

ER News Line

Posted by Ernhw Ltd - 21 May 2012 18:40

Today sees the launch of a new enterprise for us, a 24/7 news line.

We have consolidated our endeavours over the past five years and will now be producing a 24/7 news line which will report on matters that relate to East Renfrewshire on this particular thread, which will be over and above the existing forum service that we provide.

We will now report on matters that relate to East Ren as a news agency, rather than relying solely on having to copy articles from other media outlets.

These will undoubtedly spawn other threads that will provoke discussion on the particular topics.

We are the only East Renfrewshire news outlet to operate fully area wide and on a true 24/7 basis.

If you have any stories that you wish us to investigate or report on please email the editor at

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Jackson Carlaw MSP comments on the new ERC administration

Posted by Ernhw Ltd - 21 May 2012 18:44

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Re: News Line

Posted by Ernhw Ltd - 21 May 2012 19:16

We have requested comments on the MSP's statements from the leaders of the three main parties, Jim Fletcher (Lab), Tony Buchanan (SNP) and Gordon Wallace (Con). In addition we have also asked Cllrs Robertson (Ind) and Devlin (Ind) for their comments.

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Re: News Line

Posted by Ernhw Ltd - 22 May 2012 08:21

Independent Councillor Ralph Robertson told the News Line "I will let the new administration get up and running and will wait to see exactly what they do. I would hope that they will direct resources to Clarkston as the town centre needs regeneration as there are about 8 shops empty at present. I have also been in Barrhead about 6 times in the last few months and there was 1 empty shop that I could see and it was let or under offer."

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Think tanks proposal to cut Scottish councils

Posted by Ernhw Ltd - 22 May 2012 09:22

[Reform Scotland Repor](#)

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[More powers for community councils say Reform Scotland](#)

[Posted by Ernhw Ltd - 22 May 2012 12:40](#)

[The group feel that the move would rejuvenate local democracy and encourage more people to get involved in politics in their area.](#)

[The call for community councils to be handed more responsibilities comes in a far reaching report by the Think Tank.](#)

[It is argued that the poor turnout at the recent council elections highlights the need for more decisions to be made locally.](#)

[The think tank wants more powers devolved to local authorities and say this in turn would permit them to hand greater responsibilities to community councils.](#)

In East Renfrewshire there are 10 community councils, and apparently nine out of 10 were uncontested, formed without elections.

Reform Scotland carried out its own survey and about 80% of those who gave feedback said they had experienced problems filling vacancies. Half believed more powers would help improve that situation.

The think tank said 44% did not think their views were taken into account by local authorities.

Reform Scotland chairman Ben Thomson said: "The turnout at the 2012 local elections, the low level of contested community elections and the indications from our own survey suggest a very real problem in attracting interest in local government in Scotland.

"People instinctively know where real power resided, and at this point in time there is little power residing at a local or community council level.

"If we want to rejuvenate local democracy, we need to give the electorate a reason to get involved."

The Think Tank asked those involved in community councils about how more volunteers could be attracted and what kind of improvements could be made.

Respondents called for greater responsibilities, better publicity, and more training and resources.

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