

# Michelle Thomson MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Falkirk East Constituency



## February 2024 Newsletter



### MY MONTH IN PARLIAMENT

- Contributed to nine debates / parliamentary question sessions with Scottish Ministers
- Opened 90 new cases from Falkirk East constituents
- Sponsored parliamentary events for Music Venue Trust and CivTech Scotland
- Welcomed Bo'nness Academy into the Scottish Parliament for a tour, FMQs and a Q&A session
- Hosted CPG meetings on both St Andrew's Day and Women in Enterprise, in my role of convener of each

Welcome to the February edition of my newsletter. I hope everyone enjoyed the extra day on the 29th!

Despite being the shortest month, February was by no means less busy. My team and I have been dealing with a huge amount of enquiries, with more cases than the same period last year.

Alongside standard parliamentary business, the Scottish Parliament has debated four new bills this month. You can read more about these below.

I was pleased to be able to contribute to BBC Scotland's Debate Night in Dundee, where I joined fellow MSPs Michael Marra and Douglas Lumsden, as well as entrepreneur Cally Russell and author Emma Christie.

My team in the constituency office continue to assist me in helping local residents with a wide variety of casework enquiries. Please see the details at the end of this newsletter if you require my assistance.

*Michelle R. Thomson*

### Bills in the Scottish Parliament

This month members of the Scottish Parliament voted on the introduction of four important new Bills:

- Stage 1 and Stage 3 of the Scottish Budget 2024/25
- Stage 1 Bankruptcy & Diligence (Scotland) Bill
- Stage 1 Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill
- Stage 1 National Care Service (Scotland) Bill

I was pleased to be able to speak in Stage 1 of the Scottish Budget and Stage 1 of the Regulation of Legal Services debates.

Decades of economic vandalism from successive UK Governments compounded to make this the most challenging budget of recent years. Despite this, the Scottish Government produced a fair and progressive budget that reflects our shared values as a nation and speaks to the kind of Scotland that we want to be. I look forward to the other Bills progressing through the Parliamentary process, and will contribute wherever possible in their debates.



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## Visits around the constituency

This month I enjoyed a number of visits to local early learning and childcare centres including :

- Abbotsgrange ELCC
- Parkhill ELCC
- Inchlair ELCC



## RECOGNISING LOCAL SUCCESS

In February, I submitted 8 motions celebrating successes:

- Yvonne Manning, Falkirk Council's Principal Librarian Named Librarian of the Year
- In Memoriam of Arthur Midwinter
- Two Musicians Selected to Represent Scotland at European Youth Brass Band
- Strathcarron Hospice Fundraising Efforts Raise £7,000
- Congratulating the Link in the Community Fund for Benefitting Falkirk East Communities
- Carrongrange Challenge for My Name's 5 Daddie Foundation
- Peter Moses Selected for Cricket Over-60s World Cup 2024
- Regeneration Funding to Bring Improvements to Slamannan



You can view these motions in full at <https://www.parliament.scot/msps/current-and-previous-msps/michelle-thomson>

**Michelle Thomson MSP** Member of the Scottish Parliament for Falkirk East Constituency

**My week in 5:**

1. Began this week helping constituents with enquiries and appointments at my Grangemouth office
2. On Monday I visited Colasium in Grangemouth and enjoyed learning about how the business has adapted and continues to innovate for future success
3. Both my committees had full on schedules this week, with Finance & Public Administration having a critical role scrutinising the detail of the Scottish Budget
4. Attended an event sponsored by my colleague Ivan McKee MSP, showcasing the work of the Scottish Pantry Network
5. Later today (Fri) - I will take part in a Glasgow University Union debate entitled 'This House Believes that the UK Government Has Failed Our Generation'

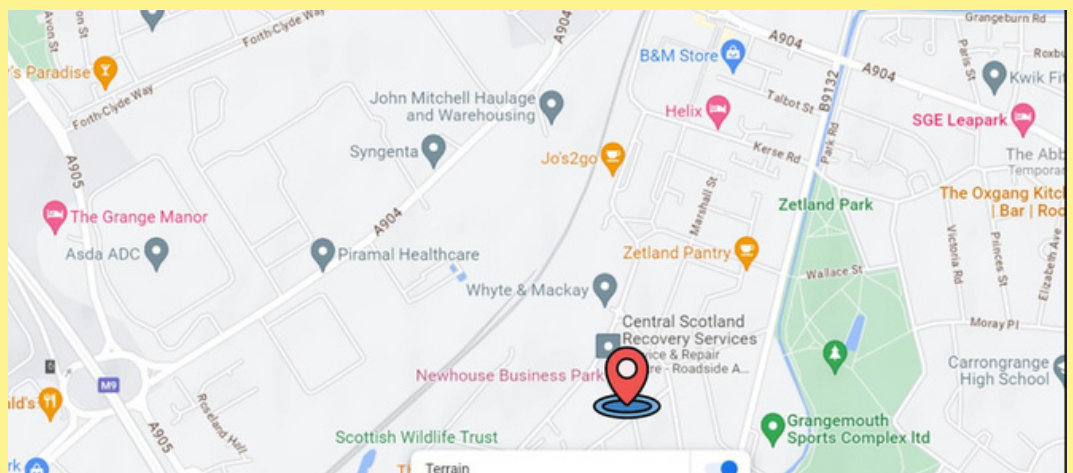
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**TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MY WORK AS YOUR MSP WATCH OUT FOR MY WEEK IN 5 UPDATES ON MY WEBSITE HERE :**

**[HTTPS://WWW.MICHELLETHOMSON.SCOT/NEWS](https://www.michellethomson.scot/news)**

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