

WELCOME TO MY June 2025 Newsletter



Hello everyone. I hope you are all doing well and managed to enjoy some of the sunshine we have had - hopefully we have more to come!

Parliament is now in Recess for Summer so I am looking forward to spending more time in the constituency.

I remain on hand to help throughout this time, so please do not hesitate to get in touch by email or phone.

In this Newsletter you will find:

My work in the Constituency, Parliament and Scottish Government updates.

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Friends of Milngavie Reservoir

I recently caught up with Eddy and Lynn from Friends of Milngavie Reservoir (FOMR) to discuss how I can support them with ongoing issues at Milngavie Reservoir. We discussed concerns about Mugdock Road, amongst other issues which I will be taking back to East Dunbartonshire Council. My thanks again to the group for everything they do to protect the Reservoir and surrounding areas.





Clydebank FC

It was good to get a quick catch up with Bill Abraham from the Club to congratulate them on winning promotion to the Scottish Lowland Football League. I was pleased to submit a Motion to Parliament in recognition of this great achievement. The Club is going from strength to strength, well done again!

Graham McKie

I recently attended an event in Parliament and met two of my Milngavie constituents, Don and Rachel McKie, and later sat down with them in my office to discuss how I can support them in improving outcomes for those with brain tumours. Don and Rachel sadly lost their son, Graham, to a brain tumour in 2006 at age 32. I raised their case in Parliament and will continue to work with them.

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Milngavie Art Club

It was great to pop into Milngavie Art Club to see their wonderful 2025 exhibition. I am always so impressed by the selection of work on display! I had a good chat with some of the artists about their work. The exhibition has now closed, but keep an eye out for details of the club's "One-Day Sale" which will be held in the Fraser Centre in December 2025.





OHR Summer Fete

It was great to get along to Our Holy Redeemer Primary School's Summer Fete alongside Councillor Kevin Crawford and Gillian Kirkwood from Y Sort It. They had some fantastic stalls and entertainment on. Well done to Head Teacher, Joanne Graham, and everyone involved in the organisation of such a good event.

Milngavie Week

I had a great day at Milngavie Week's Classic Car Rally meeting many volunteers, organisations and local businesses. Pictured here with Elaine Sinclair, owner of the fantastic Daydreams Bookshop. It is always so lovely to see such a buzz about the town on the day. Thanks to everyone who takes part and to those that work hard to deliver it each year.

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Clydebank Women's Aid

I was deeply saddened to learn that Clydebank Women's Aid will be closing. They have been a crucial source of support for our town. I have met recently with them to discuss the situation and I am pleased that my colleague, Cllr Sophie Traynor's motion calling for funding to be ringfenced to support women, children and young people, was passed unanimously.





B&M Highland Games

Despite the weather, we had a good time at Bearsden and Milngavie's Highland Games. It was great to chat to all the organisations that braved the typical Scottish weather! What began in 1973 as a small local fundraiser has turned into one of the most celebrated days in the community, with it now marking its 52nd year!

Out On The Doorsteps

Alongside my Team and wonderful SNP activists, I have been out and about across West and East Dunbartonshire delivering Surgery Engagement Letters and my Annual Report this month. It has been great to get the chance to speak with people on the doorsteps and offer my support. My sincere thanks to all the SNP activists who have come out to help us over the past few weeks.

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Milngavie In Bloom

I was delighted to join Milngavie in Bloom for the unveiling of their Roman Centurion statue in the Antonine Gardens recently. It was a pleasure to join all of the volunteers who have worked so hard on this project. As Parliament is now in Recess, I am looking forward to getting back out with the group for one of their regular litter picks. You can find a list of their volunteer dates on their website.



Cycles (EAPC)

Has pedals that are used to propel it EAPC bikes in Scotland are considered to be bicycles and have the same access rights as traditional bicycles Its electric motor should not be able to propel the bike when it's travelling more than 15.5 mph

Other electric (or motor)



Report to the police by calling 101 or by scanning the QR code below and give as much description of bike and rider as possible

Kilpatrick Hills

I recently met with Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) to discuss some of the anti-social behaviour issues in the Kilpatrick Hills that my constituents have been raising with me. Electrically assisted pedal cycles are permitted and have the same traditional rights as bicycles. However, motorbikes or any other form of electric bike are forbidden and should be reported to the police on 101.

Constituency Surgeries

I had another productive Surgery day with my team at the end of June. We held Surgeries in the Fraser Centre, Milngavie, Baljaffray Parish Church in Bearsden, Alana Rose Irish Dancing in Parkhall and in Centre 81, Whitecrook with my colleague Councillor Kevin Crawford. Thanks to all the organisations for hosting my Team and I.

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IN THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

Youth Violence In Schools

Violence has no place in Scotland's schools, so I welcome the £2 million additional investment from the Scottish Government to address youth violence and the carrying of weapons in and around schools. I recently asked the Cabinet Secretary about how the Scottish budget delivers on the priorities of the equally safe strategy.





Rethink Liver Cancer

I recently attended the Rethink Liver Cancer Reception in the Scottish Parliament along with Milngavie branch members Ann and Derek Winter. I support the Charity's call for faster diagnosis for people with Cholangiocarcinoma in Scotland - a liver cancer that's often misdiagnosed and managed too late in our health service, with one of the worst survival rates of any cancer.

Empowering Entrepreneurs

Scotland is home to some of the world's brightest minds, and we have a proud history of invention. I was pleased to get the chance to recognise some of our local innovators in this debate, including Clydebank's Happy Leaf and Milngavie's Potr. The UK Labour Government is betraying Scotland's businesses, so it is clear we need the full powers of an independent nation to fully flourish.

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IN THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

Action Mesothelioma Day

Every year I lead a debate on Action Mesothelioma Day in Parliament. I was pleased to secure a debate at the end of June to raise awareness of this cruel disease and call for further action. Thank you again to Clydebank Asbestos Group and Asbestos Action for supporting my debate on the day. I will continue to do everything I can in the campaign for truth and justice.





Clydebank and Milngavie First Minister's Questions

First Minister's Questions

I recently asked the First Minister what assessment the Scottish Government has made of the latest Office for National Statistics inflation statistics and any implications for its work to support lowincome households. It is clear Scotland has been let down by the Labour Party and that only the SNP Scottish Government will protect those in need.

ADHD Assessments

At the end of June, I asked the Scottish Government how it is working with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde to meet the demand for ADHD and autism assessments. I have been assisting many of my constituents who have concerns about this, and I am glad that the Scottish Government has allocated £3.1 billion to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde in this financial year.





SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATES

<u>The future of secure care</u> - Funding of over £4 million to establish new secure care houses has been announced by the Scottish Government.

<u>Education reforms agreed by Parliament</u> - The creation of a new national qualifications body, along with an independent education inspectorate, has taken a major step forward after legislation to implement the changes was passed in the Scottish Parliament.

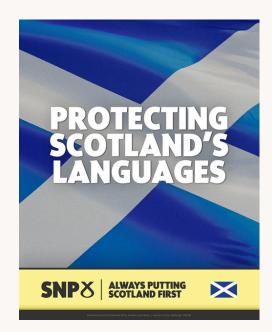
Targeting funding at frontline services - Savings rising to £2.6 billion in 2029-30 will ensure funding can be targeted at frontline services such as the NHS, social security, action to eradicate child poverty and other priorities.

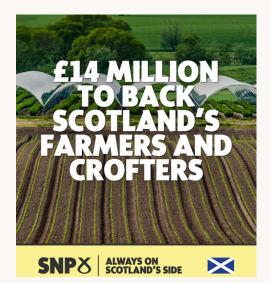
<u>Scotland 'remains a safe place to live'</u> - Serious assault and attempted murder fall to lowest level since 1977, with recorded crime more than halved since 1991, according to newly-published official statistics.

<u>£300,000 boost for Edinburgh International Book</u> <u>Festival</u> - Over 5,000 schoolchildren will continue to enjoy free literary events from the Edinburgh International Book Festival over the next three years, thanks to a £300,000 grant from the Scottish Government.

Improving the safety of non-surgical cosmetic procedures - New proposals to improve safety and standards in the non-surgical cosmetic procedures sector have been set out as the Scottish Government publishes its response to a consultation on the issue.

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£4.4 million to turn Scottish innovation into high-growth jobs and businesses



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