

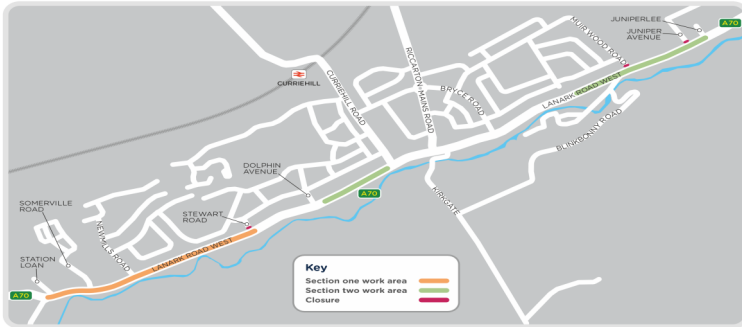


Member of the Scottish Parliament for Edinburgh Pentlands

# Gordon Macdonald MSP

July 2023 Newsletter

## Essential Gas Works: Lanark Road West



SGN are to undertake works to upgrade their gas network in the Lanark Road West area to ensure a continued safe and reliable gas supply. Given the recent local emergency work, this upgrade is to provide a permanent solution to prevent future disruption to motorists and the local community.

The project will start on 1 July 2023 and will last approximately six months.

Gordon commented, “These works will be disruptive and will no doubt cause delays. This is unfortunate but necessary, and will hopefully mean an end to repetition of the recent emergency works. SGN are undertaking these works in agreement with Edinburgh Council and the works will be phased so as to minimise disruption.”

- Phase One of the project in Lanark Road West will begin at the junction with Station Loan and continue to the junction with Stewart Road. Stewart Road will be closed at its junction with Lanark Road West.
- The first section of Phase Two will be carried out between Dolphing Avenue and Curriehill Road.
- The second section, SGN will be from near to the Sainsbury’s petrol station to the junction with Juniperlee. Muirwood Road and Juniper Avenue will be closed at the junctions with Lanark Road West.

Temporary traffic lights will be in place for the duration of our work to ensure continued traffic flow. If you have any specific enquiries about this project, please call SGN on 0800 912 1700.

### Chartered Institute of Building Retrofit Roundtable



Gordon sponsored a roundtable event in Parliament hosting the Chartered Institute of Building.

The purpose of the event was to hear from industry stakeholders on the challenges of retrofitting and preserving buildings.

Gordon said at the event, “This is an opportunity to share best practice examples and consider policy solutions to support the construction industry’s ability to meet Scotland’s sustainability goals.”

Gordon highlighted a very successful project currently underway in the constituency: the Mixed Tenure Improvement Service, which is a £30 million improvement scheme to almost 1,300 homes across 167 blocks of flats is now well underway in the Murrayburn, Hailesland and Dumbyden areas. Early indications of how energy efficient the refurbished homes are encouraging with residents highlighting that, their homes heat up quicker and stay warmer for longer.

### 159: Stop Bank Scams Helpline



Stop Scams UK is an industry-led collaboration of businesses who have come together to help stop scams at source.

Gordon said, “If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details — stop, hang up, and call 159 to speak directly to your bank.”

## Work to Start on New Wester Hailes High School Building



This summer works will begin on the construction of the new Wester Hailes High School building.

The phasing will involve decanting from the old blocks on

the footprint of the new building. Demolishing the old blocks and the assembly hall, constructing the new building, and then demolishing two other remaining blocks.

The main catering, sports, and swimming facilities will be retained in the existing community building.

Gordon noted, "This project will consolidate the school's education estate into one modern building. The site shall continue to be retained as a community hub with a range of different environments to support staff, students and the community."

## Balerno High School Rights Respecting Schools Award



Gordon lodged a motion in Parliament congratulating Balerno High School on their Gold award by UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting School Award programme.

Gordon noted, "The award is given to schools that create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, and their talents nurtured."

In 2022, Balerno High School was previously given the Silver Award and, to progress to Gold, the school sought to embed the rights included in the UNCRC across the whole school community.

The motion also commended the Pupil Steering Group on campaigning for the Toilet Twinning organisation, which has the aim of helping people across the world who do not have access to toilets.

## Balerno Gala Fairtrade Hoopla



Gordon attended this year's Balerno Children's Gala Day.

Gordon noted, "The Children's Gala is a great day out, catching up with local people and seeing the

community come together to have fun. The weather was perfect for the events and thanks go to everyone involved in organising another successful day."

Gordon had a go at the Fairtrade banana hoopla which reflects well on Balerno's Fairtrade Village status awarded 10 years ago by the The Fairtrade Foundation and describes an area which is committed to the promotion of Fairtrade certified goods.

Gordon continued, "After the events of recent years, it was good to have the opportunity to catch up with so many members of the community."

## Wester Hailes Fun Run



Gordon attended and presented the prizes at this year's Wester Hailes Fun Run.

The route started and finished at Clovenstone Community Centre

but also included a return to Hailes Quarry Park.


Gordon said, "It is a 5k route round Wester Hailes and is open to everyone — serious runners, fancy dress runners, families, and friends. The route can be run, jogged, or walked.

"This is a great community event promoting healthy living and encouraging people to keep fit and active.


"As usual, I was at the finishing line ready to welcome everyone who took part and present the medals and trophies to each winner. Well done everyone for another successful Fun Run."


## Contact Gordon Macdonald MSP

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Gordon holds open weekly surgeries for constituents every Friday at 10am.

The locations for these can be found at: <https://www.gordonmacdonaldmsp.info/surgery>