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For Action Important Messages that require Action



Exchange House Kitchen Renovations

Please note that from Monday 30 October the main staff kitchen areas and the smaller tea prep areas on floors 1 to 5 of Exchange House will be closed due to renovations. We will do one floor at a time and it will take approximately 1 week to complete each area. Staff are asked to please make alternative arrangements while this work is ongoing.

There will be also signage throughout each floor of the building reminding staff of the ongoing renovations.

Action Required - Email Signature and Out of Office

Is your email signature and out of office compliant?



It is important that all staff use the approved email signature on all new emails and replies. This protects the corporate identity of Glasgow City Council and ensures your colleagues have your up to date contact details. Your signature should be in font Ariel, black text and the size at least 10pt. Your email signature should be at least the size of your email text.

If you are unable to respond to emails for a period of time, it is important that the Out of Office tool is utilised on Outlook. All colleagues must include information about who to contact if the request requires urgent attention and include the following text regarding how to forward a Freedom of Information Request:

If you have a Freedom of Information enquiry, please email foi@glasgow.gov.uk. You can also use an online form at www.glasgow.gov.uk/foi



Templates

Colleagues are reminded to use the approved PowerPoint and letterhead templates from the document store on connect. Both documents have recently been updated and colleagues are asked to ensure they are using the correct version.

[Click to view NRS Templates on the intranet](#)

Managers' Briefings

The undernoted Managers' Briefing has been issued in October for managers to cascade the information to staff within their area of responsibility.

- National Qualification Training

Please use the button below to view previous managers briefings.

[Click to view the briefings on the intranet](#)



Consultation on Glasgow City Centre Plans

Residents, businesses, and organisations are being invited to have their say on proposals to take Glasgow city centre forward into the next decade.

With an increased focus on the future of town and city centres, the consultation on the City Centre Strategy will give Glaswegians the opportunity to shape Scotland's most important economic area, including creating more jobs, providing better transport options and increasing the residential population.

The plan pulls together a series of actions to shape the regeneration of the city centre including the redevelopment of George Square, supporting the night-time economy, and creating a new cultural quarter.

It will also incorporate the recommendations from the recent report into the future of the Golden Z, the city's retail core.

Following from the first strategy which covered the period between 2014 and 2019 and the work in recent years to aid the city's Covid recovery, the latest proposals will take the city up to 2030 and come at a time of significant change for urban centres.

The rise of online shopping, the impact of the pandemic on office space and footfall, planning for Net Zero and new opportunities flowing from the emergence of new sectors locating in the city centre are addressed in the strategy.

Currently home to more than 150,000 jobs, over 4,000 businesses, and generating annual economic activity of almost £10billion, Glasgow city centre remains Scotland's most important economic asset.

The draft strategy will seek the approval of the City Administration Committee this week where, if successful, it will go out to public consultation.

Actions supporting the new strategy include the continuing roll out of the Avenues programme, which has so far transformed large sections of Sauchiehall Street and is now extending into surrounding streets. Building on several key assets and institutions, delivering on the strategy would see the Sauchiehall Street area reimagined as Glasgow's cultural quarter, while a new focus the evening and night-time economies would assist in the sector's adaption to the changes in consumer habits affecting it.

Other actions include small-scale greening including creating pocket parks, completing the development of Custom House Quay and delivery of the River Park at the Broomielaw.

It would also put into action the conversion of former office space into residential and other commercial uses, as well as seeking the necessary additional powers to enable more direct action to directly target owners of vacant/problem sites and delivering recommendations from the Golden Z research.

The strategy builds on proposals to support new residential communities with infrastructure and amenity space, such as play areas, improving connectivity with neighbourhoods such as Sighthill and Gorbals on the city centre periphery, and supporting community projects such as murals and winter lighting.

Crucially, it will ensure that the city is able to open more doors to digital, hi-tech, research and engineering businesses and start-ups seeking city centre locations, such as the plans for the Met Tower, which will open as a major new hi-tech centre next year.

The public consultation on the draft City Centre Strategy will run from 20 October - 3 December. Don't have link to it yet



Shawlands Bike Bus Traffic Light Technology Wins UK Prize

The innovative traffic light technology that helps Shawlands Bike Bus safely navigate a busy Southside junction has won a national award.

The Ultra Smart Cycle System, which gives the lead rider of the bike bus temporary control of the traffic lights at Shawlands Cross, scooped the top prize for an 'Exemplary Approach to Active Travel and Public Space' at the National Transport Awards in London.

Created by staff in the council's Roads team with assistance from GlasgowCC's technology partner, Smart Technology, the system has been described as a game changer for more than 50 young riders cycling to school and has attracted international interest.

A remote control mounted on the lead rider's bike allows a green light to be requested from up to 100 metres away and then holds the signal at green for 45 seconds, which gives enough time for the bike bus to



NRS People

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



Able Futures

Your health and wellbeing at work is our highest priority and we are always looking for ways we can enhance the support we provide. That's why we've partnered with Able Futures who deliver the Access to Work Mental Health Support Service on behalf of the Department of Work and Pensions.

Able Futures offer up to nine months of free, confidential one to one mental health support from a qualified mental health professional from the Better Health Generation. Support is available over the phone, through email, or video calls at a time to suit you.

They can help you deal with issues relating to anxiety, depression, grief, or stress, or to deal with problems such as debt, disrupted sleep or relationship breakdowns. Whatever is playing on your mind and affecting the way you feel, Able Futures can support you so that you can feel better and have more good days.

Book a virtual appointment

We are pleased to offer NRS staff the opportunity to book a 30 minute virtual appointment for a confidential chat by clicking on one of the links below and selecting a time that suits you.

You will receive confirmation of your booking by email, and a mental health professional from the Better Health Generation will call you at your chosen time to discuss how they can help. During the call, they will answer any initial questions you have about the service and can complete your application there and then for the free mental health support if you wish to proceed.

Thursday 9 November 2023 [Join Here](#)

Monday 13 November 2023 [Join Here](#)

Further information

Further information about the support service and online application can be found on the [Able Futures website](#).

Alternatively you can call Able Futures free on 0800 321 3137.

It's a completely confidential service and Able Futures won't inform us, your colleagues, family or friends that you have accessed the service.

For further information on NRS People and your Health and Wellbeing, please [visit our website](#)

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Meet Your Colleagues

Chris Gray, Project Support Officer, City Centre Regeneration Team

How long have you worked for the council?

I have worked for the Council for 5 years. I am relatively new into my current role, having started in April 2023. I previously worked in Housing Services in NRS.

What do you do in your role?

I am a Project Support Officer in the City Centre Regeneration Team. The role is varied and fast paced. It involves engagement with many different partners and stakeholders both internal and external. I am supporting the development of the new City Centre Strategy 2024 – 2030 which brings together all the activity taking place in the city centre as well as the actions that will be implemented in the future. I am also supporting the development of a Property Repurposing Action Plan and developing a Meanwhile Use Scheme.

What is your favourite part of your role?

My favourite part of my role has been engaging with colleagues and learning about the services that we provide. I am developing new skills and have been provided with training to help facilitate this. I am enjoying engaging with colleagues and partners from different sections of the council that I have not worked with before.

What are the biggest challenges within your role?

Being relatively new into my role is a challenge on its own. I am constantly learning new things about our service every day. As mentioned, the team I am in liaise with services across the council, so it is important to try and have a working knowledge of the activities that these services are responsible for. This is a welcome challenge, and I am enjoying developing good relationships with colleagues and partners.

New Glasgow People Manager Workshops: Sign up now for workshops in November and December

All managers, supervisors and aspiring managers are invited to attend the last set of Glasgow People Manager workshops for 2023. These workshops are delivered by Organisational Development in partnership with the City of Glasgow College.

- Career Conversations
Wednesday 1 November
9.30 – 16.30
- Effective Leadership
Monday 6 November
9.30 – 16.30
- Managing Your Team Effectively
Wednesday 15 November
9.30 – 16.30
- Thinking Creatively
Thursday 23 November
9.30 – 11.30
- Getting Your Message Across:
Delivering Effective Presentations
Tuesday 28 November
9.30 – 12.30
- Developing Personal Accountability
Wednesday 29 November
9.30 – 16.30
- Managing Change and Building Personal Resilience
Tuesday 5 December
9.30 – 12.30
- Challenging Conversations
Wednesday 6 December
9.30 – 16.30
- Career Conversations
Tuesday 12 December
9.30 – 16.30
- Motivating Your Team
Thursday 14 December
9.30 – 16.30



Please only reserve one ticket per person and note that spaces are limited. We appreciate that service delivery demands mean that you may not be able to attend after signing up, but please cancel your space as early as possible to allow someone else to attend.

If you require any further information please email OrganisationalDevelopment@glasgow.gov.uk or go to [EmployeeDevelopment/GlasgowPeopleManager](https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/EmployeeDevelopment/GlasgowPeopleManager)

NRS Health and Wellbeing Roadshows October 2023

Roads and Commercial employees at Gartcraig Depot enjoyed a visit from the NRS People Health and Wellbeing Team recently. Interactive fun was provided by the NRS Road Safety Team, free neck, back and shoulder massages were provided and staff used the opportunity to make their own fruit smoothies via the smoothie bike.

Staff also received free information from external partners providing health and home information from Incorporate Massage, Home Energy Scotland, Gamblers Anonymous and Bike for Good as well as free literature on all things Health and Wellbeing.

The Promotions and Engagement Team will be visiting many more depots and office spaces within NRS soon or if you would like us to visit your team please email [William.Holms](mailto:William.Holms@nrs.gov.uk) to enquire.

Alternatively, please look at our [NRSPeople web pages](#) for updates.



Vacancies within NRS

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

myjobscotland

- GLA11053 - Driver (Special Needs)
- GLA11059 - LES Driver 2 (Term Time)
- GLA11061 - Project Manager (Recycling)
- GLA11062 - Group Manager (Executive)
- GLA11063 - Training Instructor
- GLA11065 - Technical Officer (Food Safety)
- GLA11066 - Project Support Officer (Recycling and Waste Management)
- GLA11067 - Front Loader Operative/Labourer
- GLA11069 - Assistant Supervisor (Waste Disposal)

[Click here to view all the vacancies on myjobscotland.gov.uk](#)

General Interest

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



Climate Ready Apprenticeships

NRS Parks were delighted last week to welcome the first intake of the Climate Ready Apprentices to begin their journey within the service. The Horticultural and Livestock apprentices were at Glasgow Botanic Gardens to meet Glasgow Convenor for Net Zero and Climate, Councillor Angus Millar and visit the newly created wildlife pond which will also capture rainwater from the iconic Kibble Palace. The apprentices participating in the refreshed programme will work on a variety of topics over the next two years linking directly to our ever changing climate and the contribution our parks estate will play in addressing and contributing to the Council's Net Zero ambitions.



Kenny Marwick, Head of Fleet and Training said, "The new Climate Ready Apprenticeship programme is a fantastic opportunity for young people to come on board, develop a career, get paid and work towards a qualification while also exploring their passion for the environment and the parks assets round about us."

Seamus Connolly, Group Manager for Greenspace, Biodiversity and Bereavement Services, added, "The opportunities for a long and exciting career within NRS for our Climate Ready Apprentices are fantastic with a wide variety of specialisms available. We look forward to working with the apprentices and our Training Section colleagues to develop these over the years ahead."

Fundraising

If you are currently fundraising for any charity or would like to report back on fundraising activities please get in touch with the NRS Promotions and Engagement team using the button below.



[Click here to get in touch](#)

Get in Touch

If you have any information you would like to share through this fortnightly email, please get in touch with the NRS Promotions and Engagement Team.

[Click here to Send us an Email](#)

