



Ash Denham MSP

Edinburgh Eastern Newsletter



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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My first two months in Holyrood

Since being elected in May, I have since visited many local businesses, organisations and charities, held surgeries around the constituency, been appointed Parliamentary Liaison Officer to the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, and become a member of two committees: Economy, Jobs and Fair Work, and Europe and External Relations.

It has been a busy time to be involved in politics, both locally and nationally. Nicola Sturgeon has been re-appointed First Minister of Scotland; we have a new Prime Minister and her Cabinet; the Chilcot Report has finally been published, and the UK has voted to leave the European Union.

The EU Referendum

On the 23rd June, Edinburgh voted overwhelmingly to remain within the EU – with the highest Remain vote of any council area in the country and a turnout of over 72%. This was a vote to protect our place in the world's biggest single market and the jobs and investment that depend on it.

Following the national result, I sent a letter to all EU nationals in the constituency, to make it clear that if you have chosen to live and work in Edinburgh Eastern, you remain welcome here, Scotland is your home, and your contribution is valued.

I was also proud to join MSPs across the parties and across the country to cast my vote in the Scottish Parliament for a motion mandating the Scottish Government to negotiate with international partners; to make clear that the decision of the majority of Scottish people should be respected.

“While the path ahead is uncertain, every part of the EU must know that Scotland remains part of the EU and an attractive and stable place to do business, with a fundamentally strong economy.”

-Nicola Sturgeon



The “We Need Everybody” Campaign

Earlier this month, I announced my support for an NHS Scotland campaign. ‘We Need Everybody’ seeks to save even more lives in Scotland, by highlighting that anyone can be an organ donor in an effort to increase the number of people on the register.

Currently over 99% of those who die in Scotland do not have organs viable for transplant; which is why it is vital that more people sign up to the NHS register.

This is an important campaign – one which will help save lives in Edinburgh Eastern and across Scotland. [You can sign up to the Organ Donor Register here.](#)

Thistle Centre for Wellbeing Opening

On the 14th June I was pleased to attend the opening of the new Thistle Centre for Wellbeing in Niddrie, with First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

The Thistle Foundation undertakes diverse work in providing support services for independent living— including for veterans, those with long-term health conditions and young people.

[You can see my motion to Parliament on the Thistle Centre for Wellbeing here.](#)



Surgery Times

Portobello

First Tuesday of every month
Portobello Library | 18.00 – 19.00

Northfield

Third Friday of every month
Northfield/Willowbrae CC | 15.00 – 16.00

Craigmillar

Last Friday of every month
Craigmillar Library | 15.00 – 16.00

Gilmerton

Second Saturday of every month
Gilmerton Library | 12.00 – 13.00

No appointment is necessary and disabled access is available.

To arrange a meeting outwith these times, please contact my office.

Get in touch

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