

# Forth Neighbourhood Partnership Newsletter



Welcome to your brand new Forth Neighbourhood Partnership newsletter. We want to keep you updated about the work of the NP, its action groups, and how we are getting on with responding to community priorities.

Councillor Cammy Day, Convenor of Forth NP said "I hope our new newsletter will help everyone keep in touch with what is going on locally. As Convenor, I am working with all partners to make life better for people in the Forth Ward. An important part of this is letting you know what we do and getting your comments. It is vital that we take account of local views on work that's being done.

Neighbourhood Partnerships work best when there is genuine dialogue about local priorities and joint action taken with partner agencies and community representatives".

Forth NP brings together the Council, Police and other organisations with local people, to address the issues and priorities of our local communities and are always pleased to hear from you whether you live, work or visit the area. The NP sets up various 'action groups', bringing the right services together to address local priorities.

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## Environment Programme gets a foothold

Before: West Pilton Grove



After: West Pilton Grove



With an annual budget of around £420,000 to carry out a range of environmental projects, Forth NP is currently working with local community councils to identify and agree suitable projects for the year ahead. If you have an idea for something to be improved then find out more about how to bring forward an idea to the NP.

Projects have to improve the immediate environment for local residents and extend the lifespan of the asset that has been improved. Before any project is agreed, local residents and the community council are consulted.

The upgrading of fencing and environmental improvements at West Pilton Grove (pictures above) is an example of a previous project. Others such as the Community Garden at Inchgarvie Court, renewing speed cushions and bollards at Boswall Parkway and resurfacing footpaths at East Trinity Road are good examples of popular and successfully completed projects that made a difference. Further information about [Environment Programme](#).

For more information please contact [Mandy Rudden](#) on 529 5006.

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## Contact us

[Peter Strong](#)  
[Martina McChrystal](#)  
[Cammy Day](#)

## Check us out on the web

You can get more information on what's happening in the area – including news about local initiatives, dates of meetings or papers from the NP Board and Action Groups on [Forth Neighbourhood Partnership](#) website.

## Celebrating Young People of the Forth

Young people make a big contribution to the communities of Forth ward, and to acknowledge this, the NP has agreed to host a special event to celebrate the role of our young people. Councillor Day commented "Its really important to engage young people in local democracy and this is the first of many such events in Forth".

On 30 April, 2 - 4pm, in Telford College's Student Hub, local young people are planning;

- 'Question Time' with local Councillors and Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament
- A 'market place' where local youth organisations will have stalls providing information on the services and opportunities they provide
- Creative presentations from Forth Youth Forum to highlight issues of importance to young people – including using theatre to get the message across

For more information contact [Derek Suttie](#) on 551 2197.



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## Fairer Scotland Funding – tackling inequalities

Over £1M from the Fairer Scotland Fund has been targeted to local activity tackling inequalities by the Forth NP during 2009/10. The funds were directed to activities addressing the fund's three priorities

- helping people into employment
- offering early intervention support to families and children
- addressing health inequalities, including providing health services to excluded groups.

Forth NP's allocation for 2010/11 is £1.081M. Whilst the NP has to make difficult choices in challenging times, awards to fourteen local providers have already been agreed across all three FSF priorities. This funding means services will continue to ensure direct support for many of the local residents who are most in need, and all projects receiving FSF are encouraged to seek other funding to sustain and expand their services.

Further information and updates are available from the [Fairer Scotland Fund](#).

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## 21st Century Homes

The Council plans to build approximately 700 new homes in Forth as part of the 21st Century Homes for Edinburgh programme. 50% of these will be affordable housing. The key objectives are to build high quality, sustainable housing, with safe streets and neighbourhoods and attractive public open spaces. Building is scheduled to start in 2011.

The Masterplans for the regeneration of Pennywell and Muirhouse have taken shape with the local development group and should be available online at the [Planning Portal](#) from next month, once they are submitted for Planning Permission in Principle. The Council has undertaken extensive consultation with the local community over the last 8 months.

Regular updates on the project are available at either [Regenerating Edinburgh](#) or [21st Century Homes for Edinburgh](#)

For further information please contact [Hazel Ferguson](#) on 529 7968.

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## Community Grants Fund

We use our Community Grants Fund to support small local projects or activities which will help with the work and priorities of the Neighbourhood Partnership. Grants of up to a maximum of £5000 can be given, although most awards are smaller than this.

More funding will be available from April 2010. You can find out more about the fund and how to apply on [Forth Neighbourhood Partnership](#) website.

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## Get up to Speed on Health – Date for your diary!

Come along and find out more about local health services.

The last year has seen a range of new health improvement initiatives in the Forth area, and to keep everyone in the community up to speed, the Forth NP's Health & Social Care Action Group is planning a Summer Health Fair to exhibit the range of Health services available for local people, on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June from 10am – 1.30pm in Edinburgh's Telford College. Local people have already identified access to information about health as one of their main health priorities.

We are keen for as many local people as possible to attend, wander around the stalls and find out more.

If you can help us to promote this event to more local people, please get in touch with [Jim Pattison](#) on 529 5082.