



Welcome to the latest edition of my enewsletter updating you on my work as a Member of the European Parliament for Wales.

If you require any further information on any of the issues mentioned in this enews then please get in touch.

Strengthening Passenger Rights

During a busy October session in Strasbourg, I voted in support of calling for **legal clarifications to strengthen passengers' rights in the EU**. We are striving for better communication and information by operators and staff to all passengers as well as focusing on making access to transport easier for passengers with disabilities or reduced mobility. I am committed to these efforts to resolve complaints received from constituents over the problems they encounter whilst making journeys within the UK and other EU member states. Strengthening EU Passenger Rights is a big step towards making these improvements for the future.

European Year of Citizens 2013

Also this month in Strasbourg I supported the vote to designate 2013 as the **European Year of Citizens**. Next year will be about raising awareness of what it means to be a citizen of Europe. Many among the general public lack vital information, such as how to access cross-border healthcare or what to do when drawing a pension from a member state. Throughout the year, EU citizens will be informed about their rights, especially those who decide to study, work or open a business. Thanks to this initiative, UK citizens will learn what it means to be a citizen of Europe, know how they can personally benefit.

Wear It Pink!



The Wear it Pink campaign is Breast Cancer Research's biggest fundraising event and this week myself and my Labour colleagues in the European Parliament have been supporting this campaign. After raising over £2.2 million last year, the campaign this year hopes to raise even more for this great cause. Find out how you can get involved on <http://www.wearitpink.co.uk/>

Single Seat Campaign

A majority of MEPs believe that the European Parliament should have its seat based in a single location. Under current rules, however, parliamentarians must travel between Brussels and Strasbourg once a month for four days. I fully support the campaign for a single seat -



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maintaining Brussels as the sole location of the European Parliament would be a smart move in economic and environmental terms, saving around 180m euros and 19,000 tonnes of CO2 each year. As co-rapporteur (lead legislator) for the EU and other institutions' budgets for 2013, I submitted a number of amendments in support of a single seat, which all went through with a high majority this Strasbourg session.

New, fairer rules on financial markets

Labour MEPs have been fighting to ensure that **new rules on financial markets make trading fairer and provide more protection for investors**. As part of the vote, my Labour colleagues and I also backed amendments to regulate excessive speculation on food commodities because we believe that it is wrong to have a situation where food aid is paid to bankers and traders while there is hunger and poverty among the world's poorest. Unfortunately the European Parliament, including British Conservative MEPs did not back these amendments, but we will continue to work hard to try to influence negotiations at Member State level.

In the Constituency



I recently organised a **conference in StAsaph** (pictured above) which attracted delegates from around Wales to discuss ways in which the impact of the next round of EU Structural Funding can be maximised to create jobs and growth. The money provides vital investment in Wales to tackle economic, educational and social disadvantage and will prove increasingly more important over the next budget period from 2013-2020. The event heard from representatives of the WLGA, WCVA, FSB, TUC Wales, Glyndwr University as well as Alun Davies AM, Welsh Government Deputy Minister for European Programmes.

I also participated in a visit to Tata in Port Talbot alongside a number of my South Wales Labour colleagues from Westminster and the National Assembly for Wales to see the results of over £230m worth of investment at their site that will safeguard thousands of jobs and enable them to compete against overseas competitors.

Over the next few weeks, I will be meeting groups and organisations in Barry, Cardiff, Ceredigion and Pembroke amongst others. I am always keen to attend as many events around Wales as possible so if you know of one in your community that you would like me to support then please contact my Cardiff office as soon as possible and I will try my best to be there.


Best Wishes

Handwritten signature of Derek Vaughan

Derek Vaughan MEP

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