

The Loop Newsletter

5 July 2024

NRSLOOP

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this week**

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Loop**

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**For
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**Important messages that
require action**



GCC Property Repairs

Did you know that if you encounter a defect within one of our buildings, you can alert the council's property team. This can be done by using our [online form](#). The process and options to report defects and faults can be found [here](#) which will be displayed across our property.

This process covers all buildings, including Eastgate where the process has recently changed.

Loop Needs You

The Loop Needs you!

Do you have an exciting project coming up? Has your team recently won an award for their hard work? Are one of your colleagues retiring soon?

Whether you are looking to raise awareness for a campaign or recognise the hard work we all do the Loop is a great way to reach people across NRS.

Don't just limit it to work if you're involved in fundraising or volunteering we would love to hear about it and help spread the word!

Due to the holidays the next edition of the Loop will go out on 2 August.

If you have anything you would like to submit, please [email](#) the Promotions and Engagement Team.

NRSLOOP



NRS People Survey

Colleagues have the opportunity to take part in our NRS People Survey by accessing the following [link](#). The survey gives staff the opportunity to voice their opinions on how their own wellbeing is during working hours and also come forward with any valuable ideas they may have moving forward. As always, your feedback is incredibly valuable and will help us determine how the NRS People Programme supports all staff across the Service and helps make NRS a great place to work. Can all staff please complete the survey at their earliest convenience and no later than Sunday 7 July 2024.



Managers' Briefings

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

For Information

Service News and Corporate Updates that might affect you



Charing Cross Closure

Essential works start at the M8 Charing Cross junction on Monday 8 July for five months. These works will help protect the M8 Charing Cross Underpass and upgrade the local junction for all users. The Junction 18 northbound slip and some linking roads will be closed. Diversions will be in place, but traffic delays are expected so please plan ahead.

More information can be found on our [website](#).



Test Purchasing

Do you know a Young Person who would like to assist Glasgow City Council Trading Standards team whilst adding a bit extra to their CV?

We need young people between the ages of 13 to 15 and a half years old to volunteer their time to help us to carry out test purchases of age restricted goods.

This may include Tobacco Products, Nicotine Vapour Products, Solvents, Spray Paints, Fireworks and Knives.

Volunteers must have the permission of their parent or guardian to participate.

It can be a fun and rewarding experience and can be very beneficial, as it is a great way to add that extra flourish to a CV.

We can provide References and a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Group Manager of Trading Standards, which may help with any future job or educational opportunities.

Refreshments will be provided throughout the course of any working period. Help will not go unrewarded, volunteers will collect gift vouchers in recognition of the amount of time and effort spent assisting the Tobacco Control Team, whether it be a few sessions or a few months.

We constantly need enthusiastic volunteers and look to recruit them on a continual basis throughout the year.

If you know a young person who is interested in becoming a volunteer or would like to know more about

volunteering, then please contact the Tobacco Control Team using our [online form](#).

Glasgow City Council are Winners at the Scottish Travel Awards

A massive congratulations is due to the Transport Planning and Delivery team and Road Safety Development team for winning awards at the Scottish Travel Award for projects developing active travel infrastructure while promoting road safety and bikeability across the city.

Winning the award for Excellence in Walking, Public Realm and Cycling, The Transport, Planning and Delivery team won on the night for all the work they put into the East City Way Phases 6 and 7.

The new section of the [East City Way](#) provides a total of 2 miles of safer cycling in both directions along London Road, creating a safer cycling connection between the city centre and the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome at the Emirates Arena.

While one of the biggest barriers to people getting on a bike is perceived safety, the number of people cycling in Glasgow is growing year on year. By providing safe and effective options, the active travel infrastructure that the team are building is bringing huge benefits to the people of Glasgow.

Like the South City Way, the East City Way can also become an exemplar for our City Network for active travel that we are planning to have all over Glasgow by 2030. By having safer, segregated infrastructure throughout the city, we can make active travel a realistic choice for everyday journeys and help create a more sustainable transport network in Glasgow.

Sharing the accolades, our Road Safety Development team also won on the night, taking home the award for best practice in Travel to School and Work Schemes.

It was in recognition of the work undertaken by the NRS Road Safety Unit for introducing the new [STARS](#) (School Travel and Road Safety) scheme. This measure was introduced to help raise awareness over road safety around our schools while promoting active travel options to support and highlight active school travel options. Additionally, the project included the creation of the [School Streets](#) programme in Glasgow, which aims to address traffic related issues outside schools by limiting traffic at key times. Further promoting safety and climate friendly policies in and around our school estates.

The project featured a STARS film project that was at the heart of the submission and involved primary school children from P6/7 creating short movies on road safety and active travel which were then edited at our new road safety film suite in the city chambers, where the children were also provided with insights into the film industry.

The films are going to be judged by the Lord Provost and other VIP'S before a mini-Oscars event is hosted by the Lord Provost at the City Chambers later in the year. This special event will no doubt create lasting memories for those participating, but more importantly it will serve as a great way of engaging young people across our communities while effectively highlighting safer, healthier ways of travel.

The films are also released on school social media to promote road safety and active travel in the local community. These creative and entertaining entries can be viewed [here](#) and [here](#).

The Transport Planning and Delivery team and Road Safety Development team have delivered excellent projects that have helped to set our organisation apart. Their dedication and expertise will help us achieve our goals of improving active travel around the city while supporting a shift away from relying upon the fossil fuels that have driven climate change.



City unveils new birthday brand to mark 850 years

The new brand behind plans to mark the city's 850th birthday, in 2025 have now been revealed.

The four core civic icons used with the brand, use recognisable symbols synonymous with Glasgow's story. More symbols will be developed to highlight the wide ranging achievements of the city and its people, with a special focus on the past fifty years and a strong emphasis on its future ambitions.

Developed to complement the city's distinctive and popular People Make Glasgow look, the new brand brings plans for a yearlong programme of activities for Glasgow 850 together under one strong visual identity.

Throughout 2025 Glasgow will mark its 850th birthday by delivering, with partners, a citywide programme that celebrates and reflects on our recent past, our present and future.

The calendar of signature events and community based activities is being curated to let those with a connection to Glasgow, at home and abroad, get involved to tell their stories, honouring our rich heritage, reflecting on transformational growth, and inspiring ambitious change for the city's next fifty years.

The brand, which is based on the idea of badges, will be free to use and made available to businesses, and community groups, to help them show support for Glasgow 850 and get involved. It has been developed in a way that the icons around the core Glasgow 850 image could be changed and customised to make it more personal to groups and individuals with an affinity to the city.

Designed by Glasgow based firm Tangent, the idea came from thinking about how people have and continue to use physical badges to visually represent who they are, reflecting passions, achievements and allegiances.

In today's digital first age, people will be offered different digital 'badge' icons to use, each representing something the city can be proud of and a way to curate their own icons, with meaningful and relevant symbols. This allows everyone mark this milestone and show the world what Glasgow means to them, personally.

The main programme for Glasgow 850, starting January 2025 will be launched in September this year.

**NRS
People**

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



Meet Your Leadership

We are delighted to introduce a new feature to the LOOP; Meet your Leadership Team. We will be featuring profiles of members of the Leadership Team within NRS, finding out more about their role, what responsibilities they have and more about their career history. We start with one of our new Divisional Directors, Martin Heath.

Martin Heath, Divisional Director

Tell us a bit about your Career Background:

My working career began as a cartographer for HRH Prince of Wales, before he was promoted to King and it was my draughting skills that got me a job in traffic engineering with the local council. Over the 44 years since, I've had the privilege of working on some amazing projects in both public and private sectors, both in the UK and overseas, especially in developing countries, and also enjoyed over 20 years working with universities, sharing my skills, knowledge and experience with others.

Your role within NRS:

As Glasgow's Divisional Director for Roads and Transportation, my role is to ensure our Council is the best it can be in maintaining our roads and enabling safe, accessible transport for all. I believe we have huge potential to deliver the best public services in the best way for our residents, businesses and visitors, by working together.

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

As a Glasgow citizen for the past 28 years, it makes me proud join the Council that looks after the places where I live, work and play and to do my small part in making sure future generations feel proud to live here too.

What are the biggest challenges within your role?

As a City, I think we have three key challenges – how to maintain the quality of what we do, amidst the challenges of higher costs, new technology and increasing demand; how we ensure that we look after our environment and reduce the negative impacts of climate on our lives; and how we communicate better with each other, so that we can find ways to work together and achieve positive outcomes.

Interesting fact about you:

My first visit to Glasgow, in my teens, was to compete as Drum Major in a pipe band. I came second, but that year also appeared on a Royal Mail stamp.



Meet Your Colleagues

Pamela Wilson, Project Officer within Housing Services' Housing Retrofit Team

How long have you worked for the council?

20 years.

What do you do in your role?

I'm a member of a new housing retrofit team preparing the city's first Housing Retrofit Strategy which is one of the key priorities in Glasgow's Housing Strategy 23 to 28, aligned with the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and City Development Plan. The strategy aims to provide a delivery framework for retrofit at scale across all domestic property types and tenures in the city to decarbonise and improve the affordable warmth of Glasgow's homes. A key focus will be the pre 1919 tenements comprising of 25 percent of the city's housing stock and arguably the most complex archetype due to their age, poor



condition, high cost and mixed tenure and mixed use.

What is your favourite part of your role?

I have been in this post for a year and I have really enjoyed learning about building construction, fabric energy efficiency measures and the range of clean heat solutions. I have learned lots and still have lots to learn. I enjoy the partnership working and developing closer working relationships with colleagues in other teams and service areas within the Council that I have not worked with before.

What are the biggest challenges within your role?

Decarbonising the city's housing stock is a huge challenge. Funding and financing retrofit, the knowledge gap of what retrofit measures are best for various building types and households, the scaling up of supply chains, tradespeople, skills and expertise are all challenges in achieving a just transition to net zero.

myjobscotland

Click here to read more

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
GLA12145	Car Parking Manager	1	8
GLA12136	Landscape Officer	1	6
GLA12141	Coach Builder	1	5
GLA12139	Network Officer (TRAFFCOM)	1	5
GLA12138	Gravedigger	1	3
GLA12140	LES Driver 3	9	3
GLA12155	Partnerships and Quality Assurance Coordinator	1	7
GLA12174	Supervisor (Gartraig)	1	6
GLA12169	Technical and Enforcement Officer	2	3

General Interest

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

Walk with us to Celebrate Glasgow's PRIDE

Bigger, brighter and better than ever, the PRIDE march will take place in Glasgow on 20 July 2024. All staff from across the council family are invited to walk with the employee LGBTI+ employee network (PRISM) in the Glasgow Pride march.

We would love to see as many of you as possible participating, as a celebration and show of support. So join us and show how proud we are together.

If you are interested in joining us, please [complete this form](#) to help us get an idea of how many of us there will be and so we can communicate with you about the details. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to [email](#) us.

If you would like to find out more about the march, please see the [Glasgow Pride website](#).



Kalim and Tony's Path for Peace

On 16 August 2024, Kalim Uddin, Operations Manager and former colleague Tony Connelly will embark on a journey along the West Highland Way to raise funds for those devastated by the war in Palestine for the families and children who have lost everything. Over 34,000 innocent civilians, mainly women and children, have lost their lives, and over 1.5 million people have been displaced.

Commenting on their fundraising efforts they said "we see it on the news every day, and the scenes are truly heartbreaking. We will want to do something, anything, to make even a small difference".

They continued "we will be supporting the World Care Foundation, a grassroots volunteer led humanitarian UK registered charity (SC046662). The World Care Foundation was founded to encourage humanitarian efforts to help those in need anywhere in the world, regardless of their faith, colour, gender, or ethnicity. They operate a 100% donation policy, so everything we raise will go directly to those who need it most.

For those who don't know, the West Highland Way (WHW) is a long distance hiking route in Scotland. It is



one of Scotland's great trails, winding through some of the most scenic parts of the country, from the outskirts of Glasgow to Fort William in the Highlands. Over five days, we will walk around 20 miles daily, facing steep hills, mountains, and unpredictable Scottish weather".

Please, dig deep every penny makes a difference. From as little as £5 to whatever you can donate, together we can make a difference. Inshallah, let's bring hope and support to those who need it most.

- £40: Will provide a family food pack
- £200: Will provide 5 families with food packs
- £400: Will provide a water truck with 10,000 litres
- £700: Will provide a shelter for a homeless family
- £1,000: Family shelter plus personal items of need

Donations to Kalim and Tony's charity walk can be made [here](#).

Glasgow Life Announces Summer of Events and Summer of Fun Programmes

Glasgow Life has revealed its Summer of Events and Summer of Fun programmes for 2024.

The programmes offer free and low cost events and activities throughout the summer and feature everything from arts and music to adventure playground sessions and tennis camps.

Glasgow Life has confirmed the dates for its 2024 Summer of Events which will see the Glasgow Mela, Merchant City Festival and World Pipe Band Championships wow crowds from June through to August.

The run of highly popular, family friendly events started with the Mela on Sunday 23 June in Kelvingrove Park. The Mela is Glasgow's multicultural festival of music, dance and arts and is free for everyone to enjoy. The event features incredible local, national, and international acts, including Apache Indian, Abira Shah, Gtown Desi, Bombay Talkie, and Bhangra Beats.

Glasgow's Summer of Events will continue with the Merchant City Festival, which will take place from Friday 19 July to Sunday 21 July. The Merchant City Festival will bring outdoor arts, circus, dance, live music and more to the streets and venues of the Merchant City. The much loved Merchant City Festival markets and food stalls will also return.

Glasgow Life's Summer of Events will reach a spectacular finale when Glasgow Green hosts the World Pipe Band Championships on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 August. The city will also host Scotland's biggest week of bagpipes, with the Piping Live! festival which will take place across Glasgow from Saturday 10 to Sunday 18 August.

An annual event which is always a favourite with audiences from near and far, the World Pipe Band Championships will then bring together the finest pipers and drummers to compete in the ultimate 'battle of the bands'.

To keep up to date with Glasgow Life's Summer of Events and learn more about the city's year round events programme, sign up to the [Glasgow Life newsletter](#).

On top of this spectacular series of events, Glasgow Life's Summer of Fun features a host of things for families and young people to do at museums, libraries, sport facilities and community centres across the city during the school holidays.

Visit the [Summer of Fun webpage](#) on the Glasgow Life website for more information on the activities taking place across Glasgow.



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

Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability
Glasgow City Council
Eastgate
727 London Road
Glasgow
G40 3AQ