

# News from **PATRICIA FERGUSON** **MP for Glasgow West**



**April 2026**

Welcome to my **April newsletter**. With Parliament in recess for the first fortnight of the month I was able to spend more time than usual out and about across the constituency, including holding an additional pop-up surgery in Hyndland with local councillor, James Adams. Enquiries from constituents continued apace and I have now opened more than 10,000 enquiries from constituents since my election. In April alone I received over 1,000 constituent casework emails and opened over 400 new cases. If you have an issue that you would like to bring to my attention please don't hesitate to get in touch.

## Constituency Update



The first fortnight in April brought the Easter school break, and this in turn saw the return of the popular Drumchapel United Football Camp, supported by Scottish Gas and the Scottish FA.

I was delighted to be able to visit the camp, which provides children with the opportunity to enjoy football for free.

Although the weather wasn't favourable, the atmosphere was great with around 40 young people enjoying the activity. Four teams of youngsters were enjoying a kickabout whilst around 15 young women were practicing their footballing skills. I enjoyed chatting with them and it was encouraging to see so many young people benefitting from this initiative, which includes a nutritional lunch each day.



It was also fantastic to hear from Drumchapel United about the wider work they are doing, and the success of their teams. From their men's and women's teams to their walking football team and para team, the Fortune Flyers, they're a true community club embodying their logo 'In Friendship'.



The Victoria Park 'Spring Into Summer' Family Fun Day is a wonderful annual event that brings the community together to appreciate the park, connect with the many fantastic local groups and organisations in the area, and enjoy the wide range of free activities and entertainment laid on.

It was lovely to join local residents on the day and I congratulate Victoria Park Community Trust, Glasgow Eco Trust, Whiteinch & Scotstoun Housing Association and everyone else who helped put on such an enjoyable event.

**Serving the communities of Anniesland, Blairdardie, Broomhill, Claythorn, Dowanhill, Drumchapel, High Knightswood, Hyndland, Jordanhill, Knightswood, Old Drumchapel, Partick, Scotstoun, Scotstounhill, Temple, Thornwood, Whiteinch & Yoker**



It's now less than 100 days to go until Glasgow hosts the Commonwealth Games, with Glasgow West playing a big part in the event. Scotstoun Stadium will host the athletics, with 12 sport sessions over 6 days, and a new track has been installed in readiness. Also, a range of community groups across the constituency have been awarded Glasgow 2026 Festival Funding for games-related community events. Congratulations to all those that have received funding.

With momentum building I have written to the organisers asking for an update on the measures that will be put in place to mitigate the impact on the Scotstoun community, and neighbouring areas, particularly in relation to parking. I have urged them to ensure that measures are in

place to encourage those travelling to Scotstoun to do so by public transport. And to ensure that there is good communications to reassure host communities that action is being taken to minimise any disruption they may experience whilst events are taking place.

## Recognising Local Achievements In Parliament

I was pleased to table these motions during April. Congratulations to all involved.

**Drumchapel Good Vibes Community Choir**

That this House celebrates the launch of Drumchapel Good Vibes Community Choir; recognises that the Choir was launched on 26 February 2026 with their inaugural performance at Drumchapel St Andrew's and Yoker Church in Glasgow West; recognises that the Choir has been made possible thanks to funding secured from the National Lottery Community Fund; notes the important role choirs play in communities, by bringing people together, forming friendships and reducing isolation; further recognises the importance of music in helping people express themselves and creating a sense of connection and joy; encourages people of all ages in the local Drumchapel and Yoker communities, and across Glasgow West, to get involved in the choir, and wishes the Good Vibes Community Choir a long and successful future.

**Bankhead Primary School's Bike Bus Initiative**

That this House congratulates Bankhead Primary School in Knightswood on the launch of their Bike Bus initiative; understands that the initiative allows pupils from primary one to seven to cycle to school together, alongside their teachers and parents, every Wednesday; notes that the scheme aims to reduce reliance on cars for short journeys, ease traffic congestion and lower emissions around the school; commends the school on launching the initiative which is not only good for the environment but improves the mental and physical health of the young people involved, as well as their road confidence and cycle skills; recognises the significant amount of support provided by the local community, with local organisations and parents providing free bike repairs, new bikes and offering to accompany the pupils on the road; further commends the pupils for their enthusiasm and involvement in the scheme, and wishes the school and whole community continued success with the Bike Bus initiative.

**Knightswood Football Club Scottish Cup Winners**

That this House congratulates Knightswood Football Club's U17s boys' team on winning the Scottish Youth Football Association Cup Final; commends the whole team on their incredible 3-0 win over the Cumbernauld Colts in the final; recognises the contribution of the goalscorers Mac Massie, Kyle King, and Logan Spence, as well as the captain David McGuire in securing this victory; understands that this achievement reflects the hard work and dedication displayed by the whole team throughout the season and before; further understands that this success is also thanks to the support of the whole Knightswood Football Club community, from coaches and staff to families, friends, and supporters; thanks the Scottish Youth Football Association for organising the Cup, and for promoting, administering, and encouraging youth sport across Scotland; and wishes the team and whole Club continued success for the rest of the season and beyond.

**Patricia Ferguson MP**  
Member of Parliament for Glasgow West

**SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY**

- Are you a constituent in Glasgow West?
- Concerned about social media access for young people?
- Complete my survey to let me know your thoughts on social media for under 16s!

Click the link to take part!

The Government's national consultation on social media for under 16s remains open until the 26<sup>th</sup> May. The Government has confirmed that it will bring in some form of age or functionality restrictions and the consultation explores these issues further, including age restrictions and restrictions on addictive design features and risky functionalities, and better support for parents and families. In addition to the full consultation there is a survey for parents and carers of young people, and a survey for children and young people. More information is available on the [Gov.UK website](https://www.gov.uk).

As MPs will have a vote on any proposals arising from the Government consultation I want to hear from as many constituents as possible and my local survey remains open, allowing you to have your say. [You can fill out the survey online - https://bit.ly/4rsnLkk](https://bit.ly/4rsnLkk)



In last month's newsletter I reported on Drumchapel High School Pupil, Jordan Kerr's action which helped save a young boy's life at Drumchapel Train Station, by administering CPR when the boy collapsed. Jordan went on to launch a campaign for a defibrillator at the station, a move I raised in Parliament and wrote to Scotrail in support, urging them to take action.

I am delighted to be able to report that Scotrail has confirmed that Drumchapel Station has been allocated a defibrillator device, and it is hoped that this will be installed in the coming months. In addition, Scotrail contacted Jordan directly to thank him for his efforts. This is a very welcome outcome to Jordan's campaign, and just recognition of his action. I am delighted to have been able to support Jordan's campaign and extend again my thanks and congratulations to him.

Traffic and pedestrian safety are a recurring theme in my **Local Transport Survey**, with a number of locations of concern regularly raised. One such location is the Cowdenhill Road/Lincoln Avenue/Great Western Road Junction. This is an area that has concerned me for many years, even as a local Councillor prior to my election to Westminster I was making the case to the Council for action. A couple of years ago the Council commenced a project to look at improving crossings along Great Western Road, including at this junction. However, no obvious progress had been made on this since a community engagement event in November 2024.

This junction is of particular concern to local residents and has a history of traffic related incidents, with a serious traffic collision occurring as recently as early April. The lack of traffic lights and signalled pedestrian crossings at this location have a significant detrimental impact on road and pedestrian safety at what is a very busy junction used by local residents, both motorists and pedestrians. I therefore wrote again to the Council in April seeking progress on improvements at this location. I am delighted to have received confirmation that funding has now been approved for a signalised junction installation, with pedestrian facilities. The works are programmed for a Summer 2026 start date. Well done to everyone, including the many local residents, who have fought for this over many years.

### Your Local Transport Priorities - Have Your Say!

I am committed to working with and for local residents to deliver positive change for our area; helping to ensure that our communities can thrive.

I know that easy access to work, education, health, leisure, and other key services, is vitally important. Whether you use public transport, active travel, or are a car driver you want to know that you can get about your regular business; meet with family and friends; and connect across our communities.

Unfortunately, that's not always easy - whether due to public transport challenges; lack of active travel options; or poor roads and footpath maintenance.

Since my election I've been pleased to open the new Anniesland train station lifts, improving station accessibility for all; I've opposed proposals to reduce station ticket office opening hours; I've made representations to the Council about west end parking; and, I've supported proposals to improve access to Drumchapel town centre. But there's much more to do!

I am keen to hear what your priorities are to improve travel where you live. Scan the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/3WsoGzI> to take my 60 second survey



Complete my survey at <https://bit.ly/3WsoGzI> or scan the QR code to **Have Your Say!**

Constituents have also raised concerns about the Duntreath Avenue/Yoker Mill Road/Alderman Road junction. This busy junction has seen an increase in traffic since the opening of the Renfrew Bridge. As there is no filter on the junction, tailbacks are causing delays and encouraging rat-running through adjacent streets. I have therefore written to the Council, along with Douglas McAllister MP in whose constituency this junction is, to ask that they consider installing filters to the existing traffic lights. I will provide an update on this in future newsletters.

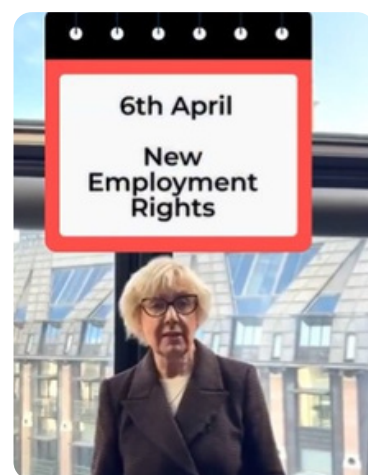
If there's a local transport issue you'd like to bring to my attention complete my survey using the link provided or contact me directly.

## Parliamentary Update

The new Employment Rights Act came into force on the 6<sup>th</sup> April. This landmark legislation has been described as the biggest upgrade in workers' rights in a generation, and I have been delighted to support it as it proceeded through parliament. The new legislation provides:

- New **paternity leave rights** from the first day of employment
- New **statutory sick pay rights**, removing the earnings limit and three day waiting period
- New **whistleblowing rights**, to raise sexual harassment claims

Further rights will be introduced later this year, and next year, on issues such as unfair dismissal, zero hour contracts, and fire and rehire. You can find out more about your employment rights at [bit.ly/4bIHdEC](https://bit.ly/4bIHdEC)



When the Government introduced proposed changes to Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payments (PIP) I supported an amendment to halt the progress of the Bill and welcomed the subsequent decision to establish a review of PIP to be undertaken by Sir Stephen Timms MP. That review is now underway and a call for evidence has been issued. The review wants to hear from anyone who wishes to contribute, and particularly welcomes input from disabled people, carers, and clinicians. It's important that those with experience of PIP have an opportunity to shape it, ensuring it is fair and fit for the future. You can have your say online at <https://bit.ly/41WZqbR>

Over the course of April I was pleased to give my support to a number of important campaigns in parliament.

I attended the launch of the GMB Union's new campaign to end the scandal of ill-fitting personal protective equipment (PPE). There are harrowing examples of emergency service workers, army personnel, and care workers, facing greater risk at work as a result of inappropriate PPE. The GMB campaign will ensure that everyone has PPE that protects them properly.

I also co-sponsored a 10-minute rule bill on the same issue, which would ensure that public sector PPE complied with specified standards.



I am a member of Parliament's All Party Group on Fairtrade and was pleased to attend a meeting of the group in April, at which I met representatives of the Fairtrade Foundation to discuss their 'Do It Fair' campaign.

The campaign seeks to address the challenges faced by producers and farmers around the world, calling for fairness for people, for planet, and for pay.

The UK government is currently reviewing its approach to responsible business, and this campaign provides an opportunity for people to demand business are fair to people and planet by signing up to the Fairtrade Foundation's campaign. Find out more about 'Do It Fair' at [www.fairtrade.net](http://www.fairtrade.net)



Animal Free Research UK works to end animal testing in medical research. Their Herbie's Law campaign would establish a framework for accelerating animal-free science. Herbie's Law would set an ambition to phase out animal experiments in medical research over the next decade.

I was very pleased to show my support for the campaign, named after a rescued beagle.

I strongly support the phasing out of animal testing and welcomed the Government's plan for this which was published last year.

You can find out more about Herbie's Law at [bit.ly/4tviDNP](https://bit.ly/4tviDNP)



The **Scottish Affairs Committee**, which I chair, recently visited the Faroe Islands as part of its inquiry into digital and fixed link connectivity in Scotland. The Faroe Islands are famous for the 23 subsea tunnels connecting its 18 islands. Additionally, wherever you are on the islands there's complete 5G coverage - even in the tunnels. It was a fascinating visit and the committee will now consider its findings to see what Scotland may be able to learn from the Faroese approach. You can find out more about the Committee's work the [SAC website](#).

This is just a snapshot of my recent work. Regular updates are shared via my social media channels -

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I produce a regular newsletter update and if you would like to receive this directly into your inbox you can email [patricia.ferguson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:patricia.ferguson.mp@parliament.uk) to be added to the mailing list