Labour/SNP coalition agreement for Edinburgh

■ NEW CONTRACT WITH THE CAPITAL UNVEILED BY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

The Labour and SNP groups that now form the City of Edinburgh Council administration have unveiled their commitment to the city in a coalition agreement. The central priority in the new 'contract with the capital' is to build a more co-operative and prosperous Edinburgh that benefits every individual and community.

The agreement includes more than 50 pledges that the adminstration will be judged on, with a review going to Council each year detailing what progress has been made on meeting those aims.

Councillor Andrew Burns, leader of the Labour group, said:-"Edinburgh is internationally recognised as a fantastic city. It is successful, prosperous and a great place to live and work. Yet our city has major challenges, and we need to acknowledge that we have some work to do to rebuild trust between the residents of Edinburgh and their elected representatives. Tackling these requires strong leadership, which we will provide, as well as the political stability created by having a 38-strong coalition between the Council's two largest parties."

Councillor Steve Cardownie, leader of the SNP group, added: "This new contract with the capital marks a fresh start with a Council willing to listen to local people and work together with local communities, businesses and the voluntary sector. Together, we will move Edinburgh forward for the benefit of the city and its people, with decision-making that shows we are listening to public opinion." The agreement sets out six key priorities:

- ensuring every child in Edinburgh has the best start in life;
- reducing poverty, inequality and deprivation;
- providing for Edinburgh's prosperity;
- strengthening and supporting our communities and keeping them safe;
- ensuring Edinburgh, and its residents, are well caredfor; and
- maintaining and improving the quality of life in Edinburgh.

Council Chief Executive, Sue Bruce, said: -"The agreement lays out the goals that officers will be charged with delivering on behalf of the whole Council. It is a challenging set of objectives, as it rightly should be for a capital city. I'm very much looking forward to working with councillors, the senior management team, partner organisations and all of our committed staff on achieving them."

The whole document is reproduced for you below:-

A New Contract With the Capital