



# Allan Dorans

## MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

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### May Newsletter 2022



## Cost of Living Crisis - Treasury Package

While it is welcome news that the Chancellor has finally acted to provide financial support during the cost of living crisis we are facing, the measures do not go far enough.

We are facing the biggest inflationary crisis in 50 years, so it is vital that the Chancellor goes further to put money into people's pockets and to support businesses.

I have written to the Prime Minister and other Government Ministers on many occasions, urging them to, for example, scrap the National Insurance tax hike and reverse the cuts to Universal Credit. These measures would help many during this time, if the Government acted.



If you are struggling, you may be entitled to financial help - from benefits to energy bill discounts. Below are some useful advice services available to you - please do contact them if you are struggling to make ends meet:

### ADVICE SERVICES:

#### South Ayrshire Information and Advice Hub:

A free, information and advice service to people living in South Ayrshire - Tel: 0300 123 0900.

#### Home Energy Scotland:

Helping people in Scotland create warmer homes and reduce their energy bills - Tel: 0808 808 2282.

#### East Ayrshire Citizens Advice Bureau:

They provide free confidential advice and information on many issues - Tel: 01563 543379.

#### Lemon Aid from Citrus Energy:

They can help apply for services such as white goods schemes/discounts on energy bills etc - Tel: 0800-221-8089.

## Passport Office Backlog!

I know many will be excited about the prospect of travelling abroad this year after a very difficult two years, but please **do not** book travel until you have your passport. My office is currently receiving new emails every day from constituents who are still waiting on their passport.

This is because the Passport Office is facing a massive backlog in processing applications. They advise giving 10 weeks to receive your passport, but please note, they are sometimes not meeting this target.

If you are due to travel within the next fortnight, you should contact the Passport Office Adviceline on 0300 222 0000 to discuss any upgrade options that may be available. You will have to pay for this service. If you haven't applied yet for your passport, and need to travel urgently, you may like to apply via the fast track/premium services - again, you do have to pay for these. More on the website here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-a-passport-urgently/online-premium-service>

## Privileges Committee

I am recovering well since my accident, and look forward to soon returning to Parliament as a Member of the Privileges Committee, to take part in the investigation into the actions of the Prime Minister, which have been referred to the Committee.



## Local Elections

I would like to congratulate all of the newly, and re-elected, Councillors in South and East Ayrshire.

Councillors carry out an extremely important part in decision making that affects local issues; from planning and roads to education and social work.

In South Ayrshire the Conservatives have taken control of the council. In East Ayrshire, the SNP retains control.

Regardless of party politics, I do hope that Councillors are able to work collaboratively for the benefit of the community and residents. I wish all of the Councillors every success; it will not be an easy task for the next five years.

## Kirkmichael Village Gala Day!

I was delighted to attend the Kirkmichael Village Gala day with my grandson at the weekend.

Met Councillor Brian Connolly, a local Councillor also there to support our community. My thanks to the organisers of the Gala day for arranging this event and for their fantastic contribution to the local community.



## Tesco Food Collection

Between 30th June-2nd July Tesco stores will be holding 'Tesco Food Collections'.

During the collection they will be asking Tesco customers to donate long-life food items to help support the charities. Tesco will then top up customer donations with an additional 20% donation to the charities to aid them in their work.

I look forward to visiting the collection in my local Tesco store to meet with local representatives, to learn more about the work they are doing in the constituency and the challenges they are currently facing.

## Constituency Advice Surgeries:

I hold telephone and virtual (Zoom) surgeries every Friday 10am-12noon.

Please contact my office to book an appointment.

## VASA

South Ayrshire has one of the highest numbers of older people, over 50, in Scotland as well as a growing imbalance of those needing care. So that older people get the best possible services in the future it is vital that people have a say in the planning of future services and care of older people.

Voluntary Action South Ayrshire have arranged an event to engage with and listen to the views of the over 50s which will take place in Ayr Town Hall between 1pm and 4pm on Thursday 9th of June. To attend and contribute please book in advance by phoning 0800 432 0510 or by email at [enquiries@vasa.scot](mailto:enquiries@vasa.scot).

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