

# Five things you need to know today



Today is all about the council and the plans to privatise services. Our article last week by [Alyson Macdonald](#) gave you a flavour of the anti-privatisation lobby. The full council meets this morning amid claims that their Alternative Business Model will be rejected by councillors.

The recommendation to the council reads as follows:-

*9.1 It is recommended that the City of Edinburgh Council:*

- 1. (i) agrees to the appointment of Enterprise Managed Services Ltd as the preferred bidder for the Environment workstream;*
- 2. (ii) delegates to the Directors of Services for Communities and Corporate Governance authority to enter into a partnership agreement based on the terms set out in Appendix 2;*
- 3. (iii) agrees to the draw down of a further £788k from the Council's spend-to-save fund to complete the review programme; and,*
- 4. (iv) notes that further reports will be made to future meetings of the Council on the Integrated Facilities Management and Corporate & Transactional Services workstreams.*

Andrew Burns the Labour group leader has his say [on his blog](#) and posts the Labour Amendment to the proposal which essentially rejects the first three parts of the recommendation above.

[The Edinburgh Evening News](#) reported yesterday that the SNP group have decided not to support the recommendation to privatise services. Peter Hunter the local UNISON organiser explained to [STV Local](#) why privatisation should not be supported.

UNISON will be demonstrating outside the City Chambers this morning ahead of the council meeting, and have a [comprehensive report](#) of Monday evening's public meeting which they called to discuss privatisation and the cuts.

If the privatisation plans are rejected then it will make for an interesting meeting of the [Finance and Resources Committee](#) on 1 November.