

Stirling Matters - August 2023
News from Stirling's Parliamentary Team

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[Local MP Launches Business Survey](#)

Stirling MP Alyn Smith has launched a business survey, aimed at collating the experiences of local businesses during the cost of living crisis, Brexit-related disruption and recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. [The survey is available online](#), the results of which will help inform Alyn and key stakeholders as to the opportunities and barriers facing business in the Stirling area.

[MSP Meets with NHS Forth Valley Leadership](#)

Evelyn Tweed MSP met with Cathie Cowan, Chief Executive of NHS Forth Valley recently, to hear an update on service improvement plans across a wide range of areas, including CAMHS, waiting times and dentistry.

[Sporting Heritage Celebrated at University of Stirling](#)

Stirling MP Alyn Smith has welcomed guests to the University of Stirling, opening the 'Sharing Stories' event for Sporting Heritage (a Community Interest Company, not for profit social enterprise) – focused on the power local sporting history and culture can have on communities across Scotland. The charity, with projects in all four nations across the UK, helps bring together collections big and small to ensure they endure for future generations to enjoy. Taking place on Thursday 13th July, guests heard from a diverse array of organisations on the power of work taking place in Scotland's

heritage field more broadly, and the important role sport plays to the cultural, social and economic history of our communities.

[Holyrood Dog of the Year with Family Rescue Dog Marley](#)

Evelyn Tweed MSP entered her beloved family dog Marley in the Holyrood Dog of the Year competition. Organised by the Dogs Trust and The Kennel Club, the event raises awareness of the importance of dogs and their welfare.

[Strong Women Leadership in Sport](#)

Evelyn recently heard from Sport Scotland, regarding the work they are undertaking to encourage more women to take on leadership roles across the sporting sector.

[Alyn Smith MP Backs Local School Campaign](#)

Pupils at St Ninians Support 'Education in Emergencies' Campaign

Local Stirling MP Alyn Smith has backed a campaign from Stirling school pupils, aimed at promoting education internationally – especially in areas of conflict.

The Send My Friend to School: Education in Emergencies campaign has been championed by a coalition of charities and civic groups, and urges the UK Government to do more in the global fight against poverty and threats to educational attainment.

[Alyn Smith MP Supports Standards Campaign for Scottish Universities](#)

Alyn Smith MP has backed a new campaign to raise standards and create new opportunities in Scotland's universities. The campaign is supported by dozens of universities across the UK, and run by the Purpose Coalition – a cross party social justice and equality of opportunity campaign – and pledges to partner with local schools and colleges to provide advice and support to young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, many of whom may have little or no family experience of university.

MP Echoes Advice for Holidaymakers

Local MP Alyn Smith has urged Stirling holidaymakers facing disruption from adverse weather across southern Europe to follow advice issued by the Association of British Insurers (ABI), including on how travel insurance can provide further support. Heatwaves and wildfires have continued to ravage parts of Europe in recent days, as airlines, holiday companies and industry stakeholders come under increasing pressure to amend their operations to keep visitors safe.