

*Out and About with Jeremy continued:*



Visiting Five Sisters Zoo in West Calder to learn more about the zoo's ambitious plans.



Meeting with the Fire Service to find out how the merger of the service is progressing along with an update on the progress of the new training centre at Newbridge.



Helping courageous women living with secondary breast cancer raise awareness of this treatable but incurable cancer.



Jeremy's amendment to the Planning Bill will mean all new large venues such as schools, sports centres, hospitals or retail centres will be required to include a Changing Places toilet in their development.

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Name  
Address 1  
Address 2  
Address 3  
Postcode

## 6 ways to contact Jeremy

-  **M3.13 The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh EH99 1SP**
-  **[Jeremy.balfour.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Jeremy.balfour.msp@parliament.scot)**
-  **[www.jeremybalfour.org.uk](http://www.jeremybalfour.org.uk)**
-  **0131 348 5961**
-  **@JBalfourMSP**
-  **@jeremybalfourlothian**

# JEREMY BALFOUR MSP

MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT FOR LOTHIAN REGION

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19



**"It is a privilege to represent people living and working in Lothian. I will always fight for the best interests of the region at Holyrood. Thank you for your support."**



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Dear Constituent,

I am delighted to send you a copy of my annual report. The last twelve months have been extremely busy, both from my work in the Parliament but also across the Lothian Region, which covers the City of Edinburgh, West Lothian and part of Mid and East Lothian.

Over the course of the year I have had the pleasure of meeting individuals, community groups, charities and businesses to discuss the issues that are important to them and to gain a better understanding of the challenges they face across the region, as well as the opportunities.

It is an honour and privilege to represent you and a responsibility I take very seriously. I will continue to represent you and champion your issues to the best of my ability.

I hope you find the report of interest. If there are any issues that you would like to raise with me then please do not hesitate to contact me or my office at the earliest opportunity.

Kind regards,

Jeremy Balfour MSP  
Member of the Scottish Parliament for Lothian Region  
(Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)

## JEREMY IN PARLIAMENT

- I am a member of the Social Security Committee. In 2018, the committee scrutinized and passed the Social Security (Scotland) Act following the devolution of aspects of the Social Security system to Scotland.

Amendments I lodged will ensure that terminally ill patients will receive individual assessments from medical professionals. This will provide patients with the appropriate level of support based on their condition.

- I am Convener of the Cross-Party Group on Disability. I continue to push to ensure that disability issues are at the forefront of the Scottish Parliament's agenda.
- I am a member of a number of other Cross Party Groups including Volunteering, Football in Scotland, Learning Disability and Funerals and Bereavement.
- As well as taking a leading role in debates on social security, I continue to take an interest in disability, accessibility and older people issues.



# Out and About with Jeremy



Jeremy is delighted the Scottish Government has taken on his proposals to improve animal welfare by updating the licensing of pet shops.



Meeting residents of Newbyres Care Village who are forging special bonds with children from Newbyres Nursery in an intergenerational project.



Supporting the Glow Gold September campaign to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of childhood cancer.



Discussing issues on access, disability, sight loss, street design and planning with Guide Dogs Scotland.



Meeting businesses and disability groups to discuss how we can improve employment opportunities for disabled people.



Recognising the added value small businesses bring to local high streets on Small Business Saturday.



Finding out how the workshops run by Garvald help adults with learning difficulties develop skills and confidence.