

Gordon Macdonald MSP

August 2025 Newsletter



New Currie High School Set To Open For New Term



Excitement for staff and pupils of Currie Community High School as the new school prepares to open this August 2025 next to the existing building on Dolphin Avenue, Currie.

The new school received funding from the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme, a £2 billion programme to modernise and upgrade schools throughout Scotland. It has been built to Passivhaus standards which provides comfort whilst using little energy for heating and cooling. It is one of the first Passivhaus secondary schools in Scotland.

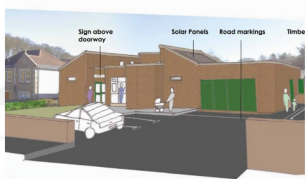
A brief was developed for the new school which was influenced by the school's vision and the feedback from engagement. A series of education workshops were held with the school's senior team to plan their principles

for education, inclusion, outdoor learning and sustainability, digital learning and community access. Virtual meetings with colleagues from the Council informed the building's design and learning landscapes.

The school will include a four-court sports hall, gym hall, fitness suite, dance studio, Passivhaus four lane swimming pool and 3G pitch. A library and café alongside the fitness suite and pool which will be accessible for the community during the day as well as a wellness centre which can be let for activities such as yoga, parent and baby/toddler groups and community meetings.

Gordon said "I am as impressed by the standard of the new building as I am by the range of facilities available for faculty and community alike. I'm sure staff and pupils will settle in nicely to the new environment and wish them all the best for the new school year."

Balerno Police Station Planning Application



Balerno Village Trust (BVT) has submitted a planning application to redevelop Balerno Police Station following an announcement that BVT have been granted £239,005 from the Scottish Government Scottish Land Fund to enable purchase of the building.

The plans outlined in the planning application are to convert the station into a community centre featuring meeting spaces, a workshop and an after-school club. Also proposed are changes to the building fabric including maintenance work as well adding solar panels, improvements to the provision of toilets and changes to signage.

Gordon said "I welcome the Scottish Government's funding award which will serve to make best use of this community asset and I urge people living locally to submit comments."

Comments on the planning application are due by **Friday 15th August**. Information about the application and to make comment visit Edinburgh Council Planning Portal at <https://citydev-portal.edinburgh.gov.uk> and searching for application **25/03602/FUL**.

Stewart Dredge Passes Away



There was some very sad news last month when Stewart Dredge, Gordon's former Senior Casework Manager, passed away after a short illness.

Stewart worked for Gordon since his election in 2011 until his retirement in 2021. Prior to that he was a private detective and also had spells as Secretary of the SNP Edinburgh Pentlands branch and leader of Hearts Supporters For Independence group.

Gordon said "It is with great sadness that I share news of Stewart's passing. He was a great friend of mine for 40 years and helped many hundreds of people across the constituency. He will be sorely missed and I offer my condolences to Roselyn and the family."



Illegal Use Of E-Bikes Campaign



Following rising concerns and reports from constituents over the illegal use of off-road bikes and other mechanically propelled bikes including mopeds, e-bikes and e-

scooters, Gordon was pleased to see CrimeStoppers launch a national campaign.

The campaign aims to support communities in reporting anonymously to CrimeStoppers and provides information on where people can safely and legally enjoy riding their bike. You can learn more about the campaign at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/get-involved/campaigns/illegal-off-road-bike-activity-across-scotland> and can report incidents to CrimeStoppers by phone on **0800 555 111**.

Exam Results Day 2025

Exam results day this year is on **Tuesday 5th August**. Certificates will arrive on the 5th and those who signed up for MySQA will also receive results by text or email.

Skills Development Scotland are running a helpline on **0808 100 8000** on **Tues 5th - Wed 6th August 8am-8pm** and **Thurs 7th - Fri 8th August 9am-5pm**. A website with help with university clearing, college courses, apprenticeships, jobs, or staying on at school is available at <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk>.



Gordon said "I wish everyone the best of luck and hope they receive the exam results they had hoped and worked so hard for. If anyone is disappointed with their results I would encourage them not to lose heart and to access the support provided."

Clovenstone Close Update



Prospect have advertised the next phase of Clovenstone Close flats on EdIndex next week. Advertisements were in two batches, the first in the week beginning 28th July and the second in the week beginning 4th August. You will need to have a live EdIndex number to be able to bid and will find the adverts on the EdIndex Key To Choice website.

Broomhouse Street Party



The Broomhouse Street Party will be held in the grounds and buildings of The Broomhouse Hub and the Broomhouse Mosque from **12pm-4pm** on **Thursday 7th August**.

Information stalls will be in the grounds of The Broomhouse Mosque. The roads between the Mosque and The Broomhouse Hub will be closed for the duration of the event. Download a Participant Info Pack at <https://shorturl.at/PupSg> or visit the '[Space at The Broomhouse Hub](#)' Facebook page.

Lost Shore Bus Survey

Lost Shore, Edinburgh's luxury surf resort with wellness studio, surveyed over 1000 people on how they travel there. They aim to encourage establishment of a bus service between Ratho and the City Centre via Lost Shore.



The report has now been completed and the findings are not unexpected – over 90% want and would use the bus. You can access the report at <https://shorturl.at/qaBVe>.

Those who have visited Lost Shore previously and would like to share their travel experience can do so by completing the form at <https://shorturl.at/Owlde>.

New Royal Mail Delivery Rota



Gordon spent time with Royal Mail staff, even joining the postal staff on their round as the new rota is rolled out.

Following an extensive consultation Ofcom announced the following changes to the Universal Service agreement:

- 2nd Class and other non-1st Class letters will be delivered every other weekday (Monday to Friday), 2nd Class mail within three weekdays.
- Standard bulk business letters (used for items like bills and statements) will move to a three day delivery aim, aligned with 2nd Class.
- New reliability targets for 1st and 2nd Class services

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Gordon holds open weekly surgeries for constituents every Friday at 10am.

The locations for these can be found at: <https://www.gordonmacdonaldmsp.info/surgery>

