

Please tell us about yourself in a few sentences.

My story is one of community. Growing up in a highland crofting community, I soon understood the value of working with people. These value and principles have guided me throughout my life: as a student, pharmacist, parent, Leith Central Community Councillor, foodbank team leader and now as a Leith Walk ward Councillor.

Can you tell us about 2 or 3 of the most pressing issues in the ward, and how you are proposing to take on those challenges?

- Access to GP Surgeries

Doctors are struggling to cope with strain on the NHS and appointment waiting times locally are growing. Residents moving to the local area can face difficulties registering with a GP due to some practices operating restricted lists. As a former pharmacist, NHS services are important to me. I am facilitating a pilot project building connections between local pharmacies and voluntary organisations. If elected, I will continue building on these promising foundations as we look to reduce the waiting times for GP appointments and the pressure on GP surgeries.

- Economy

In these tough economic times, it is important that we do as much as we can to support local businesses. As a local Councillor, I have successfully coordinated conversations between independent businesses and Business Gateway. If elected, I will expand this support to local people who are starting or growing their own business.

- Housing and Childcare Facilities

Leith Walk is the most-densely populated ward in Scotland. If elected, I will work with developers on new projects to ensure the community has a say in the way that they take shape, and that they meet the needs of the people who live there. Housing and community developments must consider childcare needs and working with providers I will ensure all new builds have appropriate childcare facilities.

This text was supplied to Leith Central Community Council (LCCC) by the candidate, unedited.

For more info on what LCCC does, please visit leithcentralcc.co.uk and keep checking this notice-board for more updates and events.

