

Debate on the Economy

Jamie voiced his support for the Government's economic policy at a debate on the topic. He said, "I am glad that the strategy commits us to work toward making Scotland a fair-trade nation, which will extend our commitment to a fairer economy at home to include a fairer economy around the globe. I also welcome the Government's commitment to investment in social enterprise, which is a wholly different way of generating economic activity." Jamie also welcomed, "the Government's commitment, as set out in the economic strategy, to increase overall income and, crucially, to increase by 2017 the proportion of income that people in the bottom three income deciles earn."



Jamie with participants of the Young People and Democracy Event held at the Parliament on 22nd November.

Nuclear Power

On Thursday, 29th November, Jamie asked First Minister Alex Salmond during First Minister's Questions, "what input the Scottish Government will have to the UK Government's consultation on the future of nuclear power." Jamie was assured by the First Minister that the Scottish Government does not support the use of nuclear power and that they would work towards preventing Westminster from expanding its use.

Saint Andrews Day

Jamie was happy to take part in a debate in the Scottish Parliament about St Andrews Day on 29th November. During the debate Jamie said, "The utilisation of St Andrew's day to kick-start a Scottish winter festival is a welcome step. Used properly, that festival can run from St Andrew's day tomorrow, through Christmas and Hogmanay to Burns night in January. Taking in those traditional holidays, as well as modern events such as Celtic Connections, provides much-needed coherence and focus, with a continuous celebration of Scottish heritage and culture. St Andrew's day should properly be the launch pad for that. Such a winter festival will go some way to making it the sort of national day to which we aspire."



Jamie pictured above with visitors to the Scottish Parliament from Larbert East Parish Church on 30th October.

At the Parliament

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Surgeries:

Monday 7th January 2008; 4th February 2008; 3rd March 2008; 7th April 2008

Westfield Community Centre, Westfield (11:00am); Forge Community Centre, Balloch (1:00pm); Miners Welfare Hall, Croy (2:30pm); Burngreen Hall, Kilsyth (4:00pm)

Monday 14th January 2008; 11th February 2008; 10th March 2008; 14th April 2008

Muirfield Community Centre, Seafar (11:00am); Roadside Senior Citizens Hall, Cumbernauld Village (1:00pm); Abronhill Community Centre, Abronhill (2:30pm); Kildrum Primary School, Kildrum (4:00pm)

Monday 21st January 2008; 18th February 2008; 17th March 2008; 21st April 2008

First Stop Shop, Cumbernauld Town Centre (11:00am); Wallbrae Community Rooms, Carbrain (1:00pm); Greenfaulds Community Centre, Greenfaulds (2:30pm); Condorrat Library, Condorrat (4:00pm)

Monday 28th January 2008; 25th February 2008; 28th April 2008

Community Education Base, Bo'ness (10:00am); Community Education Base, Grangemouth (11:30am); Community Education Centre, Brightons (1:30pm); Tryst Community Education Centre, Stenhousemuir (3:00pm)