

# GRAHAM HUTCHISON

## Scottish Conservative & Unionist Councillor for Almond

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## Queensferry & District Community Council

### Councillors Report—July 2017

#### Full Council Meeting—Thursday 29th June 2017

In the first 'ordinary' business meeting of the council since the much delayed forming of an administration, appointments were made to council committee's and to external bodies. I have been appointed to the Finance and Resources committee on which I will be the Conservative Group Spokesperson, and also to the Discretionary Rating Relief Appeals Committee, the Rosyth Local Liaison Committee, Scotland Excel and the Hawes and Longcraig Pier Users Committee. I was nominated for the Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee but unfortunately did not obtain enough votes to be elected, I am pleased to report however that the votes of myself and my fellow Conservative Councillors enabled Councillor Lang to be elected and ensured representation from the Almond Ward.

#### Local Issues

**Waste Collection**—My inbox has been dominated by issues relating to missed bin collections, in particular the brown garden waste bins. There were significant delays throughout Queensferry. Waste services advised that the primary cause of the delays was a lack of suitable drivers and that an action plan was in place to address the underlying issues. Supervisors with suitable licences were drafted in and collections were completed through the weekend to catch up. A replacement is also said to be imminent for the current, much maligned complaints process.

**New Queensferry High School**—Having attended the drop in at the high school in June I have continued to engage with local residents to take onboard the concerns and suggestions and to encourage their participation in the consultation process.

**Dalmeny Planning Application**—Having attended the site visit and met with local residents to discuss their concerns I was disappointed that the Planning Committee approved the application to build houses at the site on Bankhead Road.

**1140 Hours Childcare Provision**—Myself and Councillor Young have worked together to support childminders impacted by the 1140 hours childcare pilot at Dalmeny Nursery.

**Overflowing Public Bins**—Following concerns raised by a number of residents I am investigating the possibility of introducing seagull proof bins on the seafront at Queensferry and will pursue this in conjunction with councillors from the other wards along Edinburgh's waterfront.

#### Events

During June and July I was delighted to be invited to attend the Achievement Assembly at Dalmeny Primary School and also to support Lifeboat Day in Queensferry.

#### City Region Deal

The long awaited Edinburgh City Region Deal was finally signed on July 20th and is set to deliver over £1bn of transformational investment in partnership between the UK and Scottish governments and local councils and universities. While the finer details are yet to emerge there will be a significant amount of much needed investment in infrastructure in West Edinburgh as a key part of the deal.