

Stuart McMillan MSP

MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT FOR
GREENOCK AND INVERCLYDE CONSTITUENCY



Hello and welcome to the 19th edition of my Regular Newsletter.

For my first newsletter of 2019, I would like to begin by wishing my constituents a Happy New Year. I hope you had a peaceful Christmas and that the year ahead is good to you.

This year marks the bi-centenary of the death of James Watt, Greenock's most famous son. In commemoration, I strived to set up a local festival to celebrate Watt and his connection to Inverclyde, but at the time, no constituted body was willing to take this on. I am therefore glad that Inverclyde Council have decided to organise a year of activities to honour Watt. I attended the launch event at Cowan's Corner in Greenock, which included a screening of a short film produced by Kilmacolm Primary pupils. This was a great evening, and I am looking forward to all the celebrations.

This month I welcomed the Mental Health Minister, Clare Haughey MSP, to Inverclyde as she visited Mind Mosaic's Children and Families Service Centre. This was because of my visit to Mind Mosaic in October last year, so I was delighted that the Minister was able to see first-hand the valuable role that Mind Mosaic plays in our community.



Stuart and the Mental Health Minister meeting staff on their visit to Mind Mosaic.

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The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

This month I have met with Planning and Development officials at Inverclyde Council, Directors at LINK Group, and with the Housing Minister, Kevin Stewart MSP, regarding the Ravenscraig Hospital site. These meetings were beneficial as they enabled me highlight the concerns of my constituents.

I also visited Police Scotland's Service Centre and Control Room in Govan alongside Ronnie Cowan MP, Cllr Jim McEleny and Cllr Tommy McVey. This was an excellent opportunity to see first-hand the work they do, and how they support Inverclyde.

I visited Home-Start Renfrewshire & Inverclyde's Greenock office to get an update on their work. If you would like to be a Home-Start volunteer to support local families, or believe your family would benefit from their support, please contact them on 01475 603441, or visit their website: <http://www.home-start-renfrewshire.org.uk/>.

I also met with Creative Scotland's Executive Director and Acting Chief Executive to discuss Inverclyde's desire to be home to a TV and Film studio.

In the Scottish Parliament, I asked the Rural Affairs Minister a question regarding Animal Welfare and whether the Scottish Government would support the proposals of the Greenock Telegraph's 'Justice For Pets' campaign. I also spoke during the Holocaust Memorial Day debate, and signed the Holocaust Book of Commitment.

I also sponsored VisitScotland's annual Parliamentary event which focused on the Solheim Cup which will be the biggest sporting event held in Scotland this year, as well as their Shop Local initiative. It also looked ahead to 2020, which will be the Year of Coasts and Waters.

Currently all households with people over 75 are entitled to a free TV licence. The UK Government are ending this in June 2020.

It is now for the BBC to decide on any future scheme and to pay for it, so they are consulting on the matter to hear people's views. If you wish to participate, visit <https://www.bbc.com/yoursay> before 12 February 2019.



Stuart attended a public exhibition regarding the former Inverkerrow Power Station site.



Stuart signing the Holocaust Book of Commitment in Parliament.

Stuart McMillan MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Greenock and Inverclyde Constituency

Get in touch

-  Stuart.Mcmillan.MSP@parliament.scot
-  01475 720 930
-  [StuMcMillanSNP](https://twitter.com/StuMcMillanSNP)
-  [Stuart McMillan MSP](https://www.facebook.com/StuartMcMillanMSP)



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Drop-in Surgeries

Last Friday of every month
(except July and December)

- 10.00 Am** Port Glasgow Library
- 13.00 Pm** Gourock Library

Please contact the office for details.