

# City Developments

by Councillor Tom Buchanan

Edinburgh embraces the responsibility of being a leading European capital city, making sure the infrastructure is there to keep supporting Edinburgh's, and therefore Scotland's, economy.



**B**old and ambitious business developments are springing up across Edinburgh thanks to local entrepreneurs and people new to the city recognising the advantages of our skilled population, diverse economy, history of innovation and great quality of life.

In 2008, the city's business credentials received a boost when Edinburgh was named Europe's Top Small City and the sixth best of all European cities. The accolade from *The Financial Times' FDi* magazine, is the latest in a long list for the Scottish capital.

The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to doing all we can to maintain the city's robust economy in these challenging times.

We have developed a resilience plan identifying key actions to be taken to safeguard the economy. This is in addition to the record amounts we are spending on the city's infrastructure, including improvements to our roads, public transport and public spaces. We are also improving our already high performing planning system, which is ranked the best in Scotland.

Improving connectivity is another area of focus: with National Express Trains and CrossCountry both increasing their capacity on journeys to the city, Norfolkline taking over the running of the ferry service to Zebrugge in Spring 2009 and new air routes on the increase with Ryan Air's new hub at Edinburgh, the future is looking positive.

