

ANNA SOUBRY MP

Reporting back

Working Hard for you

Nov/Dec 2012



Visit Anna's web site www.annasoubry.org.uk or send her an email to anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk to subscribe to her regular email newsletter



Conservatives

BUILDING A BETTER BROXTOWE

by Anna Soubry MP

Government investment in our roads and railways after years of neglect means more jobs and prosperity for people throughout Broxtowe.

The Government has announced the electrification and upgrading of Midland Mainline and the work to dual and improve the A453 has begun after years of dithering by the last Government. Although I didn't approve of the route, the tram is creating jobs in and around Beeston including apprenticeships for our youngsters. Investing in "Greater Nottingham" will help bring growth to Broxtowe

Life is still tough for many people in Broxtowe, but slowly and surely we are putting our economy back on its feet after years of recession and mismanagement.

Unemployment in Broxtowe is down, we have more new businesses, more jobs in the private sector and record levels of apprenticeships. Tough economic decisions by the Government to reduce the deficit have not been easy but we have kept inflation down, kept interest rates low and increased spending on the NHS.

Locally, Broxtowe Borough Council must make full and good use of the money and support it is now receiving from Government initiatives to help town centres. I alerted the Council to the Government schemes, such as the Portas Pilots, and then backed the applications for over £100,000 to revitalise Kimberley, Stapleford and Beeston.

Anna Soubry MP is working with local shopkeepers like Julie Cameron of Cameron House, Chilwell, to boost business in Beeston and backing plans to bring jobs to the former brewery site at Kimberley.



SAVE OUR GREEN BELT

Broxtowe Borough Council is set to consider plans to build 450 houses on Field Farm, Stapleford, before the New Year and then consider plans for 775 at Toton. Both sites are Green Belt land and Anna Soubry continues to lead the campaign against both developments.

"We have enough brown field land for over 3000 homes which would meet our housing needs and save our Green Belt," said Anna "The Government has made it clear that Green Belt land remains specially protected and Broxtowe's Labour/Lib Dem coalition should abandon its plans to accept a housing target of 6,150 and to make Field Farm its number one site."

Get the full story inside, with details of how you can sign the petitions, have your say and make sure Green Belt land in your area is not at threat from housing development.



Anna and local campaigners have delivered thousands of leaflets protesting about plans to build hundreds of homes on Green Belt at Toton and Stapleford. Anna joined David Park and Chris Doddy at Field Farm. David and Chris are standing to represent Bramcote and Stapleford in next year's County Council elections and voters will remember which Councillors voted for development and those who ignored their constituent's views!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DAY IN THE LIFE OF ANNA SOUBRY MP

Anna was appointed a Health Minister in the autumn re-shuffle. Find out how, despite the new role, Anna continues to work hard for her constituents. Read more on pages 4 and 5.

WELFARE REFORM

"Welfare Benefits should be a safety net in tough times not a way of life" says Anna Soubry. "A benefits cap of £26,000 a family a year, schemes to get people back into work and Universal Credit will mean you are always better off in work than on benefit." Read more on page 6.

HOUSE OF COMMONS "TIFFIN CUP".

Chilwell Curry House, Haveli were runners up in the annual House of Commons "Tiffin Cup". MP Anna Soubry nominated the popular restaurant for the award. See page 2.



Parliamentary winners Chilwell's Haveli Restaurant

Also Inside:

Stop Open Cast Mining campaign

Broxtowe's brilliant Academy schools

Coping with the tramworks

Scan here
for the latest
updates
from Anna



Out & About with ANNA SOUBRY MP



■ Anna joined the Mayor of Broxtowe, Margaret Handley, and Borough and County Councillor, Eric Kerry, for the opening of the Attenborough and Beeston flood defence scheme. Anna and Eric campaigned with Attenborough residents for a route that protected the Strand, cricket and playing fields. As a result, the Environment Agency changed the route, worked with everyone and delivered under budget and ahead of time.



Anna entered Haveli Restaurant in Chilwell for Parliament's Annual Tiffin Cup. They came 'second runner up' in the prestigious competition to find Britain's best curry house. TV chef Ainsley Harriott led the Judges and Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow MP, presented the prizes.



■ Kimberley is becoming a great place to live, work, shop and read. Anna presented the prizes at September's "Book Read" with a local writers' competition, window displays and Larkfields School providing their own Bookworm parade.



What a fantastic summer, with the Diamond Jubilee and then the Olympics and Paralympics! Anna celebrated the Jubilee at a street party on Lower Road, Beeston, a Garden Party in Chilwell and then at the beacon lighting in Greasley with the Mayor of Broxtowe and June Layton, who chairs Greasley Parish Council.



Supporting research into Brain Tumours is one of Anna's chosen causes. 'Wear a Hat Day' attracted support at Westminster to raise the issue and Anna continues to campaign for Beeston based charity 'Headcase'.



■ This year's Hemlock Happening was a great success. Local campaigners fighting to save the Borough's Green Belt from development displayed a map showing sites vulnerable to development and drummed up support to defend Green Belt sites like nearby Field Farm.



■ Attending events throughout the constituency is one of Anna's top priorities. Local History Societies unveiled more blue plaques this year. Two plaques and a church service marked the explosion at Chilwell Ammunition Factory in 1918, which killed 139 people. Anna also joined Sir Paul Smith to mark the centenary of Hurt's, a fine knitting manufacturer in Chilwell.



■ Supporting our schools is always a pleasure, whether it's decorating the office with Send our Sister to School medals from Rylands School, visiting schools in Broxtowe or helping our youngsters around Parliament. If you would like a trip to Westminster or would like Anna to visit your school, then please contact the constituency office.



■ Conservative run Nottinghamshire County Council has given Beeston Library a £47,000 make over. Anna holds regular surgeries in Beeston, Stapleford and Inham Nook Libraries as well as in the Temple Centre, Nuthall and Greasley and Trowell Parish Halls. Please contact the Constituency Office if you would like an appointment.

SAVE OUR GREEN BELT

“They are not listening to the people,” says Anna Soubry MP, following Broxtowe Borough Council’s decision to build thousands of houses on Green Belt land. Anna has led the campaign to save our Green Belt land, working with local groups, holding public meetings, delivering thousands of leaflets advising people on how to object and now helping with petitions.

Applications to build 1,225 houses on Green Belt land at Field Farm, Stapleford and Toton have been made to Broxtowe Borough Council. “This really should not be a party political issue” said Anna Soubry, “The Government has made sure Green Belt land remains specially protected and nationally all the parties agree brown field land should be developed long before Green Belt land.”

But in Broxtowe, the Labour/Lib Dem controlled Council originally made both the Green Belt sites at field Farm and Toton “preferred sites”, even though there is brown field land lying undeveloped which could accommodate over 3,000 homes.

People in Stapleford feel particularly let down as their Borough Councillors voted to make Field Farm the first site for development. Toton’s Conservative Councillors voted against Broxtowe’s plan (called a Core Strategy), which accepted a target of 6,150 houses. The Council has not assessed Broxtowe’s housing needs and has simply agreed to the last Government’s target.

“It is not too late to have your say”, said Anna, “If people contact me or visit the “Save our Greenbelt” page on my web site there are full details on who to contact and advice on how to object. Please don’t leave it to someone else to defend Field Farm and Toton – they might be leaving it to you!”

How to Contact Anna

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**Barton House, High Road,
Chilwell, NG9 4AJ**



Anna is working with people of all political persuasions to save our Green Belt



Leafleting with Bramcote and Stapleford County Council candidates, David Park and Chris Doddy, and Nuthall Borough Councillor, Paul Simpson to Save our Green Belt



Thousands of people have attended public meetings in Nuthall, Kimberley, Toton, Greasley and Stapleford



BROXTOWE LABOUR'S SMEARS

In an astonishing attack on Anna Soubry, Broxtowe Labour resorted to smears and false allegations against our MP for her long standing defence of our Green Belt. Broxtowe Labour have removed an offensive and untrue article from their web site and issued an apology.

A DAY IN THE LI

Anna Soubry was made a Health Minister in the autumn re-shuffle. Anna's responsibilities include Public Health, Cancer, Hospital reconfigurations and children's heart surgery.

It's an important job but Anna still has the time and energy to work for all her constituents in Westminster and in Broxtowe.



7.30am: It's a short walk from Anna's flat in Westminster to the Houses of Parliament.



8.00am: Work begins at 8am with Anna answering constituents' emails in her Westminster office and speaking with the constituency office team in Chilwell.



9.30am: As a Minister, Anna is involved in many Health debates and question sessions in the House of Commons. Today it's a debate about abortion, traditionally a non-party political issue. Anna explains the Government has no plans to change the existing law.



11.30am: Anna has a quick break and signs letters to constituents.



12.00pm: Prime Ministers Questions. If you are a regular viewer you will see Anna on the back row in the right hand corner- usually three seats in!



12.45pm: The Department of Health is next to Parliament so it's a very short walk between the two.

FE OF YOUR MP



1.30pm: Meeting in the Department of Health with John Baron MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer, discussing how we can ensure people get quicker diagnosis and better treatments.



6.00pm: Anna uses the early evenings to write her regular email newsletter, update her web site and answer constituents' emails.



7.30pm: Division! parliamentary votes mark the end of the Westminster Day at around 7.30pm.



8.00pm: In between meetings at the Department of Health Anna has time to catch up with constituency work.



8.00pm: Anna gets a chance to lobby Transport Minister, Simon Burns MP, about much needed improvements to Weston Station.



8.00pm: Anna's working day is not yet finished, as she takes home both the Departmental red box and constituency work.

OPENCAST MINING AT SHORTWOOD FARM

UK Coal has applied to Nottinghamshire County Council for planning permission for an open cast mine on Shortwood Farm, between Trowell and Cossall.

The 325 acre site, on Green Belt land, would see 1.5 million tonnes of coal and fire clay being extracted over a five year period, with eight HGV lorries an hour carrying coal over Trowell Moor, up to the Nuthall roundabout and down the M1.

Anna Soubry MP has chaired two public meetings, "It's been encouraging to attend public meetings in both Trowell and Awsworth," said Anna Soubry MP, "and thank you to everyone who followed the advice we provided and wrote to oppose the plans".

Nottinghamshire County Council asked UK Coal for more information, delaying the application till next year. Anna said: "If the County Council reject the plan then UK Coal are likely to go to appeal and we will have a tough job to see off Opencast Mining. Last time UK Coal applied they won the appeal and the then Secretary of State signed off the application. The last application failed only on a technicality."



Anna has led meetings at Trowell and Awsworth.

GET INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN.

Contact Anna by writing to her at Barton House, 61 High Road, Chilwell. NG9 4AJ or email anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk
Get the latest info at www.annasoubry.org.uk and sign up for Anna's regular email newsletter.

MAKING WORK PAY AND ENDING THE BENEFIT DEPENDENCY CULTURE by Anna Soubry MP



If politicians were being honest, we would all agree that, for too long, we have got the balance wrong between a benefit system that is a safety net for people and families when they hit difficult times and a culture where three generations in some families have chosen a life on the dole.

I voted for the cap on benefits of £26,000 per family per year and was both astonished and disappointed when Labour voted against it. We cannot continue with a system that pays people to sit on benefits and do nothing with their lives – it's not fair on them and it's not fair on hard working families.

Universal Credit and £300 million on extra child care support will mean millions of

people will be better off in work than out of work.

We are committed to reducing spending on benefit; though we are ensuring that some benefits, for example payments to the most disabled are increased. Similarly, it's only fair the wealthiest 15% of families lose their Child Benefit.

No-one comes into politics wanting to make anyone, or any family, worse off – on the contrary, we all want to make life better for everyone. But all political parties accept that we have to reduce the deficit and so tough decisions have to be made. Labour also would have made big cuts in public expenditure, proposing £7 for every £8 of Coalition savings.

But unlike Labour the Coalition has increased spending on the NHS, whilst tackling our benefit dependency culture and ensuring you are always better off in work than out of work.

BROXTOWE LABOUR TURNS LEFT!



Labour Councillors joining the picket line outside Kimberley School and Kimberley Councillors refusing to condemn the picketing of pupils; all women lists for next year's County Council elections forcing out good local Labour candidates; 3 Broxtowe Borough Labour Councillors voting against their own party's yearly Budget in protest at 'Tory cuts'; false accusations against our MP and to cap it all, an email from a Labour Parish Councillor calling Anna Soubry "Tory scum" and swearing at her after receiving her email newsletter!

What's happening to the Labour Party in Broxtowe? The reality is that it's taken a turn for the worse by going down the route of the far left. You may have seen Labour's recent leaflet, which marks the end of sensible Labour in Broxtowe.

Broxtowe has always prided itself on moderate, rigorous but friendly political debate. Labour in Broxtowe has turned so far left they have abandoned our proud tradition.

PROUD OF BROXTOWE'S GREAT SCHOOLS

by Anna Soubry MP

Visiting schools, listening to pupils and staff, understanding problems and celebrating achievements are some of the most rewarding parts of being your MP.

I have visited a number of schools, including: Bramcote Church of England Primary; Alderman Pounder in Chilwell; presented Tesco prizes to Chetwynd Road Primary School, Bispham Drive Junior School, Banks Road Infants School and St John's CE Primary School in Toton. A number of local schools have come to Parliament and it is a real joy to welcome them to Westminster. Let me know if you would like to come on a similar trip.

Broxtowe's secondary schools go from strength to strength with this summer's exam results amongst some of the best ever and with most of our schools choosing to become Academies.

Kimberley School is now an Academy after a difficult summer term, which saw strike action and picketing by a small number of teachers who belong to the National Union of Teachers. Over 500 parents were so appalled by the NUT's action, which was supported by some Labour Borough Councillors, that they signed a petition. In the end, the Governors voted unanimously for Kimberley to become an Academy. In March I had the honour of welcoming Kimberley pupils to Parliament after their success in a national "Questions



and Answers" competition and was part of the panel for the final session. I also attended the school's annual Achievements Awards at the Albert Hall in July and particularly enjoyed the school-made chocolates after a long busy day!

George Spencer Academy is now a "multi academy" trust, including local Junior Schools in Toton and Stapleford. I have been to a number of events at George Spencer, including helping judge a debating competition. Undoubtedly one of my toughest interviews took place there at the hands of Katie and Sophie from Year 8 as part of a school project.

I had a tough time at Bramcote Park and then at Alderman White, as one of the panellists on their version of "Question Time". The school is on its way to achieving Academy status after record results from this summer's Year 11 pupils.

Chilwell School also had a good set of exam results in the Summer and the Maths Department excelled themselves with a 15% rise in the number of pupils achieving A*- C.



WORKING HARD FOR YOU THROUGHOUT BROXTOWE

Tram Works

Like it or not, the tram is coming to Broxtowe and the works have caused huge disruption in Beeston, Chilwell and Toton. Anna Soubry has held regular meetings with NET, residents and businesses, most notably in Beeston. "I post information on my web site, pass on specific problems to NET and most importantly make sure they take action to reduce disruption." Anna has also helped re house residents at Neville Sadler Court and will continue to fight to make sure businesses and individuals are properly compensated. "On the plus side the works are providing local jobs. It is a golden opportunity to rejuvenate Beeston Town centre which I hope the Borough Council will seize." **Please visit Anna's "Tramwork news" page on her web site or contact Anna for more information.**

Toton Bus Service

Many Toton folk are cheesed off at losing the Connect bus service and Anna met residents of Lombardy Lodge, who want it restored "As a result, I met with officers and Councillors at the County Council on how we could introduce a new "Shopper" service. I am hopeful my representations will get a bus service the people in Toton need and deserve"

Beeston Train Station

Despite some considerable improvements Beeston station still needs further work. Anna Soubry has met and written to Transport Ministers to secure funding for lifts to improve accessibility.



Moorgreen Speedwatch success

Anna Soubry was contacted by residents in Moorgreen, whose lives were being blighted by speeding vehicles and heavy lorries, "I arranged a meeting with the police and Councillors and then helped form a residents' Speedwatch. However, there's more that needs to be done and I am confident we will achieve it by working together." said Anna.

ANNA SOUBRY MP

Factfile...

In the last twelve months Anna has:

- Held over 20 advice surgeries
- Received answers to 23 Written Parliamentary Questions
- Spoken in 56 Parliamentary debates
- Held and attended 11 Public meetings
- Written and sent out 35 e-mail newsletters
- Made over 12 visits to schools, receiving some groups at Parliament



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Please give me your contact details so we can keep in touch with you about the issues affecting you:

Name
Address
Email
Home/Mobile no

Please let me know if you have any local issues you think I may be able to help with:

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