

Five things you need to know today



Elections – The Causey – Edinburgh Lecture – Starting up in Business – Pair charged over Ocean Terminal incident

Well today's the day you have to get out and vote for your new councillors. We have [a comprehensive guide](#) to your local candidates on our Local Elections page. If you care to share with us your thoughts then please do so below. We will be at the Election Count tomorrow and we will be liveblogging the results for the whole of the city as they happen, so you can either follow us here on the website or on [Twitter](#).

[The Edinburgh Evening News](#) reports that 7 out of 10 voters in its straw poll have rated the council's performance as disappointing or poor.



- Check where you should vote. Details of your local polling station will be on your poll card or are available from the [online maps](#). If you have not received it or are unsure of where to go call: 0131 200 2315. Polling stations will be open from 7am – 10pm.
- Bring your poll card with you to the polling station, it may speed things up. But don't worry if you don't have it, you can still vote without it.
- Remember that this year you vote using numbers instead of using an X. Just put a 1 next to your first choice, a 2 next to your second choice, a 3 next to your third choice and so on. You can choose how many candidates to number from one, to as many as you would like.

- If you're unsure of how to complete your ballot paper, a member of staff will be able to help you. You can also watch a video of [Victor the Voter](#), who can show you how. If you applied for a postal vote, make sure it is returned by 10pm on Thursday 3 May.
- If you have left it too late to post back, you can drop it off at your local polling station or at the City Chambers on the High Street or to reception at the Council Headquarters on East Market Street.

[Edinburgh World Heritage](#) have awarded a grant of £2,000 to the Causey Development Trust who want to transform what is little more than a traffic island at the moment, into a green space. The money is to be used for developing their proposals. You may recall that they [had a light night last year](#) to draw attention to the area's potential.

If you have had enough of elections then you might want to go to a lecture tonight by film producer, Lord David Puttnam, who is speaking in one of the [Edinburgh Lectures series](#) about his work inspired by Eric Liddell.

“David Puttnam spent thirty years as an independent producer of award-winning films including The Mission, The Killing Fields, Local Hero, Chariots of Fire, Midnight Express, Bugsy Malone and Memphis Belle. His films have won ten Oscars, 25 Baftas and the Palme D’Or at Cannes.”

Otherwise you might be attending the seminar on starting your own business at the Drumbrae Library Hub...? [More details here](#) on today's seminar and the others which are coming up over the next few weeks.

Start Up Awareness Seminar

Thursday 3 May 2012 10.15am – 12.15pm

If you are just thinking about, planning or even about to start your own business or become self employed you will benefit from attending this awareness session. Every session comprises of an introduction to Business Gateway; a short presentation on starting in business and an interview with a guest business person.

Two people have been charged after reports of a child being dangled by its legs upside down at Ocean Terminal yesterday. [The BBC reports this story.](#)