

How to contact Charlie Gordon MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Cathcart

You can meet with Charlie during his regular surgeries held throughout the constituency (Please see details below).



Call the Glasgow office - 0141 632 8645

Visit Charlie's website at www.charliegordonmsp.com

Email - charlie.gordon.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Surgeries:

Couper Institute, 84-86 Clarkston Road,
1st Friday of each month @ 4pm

Castlemilk Library, 100 Castlemilk Drive,
2nd Friday of each month @ 4pm

Tinto Primary School, 57 Hillpark Drive,
3rd Friday of each month @ 4pm

Kennishead Community Hall, 10 Kennishead Avenue,
last Friday of each month @ 4pm

The above arrangements may not apply after Parliament is dissolved in April 2007

Charlie Gordon MSP's Newsletter is distributed to libraries, community centres and schools. Community Councils, plus many other local organisations, also receive a copy. If you or your group would like to be included on the mailing list, please call the number above. An electronic version of this newsletter is available at www.charliegordonmsp.com

For further information on any of this month's issues please email Stuart.Donaldson@scottish.parliament.uk

Publisher: Charlie Gordon MSP. Design & Print: QPFC 0141-632-1275

Charlie Gordon MSP Newsletter

Glasgow Cathcart

WINTER 2006/7

New Victoria Hospital - Work Begins



Charlie Gordon MSP and Minister for Health Andy Kerr MSP cut the first sod.

On 13th November Charlie Gordon MSP was delighted to join Minister for Health Andy Kerr as he cut the first sod signifying the beginning of construction of the New Victoria Hospital. Cathcart constituents will have already noticed the significant preparatory work that has taken place over the past few months.

With construction of the £100 million hospital now under way, the new Victoria will be one of the biggest Hospitals in Scotland, the date for completion is in 2009.

Speaking at the event Andy Kerr MSP said: "This impressive new facility will bring state-of-the-art healthcare to the local community."

Charlie Gordon MSP speaking at the event added "I am pleased work is now underway on what is a massive investment by the NHS in Glasgow Cathcart. I am especially pleased that the investment will deliver chemotherapy and renal dialysis for the first time in south Glasgow".

Further information on the new Victoria Hospital can be found on NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's web site at www.nhsggc.org.uk

Services that will be available at the new Victoria include:

Audiology, Cardiology, Colorectal, Dermatology, Diabetics, Stroke, Gastroenterology, Renal Dialysis, Gynaecology, Haematology, Ante-natal care, Orthopaedics, Plastic Surgery, Psychology, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Dental, Podiatry, Radiology, Speech and Language Therapy, Dietetics, Physiotherapy, Chemotherapy, Minor Injuries, Ear, Nose and Throat, Oral Surgery, Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology, Respiratory and Urology.



Charlie Gordon MSP and Andy Kerr MSP

www.charliegordonmsp.com

SCOTTISH POWER

Following the proposed merger of Scottish Power and Iberdrola, Glasgow Cathcart MSP Charlie Gordon met with the Chief Executive Officer of Scottish Power, Philip Bowman and the Chief Executive Officer of Iberdrola, Ignacio Galan at Scottish Power's headquarters in Glasgow. Charlie requested a meeting with the two men in order to make representations on behalf of the 1700 Scottish Power workers in his Cathcart Constituency. Following the meeting Charlie said "Strict Legal and Ethical constraints which apply to any Merger mean guarantees are not available at this stage, but that didn't stop me asking both men if the 1700 jobs at Scottish Power's facility in my Constituency would be safe. They seemed relaxed on that issue, so it's a case of "all right so far". I'm not going to play politics with people's jobs."



Prior to this high level meeting Charlie had raised the matter of the merger to First Minister Jack McConnell MSP during First Minister's Question Time in the Scottish Parliament on 30th November:

Mr Charlie Gordon (Glasgow Cathcart) (Lab): Will the First Minister seek a meeting with the executives of Iberdrola in the light of its takeover bid for Scottish Power? If so, will he ask them for firm assurances of future job retention at Scottish Power, including 1,700 jobs in my constituency of Cathcart?

The First Minister: I appreciate Charlie Gordon's constructive and to-the-point question about the future of employees and investment here in Scotland. I confirm that Nicol Stephen and I will meet both Iberdrola and Scottish Power next Tuesday morning specifically to raise the position of the employees, the management and the headquarters functions here in Scotland; the long-term investment in Longannet and the renewables industries in Scotland; and pricing, which is of particular importance to businesses and individuals in Scotland. We will do so seriously with the objective of getting those assurances and putting the interests of Scotland first.

Also in December Charlie was delighted to host Chief Executive of Scottish Power, Philip Bowman, and students of the Scottish Power Learning scheme in celebrating the scheme's 10th Anniversary at the Scottish Parliament. Allan Wilson MSP, Deputy Minister for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning also attended the event and gave a keynote speech. The scheme was established to extend the company's Employee Learning programme, which offers access to around 1,000 learning programmes. Since its inception, ScottishPower Learning has used its skills and resources to create learning opportunities for people in the communities they serve, particularly in areas of economic deprivation. ScottishPower Learning has supported the training of 12,000 unemployed people. Following the speeches Charlie met with two young constituents who are undergoing training in the scheme. Christine Kane from Carnwadric, a pupil at St Paul's High School and Michael Crossan from Castlemilk, a pupil at Castlemilk High School.



Rod O'Donnell, Head Teacher St Paul's High, Christine Kane, Student St Paul's High, Charlie Gordon MSP, Brian McAlinden, Head Teacher Castlemilk High, Michael Crossan, Student Castlemilk High.

CHARLIE IN PARLIAMENT

From October 2006 to January 2007, Charlie has asked 7 Parliamentary Questions, spoken in 6 Debates, and signed 8 Parliamentary Motions, such as the one below lodged on 8th November 2006:-

S2M-5123 Margaret Jamieson MSP (Kilmarnock & Loudoun): Fireworks: That the Parliament notes the continuing distress caused to residents and their pets by fireworks; recognises that restrictions on the sale of fireworks at New Year and for a three-week period prior to 5 November under the Fireworks Act 2003 do not prevent the abuse of fireworks at this time and during other times of the year when it is still too prevalent, and believes that the time has come to have a complete ban on the sale of fireworks, except for organised displays where a licence can be granted by local authorities.

...AND AROUND AND ABOUT



Charlie and some of his neighbours recently got together for a clean-up of a privately-owned lane next to their homes in the Constituency. Illegal dumping of rubbish in such lanes, known as "fly-tipping" defaces Glasgow and spoils it for residents and visitors alike, as do other environmental crimes like littering. Dog-fouling, graffiti and dumping domestic refuse in litter bins.

For information and advice on such issues, visit the Environmental Protection Services section of the Glasgow City Council website at www.glasgow.gov.uk

Charlie's 2006 Christmas Card Competition was once again a resounding success. With over 300 entries, picking a winner was a difficult task. The competition was open to every Primary 6 class in the constituency, with a School Winner being selected from each participating school and then an overall winner who will have their design printed on Charlie's official Christmas Card of which 1000 will be printed.

This year's winner was Stewart Latta from Tinto Primary School. Stewart and his Mother, Pamela, joined Charlie and First Minister Jack McConnell MSP at Bute House, his official residence in Edinburgh.



DATELINE 26th OCTOBER...Charlie meets with physiotherapy students from his constituency(see picture)...**DATELINE 27th OCTOBER...**Charlie Gordon MSP attends Queen's Park FC Annual Dinner...**DATELINE 1st NOVEMBER...**Charlie attends CALA Homes exhibition for Weir's site...**DATELINE 3rd NOVEMBER...**Charlie attends "Show Racism the Red Card" event at Lesser Hampden(see picture)... **DATELINE 12th NOVEMBER...**Charlie attends Remembrance Sunday ceremony at George Square...**DATELINE 13th NOVEMBER...**Charlie attends cutting of first sod on site of new Victoria Hospital...**DATELINE 14th NOVEMBER...**Charlie attends King's Park Secondary School Enterprise event...**DATELINE 16th NOVEMBER...**Charlie calls for doubling of train services on Cathcart Circle...**DATELINE 17th NOVEMBER...**Charlie meets with GHA Chief Michael Lennon to discuss local GHA issues...**DATELINE 21st NOVEMBER...**Charlie attends "State of the City" conference in Glasgow City Centre...**DATELINE 30th NOVEMBER...**Charlie meets with Chairman of BAA...**DATELINE 1st DECEMBER...**Charlie meets with South Glasgow Director of Lloyds TSB...**DATELINE 5th DECEMBER...**Charlie meets with CEO's of ScottishPower and Iberdrola...**DATELINE 24th JANUARY...**Charlie meets with Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police.