Edinburgh to welcome its Commonwealth athletes



CAPITAL TO CELEBRATE LOCAL ATHLETES

Members of Team Scotland including six medal winners will take to the open air quadrangle of Edinburgh's City Chambers next week for a public homecoming celebration of their great achievements during the Commonwealth Games.

Speaking at a full council meeting on Thursday, Edinburgh's Lord Provost Donald Wilson, declared a an outdoor Q&A with Edinburgh's Team Scotland athletes will take place on Friday 29 August between 6:00-6:30pm.

The event announcement comes following the Team Scotland Athletes' Parade which was held in Glasgow on August 15 for all Team Scotland athletes. In Edinburgh, 80 athletes who were born in Edinburgh and are based here for training took part in the Glasgow 2014 competitions, taking 15 medals home.

So far, 24 Edinburgh linked athletes have been confirmed to attend the celebrations.

They will be welcomed by the Lord Provost to a stage in the quadrangle — positioned in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town off the Royal Mile — and will be interviewed by comedian and commentator <u>Alan Anderson</u> before meeting with fans. A Commonwealth Games flag will be flown at the City Chambers to mark the occasion.

The athletes will then be joined by some of Edinburgh's brightest and best young sporting talent as they join the city's annual Edinburgh Sport Awards. Held jointly between the council and Sportscotland, ClubSportEdinburgh, and Edinburgh

Leisure, the awards are held inrecognition of the excellent work and commitment of Edinburgh's sports clubs and volunteers.

In what has been an exceptional year for sport in Edinburgh more people and clubs have been nominated for awards than ever before.

The Lord Provost said: "What better way to inspire Edinburgh's up and coming sporting talent than to celebrate their achievements with some of the city's Team Scotland stars."

"Our local Commonwealth Games athletes had tremendous results this summer, and their achievements are helping to encourage the next generation to develop their sporting talent."

"On behalf of the city, I congratulate all of our athletes and bright young stars and wish them the very best as they face their next sporting challenges."

The event will be open to anyone of any age and will be free to attend. Please note that space in the quadrangle is limited, so please aim to arrive early to get a good view.