear little resemblance to Glasgow city life in actuality.

Council further notes that while many of the issues highlighted are not new, they do not arise from what is being portrayed as an influx of immigrants or from people whom anti-immigrant agitators are describing as “non-natives”. Rather the issues arise from decades of underfunding to services resulting from austerity measures enacted by successive Labour, Conservative and new Labour governments. Any lack of progress in strategies, plans and initiatives to address these concerns have been due to a lack of funding, and such measures as nominating Glasgow a dispersal city, with subsequent changes to housing legislation without sufficient national funding support, further exacerbating Glasgow’s housing crisis and putting people into intolerable situations, including children and families, as well as victims of war, persecution and climate change.

Council notes the importance of the City Centre Strategy 2024-2030 which sets out a plan to support a more sustainable, greener city centre with more jobs, better transport connections and increased opportunities for housing. Council also recognises that to keep up with demand for housing, 7500 new social homes must be built before 2030, a target which will require significant additional resources to achieve. Council also recognises that, without the introduction of rent controls, tenants living in the private-rented sector will continue to face precarity of tenancy and risk homelessness.

Council notes with concern the persistently high vacancy rates and tenant retention on Glasgow’s High Street. Council requests the Convenor for Neighbourhood Services & Assets to write to City Property, requesting a review of their approach to asset management within the High St, and whether new, more sustainable and

attractive proposals can be made to ensure units can bring tenants to the High Street once again on a more secure basis.

Council recognises the efforts of frontline staff, Police Scotland, charities, community organisations and businesses working to improve conditions within the city centre, however, acknowledges that services and opportunities for young people are limited and incapable of meeting the scale of demand which exists. As a result of a lack of opportunities, many young people are attracted into the city centre where they can be exploited by drug dealers or attacked by far-right thugs. Council believes that addressing the root cause of these problems must be tackled, such as by increasing funding to youth services in the city centre, enhancing employment and further education opportunities for young people, and tackling poverty and the housing emergency.

Council believes that Glasgow's reputation is best protected by an honest assessment of the paucity of economic and cultural opportunities and facilities available to Glasgow's citizens, in particular young people and homeless people.

Council therefore:

- Instructs the Chief Executive to seek a commitment from the Scottish Government for additional resources for Glasgow City Centre, recognising the particular pressures experienced by Scotland's largest city and its role as a national economic, cultural, retail and visitor destination.
- Instructs officers, working with Police Scotland, and members of the Scottish Youth Parliament to develop a 12-month City Centre Liveable City Action Plan, identifying priority locations for leisure and cultural facilities accessible to young people and low-income people and using available evidence to target resources.
- Instructs officers to work with Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Police Scotland and third-sector organisations to consider an enhanced city centre outreach plan for people experiencing homelessness, addiction or acute vulnerability, including clearer routes into treatment, accommodation and support.
- Instructs officers to consider expanding the membership of the City Centre Taskforce, reporting on the work of this committee more regularly or to consider the creation of a new forum that includes residents, transport operators, the city centre BID, hospitality representatives and relevant third-sector organisations, meeting regularly to identify shortfalls in services and scrutinise delivery of agreed actions.
- Calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that Police Scotland, addiction services, homelessness services and other relevant public services in Glasgow have sufficient resources to respond to the particular pressures experienced within the city centre.

- Calls for Safe Glasgow to scrutinise the impact of proposals from Police Scotland on the city centre including a 12% reduction in the workforce by 2030 and facial recognition technology.
- Instructs the Executive Director of NRS, in consultation with relevant services and partners, to report to the appropriate committee within three months on implementation of these actions and proposals, including costs, funding options, responsible agencies and clear delivery timescales, with progress thereafter reported quarterly
- Calls on the Scottish Government to advocate for the devolution of drugs law to Scotland, the decriminalisation of drugs and expanding establishing safe consumption facilities and anti-addiction services, to prevent exploitation and ensure this is addressed as a health issue first and foremost.”

During the debate Councillor Millar and Councillor Gallagher, with the approval of their seconders, agreed to combine their amendments resulting in the following adjusted amendment:-

“Council recognises Glasgow City Centre's vital role as the economic, cultural and civic heart of Scotland's largest city, supporting employment, investment, tourism and leisure, and making a significant contribution to the city's prosperity and reputation.

Council notes that recent public debate has brought renewed attention to concerns regarding antisocial behaviour, violence, environmental quality and perceptions of safety within parts of Glasgow City Centre. While Council recognises that recent coverage does not represent the entirety of city centre life, nor the experience of the overwhelming majority of those who live, work and visit there, it would be wrong to dismiss the concerns that have been highlighted or the impact they are having on public confidence.

Council further notes that many of the issues highlighted in recent weeks are not new. Council notes that they do not arise from what is being portrayed as an influx of immigrants or from people whom anti-immigrant agitators are describing as “non-natives”. Rather the issues arise from decades of underfunding to services resulting from austerity measures enacted by successive Labour, Conservative and new Labour governments. Any lack of progress in strategies, plans and initiatives to address these concerns have been due to a lack of funding, and such measures as nominating Glasgow a dispersal city, with subsequent changes to housing legislation without sufficient national funding support, further exacerbating Glasgow’s housing crisis and putting people into intolerable situations, including children and families, as well as victims of war, persecution and climate change.

Council notes the importance of the City Centre Strategy 2024-2030 which sets out a plan to support a more sustainable, greener city centre with more jobs, better transport connections and increased opportunities for housing. Council also recognises that to keep up with demand for housing, 7500 new social homes must be built before 2030, a target which will require significant additional resources to achieve. Council also recognises that, without the introduction of rent controls, tenants living in the private-rented sector will continue to face precarity of tenancy and risk homelessness.

Council acknowledges that services and opportunities for young people are limited and incapable of meeting the scale of demand which exists. As a result of a lack of opportunities, many young people are attracted into the city centre where they can be exploited by drug dealers or attacked by far-right thugs. Council believes that addressing the root cause of these problems must be tackled, such as by increasing funding to youth services in the city centre, enhancing employment and further education opportunities for young people, and tackling poverty and the housing emergency.

Council notes that it has sought to assist Police Scotland in addressing the localised issues of crime and antisocial behaviour around the Four Corners and St Enoch Square, for example, through supporting the establishment of the city centre dispersal zone. Council further notes that senior officers and Police Scotland are closely engaged in tackling these issues on an ongoing basis through the operational City Centre Strategic Group established to share information and develop co-ordinated responses to anti-social behaviour and crime in city centre.

Council recognises the efforts of frontline staff, Police Scotland, community organisations and businesses working to improve conditions within the city centre. Council recalls its additional investment in city centre environmental operations through recent Budget decisions, and notes the ongoing implementation of a City Centre Operations Action Plan via the City Centre Task Force, which is seeing further targeted work to address challenges such as cleansing and commercial waste enforcement. Council further welcomes the recent establishment of the Let's Go Glasgow Business Improvement District and its operations activity focused on graffiti removal and CCTV monitoring within the city centre.

Council believes that effectively addressing these challenges will require a continued deepening of the partnership working and strategic initiatives already in place, and will require additional resources and a concerted effort to address both the symptoms and root causes of antisocial behaviour in the city centre.

Council therefore:

- Instructs the Chief Executive to seek a commitment from the Scottish Government for additional resources for Glasgow City Centre, recognising the particular pressures experienced by Scotland's largest city and its role as a national economic, cultural, retail and visitor destination.
- Requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Chief Constable and Cabinet Secretary for Justice seeking formal discussions on the deepening, resourcing and formalisation of partnership structures to support the strategic coordination of policing in the city centre.
- Instructs officers to bring to committee an updated City Centre Operations Action Plan, reflecting activity to be delivered by the Let's Go Glasgow BID as well as by NRS, setting out plans for enhanced cleansing, enforcement and graffiti removal activity, and including a targeted programme of interventions focused on environmental management and public safety at key city centre gateways and identified hotspots.
- Further instructs officers to explore opportunities to attract further resources to support and extend this Action Plan, including from Scottish and UK

Government and potential revenue streams including the forthcoming Transient Visitor Levy scheme.

- Requests that the Convener for Homelessness and Addictions and the Convener for Housing update Council on the progress of ongoing engagement with the Scottish and UK governments on assistance to address the unique combination of pressures driving homelessness in Glasgow.
- Calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that Police Scotland, addiction services, homelessness services and other relevant public services in Glasgow have sufficient resources to respond to the particular pressures experienced within the city centre.
- Calls for Safe Glasgow to scrutinise the impact of proposals from Police Scotland on the city centre including a 12% reduction in the workforce by 2030 and facial recognition technology.
- Notes the regular publication by the City Centre Task Force of the City Centre Performance Dashboard, which includes a range of datasets including footfall and commercial performance, and instructs officers to identify opportunities to include further datasets including on crime and antisocial behaviour and environmental indicators.
- Calls on the Scottish Government to advocate for the devolution of drugs law to Scotland, the decriminalisation of drugs and expanding establishing safe consumption facilities and anti-addiction services, to prevent exploitation and ensure this is addressed as a health issue first and foremost
- Instructs the Chief Executive to ensure that a report is brought to the relevant committee within two cycles presenting progress against these actions, with regular reporting to be brought thereafter.”

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 42 voted for the amendment and 29 for the motion.

The amendment as adjusted was accordingly declared to be carried.

#### **‘Glasgow Times’ Action Not Words Campaign – Motion as adjusted approved.**

**15** Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell, seconded by Bailie Anthony Carroll, moved that:-

“Council notes with grave concern the shocking increases in reported rapes and sexual crimes in Glasgow over the past five years. Council further notes that while increases are being seen in every part of the city and that most crimes are carried out in domestic premises by perpetrators who are known to their victims, there are specific safety concerns in relation to public spaces and in the City Centre and this merits a bespoke approach.

Council recognises that rape, sexual assault and other sexual offences are overwhelmingly committed by men against women, and that this includes men across society regardless of race, religion or immigration status. Council believes that all men have a role to play in ending male violence against women.

Council welcomes the Glasgow Times' Action Not Words campaign which it has launched in response to this growing concern.

Council also welcomes the announcements in the recent Programme for Government, including the First Minister's personal leadership on this issue, proposals for a Misogyny Bill, a public health campaign promoting positive male behaviours, multi-year funding for third sector partners supporting survivors of gender based violence which has been a key ask of the Sisters Against Cuts campaign, and emergency funding for services like the ASSIST advocacy service, which is vital and should also be a priority for mitigating actions to address any potential workforce issues arising from implementation of the council's new pay and grading scheme.

Council recalls its unanimously-agreed motion of 3rd April 2025 entitled Women's Safety in Glasgow which included a long list of actions and commitments on this issue. Council therefore agrees that a report be brought to an appropriate committee within the next meeting cycle updating on all of the agreed actions and any other work which is underway in relation to women's safety.

In addition to that, Council agrees:-

- That women's safety needs to be a partnership working priority across the Council family and other city partners and requests the Chief Executive lead a piece of work with the Corporate Leadership Team and Community Planning Partners to take a data- and evidence- led review of existing actions and identify what more needs to be done.
- To write to Police Scotland requesting further insight on data and trends to inform the above work, including analysis of historic vs current offences, as well as requesting an immediate review of resources within City Centre policing and additional proactive action to support women's safety.
- To write to the Scottish Government requesting further detail on the plans announced in its Programme for Government and how these will impact Glasgow, in particular how they will ensure sustainable funding for organisations in Glasgow which support women affected by violence, recognising they fulfil a vital role which public agencies, including the Police, cannot.
- To renew its support for the White Ribbon Scotland campaign and to relaunch this in Glasgow, encouraging all male councillors, staff and citizens to pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about men's violence against women in all its forms."

Bailie McTaggart, seconded by Bailie McCabe, moved as an amendment:-

(1) after paragraph four insert two new paragraphs

Council further notes:-

- The work already underway through the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership Strategic Plan 2025-2030 and the implementation of the Council's unanimously agreed Women's Safety in Glasgow motion of April 2025.
- Glasgow's commitment to "Embed gender equality into council impact assessments, budgets, data collecting and strategies including, but not limited to, the new City Development Plan
- Glasgow Community Fund 2026-29 priority of Challenging Violence Against Women and Girls providing lifelines, advice, and paths to emotional and physical well-being for families and individuals affected by domestic abuse and gender-based violence, equipping affected women and girls with the resources needed to exit dangerous situations, build confidence, and thrive independently
- Physical improvements already delivered through city investment programmes, including enhanced lighting and accessibility improvements in public parks and spaces across Glasgow.
- The establishment of Glasgow's Night-Time Economy Commission and the recruitment of a Night-Time Economy Manager to improve safety, accessibility and confidence in the city centre after dark.
- The continued work of Glasgow City Council, Police Scotland and community partners through initiatives such as Ask for Angela, Best Bar None, Nitezone and wider training programmes to tackle violence against women and improve safety in licensed premises and public spaces.
- The Scottish Government's longstanding Equally Safe strategy, internationally recognised Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021, plans for a dedicated Sexual Offences Court and wider victim-centred justice reforms.
- The Scottish Government's record investment in services supporting women and girls through the Delivering Equally Safe Fund and Victim Centred Approach Fund, including multi-year funding certainty for frontline organisations supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

Council recognises that while reported levels of sexual violence remain deeply concerning, violence against women and girls is a societal issue rooted in inequality and male violence, requiring a preventative, public health and whole-system approach.

(2) delete the second sentence in the original paragraph five that begins with:

"Council therefore agrees that a report be brought to an appropriate committee within the next meeting cycle updating on all of the agreed actions and any other work which is underway in relation to women's safety.

- (3) delete the first two bullets bullet in paragraph six that beings with:

“That women's safety needs to be a partnership working priority across the Council family and other city partners.... and replace with the following:-

- To support ongoing work through the strategic plan commitment to “Embed gender equality into council impact assessments, budgets, data collecting and strategies,...” and the city's feminist planning and urbanism programmes to ensure that women and girls' lived experience informs the design of public spaces, transport connections, lighting improvements and future developments such as a future Private Lanes framework.
- To welcome the forthcoming update report on delivery of the April 2025 Women's Safety in Glasgow motion and request that it includes progress on the implementation of the Glasgow Women's Safety Action Plan and associated partnership activity.
- To continue supporting the work of the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership, Community Planning Partners, Police Scotland, the NHS and third sector organisations in delivering a coordinated response to violence against women and girls.

- (4) insert a new bullet after these and before the third original bullet beginning with “To write to the Scottish Government requesting further detail...”

- To welcome the Scottish Government's Programme for Government commitments on tackling violence against women and girls, including the proposed Misogyny Bill, public awareness campaigns, sustainable funding for specialist services and measures to improve justice outcomes for survivors.

Bailie Jenkins, seconded by Bailie Siddique, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) In paragraph beginning with “Council recalls its unanimously-agreed motion” insert a new paragraph to read:

“Council further notes that many women and girls continue to report concerns regarding safety within parts of the city centre and believes that previous commitments and strategies must now be matched by visible action and measurable outcomes. Council recognises that women should not have to alter their behaviour, avoid particular areas or make alternative travel arrangements due to concerns about personal safety.”

- (2) After the ask beginning with “That women’s safety needs to be a partnership working priority across the Council family” insert a new bullet point, to read:

- To assess environmental measures which can improve women’s safety and confidence in public spaces, including lighting, maintenance standards, visibility, CCTV coverage and other features of the built environment, and to identify priority improvements in locations where women report feeling unsafe with initial findings reported to the appropriate committee within one month.”

(3) After ask beginning with: “To write to Police Scotland requesting” insert a new bullet point to read:

- “To engage directly with women and girls, together with specialist organisations supporting survivors of violence against women and girls, to ensure that lived experience informs the development, delivery and evaluation of future safety initiatives and to report the findings of this engagement to the appropriate committee before the end of the Council term.”

(4) Insert two new bullet points to read:

- To engage with Education Services, schools and relevant partner organisations, and to consult female pupils and staff on their experiences, concerns and perceptions of safety, in order to ensure that the Council's work to tackle violence against women and girls includes preventative education and awareness-raising with children and young people, promoting healthy relationships, respect, equality and the challenging of misogynistic attitudes.”
- That the report to committee includes measurable indicators of progress, details of actions delivered since the Council motion of 3 April 2025, an assessment of their effectiveness, identification of any gaps in provision where further action may be required and is presented within one month.”

During the debate Councillor Reid-McConnell, Bailie McTaggart and Bailie Jenkins, with the approval of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

“Council notes with grave concern the shocking increases in reported rapes and sexual crimes in Glasgow over the past five years. Council further notes that while increases are being seen in every part of the city and that most crimes are carried out in domestic premises by perpetrators who are known to their victims, there are specific safety concerns in relation to public spaces and in the City Centre and this merits a bespoke approach.

Council further notes that many women and girls continue to report concerns regarding safety within parts of the city centre and believes that previous commitments and strategies must now be matched by visible action and measurable outcomes. Council recognises that women should not have to alter their behaviour, avoid particular areas or make alternative travel arrangements due to concerns about personal safety.

Council recognises that rape, sexual assault and other sexual offences are overwhelmingly committed by men against women, and that this includes men across society regardless of race, religion or immigration status. Council believes that all men have a role to play in ending male violence against women.

Council welcomes the Glasgow Times' Action Not Words campaign which it has launched in response to this growing concern.

Council also welcomes the announcements in the recent Programme for Government, including the First Minister's personal leadership on this issue, proposals for a Misogyny Bill, a public health campaign promoting positive male behaviours, multi-year funding for third sector partners supporting survivors of gender based violence which has been a key ask of the Sisters Against Cuts campaign, and emergency funding for services like the ASSIST advocacy service, which is vital and should also be a priority for mitigating actions to address any potential workforce issues arising from implementation of the council's new pay and grading scheme.

Council further notes:

- The work already underway through the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership Strategic Plan 2025-2030 and the implementation of the Council's unanimously agreed Women's Safety in Glasgow motion of April 2025.
- Glasgow's commitment to "Embed gender equality into council impact assessments, budgets, data collecting and strategies including, but not limited to, the new City Development Plan"
- Glasgow Community Fund 2026-29 priority of Challenging Violence Against Women and Girls providing lifelines, advice, and paths to emotional and physical well-being for families and individuals affected by domestic abuse and gender-based violence, equipping affected women and girls with the resources needed to exit dangerous situations, build confidence, and thrive independently
- Physical improvements already delivered through city investment programmes, including enhanced lighting and accessibility improvements in public parks and spaces across Glasgow.
- The establishment of Glasgow's Night-Time Economy Commission and the recruitment of a Night-Time Economy Manager to improve safety, accessibility and confidence in the city centre after dark.
- The continued work of Glasgow City Council, Police Scotland and community partners through initiatives such as Ask for Angela, Best Bar None, Nitezone and wider training programmes to tackle violence against women and improve safety in licensed premises and public spaces.
- The Scottish Government's longstanding Equally Safe strategy, internationally recognised Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021, plans for a dedicated Sexual Offences Court and wider victim-centred justice reforms.
- The Scottish Government's record investment in services supporting women and girls through the Delivering Equally Safe Fund and Victim Centred Approach Fund, including multi-year funding certainty for frontline organisations supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

Council recognises that while reported levels of sexual violence remain deeply concerning, violence against women and girls is a societal issue rooted in inequality and male violence, requiring a preventative, public health and whole-system approach.

Council recalls its unanimously-agreed motion of 3rd April 2025 entitled Women's Safety in Glasgow which included a long list of actions and commitments on this issue. Council therefore agrees that a report be brought to an appropriate committee within the next meeting cycle updating on all of the agreed actions and any other work which is underway in relation to women's safety.

In addition to that, Council agrees:-

- That existing work is already underway within the Council to tackle violence against women and girls and any future work should build upon this
- That women's safety needs to be a partnership through the existing Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership; working priority across the Council family and other city partners and requests the Chief Executive lead a piece of work with the Corporate Leadership Team and Community Planning Partners to take a data- and evidence- led review of existing actions and identify what more needs to be done.
- To support ongoing work through the strategic plan commitments and the city's feminist planning and urbanism programmes to ensure that women and girls' lived experience informs the design of public spaces, transport connections, lighting improvements and future developments such as a future Private Lanes Action framework.
- To instruct officers to build on the Private Lane Toolkit by developing a cross-service "Lanes Action Framework", bringing together planning, community safety, cleansing, policing, and economic development, to:
  - Identify high-risk and high-priority lanes,
  - explore sustainable funding approaches
  - Coordinate interventions deliver targeted, practical improvements.

And further instructs the Chief Executive to report back to the appropriate committee by the end of December 2026 with the findings of this work, including an updated assessment of the lane network, identified priority interventions and a delivery framework with resource implications

- To assess environmental measures which can improve women's safety and confidence in public spaces, including lighting, maintenance standards, visibility, CCTV coverage and other features of the built environment, and to identify priority improvements in locations where women report feeling unsafe with initial findings reported to the appropriate committee within one month."
- To welcome the forthcoming update report on delivery of the April 2025 Women's Safety in Glasgow motion and request that it includes progress on the implementation of the Glasgow Women's Safety Action Plan and associated partnership activity.
- To continue supporting the work of the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership, Community Planning Partners, Police Scotland, the NHS and third sector organisations in delivering a coordinated response to violence against women and girls.

- To write to Police Scotland requesting further insight on data and trends to inform the above work, including analysis of historic vs current offences, as well as requesting an immediate review of resources within City Centre policing and additional proactive action to support women's safety.
- To engage directly with women and girls, together with specialist organisations supporting survivors of violence against women and girls, to ensure that lived experience informs the development, delivery and evaluation of future safety initiatives and to report the findings of this engagement to the appropriate committee before the end of the Council term.”
- To write to the Scottish Government requesting further detail on the plans announced in its Programme for Government and how these will impact Glasgow, in particular how they will ensure sustainable funding for organisations in Glasgow which support women affected by violence, recognising they fulfil a vital role which public agencies, including the Police, cannot.
- To renew its support for the White Ribbon Scotland campaign and to relaunch this in Glasgow, encouraging all male councillors, staff and citizens to pledge never to commit, condone
- To engage with Education Services, schools and relevant partner organisations, and to consult female pupils and staff on their experiences, concerns and perceptions of safety, in order to ensure that the Council's work to tackle violence against women and girls includes preventative education and awareness-raising with children and young people, promoting healthy relationships, respect, equality and the challenging of misogynistic attitudes.”

The motion, as adjusted, was thereafter unanimously approved.

### **Adjournment.**

**16** In terms of Standing Order No 5 (12), the time being after 1630 hours, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting, the remaining items of business being 8(d), 8(e), 8(f), 8(g) 8(h) and 8(i).