

GORDON DUNNE MLA

ISSUE 1 - 2012

DEAR CONSTITUENT

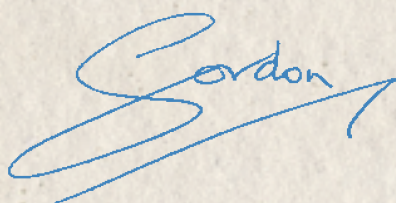
I was privileged to be elected to represent the people of North Down in the Northern Ireland Assembly in May 2011. I count it a great honour to serve you and have made serving my constituents my number one priority since my election. I trust you will find this constituency report informative and useful.

I have recently opened my new Constituency Advice Centre for the people of North Down and if I can help or assist you on any issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

2012 will be a very significant and important year for Northern Ireland; a year of opportunity and challenge and I endeavour to continue to raise issues on behalf of the people of North Down.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely



Gordon Dunne MLA

**NORTH DOWN
ADVICE CENTRE
NOW OPEN!**
(SEE BACK PAGE)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



STAY IN TOUCH ONLINE AT **www.GordonDunne.org**
TELEPHONE: 028 9042 3322 EMAIL: info@gordondunne.org



NEW ADVICE CENTRE OPENED

Gordon Dunne MLA has now officially opened his new North Down DUP Advice Centre. The Office was opened by the First Minister in October 2011 and is located at 8 Church Road, Holywood and is open Monday to Friday to serve the people of North Down.



REGENERATION OF BANGOR TOWN CENTRE

The regeneration of Bangor Town Centre must remain a top priority. I have been appointed onto the Bangor Masterplan Steering Group to work with all stakeholders including the Developer for Queens Parade. I have raised this issue directly to the DSD Minister with a recent debate in the Assembly. As a strong advocate within Council for the revitalisation of Pickie Fun Park, I welcome the £2.6 million redevelopment project which will bring a much needed boost to our local economy and tourism potential.



ECONOMY

Being well aware of the challenges faced within our local economy I hosted a meeting with the Chief Executive of Invest NI Alastair Hamilton at the Signal Business Centre to develop stronger links with our local businesses. Been involved in negotiations with the DETI Minister in a bid to gain support for business development and expansion opportunities. Tourism in North Down has great potential particularly with our recent golfing success which I continue to highlight in the Assembly.

© Photograph courtesy Todd Architects and Planning, Belfast



HEALTH

It is important to continue to monitor the performance of our health and social care provision and our local Ulster Hospital. The extra funding allocation of £37.5 million to progress the Phase B redevelopment project at the Ulster is particularly welcome. It will include a much needed A+E Department which is presently overloaded, along with extra ward provision. I have lobbied to protect our local Community Pharmacies which play such a valuable role in healthcare provision.



BANGOR COASTGUARD

I took the opportunity during my maiden speech in the Northern Ireland Assembly to speak in support of the retention of the Bangor HM Coastguard Station. I was delighted that the decision was taken to maintain our only Maritime Coastguard Station in Northern Ireland.



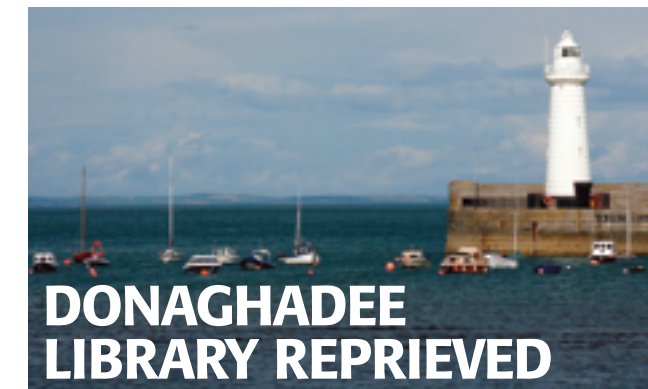
POLICE STATION CLOSURES

North Down has been a target for proposed Police Station Closures under the PSNI Estates Strategy. Having led the campaign to save Holywood Police Station from closure, it is vital that the station remains open to reassure law abiding citizens and deter potential law breakers. I have also been involved in the campaign to save Donaghadee Police Station from closure, as a local base is essential to support our Neighbourhood Community Police team.



EDUCATION

Secured a debate in the Assembly calling for capital funding for the long overdue Holywood Multi-Schools Project. Campaigned to Save Redburn Primary School from closure and met the Education Minister calling for its retention. I recognise the need for the provision of a new school building for Bangor Central Primary School and will continue to lobby the Education Department. The importance of developing skills was most evident on a recent visit to the SERC Bangor Campus.



DONAGHADEE LIBRARY REPRIEVED

After lobbying Libraries NI, the DCAL Minister and speaking in the Assembly on Library Opening Hours, Donaghadee Library's opening hours will now remain at forty hours per week. This decision is good news for the people of Donaghadee and the surrounding area that regularly use the library. Libraries play a very valuable role within local communities and must be maintained and supported.



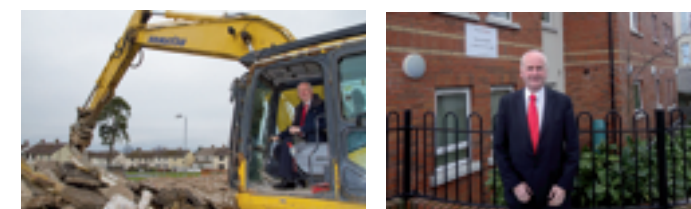
HOLYWOOD REGENERATION

Holywood is set to benefit from significant investment of £1 million from the Department for Social Development towards a public realm improvement scheme. This announcement followed on from the DSD Minister's recent visit to Holywood which I initiated in December. Work on a Masterplan for Holywood is now underway to plan the way ahead for this scheme.



EXTENSION OF GAS NETWORK TO MILLISLE

I welcome the extension of the gas network to Millisle for both domestic and commercial customers. This will give residents greater choice of energy suppliers. As a member of the DETI Committee in the Assembly, I have worked for the extension of the Gas network as it gives a viable alternative to our over dependency on home heating oil.



SOCIAL HOUSING

I have lobbied the DSD Minister for funding to provide new homes for families and those most in need and have been in discussions with Housing Associations in relation to Bloomfield Road South, Bangor and West Green, Holywood. The commitment to double glaze all Housing Executive properties and improve insulation is a positive measure to tackle fuel poverty. I welcome the news that three areas are set to benefit from new play facilities including at Green Road, Rathgill and Bloomfield.



STORMONT TOURS

I have been delighted to be able to host tours of Parliament Buildings for a wide range of groups and organisations within the North Down area. If you would like a tour, for you, your community group, organisation, school, club or church group please contact me.



ABOUT GORDON DUNNE MLA

Gordon Dunne is a Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly having been elected in May 2011. Gordon is a Member of the Health Committee and the Enterprise, Trade and Investment Committee and has opened his new Full Time North Down Constituency Advice Centre.

www.GordonDunne.org

I have launched my new website where you can keep up to date with all the latest news from around North Down, read the latest press releases, contact me for help or assistance on any issue which may affect you.



FIND ME ON FACEBOOK!

facebook

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

CONSTITUENCY SURGERIES: 1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Conlig Community Centre
2.00pm - 3.00pm

Skipperstone Community Centre
3.30pm - 4.30pm

FOR HELP AND ASSISTANCE ON ANY LOCAL ISSUE

TELEPHONE: 028 9042 3322 EMAIL: info@gordondunne.org