

Stuart McMillan MSP

MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT FOR
GREENOCK AND INVERCLYDE CONSTITUENCY

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE 32ND ISSUE OF MY REGULAR NEWSLETTER

My Bill

My members Bill '**Liability for NHS Charges (Treatment of Industrial Disease) (Scotland) Bill**' has passed another hurdle with it being referred to the Scottish Parliament Health and Sport Committee. The Committee met this month and have now started their **Calls for Views** on the bill. This runs until Wednesday 30th September. After considering the responses, the Committee will then have public evidence sessions later in the year.

I am pleased with this progress and look forward to giving evidence and answering questions from the committee.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/115777.aspx>



Exams and SQA

I was contacted by many constituents who were angry and frustrated by the **SQA Exams** situation. I was clear with my support for my constituents and how fairness should have happened. I lobbied the **Cabinet Secretary for Education** and also spoke to a Senior Manager from the SQA. In addition, I discussed the situation with a local headteacher and **Inverclyde Council's Director of Education**.

I was pleased with the outcome and also pleased for my constituents. I am a firm believer that our pupils should obtain the results based on their effort and not because of their postcode.

FMQ's

Since Parliament re-started on 11th August, I have asked two **FMQ's (First Minister Questions)**, asked questions during statements and also questions during normal question time. Furthermore, the two committees I am a member of have re-started.



Face coverings



Avoid crowded places



Clean hands regularly



Two metre distance



Self-isolate and book a test if you have symptoms

Club 3000 Bingo

I visited **Club3000 Bingo** in Greenock on their first day back after lockdown to see the measures they are putting in place to make the experience for staff and customers safe.

I spoke with the **General Manager, Iain Woolley** who gave me a tour of the facility and showed me all the measures they are installing.

I wish both staff and customers well as they rebuild the business.



Cappielow Visit

I visited **Cappielow** (21st August) to learn more about the new commentary equipment for Greenock Morton fans who are blind or visually impaired. I chair the Parliament's **Cross Party Group on Visual Impairment (CPGVI)** so have a genuine interest in accessibility.

CEO Dave MacKinnon met with me to explain how the new kit will help 'Ton fans enjoy matches.

Great credit should go to Morton's Disability Access Officer Andy Adams, who worked with equipment providers, Rex Blind Parties, a charity committed to providing live commentary for visually impaired people at football matches in Scotland, to secure a system that would work for the stadium.

Ferguson Marine

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture, Fiona Hyslop MSP provided an update about Ferguson Marine in the Chamber on 25th August and I asked a question about Apprentices and the future. In addition, the **Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee (RECC)** had its final evidence session (26th August) regarding its inquiry into Construction and Procurement of Ferries in Scotland.

Although, I am not a member of the RECC I have been participating in the inquiry. I have been a long-time supporter of the yard and know how vital it is to the local economy.

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The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Due to Covid-19, my office is closed until further notice.

Constituents can still contact me by email and telephone.

Monthly surgeries will be conducted over telephone until further notice.