



# Allan Dorans

## MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

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### April Newsletter 2022



## My Accident

As many will now know, at the end of March I ended up in St Thomas' Hospital in London, after a serious fall in Parliament.

While leaving a corridor in Parliament, I had opened the door from the inside and there was a man coming up the three steps from the courtyard into the corridor. I stopped and held the door open for him, looked back to make sure he had the door, stepped down the steps but missed the middle one and landed heavily on my left thigh on a concrete car park.

This resulted in a complex fracture of my femur and an emergency five-hour operation, under a local anaesthetic. I was unable to have a general anaesthetic due to also testing positive, again, for Covid. While the pain is slowly lessening, this has caused me indescribable pain, but I am working on regaining strength in my leg, and I am making progress each day. After 16 days in hospital, I am pleased to say that I am now recovering back home in Ayr.

Frustratingly, the UK Parliament will not make arrangements for me to partake virtually in debates or votes, so there will be a period of time while I recover that I cannot do this. However I am still working hard on your behalf.

I am continuing to communicate with Government ministers and UK departments on issues important to my constituents, attending virtual briefing sessions and most importantly, providing advice and assistance to my constituents as normal.

I also plan to, wherever possible, carry out constituency visits and surgeries, even if I am still on crutches! So please know that you can continue to contact me as normal by email or phone call.



## Scottish Local Elections

With only a few days to go until the Scottish Local Council Elections on 5th May, please do remember to vote, if you have not already completed a postal vote.

Irrespective of who you choose to vote for, your vote counts. It is vital that your voice is represented in local government to shape key decisions for the local area in South and East Ayrshire. These choices directly affect you.

To find out who the candidates are in your local ward, visit the Electoral Commission website and put in your postcode. This will also show you where your nearest polling station is. Visit the website at: [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)



## Homes for Ukraine Scheme

With the Homes for Ukraine scheme now open it's great to hear about those in the constituency who have been successful in sponsoring Ukrainian refugees. May I thank all those who have signed up, and those who are now preparing to welcome Ukrainians into their homes.

I understand the significant waiting times and lack of communication has been incredibly frustrating for sponsors. It's clear that the UK Government **must** waive visa requirements to get refugees to safety as quickly as possible. I have been keeping in regular contact with the UK Visas and Immigration service to find out updates on applications for my constituents. Please get in touch with my office if you would like our assistance with this.



## Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak

It came as no surprise to find out that Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak had been fined for breaching lockdown regulations.

Many constituents have been in contact with me since this news, to express their anger at the situation. I could not agree more with them that this is a complete insult to all who followed the rules for months, unable to see loved ones.

I hope to be sufficiently recovered to be able, as a Member of the Privileges Committee, appointed by Parliament, to take part in the current investigation into the actions of the Prime Minister which has been referred to the Committee.

## Local News

I am delighted to see that the wonderful Gaiety Theatre has now launched its fantastic program of entertainment through the summer. After many lockdowns which hugely affected the creative industries, it's great to see such an extensive programme for summer, and I would encourage everyone to have a look at what's on. For further details please visit <https://thegaiety.co.uk>.

I am also pleased to note that NHS Ayrshire and Arran have recently purchased Carrick Glen, a private hospital in Ayr. The hospital will now become a National Treatment Centre for orthopaedics which will be crucial to help tackle the pandemic backlog.

In Cumnock, constituents may be interested to know that The Boswell Book Festival will be returning to Dumfries House from 13th-15th May this year. They will now be holding live events but will continue to offer some online events as well. They are the world's only book festival dedicated to biography and memoir, and this year they have a range of famous guests, including author Val McDermid and comedian Frank Skinner. To book your tickets visit their website.

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## Yvonne Fletcher

I was sadly unable to attend the service of remembrance on 17th April for WPC Yvonne Fletcher, due to my accident.

Many will know Justice for Yvonne is a campaign I have been actively involved in for some time now.



So, I was pleased to receive a visit when in hospital from John Murray who leads the campaign, to discuss it and send a clear message to the Government and Saleh Mabrouk that we are not going away. We will not give up. We will continue this fight until we have received justice for Yvonne, who was shot in the back and murdered by Libyan terrorists in London in 1984.

The campaign continues.