



Allan Dorans

MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

April 2024 Newsletter



Foreword



I was pleased to be able to continue my support for the WASPI women in Parliament before recess, asking a question of the Secretary of State regarding whether families of women who were denied their pension, who have since died, would be compensated. I've advocated for the Women Against State Pension Injustice (and Inequality) (WASPI) campaign since 2015 when, as a Councillor at South Ayrshire Council, I proposed two Motions in support of the campaign.

As MP for Ayr Carrick and Cumnock, I made a particular point of including this issue in my maiden speech in Parliament and since then I have continued to support the campaign in Parliament by including reference to this injustice wherever possible in speeches and by attending WASPI events in Parliament and locally. In 2022 I was delighted to be presented with a WASPI Hero award.

The recent WASPI Ombudsman report today is a major development in recognising the unfair treatment of women born in the 1950s in respect of pensions and alongside my SNP colleagues I will continue to fight for fair and just compensation for the 3.8 million women affected by this great injustice.

Support for Victims of Contaminated Blood

Together with a cross party group of MPs I was privileged to present a petition in Parliament in support of the victims of the contaminated blood scandal, urging the Government to act and show that these victims have not been forgotten, after the necessary funding was omitted from the Government's Spring Budget.

It is very disappointing that the Government, a year after publication, has still not acted on Sir Brian Langstaff's recommendations on compensation for those infected and affected by the contaminated blood scandal.

The Inquiry was announced seven years ago and since then, on average two victims have died each week. The continuing delay means more victims will die without seeing justice. Justice delayed is justice denied.



**The Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme
can be contacted here:
Tel: 0131 295 6754
Email: NSS.SIBSS@nhs.net**

The Tobacco & Vapes Bill



**I am a
Smokefree MP.**

I welcome the legislation which has now been published, and formally introduced in Parliament with the aim of stopping today's young people from taking up smoking.

The Tobacco and Vapes Bill means anyone turning 15 this year, or younger, will never legally be sold cigarettes.

If the bill is passed it will give the UK some of the world's toughest anti-tobacco laws and protect the health of our young people.

#SmokefreeUK



Helping Ayr Rotary 'Talk Rubbish'



I was very pleased to be able to show my continuing support for Ayr Rotary Club and the Ayrshire Coastal Path by again taking part in the Annual Beach Clean.

A significant number of people took part all along the Ayrshire Coast earlier this month despite the very windy conditions, and collected many bags of rubbish which would normally have been taken back out to sea with the tide.



Further information is available here:
www.rotaryclubofayr.org and www.ayrshirecoastalpath.org

Support for Gaza



The SNP have been calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza since October last year, and an end of UK arms sales to Israel. During the government's update on Gaza in Parliament, before recess, I asked what else the UK could do to ensure Israel complied with international law.

With the recent murder of three UK citizens in Gaza, I fully supported Stephen Flynn MP's call for an immediate recall of Parliament to debate what else can be done to prevent further unnecessary deaths in this region.

Visit to UWS

I paid an extremely useful and informative visit to the UWS, where I met with Professor James Miller, Principal and Vice Chancellor, and Marcus Ross, Vice Principal of the University of the West of Scotland.

We discussed immigration policies and the impact they are having on international student recruitment and the wider implications for higher education and the wider economy.

We also discussed the extremely important links between the University and the local community. UWS is a major contributor to both the local and national economy and plays a significant role in the provision of high quality university education and research at their four campuses in the West of Scotland and London campus.

The meeting was followed by a tour of the Creative Industries and Nursing educational and learning facilities where I was able to witness first hand, the excellent facilities and equipment but above all the enthusiasm, commitment and professionalism evident throughout the University.

