



Councillor's Newsletter

Councillor Una Walker

Bishopbriggs North & Torrance

East Dunbartonshire Labour

Dear Fellow Resident,

There will be few people in East Dunbartonshire who are not aware of the current financial difficulties facing us all and many households will have already been affected in some way.

The council has made £40m worth of savings since 2007 and we will be expected to cut around £6.5M this coming year.

It is local governments duty to spend your money wisely and it is important that we get value when delivering your services.

However, the scale of the cuts has meant that there have been very difficult and sometimes controversial decisions on what services we can continue to fund or on how we can keep services but find different ways to deliver them.

We value the contributions already made by our community representatives and partners in helping the council shape your services in these difficult times. However, it is important that we continue to listen and hear what you think. What YOU have to say is important to Labour in East Dunbartonshire.

In delivering the year on year required legal budgets and savings, the council has always required cross political party support and agreement.

Despite being a minority administration, Labour in local government have led and will continue to make representations to our Scottish and UK parliamentarians to ensure they are fully aware of the financial pressures in delivering important front line services. We will encourage them to influence Holyrood and Westminster decisions that have an impact on residents across East Dunbartonshire.

To let us know what your views are please use the Freepost address on this leaflet.

Thank you.

East Dunbartonshire Labour Group

Bishopbriggs Town Centre

Detailed proposals for the town centre have been disappointingly slow in coming forward for scrutiny. The eventual proposals will be extremely important for the prosperity of the town and the wider community. As your local councillor I am eager to hear from you about what you would like to be included in the eventual proposals.



**Una Walker
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Greenbelt Concerns

Labour in East Dunbartonshire has made representations to the Scottish Ministers regarding the Government Reporter's role in shaping the area's Local Plan. After a thorough and extensive consultation with local people our attempts to defend the greenbelt have been undermined by the involvement of Scottish Government Reporters in the process who have released areas of greenbelt for housing. This is unquestionably a challenge to local accountability.

Roads

Unlike many Local Authorities East Dunbartonshire does not have any trunk roads maintained by the Scottish Government and this has significant extra costs to the Council Taxpayer. We have lobbied over the years to have this changed to no avail. This means that East Dunbartonshire Council has to maintain all roads and we have put extra money into this over the past few years

Welfare Changes

Labour in East Dunbartonshire has lobbied local MP's over serious concerns with changes to the benefit system. Some of these proposals will have serious consequences for the most vulnerable in our communities. Labour will continue to press for a fairer benefit system.

Get In Touch

Una is always available to meet residents to help solve problems or to make sure they are getting the services they need. Whether it is a repair to your Council house or vandalism in your area Una will make sure action is taken.

Una's Contact Details

E-mail: unawalker1@hotmail.co.uk

0141 578 8178

Torrance Bus Service

When the bus service between Torrance and Buchanan Street Bus Station via Balmore was halted Una contacted SPT who intervened with the operator and managed to get it reinstated

Grit Bins

We all know how severe the weather was last winter and how many people were unable to leave their streets. The Council must endeavour to keep main roads clear and often cannot get round to clearing side roads timeously. Extra money has been put into the budget to purchase extra grit bins so that members of the public can help themselves. At the request of local residents Una has arranged for grit bins to be placed at Smeaton Drive roundabout, Beaumont Hill/Cander Rigg, Gleneagles Gardens, Kenmure Drive car park and Beaufort Gardens/Brackenbrae Road.

If you and your neighbours require a bin please contact 578 8595 for the necessary form

Accessible Bus Service

If you find it hard to get around using public transport then you may qualify to use the MyBus service delivered by SPT. The service uses wheelchair accessible buses that pick up from the persons home and take them to their destination.

To register for this service please call
0845 128 4025



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