

Smofcon 42 Questionnaire – Glasgow 2034

General

1. Name of Bid/Convention?

Glasgow 2034 Worldcon Bid

2. What dates will your convention run?

Either 3rd–6th August or 10th–13th August 2034. The SEC has provisionally been booked for both weekends at present.

3. What is your proposed convention host city?

Glasgow, Scotland, UK

4. Is your convention site in a city centre location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city centre? How far is the site from the city centre?

The Scottish Event Campus (SEC) is approximately 1000m from Glasgow city centre. It is well-connected via Exhibition Centre train station and local bus routes. It is not a suburban venue.

5. What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?

The SEC includes the Armadillo auditorium (3,000+ seats), multiple halls, and breakout spaces. The Crowne Plaza hotel is attached to the venue, and there are 8–9 hotels on site, all within 400m walking distance. Additional overflow options include the Glasgow Science Centre and nearby hotels.

6. If applicable, have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along Funds?

Yes, Glasgow 2034 intends to participate in Pass-Along Funds.

7. What is the sponsoring organization?

There is no sponsoring organization.

8. Is the sponsoring organization a non-profit under the laws of your country?

If the bid is successfully seated then it is the intention that Glasgow 2034 will be run through a private not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated in the UK and will operate as a not-for-profit. It will be liable for VAT and corporation tax. This is the same situation was for Glasgow 2024, A Worldcon for Our Futures.

9. Is the sponsoring organization tax-exempt for local taxes, especially sales tax?

There is no sponsoring organisation and therefore no, it is not tax-exempt.

10. What is your website and other social media presence?

These are still in progress. However, we have the following:

www.glasgow2034.org

[@glasgow2034.bsky.social](#)

[@GlasgowIn2034.wandering.shop](#)

It will also have a Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Convention details

11. Who is your bid/convention chair?

Dr Meg MacDonald is the bid chair.

12. Who is on your committee?

The bid-committee membership is yet to be finalised; recruitment is still underway. Glasgow 2034 will draw on a pool of experienced volunteers to serve as staff and advisors. Several individuals have already been approached and have expressed their intention to provide active support including James Bacon, Claire Cartwright, JC Clark, Tammy Coxen, John Coxon, Vincent Docherty, John Dodd, Sara Felix, D Franklin, Colin Harris, Constanze Hoffmann, Andrew January, Emily January, Ila Khan, Marcin Klak, Alice Lawson, Esther MacCallum-Stewart, Maciej Matuszewski, Alex McBride, Mark Meenan, Helen Montgomery, Brian Nisbet, Catherine Sharp, Marguerite Smith, James Turner, Kate Wood, Shana Worthen.

13. Bid/Con Chair Experience:

Dr MacDonald was Vice-Chair and Co-Division Head for Promotions for Glasgow 2024, ran programme and was convention committee member for Belfast Eastercon 2025, is currently Co- Division Head for Programme for LAcon V, division lead and committee for communications for Eastercon 2026, Volunteers lead and committee for Dublin 2029, Senior staff for Satellite 9 2026, and programme staff for Eastercon 2027. She has been volunteering since 2014 across pre, at, and post-convention roles. Her experience spans programming, promotions, recruitment, facilitation, staff support and community-building, with a strong focus on inclusion, creativity, and collaboration.

14. Senior Committee Experience:

These details will be confirmed with a more formal committee; however, Glasgow 2034 will be drawing from experienced Worldcon and National convention (Eastercon/ Octocon/ Satellite/ Eurocon/ Polcon/ NASFIC etc.) volunteers as staff and advisors including 8 former Worldcon chairs, Vice Chairs, Bid Chairs.

15. What is your vision for your convention?

The motto for the city of Glasgow is “Let Glasgow Flourish”, Glasgow 2034 takes inspiration from this and gives it a new twist: Let fandom flourish. Fandom and Worldcon have deep roots and wide branches, creating a canopy that offers shelter and connection to many. In a time of deep political uncertainty, when some in our community fear for their safety and identity, we affirm that they will always be welcome. Worldcon is a celebration of diversity, growth, and the bold ventures we have undertaken together. It is an act of hope and joy, expressed through creativity, criticism, and courage.

Societally we face immense challenges including rapid technological shifts and unprecedented climate change, alongside attempts to destroy the very nature of truth and erode our care for others.

Glasgow 2034's vision is to plant for a future we may never see blossom, doing so with hope, community, and kindness. We will meet these challenges collectively, strengthening our community by making it wider and more welcoming. We will invite in those who will change it, grow it, and challenge it. As fans, convention runners, and friends, we will create, support, and act. Through our words and deeds, our stories and dreams, we will sustain ourselves and others.

New voices are already shaping fandom – as they always have. Who will join us in five or ten years? Who will we have welcomed, learned from, and shared our knowledge with? Glasgow 2034 hopes to meet them, to plant more, offer more shelter, and help something wonderful grow.

16. How do you plan to make your vision happen?

With help.

A lot of help: Building on the foundations laid by Glasgow 2024 and the positive work that opened Worldcon to 1300 first-time attendees and many first-time volunteers and staff, as well as drawing on the strong supportive local and national con running community and increasingly diverse convention attendees.

17. What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your convention?

Speculative fiction and fandom is woven not only into Glasgow but into Scotland and the wider UK. Our love of stories and our joy of sharing that in community is something the nation is known for - well it does rain a lot, so we need to do something.

Glasgow has an incredibly strong fan culture and history of conventions, starting back in 1978, and convention runners. It has been the home to 3 Worldcons, 7 Eastercons (so far), 8 Satellites (current Scottish National Convention), as well as a host of Albacons, Albacon's TNG, Faircons, Intervention and XlIcon.

Glasgow SF Writers Circle is approaching its 40th Anniversary and has a strong link with local cons and Glasgow Worldcons. The University of Glasgow started the world's first Masters in Fantasy Literature, hosts the Centre for Fantasy and the Fantastic, and has a vibrant fan and academic culture around SFF – and it is only one of the four Universities in the Glasgow area.

We intend to work with as many of the aspects in Glasgow, Scotland, UK fandom to bring together a wonderful celebration of SFF in 2034. We have well established relationships with the Glasgow fan groups, Cymera SFF Festival, the Glasgow and Edinburgh Writers Circles, the Centre for Fantasy and the Fantastic, Realities and Immersion Glasgow, local conventions, Picton, local book and game stores, and we will have the help of the Glasgow Convention Bureau to grow the relationships with Glasgow Life with the local museums and libraries.

Travel

18. What is your main local airport?

Glasgow International Airport, Edinburgh International Airport, Glasgow Prestwick Airport

19. What is the most practical and convenient way on public transit from your airport(s) to your main hotel?

Taxi (~£25), bus, or train to Exhibition Centre Station. The Crowne Plaza is directly attached to the SEC.

Facilities

20. What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

The convention will be supported by the Glasgow Conference Bureau and have access to the hotels on the convention site including Crowne Plaza (attached to SEC), Radisson Red, Hilton Garden Inn, Premier Inn, Marriott Moxy, Marriott Courtyard, Village Hotel. It will also ensure use of hotels across the city. The GCB has already confirmed support of the bid and convention, if seated.

21. How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

Over 8,000 rooms within 2 miles of the SEC. All hotels comply with UK accessibility laws, offering accessible rooms with roll-in showers, grab bars, and mobility charging facilities.

22. What are the room rates?

It is too early to confirm these however based on previous Glasgow conventions the expected range would be in the region of £154-413 based on a 2.5 rate of annual inflation from Glasgow 2024's rates of £120–£322 per night.

23. Do these rates include breakfast and internet access?

UK rates tend to include VAT, breakfast, and internet access.

24. How firm are these rates?

The rates negotiated via Glasgow Convention Bureau will be firm and confirmed closer to the convention. Direct bookings may vary.

25. What additional taxes and fees are there?

Rates are inclusive of VAT. Glasgow will implement a 5% visitor levy on accommodation costs starting January 25, 2027, which applies to all hotels, hostels, guest houses, bed & breakfasts and self-catering accommodation.

26. What is the distance between the main hotel and the main program or exhibits site, if any?

Crowne Plaza is attached to the SEC. Other hotels are within 400m.

27. Are you in more than one building? Are the buildings connected or adjacent?

Yes, we will be in more than one building. SEC buildings are adjacent. Mobility support includes scooter rental, accessible train station, and sloped pavements.

28. Where will your main events (Hugo Awards, Masquerade, etc.) be held?

Main events will be held at the SEC Armadillo with streaming options available.

29. What is the seating capacity there?

3,000+ seats.

30. Where can on-site socializing happen? Are arrangements required to permit serving food or alcohol?

As in previous conventions we intend to have a fan bar and party spaces in Crowne Plaza and Radisson Red, alongside space in the SEC main hall. Corkage agreements will be arranged as we get closer to the date.

31. What are the rules and laws regarding smoking? Where is smoking permitted on site (and what can be smoked)?

Smoking is banned indoors. Designated outdoor areas are available. Smoking is restricted near entrances.

32. What will your policies be regarding public health and disease transmission?

Glasgow 2034 will follow local health guidance and has a disease mitigation policy modelled on Glasgow 2024's framework: <https://glasgow2024.org/about/disease-mitigation-policy/> and Dublin 2029's

framework. It will continue to be responsive to the situations that arise in relation to public health that will be relevant to the convention at that time.

33. What are the parking rates for your convention centre and hotel(s)?

Current rates (2025) are Hydro Carpark (200m from SEC): £5 (1 hr), £10 (12 hrs), £15 (13 hrs), £20 (24 hrs).

Location

34. Summarize nearby restaurants (five minutes walk, 400 meters, 440 yards) including fast food, fine dining, and anything in between.

Glasgow has a vibrant food culture which goes from strength to strength. On-site options include Clydebuilt Bar & Kitchen, and hotel restaurants. Nearby Finnieston offers cafes, pubs, and fine dining. Supermarkets and takeaway services (Uber Eats, Deliveroo) are available and City Centre restaurants are a short taxi ride away.

35. What is the typical weather in your area during your convention dates?

Average temperature: 15°C (59°F). The weather is changeable, even a little mischievous. Expect rain and bright sunshine – often at the same time. Pack layers and waterproofs.

36. What are a few of the most notable or interesting tourist attractions in your area?

Hunterian Museum, Glasgow Science Centre, Riverside Museum, Clydeside Distillery, Sharmanka Kinetic Theatre, the Necropolis, Alasdair Gray murals and the Scottish Ballet. There is also easy transport to Edinburgh and the rest of Scotland for visiting.

Convention specifics

37. Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain demographic groups?

Yes, it is likely we will mirror previous Glasgow conventions with discounts for first-time attendees, Scottish residents, underrepresented voices, and age-based categories (YA, Teen, Child, Infant).

38. Do you have a Code of Conduct?

Yes. It is a living document and modelled on Glasgow 2024 and Dublin 2029. It will evolve alongside the bid. It will be hosted on the web page in due course.

39. What are your plans and policies about diversity, equity, and inclusion?

Glasgow is incredibly proud of its diversity and that is something we will seek to honour through the bid. We will endeavour to create welcoming supportive spaces that foster inclusion and community. Our vision is built around seeking to support how fandom will flourish next. We know this cannot be intent without action, it has to be built into the planning - bid and convention stages- and we intend to do this. We will embed this in our recruitment policies, our outreach and accessibility policies, our programming, rates and convention culture. We intend to have a strong online and virtual element to enable participation from areas that struggle with accessibility to Worldcon through traditional attendance or participation spaces. We will create space to include insight and praxis from fandoms outside of traditional Worldcon fandom, building on the lessons and best practices they've highlighted to afford a more equitable, diverse and inclusive experience. We will listen, listen some more, consult, co-create and continually remain open to critique that will help us grow.

40. Do you have plans for remote virtual participation?

Yes. We believe virtual participation is an access issue and helps a Worldcon be truly worldwide. We will be working to support a robust virtual engagement at the convention.

41. What is the human rights situation in your country or region?

The UK provides legal protections for LGBTQ+ and minority groups. Glasgow is a welcoming and diverse city.

42. Are you able to accept direct payment from outside your country?

Yes. Credit card payments are available and other methods are under investigation.

43. Is there anything else you want to share with our members?

Glasgow 2034 will continue in the traditions of the previous three Glasgow Worldcons of bringing the very best of SFF together, its creativity, its community and its culture.