Grassmarket ambassadors are back

In the Grassmarket they are bringing back their ambassadors for the second year running. They will be able to guide the public and answer any questions on everything from transport to history. They will promote local markets and heritage trails and monitor any issues which need to be deal with such as litter or buskers who sing a bit too loud!

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The scheme, funded jointly by the Council and <u>Grassmarket BID</u>, allows two ambassadors to afternoons and evenings from Thursday to Sunday throughout the festival period, from late July until mid-September.

Ambassadors will work alongside Police Scotland too, as part of a joint effort to support the balance between residential life and visitor attractions.

Last year residents reported that ambassadors helped deal with noise from buskers, and had a generally positive impact on the area.

Councillor Gavin Barrie, Convener of the Housing and Economy Committee, said: "We want to create a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone, whether they live here, work here or are visiting. Not only do the ambassadors offer a friendly, informative face in the busy Grassmarket, they help ensure the area is clean and welcoming throughout the summer months, when we welcome thousands of visitors to the capital."

Fawns Reid, Greater Grassmarket Chair, added: "The Greater Grassmarket BID is really pleased this innovative collaboration with the City of Edinburgh Council is to continue for a second year. Everyone, our businesses, residents and visitors will all benefit from this extra help, at our busiest time of the year. Welcome back BID Ambassadors!"

Ambassadors, who will work between 2pm and 10pm, will be identifiable by blue fleeces marked 'Grassmarket Ambassadors'. Their work will complement the ongoing Our Edinburgh campaign, which aims to discourage littering, fly-tipping and dog fouling amongst the public, as well as work between businesses and the community to improve the area for everyone.