



There are lots of sporting and physical activity opportunities in our constituency and I am keen to support local groups where I can.

1. At the launch of a new Springburn-based Tapeball cricket league.
2. Meeting coaches and players from Summerston Boys Club.
3. Taking part in Tai Chi class in Possilpark.



Partnership work to secure pitches investment

Parents across the constituency have rightly been pushing for enhanced provision of sports pitches. I met with Education Convener, Cllr Chris Cunningham, to discuss the City's school pitches strategy.

This followed discussions with St Mary's primary and local

councillors. I am pleased that both St Mary's in Maryhill and Chirnsyde primary in Milton secured new MUGA pitches.

This follows new pitches for Roch's secondary previously and it is hoped additional pitches will be secured in future.



Cllr's Gow & McLaren, Paul Maxwell - Ashfield FC, Chirnsyde pupils.

New housing

I was pleased to support the new Cadder Housing Association development of 50 new socially rented homes, as I do the various other new socially rented developments across the constituency.

I fully appreciate the significant



demand for properties and have supported Scottish Government budgets which aim to deliver 50,000 affordable homes across Scotland by 2021.

Summerston greenebelt



I continue to seek as much information from land owners and the City Council relating to a potential major private housing development just off Blackhill Road between Summerston and Balmore Road.

The possible scale of the development as well as environmental impact has raised some concerns and I will continue to keep constituents updated.

Bob Doris MSP

Parliamentary Annual Report 2019



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn constituency

Boosting community regeneration

I am committed to boosting community-led regeneration across our constituency. Most recently as your local MSP and co-chair of the Springburn Regeneration Forum, I helped Springburn Community Council secure £40,000. This cash is being used to develop a community vision for how locals want to see Springburn shaped in the future.

With a new Community Hub in Springburn Shopping Centre and a series of consultation events, the Community Council are

identifying key improvements required. Most significantly we hope to attract funding to deliver them. Many ideas have been flooding in including how to mitigate the issues around Springburn Road, derelict eyesores such as the Talisman, access and connectivity issues with Springburn train station and local buses, better use of green space and Springburn / Eastfield parks along with potential new community amenities and facilities.

My thanks to funders, the Scottish Government, ng Homes and Glasgow City Council and to the many partners including the Winter Gardens Trust who helped with the funding application and the community hub.

I was inspired by my earlier work with the Royston Strategy Group who delivered a similar initiative there. Since then funding



has been secured for a new community centre at Roystonhill. I am also currently supporting a variety of other regeneration initiatives across the constituency including in Possilpark, Hamiltonhill, Cadder, and along the Maryhill corridor.

Please contact my office for more information.



Bright future as Possil secures £1.5m from Scottish Government

It has been a privilege to support Possilpark People's Trust in their efforts to secure funds to redevelop Possilpoint. They will deliver a new community hub to relocate and enhance vital local community services for the benefit of individuals and families across the wider Possilpark area. The Trust have brought together Hawthorn Housing Co-operative, Young People's Futures, Stepping Stones for Families, Possibilities and Barnardos; all with credibility within the

communities they serve and a proven track record of delivery in the local area.

I have hosted Scottish Government Minister Kevin Stewart at Possilpoint as he was given a presentation of the ambitious plans and also formally supported the bid application. I am delighted the Scottish Government delivered £1.5m and backed Possilpark.

This is a victory for community-led regeneration.



Contact Bob Doris

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Advice surgeries

I hold regular advice surgeries right across Maryhill and Springburn at various locations. These have included Summerston, Cadder, Lambhill, Maryhill, Springburn, Parkhouse, Royston, Milton, Ruchill and Possilpark. These vary each month.

Please call 01419467700 for details and an appointment; or to request an advice surgery in your local area.

Bob Doris, Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn constituency (SNP)

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INSIDE

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Protecting local energy customers

In recent months I became aware of a high level of disconnections in one housing estate in our constituency. Dozens of households were disconnected from their heating and hot water supply in Wyndford.

Whilst I was supporting several families to get reconnected to their supply, I identified what I consider to be unreasonable barriers. After raising the matter with the First Minister and holding an emergency meeting with SSE, Citizens Advice and Cube Housing, 33 households were reconnected by Christmas Eve.

However, I have identified that appropriate or clear regulations do not exist. I have written to Ofgem and whilst much of this will be reserved to the UK, I will shortly be meeting the Scottish Government Energy Minister to see how we can address these issues.

I would welcome anyone who has had similar issues getting in contact with me.

Transport Issues

Bus

I recently supported an initiative with Cllr Campbell and Cllr Cannon to look at local busing issues including routes and reliability. Attending the meeting were Springburn residents, SPT and First Glasgow. I am also supporting Scottish Government legislation making its way through parliament to give Councils more control over bus services.

Rail

Issues continue with Scotrail and I will shortly be meeting with Scottish Government Transport Minister, Michael Matheson MSP and Scotrail to once more seek improvements, particularly on the Maryhill line. Whilst there appears to be some improvement I am concerned peak time cancellations are disproportionately impacting on services. I also continue to push for disabled access, including at Springburn station.



Maryhill & Springburn tackles violence against women

15 bookies shops across our constituency participated in a campaign I developed to take a stand against gender-based violence.

Each betting shop identified a team member to attend a training session led by White Ribbon Scotland and hosted by Glasgow Kelvin College.

We were also supported by the Glasgow Women's Centre. Visitors to each bookies were asked to sign the following pledge 'not to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women in all its forms'.

The vast majority of men would never consider committing or condoning such violence and the initiative gave men their voice in taking a stand.

I am delighted that 700 signatures were collected during the week of action and White Ribbon Scotland have now extended the campaign to other constituencies. We should be rightly proud that the bookies campaign originated in our communities and I look forward to further initiatives in the months ahead.



1. I am always pleased to meet local school groups in the Scottish Parliament such as this recent visit by pupils from St Stephen's primary in Sighthill.

2. I chair the cross party group on palliative care and was therefore pleased to champion Marie Curie's yellow daffodil fundraising campaign, particularly given

the wonderful service they provide in North Glasgow.

3. I arranged a visit for Communities Secretary, Aileen Campbell MSP, to hear about the work of local social enterprises. Presentations from Differabled Scotland, Highballs Low, Balornock Uniform Bank, Three60 and Glasgow Tool Library were

excellent. Thanks also to ng homes and UnLtd Resilient Communities.

4. Working with local councillors I have sought to address a number of road safety issues in our communities. My thanks to those who have taken the time to get in contact including constituents from Colston.



Universal Credit advice sessions

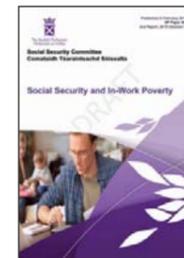


I held a series of advice surgeries on the issue with Patrick Grady MP and local councillors.

These were held in Maryhill, Summerston, Cadder, Possilpark, Milton and Springburn. Those who attended were offered support from local housing

associations and representatives of Citizens Advice. We were also able to provide additional information regarding Universal Credit and other sources of advice and support.

Please contact my office for more information.



Universal Credit: five-week wait must end

I chaired an inquiry into social security and in-work poverty. Our committee heard from witnesses including those with lived experience of Universal Credit, support organisations, the DWP and the Scottish Government.

Unfortunately the UK Government declined the invite that had been extended to them to attend. We published our report on

6/2/19 and recommended to the UK Government that 'fundamental urgent changes are required to its design. These include reducing the waiting time for initial payment from five weeks to, at most, two weeks from the date of application being made, providing more support to those who need it with making and managing claims'.

There were many more recommendations. Contact my office for more information.

Seeking long-term funding for local schools

In response to my parliamentary question the Cabinet Secretary for Education stated schools in Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn received almost £2.9 million of pupil equity funding in both 2017-18 and 2018-19.

In the next financial year schools will receive another £2.9m. This is part of the Scottish Government commitment to tackle the poverty-related attainment gap. I called on funding to continue for the long term.

The Cabinet Secretary replied he 'would

love to be in the position to continue pupil equity funding into the next parliamentary session'.

Mr Swinney also commended the work of local social enterprise Highballs Low who work in partnership with Chirnside primary in Milton. They use funds to develop the physical literacy and confidence of pupils.

• Detail available in full on Scottish Parliament Website or contact my office for more information.



Backing support for mental health

I voted for the Scottish Government's budget for 2019-20 which included an additional investment in mental health of £27m. Overall mental health funding is £1.1bn.

Amongst other things it provides more support for young people and schools. My

thanks to those who offer peer support for those struggling with their mental health.

I encourage anyone needing support to contact your GP or if you need to talk then call The Samaritans on 116 123 free from any phone, at any time.

IN PARLIAMENT

Supporting carers and families

I am convener of the Scottish Parliament's Social Security Committee. Our committee is tasked with scrutinising the delivery of benefits offered by the Scottish Government.



Carers Supplement

We took evidence on a Carers Supplement (on 28/2/19) which delivers two additional payments a year of £226.40 to those in receipt of Carers Allowance, a 13% increase in financial support to these carers and our committee approved a further increase.

Young Carers Grant

Our committee took evidence in November 2018 on the new Young Carer Grant which will be introduced by the Scottish Government by autumn 2019. It will be a £300 grant for 16 and 17 year olds (and 18 year olds if they are still at school) who care for 16 hours or more each week, but who do not receive Carer's Allowance. We have written to the Cabinet Secretary suggesting further improvements which could be made.

Best Start Grant

Our committee approved regulations (21/2/19) relating to the new Best Start Grant which will provide lower-income families with financial support during the key early years of a child's life. This replaces and expands on the UK Government's Sure Start Maternity Grant and provides eligible families with £600 on the birth of their first child and £300 on the birth of any subsequent children. The Cabinet Secretary for Social Security informed our committee that 'as of 31 January, we had issued over £2.7 million in payments. In just two months, we have issued more than the Department for Work and Pensions paid out in the past year'.

The Scottish Government confirmed it intends to introduce two additional payments of £250, per child, to help with the costs of early learning at the age of 2 or 3 and around the time they start school. Our committee will continue to scrutinise the delivery of these benefits.

• Detail available in full on Scottish Parliament Website or contact my office for more information.