

Out and about with Jamie...



Jamie with rescue dog Buster in Holyrood's Dog of the Year. Buster came 3rd and was adopted the following week!



Visiting the site of the new HMP Highland in Inverness which will house prisoners from across the region.



Visiting Serimax in Evanton to meet with some of their fantastic apprentices as part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week.



Jamie attended agricultural shows across Scotland, from Grantown to Orkney, and the Black Isle to Portree.



Joining colleagues to highlight the impact of rural crime on our farmers and on local communities.



A keen rugby player, Jamie supports My Name's Doddie Foundation in their efforts to find treatments for MND.



Jamie hosted colleagues from the Welsh Senedd to discuss shared challenges and opportunities.

ROUGH SLEEPING

Jamie introduced an amendment to the Housing Bill which would have placed a duty on the Scottish Government to end rough sleeping in Scotland by the end of the decade. The Scottish Government blocked it.

In short...

- ▶ Jamie has repeatedly raised concerns over the condition of local schools, including Dunvegan on Skye.
- ▶ He has questioned Scottish ministers over the potential misuse of humanitarian aid and whether some may have been used to treat Hamas terrorists.
- ▶ He has called for local services to be protected in the face of increasing numbers of local banks and post office closures.
- ▶ He's written to local NHS boards about long waiting times impacting his constituents, particularly relating to cataract operations and orthopaedics.
- ▶ Jamie prompted action from local councils on potholes, including one where a constituent had been left unable to leave their home and feeling isolated.

Jamie's voting record on some key issues

1. **Against** Gender Recognition Reform proposals.
2. **For** the 'Right to Recovery' Bill to help those fighting addiction.
3. **Against** the introduction of Assisted Dying in Scotland.
4. **Introduced** amendments to the Housing (Scotland) Bill to end rough sleeping.

Jamie wants to know your views and concerns, visit www.jamiehalcrojohnston.org.uk

or scan the QR code to take his local survey.



Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Highlands and Islands Region



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Parliamentary Report for 2025

Dear constituents,

It has been a great honour to represent the Highlands and Islands for over eight years as one of your Members of the Scottish Parliament.

I have worked hard to ensure that my region is heard in Holyrood as I know how important it is that we have MSPs standing up for Scotland's remote, rural and island communities and against one-size-fits-all policies that are too often made in Edinburgh.

Throughout these eight years, my team and I have been ready to help where we can with any issues you may be having. We have dealt with thousands of constituent cases, and I am always delighted to hear from you. But I am also taking on the issues that impact on people across the region and this update will touch on just some of those.

I know that, over the last few years, many constituents will have struggled because of the cost-of-living crisis or with getting support from public services that are facing real challenges.

Where promises have been made to my region – like dualling the A9 and A96 or delivering reliable ferries, providing health services that meet local needs, building the houses our communities demand, improving our schools so children can be taught in safe educational environments or ensuring local care is available for some of our most vulnerable older residents - I have challenged the Government to deliver on those promises. On these and on other issues, at every opportunity, I have worked to hold government to account on behalf of the people and businesses of the Highlands and Islands on the things that affect you.

I will always stand up for the Highlands and Islands – our home.

As ever, if you think I can help, please do get in touch or come and meet me at one of my surgeries around the region.

With best wishes,

Jamie Halcro Johnston MSP
MSP for the Highlands and Islands Region
(Scottish Conservative and Unionist)

Scan for the latest news from Jamie



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'BIG ENERGY'S' OVER-INDUSTRIALISATION OF THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

The Highlands and Islands, its environment and its natural beauty are at risk from over-industrialisation.

Too many communities are threatened by the impact of the growing number of applications for new energy infrastructure like wind turbines, mega-pylons, battery storage and worker accommodation.

These developments are often rejected by local representatives but then approved on appeal by Scottish Government ministers

and their officials in Edinburgh.

Jamie has always supported local residents fighting against inappropriate developments and has repeatedly challenged the Scottish Government and the big energy developers.

And he has fought for greater community rights and support in opposing massive developments across the Highlands and Islands.

Jamie believes that local people should be at the heart of planning decisions in their local communities.



WE DESERVE BETTER HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



Health and social care services across the Highlands and Islands are under intense pressure. Jamie has campaigned to restore urgent care to Portree Hospital, challenging the First Minister over government inaction and securing a ministerial statement from the Health Secretary.

He has worked with campaigners on Skye, in Orkney and across the region to hear what improvements

are needed, and campaigned against the threatened closure of care homes, most recently in Fort William.

In Parliament, Jamie has highlighted the pressures on social and palliative care in our region, and he supports the Palliative Care Bill currently progressing through Parliament.

If you're struggling to access health or social care, please contact Jamie using the details on the front.

HALCRO JOHNSTON - STANDING UP FOR OUR FARMERS AND FISHERMEN



Rural and island communities face challenging times, with government decisions causing upheaval and uncertainty.

Jamie continues to oppose UK Government changes to inheritance tax relief and the threat this poses to family farms across Scotland. And he has pressed Scotland's farming minister for more clarity on Scottish Government support for farms, crofters

and agricultural businesses. He continues press for better support for new entrants, as well as for a new abattoir in Orkney.

Jamie also meets regularly with local and national fishing representatives and has raised concerns with government over the pressures on our fishermen from spacial squeeze, as well as from poorly considered closures of grounds and restrictions on important local fisheries.

JAMIE CALLS FOR BETTER TRANSPORT LINKS

The Scottish Government promised to dual the A9. There's now some concern whether that will ever happen. Good transport links are essential for the economy, connectivity and for safety.

But across the Highlands and Islands, poor transport links and routes - which remain unfit for purpose - are leaving communities isolated.

Jamie has been a leading voice for dualling the A9 and for improving roads across the region. He's also campaigned for reliable

ferry services, highlighting disruptions to the Corran ferry, cancellations impacting the West Coast routes and issues on the Northern Isles routes such as lack of space for local residents.

If you've been impacted by transport issues or the poor state of local roads, get in touch with Jamie.



DEFENDING OUR RURAL AND ISLAND COMMUNITIES

Edinburgh-based ministers interfere in the lives of our communities with little understanding of the impact of their actions.



Jamie led opposition to the Scottish Government's ban on woodstoves in new homes, forcing ministers to 'u-turn'.

But his efforts to give homeowners in rural and island communities the right to a wood stove - which can be vital in extreme weather or when power is lost - were blocked by the government.

Through the Cross-Party Group on Islands he founded and chairs, Jamie hosted

an 'Islands Showcase' in Parliament, inviting islanders and island businesses to Holyrood to highlight the contribution of Scotland's islands and to meet with MSPs to discuss how we ensure the resilience of island communities.

If we want to see our rural and island communities thrive, we need local voices heard at all levels of government in Scotland and the UK.

MSP ADVICE SURGERIES

Jamie holds regular advice surgeries to meet with constituents and hear about their concerns.

This year, he held surgeries across the Highlands and Islands, ranging from Ballachulish and Dunvegan to Dalwhinnie and Lerwick.

Please get in contact with Jamie using the contact details on the front of this leaflet if you would like to attend one in your area. If timings are not convenient, Jamie's team will contact you to make an alternative arrangement.



SIR JAMIE MCGRIGOR (1949 - 2025)

In July, we lost a real stalwart of our region. Sir Jamie McGrigor was a proud champion for his home of Argyll, for the Highlands and Islands region he represented so faithfully and effectively for nearly 17 years as an MSP, and for rural Scotland and our coastal communities.

Jamie Halcro Johnston said, "I was delighted when he was able to join me as my guest as we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Scottish Parliament in September 2024, a body he gave such dedicated service to.

"He was a thoroughly decent man, a good friend and someone who has supported me throughout my time in politics, always ready to provide sound advice and guidance. He will very much be missed by us all."



DID YOU KNOW...



This year, Jamie and his team dealt with over 2,500 of your cases, with new energy infrastructure, transport issues, and rural healthcare being the most raised issues. He is the Convener of the CPG on Islands and is

the Deputy Convener of Holyrood's Constitution, External Affairs and Culture committee. He has previously been a member of the Finance, Rural Affairs, Standards and Economy committees.

VISITOR LEVY

Highlands and Islands Region MSP Jamie Halcro Johnston continues to oppose the Scottish Government's new Visitor Levy tax which, poorly planned but forced through, only places new burdens on our important tourism and hospitality sectors.

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