

10th Annual Constituency Report

South East St. Andrew December 31, 2021

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MP's Commitment to accountability

For the 10th consecutive year, to mark the anniversary of my election as Member of Parliament, I present the St Andrew South Eastern MP's Annual Report.

2021 was the second year of the Covid-19 Pandemic, and many of the projects we normally undertake were cancelled due to Government health protocols. Nevertheless, I am proud to share highlights of the initiatives and projects that were able to be executed in 2021, given the restrictions.

As usual, throughout the year you can check my website www.julianjrobinson.com or follow/contact me on FB, IG and Twitter for project details and other updates throughout the year. Hard copies of this report are available on request.

In 2022, I will continue to represent your concerns and interests, both at the national and community levels.

Breakdown of expenditures to date for 2021 of the Constituency Development Fund

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	CONSTITUENCY	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	BUDGET	Implementing Agency	Date of Approval	Amount Disbursed	Date Disbursed
Mr. Julian Robinson	St. Andrew South Eastern		Human & Social Development	1,500,000.00	SDC	4.5.2021	750,000.00	5.5.2021
							750,000.00	13.12.2021
			Human & Social Development	7,000,000.00	SDC	4.5.2021	2,500,000.00	10.5.2021
							2,500,000.00	13.7.2021
							2,000,000.00	11.8.2021
			Economic Enablement	1,500,000.00	SDC	4.5.2021	500,000.00	18.6.2021
							1,000,000.00	15.9.2021
			Human & Social Development	2,000,000.00	SDC	4.5.2021	1,000,000.00	18.6.2021
							1,000,000.00	15.9.2021
			Human & Social Development	2,000,000.00	SDC	4.5.2021	1,000,000.00	18.6.2021
							1,000,000.00	15.9.2021
		St. Andrew South Eastern Employment Generation 2021/2022	Physical Infrastructure	3,500,000.00	KSAMC	5.10.2021	3,500,000.00	2.11.2021
			Labour Day/Welfare Project	250,000.00	SDC		250,000.00	21.5.2021
		Welfare & Emergency	Welfare & Emergency	1,000,000.00	SDC		250,000.00	29.4.2021
					SDC		250,000.00	11.8.2021
					SDC		250,000.00	10.11.2021
		Social Housing	Social Housing	1,000,000.00	SDC		250,000.00	29.4.2021
					SDC		250,000.00	11.8.2021
					SDC		250,000.00	10.11.2021
				19,750,000.00			19,250,000.00	

PARLIAMENTARY AND LEGISLATIVE WORK

I serve on a number of Parliamentary Committees

- Public Accounts Committee Chairman
- Constituency Boundaries
- Infrastructure and Physical Development
- Constituency Development Fund
- Joint Select Committee reviewing the NIDS Bill
- Joint Select Committee reviewing the Cyber Crimes Bill
- Joint Select Committee reviewing the Customs Bill
- Integrity Commission Oversight Committee

I pushed for the Government to do more for vulnerable businesses and individuals

'There is real struggle' - Woman in affluent community asks MP for food package

September 16, 2021 | Share on 6 y f 6 Necessard 80

The plight of a once comfortable Jamaican. who is now struggling to make ends meet, was shared in Parliament yesterday by one representative as he sought to demonstrate how difficult life has become for many Jamaicans since the pandemic.

Julian Robinson, who represents St Andrew South East, a constituency that includes affluent areas such as New Kingston and the



'Golden Triangle' as well as lower middle income areas such as Vineyard Town and Swallowfield, said that the continued increase in the prices of basic food items coupled with increase in light bills threaten the future of many Jamaicans.

"There is a place in my constituency, very middle class area, where the cost of that property is millions of dollars. Dem own the property but nuh have the income. And when the lady called me first to ask for a food package, I didn't believe it until I went

PEOPLE IN SHOCK

He did not reveal the community from which the person called, except to say that the constituent's address would leave people in shock.

"There is real struggle, even for people who you may not consider to be in the category of the vulnerable. Earning people, monthly paid people, feeling it," said Robinson.

He said that gas prices have gone up by 40 per cent at the pumps since last year.

"We have seen a recovery in the economy, but let's not forget there are thousands of people who are not back to where they were prior to COVID," Robinson said.

"In this environment, there are people who are struggling under the pressure of these

Responding to Robinson, Prime Minister Andrew Holness said that his Government is aware of the level of hardship being experienced. He said that the cash transfer to 500,000 Jamaicans, made last year during the early stage of the pandemic, is an example of his administration's responsiveness to the issue.

"We have never forgotten the poor in this pandemic," Holness said.



Opposition bats for additional COVID-19 support amid fiscal surplus

Friday, August 13, 2021 BY ANDREW LAIDLEY 🕟 f 😼 🗃 🚮 · 4 Comments Senior business reporter laidleva Biamaican beenver.com

Opposition spokesman on finance Julian Robinson is accusing the Government of not doing enough for vulnerable Jamaicans despite collecting more in taxes.

"When I look at the figures put out by the Ministry of Finance we are running a fiscal surplus in very difficult times. That surplus must be used to alleviate some of the suffering that the people are facing," said Robinson.

He argues that the Government policy to charge duties on higher than normal cost, insurance and freight (CIF) for shipping is also resulting in more revenue for government coffers. "The Government is getting a windfall in terms of taxes. It needs to return that to the vulnerable in the society," Robinson added.

He said the efforts employed to support poorer Jamaicans haven't been successful because the government did not use the mechanisms available to reach those in the informal

"The CAPRI study showed that majority of the persons who were most vulnerable did not benefit from the CARE package for a number of reasons, some of them structural in terms of people not having identification, bank accounts, etc. But the reality is that people didn't benefit so we have to find a better way to reach those, whether it is through the PATH programme or poor relief, there are mechanisms within the Government system to identify those persons," he continued.

At the same time, Robinson contends that the insufficient government support coupled with longer oursew hours make it more difficult for some Jamaicans to cope.

"The prime minister already hinted that it is going to be extended further based on the rate of the spread of COVID-19 and by all indications, the COVID-19 outbreak is getting worse. It is vitally important that some assistance be provided to those persons who are most vulnerable, people who have not had an income for about 15 months since the beginning of COVID, who have not had an opportunity to earn and who are facing the highest food prices ever, the highest gas prices and the highest hardware prices in the history of the

I pushed for the Government to do more for vulnerable businesses and individuals



The Government responded by issuing an additional \$4 billion in COVID relief funds

Gov't Announces \$4-billion Cash Transfer COVID-19 Relief for Most Vulnerable

Posted by Chevon Campbell | 13 Oct, 2021



Chevon Campbell tells us more

Approximately 350,000 Jamaicans are soon to benefit from direct government grants totaling nearly \$4-billion as part of the administration's targeted COVID-19 relief.

Finance Minister Dr. Nigel Clarke, announced the much-needed cash injection that forms part of the first supplementary estimates which were passed in the Lower House yesterday.

The Finance Minister says this forms part of the government's efforts to ease the burden on the most vulnerable in society.

Ten's of thousands of NIS pensioners will soon receive additional relief

Finance Minister Dr. Nigel Clarke, says these elders who've paid their debts to society and collect 10 thousand or less a month will receive a one-time automatic payment of the same sum.

Dr. Clarke says despite being a developing country struggling against the odds but the country is making progress.

He says it's imperative the government helps those at the lowest rung of society while continuing to play by the rules.

He announced a specific grant for PAYE workers who earn less than 15-thousand dollars a week or 60 thousand dollars a month and the self-employed persons whose statutory income is less than or equal to the same sum.

The grant is expected to cost the government approximately \$1.3billion and reach 130,000 persons.

Eligible persons will have to apply through the CARE programme's portal and provide a bank account or remittance agency through which the money will be collected.

The unemployed are also set to benefit from the government's additional payments.

Dr. Clarke announced that person's who received the last SET cash grant who remain unemployed will receive an automatic \$18,000 dollar direct cash grant.

Some 35 thousand Jamaicans are set to benefit from this payment at a total of \$670million.

I used Parliament to demand accountability and transparency in the use of public funds

Robinson slams NPL 'disgrace'

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Published: Thursday | September 23, 2021 | 12:11 AM

Julian Robinson, the chairman of Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC), has described as a "shame and disgrace" the breaches reported in an audit of Nutrition Products Limited (NPL), which provides meals for poor children in primary and secondary schools.

At the same time, a former board member of the NPL, Robert Miller, said that news of procurement breaches and flagrant disregard for government guidelines came as a shocker to him.

He told **The Gleaner** on Wednesday that while he has not yet read the auditor general's report, no information had come to his attention when he sat on the board that the chairman and other members had been involved in breaches or irregularities.

Calling the findings of the auditor general's probe into the operations of NPL "disturbing and troubling", Robinson said the damning report into the operations of the government entity should be immediately referred to the Integrity Commission for investigation.

In a performance audit of the NPL spanning 2015 to 2021, the auditor general reported that the public body paid \$143 million to companies and individuals connected to board members and management staff to provide transportation, repairs and maintenance, sanitation, and other services.



Robinson calls for Integrity Commission action on AAJ/First Rock deal

KINGSTON, Jamaica - People's National Party Spokesman on Finance, Julian Robinson is calling for urgent investigation and decisive action from the Integrity Commission and other appropriate anti-corruption agencies in relation to what he said is the questionable multimillion US dollar deal involving the Airports Authority of Jamaica and First Rock Capital Holdings.

Robinson said the alleged high levels of corruption that "continue to linger around and plague the Holness Government" demand effective and conclusive action from the agencies appointed to protect the public coffers and safeguard the interests of the Jamaican people.

In a statement Saturday, Robinson renewed the call for the board of the Airports Authority of Jamaica to be fired based on information in the media, which he said further confirms that it breached its own internal investment policy and Government's Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act, when it invested USSS million in First Rock Capital Holdings.

I used Parliament to demand accountability and transparency in the use of public funds (con't)



contract and any recommendations that the Jamaica College school board might have made to the ministry in 2019.

Robinson, the Opposition Spokesman on Finance, is also asking Williams to confirm the length of time Reid has been on leave and the period for which the leave was approved.

The education minister is also being asked to indicate the type or category of leave the principal of Jamaica College is currently on and the conditions surrounding the leave arrangements.

Reid who is before the court on corruption charges has written to Jamaica College seeking a five-year extension of his leave.



I pressed for a balanced approach to new developments in the Corporate Area



Decrying the actions of some developers who act with impunity as they breach covenants and infringe the rights of residents, Member of Parliament Julian Robinson cracked the whip on Wednesday at state monitoring agencies to enforce the law.

In his contribution to the State of the Constituency Debate in Gordon House, Robinson said that more than a dozen associations and citizens groups in the Corporate Area have written to the Heroy Clarke-chaired Infrastructure and Physical Development Committee about serious violations at new developments in their communities.

According to Robinson, in the last four years, there has been a sharp increase in the number of new residential and commercial developments in the Corporate Area, particularly in New Kingston, Seymour Lands, and the Golden Triangle. These areas fall in the St Andrew South East constituency he represents.



I strongly advocated for JPS to stop community wide power cuts

News

'Stop cutting off the light' -Robinson wants JPS to cease disconnecting entire community

by Tiffany Taylor - STAR Writer | September 27, 2021 | Share on G ♥ f Recommend 52

Julian Robinson, the member of parliament for South Eastern St Andrew, is calling for urgent intervention from the Office of Utilities Regulations (OUR) to prevent the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPS) from continuing its practice of disconnecting legitimate customers due to electricity theft in their communities.

"It is unjust to people who are paying customers that their electricity is being



disconnected every single day when they are legitimate customers who are paying their bills in full. We are dealing with persons who have children, who have to access online schooling. We dealing with persons who have to work from home and it is just unfair as a mechanism to disconnect those paying customers." Robinson said.

The MP said that residents in a section of Woodford Park, which he represents, have been subjected to daily electricity lock-offs. He said that the daily disconnections are disruptive to the residents lives, their education and their economic livelihood.

"People who have online schooling can't do online school because their electricity is disconnected. In fact, today (Sunday) the electricity cut off from 11 and come back on at 4 p.m. The day before (Saturday), they cut it from about 3 in the morning until about nine in the night. So if you're a student who has to work, it can't work, and if you have to work from home, which many people have to do now, you can't work because you have

POWER STRUGGLE

Lawmakers light up JPS for outages; company denies collective punishment in war against thieves



Accusing the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPS) of disconnecting the electricity of paying customers to combat thievery, Opposition Member of Parliament for St Andrew South Eastern Julian Robinson is calling for the Government's intervention in what he says is an "unjust" act.

Robinson on Tuesday slammed the power company, reporting that at least three communities within his constituency and scores islandwide are affected by the JPS policy.

The legislator told Parliament that between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. daily, some communities are without power as JPS seeks to punish illegitimate beneficiaries.

"It is manifestly unfair and unjust to penalise paying customers by turning off the light every single day," Robinson stressed

The OUR responded by issuing a cease and desist order to JPS



Regulating Utilities for the Benefit of All

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUR Issues Cease and Desist Order to JPS on Widespread Community Outage

(KINGSTON, Jamaica; 2021 October 15): The Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR) has directed the Jamaica Public Service Company Limited (JPS) to immediately cease and desist the operation of its 'Transformer Protection Programme' pilot project, from which wide scale complaints of frequent and prolonged curtailment of electricity services have arisen in the affected communities for prolonged periods.

JPS is also prohibited from taking any similar actions in any other community across the island, as of the effective date of the Directive, issued on 2021 October 15.

The OUR has directed that JPS's 'Transformer Protection Programme' pilot project be suspended for ninety (90) days (in the first place), from 2021 October 15, to allow the OUR to complete its investigations and publish its findings. The OUR is of the view that given the expanse of the pilot, the frequency and duration of the outages complained of, there is a real risk that paying customers will be deprived of adequate and reliable electricity as required by the JPS's Licence obligations.

Failure by JPS to comply with this Directive within the time period specified herein, will render it liable to enforcement action pursuant to section 9 of the OUR Act.

The OUR's decision follows complaints received since 2021 July about prolonged power outages in several communities, with reports of many occurring daily. The OUR wrote to the JPS requesting information as part of its investigation into the complaints.

On 2021 October 4, JPS responded apprising the OUR for the first time of the implementation of what it terms its 'Transformer Protection Programme' pilot project. The response also gave an indication of the nature and extent of the curtailment of service that has significantly affected JPS's paying customers in approximately eighty-eight communities. The information suggests that the outages are more widespread in sections of St. Catherine, Kingston and St. Andrew South, Kingston and St. Andrew North, Clarendon and St. James.

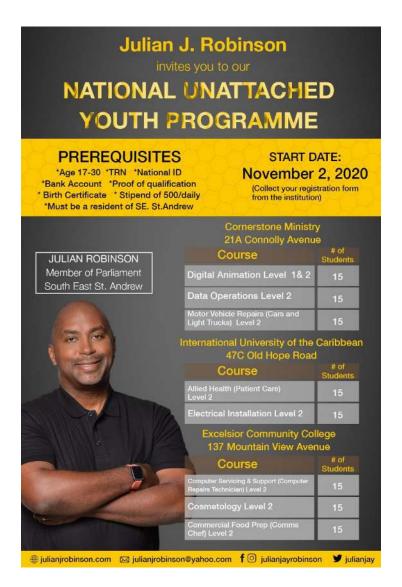
The OUR is against all forms of electricity theft which has impacted the provision of economical and adequate electricity services. The OUR is also mindful of JPS's obligations to take steps to ensure the reliability, adequacy, safety and efficiency of the service that it provides to the public.

The OUR has not approved any policy or measure that would see the use of outages, imposed on legitimate customers, as a means to control electricity losses.

/MORE

HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

80% of the enrollees in our National Unattached Youth Programme completed their courses



Students who completed the programme are currently being assessed.

Those with successful assessments will receive HEART certification

I provided laptops to students and teachers



A gift for your school

Sunday, September 05, 2021



Member of Parliament of St Andrew South Eastern Julian Robinson presents a laptop computer to Althea Henry of Fellowship Learning Centre last Thursday to assist teachers to deliver online classes to students at the institution.







I accepted laptops and tablets donated by Guardian Life on behalf of teachers and students of three primary schools



L-R. Julian Robinson MP; The Hon Fayval Williams, Minister of Education; Eric Hosin, CEO of Guardian Life

I supported installation of a free WIFI hot spot by The Universal Service Fund at the Jacques Road Community Centre

A computer lab is also being re-established at the community centre





I advocated for Covid testing in schools as face to face classes resumed



Julian Robinson calls for COVID testing in schools as classes resume



KINGSTON, Jamaica — The Member of Parliament for St Andrew South East, the People's National Party's Julian Robinson has called for COVID-19 testing to be conducted in schools in light of the reopening of the institutions for face-to-face classes.

"What is going to happen without testing in the schools, when the children get sick, the parents can't afford the significant fees to privately test them, they're going to keep sending them to school because they don't have, either the support at home to keep them at home so we're going to have sick children continue to go to school," said Robinson.

He made the remarks while speaking recently in the House of Representatives.

Robinson told his colleagues that the government may want to consider the antigen test which is cheaper than the gold standard PCR test which is more reliable.

"But as we move to reopen the schools we must have some capacity, particularly in larger schools [to conducting testing]." Robinson said.

The opposition MP pointed to Excelsior High School in his constituency which has over 2.200 students enrolled.

"You're bound to have sick children infecting others and right now it is too difficult, it is too expensive for persons to get tested," he said.

INFRASTRUCTURE

I called for an equitable mechanism for MPs to access funding for infrastructure works



Julian wants equitable access to CDF funding

Member of Parliament (MP) for South Eastern St Andrew, Julian Robinson is urging the Government to develop an equitable mechanism to allow MPs to access funding for intrastructure works in their constitutes of the second state of the second state

"there is an urgent need to address the state of roadways, verges and guilles, not just in may constituency but in many others. Some are far worse than others. We cannot wait for a natural disaster wrought by the looming threat of climate change, where lives are endangered, before we act in the best interest of those we swear to serve. I am calling for a specific allocation to be made available to all MFs to allow us to address specific needs in our constituencies. Tobinson proposed in his contribution to the State of the Constituency debate in the House of Representatives on Wednesday.

He said the National Works Agency (NWA) should be the implementing agency to give oversight and accountability to ensure proper execution of the work.

Vesterday Robinson pointed out that while some colleague parliamentarians can boast of significant sums of monies being expended on projects in their constituencies, others could not

"In 2018, arising from the public outrage at the vast amount of money spent on bushing, the prime minister implemented a programme where the sum of \$15 million is allocated to each MF in December to undertake road patching, disaster mitigation, and beautification works. Outside of the CDE, that is the only programme an MF can definitively depend on to do small scale road and gully repairs. Of course, MFs can lobby and make representation to the NVM and/or the portfolio minister responsible for works, 'he stated.'

Robinson's appeal comes just over four weeks after Government MP Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn called for a review of the now \$22-million allocation to allow MPs to better serve constituents.

In her state of the nation presentation on October 5, Cuthbert-Flynn, who represents 8t Andrew West Rural, said the allocation should be increased so that MPs could provide more assistance with housing projects.

Stating that one of her greatest challenges is housing assistance, Cuthbert-Flynn said she receives more than 1,800 requests a year but the allocation can only assist about 200 recoils.

In 2008 when the CDF was established, the allocation per MF was \$40 million per annum, but it was reduced a year later to \$20 million, and then further slashed to \$15 million in 2010. In 2016 the allocation was readjussed to \$20 million. Last year it was revised to \$22 million per parliamentarian to allow them to make COVID-18-related interventions.



Clarification



In our story carried yesterday headlined 'Now Julian wants more', Member of Parliament (MP) for St Andrew South Eastern Julian Robinson was reported as joining the call for an increase in Constituency Development Fund (CDF) allocations. However, Mr Robinson was instead asking for an equitable mechanism to be implemented, outside of the CDF, to allow MPs to access funding for infrastructure works in their constituencies — not more funding for the CDF.

The following roads were repaired in 2021

ROADS

Lexington Avenue
Antrim Road
Vineyard Road
Diana Crescent
Seymour Avenue
Lady Musgrave Road
Hopefield Avenue
Hillcrest Avenue
Upper Montrose Road

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Bulky waste clean up efforts

We undertook the clean up of bulky waste in a number of communities including Nannyville Gardens, Swallowfield, Woodford Park, McGregor Gardens, Seymour Lands, The Golden Triangle and Trafalgar Park



I supported vaccination programs and undertook COVID outreach and public education programs

- Ran months-long health information campaign using town criers, social media, flyers and community whatsapp groups
- Distributed groceries and supplies to elderly and shut-in residents
- Distributed hand sanitizers and masks to constituents
- Assisted residents with transportation to vaccination sites and publicized information about vaccination locations

I collaborated with two churches to host the Swallowfield Summer Camp

In collaboration with Swallowfield Chapel and the Church of God of Prophecy, Old Hope Road, we hosted a summer camp. The Christian-based camp catered to 60 students aged 8 – 12 years old and covered the following areas:

- Social/ Emotional Self-awareness and Empathy
- Literacy/language and Numeracy/ Arithmetic
 Critical and creative thinking, decision
 making and problem solving, communication
- Art and Craft and sport Communication, resilience, assertiveness and self-control
- Spiritual to relate properly to God and man



We partnered with Jamaica Millennium Vision for Youth, The Utech Students Union and the UWI Mona Guild to offer FREE CSEC and CAPE preparation classes



2022 Plans

The proposed Nannyville Field Development

- Six a side turf football fields
- Enclosed stands
- Shops
- Walking trail



Contact me



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