

# Inverleith green action

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Scottish Parliament  
Election Special 2011

## Your Local Green Team



**Robin Harper,**  
Green MSP  
for Lothian



**Alison Johnstone,**  
lead Green candidate  
for Lothian in 2011



**Nigel Bagshaw,**  
Green spokesperson  
for Inverleith

www.  
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org.uk

# Greens – the only alternative!

**Greens in Edinburgh have launched their campaign for the Scottish Parliament, by urging voters to back an alternative to politics as usual.**

Top candidate, Alison Johnstone, who is bidding to succeed Robin Harper as Green MSP for Lothian, said: "There's never been a more important time for a Green alternative. We are witnessing an astonishing assault on public services: ideology wrapped in a cloak of financial necessity. Yet all so-called main parties accept this as inevitable.

"There's an utterly naïve view that the private sector will grow to fill the space left by public sector cuts.

But will it? And what kind of economy will we see in its place? One characterised by "McJobs", feeding on high consumption, waste-today-forget-tomorrow?

"That's no kind of policy at all. Not for people and not for the planet. We need a thriving public sector working with a responsible private sector to make genuine long term choices for Scotland – on housing, transport, education, on energy provision and the sweep of policy.

"That's the alternative Greens offer. And that's why I believe that tens of thousands of voters will back us with their second vote."

*Follow Alison's campaign on Twitter @AlisonJohnstone*

## First Green MP backs Alison Johnstone for Parliament

**The UK's first Green MP, Caroline Lucas, has paid tribute to retiring MSP Robin Harper and backed Alison Johnstone as his would-be successor in the Scottish Parliament.**

Caroline said that Robin had been a breath of fresh air when first elected as MSP in 1999 and added:

"I was hugely impressed by Alison when I met her recently in Edinburgh. She shares my own conviction that social justice and environmental



protection go hand in hand. I look forward to welcoming Alison to that growing band of Greens who are elected to fight for a greener and fairer world."

**2nd VOTE GREEN**

## Contact your local Greens

Inverleith Green Team is made up of Scottish Green Party members and other community-minded people in the area stretching from Drylaw to Warriston and south to Dean Village and Stockbridge.

You can contact us at [inverleith@edinburghgreens.org.uk](mailto:inverleith@edinburghgreens.org.uk)

Or write to us at  
5 Lennox Street  
EH4 1QB

You can also contact your Green MSP, Robin Harper on [robin@edinburghgreens.org.uk](mailto:robin@edinburghgreens.org.uk) or 0131 348 5000

This newsletter is also available in large print

Printed by Cowan Print,  
23 Brougham Street,  
Edinburgh EH3 9JS  
Promoted by and  
on behalf of the  
Scottish Green Party,  
20 Graham Street,  
Edinburgh EH6 5QR

# Local Greens slam cuts to schools budgets

**Inverleith Greens have hit out at a planned £15 million cut to the city's Children and Families budget which they say will affect Broughton High School and Flora Stevenson, Stockbridge, Ferryhill and Blackhall primary schools.**

Green spokesperson Nigel Bagshaw, said "Schools' budgets have already been cut substantially in recent years and to be thinking about cutting

them further is crazy. As a society, one of our main priorities must be to give young people the standard of education they need. Rather than cutting budgets Government should be looking at ways of increasing investment by clamping down on tax evasion by big companies, switching resources from large-scale vanity projects, and introducing a fairer form of local taxation.

## Public Parks not Private Houses

Green campaigners are supporting local efforts to stop publicly owned park land from being handed over to property developers. Local green campaigner, Nigel Bagshaw said: 'Edinburgh's parks belong to everyone across the entire city, including future generations, and should not be placed in the hands of a tiny number of private individuals for their exclusive use. What we need instead is improved facilities to enhance our fantastic green spaces.'

## Warm homes now, say Greens

In the face of ever rising fuel prices and an exceptionally cold winter Inverleith Green Group has backed proposals to properly insulate and draft-proof all homes in the area to reduce fuel poverty, cut fuel bills, boost construction jobs, improve health and fight climate change.



### Can you help us with the election campaign?

Can you help us in our campaigns? Is there an issue that affects where you live? Contact us at [inverleith@edinburghgreens.org.uk](mailto:inverleith@edinburghgreens.org.uk) or at 5 Lennox Street EH4 1QB

- I can help deliver **Green Action** in my street or display a window poster
- I'd like more information about the **Scottish Green Party**
- I'd like to make a donation to **Edinburgh Green Party**  
*(cheques payable to Edinburgh Green Party)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Information on this form will be kept private and used only for Green Party contact

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