



Glasgow City Council

Economy, Housing, Transport, and Regeneration Committee

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Feminist City Workstream

Purpose of Report:

To provide Committee with an update on the implementation of the feminist city workstream.

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to note the update for information.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

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1 Background

- 1.1 Glasgow City Council passed a motion on a Feminist Approach to Town Planning in [October 2022](#) requiring services across the Council to adopt a gender-sensitive approach in policies and strategies. The Motion included commitments to collect gender-disaggregated data in Council consultations, to make specific references to women and girls' experiences in local planning policies such as the City Development Plan, and to account for gender equality in budgeting and decision making.
- 1.2 An update on progress regarding implementation of the Feminist City Motion was presented to this Committee on [22 April 2025](#). This report provides an update on activities achieved to date and future steps.
- 1.3 In February 2026 a Feminist Urbanism Project Officer has been appointed and sits with NRS Planning. This appointment has resulted in significant progress across the feminist city workstream and provided support to the cross-party Feminist Urbanism Working Group.

2 Feminist Urbanism Working Group

- 2.1 In 2023, a cross-party political oversight group was created to provide strategic leadership and monitor progress on delivery of the feminist city workstream, including funded work and new opportunities for partnership working.
- 2.2 Over the last year, the Feminist Urbanism Working Group has expanded its membership to represent more services across the Council family, including Education, Glasgow Life, and the Health & Social Care Partnership.
- 2.3 The group meets quarterly and recent meetings have included guest speakers on the following topics: the Places for Play Handbook from the Centre for Civic Innovation, Safer Steps report from Wise Women, and an inception presentation from Engender on the development of the Council's Feminist City Strategy.

3 Feminist Planning Toolkit

- 3.1 Threesixty Architecture has been appointed to deliver the Council's Feminist Planning Toolkit. This resource is aimed at planners, developers, architects and designers and will include best practice in gender-informed planning, engagement and design. The Toolkit will set out how planners and developers can integrate a gender-informed lens throughout the planning process, from pre-application to formal consultations, engagement, delivery and stewardship.
- 3.2 In August 2026, Threesixty Architecture delivered two half-day workshops to test emerging principles and recommendations from the Toolkit, one for NRS colleagues and one for external client teams. Co-creation activities remain

underway and will include a stakeholder roundtable with local third sector organisations working directly with women, as well as a session with Glasgow Girls Club.

- 3.3 Completion of the Toolkit is expected in October 2026 and will be presented to Committee(s) in due course for adoption as planning guidance supporting City Development Plan 2 (CDP 2).

4 Feminist City Strategy

- 4.1 Engender, a Scotland-based feminist policy organisation, has been appointed to deliver Glasgow's Feminist City Strategy. The Strategy will provide a roadmap for gender mainstreaming in service design, delivery, and resourcing.
- 4.2 The Feminist City Strategy is aligned with the Council's Grand Challenges by examining structural processes such as budgeting, procurement, Human Resources, governance - and identifying where opportunities exist to improve social and economic outcomes by applying a gender-sensitive approach.
- 4.3 The Strategy will be a high-level, evidence-led roadmap and will include an audit of the Council's decision-making process at the democratic and administrative levels, identifying mechanisms to strengthen gender-disaggregated data collection and gender equality.
- 4.4 Engender will deliver two visioning workshops with senior officers in October 2026, followed by two further workshops with service champions, focused on implementation of the Strategy. The Strategy will also include engagement with elected members and an element of community engagement with women's groups in Glasgow.
- 4.5 Delivery is expected in early 2027 and capacity building will take place across Council services to support implementation.

5 City Development Plan 2

- 5.1 The National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) recognises 'the prioritisation of women's safety' as one of Six Qualities of Successful places. The draft [City Development Plan 2 \(CDP2\)](#) builds on this by including specific policy hooks to the Council's Feminist City Motion, citing that future planning and regeneration must include effective engagement with women to produce development outcomes that are truly sustainable, safe, liveable, and accessible.
- 5.2 CDP2 references the Feminist Planning Toolkit as supplementary planning guidance and highlights beneficial overlaps with parallel workstreams, including the Child-Friendly City and Glasgow's Climate Plan.

- 5.3 Engagement conducted with women has been incorporated into the CDP 2 and other strategic planning work. This includes the collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated data in the CDP2 Evidence Report, focused engagement with women on the Custom House Quay and Carlton Place masterplan, and the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- 5.4 CDP 2 will be a key mechanism to deliver feminist urbanism principles in new development and regeneration, and this will be supported by guidance in the Feminist Planning Toolkit and Feminist City Strategy.

6 Feminist Action Fund

- 6.1 The Feminist Action Fund supports projects that reflect the principles of feminist urbanism – delivering safety and accessibility enhancements to public spaces, engagement with women and girls, and supporting officers to implement feminist urbanism through new guidance. This Fund consists of an initial allocation of £500,000 in 2023, followed by a second allocation of £500,000 in 2024.
- 6.2 A supplementary appendix attachment to this report highlights projects funded through this Fund and demonstrates the positive impacts of projects on communities. The projects show how a gender-informed approach to planning and development can support safety, accessibility, and belonging.
- 6.3 To date, the Feminist Action Fund has unlocked projects across NRS from engagement, design, lighting, active travel, placemaking, and knowledge sharing. This has served as a critical learning and development opportunity, enabling officers to understand, and account for, the impacts of gender in city planning, design, and budgeting. Further projects are ongoing.

7 Partnership Working and Communications

- 7.1 Internationally there is growing understanding and consensus on the benefits of applying a gendered lens to town planning and public service design and delivery. Glasgow is becoming recognised for its advancement of feminist urbanism – and has established links with Edinburgh, Vienna, and Barcelona.
- 7.2 A workshop with the City of Edinburgh Council was hosted in the City Chambers on 13 May 2026. This included a workshop led by Dr May East, focused on international research and methods of implementation. Participants expressed a desire to continue knowledge sharing and networking, with Scottish local authorities in particular.
- 7.3 A new [Feminist City Information Hub](#) has been created on the Council's website, providing background information and showcasing some of the work undertaken so far. In addition, various internal communications are being used to support the delivery of the feminist city workstream and help reach colleagues across the wider Council family.

8 Next steps

8.1 Over the next year the feminist city workstream will prioritise the following:

- Feminist Planning Toolkit – delivery expected October 2026, with a view to gaining Committee approval and embedding as planning guidance.
- Feminist City Strategy – facilitate engagement with elected members and colleagues, with delivery of final Strategy expected early 2027.
- Scope training & capacity building needs to ensure successful implementation of the Toolkit and Strategy across services.
- Continue to support projects and provide advice on applying a gender-lens to development proposals.
- Support the development of child-friendly City initiatives
- Continue to participate in benchmarking, learning and best practice with other cities.

9 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: Finance has been allocated under delegated authority to support current project delivery. The capital budget is fully committed. To support delivery of future works, further funding will need to be secured.

Legal: No legal implications.

Personnel: Feminist Urbanism Project Officer started in post in February 2026. Officers within GCC support delivery of projects funded through the Feminist Action Fund.

Procurement: Two consultant teams have been appointed in line with procurement requirements to deliver the Feminist Planning Toolkit and Feminist City Strategy.

Council Strategic Plan: Specify which Grand Challenge (s) and Mission (s) the proposal supports. Where appropriate the relevant Commitment can also be listed.

Grand Challenge 1: Reduce poverty and inequality in our communities.
 Grand Challenge 2: Increase opportunity and prosperity for all our citizens.
 Grand Challenge 3: Fight the climate emergency in a just transition to a net zero Glasgow.
 Grand Challenge 4: Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable innovative and efficient way for our communities.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

<i>Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please specify.</i>	Yes
<i>What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?</i>	It is envisaged that the Feminist City work will have a positive impact on equality.
<i>Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.</i>	The outcomes of the feminist city workstream will improve women's access to social and economic opportunities, address childhood poverty, as well as the city's spatial barriers to socio-economic development.

Climate Impacts:

<i>Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:</i>	The outcomes of feminist urbanism will: 56. Reduce the need to own and use a car through measures in the City Development Plan, Glasgow Transport Strategy, and the Liveable Neighbourhoods programme.
<i>What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?</i>	Women are disproportionately impacted by climate change. The Feminist City Toolkit will address this by promoting climate resilient housing, transport, and places – further embedding itself in the city's existing planning frameworks.
<i>Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?</i>	

**Privacy and Data
Protection Impacts:**

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report
Y/N

There are not considered to be any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

10 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the update for information.