

Participatory Budgeting  
and  
Elected Representatives

...or

“from our cold, dead hands”???

# Introductions

- Marco Biagi
- Minister for Local Government & Community Empowerment, 2014-16

No, that's it. Basically why I'm here.



## Participation

The Community Empowerment Act delivered new rights for communities and is backed by the Empowering Communities Fund and the Strengthening Communities Programme. We will build on this by:-

- Setting councils a target of having at least 1 per cent of their budget subject to Community Choices budgeting. This will be backed by the Community Choices Fund to help public bodies and community groups build on examples of best practice.
- Allowing community councils that can demonstrate a

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## WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES ON DELIVERY OF THE £2 MILLION COMMUNITY CHOICES FUND

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We will continue to work with local government and communities on delivery of the target of councils having at least 1% of their budget subject to Community Choices budgeting, backed by the £2 million Community Choices Fund which opened for applications in June 2016 to support public authorities and community groups build on examples of best practice.

This means that tens of thousands of people will have a direct say in how tens of millions of pounds are spent by their councils and will be involved in innovative community action. We are determined to give people a real voice in the decisions that matter to them and be a world leader in promoting community choices in budget decisions.



Credit: Yes Leith,  
October 2013



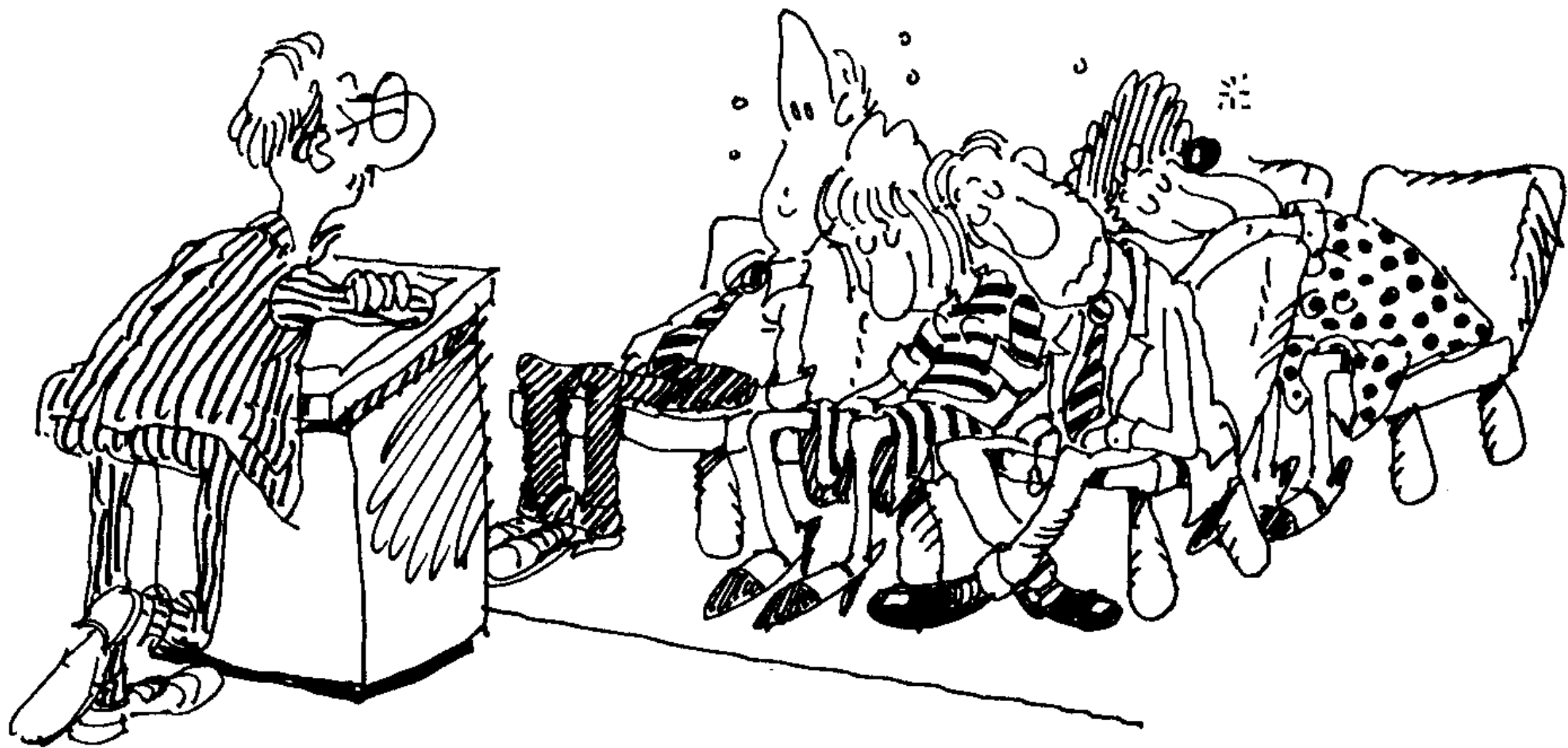
If remote and top-down doesn't work for Scotland within the Union, why is remote and top-down an acceptable way to run every local community in Scotland?

**Lesley Riddoch** writes  
every Thursday for

**THE NATIONAL**

THE NEWSPAPER THAT SUPPORTS AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND

ONLY 60P



# Edinburgh's budget challenge

your city, your say



You need to save money

Overspend  
**£67.00m**  
Over Budget  
**7.1%**

Total expenses:

# £1.01bn

-20% -15% -10% -5% 0% 5% 10%

Consequences

## Creating an attractive city to live and work in

--- Parking charges >

Creating better, more affordable housing >

Creating a strong economy for the city >

Creating better services for customers >

Creating opportunities for everyone to learn and achieve their potential >

Creating a great quality of life for everyone >

Capital Investment >

*i* Property and Facilities Management (£4.0m)



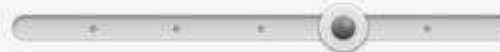
No change

*i* Parks and Greenspace (£5.2m)



No change

*i* Planning and Building Standards (£5.4m)



No change

*i* Public Transport and Accessibility (£5.3m)



No change

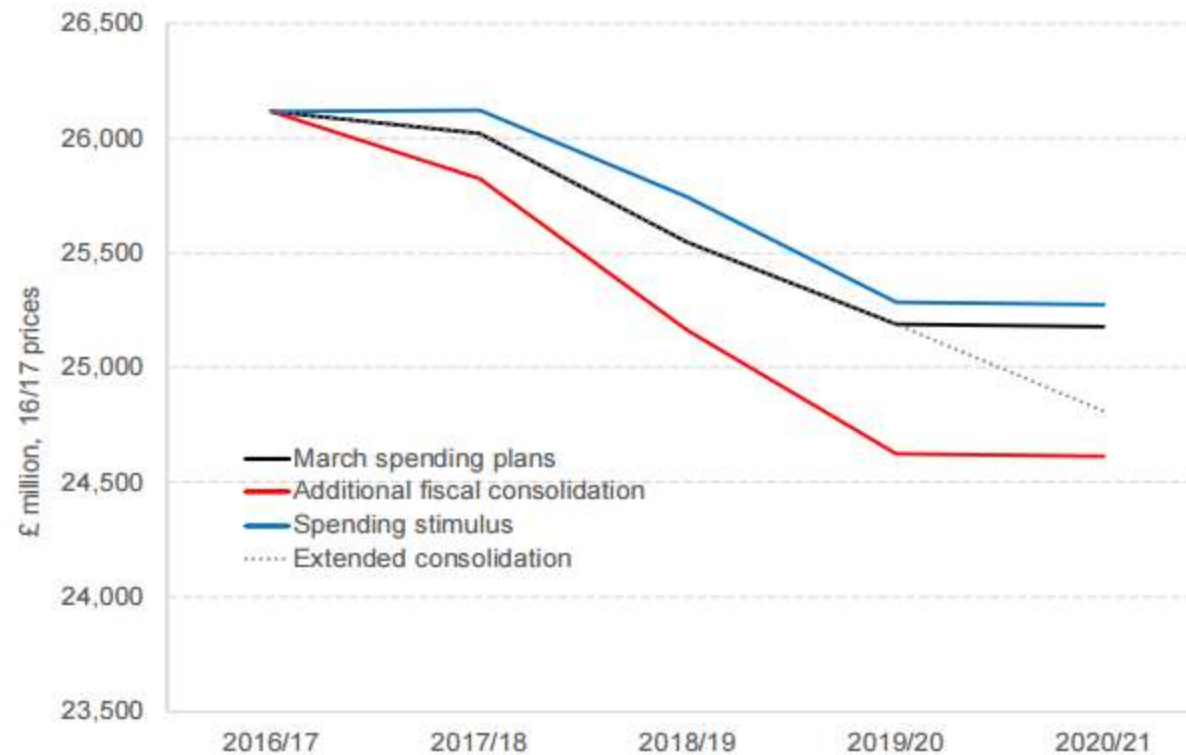
*i* Roads and Street Lighting (£14.4m)

No change

« Introduction

May not submit »

**Chart 2.2:** Scenarios for the Scottish resource block grant, £m (2016-17 prices)

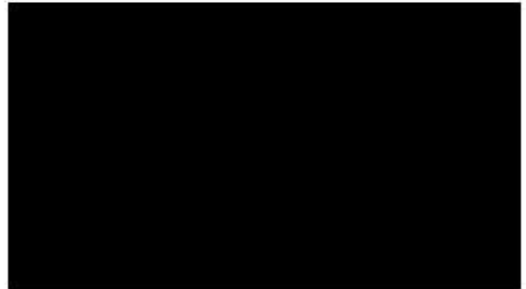








## Scottish Government community empowerment minister Marco Biagi announces funding for the Coalfields Regeneration Trust in Alloa, Clackmannanshire



### Most popular

- 1 Bride to be wins dream wedding
- 2 Tornado-like clouds pictured above Sauchie
- 3 Alloa fundraiser in aid of Huntington's disease
- 4 Level of vandalism at Alva Glen becoming 'litter hell'

So, let's talk.