

MINUTES
OF
GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL

Hybrid meeting, 14th May 2026.

Glasgow City Council.

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

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

DEACON CONVENER

LORD DEAN OF GUILD

Apologies: Bill Butler and Frank McAveety.

Present: E Rodger (Clerk), M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; S Millar, Chief Executive; J McGhee, 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 2nd April 2026 (Print 1, pages 1 to 38) 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 20th March 2026;
- (2) City Administration Committee of 26th March and 23rd April 2026;
- (3) City Policy Committees:-
 - (a) Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration of 21st April 2026;
 - (b) Education, Skills and Early Years of 23rd April 2026;
 - (c) Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods of 28th April 2026;
 - (d) Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring of 14th April 2026; and
 - (e) Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement of 16th April 2026; and
- (4) Contracts and Property Committee of 30th April 2026;
- (5) Licensing and Regulatory Committee of 25th March and 15th, 22nd and 29th April 2026;
- (6) Personnel Appeals Committee of 31st March and 14th and 23rd April 2026;
- (7) Planning Applications Committee of 24th March and 21st April 2026;
- (8) Planning Local Review Committee of 31st March and 14th April 2026; and
- (9) Scrutiny Committees:-
 - (a) Finance and Audit of 25th March and 22nd April 2026.

Council and Committee Standing Orders approved.

3 There was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration regarding the Council and Committee Standing Orders, highlighting proposed amendments which had been made to the existing Standing Orders.

After consideration, the Council approved the Council and Committee Standing Orders as submitted.

The approved Council and Committee Standing Orders are printed as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

Standing Orders Relating to Contracts approved.

4 There was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration highlighting proposed amendments which had been made to the existing Standing Orders Relating to Contracts.

After consideration, the Council approved the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts as submitted.

The approved Standing Orders Relating to Contracts are printed as Appendix 2 to these minutes.

Changes to committees approved.

5 The Council approved the following appointments and changes to committees:-

<i>Committee etc</i>	<i>Appointment</i>
Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee	Remove Councillor Zen Ghani and appoint Councillor Alexander Belic
Finance and Audit Scrutiny Delivery Committee	Remove Councillor Alex Kerr and appoint Councillor Declan Blench
	Remove Councillor Greg Hepburn and appoint Councillor Ken Andrew
Operational Performance and Delivery Scrutiny Committee	Remove Councillor Alex Kerr and appoint Bailie Norman MacLeod
Strathclyde Pension Fund	Remove Councillor Alex Kerr and appoint Councillor Greg Hepburn

Appointments and representation on outside bodies approved.

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

Organisation

Appointment

Champions' Board for Care Experienced Children and Young People

Appoint Councillor Graham Campbell

Appoint Councillor Jon Molyneux

Digital Glasgow

Remove Councillor Alex Kerr and appoint Councillor Ken Andrew

Glasgow East Arts Company

Remove Alex Kerr and appoint Councillor Donna McGill

Hutchieson's Hospital

Remove Councillor Zen Ghani and appoint Bailie Paul McCabe

Correspondence noted.

7 There was submitted and noted a letters from

- (1) the Minister for Social Care and Wellbeing in response to a motion on Mental Health Services funding and the Enhanced Mental Health Outcomes Framework approved by this Council on 11th December 2025; and
- (2) the Minister for AI and Online Safety in response to a motion on Glasgow Against Online Hate by this Council on 26th June 2025.

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 plans does the Council have to introduce or refresh city-wide public information campaign to encourage residents, visitors and businesses to help keep Glasgow clean and tidy?	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets

Councillor Lilith Johnstone	Can the relevant Convener clarify the Council's policy on maintaining or replacing street lighting in private lanes that are used for Council services?	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Councillor Jill Brown	Can the relevant Convener confirm what the current waiting times are for renewal of painted disabled parking bays?	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Councillor Robert Mooney	To ask the relevant Convener what general wellbeing or public safety awareness activity has been undertaken along the city's waterways over the past three years, including the use of signage, public messaging, or targeted outreach.	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Bailie Christy Mearns	Following the motion at April's Full Council meeting, to ask the Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations for an update on safeguarding the future of Trongate 103, including engagement with tenants, moving the building management out of City Property's portfolio, and the development and timescales for the new 'Culture and Creative Industry Property Support Fund'.	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations
Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell	To ask the Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Older People for an update on plans to hold a cross-sector Mental	Councillor Chris Cunningham, City Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Older People

	Health summit, as agreed unanimously at the December 2025 Full Council meeting.	
Bailie Christy Mearns	To ask the relevant City Convener for an update on developing plans for pedestrianising the city centre.	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport
Bailie Martha Wardrop	To ask the relevant City Convener what engagement there has been as part of the process to establish a new national housing agency, More Homes Scotland.	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
Councillor Elaine McSporran	To ask the City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets for an update on our efforts to tackle gambling harms	Councillor Laura Doherty, City Convener for Neighbourhood Services and Assets
Councillor Eva Bolander	To ask the City Convener for Culture, Sport & International Relations does she welcome a public art policy.	Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations
Councillor Robert Mooney	Can the relevant Convenor advise what assessment has been made of the February 2026 University of Glasgow report “The Price of Bus Delays in Glasgow”, which estimates that congestion on five key bus corridors results in approximately 1.2 million hours of passenger time lost each year, with an associated economic cost of around £24 million per annum, and what steps the Council is taking, or plans	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport

	to take, to use this evidence to accelerate bus priority and reliability measures on the corridors identified?	
Councillor Malcolm Mitchell	To ask the Leader of the Council for her reaction to Scotstoun being named one of the best places to live in Scotland.	Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of the Council and Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition
Councillor Allan Gow	To ask the City Treasurer for an update on the Glasgow Futures employability programme?	Councillor Bell, Depute Leader of the Council, City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion
Councillor Franny Scally	To ask the City Convener for Housing and Development does he agree that governments and developers should be looking to Glasgow to invest in housing?	Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing, Development, Built Heritage and Land Use
Bailie Christy Mearns	Following the Council's recent response to Transport Scotland's consultation into the future of the M8 Woodside viaduct, will the relevant City Convener commit to writing to the relevant Minister once they are appointed to urge them to pursue the 'remove' option, and offering the Council's full support?	Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Transport
Bailie Seonad Hoy	Does the relevant city convenor share my concern about the threat of closure affecting the women's service at Murray's Initiative, and will he commit to having urgent talks with the relevant Scottish	Councillor Chris Cunningham, City Convener for Health, Care and Caring and Older People

Government minister
about providing a funding
package to sustain the
service until the next
round of funding opens?

Outcome of Scottish Parliament Elections in Glasgow - Emergency motion as adjusted approved, after division

9 Councillor Aitken, seconded by Councillor Millar, moved that:-

“Council notes the outcome of the Scottish Parliament elections that took place on 7 May 2026 and warmly congratulates Glasgow City Council colleagues who were elected to represent Scottish constituencies as MSPs. Council notes that, in addition to the election of a fourth consecutive majority of MSPs who believe in the democratic right of the Scottish people to choose their constitutional future in a referendum, all Glasgow constituencies also elected MSPs from parties who support Scottish independence and almost 55% of regional list votes likewise went to independence-supporting parties. Council therefore endorses the statement made by the First Minister that the UK government and Prime Minister must now treat Scotland and the democratically expressed wishes of the Scottish people with respect.

Council expresses its deep concern however that, for the first time, MSPs from a racist far-right party, Reform UK, now represent Glasgow and that many Glaswegians will feel fearful and less safe as a result. Council respects the democratic choice made by the people who voted for this party and understands many of the frustrations that lie behind that choice but does not believe that the policies of Reform UK will do anything to alleviate cost of living pressures, help struggling households or make the UK economy fairer. Council reiterates its unequivocal opposition to the targeting and scapegoating of minority communities, whether they are refugees, migrants or LGBTQ+; rejects UK Reform’s politics of division and hate; and restates our determination that Glasgow be a city built on inclusion and respect, where we stand against discrimination, welcome diversity and work to create a more equal society for all of our residents.

Council believes that Glasgow and Glasgow’s communities have been used as political footballs to an unacceptable degree in recent years and believes that the outcome of this election should mark a return to civic responsibility and pride being placed above party politics. Council agrees that Glasgow voters rejected campaigns that focused on attacking Glasgow and calls on all of Glasgow’s elected politicians, at all levels of government, to champion Glasgow rather than jeopardising investment and our visitor economy by talking the city down; to celebrate Glasgow’s successes; and to acknowledge that the complexity of many of Glasgow’s deep-seated challenges mean that easy solutions are seldom available and that shared, long-term effort to deliver transformation in places and life opportunities is required

Council warmly welcomes commitments for Glasgow made by the First Minister prior to and during the election campaign and looks forward to working with Scottish

Government colleagues to implement pledges including: the roll-out of the £2 bus fare cap to Glasgow during the first 100 days of government; confirmation that the Scottish Government will provide financial support towards the ongoing refurbishment and restoration of the People's Palace and Winter Gardens; commitment to recognise and treat the Clyde Tunnel as a strategic national asset; support for the next crucial phase of planning for the Clyde Metro; opening two additional walk-in GP centres in Glasgow; creating an urban development agency for the city centre, to drive investment and accelerate its ongoing transformation; and legislating to enable the empowerment of Scotland's City and Growth Regions.

Council agrees that the Leader of the Council should write to all of Glasgow's MSPs asking them to ensure that they advocate for swift progress on the delivery of these commitments. Council further agrees that the Leader of the Council and City Treasurer should seek an early meeting with the relevant Cabinet Secretaries to ensure that the new Scottish Government treats as an urgent priority, work started before the election to address the unique homelessness pressures and costs facing Glasgow.

Council further agrees that Glasgow needs considerably improved engagement and support from the UK government on a range of priority issues and hopes that this will be forthcoming now that the election has passed. These issues include: the severe impact of policies that create mass homelessness among new refugees; the substantial resource deficit caused by the design and quantum of the Local Growth Fund; the unequal treatment of the Glasgow City Region and other city regions within devolved administrations compared with English combined mayoral authorities; and commitment by the UK government to support recovery and regeneration following the Union Street fire.

Council agrees to write to the Prime Minister to seek his commitment for the Government to engage sincerely and meaningfully with the Council on these matters; and to Glasgow's MPs, asking that they advocate on behalf of the city to UK Government Ministers."

Councillor Hussain, seconded by Councillor Vallis, moved as an amendment that:-

Delete all and please insert:

"Council notes the outcome of the Scottish Parliament elections that took place on 7 May 2026 and warmly congratulates Glasgow City colleagues elected to represent Scottish constituencies as MSPs.

Council believes that the election was about who governs the devolved Scottish Government, and that the next term of the Scottish Parliament should focus on the priorities of the people of Scotland including tackling the cost of living, the economy, jobs, the NHS, homelessness, our education system and ensuring local government is adequately resourced to allow communities to flourish, rather than falter.

Council also expresses concern that representatives from Reform UK have been elected for the first time to the Scottish Parliament, who many Glaswegians consider to hold racist, and far right ideological positions that will cause many to feel less safe

and fearful as a result. Council further does not believe that Reform UK's policies hold any of the solutions that Glasgow needs.

Council reiterates its unequivocal opposition to the targeting and scapegoating of minority communities, whether they are refugees, migrants or LGBTQ+; rejects UK Reform's politics of division and hate; restates our determination that Glasgow and Glasgow's communities have been used as political footballs to an unacceptable degree in recent years and believes that the outcome of this election should mark a return to a civic responsibility and pride being placed above party politics.

Council agrees that all councillors in this chamber want the best for Glasgow, although they may disagree on how to achieve that, and robust scrutiny is an important part of democracy and every elected representatives responsibility.

Council warmly welcomes commitments for Glasgow made by the First Minister prior to and during the election campaign and looks forward to working with Scottish Government colleagues to implement pledges including: the roll-out of the £2 bus fare cap to Glasgow during the first 100 days of government; confirmation that the Scottish Government will provide financial support towards the ongoing refurbishment and restoration of the People's Palace and Winter Gardens; commitment to recognise and treat the Clyde Tunnel as a strategic national asset; support for the next crucial phase of planning for the Clyde Metro; opening two additional walk-in GP centres in Glasgow; creating an urban development agency for the city centre, to drive investment and accelerate its ongoing transformation; and legislating to enable the empowerment of Scotland's City and Growth Regions.

Council agrees that the Leader of the Council should write to all of Glasgow's MSPs asking them to ensure that they advocate for swift progress on the delivery of these commitments. Council further agrees that the Leader of the Council and City Treasurer should seek an early meeting with the relevant Cabinet Secretaries to ensure that the new Scottish Government treats as an urgent priority, work started before the election to address the unique homelessness pressures and costs facing Glasgow.

Council further agrees that Glasgow needs continued engagement with and support from the UK Government on a range of priority issues.

Council agrees to write to the Prime Minister to seek his commitment for the Government to continue to engage sincerely and meaningfully with the Council; and to Glasgow's MPs, asking that they continue to advocate on behalf of the city to UK Government Ministers. “

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

In the first paragraph delete 'and', and after 'MSPs' insert 'and thanks those who have stood down or not been re-elected for their service to the city. Council also thanks the Returning Officer, Elections Office and all staff who contributed to the smooth running of the election.'

In the second paragraph delete from after 'therefore' to end and replace with 'believes it is unacceptable that the UK Government continues to deny Glaswegians a democratic route for achieving that goal.'

Insert new third paragraph, to read:

'Council believes that the election was a comprehensive rejection of the UK Labour Government which has failed to deliver its promise of change and that the Prime Minister must resign.'

Reword following paragraph as follows:

'Council believes that the election result reaffirms Glasgow as an outward-looking, welcoming city, with the share of the vote for right wing and far right parties down from 2021 and that of progressive parties up. Council expresses its deep concern however that, for the first time, MSPs from a racist far-right party, Reform UK, now represent Glasgow and that many Glaswegians will feel fearful and less safe as a result. Council respects the democratic choice made by the people who voted for this party; understands many of the frustrations that lie behind that choice; believes that while it is important to listen to and offer solutions to the actual sources of Reform voters' concerns, that does not mean legitimising those Reform MSPs who have engaged in overtly racist campaigning and tried to whip-up division; and further does not believe that the policies of Reform UK will do anything to alleviate cost of living pressures, help struggling households or make the UK economy fairer. In particular, Council condemns Reform's purported policy of placing migrant detention camps in Glasgow constituencies which elect progressive representatives, believing this was an attempt to mislead and scare Glaswegians. Council reiterates its unequivocal opposition to the targeting and scapegoating of minority communities, whether they are refugees, migrants or LGBTQ+; rejects UK Reform's politics of division and hate; and restates our determination that Glasgow be a city built on inclusion and respect, where we stand against discrimination, welcome diversity and work to create a more equal society for all of our residents.'

Insert new fifth paragraph, to read:

'Council is concerned by the growing threat to democracy posed by spoiler parties, including Independent Green Voice (IGV) and others. IGV did no campaigning yet received almost 3,000 votes in Glasgow, almost certainly as a result of deliberate voter confusion. Council agrees to write to the Electoral Commission asking that they undertake an urgent investigation into IGV and other spoiler parties and urges them to take swift action to end any further risk of voter confusion. Council is also concerned that turnout was down on other Scottish Parliament elections and therefore requests that the Convener for Open Government engages with relevant partners to consider what more can be done to encourage democratic engagement ahead of next year's council elections.'

In the penultimate paragraph, after Growth Regions; insert:

'delivering rent controls, expanding free bus travel and a major expansion of funded childcare. Council also requests further detail on how the Scottish Government will

increase the powers and resources available to Glasgow City Council so we can better support and empower our communities and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the next First Minister asking them to set out how their Government will deliver the progress Glasgow voted for.'

Councillor Aitken, with the approval of her seconder, accepted the amendment by Councillor Molyneux, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

Council notes the outcome of the Scottish Parliament elections that took place on 7 May 2026; warmly congratulates Glasgow City Council colleagues who were elected to represent Scottish constituencies as MSPs; and thanks those who have stood down or not been re-elected for their service to the city. Council also thanks the Returning Officer, Elections Office and all staff who contributed to the smooth running of the election.

Council notes that, in addition to the election of a fourth consecutive majority of MSPs who believe in the democratic right of the Scottish people to choose their constitutional future in a referendum, all Glasgow constituencies also elected MSPs from parties who support Scottish independence and almost 55% of regional list votes likewise went to independence-supporting parties. Council therefore believes it is unacceptable that the UK Government continues to deny Glaswegians a democratic route for achieving that goal.

Council believes that the election was a comprehensive rejection of the UK Labour Government which has failed to deliver its promise of change and that the Prime Minister must resign.

Council believes that the election result reaffirms Glasgow as an outward-looking, welcoming city, with the share of the vote for right wing and far right parties down from 2021 and that of progressive parties up. Council expresses its deep concern however that, for the first time, MSPs from a racist far-right party, Reform UK, now represent Glasgow and that many Glaswegians will feel fearful and less safe as a result. Council respects the democratic choice made by the people who voted for this party; understands many of the frustrations that lie behind that choice; believes that while it is important to listen to and offer solutions to the actual sources of Reform voters' concerns, that does not mean legitimising those Reform MSPs who have engaged in overtly racist campaigning and tried to whip-up division; and further does not believe that the policies of Reform UK will do anything to alleviate cost of living pressures, help struggling households or make the UK economy fairer. In particular, Council condemns Reform's purported policy of placing migrant detention camps in Glasgow constituencies which elect progressive representatives, believing this was an attempt to mislead and scare Glaswegians. Council reiterates its unequivocal opposition to the targeting and scapegoating of minority communities, whether they are refugees, migrants or LGBTQ+; rejects UK Reform's politics of division and hate; and restates our determination that Glasgow be a city built on inclusion and respect, where we stand against discrimination, welcome diversity and work to create a more equal society for all of our residents.

Council is also concerned that turnout was down on other Scottish Parliament elections and therefore requests that the Convener for Open Government engages

with relevant partners to consider what more can be done to encourage democratic engagement ahead of next year's council elections. Council is further concerned that the far right spoiler party Independent Green Voice was one example of an attempt to cause deliberate voter confusion. Council agrees to write to the Electoral Commission asking that they undertake an urgent investigation into IGV and other spoiler parties and urges them to take swift action to end any further risk of voter confusion. Council is also concerned that turnout was down on other Scottish Parliament elections and therefore requests that the Convener for Open Government engages with relevant partners to consider what more can be done to encourage democratic engagement ahead of next year's council elections.

Council believes that Glasgow and Glasgow's communities have been used as political footballs to an unacceptable degree in recent years and believes that the outcome of this election should mark a return to civic responsibility and pride being placed above party politics. Council agrees that Glasgow voters rejected campaigns that focused on attacking Glasgow and calls on all of Glasgow's elected politicians, at all levels of government, to champion Glasgow rather than jeopardising investment and our visitor economy by talking the city down; to celebrate Glasgow's successes; and to acknowledge that the complexity of many of Glasgow's deep-seated challenges mean that easy solutions are seldom available and that shared, long-term effort to deliver transformation in places and life opportunities is required.

Council warmly welcomes commitments for Glasgow made by the First Minister prior to and during the election campaign and looks forward to working with Scottish Government colleagues to implement pledges including: the roll-out of the £2 bus fare cap to Glasgow during the first 100 days of government; confirmation that the Scottish Government will provide financial support towards the ongoing refurbishment and restoration of the People's Palace and Winter Gardens; commitment to recognise and treat the Clyde Tunnel as a strategic national asset; support for the next crucial phase of planning for the Clyde Metro; opening two additional walk-in GP centres in Glasgow; creating an urban development agency for the city centre, to drive investment and accelerate its ongoing transformation; legislating to enable the empowerment of Scotland's City and Growth Regions; delivering rent controls, expanding free bus travel and a major expansion of funded childcare. Council also requests further detail on how the Scottish Government will increase the powers and resources available to Glasgow City Council so we can better support and empower our communities and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the next First Minister asking them to set out how their Government will deliver the progress Glasgow voted for. Council further agrees to request that the Leader of the Council should write to all of Glasgow's MSPs asking them to ensure that they advocate for swift progress on the delivery of these commitments. Council further agrees that the Leader of the Council, Chief Executive and City Treasurer should seek an early meeting with the relevant Cabinet Secretaries and officials to ensure that the new Scottish Government treats as an urgent priority, work started before the election to address the unique homelessness pressures and costs facing Glasgow.

Council further agrees that Glasgow needs considerably improved engagement and support from the UK government on a range of priority issues and hopes that this will be forthcoming now that the election has passed. These issues include: the severe

impact of policies that create mass homelessness among new refugees; the substantial resource deficit caused by the design and quantum of the Local Growth Fund; the unequal treatment of the Glasgow City Region and other city regions within devolved administrations compared with English combined mayoral authorities; and commitment by the UK government to support recovery and regeneration following the Union Street fire. Council agrees to write to the Prime Minister to seek his commitment for the Government to engage sincerely and meaningfully with the Council on these matters; and to Glasgow's MPs, asking that they advocate on behalf of the city to UK Government Ministers."

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 28 voted for the amendment and 41 for the motion as adjusted, with 1 abstention.

The motion as adjusted was accordingly declared to be carried.

Adjournment.

10 In terms of Standing Order No 17, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1250 hours until 1400 hours.

Resumption of meeting.

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

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

JAMES ADAMS	STEPHEN DORNAN	ANNE MCTAGGART
SUSAN AITKEN	SEAN FERGUSON	LEÒDHAS MASSIE
IMRAN ALAM	MARIE GARRITY	CHRISTY MEARNES
BLAIR ANDERSON	ALLAN GOW	ANGUS MILLAR
KEN ANDREW	WILLIAM GRAHAM	MALCOLM MITCHELL
ALEXANDER BELIC	SHARON GREER	JON MOLYNEUX
RICHARD BELL	GREG HEPBURN	ROBERT MOONEY
DECLAN BLENCH	FIONA HIGGINS	MARGARET MORGAN
EVA BOLANDER	SEONAD HOY	EVA MURRAY
ABDUL BOSTANI	MHAIRI HUNTER	CECILIA O'LONE
PHILIP BRAAT	RASHID HUSSAIN	JILL PIDGEON
JILL BROWN	DAN HUTCHISON	LINDA PIKE
GRAHAM CAMPBELL	FYEZA IKHLAQ	HANIF RAJA
CHRISTINA CANNON	EUNIS JASSEMI	DAVENA RANKIN
PAUL CAREY	ANN JENKINS	THOMAS RANNACHAN
ANTHONY CARROLL	LILITH JOHNSTONE	GEORGE REDMOND
ALLAN CASEY	RUAIRI KELLY	LANA REID-MCCONNELL
ANNETTE CHRISTIE	KEVIN LALLEY	FRANNY SCALLY
CHRIS CUNNINGHAM	PAUL LEINSTER	SORYIA SIDDIQUE
STEPHEN CURRAN	PAUL MCCABE	KIERAN TURNER

FEARGAL DALTON	ELAINE MCDOUGALL	CATHERINE VALLIS
JOHN DALY	DONNA MCGILL	MARTHA WARDROP
STEPHEN DOCHERTY	NORMAN MACLEOD	
LAURA DOHERTY	ELAINE MCSPORRAN	

Apologies: Bill Butler and Frank McAveety.

Present: E Rodger (Clerk), M Millar, Director of Legal and Administration; S Millar, Chief Executive; J McGhee, 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.

Glasgow’s European Future: Rebuilding our future in Europe - Motion as adjusted approved, after division.

12 Bailie Christie, seconded by Councillor Bell, moved that:-

“Council notes that Glasgow is a proudly outward-looking, international and European city, with deep cultural, economic, social and educational links to cities, regions and communities across Europe. Council further notes that since the UK left the European Union, against the clearly expressed will of the people of Scotland and Glasgow, Brexit has caused significant and well-documented economic, social and democratic harm to Glasgow, Scotland and the wider UK economy, including:

- higher costs for households including food and energy,
- damage to trade and export-focused sectors,
- labour shortages across key industries,
- worsening community relations,
- and reduced opportunities for young people, artists, businesses and universities.

Council agrees that Brexit has “deep damage to our economy”, with estimates placing the loss to the UK economy as high as 8% of GDP and up to £90 billion in lost annual tax revenues, money that could otherwise have supported public services such as health, transport and local government.

Council further agrees that recent international developments have underlined the importance of solidarity, peace and shared democratic values in Europe, and that closer partnership with European neighbours strengthens economic resilience, security and cooperation in an increasingly unstable global context.

Council acknowledges and commends that its previous advocacy regarding a UK-EU reset, especially rejoining of the Erasmus+ programme has proven successful, and the return of the Erasmus+ programme from 2027 will benefit an estimated 100,000 participants in the first year, expanding horizons for young people and rebuild cultural, educational and professional links, and, that this highlights both the demand

for and the benefits of European cooperation, while underlining the wider spectrum of opportunities — in research, trade, climate action and regional development.

Council further acknowledges the harm of Brexit specifically impacting the cultural and creative sector which has lost an estimated €184 million since exiting Creative Europe and that the UK Government must prioritise joining the €8.58 billion AgoraEU, an integrated fund designed to support culture, media, and civil society which merges the previous Creative Europe within it.

Council notes that whilst the current UK Government policy seeks closer alignment with EU rules, however, Council agrees with the think tank 'UK in a Changing Europe' that Labour's position betrays inherent contradictions in its vision and without full participation, representation or voting rights, leaving the UK — and Scotland — without a democratic voice at the table and that critics argue it could amount to "integration with the EU by stealth", without the voting or veto rights conferred by membership of the bloc.

Council further notes that public opinion across the UK is increasingly supportive of a closer relationship with the European Union, with a clear majority of voters now supporting re-joining the EU rather than pursuing limited or "half-way" arrangements and that membership of the EU would give the UK decision making - as opposed to 'decision shaping - rights over EU regulations.

Council believes that Glasgow's future prosperity, security and social wellbeing are best served by the closest possible relationship with the European Union; that alignment with European standards and cooperation without representation risks leaving the UK as a permanent "rule-taker" rather than a partner with a voice, influence and vote; that re-joining the European Union represents the most stable, democratic and economically beneficial long-term settlement for Glasgow, Scotland and the UK, and that rebuilding relations with Europe is not about returning to the divisions of the past, but about learning from the damage of Brexit and acting pragmatically in the national, regional and local interest.

Council therefore resolves:

1. To reaffirm Glasgow City Council's long-standing support for re-joining the European Union as the best long-term outcome for Glasgow's economy, workforce, communities and young people.
2. To welcome efforts by the UK Government to rebuild relationships with the European Union and to encourage those efforts to go further and faster, moving beyond limited alignment towards full partnership.
3. To support calls for ambition and honesty in national debate on Europe, recognising that closer cooperation, security and prosperity require democratic participation and representation, not "integration by stealth".
4. To celebrate and strengthen Glasgow's existing European links through city partnerships, cultural networks, education, research, tourism and business collaboration.

5. To plan for wider European integration and bring together an Officer Working Group overseen by the City Convener for Culture, Sport & International Relations to investigate and capitalise on European funding and partnership opportunities, using this as an opportunity to mobilise wider city and regional engagement.
6. To instruct the Chief Executive to work with the City Convener for Culture, Sport & International Relations and Glasgow Life to organise an event with the British Council, UK Global Learning Association for Schools welcoming the return of Erasmus+ and raise awareness of this to schools, youth and support groups; adult, further and higher education and others; of the UK re-entry to the EU programme and the opportunities through the 2027-28 £570 million fund for study, training, work and skills development.
7. To instruct the Chief Executive to continue engaging with European networks like Eurocities, local authorities and institutions, ensuring Glasgow remains visible, active and influential within European civic life and bring an annual report to the Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee by August 2026. Also instructs the Chief Executive to write to the UK Government, the Scottish Government, local Glasgow MPs and MSPs, expressing this Council's support for rebuilding the UK–EU relationship

Council believes that re-joining the European Union as an independent Scottish nation is an act of economic common sense, international cooperation and democratic renewal.”

Bailie Murray, seconded by Councillor Brown, moved as an amendment that:-

In first paragraph after “communities across Europe”, delete the rest of this paragraph.

Remove the paragraph beginning “Council agrees that Brexit” and insert a new paragraph, which should read as:

“As characterised by Keir Starmer, Council agrees that Brexit has done “deep damage to our economy.”

In the next paragraph, remove “solidarity, peace and shared democratic values in Europe”. In the same paragraph remove “European” so that sentence should now read as: “closer partnership with neighbours strengthens economic resilience”

Delete the paragraph beginning with “Council notes that whilst the current UK Government policy seeks closer alignment with EU rules” and insert new paragraph, which should read as:

“Council notes that the UK Government has indicated an intention to pursue closer cooperation and alignment with the European Union in areas of mutual interest.”

Remove the next paragraph beginning with “Council further notes that public opinion across the UK”

In the next paragraph after “European Union” delete the rest of this paragraph and then insert a new sentence, which should read as:

“Council therefore agrees to continue supporting and expanding practical cooperation with European partners in areas such as culture, education skills, research, climate action and economic development, where doing so delivers tangible benefits for the people of Glasgow.”

In the resolves to section, please delete resolution one, three and seven.

In resolution five, delete “plan for wider European integration and bring together an” and also remove “European” and insert “create an” and “international. Resolution five should now read as:

“To create an Officer Working Group overseen by the City Convener for Culture, Sport & International Relations to investigate and capitalise on international funding and partnership opportunities, using this as an opportunity to mobilise wider city and regional engagement.”

Please delete: “Council believes that rejoining the European Union as an independent Scottish nation is an act of economic common sense, international cooperation and democratic renewal.”

Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Molyneux, moved as an amendment that:-

In paragraph five, after “in research, trade, climate action and regional development”, insert:

“Council believes that children and young people particularly benefit from experiences of travel and international educational exchange which broadens their worldview and instils appreciation for diversity from a young age. Council recalls the report on International Education & Turing Funding heard at Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee in January 2025 and notes the opportunities that this funding provided to young people in Glasgow who may not otherwise have had the opportunity to experience international travel.”

In the bulleted list of resolutions, after resolution seven ending “expressing this Council’s support for rebuilding the UK-EU relationship”, add additional bullet point:

“8. To instruct the Executive Director of Education to engage with UK and Scottish Governments and colleagues within Glasgow City Council to identify further funding streams to enable more children and young people in Glasgow to experience international travel and education for the first time, and to bring a future report to the Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee detailing how the Council is taking forward work on international education.”

Bailie Christie, with the approval of her seconder, accepted the amendment by Councillor Anderson, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

“Council notes that Glasgow is a proudly outward looking, international and European city, with deep cultural, economic, social and educational links to cities, regions and communities across Europe. Council further notes that since the UK left the European Union, against the clearly expressed will of the people of Scotland and Glasgow, Brexit has caused significant and well documented economic, social and democratic harm to Glasgow, Scotland and the wider UK economy, including:

- higher costs for households including food and energy,
- damage to trade and export focused sectors,
- labour shortages across key industries,
- worsening community relations,
- and reduced opportunities for young people, artists, businesses and universities.

Council agrees that Brexit has "deep damage to our economy", with estimates placing the loss to the UK economy as high as 8% of GDP and up to £90 billion in lost annual tax revenues, money that could otherwise have supported public services such as health, transport and local government.

Council further agrees that recent international developments have underlined the importance of solidarity, peace and shared democratic values in Europe, and that closer partnership with European neighbours strengthens economic resilience, security and cooperation in an increasingly unstable global context.

Council acknowledges and commends that its previous advocacy regarding a UK-EU reset, especially rejoining of the Erasmus+ programme has proven successful, and the return of the Erasmus+ programme from 2027 will benefit an estimated 100,000 participants in the first year, expanding horizons for young people and rebuild cultural, educational and professional links, and, that this highlights both the demand for and the benefits of European cooperation, while underlining the wider spectrum of opportunities - in research, trade, climate action and regional development.

Council believes that children and young people particularly benefit from experiences of travel and international educational exchange which broadens their worldview and instils appreciation for diversity from a young age. Council recalls the report on International Education & Turing Funding heard at Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee in January 2025 and notes the opportunities that this funding provided to young people in Glasgow who may not otherwise have had the opportunity to experience international travel.

Council further acknowledges the harm of Brexit specifically impacting the cultural and creative sector which has lost an estimated €184 million since exiting Creative Europe and that the UK Government must prioritise joining the €8.58 billion AgoraEU, an integrated fund designed to support culture, media, and civil society which merges the previous Creative Europe within it.

Council notes that whilst the current UK Government policy seeks closer alignment with EU rules, however, Council agrees with the think tank 'UK in a Changing

Europe' that Labour's position betrays inherent contradictions in its vision and without full participation, representation or voting rights, leaving the UK - and Scotland -without a democratic voice at the table and that critics argue it could amount to "integration with the EU by stealth", without the voting or veto rights conferred by membership of the bloc.

Council further notes that public opinion across the UK is increasingly supportive of a closer relationship with the European Union, with a clear majority of voters now supporting re-joining the EU rather than pursuing limited or "half way" arrangements and that membership of the EU would give the UK decision making - as opposed to 'decision shaping - rights over EU regulations.

Council believes that Glasgow's future prosperity, security and social wellbeing are best served by the closest possible relationship with the European Union; that alignment with European standards and cooperation without representation risks leaving the UK as a permanent "rule taker" rather than a partner with a voice, influence and vote; that rejoining the European Union represents the most stable, democratic and economically beneficial long term settlement for Glasgow, Scotland and the UK, and that rebuilding relations with Europe is not about returning to the divisions of the past, but about learning from the damage of Brexit and acting pragmatically in the national, regional and local interest.

Council therefore resolves:

1. To reaffirm Glasgow City Council's long-standing support for rejoining the European Union as the best long term outcome for Glasgow's economy, workforce, communities and young people.
2. To welcome efforts by the UK Government to rebuild relationships with the European Union and to encourage those efforts to go further and faster, moving beyond limited alignment towards full partnership.
3. To support calls for ambition and honesty in national debate on Europe, recognising that closer cooperation, security and prosperity require democratic participation and representation, not "integration by stealth".
4. To celebrate and strengthen Glasgow's existing European links through city partnerships, cultural networks, education, research, tourism and business collaboration.
5. To plan for wider European integration and bring together an Officer Working Group overseen by the City Convener for Culture, Sport & International Relations to investigate and capitalise on European funding and partnership opportunities, using this as an opportunity to mobilise wider city and regional engagement.
6. To instruct the Chief Executive to work with the City Convener for Culture, Sport & International Relations and Glasgow Life to organise an event with the British Council, UK Global Learning Association for Schools welcoming the return of Erasmus+ and raise awareness of this to schools, youth and

support groups; adult, further and higher education and others; of the UK re-entry to the EU programme and the opportunities through the 2027-28 £570 million fund for study, training, work and skills development.

7. To instruct the Chief Executive to continue engaging with European networks like Eurocities, local authorities and institutions, ensuring Glasgow remains visible, active and influential within European civic life and bring an annual report to the Wellbeing, Equalities, Communities, Culture and Engagement City Policy Committee by August 2026. Also instructs the Chief Executive to write to the UK Government, the Scottish Government, local Glasgow MPs and MSPs, expressing this Council's support for rebuilding the UK-EU relationship.
8. To request the City Convener for Education and Early Years write to both the UK and Scottish Government's highlighting how Glasgow's Education Service has continued to promote the benefits of international educational connections and the life changing opportunities they create, and the Erasmus + fund must be continued beyond the 2027/28 academic year.

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 27 voted for the amendment and 42 for the motion as adjusted, with 1 abstention.

The motion as adjusted was accordingly declared to be carried.

Freedom of the City – The Royal Regiment of Scotland - Motion dealt with, after division.

13 Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Stephen Docherty moved that:-

“Council notes that The Royal Regiment of Scotland, formed on 28 March 2006, is the senior line infantry regiment of the British Army and the only remaining Scottish line infantry regiment. The Regiment draws on more than 390 years of continuous service through its antecedent regiments, including The Royal Scots Fusiliers and The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment). Council further notes that in 1959 the Freedom of the City and Royal Burgh of Glasgow was conferred on the Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment), whose lineage continues today through the 2nd and 6th Battalions of The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

Council acknowledges the long and distinguished record of service of the Regiment and its antecedents, whose soldiers have served with dedication and professionalism in operations at home and overseas, and whose sacrifices have included the loss of life and life-changing injury. Council expresses its gratitude to all who have served and continue to serve.

Council recognises the deep and enduring links between the Regiment and the City of Glasgow. Many Glaswegians serve within SCOTS battalions and many veterans reside across our communities. Council also recognises the significant civic and community role played by 6 SCOTS, Glasgow's local Army Reserve battalion,

including its leadership in City Remembrance commemorations, strong presence in Maryhill, work with youth and community organisations, and partnership support to local employers and Covenant signatories. Council further acknowledges the contribution made by 6 SCOTS to the regeneration of Petershill Sports Pitches during the Covid-19 recovery period.

Council believes that the historic, civic, and contemporary connections between Glasgow and The Royal Regiment of Scotland merit formal recognition by the City. Council therefore resolves to confer the Freedom of the City of Glasgow upon The Royal Regiment of Scotland during its twentieth anniversary year, with the ceremony to take place between 28 March 2026/27, in recognition of its historic ties, valued community engagement, and distinguished service.

Council will put in place the necessary arrangements for a Freedom of the City ceremony and to engage with the Regiment on an appropriate date and programme of events.”

Bailie MacLeod, seconded by Councillor Blench, moved as an amendment that:-

In Paragraph 1 after ‘2nd and 6th Battalions of The Royal Regiment of Scotland.’
ADD:

Council regrets the amalgamation of these regiments, with their strong historic links to the City of Glasgow, into a Royal Regiment of Scotland as a result of austerity measures at the time.”

Between Paragraphs 3 & 4 ADD:

“As a result of these deep & enduring links, Council notes that that recruitment into the British Army from Scotland has fallen by 41% over the last decade; further noting that half of Glasgow constituencies reported zero untrained intake into the British Army from the decade before 2024 according to figures released last year by the Times newspaper; and while there has been a fall across the board which has left the British Army strength at its lowest level since the Napoleonic Wars, Council notes that this trend is more marked in Scotland than it is elsewhere on these islands.

Council therefore hopes that any recognition of the contribution of the Royal Regiment of Scotland to the City can lead to a renewed focus on improving the offer for serving personnel; notes that the UK Armed Forces spends less per capita on its personnel than comparable militaries across Europe; hopes that any putative increase in the defence budget by the current UK Government will also have a commensurate uplift in the pay & conditions for enlisted personnel; and hopes for the creation of an Armed Forces Representative Body, similar to a trade union and responsible for improving personnel welfare.”

After ‘during the Covid 19 recovery period.’ DELETE ALL AND REPLACE

“Council notes that while the ultimate bestowal of Freedom of the City is a matter for Council, it is usually to be expected that this is done with the cooperation of the Lord Provost, who is also ex-officio Lord Lieutenant of the City.

Council further believes that, while there may be precedent, the bestowing of our City's highest honour upon an organisation, as opposed to an individual or groups of people, is inherently problematic to tie the City of Glasgow in perpetuity to another organisation over which it has no control or oversight. Council therefore puts on record its belief that future conferences of the Freedom of the City do not include organisations and is instead restricted to individuals or groups of people.

Council puts on record that this is not a reflection of the Royal Regiment of Scotland or the personnel who serve as part of it and hopes that it can work with them to acknowledge this milestone in a more appropriate way."

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

Replace paragraph 2 with:

"Council acknowledges the long and distinguished record of service of the Regiment and its antecedents, whose soldiers have often served with dedication and professionalism in operations at home and overseas, and may have suffered loss of life, life-changing injuries and whose experience of conflict operations may have resulted in PTSD, complex trauma, mental ill-health and addictions. Council expresses its gratitude to those who have served and continue to serve and those who support them. Council recognises that the army has traditionally recruited most heavily from deprived communities and that many recruits have experienced family breakdown and other adverse experiences prior to enlisting and therefore may have needs which require to be met on an ongoing basis.

In paragraph 4, after "Royal Regiment of Scotland", delete all until the end of the motion and replace with:

"are worthy of noting and requests that the Lord Provost consider how this may be achieved."

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

"Council notes that The Royal Regiment of Scotland, formed on 28th March 2006, is the senior line infantry regiment of the British Army and the only remaining Scottish line infantry regiment. The Regiment draws on more than 390 years of continuous service through its antecedent regiments, including The Royal Scots Fusiliers and The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment). Council further notes that in 1959 the Freedom of the City and Royal Burgh of Glasgow was conferred on the Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment), whose lineage continues today through the 2nd and 6th Battalions of The Royal Regiment of Scotland. Council regrets the amalgamation of these regiments, with their strong historic links to the City of Glasgow, into a Royal Regiment of Scotland as a result of austerity measures at the time.

Council acknowledges the long and distinguished record of service of the Regiment and its antecedents, whose soldiers have often served with dedication and professionalism in operations at home and overseas, and may have suffered loss of life, life-changing injuries and whose experience of conflict operations may have resulted in PTSD, complex trauma, mental ill-health and addictions. Council expresses its gratitude to those who have served and continue to serve and those who support them.

Council recognises the deep and enduring links between the Regiment and the City of Glasgow. Many Glaswegians serve within SCOTS battalions and many veterans reside across our communities. Council also recognises the significant civic and community role played by 6 SCOTS, Glasgow's local Army Reserve battalion, including its leadership in City Remembrance commemorations, strong presence in Maryhill, work with youth and community organisations, and partnership support to local employers and Covenant signatories. Council further acknowledges the contribution made by 6 SCOTS to the regeneration of Petershill Sports Pitches during the Covid-19 recovery period.

As a result of these deep & enduring links, Council notes that that recruitment into the British Army from Scotland has fallen by 41% over the last decade; further noting that half of Glasgow constituencies reported zero untrained intake into the British Army from the decade before 2024 according to figures released last year by the Times newspaper; and while there has been a fall across the board which has left the British Army strength at its lowest level since the Napoleonic Wars, Council notes that this trend is more marked in Scotland than it is elsewhere on these islands

Council therefore hopes that any recognition of the contribution of the Royal Regiment of Scotland to the City can lead to a renewed focus on improving the offer for serving personnel; notes that the UK Armed Forces spends less per capita on its personnel than comparable militaries across Europe; hopes that any putative increase in the defence budget by the current UK Government will also have a commensurate uplift in the pay & conditions for enlisted personnel; and hopes for the creation of an Armed Forces Representative Body, similar to a trade union and responsible for improving personnel welfare.

Council notes that while the ultimate bestowal of Freedom of the City is a matter for Council, it is usually to be expected that this is done with the cooperation of the Lord Provost, who is also ex-officio Lord Lieutenant of the City.

Council further believes that, while there may be precedent, the bestowing of our City's highest honour upon an organisation, as opposed to an individual or groups of people, is inherently problematic to tie the City of Glasgow in perpetuity to another organisation over which it has no control or oversight. Council therefore puts on record its belief that future conferences of the Freedom of the City do not include organisations and is instead restricted to individuals or groups of people.

Council puts on record that this is not a reflection of the Royal Regiment of Scotland or the personnel who serve as part of it and hopes that it can work with them to acknowledge this milestone in a more appropriate way."

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 39 voted for the amendment as adjusted and 28 for the motion, with 1 abstention.

The amendment as adjusted was accordingly declared to be carried.

Proportional Representation for Westminster and Holyrood Elections – Motion as adjusted approved, after division.

14 Bailie Carroll, seconded by Bailie Wardrop moved that:-

“Council recognises the inequality in our UK voting system, which elects through a First Past the Post (FPTP) system. FPTP originated when land-owning aristocrats dominated parliament and voting was restricted to property-owning men.

Council notes that in Europe, only the UK and authoritarian Belarus still use single-round FPTP for general elections to their national parliaments. Internationally, Proportional Representation (PR) is used to elect the parliaments of more than 80 countries. These countries tend to produce more equitable, stable, and accountable governments.

PR ensures all votes count, have equal value, and that seats won match votes cast. Under PR, MPs and Parliaments better reflect the age, gender and protected characteristics of both local communities and of the nation.

Council recognises that PR is currently used to elect the Welsh Senedd and Northern Ireland Assembly, as well as local councillors in Scotland. Council notes that the Scottish Parliament is only partially elected through a PR system, with the D'Hondt method.

Council also notes that as more people feel represented through a wider spectrum of voices elected through PR, disenfranchisement is reduced, as well as skewed results such as majority-rule of the UK Government on 33% of the vote in 2024, and 36% in 2015.

Such unrepresentative results have led to consequential policy changes with limited public support, including upon the democratic process. Council notes the Electoral Commission's data which detailed that 16,000 people were denied the right to vote due to incorrect voter ID at the 2024 UK General Election, with 4% of people polled post-election not voting due to Voter-ID requirements. Council expresses its opposition to the UK Government's policy of mandatory voter photo ID and the detrimental effect it has on voter turnout, especially in more marginalised communities, for an electoral process that already disenfranchises many through its voting system.

Council echoes the call for proportional representation for elections to the House of Commons which has been made by Trade Unions such as Unite, UNISON, and the CWU, and which was passed overwhelmingly by the Labour Party's 2022 Conference, and supported by the SNP, Scottish Greens, Reform, and other political

parties within the UK.

Council supports moving towards a fully proportional system for Scottish Parliament elections, in the same spirit that the Welsh Senedd has.

Therefore, Council requests the Convener for Open Government writes to the Minister for the Cabinet Office urging support for fairer UK Elections, through amending the Representation of the People Bill to introduce a proportional representation system of voting for UK Elections, and reversing the restrictions put upon voters by the introduction of mandatory voter ID.

Council additionally requests the Convener for Open Government write to the new Minister for Parliamentary Business in the Scottish Government to request that similar preparatory work begins to make the election system for the Scottish Parliament wholly proportional.

Council will also instruct the Council Election Office to investigate opportunities to enhance awareness of the new Voter ID requirements and to maximise uptake of postal ballot applications from as many people as possible who may otherwise be disenfranchised by the new voter ID law in future Westminster elections.”

Councillor Hepburn, seconded by Councillor Mitchell moved as an amendment that:-

In paragraph 6 AFTER ‘already disenfranchises many through its voting system.’
ADD

“Council hopes that in addition to measures to improve the proportionality of elections in the UK, that this session of the Scottish Parliament continues to seek ways to increase voter turnout and participation, and notes the decision of this Council on 3rd April 2025 regarding Automatic Voter Registration.

In paragraph 10 AFTER ‘make the election system for the Scottish Parliament wholly proportional’ ADD

‘And to provide an update on Glasgow City Council’s request for an Automatic Voter ID pilot within the City.’

Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Turner, moved as an amendment that:-

In first paragraph, delete all after “Council recognises” and insert:

“that there is an active and ongoing public debate about how different electoral systems translate votes into seats.”

In the following paragraph, remove “in Europe, only the UK and authoritarian Belarus still use single round FPTP” and please also delete “Internationally, Proportional Representation (PR) is used to elect the parliaments of more than 80 countries. These countries tend to produce more equitable, stable, and accountable governments.”

After “Council notes that”, please insert “a range of electoral systems operate internationally”.

This paragraph should now read as follows:

“Council notes that a range of electoral systems operate internationally for general elections to their national parliaments.”

Please delete the paragraph beginning with “PR ensures all votes count.”

After “D’Hondt method” please insert new paragraph, which should read as follows:

“Council further notes that proportional electoral systems for devolved institutions in the UK, including elections to the Scottish Parliament, the Welsh Senedd and the Northern Irish Assembly, were introduced through legislation passed by a UK Labour Government as part of wider constitutional and democratic reform.”

In the subsequent paragraph, after “Council also notes” delete the rest of this paragraph and insert “levels of public confidence and engagement with democratic processes vary, and that perceptions of fairness and representation can influence voter participation.”

In the following paragraph, please remove: “Such unrepresentative results have led to consequential policy changes with limited public support, including upon the democratic process.” In the same paragraph, after “due to Voter-ID requirements” please insert: “Council notes that the UK Government has committed to reviewing voter ID requirements in light of evidence from recent elections, particularly their impact on voter participation.” Thereafter, please delete the rest of this paragraph.

In the next paragraph, please delete “echoes the call for proportional representation for elections to the House of Commons have been made”

After the paragraph mentioned above, please delete the remaining paragraphs.

During the debate, Bailie Carroll and Councillor Hepburn, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendment, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

“Council recognises the inequality in our UK voting system, which elects through a First Past the Post (FPTP) system. FPTP originated when land-owning aristocrats dominated parliament and voting was restricted to property-owning men.

Council notes that in Europe, only the UK and authoritarian Belarus still use single-round FPTP for general elections to their national parliaments. Internationally, Proportional Representation (PR) is used to elect the parliaments of more than 80 countries. These countries tend to produce more equitable, stable, and accountable governments.

PR ensures all votes count, have equal value, and that seats won match votes cast. Under PR, MPs and Parliaments better reflect the age, gender and protected characteristics of both local communities and of the nation.

Council recognises that PR is currently used to elect the Welsh Senedd and Northern Ireland Assembly, as well as local councillors in Scotland. Council notes that the Scottish Parliament is only partially elected through a PR system, with the D'Hondt method.

Council also notes that as more people feel represented through a wider spectrum of voices elected through PR, disenfranchisement is reduced, as well as skewed results such as majority-rule of the UK Government on 33% of the vote in 2024, and 36% in 2015.

Such unrepresentative results have led to consequential policy changes with limited public support, including upon the democratic process. Council notes the Electoral Commission's data which detailed that 16,000 people were denied the right to vote due to incorrect voter ID at the 2024 UK General Election, with 4% of people polled post-election not voting due to Voter-ID requirements. Council expresses its opposition to the UK Government's policy of mandatory voter photo ID and the detrimental effect it has on voter turnout, especially in more marginalised communities, for an electoral process that already disenfranchises many through its voting system. Council hopes that in addition to measures to improve the proportionality of elections in the UK, that this session of the Scottish Parliament continues to seek ways to increase voter turnout and participation, and notes the decision of this Council on 3rd April 2025 regarding Automatic Voter Registration.

Council echoes the call for proportional representation for elections to the House of Commons which has been made by Trade Unions such as Unite, UNISON, and the CWU, and which was passed overwhelmingly by the Labour Party's 2022 Conference, and supported by the SNP, Scottish Greens, Reform, and other political parties within the UK.

Council supports moving towards a fully proportional system for Scottish Parliament elections, in the same spirit that the Welsh Senedd has.

Therefore, Council requests the Convener for Open Government writes to the Minister for the Cabinet Office urging support for fairer UK Elections, through amending the Representation of the People Bill to introduce a proportional representation system of voting for UK Elections, and reversing the restrictions put upon voters by the introduction of mandatory voter ID.

Council additionally requests the Convener for Open Government write to the new Minister for Parliamentary Business in the Scottish Government to request that similar preparatory work begins to make the election system for the Scottish Parliament wholly proportional and to provide an update on Glasgow City Council's request for an Automatic Voter ID pilot within the City.

Council will also instruct the Council Election Office to investigate opportunities to enhance awareness of the new Voter ID requirements and to maximise uptake of postal ballot applications from as many people as possible who may otherwise be disenfranchised by the new voter ID law in future Westminster elections."

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 25 voted for the amendment and 41 for the motion as adjusted, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

Addressing Glasgow's Homelessness Crisis - Motion dealt with, after division.

15 Bailie Hoy, seconded by Councillor Hutchison moved that:-

“Council recalls that it declared a housing emergency in November 2023 due to mounting pressures on homelessness services. More than two years on, that emergency continues to intensify. Council recognises that all options must be considered to provide long-term solutions which will alleviate these pressures and provide a dignified, person-centred process for homeless people, leading to positive outcomes tailored to each individual and family.

Council notes that Glasgow currently has the highest rates of homelessness in Scotland and that the Scottish Housing Regulator has stated that there is a systemic failure in the delivery of our services to homeless people. 9339 people were living in temporary accommodation as of March 2026, including 3349 children. This included 2773 people in hotels and bed and breakfasts, of whom 454 were women.

Council believes that the use of hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless people should only be on a very short-term basis until more suitable accommodation can be provided, but acknowledges that the system is currently failing with individuals and families trapped in inappropriate, insecure and unaffordable accommodation for far longer than they should be.

Council commends our Empty Homes team and our registered social landlord partners across the city for their constant work to support the Scottish Government's acquisitions agenda through bringing empty and marketed homes back into use as social homes. Council acknowledges that this work is crucial to tackling the housing emergency, but cannot solve the crisis on its own.

Council agrees that the 2003 stock transfer which ended council housing in Glasgow was a move of privatisation by stealth and has left the city in a much more vulnerable housing position. Council agrees that while it would not be possible for the stock transfer to be undone, initiating the process to reestablish council housing in the city is a positive move towards easing the housing crisis.

Council acknowledges that the Scottish Government have provided over £100million annually to tackle this emergency, but that the council's Strategic Housing Investment Plan will not be able to provide the amount of homes required by our homelessness projections and that more directed funding will be required to increase housing supply. Council further acknowledges that while Mid-Market Rent accommodation theoretically eases housing lists, it does not alleviate the circumstances of those in the most need and that the focus on new development should be on social housing provision first and foremost.

Council further acknowledges that its funding settlement in recent years has been inadequate to address the systemic poverty impacting our city and that the council itself would have provided further development and service provision had this settlement been adequate. Council agrees that the promise to replace the council tax is grossly overdue and a fairer and more redistributive system would have gone some way to alleviate the housing and homelessness emergency.

Council is particularly concerned about the standard of maintenance and upkeep of private rented accommodation and acknowledges that while some landlords provide appropriate housing, there are far too many who would be considered slum landlords. Council believes that further legislation to regulate the standard of private rental accommodation should be introduced and that the landlord register legislation should be developed into a licensing regime to manage not just the landlord's appropriateness but their conduct and standard of provision.

Council acknowledges the importance of Awaab's Law to addressing damp and mould in social and private rented housing stock, and welcomes its introduction into Scottish law via the Investigation and Commencement of Repair (Scotland) Regulations 2026, which will come into force on 6th October this year. Council urges landlords to act in the spirit of these regulations until their official implementation to ensure that conditions in homes are not detrimental to tenants' health and wellbeing.

Council acknowledges with regret that previous government decisions have led to a significant increase in the cost of housing in the city which has reached grossly unaffordable levels, pushing working families and individuals into homelessness. Council welcomes the introduction of rent controls passed in the last parliament, but believes that a permanent rent freeze should be established until the level of rent charged in the private and mid-market rent sector sees inflation catch up with the affordability of housing.

Council is particularly concerned about women and children who are forced to live in accommodation which does not meet their basic needs, with babies and toddlers living in very confined spaces without private facilities to prepare food for them. Council recognises that this situation is taking its toll on the mental and physical health of homeless people and cannot be accepted long term.

Council commits to exploring solutions implemented in other nations which are more tailored to meet the needs of women and children, resulting in a more positive experience. Council will consider the feasibility of establishing more units for women and children which could operate in a similar manner to the Welcome Centre in Belfast's crisis accommodation for women.

Council agrees that more work should be undertaken to understand the benefit of use of modular housing, as used in Rutherglen and Edinburgh to provide low cost and fast to build temporary accommodation, reducing reliance on inappropriate bed and breakfast accommodation."

Council ultimately agrees to:

1. Bring a report to committee within 2 cycles to indicate the practical and legal frameworks for reinitiating council housing in Glasgow

2. Invite the new Scottish Government's new Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for housing to meet with all Councillors urgently to understand the homelessness situation in the city.
3. Carry out a feasibility study on the costs and benefits of introducing more temporary accommodation tailored to the needs of women and children
4. Undertake a feasibility study on the use of modular housing such as undertaken by South Lanarkshire Council and City of Edinburgh Council
5. Hold a summit with all relevant stakeholders on new methods to provide required services, this should include registered social landlords, both UK and Scottish Governments and all third sector organisations working in this area
6. Write to the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for local government for an update on the replacement of council tax and when we will see appropriate funding models developed for local authorities.

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

DELETE all after the 1st paragraph and REPLACE with.

“Council welcomes the 5-year funding settlement for affordable housing delivery from the Scottish Government but acknowledges that the exponential rise in input costs for housing delivery continue to put huge pressures on budgets, resulting in fewer homes being built than the demand requires.

Council recognises that the increase in demand is caused by a number of factors, most of which sit outwith the Council's control. These include the cost of living crisis, the large number of asylum seekers accommodated in the city who are unable to work or secure accommodation for themselves after their applications are granted, those with leave to remain arriving in the city from other parts of the UK where a local connection has not been made and the UK-wide slow down in house building due to multiple market factors.

Council welcomes the invaluable work that our housing association partners do in supporting the city and in addressing this current emergency. Council notes that it is 23 years since 80,000 homes were transferred to GHA, enabling the council to have its £900 million housing debt cancelled and facilitated £1.5 billion in improvements into what was considered some of the worst housing stock in Europe at the time. Council notes that the social housebuilding programme in Glasgow is among the best in the UK and recognises that much of this is down to the partnership working between RSL partners and the Council's housing team, and agrees that it would be unwise to change to a model proven to have failed here in the past and which delivers poorer results in comparator cities.

Council welcomes the publication of the Glasgow City Health & Social Care Partnership Temporary Accommodation Strategy 2025-35 and recognises both the scale of Glasgow's housing emergency and the urgent need to transform how temporary accommodation is provided across the city. Council notes with concern

that homelessness applications in Glasgow have increased by 25% over the last three years, with more than 4,000 households currently in temporary accommodation and up to 1,900 households placed in hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation due to sustained system pressures. Council further notes the strategy's finding that the vast majority of homeless households have low or no support needs and would benefit most from faster access to settled housing in ordinary homes and communities, rather than prolonged stays in unsuitable temporary accommodation.

Council supports the strategy's commitment to ending the routine use of bed and breakfast accommodation through increased prevention activity, expanded dispersed accommodation and improved access to settled social housing. Council recognises that this approach could significantly improve outcomes for families, women and children currently trapped in unsuitable temporary accommodation, including those living for extended periods in confined hotel rooms without adequate cooking, play or privacy facilities. Council further supports the development of smaller-scale, psychologically informed supported accommodation for those with more complex needs and agrees that future homelessness policy and service redesign should be guided by the principle of providing stable, dignified and person-centred housing solutions as quickly as possible.

Council believes that the declared emergency must be met with emergency action and a greater deal of urgency in a number of areas. These include:

- Homelessness should be addressed as a Scotland-wide and regional challenge rather than disproportionately borne by Glasgow alone. Council supports exploring legislative and policy changes to allow reasonable offers of settled accommodation, and appropriate support, across the wider city region and in areas with available housing capacity. Council believes a more coordinated national approach to homelessness and refugee resettlement would reduce pressure on unsuitable hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation while improving long-term outcomes for homeless households.
- Adequate funding being made available by both governments to support the delivery of their policy choices locally. It is not sustainable for Glaswegian taxpayers alone to shoulder the financial responsibility for policy decisions made at a national level.
- The delivery of housing being the primary deciding factor in planning decisions where there are competing priorities. Recent guidance from the Scottish Government states that, "NPF4 is not designed to require a single policy or issue to tie the hands of decision makers". Council believes this should be interpreted in such a way that allows addressing the housing emergency to be given additional weighting, in particular on brownfield sites.
- Constructive assessment of current input costs into housing and what is necessary versus nice to have in an emergency, where every additional cost means fewer homes, when there is a finite budget available to deliver houses.

Council commends the plan to invest a record £4.9 billion into affordable housing over the next four years, with 100,000 affordable homes, of which will be 70% for

social rent. Further, establishing a More Homes Scotland (MHS) agency 'squarely focused on bringing simplicity, scale and speed to the delivery of homes.' is to be welcomed, and Glasgow stands ready to create more affordable homes at the scale needed to solve our national housing emergency.

This public sector funding will be a strong foundation, but this Council is committed to homes of all types and tenures being built in our city – key to this will be using funding from the Scottish Government and MHS to enable both private sector investment and that from pension funds, including our own Strathclyde Pension Fund, and so Council welcomes the manifesto commitment to develop and progress funding models that 'safeguard the fiduciary duties and long-term interests of pension scheme members; and provide secure, inflation-linked returns appropriate to pension fund investment'.

Council requests that the Convener for Housing and Development along with the Convener for Homelessness engage with the relevant new ministers at the earliest opportunity to outline the steps required to address the housing crisis in our city and how Glasgow can be a willing partner in this mission.

Council further instructs the Chief Executive to write to both the UK and Scottish Government to set out the measures which we believe would enable us to better support the needs of those who are impacted by the housing emergency in Glasgow.”

Bailie Jenkins, seconded by Councillor Hussain, moved as an amendment that:-

In the second paragraph please remove “stated that there is a systemic failure in the delivery of our services to homeless people” and replace with “highlighted serious and systemic pressures in the delivery of homelessness services”.

Please delete the paragraph beginning with: “Council agrees that the 2003 stock transfer” and insert new paragraph, which should read as:

“Council agrees that expanding the range of delivery mechanisms available to meet housing need should be explored as part of a long-term response to the housing emergency.”

In the following paragraph, please delete “will not be able to provide the amount of homes required by our homelessness projections” and insert:

“is unlikely, on its own, to meet the full level of projected housing demand linked to homelessness, highlighting a significant gap between national investment levels and the scale of housing need faced by Glasgow”.

In the same paragraph, after “more directed” please insert “and sustained”.

In the subsequent paragraph, please remove: “theoretically eases housing lists, it does not alleviate the circumstances of those in need” and insert:

“can play in role in easing pressure for some households”.

After this paragraph, please insert two new paragraphs, which should read as:

“Council further notes that rising construction costs, land values and inflationary pressures have eroded the real-terms impact of national housing investment, meaning that headline funding allocations have not consistently translated into the volume or pace of new affordable homes required on the ground, particularly in Scotland’s largest urban authorities.

Council further notes that current national policy on local connection places disproportionate pressure on a Glasgow, which accepts a significant share of homelessness presentations, services and economic role, without sufficient compensatory funding or flexibility within the system.”

In the next paragraph, please remove “grossly overdue” and replace with: “long-standing and remains unfulfilled”

In the following paragraph, please remove: “who would be considered slum landlords” and replace with: “operating properties that fail to meet acceptable standards.”

In the paragraph beginning “Council acknowledges with regret” please delete “a permanent rent freeze should be established until the level of rent charged in the private and mid-market rent sector sees inflation catch up with the affordability of housing” and insert:

“rent regulation must be effective, proportionate and capable of balancing tenant protection with the continued supply and quality of rented homes.”

In the resolution two, add a final sentence, which should read as follows:

“, including the adequacy of affordable housing funding, the impact of local connection policy, and the pressures facing Scotland’s largest urban authority.”

In resolution five, between “landlords” and “both”, please insert:

“tenant representatives”.

This should now read as:

“Hold a summit with all relevant stakeholders on new methods to provide required services, this should include registered social landlords, tenant representatives, both UK and Scottish Governments and all third sector organisations working in this area.”

Please insert a final resolution, which should read as:

“Seek clarity from the Scottish Government on how future affordable housing investment will be targeted to reflect differing levels of homelessness pressure across local authorities, and how delivery of social rented homes can be accelerated in areas of highest need.”

Bailie Wardrop, seconded by Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell, moved as an amendment that:-

Insert new paragraph after paragraph two ending “...of whom 454 were women.”:

“Council notes that the Integration Joint Board has this month approved its 10-year Homelessness Temporary Accommodation Strategy, which aims to reshape the current model for providing temporary accommodation so that homeless households spend the shortest possible time in temporary accommodation whilst aiming to end the routine use of bed and breakfast accommodation. The successful implementation of this strategy should significantly reduce the numbers of people housed in unsuitable temporary accommodation, as well as reduce the financial pressure on the HSCP caused by homelessness, and the volume of judicial review threats the HSCP receives.

Insert new paragraph after original paragraph eleven ending “...be accepted long term.”:

“Council notes the Scottish Government has provided regulations to enact part 2 of the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 which will enable social landlords to end a perpetrator’s interest in a tenancy so that a survivor of domestic abuse can remain in the family home.”

At the end of original paragraph twelve, after “for women”, add:
“as well as the specialised Homelessness Emergency Assessment Centre for women at the Chara Centre in Glasgow”.

At the end of original paragraph thirteen, after “bed and breakfast accommodation.”, add:

“Council notes the Affordable Housing Supply Programme is currently funding one modular scheme, at Glenfarg Street with Queens Cross Housing Association. The lessons learned during the construction phase can also inform the Council’s approach to similar potential sites and their suitability for modular construction.”

At the end of bullet point two ending “in the city”, add:

“and the implications for the delivery of the Scottish Government’s Housing Emergency Action Plan”

In bullet point four, replace “Undertake” with “Report”

In bullet point four, between “...undertaken by” and “South Lanarkshire Council...”, insert “Queens Cross Housing Association,”

Add additional bullet point seven at the end:

“7. Write to the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for Housing and Health and Social Care respectively, to outline steps they will take to provide funding for the new 10 year Homelessness Temporary Accommodation strategy with a particular focus on funding for homelessness prevention and the increase of building and acquisition of social homes, as well as delivery of the necessary legislative changes required to deliver.”

During the debate:-

- (1) Councillor Kelly and Bailie Wardrop, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their amendments, resulting in the following adjusted amendment:-

“Council recalls that it declared a housing emergency in November 2023 due to mounting pressures on homelessness services. More than two years on, that emergency continues to intensify. Council recognises that all options must be considered to provide long-term solutions which will alleviate these pressures and provide a dignified, person-centred process for homeless people, leading to positive outcomes tailored to each individual and family.

Council welcomes the 5-year funding settlement for affordable housing delivery from the Scottish Government but acknowledges that the exponential rise in input costs for housing delivery continue to put huge pressures on budgets, resulting in fewer homes being built than the demand requires.

Council recognises that the increase in demand is caused by a number of factors, most of which sit outwith the Council’s control. These include the cost of living crisis, the large number of asylum seekers accommodated in the city who are unable to work or secure accommodation for themselves after their applications are granted, those with leave to remain arriving in the city from other parts of the UK where a local connection has not been made and the UK-wide slow down in house building due to multiple market factors.

Council welcomes the invaluable work that our housing association partners do in supporting the city and in addressing this current emergency. Council notes that it is 23 years since 80,000 homes were transferred to GHA, enabling the council to have its £900 million housing debt cancelled and facilitated £1.5 billion in improvements into what was considered some of the worst housing stock in Europe at the time. Council notes that the social housebuilding programme in Glasgow is among the best in the UK and recognises that much of this is down to the partnership working between RSL partners and the Council’s housing team, and agrees that it would be unwise to change to a model proven to have failed here in the past and which delivers poorer results in comparator cities.

Council notes the Affordable Housing Supply Programme is currently funding one modular scheme in Glasgow. The lessons learned during the construction phase can also inform the Council’s approach to similar potential sites and their suitability for modular construction.

Council recalls its £100,000 investment in the 2026/7 budget to provide financial support for new rent control assessments as required by the Housing (Scotland) Act, with a view to establishing city-wide rent controls in 2027/28.

Council welcomes the publication of the Glasgow City Health & Social Care Partnership Temporary Accommodation Strategy 2025-35 and recognises both the scale of Glasgow’s housing emergency and the urgent need to transform how temporary accommodation is provided across the city. Council notes with concern that homelessness applications in Glasgow have increased by 25% over the last

three years, with more than 4,000 households currently in temporary accommodation and up to 1,900 households placed in hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation due to sustained system pressures. Council further notes the strategy's finding that the vast majority of homeless households have low or no support needs and would benefit most from faster access to settled housing in ordinary homes and communities, rather than prolonged stays in unsuitable temporary accommodation.

Council supports the strategy's commitment to ending the routine use of bed and breakfast accommodation through increased prevention activity, expanded dispersed accommodation and improved access to settled social housing. Council recognises that this approach could significantly improve outcomes for families, women and children currently trapped in unsuitable temporary accommodation, including those living for extended periods in confined hotel rooms without adequate cooking, play or privacy facilities. Council further supports the development of smaller-scale, psychologically informed supported accommodation for those with more complex needs and agrees that future homelessness policy and service redesign should be guided by the principle of providing stable, dignified and person-centred housing solutions as quickly as possible.

Council notes the Scottish Government has provided regulations to enact part 2 of the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 which will enable social landlords to end a perpetrator's interest in a tenancy so that a survivor of domestic abuse can remain in the family home.

Council believes that the declared emergency must be met with emergency action and a greater deal of urgency in a number of areas. These include:

- Homelessness should be addressed as a Scotland-wide and regional challenge rather than disproportionately borne by Glasgow alone. Council supports exploring legislative and policy changes to allow reasonable offers of settled accommodation, and appropriate support, across the wider city region and in areas with available housing capacity. Council believes a more coordinated national approach to homelessness and refugee resettlement would reduce pressure on unsuitable hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation while improving long-term outcomes for homeless households.
- Adequate funding being made available by both governments to support the delivery of their policy choices locally. It is not sustainable for Glaswegian taxpayers alone to shoulder the financial responsibility for policy decisions made at a national level.
- The delivery of housing being the primary deciding factor in planning decisions where there are competing priorities. Recent guidance from the Scottish Government states that, "NPF4 is not designed to require a single policy or issue to tie the hands of decision makers". Council believes this should be interpreted in such a way that allows addressing the housing emergency to be given additional weighting, in particular on brownfield sites.
- A constructive assessment of current input costs into housing and what is necessary versus nice to have in an emergency, where every additional cost means fewer homes, when there is a finite budget available to deliver houses.

Council commends the plan to invest a record £4.9 billion into affordable housing over the next four years, with 100,000 affordable homes, of which will be 70% for social rent. Further, establishing a More Homes Scotland (MHS) agency 'squarely focused on bringing simplicity, scale and speed to the delivery of homes.' is to be welcomed, and Glasgow stands ready to create more affordable homes at the scale needed to solve our national housing emergency.

Council recognises the evidence of need to push for a higher percentage of investment in affordable homes to be for social rent to address the cost of living crisis and ensure that affordable housing reduces housing costs for residents. This public sector funding will be a strong foundation, but this Council is committed to homes of all types and tenures being built in our city – key to this will be using funding from the Scottish Government and MHS to enable both private sector investment and that from pension funds, including our own Strathclyde Pension Fund, and so Council welcomes the manifesto commitment to develop and progress funding models that 'safeguard the fiduciary duties and long-term interests of pension scheme members; and provide secure, inflation-linked returns appropriate to pension fund investment'.

Council requests that the Convener for Housing and Development along with the Convener for Homelessness engage with the relevant new ministers at the earliest opportunity to outline the steps required to address the housing crisis in our city and how Glasgow can be a willing partner in this mission.

Council further instructs the Chief Executive to write to both the UK and Scottish Government to set out the measures which we believe would enable us to better support the needs of those who are impacted by the housing emergency in Glasgow."; and

- (2) Bailie Hoy and Bailie Jenkins, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendment and to include the wording of Bailie Wardrop's amendment as submitted, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council recalls that it declared a housing emergency in November 2023 due to mounting pressures on homelessness services. More than two years on, that emergency continues to intensify. Council recognises that all options must be considered to provide long-term solutions which will alleviate these pressures and provide a dignified, person-centred process for homeless people, leading to positive outcomes tailored to each individual and family.

Council notes that Glasgow currently has the highest rates of homelessness in Scotland and that the Scottish Housing Regulator has highlighted serious and systemic pressures in the delivery of homelessness services. 9339 people were living in temporary accommodation as of March 2026, including 3349 children. This included 2773 people in hotels and bed and breakfasts, of whom 454 were women.

Council notes that the Integration Joint Board has this month approved its 10-year Homelessness Temporary Accommodation Strategy, which aims to reshape the current model for providing temporary accommodation so that homeless households

spend the shortest possible time in temporary accommodation whilst aiming to end the routine use of bed and breakfast accommodation. The successful implementation of this strategy should significantly reduce the numbers of people housed in unsuitable temporary accommodation, as well as reduce the financial pressure on the HSCP caused by homelessness, and the volume of judicial review threats the HSCP receives.

Council believes that the use of hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless people should only be on a very short-term basis until more suitable accommodation can be provided, but acknowledges that the system is currently failing with individuals and families trapped in inappropriate, insecure and unaffordable accommodation for far longer than they should be.

Council commends our Empty Homes team and our registered social landlord partners across the city for their constant work to support the Scottish Government's acquisitions agenda through bringing empty and marketed homes back into use as social homes. Council acknowledges that this work is crucial to tackling the housing emergency, but cannot solve the crisis on its own.

Council agrees that expanding the range of delivery mechanisms available to meet housing need should be explored as part of a long-term response to the housing emergency.

Council acknowledges that the Scottish Government have provided over £100million annually to tackle this emergency, but that the council's Strategic Housing Investment Plan is unlikely, on its own, to meet the full level of projected housing demand linked to homelessness, highlighting a significant gap between national investment levels and the scale of housing need faced by Glasgow and that more directed and sustained funding will be required to increase housing supply. Council further acknowledges that while Mid-Market Rent accommodation can play a role in easing pressure for some households and that the focus on new development should be on social housing provision first and foremost.

Council further notes that rising construction costs, land values and inflationary pressures have eroded the real-terms impact of national housing investment, meaning that headline funding allocations have not consistently translated into the volume or pace of new affordable homes required on the ground, particularly in Scotland's largest urban authorities.

Council further notes that current national policy on local connection places disproportionate pressure on a Glasgow, which accepts a significant share of homelessness presentations, services and economic role, without sufficient compensatory funding or flexibility within the system.

Council further acknowledges that its funding settlement in recent years has been inadequate to address the systemic poverty impacting our city and that the council itself would have provided further development and service provision had this settlement been adequate. Council agrees that the promise to replace the council tax is long-standing and remains unfulfilled and a fairer and more redistributive system would have gone some way to alleviate the housing and homelessness emergency.

Council is particularly concerned about the standard of maintenance and upkeep of private rented accommodation and acknowledges that while some landlords provide appropriate housing, there are far too many operating properties that fail to meet acceptable standards. Council believes that further legislation to regulate the standard of private rental accommodation should be introduced and that the landlord register legislation should be developed into a licensing regime to manage not just the landlord's appropriateness but their conduct and standard of provision.

Council acknowledges the importance of Awaab's Law to addressing damp and mould in social and private rented housing stock, and welcomes its introduction into Scottish law via the Investigation and Commencement of Repair (Scotland) Regulations 2026, which will come into force on 6th October this year. Council urges landlords to act in the spirit of these regulations until their official implementation to ensure that conditions in homes are not detrimental to tenants' health and wellbeing.

Council acknowledges with regret that previous government decisions have led to a significant increase in the cost of housing in the city which has reached grossly unaffordable levels, pushing working families and individuals into homelessness. Council welcomes the introduction of rent controls passed in the last parliament, but believes that rent regulation must be effective, proportionate and capable of balancing tenant protection with the continued supply and quality of rented homes.

Council is particularly concerned about women and children who are forced to live in accommodation which does not meet their basic needs, with babies and toddlers living in very confined spaces without private facilities to prepare food for them. Council recognises that this situation is taking its toll on the mental and physical health of homeless people and cannot be accepted long term.

Council notes the Scottish Government has provided regulations to enact part 2 of the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 which will enable social landlords to end a perpetrator's interest in a tenancy so that a survivor of domestic abuse can remain in the family home.

Council commits to exploring solutions implemented in other nations which are more tailored to meet the needs of women and children, resulting in a more positive experience. Council will consider the feasibility of establishing more units for women and children which could operate in a similar manner to the Welcome Centre in Belfast's crisis accommodation for women as well as the specialised Homelessness Emergency Assessment Centre for women at the Chara Centre in Glasgow.

Council agrees that more work should be undertaken to understand the benefit of use of modular housing, as used in Rutherglen and Edinburgh to provide low cost and fast to build temporary accommodation, reducing reliance on inappropriate bed and breakfast accommodation. Council notes the Affordable Housing Supply Programme is currently funding one modular scheme, at Glenfarg Street with Queens Cross Housing Association. The lessons learned during the construction phase can also inform the Council's approach to similar potential sites and their suitability for modular construction.

Council ultimately agrees to:

1. Bring a report to committee within 2 cycles to indicate the practical and legal frameworks for reinitiating council housing in Glasgow
2. Invite the new Scottish Government's new Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for housing to meet with all Councillors urgently to understand the homelessness situation in the city, including the adequacy of affordable housing funding, the impact of local connection policy, the pressures facing Scotland's largest urban authority and the implications for the delivery of the Scottish Government's Housing Emergency Action Plan;
3. Carry out a feasibility study on the costs and benefits of introducing more temporary accommodation tailored to the needs of women and children
4. Report a feasibility study on the use of modular housing such as undertaken by Queens Cross Housing Association, South Lanarkshire Council and City of Edinburgh Council
5. Hold a summit with all relevant stakeholders on new methods to provide required services, this should include registered social landlords, tenant representatives, both UK and Scottish Governments and all third sector organisations working in this area
6. Write to the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for local government for an update on the replacement of council tax and when we will see appropriate funding models developed for local authorities.
7. Seek clarity from the Scottish Government on how future affordable housing investment will be targeted to reflect differing levels of homelessness pressure across local authorities, and how delivery of social rented homes can be accelerated in areas of highest need.
8. Write to the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for Housing and Health and Social Care respectively, to outline steps they will take to provide funding for the new 10 year Homelessness Temporary Accommodation strategy with a particular focus on funding for homelessness prevention and the increase of building and acquisition of social homes, as well as delivery of the necessary legislative changes required to deliver.

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 37 voted for the amendment as adjusted and 28 for the motion as adjusted.

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

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 (e), 8(f) and 8(g).