

MARK FLETCHER MP NEWSLETTER



August to Mid-September Newsletter



Dear Resident,

It's been a wonderful summer back in the constituency (despite the weather), but I am now back in Westminster - working hard to deliver on your priorities. I had the opportunity to speak with hundreds of residents who raised concerns with national issues or wanted updating on local campaigns. Unfortunately, I did not have enough time to visit every village (there is 56 in the Bolsover Constituency!), so if there is anything you would like to bend my ear about please do not hesitate to contact my office via email (mark.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk), telephone (01246 932048), or in writing (1 Market Place, Bolsover, S44 6PN).

The biggest news of the summer was that The Bolsover School's Sixth Form bid has been accepted - meaning post-16 education is returning to the Bolsover constituency. This has been my most important campaign as an MP to date. Simply because it has the potential to change so many lives for the better. It's levelling-up in action, more opportunities, and improved life chances for young people living in Bolsover and the surrounding villages.

I could not be any prouder of this achievement. But now our attention must turn to delivering this project!

Over the coming months I will be working with the Redhill Academy Trust, The Bolsover School, officials at the Department for Education, and the University of Derby, who are helping us establish more technical courses with

links to business and industry, and I will keep you updated every step of the way.

We've also made some progress on some key campaigns like stopping sex offenders from changing their name, Darfoulds Bridge, and improvements to Junctions 28 and 29 of the M1.

Since my return to Parliament last week, I've had the opportunity to speak in the House of Commons on issues like benefit fraud, employment & skills opportunities for veterans, prisons, car insurance claims, and a PMQ on Bolsover's new sixth form!

I hope you find this edition interesting!

Best wishes,

Mark



Entering my dog, Delta, in Westminster Dog of the Year



Pulling my pint 'Top Marks' at Bolsover Beer Festival

Prime Ministers Questions - The Bolsover Sixth Form

Last Week, I asked the Prime Minister if he would join me in congratulating Redhill Academy Trust, Matt Hall and everyone involved in The Bolsover School's successful bid for a sixth form in Bolsover.

[Watch my PMQ](#)

Clowne Garden Village Objection Letter

Over the last few weeks, my team & I, have been out and about in Clowne and Barlborough delivering a leaflet outlining our opposition to Clowne Garden Village (we have around 1000 remaining houses who should receive a copy this week).

Ultimately, the Labour-run District Council continues to ignore the legitimate concerns of local residents regarding the impact of this development on infrastructure and services locally!

On healthcare contributions it fails. On affordable housing it fails. On education funding it fails. On road improvements it fails.

Clowne Garden Village proposal is unsustainable and not fit for purpose. Clowne and Barlborough deserve better.

I have submitted my letter of opposition to Bolsover District Council, which you can read in full below [□□□□](#)

[Read my Objection Letter to Bolsover District Council](#)



Post-16 Education Returns to Bolsover

I am absolutely delighted to inform you that after nearly four years of hard work and campaigning, the Government have accepted the 16-19 Free School application from The Bolsover School - meaning Post-16 education is returning to the Bolsover Constituency!

Bringing post-16 education back to the constituency has been my main priority since I was elected, I genuinely could not be happier for our young people who will now have access to a good quality post-16 education locally. The school will be located in Bolsover and be easily accessible for children living in villages across the north of the constituency, including the neighbouring towns of Shirebrook and Clowne.

This is a massive win for our area which will help improve the life chances of young people across the constituency. I look forward to working with Redhill Academy Trust, Bolsover School Headteacher Matt Hall, Ministers at the Department for Education, Kathryn Mitchell at Derby University & other partners to deliver this project and I will continue to keep you all updated. If you would like to receive regular updates from my office on this project please email mark.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk

I want to say a huge thank you to residents who have written to me, signed my petition, or provided data on travel times/costs to neighbouring provisions, you have played a massive part in helping to deliver Post-16 provision to our community.



Roads Minister Visits J28

My campaign to get Junction 28 of the M1, the Pinxton Interchange, upgraded continues at the beginning of August with a visit from Roads Minister, Richard Holden MP, to discuss the options put forward by National Highways

for the much needed improvements to this major arterial junction for the East Midlands. Watch the video below for more information.

Watch



Rail Minister Visits WH Davis

It was an absolute pleasure to be able to welcome the Rail Minister to WH Davis last month. They are such an important local employer and they do a lot of work with our communities in Shirebrook and Langwith. Supporting local businesses is incredibly important to me and to have such a big manufacturer within our local community is a great source of pride for the Bolsover Constituency. And as the last independent wagon manufacturer left in the UK - I wanted to show the Minister the very best of what our area has to offer.



Bolsover Dentist Update

I am pleased to report that the NHS Derby & Derbyshire Integrated Care Board (ICB), who hold responsibility for dental provision, are working hard to restore the provision into Bolsover town centre following the closure of the BUPA practice in June.

There is quite a lot of work to be done, hoops to jump through and processes to be followed, however, I continue to push for this process to be expedited as much as possible.

I will continue to work with the ICB and the Minister, Neil O'Brien MP, who shares my desire to see dental provision back in the town as soon as is practicable.

I will update further as soon as I am able.



Protect Access to Cash

A number of constituents have previously written to me about the importance of access to cash - whilst the country is moving further away from using coins and notes, cash is still an integral part of many businesses and people's lives.

The Government announced that banks and building societies must ensure people are no more than three miles away from withdrawing cash and can withdraw cash without any fees - something that has been set out in law.

There are minimum expectations on banks to ensure that people are no further than three miles away from withdrawing cash. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has also been given new powers by the Government to protect the provision of cash access services with the ability to fine banks and building societies if they do not keep up these standards.

Back in April 2022 I signed a pledge to protect people's access to cash and have supported the Government's actions to ensure this pledge is realised. I know that this change will be important for the elderly and most vulnerable in our community who frequently use cash as their choice of payment.



Visit to West Notts College

Thank you to Andrew Cropley, Principal and Chief Executive, at Vision West Notts College in Mansfield, for welcoming me to West Notts and for providing briefing on the work they are doing/courses they offer, as well as a tour of the facilities.

Andrew is also updated me on the work they are doing with Stagecoach and Trent Barton to improve students transport to and from the college - as well as job interviews & work experience placements.

Last year I heard from a number of constituents who were finding it difficult to access the college by public transport and the college have been working hard to resolve issues. It was great to visit on enrolment day and see so many young people preparing for this next step in their lives.



Same Sex Marriage 10 Year Celebration

My husband, Will, and I had the privilege of attending a reception at Number 10. The event, hosted by Deputy Prime Minister Oliver Dowden and former Prime Minister David Cameron, commemorated the 10th anniversary of The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act. This landmark legislation, which was one of David Cameron's proudest accomplishments during his time in office, marked a significant milestone for LGBT+ rights in the UK.

I was honoured to speak and introduce the Deputy Prime Minister at the event. It was a heartwarming experience to join many other couples, who were also able to marry because of the Act, in celebrating the 10 year anniversary.

Such events serve as a reminder of the progress that has been made in the fight for equality and the continued importance of advocating for the rights of all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation.



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

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