

Support for Glasgow's talented sports performers – Proposals approved.

8 With reference to the minutes of the Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee of 22nd January 2026 (Print 6, page 118) when it was agreed to recommend to this committee approval of Option 2, following the findings of a consultation exercise to support Glasgow's talented sports performers, Bailie Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations, presented a report regarding the proposals, advising

- (1) that Glasgow Life had undertaken a consultation process between April and October 2025 engaging with stakeholders across education, sport, local authorities and Scottish Government and of the key engagement activities that included the appointment of Kinharvie Institute as an independent consultant to gather the views, opinion of Glasgow School of Sport parents, pupils and of the findings, as detailed in the report;
- (2) of the financial overview of the Glasgow School of Sport for 2025/26;
- (3) that the 2 transition options considered were namely, Option 1, conclude Glasgow School of Sport at the end of 2025/26 academic year or Option 2, continue Glasgow School of Sport until the end of June 2029, allowing all current pupils to complete their sporting and educational journey; and
- (4) that following consultation and review, Option 1 was no longer considered achievable due to time constraints restricting viability of a fair and inclusive transition, particularly given the multi-authority pupil profile, ongoing parental engagement and the absence of a confirmed alternative pathway, therefore Option 2, as detailed in the report was the proposed option.

After consideration, the committee agreed that

- (a) the Glasgow School of Sport would continue until June 2029, enabling all current 38 pupils to complete their education and sporting pathway in full thereby ensuring a fair and inclusive transition, this accounting for 13 Glasgow pupils and 25 pupils from 12 other Local Authorities and Glasgow Life would continue to monitor pupil numbers throughout this period to ensure that resources were used efficiently and proportionately;
- (b) Glasgow Life would continue to work with National Governing Bodies, Sportscotland and the Scottish Institute of Sport to realign the future delivery and administration of high-performance programmes, ensuring those conversations would align with the strengths and responsibilities of the National Governing Bodies; and
- (c) the Talented Sports Performer Scheme would create a working group to review the current scheme and where feasible, tailor its design to better support the evolving needs of talented sports performers in Glasgow, identified through the consultation.