

# Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



## The Smith Commission

### November

#### Join in the Council's Live Debate on the budget

#### Royal Blind School

#### Out of the Blue Drill Hall at Christmas

The Smith Commission has been published to acclaim by some and disdain by others. What do you think? Get involved in the debate by commenting [here!](#)

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[Post](#) by [MOV8 Real Estate, Estate Agents and Solicitors](#).

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Have you responded to the council's budget consultation? It is only open for just under a month so you had better get your skates on. Everything you need to know about it is [here](#) on the council website.

But in addition there is a live event on Monday night which you can still go along to. The Council is deciding where to invest and where to save money – and they want your views.

Next Monday, 1 December, they are hosting a live debate from 7–8pm in the City Chambers, giving you the opportunity to quiz our panel on the Council's [budget proposals](#).

The event will be chaired by Edinburgh Evening News Editor, Frank O'Donnell, and the panel will consist of the following

councillors:

- Steve Cardownie (Deputy Leader)
- Alasdair Rankin (Convener, Finance & Resources)
- Paul Godzik (Convener, Education, Children & Families)
- Frank Ross (Convener, Economy)
- Ricky Henderson (Convener, Health, Social Care & Housing)
- Adam McVey (Vice-Convener, Transport & Environment)
- Norma Austin-Hart (Vice-Convener, Culture & Sport)

There are still limited spaces available for this event. If you, or a friend or colleague, are interested in attending, please complete our short [online questionnaire](#) by 12noon on Monday.

You can also watch the debate live via our [webcasting website](#) and contribute via our live interactive blog or Twitter using [#edinbudget](#) – either in advance or on the night.

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HRH The Duke of Gloucester was in Edinburgh yesterday and one of the visits he made was to the Royal Blind School, where he officially opened the re-developed school building in Morningside as the charity's Patron.

In Autumn 2014 the school merged its two campuses, moving pupils from the 179-year-old Craigmillar Park campus to the buildings in Morningside which feature wide corridors with contrasting colours to enable independent navigation for pupils with low vision, specialist classrooms, a multi-use games area and a flat for visiting parents and carers.

Pictured : Dr Alasdair Allan MSP meets language pupil Andrew Pettigrew and left to right teacher Lauren Lochhart and Head Teacher Elaine Brackenridge to play a language game during a tour of the new school. (Thanks to the Maverick Photo Agency for the photos)

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The Cafe team at Out of the Blue Drill Hall are expanding the art shop with the addition of the 'Print Shed' specialising in limited edition prints, cards and textiles.

Grand opening 4th December with a special [Late Night Shopping](#) event from 17.00 – 20.00.

The [Precious Metals Workshop](#) brand new Gallery Space will also be open during the event, showcasing 14 different jewellers and silversmiths unique work.