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Dear resident,

**GlasGLOW – Botanic Gardens, Glasgow**

We are getting in touch to share all the key information you need to know ahead of this year's GlasGLOW.

In this letter you will also find details of our Community Drop-In session at the Hillhead Library and how to get in touch with us during the event.

Please be assured we are working hard to minimise impact on you, our neighbours, and the environment and are once again working with independent ecology experts to help guide us on best practise.

Last year we raised a fantastic £20,000 at GlasGLOW through The itison Pumpkin Fund which has helped fund a new minibus for the kids at Hillhead High in addition to supporting a range of other great local charities, schools and groups including St Patrick's Primary, 3D Drumchapel and Kelvindale Primary.

If you would like to suggest a charity to receive support from The itison Pumpkin Fund, you can find out how to do so overpage.

Thank you again for your support.

Warm wishes,

Toni Lally

## Event run

This year GlasGLOW will open to the public on Friday 25th October and run until, and including, Sunday 10th of November with a new Halloween theme – Trick or Treat.

## Community drop in session

Our community drop-in session will be held at the Hillhead Library on Tuesday 10th September from 5pm – 7pm.

Representatives from itison, Glasgow City Council and independent ecology experts will be in attendance to answer any questions you may have regarding the event.

We are working closely with the team directly in the Botanics, Glasgow City Council, and independent biodiversity experts to bring the event to life in a way that minimises disruption to you, our neighbours, and in the most sustainable way possible.

If you have any suggestions, questions or concerns in advance, please get in touch at **GlasGLOW2024@itison.com** and we will do our best to help.

## How to contact us during the event

If you need to contact us with any issues or problems, please e-mail

**GlasGLOW2024@itison.com** and we will do our very best to help.

The mailbox will be monitored until 11pm each night throughout the event run.

## The itison Pumpkin Fund

With every GlasGLOW, we want to create lasting positive impact on the local community.

Since launching in 2019, we have donated over 7,000 tickets to local charities and groups in and around Glasgow – and raised £80,000 for capital projects for charities and groups including East

Park, Highpark, Love Milton and Hillhead High among others.

## Call out local charities & community groups in need of support

Every year we donate 1,000 free tickets to local schools, charities and community groups as well as funding capital projects in the area.

If you know any great organisations that may be interested in support from The itison Pumpkin Fund, please ask them to contact **pumpkinfund@itison.com** for more information.

Last year we raised a fantastic £20,000 at GlasGLOW which is being split between 11 local charities, schools and groups in our area including Hillhead High, Abercorn Secondary, 3D Drumchapel, North United Charities, AMMA Birth Companions, Kelvindale Primary, St Patrick's Primary, G20 Community Hub Hope Café, Glasgow Taxi Charity, St Paul's Primary and Young People's Futures.

## Free pumpkin carving workshops in the Children's Garden

We are excited to once again be hosting free pumpkin carving workshops for local families to enjoy in the lead up to the event.

These will take place in the Children's Garden over the weekends of:

- 17th - 20th October: 11am - 3pm
- 26th - 27th October: 11am - 3pm

Booking isn't required – all you need to do is come along

You'll be able to display your pumpkin on our spectacular Pumpkin Patch (which is available to enjoy throughout the event run for free) or take it home.

## Sustainability & biodiversity

We are committed to delivering GlasGLOW in the most sustainable way possible and preserving our beautiful Botanic Gardens and the wildlife within.

Last year we appointed third party independent ecology experts to work with us on an ongoing basis to guide us on best practise. Reports are now available that have assessed the event as being low impact on biodiversity due to the time of year it takes place and we remain committed to delivering the event in the most sensitive way possible.

You can view a summary of our environmental policy at [www.glasglow.com](http://www.glasglow.com) and we continue to work with GCC to ensure we adhere to, and where we can exceed, all conditions of let.

GCC biodiversity officers visited the event twice last year. They will inspect the event again this year both during the build and whilst it is live to give comment and recommendations.

Additionally, our appointed ecological consultancy will:

1. Review our plans in advance of the event and make any necessary suggestions and recommendations
2. Visit the event once it is live to make any additional improvements or changes in real time
3. Continue to work with us long term to suggest improvements and recommendations for future events

## Hire of the Gardens

We are proud to showcase our beautiful Botanic Gardens during GlasGLOW, introducing thousands of families to it each year for the first time.

We pay a significant five-figure sum to hire the Botanic Gardens for GlasGLOW and an environmental charge.

We also pay a site bond that is paid upfront, before the event starts, to cover the cost of any damage (including the time to carry out work).

As local residents and users of the Gardens ourselves, we endeavour to avoid any damage and have a remedial plan, including signage, in place for any areas of grass where we know a degree of damage is likely.

## Economic Impact

GlasGLOW will create 150 local jobs in our area and help drive huge levels of tourism and footfall into the many bars/restaurants and hotels around the Botanics supporting local businesses, giving them a massive boost in the typically quieter Oct/Nov period pre-Christmas.

## Contact during build

Our team will ensure noise and disruption is kept to a minimum – please contact **[GlasGLOW2024@itison.com](mailto:GlasGLOW2024@itison.com)** if you are experiencing any issues and we will do our best to help asap.

The mailbox is monitored to 11pm during the event.

The Children's Garden will remain open as usual during the event run, as will The Kibble Palace.

**OPERATIONAL INFO****EVENT BUILD:**

MONDAY 7TH - THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER

**TEST NIGHT:**

WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER

(NO EXTERNAL AUDIENCE)

**PREVIEW NIGHT:**

THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER

**EVENT RUN:**

FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER - SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

**EVENT DERIG:**

MONDAY 11TH - MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

**Event opening times**

Gates open at 4:30pm at the earliest to help accommodate families with young children.

- Last entry to the event is 9:30pm
- 10:30pm at the latest: sound off
- 10:45pm: event closes
- 11pm: site fully clear

The Gardens will be open to the public during the event install and de-rig days – some areas may be closed for short periods of time for health and safety reasons. We will endeavour to have them open as soon as it is safe to do so and apologise for any inconvenience in advance.

**Event production info**

GlasGLOW is delivered by a team of world class professionals with years of international event experience.

Our team is carefully selected bringing years of experience working in protected environments including the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh, the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and Blenheim Palace.

A team of 40 staff will be on-site to ensure a controlled and safe environment with 24-hour security in place

**Parking measures**

We continue to work closely with GCC and the Events Traffic team and proactively encourage all ticketholders to use public and active travel. We will be partnering again with SPT and directing to:

- Subway – Hillhead & Kelvinbridge
- Park & Ride – Bridge St, Kelvinbridge, Shields Road
- Nearest train station – Partick

All ticketholders will be emailed advising the use of public transport in addition to messaging across our social media discouraging driving to the event.

We have also requested additional bike racks to be installed at the entrance to the Gardens and the support of GCC parking enforcement officers. We will have No Event Parking signs where prohibited by GCC.

Residents are encouraged to report any illegal parking to Glasgow City Council and the police and can use this link to request extra parking enforcement officers:

**SCAN HERE**