



Welcome to my first newsletter for 2014.

This month my update includes information on the European elections, support for victims of recent floods in Wales and what the new EU budget means for you.

European elections

As we approach the election on May 22nd I am proud that Labour has such a strong team and very positive messages to tell people about our work in Europe.

If we campaign hard and all our supporters vote on May 22 we have a really good chance of winning this election and having two Labour MEPs represent Wales' best interests in the European Parliament. But we need your help! If you can spare some time to campaign in your area please get in touch with your local branch or my office.

I've put together a [key issues briefing](#) which provides an overview of my work in the EU Parliament and how important the EU is for worker's rights as well as some information about UKIP and their MEPs. I hope that it will be a useful tool for anyone campaigning over the coming months.

Wales gets more from the EU in the new budget

I'm pleased that I have been able to ensure Wales receives more funding from the EU from 2014-2020, despite the UK Tory Government initially insisting on major cuts which would have been hugely detrimental to Wales. I've lobbied hard to ensure we have more money for jobs, businesses, research and infrastructure and I'm pleased that we can now begin investing this funding in Welsh communities.

Under this new budget Welsh people will receive £70 per person per year more from the EU than what they put in. This is a really important message to deliver to Eurosceptics in Wales, particularly in the lead up to the upcoming European elections.

EU support for victims of recent floods

I'm am continuing to lobby the UK Government to apply for EU funding to help rebuild Welsh communities affected by recent storms and floods.

Support is available under the European Solidarity Fund but the UK Government must apply within the stringent 10 week deadline following a natural disaster.

I've written to George Osborne and the Environment Secretary to press them to apply for this support before the application period runs out. I've also offered my assistance to progress the matter as soon as possible.

In the constituency

This month I've been meeting with businesses, employees and constituents across Wales, including in Mold, Rhyl, Llanelli, Swansea, Merthyr and Treforest. If you have an event or business you'd like me to be involved in, please email contact@derekvaughanmep.org.uk or call 02920 227660.

Derek Vaughan MEP



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Member of the European Parliament

Labour, Wales



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