



Allan Dorans

MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

March Newsletter 2022



Ukraine

Over the past month, I have received countless emails from constituents extremely concerned about the war in Ukraine. I share their horror at this situation and unreservedly condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Along with my SNP colleagues in the Westminster and Scottish Parliament, I have been continually pressing the UK Government to do all it can to support Ukraine, and importantly, for the Government to waive visa requirements for Ukrainians seeking refuge.

Due to the Scottish Government's 'Super Sponsor' scheme, those seeking refuge can now select 'Scottish Government' on the UK visa application site, which means they do not have to arrange an individual sponsor before coming to Scotland – they will help refugees do this once they are here. This means they can provide immediate support to those that need it.

If you can offer accommodation to a Ukrainian refugee or family, you can now register your interest through the UK 'Homes for Ukraine' site, where your details will then be shared with the Scottish Government so that they can organise appropriate matches.

More information is available on the Gov.UK Homes for Ukraine page.

One way you can help, if able to do so is by donating to the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. The appeal provides food, water, shelter, healthcare and protection to vulnerable Ukrainians. You can donate to the DEC appeal by telephone on 0370 6060900, or £10 donations can be made by texting SUPPORT to 70150.

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Animal Welfare

Throughout my time in Parliament I have had a long-standing commitment to improving animal welfare and have spoken in the House of Commons and written many times to ministers, seeking a number of changes in law to achieve this. Issues I have raised and supported include the Kept Animals Bill and Animals Abroad Bill, an animal sentience bill and bans on fur imports, on foie gras imports, on traps and on cages.

As such it was a great pleasure to show my support for the 'Ban Trophy Hunting' and 'Fur Free Britain' campaigns recently and meet with actor Peter Egan and Brian May of Queen who are greatly involved in these campaigns, and are both great champions for animal rights.



Policing Bill

As a former Metropolitan Police Detective Inspector, and SNP Shadow Spokesperson for Crime and Policing I have had a particular interest in the Policing Bill.

Although the vast majority of this extremely controversial Bill does not apply to Scotland, it has implications for anyone travelling to London to take part in protests or demonstrations.

The Bill is a blatant Government attempt to limit the fundamental human right of people to protest.

Paid Miscarriage Leave Bill

As the law stands, women who suffer a miscarriage before the 24th week of pregnancy are not entitled to paid miscarriage leave from their employer. I was therefore pleased to be able to speak in support of this Bill which proposes to make paid miscarriage leave compulsory, at any stage of the pregnancy. I was also able to highlight the fact that, quite rightly, the focus is on women and their care at this time, but to also recognise the profound effect that such sad circumstances may have on the father or partner in the relationship.

Parliamentary Events

Across the month of March I have been delighted to attend a number of Parliamentary events to discuss and raise awareness of serious health and social issues.

This includes Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and Endometriosis Action Month, both of which are very serious conditions with symptoms that may go unrecognised for some time. I was also able to attend the Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal with special guest Paul Chuckle to join their appeal to ensure more people get the care and support they need at the end of their lives.



Partygate Fines

People in Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock were understandably furious that while they were following the Covid rules and making personal sacrifices, Boris Johnson was breaking them by holding illegal Downing Street parties.

It is then welcome news that the Metropolitan Police have recently confirmed that the law was broken and initial fines have been issued.

However, Boris Johnson should have resigned a long time ago - it cannot be one rule for us, and another, or none, for the Tory Government.

Spring Statement

The Chancellor's Spring Statement again failed to address the injustice suffered by the 3.8 million WASPI women robbed of their pensions.



I was pleased to show my support for Shelagh and Sal representing the WASPI campaign outside Parliament.

Want to watch my contributions in Parliament?

Check out my Facebook, Twitter or Website.

Reclaim the Night

At the start of March I was pleased to attend the Reclaim the Night Walk in Ayr to raise awareness of violence against women and girls.

This took place on International Women's Day, and also one year on from the murder of Sarah Everard, which reignited calls for more to be done to tackle violence against women.

There was a great turnout, and it was a privilege to walk in solidarity with many others, to help reclaim the night.



Constituency Advice Surgeries:

Every Friday 10am-12noon.
Email or phone my office to book an appointment.

Meet the Host Week

For 'International Meet the Host' week and at the invitation of the Scottish Bed and Breakfast Association, I visited the Old School, Dallegales, near New Cumnock.



The property has been lovingly converted into a superb five luxurious bedroom Bed and Breakfast (and other dining options on request) and a fabulous self contained two double bed roomed apartment. The property is set in a scenic rural area, in its own grounds overlooking the Nith Valley. The owners and hosts, Mike and Liz Macfadyen have spent twelve years restoring the property and the location. An ideal place for anyone wishing to have a restful break in the country or for visiting local attractions such as Dumfries House.

The hosts are proud to have been awarded the Scottish Tourist Board 4 Star Gold Award which accurately reflects the extremely high standards set and maintained by Mike and Liz. Website: www.tosd.co.uk