

News Report

from Meg Munn MP for Sheffield Heeley



Regeneration in Norfolk Park

Norfolk Park is undergoing large-scale regeneration; including building environmentally friendly housing and a new school. I visited a programme being carried out by 'Places for People' which includes an 'extra care' facility for elderly people at Guildford Grange and new residential housing with solar panel heating.



School's Minister sees for himself

I invited the Minister for Schools, Jim Knight MP, to visit Woodthorpe Primary and Arbourthorne Community Primary. I wanted him to see for himself the outstanding work being done to improve the children's SATs scores. These schools are providing children with an all round education and I know the Minister was impressed.



Making all our houses decent homes to live in

I celebrated the 'half-way' completion of the Decent Homes programme in Arbourthorne at the home of Mr and Mrs Poulsen of Dagenham Drive. The government has been investing to bring all social housing up to a 'decent' standard after decades of neglect. Nearly £700 million has been spent on improving homes in the city, fitting new kitchens, bathrooms and central heating.



Acis housing group and their plans for Woodthorpe housing

Tenants in Woodthorpe voted for their homes to transfer from Sheffield Homes to the Acis Group. The scheme will ensure every house under Acis management receives new windows and doors, central heating and damp proofing.



The Acis group will also make other improvements, such as tree management, off-street parking and improved street lighting. I am picture with Valerie Waby, their Chief Executive.

Clearing Arbourthorne Pond

Councillor John Robson and I joined local people and staff from the Environment Agency, Sheffield Wildlife Trust, and Sheffield City Council's Parks and Woodlands department to clear weeds and rubbish from around Arbourthorne pond. This is a valued asset for the people of Arbourthorne, and thanks to various grants and help from volunteers it is being returned to its former glory.



Sheffield Fayre in Norfolk Park

Local Councillor Julie Dore and I walked around the bustling Sheffield Fayre, with horticultural and community marquees, craft stalls, farmers' market and various attractions for children. We met a Roman soldier, complete with sword and shield, and persuaded him to pose for a modern invention – a photograph.



Arbourthorne and Richmond

More news from around our area

Energy centre in Heeley

Climate change has hit Sheffield particularly hard this year, bringing floods to the city. A Climate Change Bill will be introduced into Parliament to help reduce emissions, but we can all do our bit to help. The new Energy Centre at Heeley City Farm is helping to show local people how they can provide cleaner heat and light. It shows how green energy is generated and how you can save money by moving in a 'greener' direction.

If you would like practical advice and assistance on saving energy for your home or other green issues, or would like more information on the farm visit www.heeleyfarm.org.uk



Contact Meg

Meg Munn MP, 2nd Floor Barkers Pool House, Burgess Street, Sheffield S1 2HF.

Tel: 0114 263 4004

or email: munnm@parliament.uk

www.megmunnmp.org.uk

Meg holds regular local advice surgeries around the constituency

- Batemoor
- Gleadless
- Heeley
- Manor Top
- Woodseats

To make an appointment please ring the office on 0114 263 4004

Gordon Brown visits the kids

The Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, visited Bankwood Surestart Children's Centre to see for himself the positive benefits that investment in children brings. Sure Start projects help ensure that children are given the best possible start in life by bringing together early education, childcare, health and family support in one place.

The Prime Minister was impressed and I know the school appreciated him taking time out of his busy schedule to visit the centre.



Raising awareness of body piercing

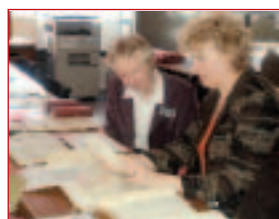
I helped launch a new information leaflet aimed at teenagers considering



having their body pierced. This initiative is led by constituent Christina Anderson, whose son Daniel died 4 years ago from septicaemia after having his lip pierced. Since Daniel's death I have campaigned on this issue. I was successful in getting the law changed to give councils the power to regulate body piercers. Sheffield is one of the first councils to take this up. For more information visit www.danaid.com

Abolition of the Slave Trade

In my previous Ministerial job I was part of the government team that organised the commemoration of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act of 1807. To 'gen up' on what happened in the city I visited Sheffield Archives and discovered the role local people took in the anti-slavery movement. It was interesting and inspiring to learn that so many Sheffielders got



involved to campaign for the emancipation of slaves.

A new Jamaican Prime Minister and the Panama Canal

Having become a Foreign Office Minister in the re-shuffle in July, I was very pleased to meet the new Prime Minister of Jamaica, Bruce Golding, following his country's general election. I then went to Panama where the expansion of the canal is creating lots of opportunities for British companies.



New Deal for Carers

Carers are people who work incredibly hard looking after relatives or friends no longer able to do so themselves. I visited the Sheffield Carers Centre to get views on how government could help more. Their priorities included more and better information, especially when they first become a carer; more financial support and increased breaks, with better day centre provision and respite care placements. I passed on this information to the relevant Minister, who will consider it as part of the widespread consultation currently taking place.

Meg Munn – your local MP for Sheffield Heeley