

The Loop Newsletter

8 November 2024

NRSLOOP

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this week**

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**For
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Staff Text Messaging Service



Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability have a staff text messaging service which we use to push out key service information to staff members personal phones. This service allows non pc facing staff to receive information electronically rather than on notice boards or information being passed on by Managers and Supervisors.

Although aimed at non pc facing staff, we would encourage all staff within NRS to sign up allowing all urgent information to be issued as soon as possible. The service will also be used to update staff on:

- Key departmental news
- Job vacancies
- Adverse weather
- Upcoming Health and Wellbeing events

The information issued may also contain links to articles / documents which can be found on the council website.

You can sign up to our text messaging service [here](#).



Citizens Asked to Step Forward to Volunteer for Glasgow 850

Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are being sought to support the celebrations around Glasgow 850's yearlong programme throughout 2025.

The Glasgow 850 Volunteer and Employability programme will offer Glaswegians a unique opportunity to play a key part in the city's birthday year, with roles to support the smooth running of its main events and local community projects.

In a break from the conventional volunteer programmes that recruits and trains people for specific roles, as part of a one-time event, the Glasgow 850 scheme will ask people to register to hear about a rolling programme of volunteer and learning opportunities, throughout the anniversary year.

Developed in conjunction with Volunteer Glasgow, this approach to volunteering creates an inclusive and rewarding experience for participants. It allows them to engage in a range of activities at their own pace, offering greater flexibility and choice than traditional volunteer schemes.

In registering their interest, volunteers will have the chance to be at the heart of Glasgow's 850 celebrations by supporting the signature activities including a three day music event; Clyde Chorus, People's Palace pop-up exhibition and Taste the Place food trail.

In addition to these flagship events, there will be a chance for volunteers to get involved in events run by Glasgow 850 Festival Fund recipients and locally based roles with community organisations, ensuring that participants can contribute in ways that best suit their interests and availability.

To register interest in the Glasgow 850 Volunteer and Employability Programme, visit [glasgow850 website](#).



Managers' Briefings

The following Managers' Briefs have been issued in the last fortnight. A full list of past briefings is available on the intranet using the button on the left.

- Worker Protection

For Information

Service News and Corporate Updates that might affect you

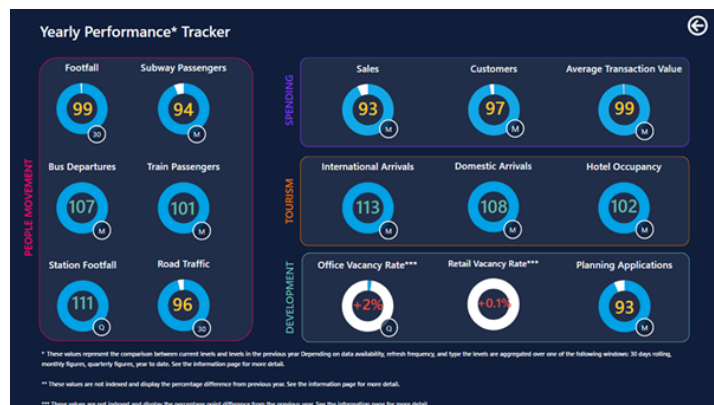


The City Centre Performance Dashboard - Data offers a valuable insight into Glasgow City Centre

The City Centre Performance Dashboard is a joint venture between Glasgow City Council and the Chamber of Commerce. It uses data from a variety of sources to create a narrative about the economic health and vibrancy of the city centre. The dashboard is being developed and updated by GCC's Data team.

Everyone in the council can access it, and it offers great insights into the city centre. The City Centre Strategy team has been using it to monitor the city centre's health and measure the impact of key events – such as the UCI Championships or the Banksy exhibition on the city centre, as well as to define the priorities the team should focus on.

It can give you information about footfall, retail spend, public and private transport, tourism, and many other key metrics. For example, did you know that the day which had the highest footfall this year was the 5 October? Or that in September, international arrivals into Glasgow were up 13% on last year? Are you looking to find out if Glasgow is outperforming Edinburgh in terms of sales or if car usage is declining in the city centre?



All of this information can be found on the dashboard and it will give you and your team a better understanding of our city centre. If the number in the dial is more than 100 then we have improved on last

year, if it is lower then we have not.

To access the dashboard, please use [this link](#) to request permission to view it.

If you want to learn more about the dashboard and how your team could use it, you can email citycentrestrategy@glasgow.gov.uk.

Please note that the dashboard is still in development and some of the pages may change. If you have any feedback on what is shown, we're keen to hear it!

Pop along and find out why fostering is where the everyday means everything!

Families for Children have launched the next phase of their Dear Diary campaign with the aim of dispelling the myths of fostering.

The Dear Diary series illustrates a diary entry describing the quality time spent with foster carers through a simplistic animation from a child's perspective. The campaign will be seen across the city and will be aired on TV and radio backed up by social and digital media.

You can watch their campaign video on [YouTube](#).

Foster Glasgow would love to hear from you:

- If you could help families in Glasgow by inviting a child into your home for one or two evenings or a weekend once a month then we would love to hear from you.
- If you or anyone you know could offer full time care to a child or young person, then again, we would love to hear from you.
- If you have a spare bedroom and want to help children and young people, then please get in touch.

Pop along – open evening 11 November

Why not come along to their **open information evening at the City Chambers on Monday 11 November from 5pm until 7pm**. Their friendly staff will be there to answer any questions you have.

Mairead Fagan, Service Manager at Families for Children said: "Many of our short break carers work full time and really enjoy providing a weekend or a few nights a month knowing that they are making a real difference. If you think you have what it takes to make a difference to the children of Glasgow by being a full time or a short break carer then please get in touch."

Please visit www.fosterglasgow.org for more information.

Want to chat about fostering or adopting? Phone **0345 276 5555**

Or email families.children@sw.glasgow.gov.uk.



New Podcast Marks 20 Years of ASSIST

A new podcast celebrates a Glasgow City Council run service which has helped thousands of domestic abuse victims over the past 20 years.

Every eight minutes, Police Scotland deal with a report of domestic abuse and every year, an average of nine people are killed in domestic homicides in this country.

Research has shown that advocacy and support are the biggest factors in minimising trauma and enhancing feelings of safety for victims and witnesses. ASSIST supports victims of domestic abuse and their children through the court system when their alleged abuser is being prosecuted.

Run by Glasgow City Council, ASSIST is the biggest service of its type in Scotland. It is funded by the Scottish Government and helps people from Argyll and Bute; Ayrshire (East, North and South); Dumfries and Galloway; Glasgow; Dunbartonshire (East and West); Inverclyde; Lanarkshire (North and South) and Renfrewshire (including East Renfrewshire).

ASSIST guides victims through the legal system, ensuring they are safe and supported throughout proceedings. Specialist staff do everything from explaining legal terms to drawing up safety plans to increase victims' safety (particularly when the accused is on bail).

The ASSIST@20 podcast also marks 20 years of Glasgow's dedicated domestic abuse court and recognises the close partnership working between ASSIST, the Procurator Fiscal Service and Police Scotland to improve the court experience for victims.

A panel of experts feature on the podcast, including Mhairi McGowan who managed ASSIST from 2005 to 2019 and is now an independent violence against women and girls consultant; Fiona McMullen, Operations Manager at ASSIST and one of the first advocacy workers; Emma Forbes, Lead National Prosecutor for Domestic Abuse, who was the first prosecutor in Glasgow's domestic abuse court and Fil Capaldi, a retired Detective Superintendent from Police Scotland, who was looking after domestic abuse in 2004.

The expertise of staff and the experiences of service users also help inform and advise decision-makers.

The podcast was funded by the University of Edinburgh to highlight the life changing nature of ASSISTS'

work and the need for a national roll out of specialist services.

The podcast is available [here](#). Further information on ASSIST can be found on the ASSIST [website](#).

**NRS
People**

Supporting your health and wellbeing and wellness at work as well as learning and personal development



NRS Welcomes our new Director of Service Delivery, Jenny O'Hagan

After starting the newly formed position of Director of Service Delivery within Neighbourhoods, Regenerations and Sustainability on Monday 28 October, the Loop caught up with Jenny O'Hagan:

Tell us a bit about your Career Background?

I am a Chartered Accountant, who has worked within Local Government at a senior level for over 30 years, after training in the private sector. I have carried out various roles, across a range of departments, building lots of networks and friendships along the way. My roles have largely been within the Finance and the Transformation/business change field but moved from the dark arts of Finance to become Divisional Director of Operations in April 2022, with responsibility for leading approximately 2000 staff across frontline, professional and management roles across Refuse and Waste, Public Health, Parks, Events and Community Safety, which was quite a change and I have absolutely loved the challenges that brought.

What makes you proud to have a leadership position within the service?

Every day I am proud of having the opportunity to work with such talented staff to deliver services that are used by everyone across the City, being able to make a positive difference to influence how best to deliver these services in this role by having the right people in the right roles makes me extremely proud.

What do you foresee being the biggest challenge within your role?

The biggest challenge is undoubtedly dealing with the unprecedented financial challenges, with increased expectation of service delivery, which puts constraints on resources, so I relish the opportunity to bring innovative solutions to delivering services differently, with input, engagement and buy-in from staff across the service.

What is an interesting fact about yourself?

I swim over 100,000m every year in the sea all year round (the colder the better) to improve my health and wellbeing, which many of you may already know. I was also brought up on a Deer Farm.



NRS Events Team Spotlight

Following another busy summer of events, we spoke to the NRS Events Team to find out all the hard work that goes into making Glasgow an events powerhouse all year round, as well as what events we can look forward to in the future:

What events are the Council currently facilitating?

Every year, the NRS Events Team helps to facilitate in excess of 770 activities across its parks, precincts, and open spaces. This diverse range of events spans from large-scale gatherings such as the TRNSMT Music Festival, Summer Sessions, and Melting Pot concerts, to the GlasGLOW light and sound experience, the Multi-Cultural Arts Festival MELA, physical challenge events like the Great Scottish Run and Men and Women's 10k, weekly park runs, various small-scale community events, and assembly or dispersal points for processions, protests, and marches.

What work needs to go into planning and running large scale events across the city?

While the event organiser is responsible for the operations of the event, NRS Events play a crucial role in ensuring fair and safe use of the space and that organisers are complying with current legislation. Our responsibilities include reviewing all Risk Assessments to ensure that proper mitigating actions have been taken to eliminate or reduce any identified risks. We ensure that adequate Public Liability Insurance coverage exceeding the minimum requirement is in place, along with detailed Event and Location Plans. As a condition of use, we work with internal stakeholders such as Licensing, Environmental Health and Building Control to ensure event compliance. As part of our broader city-wide work, we actively prevent event clashes and alleviate undue strain on essential services within the Glasgow City Council and external partners like Police Scotland or Scottish Fire and Rescue. We ensure the disruption to the city is kept to a minimum through our expertise in the city road network and our commitment to efficient coordination and risk management guarantees successful and harmonious event execution.

What the most challenging and exciting event you have put together?

The Santa Dash is a firm team favourite, an exciting event to work on and to deliver. There was a lot of planning and organising involved and the team all came together with their allocated sections to deliver a fun and exciting event. Leading up to the event staff would tend the Pop Up Shop where participants would come to collect their run pack with t-shirt, run number and route information. On the day, the team had their allocated positions, which included start line, muster point, route, finish line and prize station. Each role having a responsibility and a team to help manage the day. While some of our role is office based and



engaging more with event organisers it is good to get some customer contact time. Being able to promote the race further within the Pop Up Shop and engaging with the public was always a favourite part of the process. Helping a charity like the Beatson, which has touched so many lives with the people of Glasgow, makes all the hard work worth it.

What makes Glasgow such an attractive and effective location for large scale events?

Glasgow is the UK's first UNESCO City of Music. Glasgow is well known for being one of the world's most friendliest cities to visit. Music artists often talk about Glaswegian crowds being the best, and we agree. With so much to offer to visitors to the city it is no wonder that Event Organisers chose to come to Glasgow. Not only do they have the opportunity to access various iconic locations throughout the city to place their event, but visitors get so much more with top class bars, restaurants and entertainment venues, along with various competitive socialising venues, a plethora of hotels and accommodation and with the top music locations in Scotland including parks in Glasgow that host music events in the summer, including Kelvingrove Park, Glasgow Green, Queen's Park Arena, and Bellahouston Park we are building a fantastic reputation for Gigs in Glasgow. The support from NRS Events Team and colleagues in other sections has created a process which is clear and streamlined when it comes to the organisation of the events.

What upcoming events are you involved in that staff can attend?

With next year (2025) being a celebration of Glasgow turning 850, there will be various pop-up events along with the return of our annual events. Some of the free to attend events include MELA, various open days and lots of community events sprinkled around the city, there will be a lot to choose from. Keep an eye on the [NRS Events page](#) to find out what's on in your area.



Join us this November

You are invited to [Join us](#) this November for the following Health, Wellbeing, Equality and Diversity training events.

Visit the [website](#) to see the full calendar on offer each month. The page is regularly updated with new content, so please check back often.

Date, Time and Sign Up	Training and Events
<p>Wednesday 13 November 2024 10am until 11am MS Teams Sign Up</p>	<p>Financial Wellbeing Webinar - Age Scotland</p> <p>This session looks at simple ways to help you streamline your finances and discusses what you can do to minimise your outgoings and maximise your savings.</p> <p>The session is based on feedback from 4,000 people who have attended retirement planning workshops with Age Scotland and shares the things that they say they wish they had known 10 to 20 years earlier.</p>
<p>Monday 18 November 2024 10am until 11am MS Teams Sign Up</p>	<p>Financial Wellbeing Workshop - Cost of Living, Energy and Support</p> <p>In this workshop, Money Advice Scotland will aim to help participants understand the context of the crisis and how it has affected the price of the energy we use.</p> <p>We will look at some energy saving tips and provide information on the support available if you are struggling with energy debt.</p>
<p>Thursday 21 November 2024 Bookable 15 min slots available throughout the day from 10am until 2.30pm Sign Up</p>	<p>Incorporate Massage - Seated Acupressure Massage</p> <p>Discover the wellbeing benefits that can be gained from taking time out of your busy day to relax with a 15 minute (fully clothed) seated acupressure massage. The massage uses Swedish Massage Techniques and includes head, neck, shoulders, back, hands and arms, to help reduce stress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booked sessions take place, with Grace Taylor from Incorporate Massage, in the privacy of our City Chambers Wellbeing Room at 2.25 East Building - John Street • Your session costs £15 for 15 minutes. Please pay Grace on the day • 8 available morning slots. Every 15 minutes from 10am until 12pm • 8 available afternoon slots. Every 15 minutes from 12.30pm until 2.30pm • Booking conditions apply and 24 hrs notice required for cancellations (or you may still be charged) • Use Sign Up to book your 15 minute slot with subject GCC Messages and your name, date and preferred 15 minute time slot • See John Street reception for access to the Wellbeing Room
<p>Thursday 28 November 2024 1pm until 4pm MS Teams Sign Up</p>	<p>LGBT Awareness session</p> <p>The session is designed to help employees gain a greater level of understanding and confidence and be less afraid of getting things wrong when interacting with or supporting LGBT+ people.</p> <p>This course is suitable for any employees seeking</p>

to develop their knowledge and skills in this area and will explore:

- LGBT+ terminology and definitions
- Social attitudes and experiences of discrimination faced by LGBT+ people
- LGBT+ equality and inclusion good practice.

The session is delivered as a mixture of PowerPoint presentations, short films and group discussions together with a Q and A. Secure your spot today to be part of this crucial dialogue. Limited spaces are available, so don't miss this great opportunity.

NRS Roadshows – Coming to Easter Queenslie Thursday 14 November



The NRS People Health and Wellbeing Roadshow will be visiting Easter Queenslie depot on Thursday 14 November 2024.

We have invited a range of financial and wellbeing services who can provide colleagues with information and support:

- Step Change Debt Advice
- Hospital Saturday Fund
- Glasgow Credit Union
- Home Energy Scotland
- SAMH (Scottish Action for Mental Health)
- FASS (Family Addiction Services Scotland)
- Glasgow Council on Alcohol
- Glasgow Life discounted Gym Memberships

As part of the event we also have the PAM Assist Nurse and free incorporate massages available for any staff member who wants to get a health checkup or receive a professional seated massage.

Please let your line manager know if you are interested in attending the event or booking an appointment with the nurse or a free massage.

Vacancies within NRS

The following job vacancies within NRS have been added to myjobscotland. If you are interested use the button to the left to go through to the job adverts.

MJS Ref	Job Title	Posts Available	Grade
GLA12789	Project Manager (Digital to Analogue)	1	8
GLA12785	Team Manager (Building Standards)	1	8
GLA12788	Project Officer (Digital to Analogue)	1	7
GLA12781	Property Liaison Officer	1	6
GLA12768	Lead Advocate (Part-Time 28 hours)	1	CSG 6
GLA12786	Building Standards Officer	1	5
GLA12778	LES Operative 3	2	3
GLA12796	Senior Quantity Surveyor	2	7
GLA12815	CCTV Systems Engineers (Re-advertisement)	1	CSG 6
GLA12814	Natural Environment Officer (Community Engagement) (Re-advertisement)	1	6
GLA12813	Graduate Quantity Surveyor	1	5
GLA12811	Monitoring Officer	2	CSG 2
GLA12812	LES Operative 3 (Roads)	3	3

myjobscotland

Click here to read more

General Interest

What other teams do and events and activities that you can join

Santa Dash 2024 - 8 December 2024



Join Beatson Cancer Charity this year at Glasgow Santa Dash at Glasgow Green on 8 December 2024. Run, Jog, Walk or hop on your Sleigh - it's time to do your festive 5k!

Show your support to patients and families affected by cancer this winter by signing up to this year's Santa Dash. Once registered, you will receive a free Santa t-shirt to help paint your town red and yellow.

Registration for the Glasgow Santa Dash is now open. You can register by visiting the [Beatson Cancer Charity website](#).

Race numbers and t-shirts must be collected from the Beatson prior to event day, and registration will close on Thursday 5 December 2024. Collection details will be provided in your pre-event email.

**Contact
Us**

If you have any information you would like to share through this fortnightly email, please click here to contact the NRS Promotions and Engagement Team

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