

The Loop Newsletter

14 March 2025



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For Action

Important messages that require action

Update your equality information to help us better understand our workforce



Ensuring equality and achieving diversity in our workforce is important to us. We want to recognise everybody's worth regardless of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, religion or belief, race, sexual orientation or socioeconomic background. We understand that these characteristics are not separate and that those with several characteristics often face additional barriers and challenges in life and in employment, that's why we take an intersectional approach. It's also important that we take action as an employer to have a workforce which reflects the diverse make up of the city we serve.

To help us achieve this, we encourage you to update your equalities information. This data allows us to better understand our workforce, identify areas for improvement and ensure our policies and initiatives reflect the needs of all employees.

Giving us this information is voluntary, confidential and is used in line with our [Privacy Statement](#).

Updating your information only takes a few minutes. Please [complete and submit](#) the form by 25 March 2025. If you have more than one Glasgow City Council post, we would encourage you to complete a form for each post.



Managers' Briefings

There has been no Managers' Briefs issued in the last fortnight. A full list of past briefings is available on the intranet using the button on the left.

Click here to
read more

For Information

Service News and Corporate Updates that might affect you

Face to Face ICT Support Now Available at 'The Tech Bar'



The Tech Bar is a face to face ICT help desk available to all Council Family employees. Located at 231 George Street on the ground floor, the Tech Bar offers an additional option for staff who prefer in person assistance for their ICT issues. Whether you need help with password resets, application errors, or hardware issues, the Tech Bar can support you.

To book an appointment:

- contact the service desk on 0141 287 4000 (Ext: 74000)
- [email](#)
- raise a request via the [Service Portal](#) (available 17 March)

If you do arrive at the Tech Bar without an appointment the Tech Bar engineers will assist you in booking one. The Tech Bar is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm.



Defibrillators Installed Across the Council's Estate

To enhance the safety and wellbeing of employees and the public, Glasgow City Council has successfully installed 16 defibrillators across the NRS estate, with funding generously provided by St Andrews Ambulance.

Donald Fraser, Arbor Assistant Supervisor, raised concerns about the aging workforce and the need for accessible defibrillators. Various organisations were approached for funding assistance and St Andrews Ambulance subsequently offered individual funding for each defibrillator and its location.



Upon approval from St Andrews Ambulance, the procurement process was conducted in collaboration with Michelle Smith and her team, ensuring all required paperwork and budgetary requirements were met.

The funding covered the defibrillator units, heated cabinets, and the registration of the equipment online for public and emergency services use. Twelve defibrillators offer 24 hour access, while four are accessible only during operational hours. St Andrews Ambulance will also provide training sessions on CPR and defibrillator usage for employees at each location.

The project saw significant collaboration with City Building, who facilitated the surveys and installations across the NRS Operational Depots. The Machinery Assessment Group, including NRS Operations representatives and Trade Union Reps Brian Carson (GMB), John Cameron (Unison), and David Mills (Unite), played a crucial role in the successful implementation, demonstrating exemplary teamwork from all involved parties.

This initiative highlights Glasgow City Council's commitment to ensuring a safe working environment through proactive measures and collaborative efforts.

Pollok Country Park's Hannah Walsh Honoured at Lantra Awards



We are delighted to announce that Hannah Walsh, an Agriculture Modern Apprentice based within the livestock team at Pollok Country Park, has been awarded the prestigious Agricultural Apprentice of the Year at the Lantra ALBA Awards. This accolade is a testament to her hard work and dedication, especially as she comes from a non farming background.

Hannah's hard work and commitment is clear to see. She spends her days working with the livestock team and the magnificent Highland Cattle at Pollok Country Park. Her learning is further enriched through distance education provided by SRUC Oatridge, with an assessor visiting every three months to evaluate her progress.

The livestock team at Pollok Country Park are very proud of Hannah's achievements. This recognition not only highlights her individual efforts but also underscores the excellent training and support provided by the team. Her accomplishment highlights the significant contributions being made towards agricultural education and workforce development.

Congratulations, Hannah, on this well deserved honour!

Celebrating Our Colleagues: Etive Currie and Alison Laurence Recognised as Influential Women in Planning

We are happy to share some great news from 'The Planner Magazine'. Every year, in celebration of International Women's Day, the magazine publishes a list of planning's Women of Influence, as nominated by its readers. This year, we are proud to announce that two of our colleagues from NRS have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to the field of planning.



Etive Currie MRTPI, a Senior Planner at Glasgow City Council, has been acknowledged for her significant role in influencing policy change within the Council and beyond. Etive's promotion of the Place Standard tool has profoundly impacted local planning policies, ensuring they better reflect the community's needs and aspirations. Her advocacy for inclusivity and sustainability, particularly through Glasgow's Play Sufficiency Assessment, has been instrumental in shaping urban environments that cater to all inhabitants, especially children. Etive is also celebrated for her mentorship and support of colleagues and the next generation of planners.

Alison Laurence MRTPI, the City Development Plan Team Manager, joined the team in March 2023 and quickly made her mark by developing a comprehensive work programme for the next city development plan. Alison's strong project management skills and constructive attitude have been pivotal in setting a renewed sense of purpose and direction for the team. Alison's dedication to public service and her inspirational leadership have made a significant impact on the team and the wider planning community. Please join us in congratulating Etive and Alison on this well-deserved recognition. Their achievements are a testament to the talent and dedication within Glasgow City Council and NRS.

You can read Etive and Alison's full nomination [here](#).

**NRS
People**

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



Andy Cribbes Celebrates 45 Years in Glasgow City Council

I started my career with Strathclyde Regional Council (as it was known then known) on 4 February 1980, as an apprentice electrician based at the now demolished Springburn Street lighting depot. This was an old railway depot building which some years ago. In this job, I was part of a team who helped to maintain and repair all close and street lighting within Glasgow.

As part of my apprenticeship, I worked at the various lighting depots that were scattered around the city. Many of these locations have also been demolished or repurposed including the Cambuslang Depot (now covered by South Lanarkshire Council), Shettleston Depot, Trongate Depot Test Room, Govan Lighting Depot and Hampden Depot (now part of the Hampden stadium carpark).

In 1990 I successfully applied for a job as a street lighting (Clerk of Works) as it was called then, which was

based in the old Elmbank Street High School, which was part of the main headquarters for Strathclyde Regional Council (Roads and Lighting) along with the offices based in India Street. I was then about 23 years old and finally off the tools (yippee).

Strathclyde Regional Council was eventually disbanded in 1996, and Glasgow City Council was reformed once again. Glasgow was split into two separate areas for street lighting and roads maintenance purposes being named as Glasgow North and Glasgow South. I was part of a team that covered Glasgow North.

I successfully applied for a role as a stand in winter supervisor in October 2000. These duties involved looking after winter gritting and emergencies which affected all roads and footways in the Glasgow throughout October to April. My role as a lighting clerk of works continued alongside this.

In 2009, I became a full time nightshift supervisor and started working at Gartcraig Depot. The experiences that I had gained over the years working as part of the standby system certainly helped me in being successful in this new role.

This is my career to the present day. It has been somewhat of a challenge and indeed very different but to say that I never stayed in one place for any great length of time is probably an understatement. I'm now currently 15 years in the same post and at the same place, this is the most time that I've ever spent at one place in all my career, now of 45 years and 9 days at the time of writing (not that I'm counting).

A particular highlight of my time in Council has been Glasgow hosting the commonwealth games in 2014. That was a really busy time for us all, especially nightshift dealing with all the last minute jobs and attending the various emergencies throughout the city. Another highlight is all the different people I've met and worked with throughout my council career, including our current Executive Director, George Gillespie, as he was starting his career as a graduate roads engineer, how things have changed

Yes, I've seen many places and worked with lots of interesting people throughout my career, sadly a few of them are no longer with us now. The Council is always changing and who knows what the future holds for us all, but no doubt we will all continue working hard for the people and city of Glasgow.

Dr Bike Sessions at Exchange House and Eastgate

NRS People are happy to announce that Dr Bike sessions (including minor bike repairs) will be available for our staff during March. This fantastic initiative is brought to you by Cycling Scotland, which has secured the funding and partnered with Bike for Good to deliver these valuable sessions. These sessions which will operate on a drop-in basis are scheduled to take place from 10am to 4pm, ensuring your bikes are ready for the ride home.

Session Details:

- **Tuesday 25 March:** Eastgate car park bike shed

All staff are welcome!

What to Expect on the Day:

- Expert bike mechanics will set up shop beside the bike shed at your office
- Drop off your bikes for a thorough check-up and minor tune-ups
- Our mechanics will carry out a detailed 20 point inspection on every bike, fixing small issues and giving you personalised recommendations to boost your bike's performance
- You'll receive a comprehensive report detailing what was done and any further suggestions to keep your ride smooth and safe
- Pick up your freshly serviced bike at the end of the day

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to ensure your bike is in its best shape and ready for the better weather!



Health and Wellbeing Events in March

You are invited to [Join us](#) in March 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
Monday 17 March 2025 Main event starts at 11.30am Satinwood Suite, City Chambers Visit the website to sign up for activities	International Women's Day We're excited to welcome you all to our International Women's Day event on Monday 17 March 2025, taking place in the Satinwood Suite, City Chambers, George Square, Glasgow G2 1DU. On arrival, please report to the main reception desk and you will be directed to the Satinwood Suite. Your attendance will be registered on entering the Satinwood Suite.

	<p>We request you arrive and are seated by 11:30am for the main event which includes 3 speakers from a variety of fields followed by a Questions and Answers Session.</p>
<p>Tuesday 18 March 2025 10am until 11am MS Teams Sign Up</p>	<p>Financial Wellbeing Workshop - Credit and Debt</p> <p>In the run up to Debt Awareness Week this year, we are hosting this 1-hour webinar in partnership with Money Advice Scotland who will discuss the main factors to think about when borrowing money, and where people can get help if they are struggling with repayments. This session is suitable for anyone with an interest.</p>
<p>Tuesday 18 March 2025 10.30am until 11.30am or 11:45am until 12.45pm In person, Room B20, 40 John Street, G2 1DU Sign Up Workshop 1 Sign Up Workshop 2</p>	<p>*** In-person *** Prostate Cancer Awareness Toolbox Workshops</p> <p>March is also Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, so we are teaming up with Prostate Scotland to raise awareness of the risks, possible symptoms, testing options, resources and support available.</p> <p>Attendees will receive a free copy of the Prostate Scotland Workplace Toolkit packed full of advice, guidance and promotional materials you can share in and around your workplaces.</p>
<p>Tuesday 18 March 2025 10am until 11.30am Zoom Sign Up</p>	<p>Conversation Café toolkit for women's health - information and support session</p> <p>This session provides information on the ALLIANCE Conversation Café toolkit and advice on how to use it. The session is for anyone considering using the toolkit to host a Conversation Café, facilitators who have already used it but are looking for tips and support. And for those who are generally interested in promoting positive discussion spaces on women's health.</p>
<p>Tuesday 18 March 2025 2pm until 3pm MS Teams Sign Up</p>	<p>Supporting Mental Health: Breathing Space Webinar/Q&A</p> <p>Find out about mental health services provided by NHS 24, including Breathing Space. Learn more about the 'You Matter, We Care' campaign - for better mental health in Scotland and find out about other resources and support available.</p>
<p>Thursday 20 March 2025 11am until 12pm Online Sign Up</p>	<p>Emotional Regulation for Managers - PAM Wellness</p> <p>The aim of this workshop is to educate managers about how personality types impact emotional regulation in the workplace. The workshop will show how different personalities respond to stressful/demanding situations and will explore approaches managers should use to match the personality type and to facilitate employees managing their emotions and working more productively.</p>
<p>Wednesday 25 March 2025 Bookable 15 min slots available throughout the day from 10am until 2.30pm 40 John Street Limited spaces fill up fast on first come, first serve basis so email Grace now to Sign Up</p>	<p>Seated Acupressure Massage Sessions - Incorporate Massage Sessions (cost involved)</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 2.24, East Building, 40 John Street • Your session costs *£16 for 15 minutes. Please pay Grace on the day • 8 available morning slots every 15 minutes from 10am to 12 noon • 8 available afternoon slots every 15 minutes from 12.30 to 2.30pm • Booking conditions apply and 24 hours 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.
<p>Friday 28 March 2025 12 noon until 1pm MS Teams Sign Up</p>	<p>Prostate Cancer Awareness Toolbox Workshop</p> <p>Delivered in partnership with Prostate Scotland this Prostate Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness of the risks, symptoms, testing options, resources and support available.</p> <p>Attendees will receive a free copy of the Prostate Scotland Workplace Toolkit packed full of advice, guidance and materials you can share in and around your workplaces.</p>
<p>Tuesday 1 April 2025 12 noon until 1.15pm</p>	<p>Taking care of your bowel and gut health Webinar</p>

Zoom
[Sign Up](#)

April is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month.

This session, delivered by ALLIANCE in partnership with the Scottish Government to support the Women's Health Plan, will discuss women's bowel health, including what we can all be doing to look after our gut and what we can do if we have a concern.

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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
GLA13280	Senior Archaeologist (WoSAS)	1	7
GLA13278	LGV Artic Driver/Labourer (Weekends)	2	4
GLA13276	Parking Attendant	8	3
GLA13322	Head of Service (Parks and Streetscene)	1	10
GLA13286	Advocacy Worker	1	CSG 6
GLA13306	Graduate/Technician (Roads)	3	6

General Interest

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

'Clyde Chorus' Music Festival Announced to Celebrate Glasgow 850



Glasgow City Council has announced Clyde Chorus, a three day music event celebrating Glasgow's 850th anniversary from 29 to 31 May 2025. The event will feature a diverse lineup across some of the city's iconic venues, including Nathan Evans and The Saint Phnx Band, Lucia and The Best Boys Scottish Opera, Celtic Connections and many more. Performances will span genres like contemporary, classical, Celtic, and country, highlighting Glasgow's rich musical heritage and future talent.

For the full details of all acts, events and venues involved across this fantastic weekend, visit www.clydechorus.co.uk

Tickets prices across all shows will be kept to £8.50 plus booking fee with Concession tickets will be available at a price of £4.50 plus booking fee and are on sale now.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of Glasgow's milestone 850th anniversary celebrations and experience the UNESCO City of Music's vibrant scene.

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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