

Gordon Macdonald

Member of the Scottish Parliament

August
2017

Delivering for the people of
Edinburgh Pentlands



£1 Billion City Deal to Create 21,000 Jobs



Edinburgh is to benefit from a massive £1.1 billion City Deal that will result in thousands more people in employment.

The package, which also covers the wider Lothians region, will include £350 million to be invested in innovation, £65 million in new housing, £25 million in skills development, £120 million for a

flyover at the Sheriffhall roundabout, £20 million for roads in West Edinburgh, and £20 million for a new 1,000-seater concert hall off St Andrew Square.

The Scottish Government is leading the investment by contributing £300 million with local councils, universities, and the UK Government also contributing to the project. It is anticipated that the deal will create around 21,000 jobs.

Gordon Macdonald MSP commented, "This is a good deal for Edinburgh and will ensure the continued prosperity and development of city and wider region. The deal will deliver infrastructure improvements, particularly around Edinburgh Pentlands and the west of Edinburgh, deliver jobs for thousands, and create economic growth for years to come."

The deal also includes a £35 million investment in the Edinburgh Centre for Robotics at Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University. The funding will significantly expand the current multi-disciplinary team of more than 100 researchers.

Gordon noted, "The Scottish Government have ensured that this funding shall be directed towards developing jobs for the future. With this investment, Edinburgh will also become a hub for robotics and autonomous technologies."

Where in the World is Fernieflat Neuk?



...the Calders, apparently.

Gordon Macdonald welcomes the development of 37 new affordable homes. The name "Calder Green" was suggested for the development to fit in with the local area. However, due to concerns that emergency service vehicles would have trouble distinguishing between similarly named streets another name has been chosen. Instead, the development will be named "Fernieflat Neuk" after a farm that was located in the north of what is now Baberton Mains.

The collection of 2- to 3-bed houses and flats will be available at a range of affordable to midmarket rents. The £3.33 million project is part of a wider council programme to contribute to the identified shortfall in demand for new homes in Edinburgh over the next 10 years.

Out and About...

Marie Curie Fundraising



The good weather and wonderful turnout made for another successful Marie Curie summer fete at the charity's Fairmilehead hospice. Gordon once again hosted the day's raffle to raise money for the charity – as he has done for many years. The fete featured a range of attractions such as arts and crafts, and a tombola but the real stars of the show were the alpacas who were popular with children and MSPs alike.

As part of Gordon's Continued support of Marie Curie he hosted a "Blooming Great Tea Party" in the constituency office. Thanks to the generosity of attendees, a total of £185 was raised.

A special thanks is due to Megan – our fantastic intern – who baked delicious butterfly cupcakes for the event.



Wester Hailes Fun Run



An incredible 166 people took part in 2017's Wester Hailes Fun Run making it the most successful so far.

The participants were running the 5k course for various causes such as SCOREScotland, and the Clovenstone Amateur Boxing Club. The WHALE arts agency managed to raise over £300 from their participation and are hoping to increase this to £500.

Gordon was on the finishing line to welcome back the runners and to present trophies to the first home in each category.

Best Bib 'n' Tucker



Gordon Macdonald has donated £50 to a local social enterprise - Best Bib 'n' Tucker - to contribute to their valuable work. The sewing group, based in the Oxfangs Neighbourhood Centre meets throughout the week for friendly and enjoyable classes. As well as creating a range of items, the group has the role of reducing isolation and promoting a sense of community.

Gordon would like to encourage other local charities and social enterprises to contact him to be considered for future donations he will be making throughout the year.

Contact Details

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Home visit

Available for those who cannot travel

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Gordon Macdonald MSP



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Monthly Surgeries — No appointment needed

- 1st Monday of the month, 6.30pm Wester Hailes Library
- 2nd Monday of the month, 6.30pm Carrickvale Community Centre
- 3rd Monday of the month, 6.30pm Currie Library
- 4th Monday of the month, 6.30pm Oxfangs Library
- 5th Monday of the month, 6.30pm Ratho Community Centre

NB: NO SURGERIES DURING PUBLIC AND BANK HOLIDAYS

Working for Edinburgh Pentlands