

FAIRMILEHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

INFORMATION BULLETIN – OCTOBER 2025

Council News

1. S109 - Winton Drive – final water connection

The following communication has been received from the Council:

“Just for your info emergencies will be back on Frogston Road West – Winton Drive the final water connection; new notice date is 17th November but I have asked John to start on the 18th November due to the overnight A720 diversion.

- **Tuesday 18th Nov for 1 week under 3 Way (2 Phase) Temp Traffic lights. Manual controlled 7am-7pm Monday to Friday”**



2. Buckstone Play Park - update

Councillor Savage received a disappointing response from Council Officers.

“As promised at the last FCC meeting, I've got an (albeit disappointing) update, as can be seen below:

“I can confirm that there are currently no plans to refurbish the playpark at Buckstone Circle. While the Scottish Government funding has been very welcome, it has only allowed us to target around 20 playparks for refurbishment and approximately 65 for partial improvements, such as the replacement of obsolete equipment or safety surfacing. With a total of 179 playparks and wheeled sports areas

across the city, we've unfortunately only been able to improve about half of these facilities using the funding available."

Upon learning this though, I (Conor) 've pushed to see what can be done to acquire more funding, to which I've got this reply:

"Our primary source of third-party funding for playpark projects comes from landfill grant distributors such as FCC (FCC Community Organisation – this is one of the organisations which the Council applies to for extra assistance with playpark upgrades). Constituted community groups are eligible to apply to these organisations for support. In addition, I'll be submitting a funding request to the Council to help us continue the renewal programme beyond 2025/26. If successful, and if sufficient funding is secured, Buckstone will undoubtedly be considered a priority for refurbishment within the next couple of years."

Planning

3. Proposed Kaimes renewable energy development comprising the installation of 49.9MWH BESS, access, landscaping, and associated works (as amended)

Reference: - 24/01489/FUL and DEPA Reference: - PPA-230-2609

This application for a BESS (battery energy storage system) was mentioned in the Information Bulletin for May 2025. The Planning Officer recommended **refusal**, concluding "The material considerations do not give sufficient support to the proposals to outweigh the primacy of the development plan. Safety considerations relating to access, design and layout raise conflicts with fire safety guidance. Indeed, they reinforce the position that the proposed development should be refused." This was endorsed by the DMC at its Meeting on 28 May 2025.

The applicant has now appealed to DPEA and the appeal process is underway. FCC have restated their previous comments to the Reporter.

4. The City Plan 2040

The Council are starting to think about the plans for how Edinburgh develops and changes in the future. To help with this, a questionnaire has been issued, the results of which will feed into one of the formal steps required for The City Plan 2040 – namely, the Evidence Report. For the Evidence Report, the Council will be putting together Place Profiles for different areas of the city.

The questionnaire is hosted on the Council's Consultation Hub:

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/> **The consultation opened on 10 October 2025 and closes on 5 January 2026.** The questionnaire asks about where you live in Edinburgh – How would you score it? What you like about it? What would make it better? The questionnaire covers the important things that make a good place such as home, local shops and services, healthcare, public transport, open space, play facilities, community space and jobs. There is a chance to win a £50 shopping voucher if you provide your email address at the end of the questionnaire.

A series of in-person events has been arranged – the nearest one for us is at **Oxgangs Library on Monday 17 November 2025 between 4 pm and 7 pm.** No booking is required – just turn up.

Transport

5. A720 Edinburgh City Bypass – further resurfacing

In my email of 30 September 2025 enclosing the agenda and other papers for the FCC Meeting on 7 October 2025, I mentioned this further resurfacing. It seems to be never ending along the whole stretch of the Edinburgh City Bypass.

Originally the section of the Bypass Westbound from Straiton to Lothianburn was to be closed overnight between Tuesday 28 October 2025 and Monday 17 November 2025 (15 nights), with the diversion route being the "Bypass Relief Road", namely Frogston Road West.

I have now been advised by BEAR Scotland that the resurfacing will start a night earlier on Monday 27 October 2025. The end date and traffic management remains the same. "Following meetings with the contractors, there have been some changes to the work programme and traffic management arrangements."

6. A701 Relief Road and the A702 Link Road – Reference: - 25/00521/DPP (Midlothian)

The Information Bulletin for August 2025 mentioned the second public drop in event which was held on Thursday 14 August 2025. Midlothian Council have now lodged the formal planning application which summarises the development as follows: -

"Formation of A701 relief road and A702 link road, construction of 2 roundabouts, alteration to existing roundabout, formation of drainage infrastructure including SUDS basins, and associated works (this application is accompanied by an environmental impact assessment report submitted under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017) Land between The A701 and A702"

It is unclear where the funding for the A701 Relief Road is coming from. The Council is also planning to create a "sustainable travel corridor" along the A701 which will include cycle lanes. The Council also says "the road network suffers from congestion at peak times, resulting in traffic delays and inconsistent journey times for both vehicles and public transport." The deadline for submitting comments on the planning portal is **7 November 2025**.

I attach a copy plan indicating the Proposed Route, together with pages 9/10 of the Transport Assessment which outlines the key features of this proposal.

The A701 Relief Road is strongly opposed by Damhead and District Community Council. Here is a link to an article by Damhead DDC which appeared in the Midlothian View on 22 October 2025 -

[Community Council opposes relief road - Midlothian View](#)

In addition, Damhead DCC have created a petition for people far and wide to sign via the link here: [Stop the £55 Million A701 Relief Road – Stop the A701 relief road](#)

7. Consultation on the proposed new tram route

A reminder that the consultation on the new tram route closes on Monday 17 November 2025. It is hosted on the Council's Consultation Hub: <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/>

A presentation on this project was given at the EACC Meeting on 11 October 2025. Here are some of the points made - It is understood that as at 11 October 2025, some 4,000 responses had been submitted (I understand the figure is now 5,700). A figure of £2.9bn has been suggested as the possible cost of the project, but this does not include any disruption costs to residents and businesses caused by the construction etc works. If the project is given the go ahead, it is likely to be delivered in phases. There will be major engineering works required if the option to use the Queensferry Road is

chosen. Funding is not in place at present, but the Business Case for the project is required now, so that one is ready should the situation change.

Police Scotland

8. South West Community Police Team Newsletter

The latest Newsletter from the South West CPT covering the period from June to September 2025 has been published. Here is a link to the Newsletter: - [Newsletter July - September 2025 \(5\).pdf](#)

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland

9. Vehicle Crime – Ring Doorbell/ Home Security Cameras

“Following an increasing trend in reports of criminals placing tape over the cameras of ring doorbells and home security cameras in order to steal vehicles, Police Scotland urge you all to be aware, be vigilant, and be prepared!

- Check your physical camera regularly for signs of it having been tampered with.
- Check the feed is working properly and that your camera covers the areas you need to.
- Use adequate lighting, uniform illumination across areas covered by CCTV is vital. Try not to use single floodlights. In the hours of darkness illuminate areas that are overlooked from residential areas or by CCTV.
- Report any suspicious activity you capture.
- Ensure your cameras are charged and that you keep up with any subscriptions.
- Ensure your vehicles are as secure as possible. (for more information on vehicle security go to [Protecting your car - Police Scotland](#)).
- Use Faraday bags to protect your keys’ signal from being captured and allowing your vehicle to be stolen by keyless entry.”

10. Darker Nights

Dark nights are drawing in and the clocks change this Sunday - 26th October

So, it's a good time to review home security, e.g.

Cut back shrubs and trees so they are not blocking lights or lines of sight

Check outside lights are working

Check garages and sheds are secure – consider ground anchors, garage defenders, shed alarms, anti-grinder bike locks

Check windows have key operated locks fitted, that catches, latches and stoppers are in a good state of repair – don't leave keys in the locks

Check door locks – that any mortice locks are British Standard BS 3621 and any Euro profile cylinder locks are rated TS007

[darker nights leaflet 2025.pdf](#)