Five things you need to know today

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Woman arrested and charged – New refuse collection arrangements trialled – Edinburgh's Garden District – City spending on Festivals – Wee Dub Festival

A 33 year-old woman has been arrested and charged in connection with the death of Mikaeel Kular whose body was found at the rear of a house in Kirkcaldy on Friday night.

More on this story here

The first phase of a pilot project which will require city centre traders to put out their bins for collection at specific times of the day will get underway in Edinburgh's city centre tomorrow.

Businesses in <u>Rose Street and Rose Street Lanes</u> are the first to trial the new scheme, with further phases scheduled to start in the High Street and Leith Walk in the coming weeks.

Following consultation with the businesses on which collection times they would prefer, trade waste in Rose Street and Rose Street Lanes will be collected between 9am and 10am and between 5 and 6pm from Monday 20 January 2014.

After this date, business waste should not be stored on public space in Rose Street or Rose Street Lanes outwith these times.

There is a proposal developed being explored by Murray Estates

to create a <u>Garden District</u> to the west of the city. The local Community Council in Currie has called a meeting to discuss these proposals as they will affect the communities around that area. This is what they say:-

"Date : February 4th. Place : Gibson-Craig Time : From 5:30 drop in event ending with Public Meeting Why : An event organised by CCC concerning the Garden District plan to build 3500 family homes very close to Currie and its subsequent impact on the green belt.

More details to follow but please put this date in your diaries and calendars

We need to discover exactly what you not only all think of this specific project but also how you feel about the sanctity of the green belt. The current planning process gives us, your local council until the 28th of February to formulate a response to the planners hence this meeting .

Lots more information to follow but we will definitely be having experts from both sides answering your questions. This should help you make an informed decision around these two items on the agenda.

Currie needs you so please come along and make a difference."

You can follow the news about this meeting and other Community Council discussions on their <u>Facebook</u> page.

The council's Culture and Sport committee has already approved some of its spending on festivals across the city including £60,000 on the Queen's Baton Relay and £30,000 (down from £50,000 last year) to the ATP Tennis tournament to be staged in Raeburn Place for the second time this year.

The spending plans require to be approved by the Corporate

Policy and Strategy Committee who meet on 21 January. All papers for that meeting are <u>here</u>.

Something for your March diary:- The Wee Dub Festival takes place between 7 and 9 March 2014 in the Old Town. More information <u>here</u>.

There is a warm up on 8 February 2014 at The Mash House. All the details on the poster here.