



Guide to Glasgow 2026

Frequently Asked Questions

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Information contained in this document is correct at the time of publication and is subject to change.

Overview

When will the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games take place?

The 23rd edition of the Commonwealth Games will take place from Thursday 23 July to Sunday 2 August 2026.

How many sports are included?

Glasgow 2026 will include 10 sports, including six para sports.

- Artistic Gymnastics
- Athletics and Para Athletics
- 3x3 Basketball and 3x3 Wheelchair Basketball
- Boxing
- Swimming and Para Swimming
- Bowls and Para Bowls (Indoor)
- Judo
- Netball
- Track and Para Track Cycling
- Weightlifting and Para Powerlifting

What sport venues will be used?

The following four venues will be used:

- The Emirates Arena including the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome
- The Scottish Event Campus (SEC) including the SEC Armadillo, SEC Centre and The Hydro
- Scotstoun Stadium
- Tollcross International Swimming Centre

How many athletes do you expect to participate in the Games?

We're projecting that athlete numbers will be around 2,500-3,000.

There were approximately 5,000 athletes at Glasgow 2014 and Birmingham 2022.

A full copy of the Medal Event Programme is available on the Glasgow 2026 website.

Sports

Why is Glasgow 2026 smaller than previous Games?

Glasgow 2026 is about delivering a lighter and leaner programme of sports to ensure that we strike a balance between ensuring the event has a high-quality multi-sport feel but that can be delivered to the highest level in a short timeframe, on a budget which does not rely on public funds to deliver the Games.

A key part of that is using existing world-class sports and events venues and managing the number of athletes attending.

But, whilst Glasgow 2026 might feel different to recent Games, for the majority of the history of the Commonwealth Games the event has been held with approximately 10 sports. Post-1998 the Games have been flexible ranging between 15-20. Flexibility in the future will be important for hosts.

How does Glasgow 2026 align to the CGF's strategy?

In June 2023, the CGF launched their 10-year strategy - Commonwealth United - which was produced in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including athletes, international federations, broadcasters, event suppliers and Commonwealth Games Associations.

The direction of travel was very much towards a more sustainable Games format that unlocked the potential for more nations to be in the position to host. Importantly, Commonwealth United, focuses on how the Games could be transformed into a collaborative and truly sustainable model, minimising costs and reducing its environmental footprint, whilst also increasing social impact, creating a modern, flexible blueprint for the future that inspires athletes, excites potential Hosts and International Federations, and is in the best interests of the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement.

This included revision on the classification of mandatory sports, formally introduced in 2022 (reducing the number of compulsory sports to two to provide greater host nation flexibility).

How were the sports selected?

The host nation proposed the sports programme to be included in the Games, for CGF approval. For 2026, the CGF Strategic Roadmap outlined two compulsory sports that must be included – Athletics/Para Athletics and Swimming/Para Swimming.

The remaining sports are then chosen based on several considerations including CGF Regulation 6 which outlines the factors and criteria they consider when approving a sports programme to be included in the Commonwealth Games.

These factors include:

- Universality of participation
- Quality of competition
- Benefit to Games hosts, including local appeal, cost and operational complexity
- Alignment with CGF values

- Creating a balanced programme

For the sport programme for Glasgow 2026 we also took into consideration other key factors including:

- Maintaining manageable total athlete numbers
- Fitting within a small number of existing venues, ideally with established operational plans for sport delivery
- Minimising risks and uncertainty of legislative/planning complications due to the time and budgetary constraints

A sport selection panel considered all factors before making a recommendation to the CGF's Sport Committee and Executive Board.

What about the sports and athletes not included?

We know how much the Commonwealth Games means to athletes and sports, so we naturally understand those sports which aren't included will be incredibly disappointed. This is the case with every Games cycle, but clearly more are missing out on this occasion.

From our engagement with sports, we know they understand that this was the best route towards securing a sustainable future for the Commonwealth Games, and the sport selection in 2026 will not influence the programme for future Games.

Why is Boxing part of the sports programme for 2026?

Boxing has been an integral part of the Commonwealth Games, appearing at every Games since their inception in Hamilton 1930. Participation in the sport has always been diverse with 55 of the 72 CGAs at Birmingham 2022 competing in the sport across all 6 Commonwealth regions.

Indeed, there are several smaller CGAs from Africa, Caribbean, Americas, and Oceania for which Boxing athletes make up a significant part of their overall team size.

These considerations are among the reasons why the Commonwealth Games Federation accepted the proposal for Boxing to be on the Glasgow 2026 sport programme.

What International Federation will be responsible for Boxing at the 2026 Commonwealth Games?

It is clearly a very complex and difficult situation in Boxing right now, and we are continuing to closely observe developments. Boxing's place on the sports programme is subject to a number of conditions set by the CGF Sports Committee and Executive Board and we hope to make a decision as soon as we can.

If Boxing isn't confirmed as part of the Glasgow 2026 sports programme, will another sport be chosen in its place?

We are working closely with the CGF and other partners to meet the conditions set by the CGF Sports Committee and Executive Board.

Our primary focus is on delivering a world-class Commonwealth Games in 2026 which is financially sustainable and can be delivered to a high standard in a relatively short-time scale, using existing infrastructure in the city of Glasgow. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide an update later in the year.

Medal Event Programme

How many medals will be available at Glasgow 2026?

Glasgow 2026 will see over 200 gold medals up for grabs across the 10 days of sporting competition. This includes a fully integrated Para Sport programme across six of the ten sports, with a Commonwealth Games-record 47 medal events in Para disciplines.

It will also see the biggest Track Cycling and Swimming programme in the history of the Games and the huge success of the 3x3 programme in Birmingham has seen the 3x3 Wheelchair Basketball competition extend from eight teams to 12 per gender.

The final medal total will be confirmed in due course.

How is Medal Event Programme selected?

The medal event programme for Glasgow 2026 was approved by the CGF following consultation with the respective International Federations, Glasgow 2026 and the Host CGA, Commonwealth Games Scotland. It takes into account various factors and considerations that combine to produce a compelling and innovative medal event programme that attracts the Commonwealth's best athletes.

Why are there so many Para Sports?

The beauty of the Commonwealth Games is that it is a fully integrated Games.

It is hugely important that we, as an Organising Company and a key component of the Commonwealth Sport movement, continue to champion Para sport. This is a critical part of the global sporting eco-system, developing the strength, depth and opportunities for nations and territories from across the Commonwealth to compete in, and promote, Para Sport.

Why is there no 1,500m in Athletics?

World Athletics has made an innovative change to the Athletics competition with the return of the Mile, which will replace the 1,500m. The Mile's inclusion was agreed between the CGF and World Athletics ahead of Victoria 2026, prior to the Games' cancellation and it was agreed that the Mile should remain for Glasgow 2026.

The Mile's unique history, spectacular performances, and iconic races have made it one of the most revered events in Athletics. Athletes from Commonwealth nations have consistently showcased their prowess in the Mile. Notable performers include Scotland's Josh Kerr and Laura Muir, Australia's Cameron Myers and Jess Hull, and Kenya's Faith Kipyegon, who holds the mile world record.

Last run in 1966, the mile race, which will be run on the track, is a nod to the 'The Miracle Mile' at the Commonwealth Games in Vancouver, Canada in 1954 when England's Roger Bannister and Australian John Landy – the only two sub-four-minute runners in the world at the time – went head to head only two months after Bannister became the first athlete to run a sub-four minute mile.

Why has the 4x400m relays been taken out?

The Athletics programme has also been adapted to encourage strength and depth of competition across all 74 territories, with Mixed 4x400m Relay included in the programme.

Why has the Boxing medal event programme not yet been announced?

It is clearly a very complex and difficult situation in Boxing right now, and we are continuing to closely observe developments.

Boxing's place on the sports programme is subject to a number of conditions set by the CGF Sports Committee and Executive Board that we are working towards. We will therefore not announce the medal event programme for Boxing at this time.

When do you hope to announce Boxing's medal event programme?

Boxing's place on the sports programme is subject to a number of conditions set by the CGF Sports Committee and Executive Board that we are working towards. We are working closely with the CGF and other partners to monitor the situation and hope to make a decision as soon as we can.

Venues

Why did you pick those four venues?

The CGF has two compulsory sports – Athletics and Para Athletics and Swimming and Para Swimming – which led to the identification of Scotstoun Stadium and Tollcross International Swimming Centre as the best venues to host those disciplines.

Following that we looked to identify sites that would be most operationally viable and economically valuable to the Games concept, ideally with some able to host multiple sports at the same site. Not only does this provide significant budget savings through reduced hire, branding, security and transport costs but it also reduced the risk to delivery as we are using venues who are experienced in delivering world class events.

Given the location and quality of facilities, the SEC and the Emirates Arena / Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome were selected as the optimal venues for hosting multiple sports.

Will there be any capital investment into facilities?

Yes, multi-million-pound investments will be made into the sporting facilities, including a new Athletics track at Scotstoun Stadium.

This will save the public purse a significant amount of money given the need for those facility upgrades, leaving a tangible long-term legacy for local communities.

Will any facilities be built for the Games?

No, we have no plan to build new facilities.

We want to make this the most sustainable Games, financially and structurally, and as Glasgow has a range of excellent facilities which were developed for Glasgow 2014 and other major events the region has hosted successfully over the last decade, we will be looking to make the most of the facilities available.

Some overlay may be required in venues (e.g. temporary stands, surface work etc.) but there is no requirement or plans for new facilities to be built.

Was Hampden Park (host of Athletics at Glasgow 2014) considered for Athletics?

Given the amount of investment required in converting Hampden Park in 2014, it was determined Hampden wasn't a solution which would be a viable option on this occasion.

Why did you not consider adding additional venues?

We want Glasgow 2026 to be the best it can be and given the relatively short time frame to deliver the Games, cost and operational risk were the main drivers for not increasing the number of venues.

Every additional venue introduced brings added costs and complexity for venue hire, security, transport etc. To minimise those risks it was determined that it would be too costly to add additional venues.

Did you consider venues outside of Glasgow?

Introducing venues outside the Glasgow City Council footprint brings added complexity and cost. Therefore, in order to reduce the budget and operational delivery risk we took the decision to keep a compact footprint within Glasgow.

Will sports be held in general public areas (e.g. streets and roads)?

We have not included sporting events held in public areas. Whilst we understand this will be disappointing for impacted athletes and some fans; the decision brings significant savings in transport and security costs and minimises the disruption for the general public by avoiding road closures.

Our ticketing strategy and city activation will ensure the Games will be accessible to all, despite the absence of non-ticketed events like these.

Which sports will take place in which venues?

We are still working on identifying which sports will be in which venues and this is subject to final confirmation. We will announce further details on sports and venues in due course.

Scotstoun Stadium and Campus is a multi-sport venue – could it host more than one sport?

This is something we have explored but due to the scope and scale of the operational delivery of Athletics at Scotstoun, it is not possible to host other sports at Scotstoun within the period of Athletics competition.

Finances

How does hosting the event benefit Scotland economically?

The Glasgow 2026 Games brings huge economic benefit to Glasgow and to Scotland including:

- £100 million towards the cost of running the Games, with the remainder funded through commercial opportunities.
- An additional multi-million-pound investment into upgrading public sporting facilities, relieving the public purse of this pressure.
- Funding for city activation projects across Glasgow.

The inward investment to the Glasgow and Scottish economies of that magnitude will bring significant benefits, with an anticipated 500,000 tickets available to spectators and an estimated economic value add of over £150 million to the region.

To put that into context, in 2023-24 Scotland saw £1.89bn of capital investment – the Glasgow 2026 Games will provide over 5% of that figure alone, without a reliance on public spending to deliver the Games.

Glasgow 2026 will provide a wide range of additional economic benefits including:

- The creation of a Scotland-focused procurement strategy which provides operational and event-based contracts for Scottish suppliers and ultimately creates a significant number of Scottish jobs, in line with other similar sized events
- Continued utilisation and development of the world-class event specialists in Scotland
- Full hotel occupancy across Glasgow in the summer of 2026
- Fully booked world-class sports venues
- Hundreds of thousands of city visitors filling bars and restaurants

Financial Risk

How much will the Games cost?

The projected cost of the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games is calculated at approximately £114 million, devised by a team of experienced major event budgeting professionals using benchmarked costings.

In addition to this we have budgeted a very prudent contingency and there is also an additional funding from the CGF to:

- Invest in capital upgrades
- Deliver activities during the Games to generate excitement and engagement out with the sporting venues

How is the Games funded?

The CGF has made £100 million available to fund the core budget, with additional funding made available for capital upgrades and city activation.

Commonwealth Games Australia has also offered an investment of £2.3 million to support Games delivery. Whilst the Games does not require public funding for delivery, the UK Government has also made an additional £2.3 million available as contingency towards security costs if required.

The balance will be funded by commercial revenues including ticket sales, broadcast revenues, commercial sponsorship and merchandise.

The vast majority of the funding, therefore, is secured and in place.

Does the Glasgow 2026 Games require public funding?

Given the current economic challenges facing the country, we have been clear from the outset of our planning that we do not require – nor have we ever asked for – public funding or a public underwrite from Glasgow City Council, the Scottish Government or the UK Government to deliver the Games.

However, the UK Government has made an additional £2.3 million available as contingency towards security costs if required.

What if costs go up?

There are several controls in place to ensure Glasgow 2026 is delivered on budget including a contingency in the Games budget and in agreement with the CGF, we have the scope to adjust service levels to reduce costs where required.

It is worth noting that the last three Commonwealth Games events were delivered under budget.

Does the CGF require an underwrite?

No – there is no requirement from the CGF for the Games to be underwritten. They are very comfortable with the budget proposed for Glasgow 2026 and that the financial risk has been covered.

Recent Games budgets have ranged from £450 - £750 million – how is such a budget reduction achievable?

The budget for Glasgow 2026 is comparable to events of a similar size Glasgow and similar cities have hosted in recent years.

We have also benchmarked the cost for world championship events of the different sports being considered on the sport programme, and the vast majority deliver their flagship event for less than £5 million each.

Key differences compared to previous editions of the Commonwealth Games include:

- Outsourced model of delivery results in a lean organising committee and minimal centralised costs
- Resized sport programme of 10 sports and reduced number of athletes
- Compact venue footprint and no new facilities required
- Revised delivery models for operational areas aligned to size and scale of the event
- Spectators of circa 500,000 vs over 1 million
- Minimal temporary overlay
- Efficiencies in additional activities (Ceremonies, Baton Relay and live sites)
- No Games host fee

Brand

What does the Games logo represent?

For the first time in the Games' history, the logo combines the Commonwealth Sport logo with the overall visual identity of the 2026 Games – emphasising the central role of the Commonwealth Games within the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement.

Before Glasgow became the newest host, the CGF had already decided to make the integrated logo idea central to all future Games. 2026 is the inaugural year for this design concept which is set to become a Commonwealth Games tradition.

What is the inspiration for the logo?

The Glasgow 2026 logo features Glasgow graphic elements which are inspired by some of the engineering, architectural and natural elements found at the heart of Glasgow.

The three elements include representations of the River Clyde, the Finnieston Crane and the Clyde Arc, which are all centrally aligned in the Commonwealth Sport celebration mark in the colours of the waterfront - symbolising the meeting point for sport and culture at the heart of the Games.

Who designed the logo?

The logo and initial brand look and feel has been developed by Glasgow-based design agency Loop Design Limited.

Governance

Who is organising the Games?

The 2026 Commonwealth Games is delivered by the Glasgow 2026 Organising Company, in partnership with the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Scotland.

Glasgow 2026 Ltd is the corporate vehicle established to deliver the Games; a company limited by guarantee, and its Board of Directors oversees the strategic planning and execution of the Games, with a focus on delivering an event that embodies the values of the Commonwealth

Who is the Chairperson?

George Black is the Chair of the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games Organising Company. Appointed in October 2026, George brings a wealth of experience to the role having previously been Chief Executive of Glasgow City Council from 2003 to 2014, leading the Council's preparations for the Glasgow 2014 Games.

To find out more about George visit the [Glasgow 2026 website](#).

Who else is on the Board?

Ian Reid CBE, Chair of Commonwealth Games Scotland, has been appointed as Vice-Chair. Reid, who has spearheaded the Glasgow 2026 concept, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience of senior roles in previous Commonwealth Games, having served as Chief Financial Officer of Glasgow 2014 and more recently as Chief Executive of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee.

CGF Chief Executive, Katie Sadleir CNZM, CGF Audit and Risk Committee Chair and Board Observer Mary Hardy, and CGS Chief Executive Jon Doig OBE have also been appointed, bringing continuity of strategic oversight for both organisations.

The Board also features an impressive roster of Non-Executive Directors:

- Kieron Achara MBE – former professional basketball player
- David Grady – former Chief Financial Officer, Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games
- Jamie Grant – Managing Director of Corporate Banking, Barclays
- Manish Joshi – Non-Executive Director, Scottish Government
- Dr Julie McElroy – Assistive Technology expert
- Theresa Shearer – Chief Executive, Enable
- Fiona Taylor QPM – Former Deputy Chief Constable, Police Scotland

Who else is involved?

In January 2025 we announced the appointment of five senior executives, who each bring their own specialist experience and knowledge in delivering major events in Glasgow and Scotland.

- Phil Batty has been appointed Chief Executive Officer

- Jade Gallagher has been appointed as Chief Operating Officer
- Faye Shaw, joins as Chief Financial and Corporate Services Officer
- Louisa Mahon joins as Chief Marketing and Communications Officer
- Martin Fitchie joins as Chief Information Officer

Miscellaneous

Where will athletes stay?

Athletes will stay in hotel accommodation close to the SEC.

This is similar to the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, where athletes were spread across four sites and staying in a mixture of hotel and university accommodation.

The model was also used for last year's UCI World Cycling Championships and the World Athletics Indoor Championships in 2024, both held in Glasgow.

Will there be an opening and closing ceremonies?

Yes – the current plan is to have both opening and closing ceremonies. We will be engaging with the creative sector to reimagine the ceremonies within the budget available.

There will also be a Games Festival Programme and further information will be available in due course.

Will there be a Games mascot?

Yes – the identity of our Games mascot will be revealed in due course.

Will there be volunteer opportunities?

Volunteers will be at the heart of the Glasgow 2026 Games. From friendly faces meeting and greeting on the front line to backstage heroes, volunteers will make the difference between a good and a great experience for those competing and attending.

Over 50,000 people from around the world applied to volunteer when the Commonwealth Games last came to the city for Glasgow 2014, and the 15,000 Clydesiders selected were a huge part of making it the 'best Games ever'.

For many Glasgow 2014 volunteers it was just the start - the friends and memories made and skills learned propelled them on to volunteer at events at home and around the world.

Details of the volunteer programme for Glasgow 2026 will be announced in due course.

When will tickets go on sale?

We are working on our ticket strategy, with the aim to make tickets as accessible as possible to fans. We anticipate that around 500,000 tickets will be available for sale details of ticketing arrangements will be announced in later this year.

Will there be a baton relay?

The CGF is currently designing plans for a refreshed King's Baton Relay. Further information will be announced in due course.

Digital

How can I engage with Glasgow 2026 online?

To find out more about the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games, visit www.glasgow2026.com.

Keep up to date with all the latest Games news via Glasgow 2026 social media channels:

- X: https://x.com/glasgow_2026
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/G2026/>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/Glasgow_2026/
- Threads: https://www.threads.net/@glasgow_2026
- TikTok: (via Commonwealth Sport channels): @CommonwealthSport
- LinkedIn: <https://www.Linkedin.com/company/Glasgow2026>

The Games hashtag is #Glasgow2026