

newsreport

from Meg Munn MP for Sheffield Heeley



Safer **Arbourthorne**

Accompanied by Councillor John Robson I went on patrol with Inspector Garry Booth. We drove in a police panda car around Arbourthorne, Norfolk Park and Gleadless Common to see how the safer neighbourhood policing teams work. Inspector Booth told me that he has made vandalism and illegal motorbikes two of his top priorities for the Arbourthorne Safer Neighbourhood Area.

This was another opportunity to learn at first hand how the Government's pledge – to have dedicated safer neighbourhood policing teams – is working out locally.

Neighbourhood **Wardens**

Sheffield Homes has established a new warden service as a way of providing a reassuring and friendly presence within our communities. The warden service has had tremendous success in dealing with disputes and low level crime and disorder. I was pleased to accompany two wardens on one of their regular rounds, where we also visited the Friends of Arbourthorne Pond.



Arbourthorne **knitters**

I joined a group who meet every Friday at the Arbourthorne Centre. We set to knitting woollen squares which are woven into blankets for the children of Chernobyl in the Ukraine. These children are suffering the after-effects of radiation poisoning from when the reactor

malfunctioned in 1986. The 50+ Group also hold quizzes, games, plays and lunch is provided.

Streetforce As some of my constituency casework concerns pot holes, uneven pavements, broken streetlights and similar problems, I recently visited the council's Streetforce depot on Olive Grove Road to find out first hand how such problems are dealt with.

This was also an opportunity to discuss how the £2 billion investment in road repairs and new street lights for the Heeley constituency and the whole of Sheffield is being mapped out and finalised.



The 'new' **Sheffield Springs Academy**

It was a pleasure to visit staff and pupils of Springs Academy in their new building where I was given a tour of the facilities, including language labs, music recording studio and many other exciting features. I launched my revamped website in one of their computer rooms!

I know that everybody who is associated with the new Academy is as delighted, as I am, with the new learning environment. Following the Government's substantial investment in new school buildings, the children of Arbourthorne, Norfolk Park and Gleadless now have excellent educational facilities.

Arbourthorne Norfolk Park Gleadless Common



Policing the Steel City Derby

The football derby between Sheffield United and Sheffield Wednesday requires a large contribution from South Yorkshire Police to ensure that everything goes well – before, during and after the game. I accompanied Chief Inspector John House (pictured) to observe the police operations at first hand.

Welcoming South-East Asian Ambassadors

Whilst a Minister at the Foreign Office I invited a number of Ambassadors and High Commissioners from countries of South-East Asia to visit Sheffield for the day. They were keen to get a better understanding of life outside of London. The diplomats visited a number of locations in Heeley constituency, talking with people involved with a variety of community activities. I know they appreciated the warm welcome they received.



Respecting Shop Workers

I joined shopworkers at a Co-operative store in my constituency to call on customers to “keep your cool at Christmas” in support of the campaign by retail trade union Usdaw to cut down on the abuse and assaults suffered by shop staff. Many local shops like the Co-operative are open long hours including evenings and weekends. Treating shop workers with respect all year round is important so that they can continue to provide this vital local service.



Dan Aid Petitions Downing Street

I joined Christina Anderson, her family and members of the campaign group Dan Aid, in handing over a petition to 10 Downing Street. Dan Aid was set up in memory of Christina's son Daniel Hindle, who died of septicaemia after having his lip pierced.

The petition, signed by over 3,800 people, urged the Prime Minister to pressurise local authorities to implement and enforce new legislation to avert a similar tragedy. Sheffield became one of the first councils to adopt the new law which requires body piercing shops and tattooists to be regulated by their local council.



Commemorating HMS Sheffield

On a Ministerial visit to the Falkland Islands I wanted to lay a wreath at the Monument to HMS Sheffield, which was sunk in 1982 with the loss of 20 lives. Unfortunately high winds prevented the helicopter flight to the monument – but I was able to present the wreath to the RAF, who later laid it on my behalf.

Meg Munn – Sheffield Heeley's voice in Parliament