



October 2023 Newsletter

Stuart McMillan MSP

HELLO AND WELCOME TO MY LATEST NEWSLETTER.

Although the Scottish Parliament was in recess for two weeks' during October, it was still a busy month in Holyrood.

Over the course of the month, I **spoke in four debates**.

The first debate was about the **impact of transvaginal mesh on women's health**, as sadly, this is an issue I've supported several constituents with.

I also spoke in a debate on **Challenge Poverty Week** to highlight my regular cost of living surgeries, which aim to alleviate hardship by helping local people access information and support on matters including energy costs and claiming Scottish benefits.

The other debates related to **free bus travel for asylum seekers**, which I support, and the **changes made to our local fire and rescue service provision**, which I disagree with.

These four topics have impacted my constituents, which is why I was keen to speak in these debates.

Stuart's office took on **127 new cases** during October — highlighting his office's commitment to supporting constituents and local businesses.



Stuart with Poppyscotland's Chief Executive at the charity's event launching their annual Poppy Appeal



Local highlights

After attending Inverclyde Chamber of Commerce's recent ICON Awards, I reached out to **Nicholson McShane Architects** as they were one of the award winners that I had not engaged with before. I was therefore delighted to visit their offices in Custom House and hear more about their work in Inverclyde.

This month I also **attended one of the public engagement events about the GP Out of Hours (GPOOH) service**, as organised by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC).

The service manages, on average, 15,000 appointments each month – around 5% of which come from people in Inverclyde, which is in line with our population size. Patient transport is available to anyone who doesn't have access to a car or public transport, which is unique to NHSGGC's GPOOH service (there are 14 GPOOH services across Scotland).

NHSGGC are proposing to have a limited service at the IRH over weekends and public holidays. I would like to see an extension to these hours so we have more local cover.

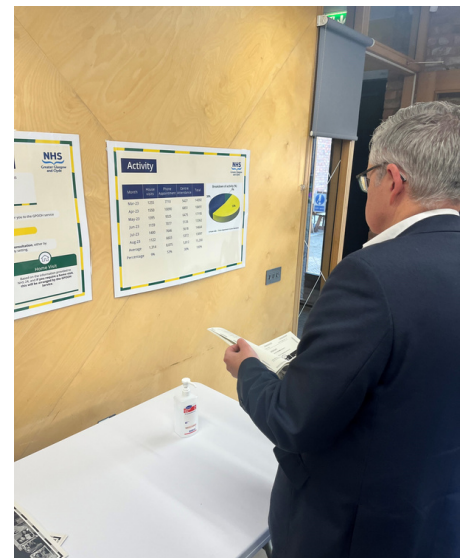
Other engagements during October included **taking part in a Community Outreach Event in Larkfield Community Centre** alongside a range of local organisations; **visiting Scottish Water's A78 flood prevention works**, and **meeting local HNC Politics students** at West College Scotland's Waterfront campus to discuss my role as an MSP, and other topical issues.



Stuart visiting Nicholson
McShane Architects



Stuart during a site visit to see how Scottish Water's flooding
prevention works on Pottery Street are progressing



Stuart at one of NHS Greater
Glasgow & Clyde's public
engagement events regarding
their GP Out of Hours service
model

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Member of the Scottish Parliament for Greenock and Inverclyde