

Dear Councillor

We wish you well in your role as Councillor for our city, and acknowledge your commitment in taking on the role of 'letting Glasgow flourish' in the face of the many challenges facing the city today.

One of the processes being run by the People's Plan is the *Four Minute City* project, in which participants are each given four minutes to convey their vision for Glasgow's future, and the specific outcomes they want to see from our leadership. We began the project with a SANE Collective event one week prior to local government elections in May, which brought together contributions from activists and campaigns from all over the city who are working to champion a brighter, safer, more hopeful Glasgow. We have collated the outcomes of the project into a list of policy objectives we believe sit within the scope and remit of Glasgow City Council. **We call on you, as a representative of the people of this city, to let us know how you will use your power as Councillor to ensure that these objectives are adopted and taken seriously.**

We have previously expressed our concern about cuts to public services, the delegation of responsibility over public services to unelected bodies, failure to engage meaningfully with communities and prioritising profit-making bodies and services over public services and initiatives at the expense of the public purse. We will be continuing with the *Four Minute City* project as a means of engaging as many voices as possible and because we recognise that there is much more to be said than was identified in our initial session.

In this time of crisis, there still exists the power to transform Glasgow into a city that can truly, and meaningfully, flourish. But it needs the Council in solidarity with its residents to make this happen.

We look forward to your response



POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEW ADMINISTRATION OF GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL

Participant Organisations:

People's Plan for Glasgow
The SANE Collective
The People's Health Movement Scotland
Glasgow Against Closures Campaign
Scottish MEDACT
Friends of the People's Palace
Make Your Mark

GLASGOW'S HEALTH

- Establish new committees to address climate / environmental issues and socioeconomic issues as public health issues.
- Champion higher spending on public health in Scotland
- Employ mechanisms to ensure the transparency of funding and a more democratic approach to the services that are delivered by the Health and Social Care Partnership.

GREENER GLASGOW

- Establish a committee to review how a '15 minute city' approach would work for Glasgow
- Double the number of rewilding and greening sites for Glasgow over existing plans, including adding many more pedestrianised areas in the city
- Drop the term 'Net Zero' from climate crisis tackling policies, in favour of Real Zero targets
- Ensure a significant improvement in air quality by 2026 as an indicator that the council has taken the task of combatting the climate crisis seriously and that their strategy is effective.

LOCAL DEMOCRACY

- Establish a committee dedicated to reviewing current conditions for elected members and engaging with issues which predicate involvement from minority individuals and groups.
- Implement a system of regularly updated, publicly available, accessible, transparent information about how public resources are spent.
- A review of current standards for public or community 'consultation' and a commitment to more active and meaningful dialogue between public institutions and the residents of Glasgow *prior* to decisions being made.
- Provide a transparent, accessible, auditable record of accounts for Glasgow City Council from 1865 to the present.
- Conduct a review of the policing of public demonstrations paying special attention to

the events in George Square in 2020 including dangerous and excessive use of police kettling.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

- Facilitate better public conversations about tackling inequalities, raising critical consciousness and awareness of systemic social and economic injustice.
- Development of policies designed at ending homelessness and securing rents in the city.
- Refuse or discontinue leases to companies involved in escalating conflict and suffering around the world.

SERVICE MANAGEMENT

- Explore new forms of participatory budgeting in which communities are trusted to respond to ongoing needs and allocate resources fairly and effectively.
- Bring the management of Glasgow Life and its assets back under the control of the council or another democratically accountable body that does not rely on charitable status to draw in funding.
- Pledge to prioritise the history and culture of Glasgow for the next 4 years.
- Commission, attend and make available a course in Glasgow's history and culture, acknowledging the power of history to make history.
- Actively engage with the 70,000 people who have signed the 'Save the People's Palace' petition to get the People's Palace fully reopened as soon as possible.
- Develop and implement strategies for the sustained and sustainable operations and management of local public venues and services, including investment in the buildings and spaces from which they operate.
- End the delegation of responsibility onto communities for the operations and management of public venues and services through community asset transfers.
- Reregulate Glasgow's bus service back into public ownership and control.

GLASGOW'S ECONOMY

- Explore options for Glasgow's shift towards a circular economy - reducing taxes on labour and increasing taxes on pollution of resources.
- Deliver a tangible shift away from the mindset that favours 'trickle-down' economics, towards a city where public money is only spent on public goods.
- Bring about an immediate end to the use of public funds to incentivise big private businesses to set up in Glasgow.
- Nurture Glasgow's local economies by seeing greater financial support for local social enterprises and cooperatives, rather than relying on multinational retail.
- Further exploration of the outcomes identified in the pilot for Universal Basic Income
- Advocate for Council tax to be replaced with a local income tax to help fund services in the city