

# The Loop Newsletter

## 22 May 2025



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## In the Loop this week

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## For Action

## Important messages that require action



### Stay Alert for Fraudulent Emails and Cyber Attacks

Cybercrime continues to be a real and current danger for the council family. It is increasingly being used by criminals who attempt to induce us into providing information for fraudulent purposes and as a means of introducing viruses and ransomware into our networks in order to disrupt services and extort payments.

Staff are therefore asked to be extra vigilant and keep a look out for anything which appears to be suspicious, **especially emails**.

We all have a vital role in protecting the information we use and share every day, ensuring we keep our colleagues, citizens and suppliers safe.

Staff are asked to refresh their knowledge and [visit our key pages](#) to understand the different types of phishing and how to prevent and report them.

#### Email: report anything suspicious!

- If you receive any email that looks suspicious report it immediately
- We would advise you to report anything that you are simply not sure about to help protect our systems
- Do not open any hyperlinks embedded in the email
- Do not open any attachments to the email

#### How to 'report it'

- For emails in Outlook use the 'Report Phishing' button on your taskbar to mark the suspicious email quickly and easily

- Contact the Service Desk immediately – if you have accidentally opened or clicked on a link within the suspicious email. Phone 0141 287 4000 or email [GCCServiceDesk@CGI.com](mailto:GCCServiceDesk@CGI.com)

Visit: [Preventing Cybercrime - Different Types - Staff portal](#) to better understand all the different types of cybercrime and how to prevent them.



**Click here to  
read more**

## 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.

- Launch of our new staff Intranet
- Updated Service User Catalogue - Making IT requests easier

## For Information

## Service News and Corporate Updates that might affect you



### Susanne Millar, Chief Executive, visits Scientific Services and Pollok Country Park

Susanne Millar, Chief Executive recently took time out to visit staff at Pollok Country Park and Scientific Services.

During her visit to Pollok Country Park, Susanne saw first hand the dedicated work of the livestock team and spent time with Livestock Supervisor, Mellisa Curran, LANTRA Award winning Livestock Apprentice Hannah Walsh, and Livestock Assistants Matt Auld and Shaun Curran, who gave an insight into their commitment to animal welfare.

Susanne also toured the Glasshouses and growing spaces with gardeners Paul Hilton, Mathew Loyd and apprentices noting the impressive food-growing initiatives that directly support soup kitchens and food banks in the wider Glasgow community. This visit further highlighted the park's vital social contributions through this food outreach.

Susanne also engaged with Countryside Rangers, Lindsay Torrance and Fiona Greenlees, learning about their crucial nature restoration projects and educational outreach with local schools.

Furthermore, she acknowledged the essential administrative support provided by Ann McLaren, which ensures the smooth operation of the park's diverse services. Insights into the management of Pollok Country Park were provided by Supervisors Michael McNellis and Andrew Bradburn, along with Manager James Niblock.

Drew McWilliams, Group Manager, Parks said "It was good to highlight to Susanne, Pollok Country Park's significant role as Glasgow's largest and only Country Park, offering a vital green sanctuary for both visitors and wildlife, a status diligently maintained by its dedicated and hardworking staff. Staff enjoyed the opportunity to share their specific roles and how they contribute to the city as a whole".

Scientific Services were also delighted to host a visit by Susanne, who saw how samples are received by our skilled office staff and then toured the laboratory meeting staff from the Microbiology, Chemistry and Calibrations. Susanne heard how the analysis conducted is invaluable in supporting Environmental Health, Trading Standards, and the wider community. Jane White, Group Manager, Scientific Services said, "We really appreciated Susanne taking time out of her busy schedule to learn more about the work we carry out."

Commenting on her recent site visits, **Susanne Millar, Chief Executive said:** "In the year since my appointment as Chief Executive, a priority for me has been getting out of the City Chambers and visiting the different parts of our authority that are based in communities across the city.

I've learned an incredible amount from teams in every Service and from our close partners.

I don't want to be remote from any of my colleagues and have enjoyed seeing the hard work and dedication of NRS staff including those at the council's Scientific Services lab, our parks depot in Pollok Country Park

and those who showed me the fantastic investments we have made in Elder Park.

It has been great to see officers delivering our ambitious plans to modernise our historic tenement buildings, those dedicated to supporting local communities through the PMGC Programme, and those protecting them as part of our Firework Control Room.

All of these visits remind me of the fantastic work, skill and compassion of our staff every day in their jobs. I look forward to meeting many more this year."

## NRS colleagues showcase new active travel route to Cabinet Secretary for Transport

Colleagues from NRS recently showcased a major new active travel route on Glasgow's Southside to Fiona Hyslop, the Cabinet Secretary for Transport.

The first phase of Connecting Battlefield has transformed the safety and accessibility of Queens Drive and Langside Road for people who walk, wheel and cycle.

The project delivered by our Sustainable Transport Team has significantly improved public space and created a new, segregated cycle way on Queens Drive which extends south onto Langside Road.

The cycle way, which is seeing around 900 daily users, provides easy access to key destinations such as Queens Park and the New Victoria Hospital. The route also links to the South City Way at Victoria Road, offering people who cycle a direct, speedy path into the city centre.

Traffic signals now prioritise those walking, wheeling, and cycling in the area. Widened, resurfaced footways and step-free pedestrian crossings have enhanced accessibility, while upgraded street lighting now illuminates the area.

Local greenspaces have been improved with low-level planting, while the historic railings surrounding Queens Park on Langside Road have been refurbished, as have the lanterns which adorn the park entrance gate pillars.



**Kevin Argue, Head of Service for Sustainable Transport, Traffic and Parking Operations** said: "This new cycle route and improved public space will encourage more sustainable transport in the area. The number of cyclists using the route speak for themselves, showing that if you create safe, segregated active travel infrastructure in our city, people will use it.

"I am delighted at the hard work and commitment of my team, and it was a highlight to be able to show the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Fiona Hyslop what we had created and how well used the new route is. The project has also been shortlisted for a Scottish Transport Award in the 'Excellence in Walking, Public Realm and Cycling' category."

The first phase of Connecting Battlefield which was completed last November, was funded by Transport Scotland's Active Travel Transformation Fund. Phase two, which will focus on Grange Road, Battlefield Rest junction and Battlefield Road at Mount Florida is currently at the detailed design stage, with construction expected to start later this year.

You can read more about the ministerial visit by visiting our [website](#).

## Watch Our New TV Advert

Colleagues in the NRS Transport and Road Safety Team have launched an exciting new TV advert, currently airing on STV.

This TV campaign, under the catchy slogan "That cycle to school feeling," promotes the many benefits of active travel to school, with a special focus on cycling.



The advert highlights how cycling to school can reduce congestion and pollution around school gates, whilst also supporting children's health and wellbeing. It aligns with our continued investment in cycling infrastructure, making active travel safer and more accessible across the city.

**George Cairns, Road Safety Development Officer** in NRS said: "We hope this campaign will inspire more families to consider cycling as a fun, healthy, and sustainable way to travel to school. By promoting active travel, we aim to create a greener, healthier Glasgow, one school journey at a time."

The NRS Road Safety Unit will also be using the advert to support School Travel Plans and promote cycling as a fun, healthy, and sustainable travel option for pupils and families.

Have you seen our advert on STV yet? If not you can also [watch it here](#) and you may even see it playing on one of our NRS TV screens in our depots if you are out and about.

We encourage you to watch and share the advert with colleagues, friends, and your wider community.

By helping to inspire the next generation to support active travel, we're all playing a part in creating a greener, healthier Glasgow.

**NRS  
People**

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



## NRS People Health and Wellbeing Roadshow visiting Queens Park

The roadshow has just visited Glasgow Green where staff were keen to take up appointments with our partners at the Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF) and Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH), as well as claiming their free, professional massage and taking the opportunity for an occupational health checkup.

The NRS People Health and Wellbeing Roadshow is on the move again and will be visiting Queens Park on Thursday 26 June and will be open to all staff at Queens Park as well as staff from Kings Park.

Any staff member interested in coming along can benefit from the services on offer:

- Full health checkup with the PAM Assist Nurse
- Free, professional, seated massage from Incorporate Massage

Staff can also sign up for a 1-1 session with our partners to find out more information, sign up for their service and receive support from:

- Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF)
- Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH)
- Glasgow Credit Union (GCU)
- Hospital Saturday Fund (HSF)

If you are interested in coming along, please notify your manager or supervisor!



## NRS People presents Strathclyde Pension Fund at Polmadie

Last week, representatives from the Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF) visited Shieldhall Depot to provide staff with an overview presentation of the Pension scheme.

This presentation provided staff with the benefits of being in the scheme, paying extra into your pension and retiring. This was followed by a Q+A session where members could ask questions in a group setting.



SPF will be bringing this presentation to Polmadie Depot on Thursday 12 June and Friday 13 June, between 11:00am and 12:00 noon.

This is open to all staff at the depot as well as staff based as Jessie Street, the presentation will take place in the main bothy within Polmadie.

If you would like to attend, please notify your manager or supervisor!

## NRS People Show and Tell Lunchtime Sessions



### SHOW AND TELL SESSIONS

NRS PEOPLE



Everyone is invited to our online Show and Tell Sessions, which are great opportunities for colleagues to share and learn more about projects happening across our service and provide a platform to increase awareness and collaboration.

Joining us on Thursday 29 May between 12:30pm and 1.00pm, Alison Laurence and Kevin McCormack will be sharing details on the City Development Plan 2 Update.

This session will provide an update on the CDP2 purpose, work programme, timescales and asks of teams across the Council. It will be aimed at managers at all levels as well as officers.

If you are interested in showing off a project at a future Show and Tell Session, please contact [graham.knox@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:graham.knox@glasgow.gov.uk).

If you would like to attend but didn't receive an invitation, please get in touch!

myjobscotland

Click here to read more

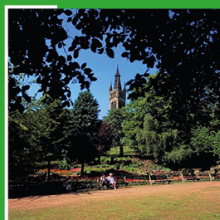
## Vacancies within NRS

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
GLA13693	Group Manager (Business Operations and Waste Disposal)	1	9
GLA13694	Security Officer	1	CSG 2

## General Interest

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



## Parks and Open Spaces Benefit From £3m Fund

Parks and Open Spaces throughout Glasgow are benefitting from an innovative £3m fund fully guided by community decisions.

Almost 350 projects that will renew and improve everything from play areas, paths, ponds and planting places have been identified for investment through the Parks and Open Spaces Fund. Over 200 schemes across all 23 council wards have already been completed and a further 142 schemes are now in the pipeline following the creation of the £3m fund in the council budgets set in 2022 and 2023.

Community input has been at the heart of how the money has been spent with ideas on how to develop local green spaces being proposed through Glasgow's 23 Area Partnerships, which are made up of councillors, community councils and other local representatives.

The area partnerships have worked closely with the council's Parks team to hone the proposals and turn them into viable projects that could be delivered on the ground. This participatory budget process is new to the council and how the Parks and Open Spaces Fund has been implemented will inform future work to involve communities in spending decisions.

Taken together all the work completed through the Parks and Open Spaces Fund will support the council's wider objectives to boost biodiversity, strengthen resilience to climate change, encourage active travel and support accessibility to the city parks.

Examples of projects supported by the fund include:

- Festival Park, £26,750 for pond improvements, landscaping, new benches and accessible picnic tables
- Tobago Street, £40,044 for play area improvements, including installation of a new pirate ship
- Elderslie Street, £21,384 on new planters, seating, a sensory garden and planting ten fruit trees
- Knightswood Park, £41,000 on new entrance, new footway and upgraded path
- Clyde Walkway at Elderslie Path, £18,400, planting on 220m embankment

Full details of all the projects completed and under development through the Parks and Open Spaces Fund can be found in a paper presented to the Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods Policy Development Committee, which is available [here](#).

## 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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