FOYSOL CHOUDHURY MSP

MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT FOR LOTHIAN REGION

JUNE UPDATE

JUNE 2025

HAMILTON, LARKHALL AND STONEHOUSE BY-ELECTION

Thanks to all the Labour Party members who campaigned to elect Davy Russell to the Scottish Parliament. What a great result and the people of Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse have laid the first stone in the path to the Scottish Labour Government in 2026.



NORTH EDINBURGH ARTS

I was delighted to be at the launch of the newly expanded space at NEA, MacMillan Hub. NEA, successfully carried out a Community Asset Transfer and NEA now belongs to the residents of North Edinburgh. The building looks amazing and you could feel the love and hard work that's gone into it over the past few years. Thanks to the funders, staff. Excited to see what's next for NEA!



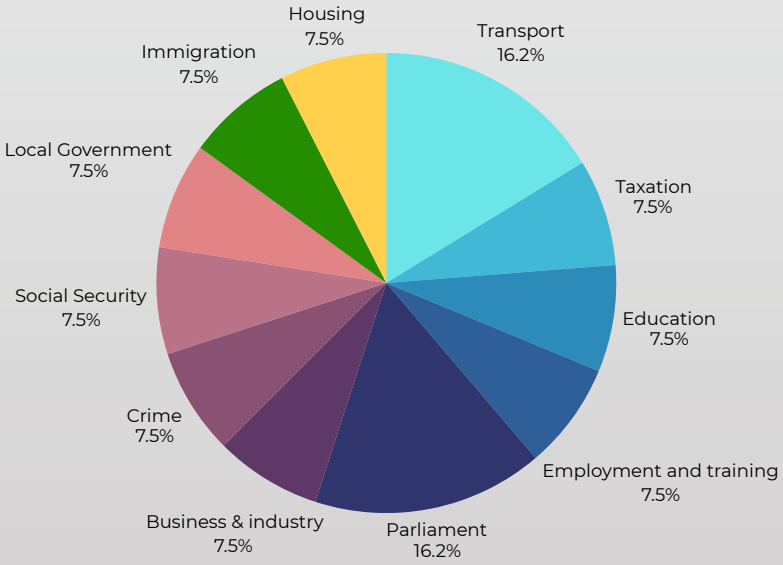


REMEMBERING SIR GEOFF PALMER

I was heartbroken by the loss of Sir Geoff Palmer My dear friend, father figure and mentor to me. He will be deeply missed and one of the most dedicated human rights activists. Goeff led by example with a quiet strength and unwavering commitment to truth, justice and humanity. His intellect was unmatched.

We must ensure his legacy lives on and must continue working towards becoming a more equal and free prejudice nation. My thoughts are with his family, many friends and comrades.

CASEWORK



LONG WAITS FOR TREATMENT

This month at First Ministers Questions, I raised the issue of long waiting times for constituents to be seen by a specialist after a constituent contacted me stating that they have not been informed how long it will be before they see a dermatologist, shockingly in Lothian, the number of people waiting over 52 weeks to see a dermatologist has doubled in the last year.

I will continue to raise the critical issue of waiting times for specialist care on behalf of my Lothian constituents whenever I can at the Scottish Parliament. **With the equivalent of 1 in 6 Scots stuck on an NHS waiting list,** the reality is that John Swinney and the SNP have no meaningful plan, no strategy and no ideas to save our NHS.

LACK OF APPRENTICESHIPS IN SCOTLAND

I have also been contacted by a constituent regarding the lack of apprenticeships in Scotland and how this is affecting his grandson. I have written to the Minister for Higher and Further Education; and Veterans bout this issue and am awaiting his reply. I have also lodged a written question at the Scottish Parliament about this issue.

SEE MY QUESTION

Despite a pledge to reach 30,000 modern apprenticeships a year, the SNP has only funded **25,500** by 2025/26.







TEMPORARY ACCOMODATION

Many constituents have again contacted me about spending several years in unsuitable temporary accommodation often with their young families, despite them believing that this would be a temporary measure

Earlier this month, I raised this issue in the Scottish Parliament, asking the Government for an update on what is being done to reduce the average time families spend in temporary housing.

SEE MY QUESTION

It's time for a new direction and only Scottish Labour can deliver it by getting Scotland building and deliver the modern, affordable homes we so desperately need.



PARLIAMENT



11 QUESTIONS ASKED...

MY PRIORITY FOR THE LOTHIAN REGION IS VOICING YOUR CONCERNS

HEALTH, HOUSING & EQUALITY

STANDING FOR ANTI-RACISM IN EDUCATION

This month in the Scottish Parliament, I raised the case of Ekta, whose daughter Anisa was withdrawn from school after enduring months of racist bullying. I urged the Cabinet Secretary to meet with us and hear directly how racism in schools is harming children.

Racism has no place in education. I asked what practical steps the Government is taking to ensure every child feels safe, supported, and protected from racist bullying.



CANCER PREVENTION ACTION WEEK

I am proud to stand alongside my colleagues in in support of Cancer Prevention Action Week, led by Alcohol Focus Scotland. With half of Scots unaware that alcohol is linked to seven types of cancer, including breast and bowel; it's vital we raise awareness and ensure everyone has the facts.





CPG ON CHALLENGING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE

This month at the Cross-Party Group on Challenging Racial and Religious Prejudice, we discussed emerging trends and issues in the spread of misinformation and deepfakes with Prof. Vian Bakir. The session highlighted how misinformation and AI-generated content can deepen prejudice and division, particularly against minority communities. We encourage everyone to stay informed and actively challenge harmful narratives online.

CPG ON BANGLADESH

In the beginning of the month I convened the Cross-Party Group on Bangladesh at the Scottish Parliament. We discussed urgent concerns about the impact of international aid cuts on the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar and called for action to minimise harm to those affected. Grateful to all who joined us in solidarity and commitment to justice and humanitarian support.



RELAY YOUR WAY

It was fantastic to join Cerebra for the launch of **Relay Your Way**, a fantastic programme of events celebrating young people with disabilities and their extraordinary achievements. It was great to see party leaders racing alongside families to show their support.



COMMUNITY

EID AL-ADHA AT HOLYROOD

I was proud to co-host a cross-party reception for Eid al-Adha at the Scottish Parliament. It was a vibrant evening that brought together MSPs, diplomats, faith leaders, and community representatives from across Scotland. It was a true joy to celebrate such important festivals in the Islamic calendar in the Garden Lobby. Events like this remind us that our differences are not divisions but rather strengths, guiding us toward a more united and compassionate Scotland.



SCOTLAND'S GARDEN SCHEME

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the open garden at Logie Green Gardens, which is always a favourite during the summer. This event, part of Scotland's garden scheme, raised funds for charities, including MSF UK and Shelter Scotland. What a wonderful opportunity to take a moment to connect with neighbours, and appreciate the stunning beauty of their gardens!





SIX-A-SIDE CRICKET TOURNAMENT

I had an amazing time at the Six-A-Side Cricket Tournament held at Gyle Park, organised by the Bangladeshi Students' Association of Scotland. It was wonderful to see so many students, families, and supporters coming together, not only for the love of cricket but also to celebrate friendship and teamwork.









BRIDGING THE GAP: SCOTLAND'S CREATIVE FUTURE, BY MAMBA SOUNDS

It was a fantastic experience to join this event, which brought together inspiring voices from music, media, culture, and AI/technology. The panel discussion offered thought-provoking insights on how Scotland can better nurture emerging creative talent and build lasting infrastructure to drive both cultural and economic impact. A truly energising and forward-thinking conversation.

AHALYA DANCE ACADEMY'S SAMARPANA 2025 AT FORRESTER HIGH SCHOOL

I had a wonderful time attending Samarpana 2025 at Forrester High School, a lively celebration of Bharathanatyam and South Asian culture organized by the Ahalya Dance Academy.

I was honoured to present awards to some incredibly talented young dancers whose passion and dedication illuminated the stage. Their performances served as a beautiful reminder of the magic that occurs when culture, creativity, and community unite.



GALLERY

JUNE 2025

EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENTS IN THE PARLIAMENT AND COMMUNITY THIS MONTH

STAYING INFORMED ON SCOTTISH INTERESTS



BADMINTON TOURNAMENT BY LAL SHOBUJ SPORTING CLUB EDINBURGH.



STROKE ASSOCIATION



STREET SOCCER SCOTLAND



EDINBURGH VAISAKHI MELA 2025



CROSS-PARTY GROUP ON BANGLADESH



MACSWEEN FACTORY VISIT



25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NABIGONJ EDUCATION TRUST UK IN BIRMINGHAM



DAVY RUSSELL NEWLY LABOUR'S MSP ELECT



NORTH EDINBURGH ARTS LAUNCH



CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS TRADE



SUPPORTING ECOCIDE BILL



VOICE BOX



SCOTTISH SUSTAINABLE CURRY AWARDS 2025!



ABBEY CARE



EID AL-ADHA IN INVERLEITH PARK



RELAY YOUR WAY WITH CEREBRA



MAMBA SOUNDS



LEITH LINKS



AHALYA DANCE ACADEMY'S SAMARPANA 2025



EID AL-ADHA AT HOLYROOD



CANCER PREVENTION ACTION WEEK

IN THE PRESS

EDINBURGH EVENING NEWS

ACTIVE TRAVEL A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

EDINBURGH REPORTER

REMEMBERING PROFESSOR SIR GEOFF PALMER

SARAH BOYACK TO STEP DOWN AT THE ELECTION

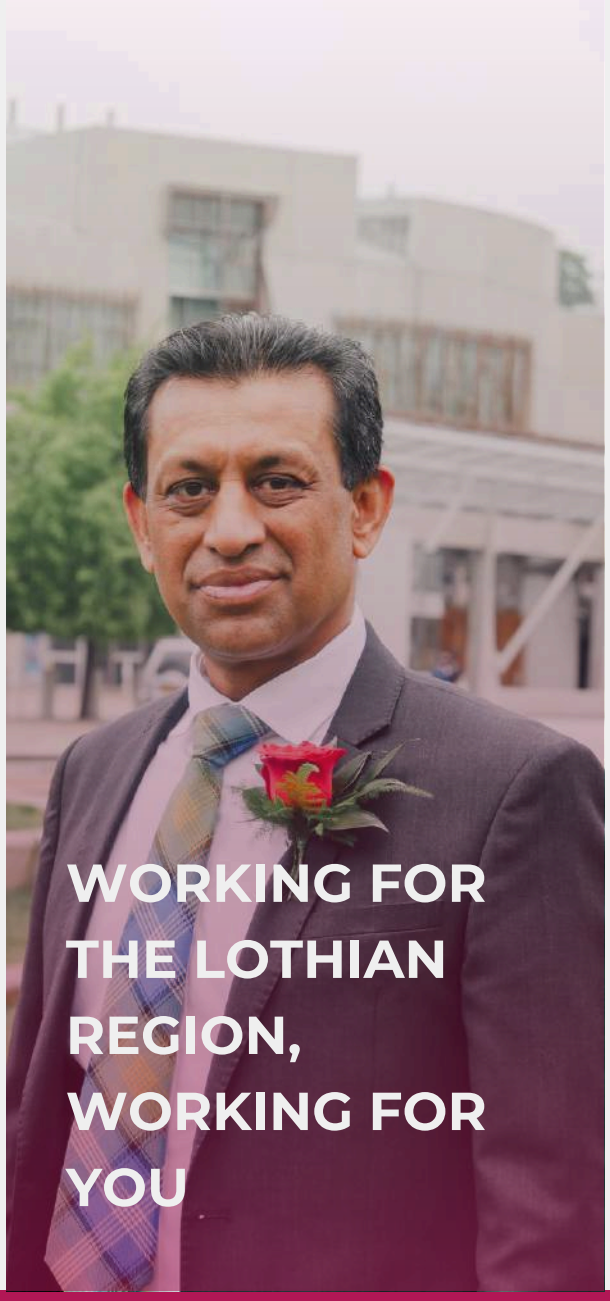
NORTH EDINBURGH NEWS

HOLYROOD'S CROSS-PARTY GROUP ON BANGLADESH CALLS FOR URGENT ACTION ON ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS

PATIENTS LEFT IN THE DARK: MSP DEMANDS CLARITY ON NHS WAITING TIMES

FROM PARLIAMENT TO COMMUNITY: EID AL-ADHA RECEPTION AT HOLYROOD CALLS FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE SCOTLAND

INVESTING IN EARLY EDUCATION: A KEY TO INCLUSION AND EQUALITY – THE NEN – NORTH EDINBURGH NEWS



THANK YOU FOR STAYING INFORMED AND ENGAGED. LET'S CONTINUE WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER SCOTLAND.

FOYSOL CHOUDHURY MSP

Get in Touch!

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SCAN ME

CHECK OUT MY NEW WEBSITE

SCAN ME

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