

Traffic congestion +++ stop press

One of the biggest issues in Renfrew currently is traffic congestion.

Wendy says, "I have complained to Scotland Gas Networks for the chaos their pipeline replacement programme has caused in the town centre.

"I have also been taking up issues of local traffic congestion, speeding and the need for traffic calming with the Council in various locations in the town including Afton Drive, Sandy Road, Oxford Road and Wright Street.

"Because the streets

are busier it is all the more important that children have safe routes to school and safe playparks.

"For example after raising residents' complaints, improvements are now underway at Victory Gardens."



The Scottish Parliament

WENDY Alexander MSP



How to contact YOUR MSP

WRITE TO:

Wendy Alexander MSP
Mile End, 12 Seedhill Road
Paisley PA1 1JS

PHONE:

0141 560 1025

INTERNET:

email:
wendy.alexander.msp@scottish.parliament.uk
website:
www.wendyalexandermsp.org.uk

MEET HER:

at an advice surgery on the dates shown opposite.

SURGERY DETAILS

1st Friday of the month
LINWOOD TWEEDIE HALL
4-5pm

2nd Friday of the month
RENFREW TOWN HALL
4-5pm

3rd Monday of the month
CONSTITUENCY OFFICE
12 Seedhill Road, Paisley
4.30-5.30pm

4th Monday of the month
TANNAHILL CENTRE,
FERGUSLIE
4.30-5.30pm

Wendy Alexander MSP

Renfrew Report - Paisley North Constituency - Winter 2006-07



Wendy with Health Minister Andy Kerr (centre) and Renfrew Health Centre staff.

£15 million for new Renfrew health centre

Local MSP Wendy Alexander thanked the "huge number of Renfrew residents" who signed her petition and joined her successful campaign for the new £15 million Renfrew health centre.

The MSP for Paisley North constituency which takes in Renfrew, said, "For over three years my top local campaigning priority was to win a new health centre for the town. Thanks to many residents' hard work we have succeeded.

"We brought Health Minister Andy Kerr (above) to Renfrew to see why we needed a new centre.

"In August he announced £7 million extra for the Health Board - earmarked specifically for a new Renfrew health centre.

"We have won the resources needed for a state-of-the-art building.

"I want work on Renfrew's new health centre to begin next year."



"The next phase of my campaign is to get the building work started as soon as possible.

"I want construction work on Renfrew's new health centre to begin next year," said Wendy.

The new health centre will not only be home to existing GP services, it will also provide:

- Minor surgery,
- Physiotherapy,
- Podiatry,
- Home care, and a wide range of community nursing and health services

Wendy adds, "Our efforts show what we can achieve when we work hard and work together for the good of Renfrew."

Wendy gets things done

£500 million for Renfrew Riverside



Wendy with Margaret Calderwood, the winner of the competition to name the Renfrew Riverside Park.

The Renfrew Riverside development is the largest and most ambitious regeneration project in Renfrewshire.

Wendy says, "Braehead is becoming about so much more than just shopping.

"The regeneration of the riverside will:

- Create 5000 jobs over the next decade
- Build 2000 new homes

- Provide one million square feet of state-of-the-art office space
- Transform local leisure and entertainment facilities.

"The £70 million Xscape complex boasts, among other features, a ski-slope, bowling alley, mini golf, Soccer Circus and numerous bars and restaurants. It has also created 900 jobs."

Regeneration

Flood scheme

Wendy says, "Any riverside development needs to be safe in an age of climate change.

"So, I am lobbying for the Scottish Executive to support Renfrewshire Council's proposed flood prevention scheme and fund part of the £6 million project.

Town Centre

"The Renfrew Town Centre Regeneration is underway.

"Some £4 million of new investment will improve the town centre and help link 'Old' Renfrew with the 'New' Renfrew which is taking shape along the riverside.

New homes at Moorpark

"And it is not just at the riverside that regeneration is underway.

"I have been actively supporting the regeneration of Moorpark since 2001. Today there are new private homes and 70 new homes for rent funded with support from the Scottish Executive."

Wendy gets things done

Working hard for Renfrew's pensioners

Free Buses: Renfrew's 4000 over-60s are entitled to free, unrestricted bus travel throughout Scotland.

3200 Renfrew pensioners are now enjoying the benefits of travelling around the country without paying a penny. Older members of the community who have yet to take advantage of the scheme can find out

more by phoning: 0141 333 3211.

Homeowners and private tenants over 60 and without central heating may qualify for the Executive's free central heating programme.

NHS: Pensioners in Renfrew can get free NHS prescriptions and eye tests. Many are entitled to help with other costs like NHS dental treatment.

Wendy: "Give us more community policing."

Anti-social behaviour troubles many people in Renfrew, according to Wendy.

She says, "I've held meetings in the Town Hall inviting the Police, the Wardens and the Asist team to listen to people facing particular problems in their area and I've encouraged them to step up their efforts.

"But sometimes it is important to have your voice heard at the highest level.

Johnny Gwynne, the new local Police Commander, has repeatedly heard me make the case for more intensive community policing in Renfrew.

"I'm delighted he has agreed senior officers will meet directly with Renfrew residents in the Town Hall so local people can have their voices heard on vital policing matters.

"Having secured much tougher penalties for knife crime in Parliament, my priority is now action on under age drinking, better enforcement of licensing laws, new fixed penalty notices (rather like parking tickets) for those causing vandalism and in future making vandals clear up their own mess."

Renfrew schools are top of the class

Youngsters in Renfrew are benefiting from increased investment in local schools.

Over £6 million has already been invested in refurbishing and extending Trinity High including the creation of an extensively improved gym.

Over the next 3 years Renfrew High will also be refurbished. And St. James Primary will also be upgraded.

FASTLINK: a new Renfrew to Glasgow streetcar

Renfrew's public transport links to Glasgow have never been good enough - but this is becoming more critical with the new homes under construction.

Wendy Alexander says, "I have been making the case for better transport links for Renfrew in the Scottish Parliament, to the Transport Minister and to Strathclyde Passenger Transport.

"I am campaigning for a streetcar service - running on a dedicated route - with a service every six minutes from Renfrew Town Centre into Glasgow. I have been working hard to convince the Scottish Executive and the Parliament of the merits of this scheme.

"I've secured a guarantee from the Transport Minister, Tavish Scott, that the Executive would consider a Fastlink proposal. If you would like to add your voice to the campaign for a Renfrew Fastlink email me." (email address on back page.)

"I am lobbying for the Scottish Executive to support the Council's £6 million flood prevention scheme."

