West End Community Council Update #dundeewestend

Fraser's West End Community Council Update for April 2018

I have today launched my April 2018 Update to West End Community Council. Subjects covered include:

- Recycling changes for much of the West End from 16th April
- Speeding Magdalen Yard Road
- Road safety Perth Road/Riverside Drive junction
- West End Community and Sports Hub

The Community Council meets on Tuesday evening at Logie St John's (Cross) Church Hall at 7pm — all residents welcome. You can <u>download</u> my Update here.

Here's the agenda :

WEST END COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 10th APRIL 2018 AT 7.00PM
LOGIE AND ST JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH HALL
(ENTER FROM SHAFTESBURY TERRACE — OFF BLACKNESS AVENUE)

- 1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES
- 2. MINUTE OF MEETING 13TH MARCH 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING
- 3. PRESENTATION TAY ROPE WORKS
- 4. PRESENTATION GREENMARKET LEISURE QUARTER
- 5. CORRESPONDENCE
- 6. POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE
- 7. PERTH ROAD UPDATE
- 8. WECC HIT LIST
- 9. PLANNING UPDATE
- 10. OTHER MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF WECC
- 11. AOCB MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INPUT
- 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 8th May 2018

Light refreshments will be provided.

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Sin taxes do what it says on the tin

The government is quite keen to use small tax rises on particular products to change consumer behaviour. These seem to be very successful in their own terms.

Let's take the 5p bag tax. 5p is not a large sum of money on the average supermarket shop, though the average supermarket shop would often need more than one bag. Since the introduction of the 5p charge so called single use or thin plastic bags issued by the main super markets has plunged by 83%. Most of us now take longer life bags to the shop so we do not need to pay for more of these thin plastic holdalls. I have no problem with doing this myself.

We need to remember that some of these so called single use bags were used again for other purposes. I used them again for carrying, storing, or dumping waste through the refuse system. Now they have been largely phased out we need to make and use alternatives for dumping waste and for carrying things. There will be some loss of overall bag output, with more opportunities for bag producers to sell tougher longer lasting bags.

There is then the Sugar Tax. The government claims early victories for this recent introduction, as many makers of soft drinks changed their formula prior to the arrival of the tax to get the sugar content below the permitted maximum. As a result the government has now halved its estimate of the likely revenue from the tax. Levied at 24p a litre on high sugar drinks it is quite a price hike on these relatively low value items, but not a huge increase in the cost of a total food shop for those who want carry on drinking high sugar colas and similar.

These two examples show that quite small tax increases on everyday items will change behaviour markedly where the public buys into the need to make changes, or where the sum of money is annoying or difficult on a low budget. We now see a pattern to what happens with tax rises or new taxes. It should make the government extremely nervous about putting additional taxes on things like work and savings, where it generally says it approves, as these too can be adversely affected by increases in rates or by new impositions. We also see a pattern that revenue often falls short, and there are consequential reductions in related revenues.

<u>Do not depend on what appears in our hyper critical English media and form</u>

opinions: Vice President

The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has advised the Foreign Correspondents to not to depend on what appears in our hyper critical English media and form opinions. He was addressing the gathering at the 60th anniversary of The Foreign Correspondents' Club of South Asia, here today.

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<u>Peace is prerequisite for progress:</u> <u>Vice President</u>

The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has said that peace is the prerequisite for progress of any nation. He was interacting with the Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri K.P. Sharma Oli, who called on him, here today.

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