

## Message from George



Welcome to October's edition of our service newsletter. In a matter of days we will be welcoming leaders from all over the world to Glasgow to take part in the 26th Conference of the Parties – the United Nations Climate Conference.

The choice of Glasgow as venue is wholly appropriate as the City is at the forefront of efforts to combat Climate Change. With our target of becoming a carbon-neutral city by 2030, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability managers and staff are setting an example to the world through innovating and working with communities to reduce our carbon footprint whilst making better lives for ourselves. What you are achieving is quite amazing.

I would ask that all colleagues check the [Get Ready Glasgow Website](#) which will contain updated information regarding how best to travel throughout the city during COP26.

As always, if you would like to make a suggestion directly to me, this can be done by e-mailing; [AskGeorge.NRS@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:AskGeorge.NRS@glasgow.gov.uk). I welcome any suggestions or comments from you.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME SCENES

Fly-tipping is a crime. We know that. Now a new approach to fly-tipping enforcement aims to highlight to Glasgow residents the illegal and anti-social nature of the activity.

Under the new approach, teams of officers move into communities where fly-tipping is known to take place to hunt for evidence that identifies the culprits guilty of illegal dumping.

Using detailed information based on reports from the public and local knowledge gathered by frontline teams, the enforcement teams will treat fly-tipping incidents as environmental crime scenes and create more visible investigations within neighbourhoods.

Fly-tipping locations will be taped off and notices put up that show the council knows about the specific incidents on public ground and call for local residents and businesses to provide information that helps pin down those responsible for environmental crime. Enforcement officers will also directly engage with those living and working in affected communities to gather evidence that can lead to fixed penalty notices being issued against guilty parties.

Alongside days of action, officers will also move into affected areas to ensure local businesses have valid waste disposal contracts in place. Enforcement Notices will be issued where appropriate measures are not in place.

This enforcement work will be carefully monitored over an initial eight-week period to gauge its effectiveness.

**Councillor Anna Richardson**, City Convener for Sustainability and Carbon Reduction, sees the input of local residents and businesses as essential to the success of the scheme.

Councillor Richardson said: *“There is a deep frustration within communities that a hardcore minority of people continue to trash the city’s environment with fly-tipping. The vast majority of people always dispose of the waste in the right way and treat their surroundings with due care.*

*“But those who fly-tip have no regard for their environment and have no respect for the concerns of their fellow residents. Tackling these environmental criminals has to be a priority and we can do that with the support of affected communities.”*

Colleagues within **Environmental Health, Cleansing, Community Enforcement, Public Space CCTV** and the **Promotions and Engagement team** have been supporting this pilot.



## THE CHILDREN'S WOODLAND

We've reported previously on the Cart-Kittoch Community Woodlands creation project. Our **NRS Parks Development Team** have been working with a charitable organisation, The Lost Woods, to progress the project. At the beginning of October, as a lead-up to the UN Climate Summit, a massive transformation took place, with children from every Glasgow primary school invited to plant their baby oak trees and other native broadleaved species on the 13-hectare site.

**Seamus Connolly**, Group Manager of Parks Development and Bereavement Services, reports: *"We are delighted as part of Phase 2 of our Cart-Kittoch Community Woodlands creation project to welcome the Lost Woods and importantly pupils from every Glasgow primary to participate in the planting of over 17,000 trees. Leading the project on behalf of the council our NRS Parks Development team have worked tirelessly on the project to create a huge asset for the City while also contributing substantially to our Climate Implementation Plan goals."*



## RIAS AWARDS 2021 - BELL STREET STABLES

A remarkable conversion of a Victorian council depot to create 52 new homes for affordable rent in the centre of Glasgow has been named as the winner of Historic Environment Scotland's **Conservation and Climate Change Award**, a Special Category Award of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland's (RIAS) Awards.

The conversion of Bell Street Stables was designed by Collective Architecture for Wheatley Housing Association, and has provided 52 mid-market flats for rent, enabling more affordable living in a characterful historic building in the heart of Glasgow.

Bell Street Stables was originally built in 1896-98 to house the Glasgow City Cleansing Department's horses, carts and equipment. In converting the vacant Category B listed building, Collective Architecture retained many significant elements of the existing building, including a rare and distinctive horse ramp, which enabled horses to access stables on the upper floors, as well as horse stalls, water fountains and troughs. The car-free courtyard has been re-laid with setts to create a communal heart to the complex.

**Steven Robb**, Deputy Head of Historic Buildings within the Planning, Consents and Advice Service at Historic Environment Scotland (HES), said:

*"In this crucial year for climate action, we are delighted to celebrate an outstanding example of the sustainable reuse of our historic environment. Retaining and reusing the historic buildings we already have will play a key role on our journey to net-zero."*

*"We warmly welcome the decision by Wheatley Housing Association to invest in not only an existing building but a listed building – a physical reminder of Glasgow's industrial, horse-powered heritage."*



## SENIOR MANAGEMENT CHANGES

**Stephen Gibson** and **Michelle Mundie** have recently been appointed to the posts of Divisional Director and Head of Housing respectively within NRS. Stephen has taken over from **Forbes Barron**, with responsibility for planning, housing and building standards. Supporting Stephen, Michelle will now oversee Housing Services.



Stephen Gibson



Michelle Mundie

## THRIVING CITY

The story of Glasgow's beginnings can be seen as a 'Tale of Two Towns': the stone built religious centre around the Cathedral and the Royal burgh around the Saltmarket. In the 15th century the burgh began to grow North along the High Street.

The High Street, Saltmarket and Trongate have played a leading role in the development and history of Glasgow. Glasgow City Council's **High Street Area Strategy** recognises that the area has not been given the recognition it deserves and sets out to rectify this. The area is a key priority for regeneration in the city centre and there is a consensus that more could be done to uplift and enhance the area that comprises the city's historic heart. Cultural heritage is one of the defining attributes that make cities distinctive to our visitors, our citizens and to our businesses. **NRS Heritage Team** and **City Centre Team** are working together to help create offerings for both visitors and the community to help understand the unique nature of the city's historic past.



Two new heritage trails have been developed: **Stories of the High Street and Closes, Wynds and Alleys**, which give a glimpse of the hidden history of the street. And the Heritage Team has created a new **Thriving City story map app**. Follow the banners or close signs on the high street and use the app to access 120 stories all about people, place and events that took place on the street.

<https://www.glasgowcitycentrestrategy.com/stories-on-the-high-street-a-thriving-city.htm>

Our NRS Heritage Team and colleagues across services will continue to work to enhance, deliver and foster awareness of Glasgow's Historic past.

Contact – Local Heritage Officer Kate Dargie [Kate.dargie@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:Kate.dargie@glasgow.gov.uk) for further information.

## ANDERSTON STATION

The **NRS City Centre Regeneration Team** completed a community engagement process for the District Regeneration Frameworks and Avenues. This identified strong support for improvement of the public realm at Anderston Station. The team saw this as creating an opportunity to work with **Bloomberg Philanthropies**.

Bloomberg Philanthropies is collaborating with Glasgow City Council as host of COP26 to help deliver a legacy for the city and its residents. They use art and community engagement to improve street safety, revitalise public space and engage local communities. Glasgow joins a select group of international cities supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies to transform and revitalise public spaces through the power of art. Three local schools, the community council and community groups were all involved in the project.



The design team led by Civic Engineers and designer **Gabriella Marcella** have worked to improve the connection to and from the city centre as well as the sense of welcome and safety. The striking design, developed by Gabriella, was influenced by the introduction of an experimental raingarden on the site. Bloomberg Philanthropy have been so taken with the design that they are using it to wrap two city buses. These were expected to be launched on the 18 October.

## AFFORDABLE WARMTH

The 2018 Scottish House Condition survey estimated that around 25% of Glasgow's households were fuel-poor (spending more than 10% of their disposable household income on fuel costs).

Tackling fuel poverty is - alongside energy efficiency and measures to mitigate against climate change - a key priority of Glasgow City Council under the Affordable Warmth programme.

The Council has now accepted £6.2million funding from the Scottish Government's Energy Efficient Scotland programme to help reduce energy bills and emissions in the city.

This funding aims to upgrade housing stock; tackle fuel poverty; reduce carbon emissions; support the local economy and sustainable local economic development; and lever in Energy Company Obligation funding.

The programme sees the Council, particularly **Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability**, working in partnership with owner-occupiers, private landlords and housing associations to deliver energy-efficiency measures in homes. This is a voluntary programme with owners opting in to participate.

The programme delivers insulation measures - mostly external wall insulation - to bring lower energy bills and reduced carbon emissions. The latest funding is for the 2021/22 financial year.

**Councillor Kenny McLean**, City Convener for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm at Glasgow City Council, said: *"This new funding from the Energy Efficient Scotland programme is very welcome, all the more so in this time of high energy prices and a climate emergency. The funding will help Glasgow achieve our goals of becoming a Net-Zero city by reducing carbon emissions and reducing household energy bills in the city's homes."*



## GET READY GLASGOW

COP26 TRAVEL ADVICE  
23 October - 14 November

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT WILL BE BUSIER THAN USUAL**

Plan ahead, leave extra time for your journey and avoid busy days and times.  
Help keep Glasgow moving and help combat climate change.

GetReadyGlasgow.com

GET READY GLASGOW Net Zero Scotland LET'S DO NET ZERO UK Government

### Plan ahead to keep Glasgow moving

People from around the world will soon be coming together in our city to combat climate change. As a result, some roads will be closed from the 23rd of October (including the Clydeside Expressway).

To help you plan your journey when moving around the city, or getting to your normal place of work, visit <https://www.getreadyglasgow.com/>

This is your one stop source for up to date travel and transport information - it includes alternative routes and prepared maps to help you plan your journey in advance.

Please understand that public transport will be busier than usual so leave extra time for your journey and try to avoid busy days and times.

Look out for the campaign which is being shown across subway, press, television, public transport and radio - to help remind you to plan ahead.