

GORDON DUNNE MLA



ISSUE 5 - 2016

Dear Friend

Welcome to my 5th North Down Constituency Report of the current Stormont Assembly term. I recognise the value of regular communication with you and since being elected in 2011 have produced an Annual Report.

During this time, I have helped many people with a wide range of issues including Health, Education, Housing, Roads, Planning, Benefits, Economy, Policing and Rural Matters. I have hosted many local Ministerial visits, including the First Minister, during the term and as your MLA will continue to work for you and for the improvement of North Down.

I have outlined some of the progress already made and believe 2016 is a significant year for Northern Ireland and will present both opportunities and challenges. We genuinely care about bringing positive changes and building a better and brighter future for North Down and Northern Ireland.

My full time Advice Centre is open to serve you, so please get in touch if I can be of any assistance to you or your family.

I trust you enjoy reading this update and would value your feedback.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Dunne MLA

ARE YOU
REGISTERED
TO VOTE?
CALL 0800 432 0712
TO CHECK
OR RING OUR OFFICE

NEW FIRST MINISTER

I welcome the appointment of Arlene Foster as the new First Minister of Northern Ireland and Leader of the DUP.

Arlene has visited North Down on many occasions and I look forward to working alongside her to achieve the best possible outcomes for North Down and Northern Ireland.



- ✓ Strong Voice
- ✓ Supporting North Down
- ✓ Renowned Constituency Worker

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BANGOR

- Worked continually with Government Departments, Council and Traders towards completion of the Public Realm Scheme, which will regenerate the Town Centre.
- Constantly engaging with the PSNI for adequate policing in the Town Centre, Residential & Commercial areas to tackle crime and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Car Parking in the Town Centre is an issue of concern and we continue to lobby DRD and Translink for increased provision.
- A strong advocate for progress on the long overdue Queen's Parade Redevelopment Scheme.
- Working with Council and Agencies on exciting new Hotel Development on the Castle Leisure Centre site.
- Participated in the development and promotion of Aurora Aquatic and Leisure Complex and the regeneration of Clondeboye Retail Park.



ECONOMY

- Continue to engage with Invest NI to promote North Down and support local businesses.
- Assisted with business development and Planning Applications within Towns and Industrial sites.
- Lobbied on Rates re-valuation and participated with traders in Rate Review meetings.
- As an active member of the Enterprise Committee I have highlighted the challenge of Energy Costs with Minister Bell and Utility Regulator.
- Promoted North Down as a Tourist destination with our Golf Courses, Museums, Parks, Beaches, Pickie Park and leisure facilities.
- Campaigned for introduction of Corporation Tax to 12.5% by 2018 to make North Down and NI more attractive for investment.



EDUCATION

- Supported Schools across North Down in their expansion and development plans and lobbied Minister for sufficient funding in the Classroom.
- Helping to tackle Educational Underachievement through skills and apprenticeship programmes for our young people at SERC College.
- Continue to press for investment in local school buildings and facilities including Holywood Primary, Nursery, Priory College, Sullivan Upper along with Bangor Central Primary and St Columbanus.
- Governor of both Rathmore Primary School and Holywood Primary School.
- Worked for 'Safe Routes to School' outside our Schools with Transport NI and PSNI.



HOUSING

- Supported and been successful in seeing many people rehoused through the Housing Executive and Housing Associations.
- Assisted Housing Associations to identify suitable sites and process Planning Applications, for much needed new homes, i.e. Bloomfield, Dunville, Kilcooley and Rathgill.
- Successfully assisted residents to avail of the Warm Home and Boiler Replacement Schemes, and inclusion in the Double Glazing and Kitchen Refurbishment Programmes.
- Working with Community Associations and Agencies for continual improvements in local areas.



VILLAGE RENEWAL

- Delivering investment in Crawfordsburn, Helen's Bay, Conlig and Groomsport through the development of Village Plans.
- Involved with Ards and North Down Rural Partnership and Council to ensure funding opportunities for Villages and the ongoing development of the Coastal Path at Seahill and Cultra.
- Worked to ensure Planning Applications within Villages maintain their Character.
- Assisted Residents Associations with Environmental Improvements.



ROADS

- Upgrading of Road Safety measures along A2 Dual Carriageway.
- Resurfacing and maintenance of our Roads Network and Footpaths remain a priority.
- Continue to press for Street Lighting repairs across North Down and welcome DUP Minister McIlveen's £1million investment to tackle the backlog.
- Ensuring Weed Control and Grass Cutting on roads, carriageways and residential areas is improved.
- Campaigning for a Pelican Crossing at Sullivan Upper School.
- Highlighted need for appropriate Winter Gritting arrangements to keep our roads safe.
- The introduction of 'Resident Parking Schemes' remains a priority.
- Protecting the Free Travel Pass scheme for our older people.



SPEAKING UP FOR YOU...



HOLYWOOD

- Fully involved in seeing the Town Centre regenerated and more attractive for residents and visitors through the completion of the Holywood Public Realm Scheme.
- Worked consistently to further the proposed Front Development at Shore Road.
- Redevelopment of Kerr Park and Spafield is a priority and the provision of new Sports Pitches.
- Kinnegar Sewage Works nearing completion which will eradicate the environmental pollution.
- Supported local events such as Holywood Culture Night and May Day.



DONAGHADEE

- Public Realm Scheme is well underway which is giving the coastal town a real boost.
- Ongoing discussions with Traders on new projects for the regeneration of the Town Centre.
- Working alongside Council and Tourism NI to promote events within the Town and encourage visitors.
- The extension of the Gas Network remains a priority.



HEALTH

- Continue to lobby for investment towards a new Health and Wellbeing Centre in Bangor.
- Worked for the completion of the new Acute Services Unit and General Ward Block at the Ulster Hospital through a £243million investment.
- Pressed for provision of Cath Lab at the Ulster Hospital.
- Engaging with GPs, Pharmacists, Dentists and Nurses to ensure fair pay.
- Supported many Health related Charities through Fundraising and Health Promotion.



CULTURE, ARTS & LEISURE

As Vice-Chair of the DCAL Committee I have lobbied extensively for:

- Adequate funding for retention of Library Services across North Down.
- Equity of Funding for local Arts and Sports Clubs and throughout Northern Ireland and the protection of the Ulster Orchestra.
- Funding of local Football Clubs through Stadia Funding Programme.
- Adequate resources for Ulster Folk & Transport Museum at Cultra.
- The completion of the Kingspan Stadium at Ravenhill and the redevelopment of the National Stadium at Windsor Park.



ENVIRONMENT

- Worked for the protection of Cairn Wood Forest and Ballysallagh Reservoir with DRD Minister McIlveen in finding a solution to ensure they are kept open for public access.
- Promoted the 'Think SAFE' campaign encouraging Farm Safety.
- Lobbied DARD alongside Diane Dodds MEP and supported our farmers to ensure they get a fair price for produce.
- Promoting our Agri-Food Sector to ensure that local producers benefit from the NI Year of Food and Drink 2016.
- Worked in conjunction with PSNI and agencies to tackle rural crime.
- Opposed development of 60 acre Solar Farm intrusion into Countryside at Clandeboye, Bangor.



MILLISLE

- Worked with local community to develop a beneficial Village Plan in order to attract investment and regeneration.
- Supporting the Millisle Youth Forum to encourage and develop the work with local young people in 'The Garage.'
- Regeneration of the Copeland's Windmill has been a priority.
- I welcome the upgrading of Millisle Sewage Facility to end environmental pollution and have taken part in a number of beach cleans.
- Lobbied Transport NI to ensure Roads and Footpaths are improved and maintained and engage regularly with the Housing Executive to develop Housing within the Village.



SPEAKING UP FOR YOU...



Charity Coffee Morning raising over £1800



Supporting Air Ambulance Campaign for NI



Standing up for older people

FRESH START

- The recent 'Fresh Start' Agreement gives us the opportunity to deliver on our vision of a peaceful and prosperous future for Northern Ireland.
- The devolution of Corporation Tax allows us to create a low tax, pro-business economy, which will bring an estimated 30,000 additional jobs to NI.
- Under DUP leadership, The Fresh Start Agreement also secures almost £500 million of additional money to Northern Ireland.
- Creates a stable and sustainable budget, as well as extra support for the PSNI to tackle crime and protect our most vulnerable.



HERE TO HELP YOU GET THINGS DUNNE!



NORTH DOWN ADVICE CENTRE
8 Church Road,
Holywood,
BT18 9BU
T: 02890 423322

OPENING HOURS:
Monday - Thursday: 9am - 5pm
Friday: 9am - 3pm
(Lunch: 1.00pm - 1.30pm)
Home visits also available

STORMONT TOURS AVAILABLE



Keeping you updated from 2011 Issues 1-4

HAVE YOUR SAY

What issues do you feel need addressed within North Down?

Are there any issues of Faulty Street Lights, Roads, Dog Fouling or Anti-Social Behaviour in your area?

Please return to Gordon at DUP Advice Centre, 8 Church Road, Holywood, BT18 9BU.

Name _____
Address _____
Tel _____
Email _____

FOR HELP AND ASSISTANCE ON ANY LOCAL ISSUE
TELEPHONE: 028 9042 3322 EMAIL: info@gordondunne.org