

# Midlothian Council

## Labour Group



**Midlothian Council**  
**20 December 2016**

### **Notice of Motion**

Council believes that it is vital that the administration of Midlothian Council, and particularly its leadership, place the interests of Midlothian people ahead of Party Political affiliations.

It is with dismay that we hear from Councillor de Vink, that Councillor Johnstone, the Leader of Midlothian Council, reneged on a commitment she had made to him to write to the Scottish Government expressing Midlothian Council's opposition to the way that Scottish Government plans to take the income generated from the increases in Council tax levels for those living in homes in bands E to H, to fund national spending priorities.

This in itself is bad enough, but the reason given for not following through on her commitment was the more damning aspect and confirms that Councillor Johnstone is not fit to hold the position of Leader of our Council.

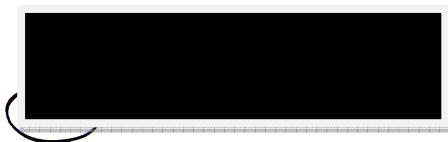
Councillor de Vink has revealed that Councillor Johnstone's reason for not sending the letter was that she *"did not wish Midlothian to be the only SNP controlled Council to criticise the Scottish Government"*.

This lays bare the truth that this administration is not prepared to stand up for the people of Midlothian unless it accords with the interests of the SNP Government and their Party bosses.

For these reasons Council believes that Councillor Johnstone is not fit to lead this Council or to defend the interests of Midlothian people, particularly when they conflict with the perceived interests of her own party.

We therefore consider that this Council no longer has confidence in Councillor Johnstone as its Leader and agrees to remove her from this position with immediate effect.

Moved:



**COUNCILLOR JIM MUIRHEAD**

Seconded:



**COUNCILLOR RUSSELL IMRIE**