

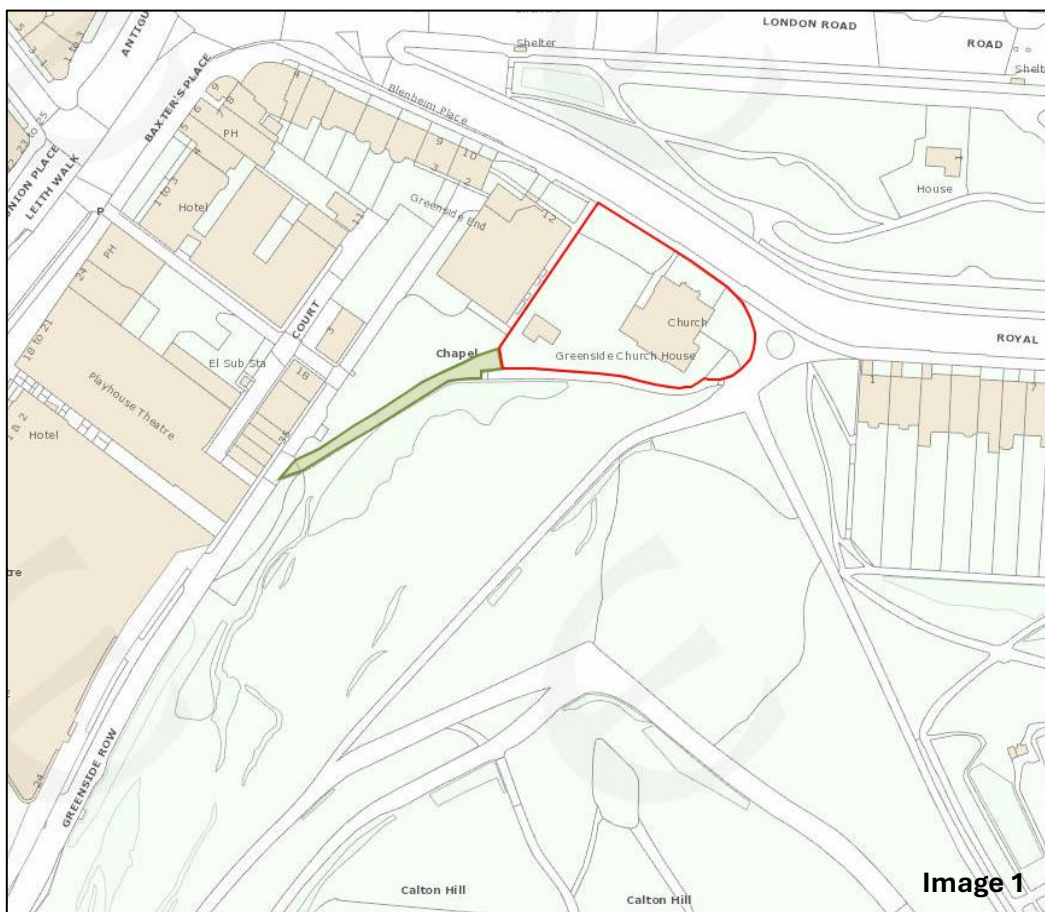
**Proposal to grant a Deed of Servitude for access at Greenside, part of Common
Good land at Calton Hill**

What is proposed?

The Greenside Church buildings have been vacant since February 2024 with the decision now made to put the property on the market for sale. Prior to its sale, it is proposed that vehicular access rights from Greenside Row to the church rear gate is formalised by granting a Deed of Servitude. This would ensure future owners retain permanent access rights to the site.

The property, proposed access route, and associated works

Image 1 below shows the location of the Greenside Church buildings, the property, (outlined red), and the proposed access route (shaded green).



Minor works would also be undertaken to improve and manage site access. This will involve:

- replacement of a fixed to drop-down bollard, circled blue, at the entry/exit point from/to Greenside Row (Image 2), and
- installation of a reinforced grass grid, or similar, over the section of soft landscaping at the rear gate, outlined purple, (Image 3) that can accommodate vehicular traffic across it.



Background to the proposal

The New Town Church formed as a result of the union of St Andrew's & St George's West Church with Greenside Church, on 1 February 2024. The place of worship for the united congregation became the George Street church building. The Greenside Church buildings, comprising the church and caretaker's house, have been vacant since the union and it is now planned that they will be sold.

Pedestrian access to Greenside Church is via gates from Royal Terrace. Historically, vehicular access has been from Greenside Row, crossing Greenside pathway and soft landscaping, to reach the rear gate to the church buildings. This vehicular route operates as a long-standing informal arrangement between the Council and Greenside Church.

As the vehicular access route is part of the Calton Hill site, a Common Good asset, the Council is required to consult under Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, before formalising vehicular access rights by Deed of Servitude.

Why your views matter

The Council recognises the importance of Calton Hill as a valued public asset. Before progressing with legal procedures to grant a Deed of Servitude we want to hear from local residents, community groups, park users, and other interested stakeholders.

Your views will help shape the decision-making process and ensure that the proposal takes account of the local perspectives as well as statutory obligations.

Consultation

As Calton Hill is a Common Good asset, it is subject to the requirement in section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to undertake a public consultation when considering changing the use of Common Good assets. This includes the grant of new servitude rights over Common Good land.

Therefore, before taking any decision, and to inform the decision-making process, we are keen to hear the views of the community on the proposed grant of a Deed of Servitude to formalise vehicular access rights over Common Good land to/from Greenside Church, in particular:

- Do you have any views on potential benefits of the proposal?
- Do you have any issues or concerns arising from the proposal?
- Do you have any additional comments?

The Council will take all representations into account in reaching a decision.

Depending on the representations received the possible outcomes are:

- The proposal goes ahead
- The proposal is amended significantly, and a fresh consultation takes place
- The proposal does not go ahead

What happens next?

- All comments received will be reviewed and reported.
- If the proposal is supported, the Council will proceed with legal procedures to grant a Deed of Servitude for vehicular access rights.
- If significant issues are raised, the proposal may be amended, or further consultation may be required.

Representations

You can feedback your views:

- online at <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/>
- sending comments by email to commongood@edinburgh.gov.uk
- in writing to Claire Donaldson, The City of Edinburgh Council, 1.5 Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG

We must receive your comments by 26th October 2026