

# Five things you need to know today



**Sleeping out at the Zoo**

**Calling all artists! – exhibition space available this Saturday**

**Edinburgh gets funding to overcome barriers into work**

**Council finances under scrutiny**

**Chronicle Calling – news website for Craigmillar and East Edinburgh**

Please do pray to the good weather gods to make sure it is a fine dry night tonight! The Edinburgh Reporter has agreed to join The Lady Provost and a few others (about 250!) to sleep out at the Zoo.....

Madness I know but it is all for a good cause to highlight the problems which homeless people in the city face on a daily and nightly basis. Read more [here](#) and if you feel inclined you can donate to the fundraising effort [here](#) which has already raised over £15,000 of the target of £50,000.

We will be reporting directly from the Zoo tonight probably using [Audioboom](#), perhaps Periscope if there is enough light, or some written articles that will be published here – but all done very quietly as we don't want to waken the pandas....

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**Scottish Historic Buildings Trust** is a conservation charity which is working on a project to restore Custom House on Commercial Street in Leith, which has been closed to the

public for over 30 years. If you are an artist you could have your work shown there this weekend!

*“As part of Edinburgh’s Doors Open initiative this weekend the building will be open on Sunday between 10am and 4pm. **There are a number of spaces that artists could exhibit their work** if it was of any interest and we would take a small commission of any works sold. These monies would then go into the restoration fund for the building or other buildings in Edinburgh. We hope to welcome somewhere between 1500 and 2000 people.”*

**All enquiries can be sent to Gail Raselli directly [info@shbt.org.uk](mailto:info@shbt.org.uk)**

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City of Edinburgh Council is one of 16 local authorities to share in a £43 million fund to help more Scots into work.

£3,562,328 will go to the city to help people overcome barriers to getting into work including long-term unemployment, following confirmation of Scotland’s share of the first stream of funding released under the Employability Strategic Interventions (SIs) as part of the European Social Fund (ESF) programme for 2014 – 2020.

Fair Work Secretary Roseanna Cunningham said:

“While the overall economic picture for Scotland remains generally very positive, particularly when compared to where we were at the peak of the recession, there remains work to be done.

“We must maintain momentum and ensure that every power at our disposal is used to grow the economy, increase employment, lower unemployment and remove barriers to the jobs market.

“We are committed to supporting people in their efforts to

find viable, quality employment. To do that, we have to work hard with partners to remove the barriers people can face in trying to enter the labour market.

“This strand of European Social Funding is designed to do exactly that and I am very pleased to be able to confirm £3,562,328 for City of Edinburgh Council. Alongside action to boost employment and growth around the country, I hope to see further positive results stemming from this vital investment.”

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The council's [Finance and Resources Committee](#) meets at 10am this morning for what promises to be a fairly stormy meeting with a lot of discussion around the level of savings the council now faces in the next four years. It is expected that there will be some deputations to the meeting and some protesters outside the City Chambers.

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The council gave funding of £50,000 to various news organisations in the city to help fund news models which would incorporate some training. The last of the three projects to get underway is [The Chronicle Online](#) at Craigmillar which received £13,500 of the funding.

This will carry news from Craigmillar and the rest of Eastern Edinburgh and you can get involved beginning on 2 October 2015 at The White House at 1:00pm. No experience is necessary, just bring your stories!



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