

Cllr Shields' QDCC February Report:

On Wednesday 27th January, Cllr Paterson and I met members of QCCC to discuss progressive actions against the current financial pressures they are experiencing. This is primarily related to hefty fees due to the Lothian Pension fund that in time could potentially cripple the organisation without some required assessment from the powers-that-be. The CEO of Edinburgh Council has been contacted by the members and we will keep contact going with our colleagues on the Pensions Committee to safeguard the organisation from further hardship.

I held my monthly advice surgery at the library on Wednesday 3rd February.

I was astounded by the news that Ferry Glen members were going out to pick up litter in various parts of the town - but welcome their activity and publicity to highlight the absolutely dire situation we are in with regards to waste collection in South Queensferry. In addition to QDCC's contact with Andrew Kerr, I have also drafted a letter to highlight this and have sent it to Waste Services to push them towards getting their act together. In response to Terry's request, failure to collect blue box glass collection has been the main complaint received since the turn of the year - there has been one resident that I have had around 6/7 forms of correspondence about failed collections which I have found utterly embarrassing and inexcusable.

Good recognition given to Queensferry High School at this month's Full Council meeting with the Leader making clear his intentions to ensure first class facilities will be delivered to the new build once completed. With that, Queensferry Primary School also received a "very good" from an Education Scotland inspection - great work from everyone involved in that.

Henry Coyle announced his resignation from the West Team during the month. While I am sad for losing him and value everything he has done with the Neighbourhood Partnership, I wish him well in his new job elsewhere.

Lastly, the bridge re-opened completely for all vehicles at the weekend - thank you to everyone for their patience after what has been a very difficult test over the duration.

Coming up:

This week I will be meeting with Sir Jack Stewart-Clark of Dundas Castle to discuss a planning application at the Milton Farm Steadings off the B800 road.

The first Neighbourhood Partnership meeting of the year will be held this coming month.