

Stirling Matters - November 2022 (37th Edition)
News from Stirling's Parliamentary Team

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[Stirling Politicians Condemn Unelected Prime Minister](#)

The new UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has no democratic mandate for fresh austerity cuts, say local politicians after the Tories installed their third leader this year. Stirling representatives Alyn Smith MP and Evelyn Tweed MSP have condemned suggestions that public sector cuts are on the table in efforts to correct the disastrous mini-budget from ex-PM Liz Truss and ex-Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng.

[Alyn Smith MP Speaks at PMQs](#)

Afterwards he said: *'The newly installed Tory Prime Minister wants to ignore Scotland's democracy. We're going to make sure he can't. Scotland's best future lies as an independent country in Europe.'*

MSP Calls on Stirling Council to Ensure No Young Person Misses out on Free Bus Pass

SNP MSP Evelyn Tweed has written to Stirling council to ask what more can be done in schools and council facilities to help children and young people apply for their free bus pass. In welcoming the news that 6,612 children and young people across Stirling are benefitting from the SNP Scottish Government's free bus travel scheme, Evelyn Tweed MSP has said she wishes to see uptake increase even further. SNP MSP Evelyn Tweed has written to Stirling council to find out what is currently being done to support young people to apply for their pass and how efforts can be increased.

Nation Care Service Work Continues

Work on the Scottish Government's National Care Service Bill continues, with debate, discussion and research ongoing as to the potential transformational impact of the legislation. Evelyn Tweed MSP spoke recently at the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

Stirling MSP Supports Local Charity Giving Women a Fresh Start After Trauma

MSP for Stirling Evelyn Tweed has paid tribute to a Stirling charity providing support to women in crisis, including refugees

from Ukraine. HSTAR Scotland, based in Stirling, was formed in August 2020 in response to the growing needs of the diverse women impacted by the extreme challenges brought by the Covid-19 Pandemic.

[‘Pension Triple-Lock Must Be Protected’, Says Stirling MP](#)

Local Stirling MP Alyn Smith has called on the UK Government to stand by their previous commitments to the triple-lock on pensioners, following speculation the promise may be scrapped by Tory Chancellor Jeremy Hunt. The triple lock is a commitment to raise the UK state pension every year by whichever is highest – average earnings, inflation or 2.5%.

[Stirling MP Welcomes Local Rail Investment](#)

Local MP Alyn Smith has welcomed the completion of a £2.7 million investment and repair operation to the Forth Viaduct, the rail bridge crossing the River Forth near Cambuskenneth, as well as work underway to improve StirlingRail Station. Steelwork has been replaced and repaired, rust and wear removed and the whole structure stripped of old paint and repainted – all part of a wide-ranging bridge modernisation programme aimed at protecting and improving Scotland’s Railways.

[Local MP Supports ‘Stirling Legends’ Book Launch](#)

Alyn Smith MP has welcomed the launch of a brand-new book showcasing Stirling's history. At an event organised by Stirling District Tourism, 'Stirling Legends' was described as an anthology documenting just some of the tales of the incredible people and places that make our historic city so unique. Taking place in Stirling Castle's Chapel Royal, SDT worked closely with local publisher Extremis Publishing to bring together this collection of Stirling stories. Coinciding with VisitScotland's Year of Scotland's stories and the Scottish International Storytelling Festival, the book will only serve to enhance Stirling's growing reputation as an arts and cultural powerhouse.