



Green MSP backs Ally Broughton

LOTHIAN GREEN MSP ANDY WIGHTMAN IS FIRMLY BEHIND ALLY BROUGHTON'S BID FOR ELECTION AS GREEN COUNCILLOR FOR FORTH



In this issue

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN: Hands off city's green space!

HOUSING: Build for the future

BIN COLLECTIONS: Getting it right

CHILDCARE: Tackling child poverty

GREEN SPACES: Cultivating communities

GAP SITES: Opportunity on our doorstep

LOWER GRANTON ROAD: Improvements at last

Green candidate Ally Broughton is hoping to win the support of local people to represent them in the Council.

"I love living in Edinburgh and working with community groups. I know the power of our communities can make positive change, including regeneration of land for housing, open and green spaces to enhance social health and our environment I want to help empower our Forth community by listening to local concerns and representing them on the Council."

Greens have a bold programme to transform the capital. They have highlighted the need for residents and community groups to have more say over how the city is run. They plan to confront the stark divisions between rich and poor in

the ward and across the city that have been made worse in recent years. Their ambitions also cover cleaner streets and protected green spaces; better connected transport and cycling infrastructure; making the city accessible for all; and promoting jobs in green energy and technology.

Green MSP Andy Wightman said: "Edinburgh is a great city but we should be making it better for all its residents. Green councillors have fought for green jobs, investment in schools, safer roads and the best for our green spaces. We need candidates like Ally who will join them to stand up for Edinburgh and our future."

Only Greens can be trusted on city green space claim



The future of the city green belt and green spaces hangs in the balance according to Green councillors.

Last year, the council passed the controversial Local Development Plan (LDP), allowing development schemes expanding the city to the south and west. This will eat into the green belt, increase traffic and undermine regeneration plans. Green councillor Melanie Main blasted

other parties' hypocrisy over green spaces: "By backing the LDP, Labour and SNP credibility is in tatters. Tory councillors say they oppose the LDP but have sided with developers on individual planning decisions. Lib Dem councillors did not even bother to take up a

place on Planning Committee. We need an LDP which puts re-use of empty homes and brownfield sites first, reducing the need to travel by providing homes, shops and services near each other. If you want a city which protects its precious green spaces, the Greens are the only councillors you can trust."

Green councillor Melanie Main: "Re-use empty homes and brownfield sites first."

Let's get bins right

Green councillors have outlined a programme of improvements for the city's waste services, saying that residents need to see real change quickly.

In the past year, residents have made frequent complaints about missed collections and overflowing communal bins. Green environment spokesperson Chas Booth said: "While the Tories carped from the sidelines I met senior officers and trade unions about steps to reduce complaints.

"Doing the right thing for the environment will actually ease pressure on the service. So reducing waste, cutting packaging and looking for long-lasting products is a win-win. We need investment in route technology, smart bins and staff training as well as rapid action when problems arise."



Green councillor Chas Booth discusses bin collections with council waste manager Keith Martin

Homes not office blocks argue Greens

A shortage of affordable homes is holding the city economy back.

That was a major message from the recent "City Vision" project launch. It has also dominated discussion about the City Region Deal, in which Edinburgh is vying for over £1 billion of government investment.

Green councillor Gavin Corbett has slammed developers who lobby for more office space. At the council's Economy Committee, Cllr Corbett, the Green Economy spokesperson, argued that there was more than enough to last well into the future.

Green MSP Andy Wightman added: "To bow to demands for more office blocks puts them before affordable



MSP Andy Wightman: "Development today must fit future working patterns."

homes or space for small businesses. Over the next 10-20 years working patterns will change dramatically. The idea of thousands of people all driving into the city to sit at an office desk will be wildly out of date."

Green candidate Ally Broughton says: "Green spaces are important for our individual physical and mental wellbeing, and also for bringing people together, building local communities."

"Community volunteer projects locally, such as Pilton Community Gardeners, Friends of Granton Walled Garden, Friends of Starbank Park and many others, are all working to enhance and make the best use of our shared spaces so that everyone benefits."

RESIDENTS COME TOGETHER TO GROW VEGETABLES AND FRIENDSHIPS AT PILTON COMMUNITY GARDEN



Cultivating communities

Childcare key to tackling poverty

Forth Greens believe that affordable and accessible childcare must be a foundation service rather than an afterthought.

Local Green candidate Ally Broughton recently visited North Edinburgh Childcare on Ferry Road, a facility that offers pre-school and after-school child care for children whose parents are in employment, training, or education during the day.

Ally said: "NEC provides a safe and inspirational environment for children up to 12, supporting learning, development and social interaction skills. Crucially, NEC and services like it can help low-income parents lift themselves out of poverty, in order to work, train, or study, and become more financially

self-sufficient. We must see services like this as a starting point to free potential income earners from the poverty trap, and not, as they may have been in the past, a luxury for high-income professionals.

"If elected, I'll ensure that NEC and services like it in the ward are protected and cultivated. They're fundamentally necessary for families here to overcome poverty."

Green candidate Ally Broughton with Theresa Alison, General Manager of North Edinburgh Childcare



Maintaining housing on our doorstep

Housing must be developed in unused sites in existing neighbourhoods, advise Greens.

Forth Green candidate Ally Broughton said: "People need affordable housing. But established areas like Forth are missing out on residential development.

"Forth has derelict land being left undeveloped, and used for fly-tipping, pushing parts of the area into a spiral of neglect. Existing homes are falling into disrepair, and eventually becoming disused.

"Let's work with the assets on our doorstep we aren't using, turning derelict land into social housing, keeping occupied properties in good repair, and work towards capping rents to keep housing affordable for all."



Long-awaited improvements for Lower Granton Road

Lower Granton Road, congested with buses and HGVs struggling to pass densely parked cars, means cyclists have to choose between an intermittent narrow path shared with pedestrians, or the busy road.

Local Greens have therefore welcomed plans for a new cycling and walking path linking Granton and Warriston, and a consultation about it that has been taking place with residents.

Candidate Ally Broughton said:

"We want to encourage people out of cars and to use active forms of transport, but many are deterred by sharing roads with motor vehicles.

"Let's make this a route that people will really want to use."



Ally Broughton with local Green campaigner Iain Mckinnon-Waddell at Lower Granton Road's existing incomplete off-road path



YES TO CLEANER BEACHES! Ally is a registered organiser with the Marine Conversation Society and will be organising beach cleans over the coming months, to find out more, contact Ally

Your Green Candidate

Ally Broughton has been selected as Green candidate for Forth Ward in the May 2017 Council elections.

Ally is a local community campaigner in the Forth ward. Ally's priorities are finding ways to empower local communities and individuals and working towards tackling the social and environmental challenges in Forth. She is actively involved with

various community groups, including North Edinburgh Arts Centre, Pilton Community Health Project and community garden projects. Ally is as a practitioner, researcher and lecturer in health, and supports students with learning difficulties.

Contact your local Greens

Ally Broughton is the Green candidate for Forth

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You can also contact your Green MSPs, Alison Johnstone and Andy Wightman, at alison.johnstone.msp@scottish.parliament.uk and andy.wightman.msp@scottish.parliament.uk or 0131 348 5000

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