

Five things you need to know today

This week at the City Chambers

This is a big week when the tourist tax – which has been a focus of council administrations for so long inches nearer to reality. The special meeting on Friday will give councillors the first chance to debate the final draft before another special meeting the following week. The council is trying hard to be ready with their plans so that they can introduce the tax at the earliest opportunity.

Read about the final draft of the council's plan to charge a 5% tourist tax [here](#).

Monday, 13th January, 2025 – no meetings

Tuesday, 14th January, 2025

- [9.30 am Additional Meeting, Licensing Sub-Committee](#) – Dean of Guild Court Room – City Chambers

Wednesday, 15th January, 2025

- [9.30 am Planning Local Review Body \(Panel 2\)](#) – Dean of Guild Court Room – City Chambers

Thursday, 16th January, 2025

- [10.00 am Finance and Resources Committee](#) – Dean of Guild Court Room – City Chambers

Friday, 17th January, 2025

- [10.00 am Special Meeting – Visitor Levy, Policy and Sustainability Committee](#) – Dean of Guild Court Room – City Chambers

Leith Chooses

Voting Day is on Saturday 18 January 2025. People eligible to vote are invited along to the Leith Community Centre in the Kirkgate, meet all the project applicants in person and learn about the projects, and then cast their votes on the day.

It is a fun and sociable event. All are welcome with free refreshments available. For children there is free face painting and a 'smoothie bike'.

Go along at 11am if you need / prefer a crowd-free 'quiet' voting experience. Otherwise, public voting opens at noon until 3 pm.

Online Voting

After the live voting day, there will be a further 2 weeks of online voting from 20 January – 3 February. For anyone who does not manage to get to the in-person day at the Community Centre, it is possible to vote online. And for those who do vote at the Community Centre, they can ALSO vote once online.

Everyone 8 years or older who lives, works, volunteers or attends school or college in Leith is eligible to vote.

Who to vote for?

You can [find the list of 23 projects here](#), if you have time to browse through them and learn more before voting.

One of last year's successful applicants is having an exhibition of their work later this week. See more below about ELREC's weaving workshops.



Edinburgh Food Social

Both today and next Monday there are Essential Skills courses run by the Edinburgh Food Social for people living in Craigmillar and Niddrie to learn about cooking – and then enjoy eating together. Learn how to prepare simple nutritious recipes using local ingredients.

Sign up at www.edinburghfoodsocal.org

Upcoming Community Cookery Classes

Essential Skills

Monday 13th and 20th January 2025, 17:30 - 20:30

Learn the fundamentals of how to prepare simple, nutritious recipes using local, affordable, seasonal ingredients on this two day course.

Good Food Youth Club

Monday 17th February 2025, 11:00 - 15:00

Tuesday 18th February 2025, 11:00 - 15:00

We welcome 14-17 year olds to learn about buying, preparing and cooking local, seasonal food. It's great way to encourage young people to start cooking at home!



Fun with Flour

Saturday 1st February 2025, 17:30 - 20:30

Sunday 23rd February 2025, 17:30 - 20:30

In this hands-on workshop you will learn about kneading, shaping, and cooking pasta and soda bread from scratch.



**All classes are free for people who live in
Craigmillar and Niddrie.**

Sign up at www.edinburghfoodsocal.org

Job at Filmhouse Edinburgh

The Filmhouse is getting ready to reopen and there are some jobs already on offer.

The latest is for a Learning and Engagement Officer.

The **Learning & Engagement Officer** is a creative and administrative role responsible for planning and delivering Filmhouse's objectives around formal education initiatives and informal learning activities. Filmhouse aims to ensure the widest access to film education for people of all ages and from all backgrounds; and to use its position as a knowledge hub and delivery infrastructure to support and add value to Edinburgh's wider screen education ecosystem. The outlook for screen education in Scotland is as strong as it has ever been due to the recent decision to include this field in the Curriculum for Excellence schools curriculum. Reporting to the Programme Director, the Learning & Engagement Officer will lead on developing Filmhouse's role in the context of that strategic national shift.

[Apply here – deadline 31 January 2025](#)

The Conscious Weaving Project

A spokesperson for Edinburgh and Lothian Racial Equality Council (ELREC) invites everyone to St Margaret's House this Friday to see what their weavers have produced. The spokesperson said: "Come to see the work results and shared experiences of our weaving workshops participants! We have been running community weaving workshops in Leith with the aim of supporting community building with positive impact on mental health and wellbeing.

"The exhibition is celebrating the end of 'The Conscious Weaving' project funded by community voting programme Leith Chooses 2024. We want to show the importance of free art community project and share healing impacts of weaving art practice.

"Come to see us and the participants on the opening night on 17th of January (Friday) at 6pm at St Margarets House"

Address: Gallery Two, St Margarets House, Gallery 2, 151
London Rd, Edinburgh EH7 6AE

Date: 17-25 January 2025

Opening Event: 17 January, 6pm-8pm

St Margaret's House opening hours:

Monday to Friday 9am-9pm

Saturday 9am-6pm

Sunday 12pm-5pm



[View this post on Instagram](#)



A post shared by ELREC (@elrecuk)