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COMMONWEALTH GAMES GLASGOW 2026

SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION



01

Overview



Glasgow 2026 marked the **23rd edition of the Commonwealth Games**, held in Glasgow from 23 July to 2 August. More than 3,000 athletes and Para athletes from **74 nations and territories** competed across **ten sports** over 11 days, including ten days of sporting competition. The completed event provided a practical test of a more compact Games model.



Source: <https://newsonair.gov.in/2026-commonwealth-games-organisers-drop-prominent-sports-event-to-feature-only-10-sports/>

At the centre of Glasgow 2026 was a **compact operating model** built around Glasgow's existing sporting infrastructure. This placed the Games within a **defined urban footprint** and made established facilities the foundation of delivery.

Defining Features of Glasgow 2026

23rd	74	10	4	3000+
Edition	Nations & Territories	Sports	Venue Locations	Athletes & Para Athletes

The sporting programme combined established disciplines with **integrated Para competition**, while its overall scale was deliberately limited. This balance allowed Glasgow 2026 to retain the character of a **multi-sport event** within the operational constraints of the reimaged model.

Sustainability, accessibility and community participation were also incorporated into planning. These priorities linked the sporting event to wider environmental and social objectives, which are examined in greater detail in the dedicated sections that follow.



Source: <https://scottishdisabilitysport.com/commonwealth-games-federation-confirms-glasgow-as-2026-commonwealth-games-hosts/>



Source: <https://www.perspectivemedia.com/burnham-thanks-glasgow-for-stepping-up-to-save-commonwealth-games/>

The significance of Glasgow 2026 lies in the completed test of an **alternative approach** to staging a major multi-sport event. The Games provide evidence on how hosting decisions can shape **operational delivery, inclusion, sustainability** and longer-term local value.

02

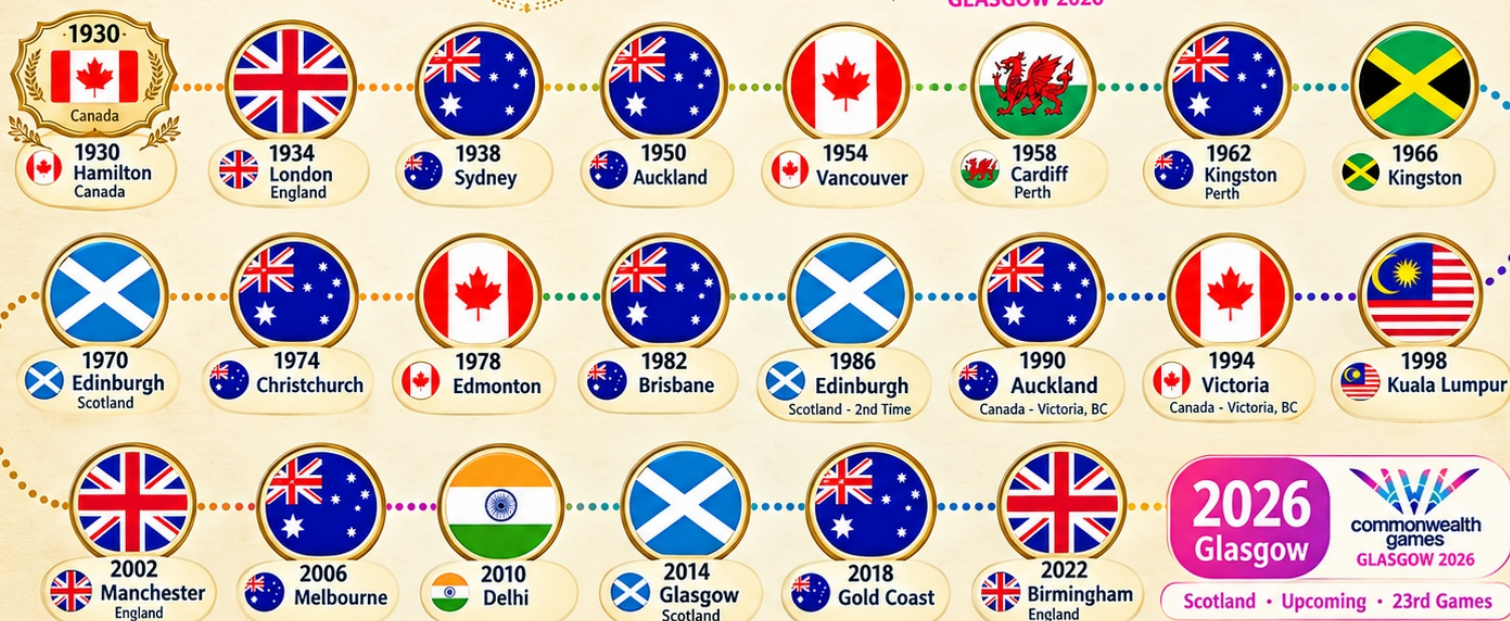
History and Evolution of the Commonwealth Games

COMMONWEALTH GAMES TIMELINE 1930 — 2026

From the British Empire Games to the Commonwealth Games • 23 Games Across 9 Decades • 18 Host Cities • 5 Continents



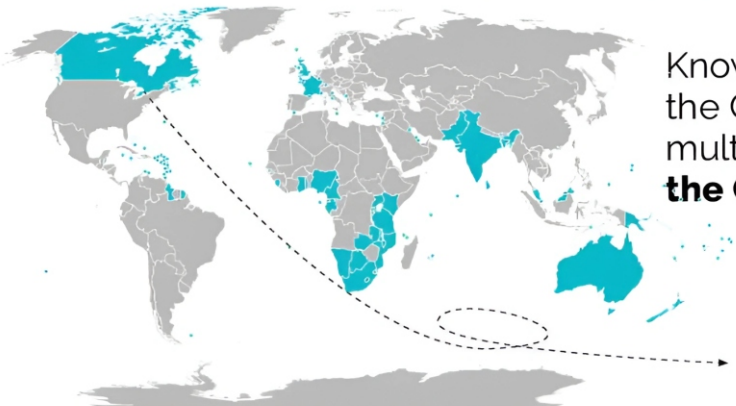
Est. 1930 —
Formerly the British Empire Games



The Commonwealth Games **originated as the British Empire Games**, with the inaugural edition held in **Hamilton, Canada, in 1930**. Eleven countries sent about 400 athletes, who competed in six sports. The event established a recurring multi-sport competition linking territories that were then connected through the British Empire.



What is Commonwealth Games



Known as the **'Friendly Games'**, the Commonwealth Games is a multi-sport event involving athletes from **the Commonwealth of Nations**

The Games have grown from featuring **11 countries** and **400 athletes**, to a global spectacle of **4,600 sports men and women** from across **72 nations and territories**



The Games debuted in 1930 in **Ontario, Canada**

Is held every four years, with a hiatus during World War II



Source: <https://www.news18.com/photogallery/sports/cwg-2022-a-look-at-things-to-know-about-the-commonwealth-games-5674453.html>

The Games expanded geographically and institutionally during the twentieth century. **London hosted in 1934, followed by Sydney in 1938 and Auckland in 1950**. The name changed to British Empire and Commonwealth Games in 1954, British Commonwealth Games in 1970, and Commonwealth Games from 1978, reflecting wider institutional change.

Evolution of the Commonwealth Games



The sporting programme also evolved considerably. **The first Games included women only in swimming and diving, while later editions progressively broadened female participation and competitive opportunities.** Para sport followed a similar trajectory, moving from separate opportunities towards greater integration. These developments changed the Games into a more inclusive sporting platform.



Source: <https://www.commonwealthsport.com/news/4461278/defining-moments-women-at-the-commonwealth-games>

Host cities increasingly used the Games to showcase infrastructure, tourism and international identity. Editions in Kuala Lumpur, Manchester, Melbourne, Delhi, Glasgow, Gold Coast and Birmingham demonstrated different approaches to scale and legacy. At the same time, rising costs increased pressure to reconsider traditional hosting models.



Source: <https://rizkhan.in/2026/07/23/commonwealth-games-begin-in-glasgow/>

Glasgow 2026 emerged from this longer evolution, but also from an immediate hosting crisis. **Victoria withdrew from hosting the 2026 Games in July 2023 and escalating cost projections.** Glasgow subsequently stepped forward with a streamlined proposal, and Commonwealth Sport described the model as an early step in resetting and reframing the Games around lower costs, existing venues and more sustainable delivery.

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03

Glasgow 2026: The Reimagined Commonwealth Games



The reimagined model translated those circumstances into a compact operating structure. Competition was concentrated across **four established venue locations within an eight-mile corridor**, with **no plans for a new Athletes' Village** or a new network of major competition facilities. The arrangement **reduced venue, transport and accommodation complexity** while building on Glasgow's existing sporting infrastructure.



Source: <https://www.glasgow2026.com/news/4413655/story-of-change-the-reimagined-games>

The **compressed preparation period** also shaped delivery. Glasgow 2026 was delivered at exceptional speed after the change of host, and the Games' interim evaluation described the turnaround as the **fastest in the history of major international sport**. The model therefore combined a shorter planning horizon with manageable athlete numbers and **controlled operational risk**.

The model was also shaped by financial considerations. The Games were initially projected at about **£150 million**, with **£100 million from Commonwealth Sport** and the remainder expected from commercial revenues. Post-Games reporting later placed projected privately funded spending at **£162.6 million**. The financial structure was intended to limit public exposure while supporting visitor spending, employment and local investment.

GLASGOW 2026 AT A GLANCE

11 days

10 sports

Largest

Para sport programme

2,749

athletes from

74

nations
and territories

1,168

medals available across
215 medal events

**Rwanda
and Tuvalu**

First ever Commonwealth
Games medals

**Gabon
and Togo**

First Commonwealth Games
participation

434k

spectator tickets

4,000

volunteers
completing 156,110 hours

164k

people attended
Game On Live Site and
Merchant City Festival

ISO 20121

certification achieved

A reimagined Games
News Service

2,271

Video flash quotes
downloaded

370m

social media views on
Games and Games Family
channels

750

organisations
joined the All In
programme



All as of 31 July

Source: <https://www.conference-news.co.uk/news/glasgow-2026-commonwealth-games-hailed-for-setting-a-blueprint-for-future-major-events/>

Existing venues offered operational advantages because they already had sporting functions, transport connections and experienced workforces. Targeted upgrades could therefore support Games delivery while creating longer-term community utility. Athletes were accommodated in **hotel hubs close to competition and training venues** rather than in a traditional village, reducing the infrastructure required for accommodation.

The Reimagined Hosting Model



Existing Infrastructure

Established
sporting
venues



Compact Footprint

Four locations
within an
eight-mile
corridor



Targeted Investment

Essential Games
requirements and
selected venue
upgrades



Long-term Utility

Venue use, skills,
volunteering,
and local
participation



Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2026/jul/23/glasgow-cut-price-commonwealth-games-fight-for-survival>

The reimagined model connected **venue readiness, accommodation, targeted investment and local capability** within one delivery framework. Its significance therefore extended beyond immediate cost and operational considerations to the longer-term use of facilities, skills, volunteering and business opportunities.

04

Sports, Venues and Commonwealth Games 2026: At A Glance

GLASGOW
2026

indian
prides

ONE CITY. ONE STAGE. ONE COMMONWEALTH.



**commonwealth
games**

Competition took place across **ten sports**: athletics, swimming, boxing, weightlifting, cycling, judo, netball, artistic gymnastics, bowls and 3x3 basketball. Several disciplines were paired with Para formats, creating an **integrated programme**.

The principal venue locations were **Scotstoun Stadium**, **Tollcross International Swimming Centre**, the **Scottish Event Campus** and the **Glasgow International Arena** complex, including the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome and Arena. Each location accommodated sports suited to its existing facilities and operational capabilities.



Source: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/sport/31226902/glasgowconfirmed2026commonwealth-games-sports-dates-revealed/>

Competition Architecture

10-Sport Programme



A mix of individual and team disciplines - athletics, aquatics, combat, cycling, gymnastics, bowls, basketball

Integrated Para Sport



Six Para sports incorporated into principal competition programme

Clustered Venues



Four established Glasgow venue locations concentrated within a compact urban footprint

Dense Competition Schedule



10 days of sporting competition delivering a substantial programme of medal opportunities

The programme included several notable format features. Glasgow hosted the return of the **Commonwealth Mile** in athletics, expanded 3x3 basketball and wheelchair basketball, and the **largest swimming and track cycling programmes** in Commonwealth Games history. These additions broadened the event's competitive offer without expanding the overall sports list.



Source: <https://www.glasgow2026.com/sports/basketball>

Para sport was embedded across six sports, with **47 medal events forming the largest integrated Para sport programme** in Commonwealth Games history. This structure made Para competition part of the main sporting programme rather than treating it as an isolated supplementary component.



Source: <https://www.commonwealthsport.com/news/4211556/glasgow-2026-announces-largest-ever-parasportmedaleventprogramme>

Venue allocation also shaped the spectator experience. **Swimming, athletics, cycling and indoor sports were matched with facilities suited to their requirements**, allowing spectators to follow different parts of the programme while maintaining a coherent city-based Games experience.

05

Sustainability, Inclusion and Community Legacy



Sustainability was built into Glasgow 2026 through **renewable electricity**, **reduced construction requirements** and operational choices designed to limit environmental impacts. **All competition venues used renewable electricity** from the Scottish Grid, while the use of existing facilities reduced the material demands associated with building a new competition network.



Official Principal Energy
& Utilities Partner

Source: <https://teamengland.org/news/glasgow-2026-venues-set-to-be-powered-by-zero-carbon-electricity-as-edf-becomes-official-team-england-partner>



Source: <https://www.indulgenceexpress.com/entertainment/sports-entertainment/2026/Jul/25/the-commonwealth-games-2026-medals-create-history-make-inclusion-a-mandate-not-an-option>

Resource management formed another part of the approach. **Temporary overlay structures were largely hired for reuse, while recycled plastic bottles were converted into venue banners.** Food provision also included a substantial vegetarian and plant-based share, showing how procurement and operational choices can influence the environmental profile of a major sporting event.

Inclusion extended beyond the sporting programme. The integration of Para competition increased the visibility of Para athletes, while the Games medals incorporated **braille and tactile features** for the **first time in Commonwealth Games history**. Together, these measures made accessibility part of both competition and the wider Games experience.

Sustainability & Inclusion in Practice

Areas	Glasgow 2026 Approach
Energy	Renewable electricity at competition venues
Materials	Reuse of temporary infrastructure and repurposed materials
Food	59% vegetarian/plant-based provision
Accessibility	Integrated Para sport and tactile/Braille medals
Participation	Volunteers, schools, businesses, and communities

Community participation was treated as a legacy mechanism. Volunteers supported delivery across venues, while **“All In” encouraged schools, businesses, communities and visitors to engage with the event**. The organizers also identified skills development, wellness and belonging as elements of wider social impact, extending the Games beyond competition.



Source: <https://www.glasgow2026.com/get-involved/about-all-in>

These initiatives were organised around **four principles: a greener Games, an inclusive Games, a welcoming Games and a financially responsible Games**. By the close of the Games, more than **630,000 people** had engaged through venues, live sites and the Glasgow 2026 Festival, while more than **4,000 volunteers** contributed **156,110 hours**. These figures provide concrete evidence of the event's community reach.

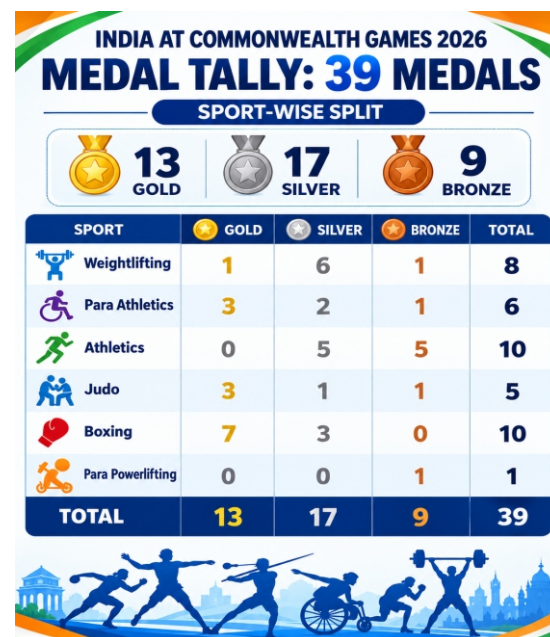
06

India at the Commonwealth Games 2026



India entered Glasgow 2026 with a substantial Commonwealth Games record. It had won 64 medals at Glasgow 2014, 66 at Gold Coast 2018 and 61 at Birmingham 2022. **For 2026, India fielded 124 athletes, comprising 78 men and 46 women**, across a programme that tested established strengths while creating opportunities in newer disciplines.

The Indian campaign opened with a Para powerlifting bronze for Jhandu Kumar, followed by **Mirabai Chanu's gold in women's 48kg weightlifting**. Rishikanta Singh then won silver in the men's 60kg category and set a Commonwealth Games record in the snatch. These early results established India's presence across different competitive categories.



Source: <https://ddnews.gov.in/en/cwg-2026-indian-boxers-script-history-with-record-seven-boxing-gold-medals/>

India's boxing campaign produced a particularly strong medal contribution, with ten medals, including seven gold and three silver. The result underlined boxing's continuing importance within India's Commonwealth performance profile. **Weightlifting also remained prominent, while judo, athletics and Para athletics produced significant individual milestones.** Together, these results showed that India's medal base extended beyond a single established discipline.

Several performances carried wider historical significance. **Asmita Dey became the first Indian woman to win a Commonwealth Games judo title**, while Harsh Singh secured men's judo gold. **Tejaswin Shankar won bronze in the decathlon, becoming India's first Commonwealth Games medallist in that event.** These results widened India's achievement profile beyond traditional medal disciplines and added new markers to the country's Commonwealth record.



Source: <https://ddindia.co.in/2026/08/cwg-2026-asmita-has-brought-glory-to-tripura-says-cm-after-judoka-wins-historic-gold/>

India's Medal Pathways

Weightlifting

Mirabai Chanu - Gold
Rishikanta Singh - Silver



Boxing

10 medals
(7 Gold + 3 Silver)



Judo

Asmita Dey - Gold
Harsh Singh - Gold



Para Sport

Indian Para athletes
contributed to the campaign



Athletics

Tejaswin Shankar -
Decathlon Bronze



India's 13 gold medals also reflected a strong contribution from its women athletes, who won eight of the country's gold medals. This result added a gender dimension to the campaign alongside the established strengths, breakthrough performances and Para sport participation recorded across the Games.

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07

Scoreboard & Key Statistics



Glasgow 2026 produced **215 medal events with a total of 1,168 medals awarded** across the competition. These figures provide the numerical basis for assessing the distribution of results among participating nations.

MEDAL TABLE

DAY 10 SUNDAY 2 AUGUST 2026



1		AUSTRALIA	70	45	56	171
2		ENGLAND	29	45	36	110
3		CANADA	19	20	23	62
4		INDIA	13	17	9	39
5		SCOTLAND	13	9	17	39
6		NEW ZEALAND	10	14	12	36
7		NIGERIA	10	7	7	24
8		JAMAICA	10	4	5	19
9		WALES	9	10	12	31
10		MALAYSIA	8	3	5	16
11		SOUTH AFRICA	7	11	10	28
12		NORTHERN IRELAND	3	4	9	16
13		KENYA	3	4	5	12
14		CYPRUS	1	5	6	12
15		MAURITIUS	1	2	1	4
16		CAMEROON	1	1	3	5
17		JERSEY	1	1	0	2
17		SAMOA	1	1	0	2
17		SRI LANKA	1	1	0	2
20		FIJI	1	0	1	2

Source: https://www.reddit.com/r/olympics/comments/1vdrthe/glasgow_2026_commonwealth_games_final_medal_table/

The medal table was led by Australia with 171 medals, including 70 gold, followed by England with 110 medals, including 29 gold, and Canada with 62 medals, including 19 gold. India and Scotland each recorded 39 medals, with India placed fourth because it secured more silver medals than Scotland.



Source: <https://www.connectedtoindia.com/commonwealth-games-2026-india-closes-campaign-with-13-gold-39-medals/>

India's Glasgow campaign produced **39 medals** comprising **13 gold, 17 silver and 9 bronze**. This numerical breakdown explains its position in the overall medal table and provides the basis for comparing its performance with other leading delegations.

Para sport was incorporated into the **overall medal structure** rather than being reported separately from the main competition. This approach enabled the scoreboard to reflect the contribution of **integrated Para events** within the Games as a whole.

Key Statistical Dimensions

Medal Events 	Para Integration 	Medal Leadership 	India Total 
• 215 medal events • 1168 medals awarded	• 6 sports • 47 medal events	• Australia - 171 • England - 110 • Canada - 62	• 39 total medals • 13 gold • 17 silver • 9 bronze • 4th position



Source: <https://www.sportscapemagazine.com/blog/india-para-track-heroes-athletics-glasgow-2026-commonwealth-games>

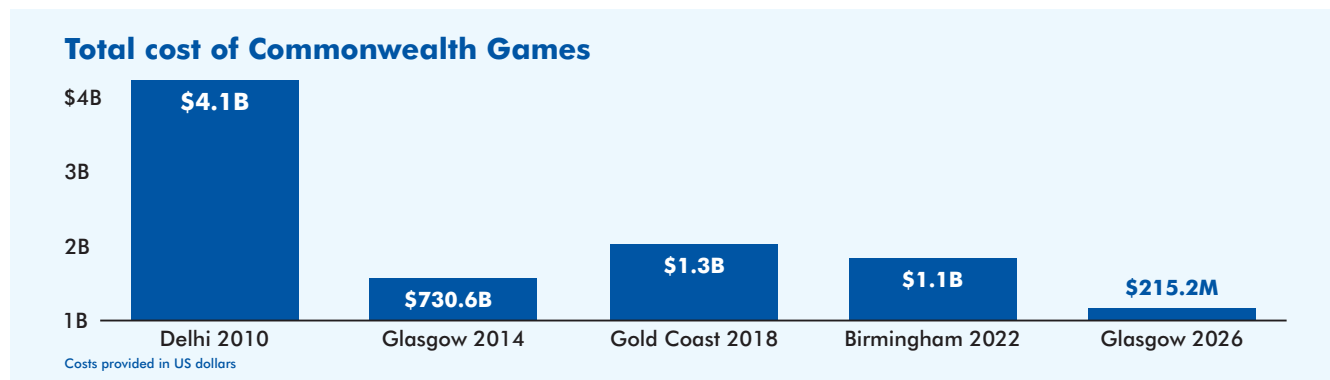
Taken together, the figures show how the **Glasgow 2026 scoreboard** reflected both the scale of the programme and the distribution of results among leading nations. The medal-event total, overall medal allocation and national totals provide the statistical framework for interpreting the competition.

08

Economic Impact, Technology and Future of the Commonwealth Games



Glasgow 2026 generated **economic activity through visitor spending, Games-time employment, external investment and participation by local suppliers and organizations.** These effects show how a major sporting event can extend beyond direct event expenditure into wider business activity and local capability.



Source: <https://www.sportspro.com/features/decision-makers/politics-and-governance/commonwealth-games-2026-glasgow-katie-sadleir-hosting-model/>

The financial model prioritised selective capital spending rather than a large programme of new permanent venues. Investment focussed on targeted improvements, including venue upgrades and a new athletics track at Scotstoun. **The post-Games evaluation reports £4.7 million in venue upgrades**, demonstrating how spending was concentrated on assets with continuing sporting and community utility.



Source: <https://www.glasgowlive.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/glasgow-2026-commonwealth-games-opening-33629076>

Operational systems and transport planning also supported Games delivery. With **71 percent** of Games transportation reported as hybrid or electric and **63 percent** as fully electric, **transport design** formed part of the wider operating model and helped connect day-to-day delivery with the event's efficiency objectives.



Source: <https://www.glasgow2026.com/welcometoglasgow/transport>

The event also generated evidence about local organisational capability. **Suppliers, venue staff, Games-time employees and community organizations formed part of the delivery ecosystem**, while procurement and skills initiatives created opportunities beyond the competition itself. This broadened the economic model from event expenditure to local capability and longer-term use.

The Glasgow Economic Model



Taken together, these elements show how Glasgow 2026 linked **financial planning, existing assets, transport operations and local capability**. The completed Games therefore provides a basis for considering how controlled infrastructure spending and operational planning can support longer-term local value.

09

Way Forward



The next phase should convert Glasgow 2026's delivery experience into measurable evidence. Commonwealth Sport and future organisers can publish **comparable indicators for cost, participation, environmental performance, venue use, employment and community outcomes**, allowing hosts to assess which elements produced lasting value.



Source: <https://www.hospitalityinvestor.com/hotels/can-glasgow-commonwealth-games-spark-new-hotel-investment-cycle>

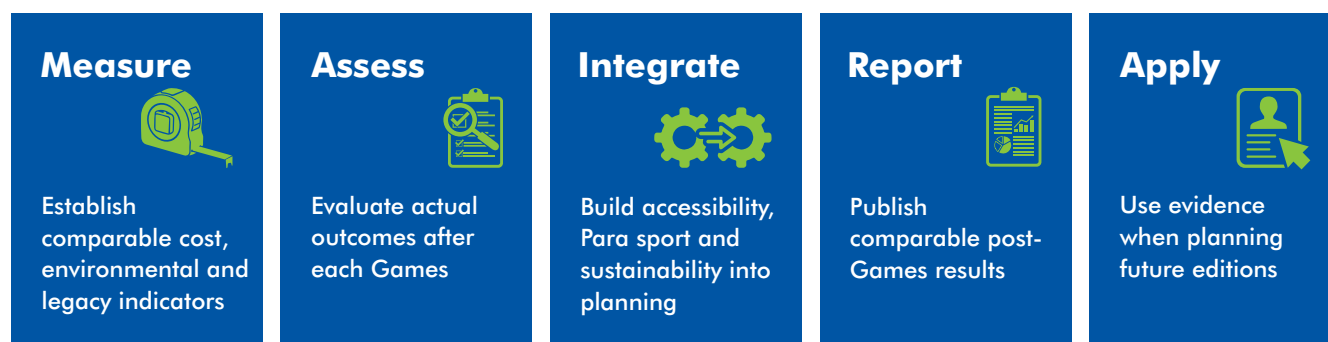
Future editions can examine how compact hosting affects athletes, spectators, broadcasters and transport systems. Glasgow's experience also shows how accommodation planning can be integrated into wider venue strategy, with **hotel hubs and active-travel links** reducing the need for a central Athletes' Village. Future hosts can assess whether similar arrangements suit their **own geography and operational requirements**.

Para sport should remain central to future Games planning. Future hosts can build on Glasgow's integrated approach by treating **accessibility as part of venue, communications, transport and athlete-service planning** from the earliest design stage, rather than adding accessibility measures later in the process.



Source: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-08-06/future-of-para-sport-at-commonwealth-games/101307486>

Future Priorities for Commonwealth Games Hosting



Environmental commitments should move from promises to measurement. Future Games can establish **common baselines** for emissions, energy, transport, waste, food and temporary infrastructure, then publish **comparable post-Games results**. This would make environmental performance easier to assess across different host cities and editions.

Finally, Glasgow should inform preparation for **Amdavad 2030**, the Centenary Commonwealth Games. Amdavad will operate on a different scale and with a broader programme, so Glasgow's lessons should be **applied selectively rather than replicated wholesale**. The focus can remain on balancing sporting ambition with financial discipline, accessibility, environmental responsibility and community legacy.



Source: <https://in.eventfaqs.com/2025/11/27/amdavad-confirmed-as-host-of-2030-centenary-commonwealth-games/>

10

EXPERT INSIGHT



We have delivered a Games that is rooted in the spirit of our host city and nation. Glasgow 2026 gave people permission to believe again – in the city, in the Commonwealth Games, and in the idea that the world's great sporting moments can belong to everyone.

Phil Batty OBE
Chief Executive Officer
Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games



RESOURCES

1. <https://www.glasgow2026.com/about/story-of-change>
2. <https://www.glasgow2026.com/medals>
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cz6j0882weyt>
4. <https://olympic.ind.in/cwg-2026/>
5. <https://www.perspectivemedia.com/burnham-thanks-glasgow-for-stepping-up-to-save-commonwealth-games/>
6. <https://www.olympics.com/en/news/commonwealth-games-2026-sports-list>
7. <https://www.olympics.com/en/news/commonwealth-games-2026-india-schedule-today-july-29-wednesday>
8. <https://www.glasgow2026.com/venues/sec>
9. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/commonwealth-games-return-to-glasgow-with-uk-government-backing>
10. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/new-updates/commonwealth-games-2026-why-hockey-badminton-and-seven-other-sports-are-missing-and-how-it-affects-indias-medal-hopes/articleshow/132574232.cms?from=mdr>
11. <https://www.travelandtourworld.com/news/article/0av5k5mrtw8s/>
12. <https://www.commonwealthsport.com/news/4552124/the-story-so-far-game-changer-glasgow-2026>
13. <https://www.glasgow2026.com/news/4533307/his-majesty-the-king-and-her-majesty-the-queen-to-officially-open-glasgow-2026-commonwealth-games>
14. <https://www.glasgow2026.com/news/4413655/story-of-change-the-reimagined-games>
15. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressNoteDetails.aspx?ModuleId=3&NotId=159409&lang=1®=3>
16. <https://www.commonwealthsport.com/news/4408937/commonwealth-sport-confirms-amdavad-india-as-host-of-the-2030-centenary-games>
17. <https://www.glasgow2026.com/get-involved/about-all-in>

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