



Green MSPs Andy Wightman and Alison Johnstone are committed to increased affordable housing for the capital.

MSPs pledge action on housing crisis

Green MSPs Alison Johnstone and Andy Wightman are leading the way in tackling the housing crisis gripping the capital.

Edinburgh has by far the largest problems of housing shortage and high housing costs of anywhere in Scotland.

Working alongside Green councillors and community campaigners, the MSPs have created a five-point plan. The initiative, which is part of a wider 'Homes First' campaign, has the following aims:

- 1** Retaining more houses as homes by reducing the number that are turned into holiday lets;
- 2** Bringing derelict land and empty property into use;
- 3** Improving arrangements for repairs in flats and tenements;
- 4** Curbing soaring rents in the private rented sector;
- 5** A reduction in reliance on temporary accommodation for homeless people.

Andy Wightman said -

"Edinburgh has the most serious housing problem in Scotland. That is why I am determined to lead on reforms which would make sure homes are available here for everyone who needs one: of the right kind, warm and safe, and at a price people can afford. It's the least a capital city can do."

Alison Johnstone added -

"The housing crisis affects us all, directly or indirectly. Younger people and people on lower incomes who cannot afford Edinburgh's eye-watering prices are being priced out. People are being forced to leave the city in search of somewhere to live and that increases traffic and affects the local economy. Edinburgh must do better."

The future of Lothian Road and Tollcross

The council has consulted on bold new plans for Lothian Road and Tollcross Junction, which could transform the area from busy, multi-lane roads that are dominated by motor vehicles, into a more walkable and cyclable place.

Local Green Councillor Claire Miller has spoken up for green transport policies including segregated cycle paths, high-quality pavements, and plenty of public space that is devoted to sitting, resting, and lingering.

As part of the plans, the junction at the west end of Princes Street would be changed, making the junction far safer for cyclists.

Claire said - "It is important that Lothian Road isn't just viewed as a way of getting cars through the city, but rather as a liveable area which puts people first".

You can read more about these proposals and the ten-year delivery plan online:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/CET/info/6/about/12/about



Green Councillor Claire Miller met up with Wendy Lord from The Grove Community Garden to find out more about their garden, which is located on vacant land at Fountainbridge

Can you help make a community garden?

Plans for a community garden in the Lochrin Terrace area are well under way with help from Green Councillor Claire Miller.

Claire has had the site cleared and has secured funding to get the project started. She said - "This site has been a local eye-sore for a very long time, with fly-tipping and trade waste bins taking over, so I'm delighted that we are ready to create a garden here instead."

Volunteers are required to help finish the project, so now is the time for you to get involved. If you are keen to join in with the school, local residents, and the community council in doing some urban gardening, then please contact Claire to find out more.

TAKE ACTION – contact Claire: c.miller@edinburgh.gov.uk

Contact your local Greens



Your Green councillor: Claire Miller | @CllrCMiller | c.miller@edinburgh.gov.uk | 0131 529 4396 | The City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers, High Street, EH1 1YJ

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