



PEOPLE  
MAKE  
GLASGOW  
GREENER

## **Glasgow: Proud Host City of COP26**

**As Glasgow prepares to host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) from 31 October – 12 November 2021, Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council, welcomes the world's media and outlines why the city is the perfect location for this momentous event of truly global significance:**

Glasgow is a city transformed - a city which continues to embrace change as it rises to the challenges of its past and seizes the opportunities for its future.

A cradle of the Industrial Revolution, Glasgow's geography and proximity to natural resources turned a small port city on the banks of the River Clyde into the workshop of the world - building the ships and machinery which enabled an empire.

The demise of our shipyards and factories in the last century heralded a turbulent period of our history.

But we re-emerged as a vibrant, outward-looking, diverse and dynamic city playing its part on the international stage. The Glasgow of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is again a centre of innovation and invention.

We are becoming a global leader in new, low carbon economies within digital, science and technology, as well as life sciences and precision medicine.

Home to internationally-recognised universities we have a large professional and skilled talent base supported by learning institutions which both attract and retain that talent.

Our affordability gives Glasgow real appeal among millennials, whilst our creative industries continually demonstrate a capacity for nurturing leading-edge ideas. From sport, arts, culture and nightlife to the unique character of our citizens, the world again knows Glasgow – a city to visit, to do business with or to make your home.

In November our city will welcome the world's leaders to – we hope - agree the pathway to a safer, cleaner and more just future for everyone. The UN Climate Change summit - COP26 - can become the defining moment for our planet – as it can for its host city.

COP is Glasgow's opportunity to showcase itself as an ambitious city, a city again embracing the change upon which all our future well-being depends - and drawing on our spirit of innovation and social justice to build better lives and better places for all of our citizens.

What an incredible legacy for our city – and our planet - if 'The Glasgow Agreement' becomes the moment our world changes path for the security of this and future generations.

I look forward to welcoming many of you in the weeks - and indeed years ahead - to this great city where you will experience our renowned hospitality and friendliness.

The Climate Emergency really is the issue of our times. Glasgow can show the world we are becoming the city of our times on the issue of our times.

## ENDS

**Issued by**  
COP26 Team  
Glasgow City Council

### More information:

- The **Glasgow Climate Plan** is the city's flagship sustainability policy, which sets out its green ambitions and response to the global climate and ecological emergency.
- **26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)**



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