

Stirling Matters - June 2020 (3rd Edition)

News from Stirling's Parliamentary Team

Lockdown hasn't been easy, and it's completely understandable after weeks of restrictions people are keen to make the most of good weather. But the health rules must be followed, otherwise we risk undoing hardwon progress. Stick to the government advice, and limit unnecessary travel. Stirling is beautiful, aye. The sites will still be there when it's safe. - Alyn Smith, MP

'Please stay close to home' ask Alyn & Bruce

After a recent spell of warm weather, residents near popular beauty spots have reported an increase in traffic and visitors, causing road blockages and waste issues.

Many are concerned as to how this may impact the spread of the coronavirus.

Stirling Council, the National Park and Police Scotland continue to liaise with residents on these issues.

Read more here:

<https://alynsmith.scot/2020/06/01/stirling-representatives-urge-stay-close-to-home/>

Small businesses are our economic backbone, they cannot be forgotten

In his regular column in The National, Alyn discusses the current difficulties with the UK government furlough scheme, and the 'dividend payments' gap the directors of small businesses are falling into.

Such businesses remain vital to the local and national economy. They are crying out for further support.

Read more here:

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/18491651.alyn-smith-small-companies-backbone-economy/?ref=twtrrec>

Alyn urges UK Government to hold Trump accountable

Hundreds of emails regarding the tragic death of George Floyd, a 46-year old black man who died in police custody whilst a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck, have flooded the inboxes of Alyn Smith and Bruce Crawford.

Alyn, alongside the SNP and Scottish Government, have expressed solidarity with the right to peaceful protest.

Read more here:

<https://alynsmith.scot/2020/06/04/stirling-mp-uk-gov-must-hold-trump-accountable/>

Cummings must step down at once

Alyn has called for the Prime Minister to sack his closest advisor Dominic Cummings, after revelations he breached lockdown restrictions on multiple occasions.

Speaking to Central FM, Alyn spoke of his deep disappointment at the situation, and called on the PM to show leadership.

Listen here:

https://centralfm.co.uk/stirling-snp-mp-alyn-smith-says-dominic-cummings-needs-to-step-down-immediately/?_cf_chl_jschl_tk__=b8c5c56109b08f8e4b19959fd1c6aa7c7a9143f5-1591606563-0-AX-PCBFBRsbnSRQ7

[M4y-zr_7u524KNi0xGIRcjrndvUeGmfxEtiT6OaLlzD7As8-8wpK_VfqGMJYc6obftl3M7iPXhsRAnYPn763r_Ci6_mGhq7GBuM7jdO9DyqrHF5FZ9qpOXQ847TnRHyY1fBOoAPwvG1PnylV4j2wC4an1DA8g8iFilzm3LKDOR-S_-a9zRP3T3MiPlesW4iQW8Dw3BPMzIKWNDz9eUx8tqx0Q39NGtpAhjSEjKABhN_XA5zYsOLnAL7u1fSaaKYFvBNUFNO6s5MzCI3-mb3S8xrcToj7AjMahwidZ10Q7uQAuFJzG64qj2QMmXd1f_XHh8juURenFdeL0BUpr1kf6BNnwP-XrMmdIXLgvTI7-krghBo8-F6SeIDz_RshcpNo52FzfZjx-nMiuqrJQdnrseY48XXVEI3uGyJ6W4V_W1THsSDXA](https://www.alynsmith.scot/2020/05/20/mp-councillor-welcome-operation-headship-in-fallin-and-cowie/)

Police operation in Fallin & Cowie welcomed

Alyn Smith MP and Alasdair MacPherson, Councillor for the ward of Bannockburn, have welcomed 'Operation Headship' into Fallin & Cowie.

Aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour and drug misuse, police are responding to community needs.

Read more here:

<https://alynsmith.scot/2020/05/20/mp-councillor-welcome-operation-headship-in-fallin-and-cowie/>

Keep up-to-date with current campaigns and news on my new website:
www.alynsmith.scot

I'm active at: @alynsmith

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alynsmithSNP>

Twitter: www.twitter.com/alynsmith

'We've made tremendous progress on all fronts in beating back this dreadful disease, and our understanding of COVID-19 increases with each passing day. But it remains extremely important to stick to the current Scottish Government advice. If we don't, we may risk a second wave and a further, more restrictive lockdown.' - Bruce Crawford

'NHS Contact Tracing: What to Expect'

Test and Protect will enable us to gradually change the restrictions that help to suppress COVID-19 - so society can adapt to a new normal. Contact tracing plays a part in this - find out what you need to know if you get the call.

Find out more here:

<http://www.brucecrowford.scot/what-to-expect-if-youre-called-by-an-nhs-contact-tracer/>

Austerity response to COVID recovery must be ruled out

'Young people and students are already losing out from opportunities due to Brexit – they cannot afford further reduced living standards, job prospects and incomes.'

Bruce and Alyn have added their voices to swelling opposition against any further austerity from Westminster in the recovery phase of the pandemic.

Read more here:

<http://www.brucecrowford.scot/stirling-mp-and-msp-austerity-response-must-be-ruled-out-to-prevent-lost-generation/>

UK Government eyes power grab through EU Structural Fund replacement

'The UK government is hostile to the idea of devolution, hostile to the idea of powers being held elsewhere and I have to say I wouldn't trust them an inch.' - Mike Russell

Bruce asks the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe and External Affairs about the future 'Shared Prosperity Fund', which may bypass the Scottish Parliament.

Watch the full footage here:

<https://twitter.com/RHBruceCrawford/status/1268544094843912193>

Tory MSPs must hold their colleagues accountable for promised £70 million

Bruce has called on Scottish Tory MSPs in the Mid-Scotland and Fife area to bear pressure on their UK colleagues amidst revelations the Scottish Government will miss out on the eye-watering sum.

The UK Government has back-tracked on previous commitments.

Read the full article here:

<http://www.brucecrawford.scot/call-for-tory-msps-to-ensure-70-million-funding-pledges-are-honoured/>

Bruce seeks answers for B&Bs

Bruce has asked the Economy Secretary for further clarity and information on what assistance is available for businesses who have yet to receive government support.

In some instances, such as B&Bs, this has been complicated by unique circumstances.

Watch the clip here:

<https://www.facebook.com/435524353305769/posts/1393900927468102/>

Further social care worker support welcomed

Bruce has welcomed further measures announced to assist social care workers during the COVID-19 crisis, including enhanced sick pay if ill with COVID-19, and death-in-service cover.

Read more here:

<http://www.brucecrawford.scot/stirling-msp-welcomes-further-support-for-social-care-workers/>

Keep up-to-date with current campaigns and news on my website:

www.brucecrawford.scot

I'm active at: @RHBruceCrawford

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BruceCrawfordSNP>

Twitter: www.twitter.com/RHBruceCrawford

For further help & support, visit:

NHS Inform: COVID-19

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19>

Scot Gov: Business Support

<https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/>

Stirling Council: Guidance

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/planning-building-the-environment/emergencies-emergency-planning/coronavirus/>

Ready Scotland: Volunteering

<https://www.readyscotland.org/coronavirus/>