



JANUARY 2023

JAYNE BRYANT MS CONSTITUENCY UPDATE



COLD MONTHS BRING MORE CHALLENGES FOR THE NHS

Winter is proving to be particularly challenging period for our health and care services, with December 27 being the busiest day in the history of the Welsh NHS.

We can expect the next few months to be tough, but the commitment and hard work of the staff in all parts of our health and social care workforce is immense. They are working incredibly hard to maintain a service and deserve to be fairly rewarded for their invaluable work. Welsh Government funding for the NHS is intrinsically linked to what the UK Government decides to spend. They are refusing to budge, and the NHS is facing crisis across all regions of the UK as a result.

Read the Health and Social Service Ministers statement to the Senedd this week, here:
record.senedd.wales/Plenary/13185#A76660

IN THE SENEDD

Towards the end of 2022 I asked the First Minister for a statement on end-of-life care. Palliative care represents a huge spectrum of different emotions. It was positive to hear that the Welsh Government's review of hospice care has led to an uplift in hospice funding of £2.2 million. Funding that includes Newport charity St David's Foundation Hospice Care.

It is important that we ensure when difficult conversations are being had, all respect is given to the individual and that their wishes accommodated as much as possible. Good palliative care can make a huge difference to a person's quality of life, as well as for those who care for them, helping them to live as well as possible and to die with dignity.



WELSH GOVERNMENT HEADLINES FOR 2023

January

- Roll out next phase of free school meals for primary schools
- Expansion of the free childcare offer to 2-year-olds

February

- Innovation Strategy launch
- Introduction of the new Net Zero Skills Action Plan

March

- Social Partnership Bill

Education

- Supporting schools with the next phase of the new school curriculum

Environment

- Further work towards a Net Zero Wales by 2035
- Introduce Clean Air Bill
- Implement the ban on single-use plastics

Refugees

- Continue warm Welsh welcomes to refugees

NEWPORT CHOSEN TO HOST NSPCC PILOT

NSPCC are running a pilot called 'Listen up, Speak up', delivering face-to-face training in three areas, Leeds, Brighton and Newport, from January to mid February. Newport businesses and organisations are encouraged to sign up and receive the free workshop.

To run a workshop please contact Emma Motherwell at emma.motherwell@nspcc.org.uk or call 0203 772 9884.

NEW WAY TO ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SUPPORT

No one should have to deal with a mental health crisis on their own. The mental health telephone service is a new option available via the NHS 111 phone line, where callers can press 2 to speak to specially trained mental health advisors, based at St Cadoc's Hospital in Caerleon. The service is currently available seven days a week between 9am and midnight. By April 2023, it will become a 24-hour service.

CHRISTMAS VISITS

Lots of visits to some of Newport's Schools and nurseries over Christmas. Excellent fun being shown around and then meeting some of Newport's youngest residents at the fabulous Chuckles Nursery. Enjoyed Christmas Concerts from schools across the constituency. From Bassaleg and Caerleon to Maesglas and Pill, it was wonderful to see the talent that Newport children have to offer.



THE FUTURE OF HELP TO BUY WALES

The intention to extend Help to Buy Wales for a further two years, until March 2025 has been announced. The UK Government closed applications to 'Help to Buy in England' in October 2022. Here in Wales, the scheme has continued to be an important source of support for the housing industry and supply chains.

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.wales/written-statement-future-help-buy-wales-april-2023#:~:text=The%20current%20phase%20of%20the,two%20years%2C%20until%20March%202025.>

COST-OF-LIVING SUPPORT BOOKLET

I have developed a cost of living support booklet. The booklet collates the latest information on the help available.

You can request a copy by contacting my office.



COST OF LIVING PRESSURES

The cost-of-living pressures continue to be relentless. Minister for Social Justice, Jane Hutt MS, made a statement confirming Welsh Government will do everything it can to support people. Thanking partners and stakeholders across Wales for their continued support and urging people to make sure they access the help and support they are eligible for.

Read the full statement here: <https://record.senedd.wales/Plenary/13185#A76663>

COMMUNITIES COMING TOGETHER

It has been touching to see and hear about the dedicated volunteers, staff and food banks across Newport who are doing what they can to help those in need. Support from food banks can be a life line to many.



YOUNG PERSON'S GUARANTEE

Young Person's Guarantee in Wales recently marked its one year anniversary. A fantastic initiative that is key to the Government's commitment to provide under 25s in Wales with the offer of support to gain a place in education or training; support to find a job; or support to become self-employed.

Read more here: www.gov.wales/young-persons-guarantee.html#:~:text=The%20Young%20Person's%20Guarantee%20is,work%20or%20become%20self%20employed.

UNIONS OF THE WORLD OF WORK

Pleased to have joined Minister's Hannah Blythyn, Jeremy Miles and Wales TUC General Secretary, Shavanah Taj, at Caerleon Comprehensive recently to catch up and see how the Welsh Government and Wales Trade Union Congress 'Unions of the World of Work' pilot is going.

Hearing from young people first-hand about how their knowledge of their rights has increased was brilliant. Understanding the role of Unions in the workplace is more important now more than ever, particularly for young people as they embark on their working lives.

NEW DIGITAL SYSTEM IMPROVES MATERNITY SERVICES IN WALES

Mothers-to-be will be able to access their records as well as receiving timely messages to help ensure a healthy pregnancy. Vital information about the health of pregnant women and their unborn babies will be shared much faster with a new all-Wales digital system for maternity services in Wales.

Read more here: www.gov.wales/7m-digital-system-will-improve-maternity-services-wales

WARM WELCOMES AND FEED NEWPORT

You will find warm hubs in Newport in both council-run and other buildings, your local hub may be in a community centre, church, library or pub. Newport City Council has also been able to offer grants to proposed venues to encourage more being opened. You can find hubs across the city including Bettws, Gear, Pill, the Town Centre and Maesglas.