

Glasgow Life update on venues not yet scheduled for re-opening – May 2021

The global Covid-19 pandemic has forced significant changes to how Glasgow Life operates. We are maximising the impact of the funding available despite reduced capacities in venues. We know how much people value our services.

We are working hard to reopen venues wherever possible and the list below details the venues for which we are currently exploring future options.

Glasgow City Council passed a motion on 13 May 2021 resolving that: “all 171 Glasgow Life venues should re-open as soon as funding and Scottish Government guidance allows.” Should more funding become available we will discuss future reopening plans with Glasgow City Council, local communities and stakeholders.

We want community assets that are fit for purpose for the ever-changing needs of our communities. Glasgow has led the way in reimagining our community assets and delivering improved models of co-location to increase usage and engagement, and some of our services may move to new venues in the local community.

The benefits of co-location have been well accepted for a number of years now across Glasgow as a creative way of maximising the scope and impact of important community services by sharing some operational requirements and costs.

Examples of this include Milton where the Glasgow Club Gym and local library are based in the same building attached to the local school; Springburn where the local gym, swimming pool and library are based together or in Pollok where Glasgow Club facilities, the local library, a small community museum space and the local health centre are all housed under one roof.

Where a service has been moved, the Council and Glasgow Life will continue to explore viable and positive uses for the city’s heritage buildings in line with Glasgow City Council’s ‘Heritage Asset Strategy 2019-2029’¹.

Glasgow Life supports local community and voluntary organisations who wish to take ownership of their own facilities, providing structured guidance where needed. We aim to help interested groups progress through the stages to full Community Asset Transfer (CAT)². Glasgow Life has helped to deliver sustainable community asset transfers, such as the locally-managed facility in Knightswood, which, with support, is thriving.³

Glasgow Life and Glasgow City Council support local community groups who wish to convert green space for use as community allotments. With Glasgow declaring a Climate Emergency, we must act to ensure that where green space is available, and being under used, it can be managed for and by local communities and community-based developments. The ‘greening’ of more spaces will also achieve ambitions set out in the Council’s Open Spaces Strategy and create more social spaces for communities, as envisioned by Glasgow’s Food Growing Strategy.

¹ “The council has a significant track record of working with partners and a range of external funding bodies to support refurbishment and redevelopment of its heritage estate. Given the extent of the council’s heritage estate however, new, innovative approaches to the redevelopment, purpose, management and ownership will require to be introduced to ensure it is safeguarded for future generations.” [Property and Land Strategy 2019-2029](#)

² In line with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and the Council’s strategy, Glasgow Life is committed to enabling interested community and voluntary organisations to move towards CAT. CAT requires considerable partnership working to build capacity within local communities. The process can be fluid, and not every group moves at the same pace through the three stages, which begins with an informal key holder process and progresses from ‘preparing for CAT’ to formal ‘CAT’.

³ More information on Glasgow City Council’s policy can be found here: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/20590/Community-Asset-Transfer>

Glasgow Life continues to support local community and voluntary organisations who wish to become more involved in the running of their own facilities, providing access to structured guidance where needed.

Options for repurposing buildings into long-term and positive venues for the city will be explored through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative, which the Council launched in February 2021, as an open call out to give Glaswegians, community organisations and entrepreneurs greater control over the community venues they rely on. The initiative has already received over 250 enquiries.

Libraries

28 of the 33 public libraries (85%) in Glasgow are scheduled for reopening.

Barmulloch Library	This facility is co-located with the community centre which is in use as vaccination centre. The building is in need of significant refurbishment. Subject to funding becoming available, the local community will be supported by a mobile library while service provision is reviewed.
Couper Library	This facility is unsuitable for social distancing from an accessibility perspective. The lift is only available through the hall. The building is in need of significant refurbishment. Subject to funding becoming available, the local community will be supported by a mobile library while service provision is reviewed.
Gallery of Modern Art Library	This facility is unsuitable for managing social distancing and access/egress. Re-provisioning of the library service will be explored as part of the City Centre Living Strategy. Subject to funding becoming available, the local community will be supported by a mobile library while service provision is reviewed.
Maryhill Library	We are developing proposals to relocate the library services to an alternative location, Maryhill Leisure Centre, which is nearby. Subject to funding becoming available, the local community will be supported by a temporary service within Maryhill Leisure Centre during the period of transition. Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities. The building is in need of significant refurbishment.
Whiteinch Library	Subject to funding becoming available, we are exploring options for the delivery of a local library service in Whiteinch with Glasgow City Council. Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.

Museums

More than half the city’s museums account for the vast majority of visits every year and we have prioritised opening those six museums to support Glasgow’s visitor and tourist economy recovery.

Provands Lordship	This facility is unsuitable for social distancing from an accessibility perspective. The museum has conservation works planned.
St Mungo Museum	Glasgow Life is in discussion with a third party regarding taking on the operational management of this facility.
Scotland Street School Museum & Janitors House	Repair and refurbishment works are currently underway to convert this heritage building to Early Years Education provision. A Charles Rennie Mackintosh interpretation is being developed by Glasgow Life Museums for the facility.

Sport

All swimming pools are scheduled for reopening. Gyms with the highest capacity of Glasgow Club membership have been prioritised in order to support the city’s health agenda and Glasgow Life’s financial position.

Alexandra Park Campus – Bowls and Golf	Glasgow Life is in discussions with a local organisation about taking over the operation of this site. Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Barlia Sports Centre	This facility is currently in use as a Covid test centre. Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Bellahouston Bowls and Pitch and Putt	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Caldercuilt Playing Fields	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Castlemilk Bowls	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Cathkin Pitch	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Drumchapel Bowls	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Easterhouse Sports Centre	This facility is currently in use as a Covid vaccination centre.
Glasgow National Hockey Centre	Glasgow Life is in discussion with a third party regarding taking on the operational management of this facility.
Glenconner Park	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Greenfield Park and Football Pavilion	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Halgreen Avenue Playing Fields	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Hogganfield Pitch and Putt	The pitch and putt facility is located at Lethamhill Golf and will transfer to the R&A forming part of the masterplan for an enhanced golfing experience following the R&A’s investment.

Ibrox Football Centre	A lease to Rangers Charitable Trust is in progress. This facility is currently in use as a Covid test centre.
James Lyndsey Memorial Park Pitches	This site is being considered as part of the development of the Baillieston Community Hub ⁴ .
Kelso St Pitch	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
King George V Playing Fields	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
King Georges Field	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Knightswood Pitch and Putt	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Linn Park Golf	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Lister Street Bowls	A lease is in progress with a third-party operator.
Lochend Football Centre	This facility is currently in use by Education.
Maryhill Bowls	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Maryhill Tennis	Glasgow Life is in discussion with a third party regarding taking on the operational management of this facility.
Mount Vernon Football Pitch	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Netherpollok Playing Fields and Pavilion	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Netherton Campus – Bowling Green	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Netherton Pitches and Pavilion	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Penilee Secondary School Pitch	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Petershill Leisure Centre	A lease to Partick Thistle Charitable Trust is in progress.
Peterson Park Pitches/Pavilion	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Ruchill Golf	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Scotstoun Campus – Outdoor Hall	Glasgow Life is in discussion with a third party regarding taking on the operational management of this facility. The building is in poor condition.
Queens Park Campus – Bowls and Pitch and Putt	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Springburn Bowling	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Victoria Park Campus – Bowls, Rugby and Tennis	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Yoker Sports Centre	Glasgow Life is transferring this venue to GCC Education to convert to provide Early Years services.

⁴ A community hub is a model by which organisations are co-located in a facility in order to share running costs. This can make a significant difference to the financial viability of some community operations. The model is successfully demonstrated in Kelvin Hall where a gym, café, lecture facility, museum store and The Scottish Screen Archive share a venue.

Community centres and public halls

Couper Institute Hall	Unsuitable for social distancing from an accessibility perspective. The building is in need of significant refurbishment and accessibility is a general issue.
Balgrayhill Community Centre	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Barmulloch Campus – Community Centre	This facility is currently in use as a Covid vaccination centre.
Cranhill Community Centre	This facility is currently in use as a Covid test centre.
Drumchapel Community Centre	This facility is currently in use as a Covid test centre. Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Garrowhill Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Geoff Shaw Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities. There is also a Community Asset Transfer request relating to this facility.
Langside Hall	A Community Asset Transfer ⁵ is in progress. The building is in need of significant refurbishment
Molendinar Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Netherton Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Pollok Community Centre	This facility is currently in use as a Covid test centre. Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Pollokshields Community Centre	This facility has been earmarked for community management through the People Make Glasgow Communities initiative.
Ruchill Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
Shettleston Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities.
St Francis Centre	Refurbishment work to the stonework and stained glass is expected to continue until the end of the year.
Tollcross Community Centre	Interest has been expressed in exploring new operating models for this facility through People Make Glasgow Communities. There is also a Community Asset Transfer request relating to this facility.
Woodside Hall	A Community Asset Transfer is in progress.

⁵ A Community Asset Transfer (or CAT) involves the transfer of the responsibility for an asset from the Council to a community group or voluntary organisation. This can be done through a transfer of management responsibility, short or long-term lease, or the transfer of outright ownership.