



# Allan Dorans

MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

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March 2023 Newsletter



*Pictured at the Employment Fair held in Maybole's Carrick Centre.*

## Foreword

What a few weeks we have had in politics!

For me, it was a significant month for the Privileges Committee, finally getting to interview Boris Johnson (more to follow in the Newsletter).

I would also like to congratulate my two colleagues in the Scottish Parliament. Siobhian Brown MSP joins the Scottish Government for the first time as Minister for Victims and Community Safety, and Elena Whitham MSP takes up a new post as Minister for Drug and Alcohol Policy.

I know both will excel in these roles, and give them their unwavering dedication.

## New First Minister of Scotland

I would like to congratulate Humza Yousaf MSP on becoming the new SNP leader and First Minister of Scotland. Regardless of whether you support the SNP or Mr Yousaf personally, it is an historic moment to see Scotland have the first Muslim leader of a democratic Western European nation. As the first ethnic minority First Minister in Scotland, he succeeds Scotland's first ever female First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, another proud moment for Scotland. I look forward to seeing his work as First Minister.



## Nationwide Building Society

It was great to visit the Nationwide Building Society to celebrate their 50th anniversary of providing mortgages, banking and financial services in Ayr High Street. Lovely to meet and chat with the Branch Manager, Brian and Financial Advisor, Julia.



## Sex Offenders Name Change

The current law in England (similar provisions in Scotland) is that anyone may change their name by Deed Poll. This includes those who have been placed on the Sex Offenders Register. I spoke in the Chamber about this, urging the Government to close this loophole to prevent those on the Sex Offenders Register from concealing their convictions.



## Turkey/Syria Earthquake

The Minister responsible for International Development made a Statement in the Commons Chamber at the beginning of March, outlining the steps being taken by the UK Government in relation to the humanitarian disaster in Turkey and Syria. I asked him how prepared the UK Government was for possible future earthquakes in that Region. You can watch his response on my website or social media.



## Under 22's free bus travel

I recently asked the Transport Minister whether the Government intended to adopt the successful Scottish Government scheme which has allowed around 23 million free bus journeys to be taken by those under 22. This has been a significant success during the cost of living crisis, and also benefitted the environment. You can watch his response on my website or Facebook.



## Employment Fair

I was delighted to host an employment fair with my colleague Elena Whitham MSP and meet with local Maybole constituents. There was a good turnout, with pupils and other members of the public taking time to speak with the various organisations. My sincere thanks to all the businesses and organisations that took time out of their busy workday to attend the fair.



## Pregnancy Loss Pledge

I am pleased to support my colleague Angela Crawley MP, in calling on all Scottish health boards to commit to the Pregnancy Loss Pledge and improve the support available for parents who experience a miscarriage. Miscarriage is not an illness. Parents should not be forced to take sick leave to grieve their loss. I am calling on NHS Ayrshire and Arran to take the Pregnancy Loss Pledge.



## Privileges Committee

In April 2022, the House of Commons voted unanimously to refer the previous Prime Minister, Boris Johnson MP to the Committee of Privileges to investigate whether he had intentionally or recklessly, misled Parliament over what has become known as "Partygate". After an extremely complex investigation lasting over 11 months, the Committee finally took oral evidence from Mr Johnson. Watch my contribution on my Facebook page.



## Alloway Tunnel Project

The Alloway Tunnel Project is a fantastic initiative aiming to create one of Scotland's largest murals through the Tunnel. This ambitious and transformative project will see what is currently an old dilapidated tunnel, turned into a unique space with a hand painted mural. They are trying to raise £5,000 of funds for the project. If you can, please donate to their Crowdfunder found on my Facebook.



## Metastatic Breast Cancer UK

Delighted to support Metastatic Breast Cancer UK (METUPUK) at their exhibition in Parliament at the end of March, to raise awareness of this dreadful cancer. 1 in 7 women will develop breast cancer in the UK. Around 30% of all breast cancer diagnoses will metastasize and become incurable at some point. This disease is the leading cause of death of women aged 35 - 64 in England. For further information please visit [www.metup.org.uk](http://www.metup.org.uk)

