

Teignbridge Matters

NEWS FROM ANNE MARIE MORRIS, LOCAL MP FOR NEWTON ABBOT



Banging the Drum for Teignbridge

Delivering her maiden speech in a debate on “Building a High Skilled Economy”, Anne Marie Morris spoke out about the lack of investment in the South West. She said that the South West deserved better. A key factor in attracting that investment would be investing in better skills training.

She highlighted the significance of recognising all professions. She said: “There has been a focus in tertiary education on what I can only describe as the intellectual professions, such as law and accountancy. There has not been a focus on careers such as plumbers, engineers and electricians. Those are all valid careers that require no less intelligence, just intelligence of a different variety.”

Anne Marie promised to keep fighting for proper funding for a technical college in Newton Abbot which offered real hands on training. In particular she wanted to see the funding for the existing skills college completed.

She finished by pledging to continue to bang the drum for Teignbridge and to be a constant voice to champion regeneration and put the area back on the map.



Anne Marie and Andrew Lansley meeting with local GPs in Dawlish

Giving real power to GPs and patients

Improving healthcare was one of the main reasons that Anne Marie Morris came into politics. She is now a member of Andrew Lansley’s Health Support Team in the House of Commons and regularly raises issues and concerns with him and his team personally and in the debating chamber in the House of Commons, for example in relation to access

to Cancer drugs. Following the NHS White Paper, GPs will be in the driving seat. At the moment the Primary Care Trust is responsible for deciding what healthcare we need, and buying it from hospitals and other providers, across the whole of Devon. In the future it will be a local consortium of GPs who make these decisions. So it was important that Anne

Marie met up with GPs across the constituency to hear their thoughts. Her time with the Kingskerswell & Ipplepen medical practices and with the team at the Barton Surgery in Dawlish highlighted the strength and ability of our leading edge and forward thinking local GPs. But it was also important that Anne Marie met up with the health care

providers. Anne Marie visited the Matron at Newton Abbot Hospital and the Chairman and Chief Executive of South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Torbay Hospital. Anne Marie said: “I wanted to understand what challenges the reforms posed for our Hospitals and what lobbying was needed to make sure the changes work well for us here.”



Anne Marie Morris delivering her Maiden Speech

Promoted by Andrew Barrand on behalf of Anne Marie Morris, both of 2 Salisbury House, Salisbury Road, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 2DF. Printed by Harmsworth Printing Ltd, 17 Brest Rd, Derriford, Plymouth, Devon PL6 5AA.

Fighting for a solution to the A380 log jam in Kingskerswell



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Giving small businesses a helping hand



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Comment

The Spending Challenge

Over the summer local MP, Anne Marie Morris, launched a local Spending Review Challenge across the Newton Abbot constituency. She asked for people's ideas on how we could reduce public spending and get more for less. As well as sending out surveys asking for people's ideas, Anne Marie held two public meetings, one in Newton Abbot and one in Dawlish. This gave the whole community an opportunity to give their ideas on how to deliver better services for people while saving money in the process.

At the end of August Anne Marie sent the best ideas to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The top ideas on getting value for money and improving services are being rolled out as part of the recent Comprehensive Spending Review.

....and what you said

A key suggestion was to cut paperwork! Teachers have been receiving an average of 4,000 bits of paper a year telling them how to teach. There was also a strong vote to stop health tourism, that is people coming here just to have an operation paid for by us the British taxpayer! Reducing the benefits bill was a favourite, with many citing cases of neighbours on benefit enjoying a life style that they could not afford on their wages.

Many wanted to see our troops brought back home from Afghanistan to save both lives and costs. Others wanted to see the relationship with Europe changed so that we paid less to Brussels and stripped the gold plating off European legislation which costs businesses money to implement.



Anne Marie with a local constituent horrified at the size of his water bill

Fairer Water Bills for the South West

In the South West, water rates are unacceptably high. That needs to change. Post privatisation South West Water was left with inadequate funds to deal with an aging and extensive sewerage system or the EU Bathing Water Directives which followed. Current charges are neither fair nor for many affordable. While provisions are in place to deal with affordability—for example the WaterSure Tariff, available

to those with particular needs, the issue of fairness has still to be addressed.

Anne Marie has been fighting for a solution alongside fellow MPs in the South West. She has lobbied OFWAT, South West Water, Danny Alexander MP at the Treasury and Richard Benyon MP, the minister responsible for water for a workable solution. She has also spoken forcefully in an adjournment debate secured

in the House on the issue. She believes the answer lies in a levy across other parts of the country to subsidise these ongoing water quality costs.

Anne Marie said: “Anna Walker in her report on this issue suggested three options. A subsidy is the only solution. The alternative of re-distributing the charge within the South West, risks damaging local tourism, which would be likely to bear the brunt of the change.”

Solving the A380 traffic jam



Petitioning Norman Baker MP to say “yes”

One of the major benefits of the coalition is the willingness of MPs across the South West to work together to make a difference. Anne Marie has been working with Sarah Wollaston and Adrian Saunders, respectively the MPs for Totnes and Torbay to find a solution to the traffic congestion through Kingskerswell along the A380 which slows speeds on the main arterial route between Exeter down into Cornwall.

The three MPs lobbied Norman

Baker, the Transport Minister responsible, and Danny Alexander MP who holds the Treasury purse strings. Anne Marie said: “Transport and a supportive infrastructure are key to encourage investment in Newton Abbot. It's not just Torbay that is affected by this bottle neck.” Anne Marie is determined to find a solution which will bring prosperity back to the South West and will continue to press both the government and Devon County Council for action.

Meet me in the pub!

Anne Marie has been holding local meetings in village pubs, like the Ship at Cockwood. She says: “This is about meeting in a relaxed, less stuffy way, for you to tell me what concerns you and your local community and for me to try to help, if I can. Come and see!”



Education, Education, Education!

Education is a subject that is close to Anne Marie Morris's heart and she is always happy to visit local schools and colleges to see first hand how our children and young adults are doing and to see what she can do to support them. She was also delighted recently to welcome Stokeinteighhead Primary School on a visit to Westminster!

In the first few months of being an MP Anne Marie has visited Devon Vocational Training, based in Newton Abbot, the new Dawlish Youth Centre "Red Rock", a centre for young people to learn and develop, rather like the Junction in Newton Abbot –but also with a Skills Centre. She has also visited South Devon College, which a number of our Teignbridge teenagers attend.

Anne Marie continues to be a local school governor at both Newton Abbot College and Rydon Primary School in Kingsteignton, which helps her keep in touch with issues on the ground!

The government has started improving educational standards and freeing up schools, teachers and parents from the bureaucracy that stopped them taking the initiative to change things to meet the particular needs of local pupils. Three local schools have signalled an interest in academy status,



Anne Marie celebrating the opening of "Red Rock" and visiting Devon Vocational Training

Teign School, Teignmouth Community College and Newton Abbot College. Anne Marie said: "I wish them well with their applications and will do what I can to support them."



News

from around our community

Our local star



Rhys about to set out swimming for charity

Local MP, Anne Marie Morris, recently supported local young sportsman, Rhys Dixon, at the start of his charity swim from Teignmouth to Dawlish on behalf of local charity Richard's Wish.

Anne Marie said: "Here is a young person doing something for someone else. He is very courageous and an example of what society should be about."

By helping and encouraging people to be engaged with their community we can all play a part in creating our 'Big Society'.

Championing local sport

Local MP, Anne Marie Morris, is working with local sports clubs to get the help and support they need. She has recently opened the new Dome at Stover School which will enable all weather play, and is delighted to have been invited to be a Vice President of the Newton Abbot Rugby Football Club. The "All Whites" have had an excellent season! Starting the Dartmoor Vale Rotary Marathon at Sibelco in Kingsteignton she said: "Sport in our community really matters."



Anne Marie at the "All Whites" rugby ground in Newton Abbot with Chairman, Graham Rooke

Stop the floods!



Anne Marie and Councillor Russell at the flood prevention scheme site in Teignmouth

Local people are concerned about the risk of flooding. At least flood prevention works are moving forward in Shaldon. Making sure we get the flood defences in place to protect local communities and their properties is crucial. The scheme for Teignmouth has been in the balance.

Local MP, Anne Marie Morris has met with and lobbied the Environment Agency, Devon County Council, Teignbridge District Council as well as securing a meeting with the responsible minister Richard Benyon MP after she raised the issue in the debating chamber of the House. The Minister promised to give the scheme serious consideration. Anne

Marie said: "I left no doubt in the minister's mind about the scheme's importance and timeliness following the work in Shaldon."

Given the local importance of this issue, Anne Marie joined the All Party Parliamentary Group on Flood Prevention and she has recently been appointed Secretary to the group. She wants to take a leading role in making sure this issue is properly addressed because it affects so many of us. Recently, the group met to discuss with the Association of British Insurers what government can do to help insurers cover flood risk. Clearly households need to be able to get cover for flood damage.

Support Local small businesses!



Anne Marie visiting local business Westaway Sausages

Anne Marie Morris has been busy meeting as many local businesses and local business groups as possible. We have some very active trade groups in Newton Abbot, Teignmouth and Dawlish, all with different issues and concerns – but the biggest issues for big and small alike are business rates, VAT and employment regulations, all of which Anne Marie has raised with The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the

Treasury. Anne Marie said: “From what you have been telling me, small businesses get a particularly raw deal when it comes to the availability of funds from the banks.” In Westminster Hall there has been a debate on financing small businesses and Anne Marie intervened to make the case for better access to money for the very small micro-businesses of which there are so very many in the

constituency. Any economic recovery must be driven by private sector businesses creating wealth. To enable businesses to do that, we have to create the right economic climate. We reined back the proposed increases in Employer’s National Insurance and added a new incentive for start ups. We are also cutting the rate of Corporation Tax and have made Small Business Rate Relief automatic. These measures should help.

Anne Marie Morris

Member of Parliament for Newton Abbot



Would you like to ask Anne Marie a question? Do you want to know what Anne Marie thinks on an issue? You can contact Anne Marie as follows:

-  **2 Salisbury House, Salisbury Road, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 2DF**
-  **01626 368277**
-  **annemarie@annemariemorris.co.uk**

www.conservatives.com

Fighting for better Broadband coverage



Broadband at last!

Local MP, Anne Marie Morris, said: “I was shocked to see the extent of the problem in a recent meeting with Devon County Council. Broadband services in our smaller villages, such as Broadhempston, are poor or non-existent and I have been

lobbying for that to change. At last we have secured Broadband here, but only for the school.” Anne Marie met up with the Federation of Small Businesses and others to urge the responsible minister, Ed Vaizey to take action.”

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Do you want to help your Council do a better job?

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For more information contact Neil Wilson on 01395 233503 at Newton Abbot Conservatives, 9c Mill Park Industrial Estate, White Cross Road, Woodbury Salterton, Exeter EX5 1EL.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Let us know about any issues or concerns.

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