

# MARK FLETCHER MP NEWSLETTER



## April Newsletter



Dear {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }},

I hope you are well.

At the beginning of the month, I visited a fantastic business in Barlborough, called Unify, who are providing innovative solutions in the justice sector. I then met with the Headteacher of Stubbin Wood School to discuss plans for a post-16 education centre in Bolsover. Following the meeting, I had a tour of Kings Mill Hospital and a meeting with the Chief Executive and Chair to discuss local issues affecting the Hospital. Whilst in the south of the constituency, I met up with Richard Street MBE who gave me a tour of Pinxton Community Gym, before heading back to Bolsover to be a judge at Palterton Primary School's annual talent show!

In other news, I signed supporting letters for Clowne Cricket Club and Pinxton Community Gym to help with their applications for funding to Derbyshire County Council - I am always happy to support our local sports clubs and organisations, which are often the beating heart of our communities.

I also submitted written testimony from businesses near Junction 28 to Midlands Connect to help strengthen the strategic business case for improvements.

Following on from the J28 business roundtable I held last month, businesses from South Normanton and Pinxton have outlined their concerns for prolonged journey times and road safety, as well as the economic benefits upgrades will bring. I will be submitting the views of local parish councils and residents in the coming weeks.

The constituency will hopefully benefit from a share of the £47 million in bus funding awarded to Derbyshire. I am determined to deliver better bus services across our area and provide a modern, fit-for-purpose, public transport system for all of my constituents.

Over the next few weeks my office will be working incredibly hard to assist Ukrainian refugees and their sponsor families, as well as deal with other constituent enquiries, and I will be working - at pace - to progress with local campaigns and projects!

I hope you have a great Easter break!

Best wishes,

Mark



## Kings Mill Hospital

I had the pleasure of meeting the Chief Executive and Chair of Kings Mill Hospital near Sutton in Ashfield, used by many of my constituents from Shirebrook, South Normanton and surrounding areas. They have done incredible work to become rated as Outstanding by the Care Quality Commission, and have won awards for being one of the best hospitals to work at in the country.

They have coped admirably with the pandemic and are working extremely hard to bring their elective surgery waiting list down. We had a good discussion about some of the issues facing the hospital and I look forward to speaking with them again in the future.



## £47 million for bus services in Derbyshire

I very much welcome the £47 million of new funding for Derbyshire to deliver vital improvements and level up local bus networks – delivering cheaper, more frequent, and more reliable journeys for passengers.

Derbyshire is one of thirty-one areas across the country chosen to receive new funding to level up their local bus services through the Government's £1.2 billion bus transformation programme.

The new funding is part of a £7 billion package which includes £5.7 billion to level up local transport services across England's eight city regions; and over £37 million for light rail services across the North and Midlands. Together this package will help to level up transport outside of London – delivering lower, simpler fares to help tackle cost-of-living pressures.

Bus networks form the spine of local transport – but for decades too many communities have been let down by poor bus infrastructure.

That is why I am delighted Derbyshire is receiving £47 million of new funding to boost our bus services – transforming our local transport network to deliver cheaper, more reliable and more frequent services for passengers.

This will mean that passengers across Derbyshire will get a better deal, with a local transport network they can truly rely on.

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## Support for Ukraine

Following the Prime Minister's visit to Kyiv to meet with President Volodymyr Zelensky at the weekend, the UK will provide further military aid to help push back the Russian invasion and protect vulnerable civilian populations. The UK will provide an additional 800 NLAW anti-tank missiles, more Javelin anti-tank systems and Starstreak air defence units, as well as additional non-lethal aid including ballistic helmets, body armour, and night vision goggles.

The UK will also send 120 armoured vehicles to help counter the renewed Russian offensive in the Donbass and new anti-ship missile systems to help protect coastal cities such as Odessa.

I am incredibly proud of our unwavering support for Ukraine during this dark hour of their history and I will continue to press Ministers to provide further military assistance, where required, to ensure the defeat of Putin's unprovoked and senseless invasion.

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### **Pinxton Community Gym**

I recently had the chance to visit Pinxton Community Gym to see how they were getting along with their refurbishment. It was a pleasure to meet Richard Street MBE, who has been a driving force behind the gym, and their ethos to provide affordable facilities to everyone, for over 38 years. The gym has become a really important part of the community and I wish them continued success.

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### **Unify**

I visited a great business in Barlborough last Friday. Unify develop and produce cutting edge technology products for prisons - electronic devices, with security measures built in, that prisoners can safely use for learning and communication. Thank you to founders, Adam and Eddie, for showing me around. I was impressed by your passion and belief that the technology can help to improve the lives of prisoners and their families.

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## Junction 28 Survey

As you may be aware, Junction 28 suffers from an excessive amount of traffic and congestion, as it is simply over capacity. Therefore, it is essential for the economic development of the Bolsover constituency to improve this junction, which serves as the gateway to the East Midlands for many businesses in South Normanton and Pinxton. I have also spoken to hundreds of local residents who have told me about their concerns for noise and air pollution, poor regional connectivity, and road safety.

One of my main priorities as your Member of Parliament is the improvement of local infrastructure, such as Junction 28 and since being elected in 2019, I have been working hard with a number of stakeholders, including Bolsover District Council, Derbyshire County Council, the local enterprise partnership, D2N2, and Midlands Connect, to secure the necessary funding to prevent standstills, improve the flow of traffic, boost regional connectivity, and ultimately, turbocharge the local economy.

I am launching this survey to listen to your views and to use the feedback as evidence to strengthen our application to central Government.

This is a key infrastructure project for the Bolsover constituency and as local residents your voice is incredibly important. Please take a moment of your time to let me know your thoughts.

[Let me know your views](#)

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## Need My Help - Book A Surgery Appointment

Need my help with something? Click the button below and request a surgery appointment with me. Alternatively, feel free to email me, making sure to provide your FULL address and contact details.

If you would prefer to speak to someone, feel free to give my office a call on 01246 932048

[Request a surgery with me](#)

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