

Stirling Matters - July 2022 (34th Edition)  
News from Stirling's Parliamentary Team

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### [Cost of Living Crisis: Public Urged to Check Social Security Entitlements](#)

Stirling MP Alyn Smith is encouraging households across the Stirling area to check their social security entitlements, following the spiralling cost of living crisis. The Scottish Government is now delivering 12 benefits through Social Security Scotland, the Scottish Welfare Fund, local authorities and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme – all aimed at reducing inequality and helping those struggling during these difficult times.

### [“Boris Johnson has been the worst Prime Minister in living memory”: Stirling politicians react to PM resignation](#)

Stirling MSP Evelyn Tweed and Stirling MP Alyn Smith have offered their thoughts on the proposed resignation of Tory PM Boris Johnson, who has agreed to step down in the Autumn

once the Conservative Party leadership elections have concluded.

### [MP Slams Passport and DVLA Delays](#)

*Alyn Smith MP has slammed the UK Government for its handling of continuing delays at the Passport Office and DVLA. Backlogs have affected many households across Stirling, disrupting holidays and threatening livelihoods.*

### [Stirling MSP Urges Eligible Young People to Apply for Job Start Payment](#)

MSP for Stirling, Evelyn Tweed, is encouraging eligible 16-24 year olds to apply for the Job Start Payment – a one-off payment worth £267.65, or £428.25 if the applicant has children. Job Start Payment helps young people who are already receiving certain benefits or tax credits with the costs of starting a job after a period of being unemployed. The payment can help with costs such as childcare, travel or work clothes.

### [Scot Gov Gives Power to Stirling Council to Run Bus Services](#)

Evelyn Tweed, MSP for Stirling, has welcomed the SNP Scottish Government giving power to Stirling Council to run the bus services in Stirling. Powers from the Transport (Scotland) Act will now be utilised and allow councils across Scotland to

run bus services in local communities as they see fit. When the Act was developed, local authorities asked for the ability to run their own services to be included and the SNP Scottish Government has reacted to that request by allowing them to do so, if they wish.

### [Dunblane High School Success Welcomed](#)

Local Stirling MP Alyn Smith has congratulated Dunblane High School, after it featured in the top 10 of a national education league table. Coming in at 7th place from the 342 state institutions in Scotland, Dunblane High School has maintained its position of excellence from 2021. The Times High School League Table ranks institutions according to the percentage of pupils receiving the 'gold standard' of five Highers in the previous academic year, with Dunblane achieving an impressive 75%.

### [Stirling MSP Honours Local Teen's Horse-riding Achievements with Parliamentary Motion](#)

Evelyn Tweed MSP has lodged a parliamentary motion honouring a 15-year-old girl from Stirling who is competing at the Disabled (RDA) National Championships in Hartpury near Gloucester this weekend (15th to the 17th of July.) Millie Boo from Stirling was born 14 weeks early in 2006 and has cerebral palsy and bilateral hearing loss. She started horse riding at a young age to help with coordination and strength, and quickly

developed a genuine passion for horses, riding and dressage.  
Millie took part in first competition in 2016 and won.

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/>