

Stuart McMillan MSP

MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT FOR
GREENOCK AND INVERCLYDE CONSTITUENCY



Hello and welcome to the 20th edition of my Regular Newsletter

While Brexit consumes Westminster, the Scottish Parliament passed a Budget, which I spoke in support of during the chamber debate, saying:

“Here are just some of the reasons why I will vote in favour of the budget tonight. Some 55% of income tax payers here will pay less than they would in the rest of the UK, while 99% will pay the same as or less than they paid last year. The budget will deliver a whopping £729m extra for health and care services. It will provide £180m for improving attainment, including £120m to headteachers to close the attainment gap...[it] will also provide more than £5bn of capital investment, including more new homes for my constituency of Greenock and Inverclyde, like those in Slaemuir in Port Glasgow which the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning visited only a couple of months ago...”

In Parliament this month, I also spoke in the World Cancer Day debate, Stage 1 of the Census debate, and asked five questions in the chamber regarding Brexit preparations, support for childcare providers, the Glasgow Airport Access Project, EU funding post-Brexit and the delivery of devolved benefits.



Stuart met BHF Scotland's Senior Policy & Public Affairs Manager David McColgan at a Parliamentary event.

Stuart has secured cross-party support of at least 18 MSPs, meaning he has the right to introduce his Proposed Recovery of Medical Costs for Industrial Disease (Scotland) Bill.

He will now progress the drafting of the Bill with the Non-Government Bills Unit in Parliament.

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Constituents will know that I'm keen to see a TV and Film Studio located in Inverclyde, so I organised a meeting with stakeholders from the sector and representatives from Riverside Inverclyde and Inverclyde Council.

Having seen an increase in constituents contacting me about mental health, I wrote to the Mental Health Minister, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, and Inverclyde HSCP regarding mental healthcare provision locally. I also met Inverclyde HSCP's Chief Officer, Louise Long, to discuss this matter along with other local health issues, including ambulance provision and the new Greenock Health Centre.



Stuart met Church of Scotland Moderator Rt Rev Susan Brown during her Annual Week in the Scottish Parliament.

There has been much debate recently over the outline business case for Glasgow Airport's direct rail link to Glasgow. While I back this concept, as it would support Scotland's growing tourism sector, I cannot support the outline business case, as it would negatively affect Inverclyde rail services. Other alternatives that would not remove or hinder Inverclyde must be sought, so I met with Glasgow Airport officials to discuss the matter further.

Following this meeting at the Airport, I visited West College Scotland's (WCS) Paisley campus to meet WCS's Principal, Liz Connolly, for an update on several education issues.

This month, I also attended a 'Refreshing the Inverclyde Alliance Tobacco Strategy' event at Broomhill Gardens & Community Hub, and was invited to a dedication service at Greenock Ocean Terminal for RFA Tidesurge, which is one of four new Royal Auxiliary Fleet's ships, and will be the biggest in service.



Stuart signed RYA Scotland's Pride Flag as February marks LGBT History Month.

Since the Carers' Allowance Supplement was introduced in April 2018, 1,515 people in Inverclyde have benefitted.

This represents 1.9% of all payments made in Scotland, equivalent to around £334,000—further proof that the Scottish Government is committed to supporting carers and delivering a social security system rooted in dignity and respect.



Stuart welcomed Health Secretary Jeane Freeman MSP to Cappielow to hear about Morton Community Trust's work locally, which Cllr Jim McEleny also attended.

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
-  Stuart McMillan MSP



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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.