Glasgow City Council

Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS)

Calton Action Plan 2025 / 2026

Public

1. Background

Glasgow City Council (GCC) recognises the concerns raised regarding the local environment and the impact of antisocial behaviour in the area. In particular, issues surrounding discarded injecting equipment have been a longstanding challenge. We want to assure you that we remain fully committed to delivering meaningful and lasting improvements, working together to create a safer, cleaner, and more supportive community for all.

We are actively working alongside key stakeholders—including community representatives, the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), Police Scotland, Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Thistle Management Team and Community Forum, Network Rail, Morrison's, and local businesses to directly address the unique needs of the Calton community.

Local and City leadership, including Elected Members, have been engaging with residents, carefully listening to their concerns, and collaborating with departments such as GCC Neighbourhoods, Regeneration, and Sustainability (NRS) to ensure that issues are met with meaningful action.

Addressing Drug-Related Litter and Safety

Concerns about discarded needles have been ongoing for many years and were a significant factor in the opening of *The Thistle*, which aims to reduce drug-related litter. To support this initiative, we carried out thorough deep-cleaning efforts both prior to and following its launch, ensuring a safer environment for all residents. However, we recognise the continued concerns and have further increased our presence on the ground to actively address them.

Recent initiatives by GCC Neighbourhoods, Regeneration, and Sustainability (NRS) have focused on extensive deep-cleaning efforts across the Calton Ward, particularly in areas where drug-related litter has been identified. Our teams conduct regular monitoring to remove needles and other hazardous materials, reinforcing our commitment to maintaining a cleaner and safer environment for residents.

Discarded needles can be reported for removal via the online form, by calling 0141 287 9700, or through the *My Glasgow App*.

Additionally, HSCP has coordinated outreach services to support individuals injecting away from home, providing guidance and assistance to help them access further support.

To further reduce drug-related litter, we have installed large-capacity sharps bins in key areas, including Elcho Street and the Morrisons Gallowgate car park. These bins have been successful in addressing similar issues elsewhere in the city, and we hope to see positive results in Calton as well.

This Action Plan intends to demonstrate each aspect of the work being carried out in the area, not just at present, but in the years leading up to this plan.

2. Previous Targeted Activity

Date	Concern	Response	Status
2021 to present day	Concerns were expressed for safety at the Hunter & Havannah St open space.	Following combined efforts to clear up and improve the open spaces, ASB reports have declined. This long term project, on private land, has involved regular monitoring of the area, and collaborative working with partners including Network Rail, student accommodation blocks on Hunter St, Police Scotland and developers. Following a series of consultations and community meetings, the final stage of development is due to start 25/26 and all stakeholders continue to monitor the area and work together on improvements. In 2025 the Avenues project has seen new lighting and pavements in the area as part of ongoing plans.	Complete
2021 to present day	Discarded injecting equipment at Elcho St	There has been regular monitoring of this area, with GCC Streetscene, and removing discarded injecting equipment weekly. Once the sharps bin pilot in the city centre was complete, Elcho St was highlighted as location to also receive a large capacity sharps bin once funding was identified. In May 2025 Deep Cleans were completed at Elcho St and the Sharps Bins installed.	Complete with regular monitoring

		Injection equipment on street greatly reduced and bins are being used.	
2022 to present day	ASB and drug related litter at Little Dovehill.	GCC Streetscene carried out large scale clean up at the upper car park at Little Dovehill and removed a large amount of discarded injecting equipment and related litter. GCC Parks cut back bushes and trees. Injecting away from home at this site has largely decreased although the area continues to be monitored both by HSCP Outreach teams and GCC. Further development of residential housing to commence here 25/26.	Complete with regular monitoring
October 2024	Clear up of large open drug injection site at Barrowlands Park and installation of temporary Herras fencing	Area is open and safer for public use. GCC are currently engaging with stakeholders to find a long term solution.	Complete with regular monitoring
January 2025	GCC carried out a deep clean in areas around Hunter St in lead up to Thistle opening	The Thistle is now open and operating.	Complete
April 25	Discarded injecting equipment within public car park.	GCC NLT are working with partners such as Morrisons to monitor and uplift injecting equipment and other litter in the area. Resources are being examined to provide additional street sweeping in the wider area.	Complete with regular monitoring
April 25	Concerns about drug paraphernalia close to paths at Green St.	GCC Streetscene attended open space between Claythorn Park and Green St at London Road to remove mixed drug paraphernalia and to clean up paths at location. Area is checked daily by GCC Streetscene. Development is underway to refurbish the school here.	Complete with regular monitoring

		GCC NRS hope to make improvements to the open space including better pavement surfaces and to cut back trees to improve lighting.	
May 2025	Discarded drug related litter within the public realm.	In collaboration with Network Rail, Deep Cleans completed at Elcho St and Morrisons Car Parks. Sharps Bins installed at both locations. Injection equipment on street greatly reduced and bins are being used. Area is checked daily by GCC Streetscene. Tureen St school is to be refurbished to provide social housing at Elcho St in 2026.	Complete with regular monitoring
May 2025	Environmental safety at Tobago St, including fly tipping, injecting equipment and overgrown shrubbery.	Multiple departments from GCC cleared up the fly tipping, rubbish was removed, bushes were cut back. Area is checked daily by GCC Streetscene. A long term solution to develop this area of land is being explored.	Ongoing
June 2025	Residents do not feel informed of efforts being made in the area, or of upcoming plans.	A reassurance letter will be sent to Calton residents. This will also signpost how to engage with community councils, elected members, and find help and advice. NRS NLT continue to attend the Thistle Community Forum and update on residents via Calton Community Council.	Complete
July 2025	Communication with community	Reassurance letter sent to Calton residents and businesses. All community councils also informed of updates and plans. GCC NRS attend monthly Thistle Community forum, which provides a space for open dialogue and updates between stakeholders and the community. Information shared here informs actions to be brought to NRS's monthly ETAC meeting.	Complete

August 2025	Neighbourhood Team commence within Calton Ward and focus on streets that receive most complaints in area.	Multiple areas continue to be checked daily by GCC Streetscene. Injection equipment on streets greatly reduced and bins are being well used.	Complete with regular monitoring
September 2025	Environmental safety at open spaces between London Rd, Green St and Claythorn Park.	Arbor confirmed plans to crown lift trees to 2-4m and clear branches currently blocking CCTV and lighting. Parks will de-litter and remove fallen branches over Winter season. Consideration on how to improve path surfaces.	Complete with regular monitoring
October 2025	Concerns raised again for safety at the Hunter & Havannah St open space.	Developers contacted, and agreed to carry out another clear up of the land. List of locations shared with Thistle Outreach team.	Complete
November 2025	GCC Neighbourhood Teams	GCC Neighbourhood Teams have completed cleaning a large section of streets in the Calton Ward in response to requests from residents including Claythorn Circus, Elcho St and laneway, and Millroad St. Injection equipment on streets greatly reduced, but hot spots still attended regularly by GCC Streetscene RRT.	Complete with regular monitoring
December 2025	Walkabout completed with residents, Gillian from ADP and Cllr Casey Concerns raised by Network Rail with regards to discarded litter from injection equipment at specific areas near to railway.	List of actions include focus on clearing up open spaces at St Luke's and Green St to Claythorn Park as part of Winter Works. Minor issues such as dark lamps all raised and actioned amongst others. GCC NRS attend Bellgrove Park to remove discarded litter from injection equipment and carry out deep clean as part of planned Winter Works. Private land owners close to railway contacted to request better maintenance of land for public safety. List of locations shared with Thistle Outreach team. Meetings continue to be held with GCC, ADP and Thistle to update Comms plan and details.	Complete

January 2026	Tureen St old School building development commenced by Thenue HA. Elcho St being used for access point – sharps bin removed.	Sharps bin is in storage awaiting decision on alternative location.	Complete
Mar 2026	Area Partnership requested costing for CCTV installed at Hunter St on railway bridge as part of NIIF investment	Approved by AP, awaiting confirmation of dates	Ongoing
May 2026	Additional large sharps bin installed at pedestrian entrance near fire station at Morrisons car park.	Approved and installed June 2026 at pedestrian exit closest to Fire Station	Complete
June 2026	Abercromby St Cemetery gates now locked due to increasing injection away from home making this unsafe to leave open to the public	Local history groups can request special access.	Complete with regular monitoring
June 2026	Original sharps bin temporarily removed from Morrisons car park to allow for Network Rail to carry out work on railway for 11 weeks.		Ongoing
April 2025	Neighbourhood Team attend Orr St and Sword St following complaints at Calton Community Council	Carry out a de-litter and scraping along paths following complaints. RRT attend to remove less than 5 needles.	Complete
June 2026	Claythorn Park at London Rd / Green St	Pathway levelled and fixed for pedestrians, Streetscene attend to delitter and remove rubbish.	Complete with regular monitoring
July 2026	Abercromby St continues to be broken to for ASB	Locks been replaced multiple times. Discussions ongoing how to move forward and monitor.	Ongoing

August 2026	Complaints regarding car park at rear of High St at Aldi's continue	NRS contacted land owners to request clean up and open space to be cleared completely. Awaiting response.	Ongoing
September 2026	Deep Clean carried out at Claythorn Park at London Rd / Green St	Awaiting next steps with NRS Parks to remove all shrubs, and remove further overhanging branches.	Complete with regular monitoring
September 2026	ASB issues reported at Tullis St Memorial Gardens, including injecting away from home.	Police Scotland notified and continue with updates. Thistle Outreach also notified. NRS planning to schedule to remove bushes and shrubs along side of the gardens to improve visibility and remove places to hide. RRT attending to uplift needles. Deep Clean attended to remove rubbish and clear along path. Abor to attend to lift tree crowns and remove overhanging branches / dead trees.	Ongoing
September 2026	Deep clean carried out at open space at Millroad St, rear of St Luke's.	Tree crowns lifted, self seeded trees and shrubs all removed to open all spaces and provide clear vision through whole area. Area chemically sprayed to prevent regrowth. Delitter, paths scraped, lighting repaired.	Complete with regular monitoring

3. How You Can Help

Your involvement is essential in ensuring that we can allocate resources effectively. We encourage you to use the available reporting channels to highlight concerns, helping us respond more efficiently to the issues affecting our community.

Continued Engagement and Community Partnership

As part of our ongoing commitment, we will continue to engage with residents, listen to your concerns, and adapt our actions accordingly. Your input is invaluable in shaping the future of our community, and together, we can create positive, lasting change.

All Community Council meetings are open to the public, and residents are encouraged to attend their local Community Council. To find out which Community Council area you live in, click on the following web link, and enter your address details: My Nearest https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/1278/Your-Community-Council

Reporting Antisocial Behaviour

If you witness or experience antisocial behaviour, we strongly encourage you to report it as it occurs. Timely reporting allows police and other relevant agencies the best opportunity to respond effectively and identify those responsible.

Please note that issues can be reported to Police Scotland on 101, or online https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 1111 or through the Glasgow City Council website on www.glasgow.gov.uk/reportasb.

If you discover drugs related paraphernalia such as needles/syringes & drugs you can report them to GCC for safe removal via the online form, or phone 0141 287 9700, you can also report via the My Glasgow App (which will take you to the online form, the app is free to download and can be used to report fly tipping, litter, missed bins, roads/lighting defects & issues & much more)

If you are seeking support or advice about addiction issues you can access this via Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Recovery Services - https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/help

You can also call North East Recovery Community on 0141 554 5235

To contact The Thistle centre - 0141 553 2832/2833

Email: ggc.thistle@nhs.scot

Website: www.glasgowcity.hscp.scot/sdcf

USEFUL LINKS

- Find out more about the future plans for the redevelopment of Tureen St School here
- Find out more about the new Gaelic school on Green St here
- Find out more about the upcoming developments on Hunter St here
- Find out more about the Avenues Project here