

Council elections 2012 – meet the candidates – Andrew Burns

✘ Andrew Burns is the Labour Group candidate for Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart Ward.

Andrew Burns was first elected to local Government in May 1999. He spent one year as a backbencher before joining Edinburgh Council's newly formed Executive in June 2000. In June 2001 he took over the Transport portfolio and, after what he describes as 5 'very challenging years', spent 9 months at the Education brief, until moving to the Opposition benches following the local elections in May 2007.

In June 2008, Andrew became Leader of the principal Opposition Group on the Council ... a position he still currently holds.

Andrew gained his first degree from the University of Ulster in 1984 and has had a wide-range of employment experience. He has a professional background in personnel and training, and worked for several years in a variety of personnel and training roles in both manufacturing industry and the service sector. Andrew became a Graduate of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) in 1990 and, in 2003, gained Full Member status of the CIPD.

In December 2008, Andrew became Chair of the Electoral Reform Society, a Non Governmental Organisation that campaigns to change the way we choose our politicians. Andrew remained Chair throughout 3 extremely busy years, for electoral reform, until September 2011.

In addition to these professional and political interests, Andrew is also a keen outdoor enthusiast and in a previous incarnation even spent a few years working in the outdoor pursuits sector.

Andrew is 48 years of age and lives in Edinburgh with his wife and one child.

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