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The Kettering Constituency covers approximately 400 square miles and includes over 50 parishes. I hold advice surgeries in the villages, attend Parish Council meetings and visit village schools in order to keep in touch with the needs of rural communities. I also hold regular meeting with the NFU and businesses in rural areas.



New School opens

There are over sixty schools in the Kettering Constituency and I was pleased to be present when the keys were handed over for the latest addition, the new 'Hall Meadow' school in Kettering.

Many schools in the constituency continue to benefit from increased funding. Montagu School is progressing with plans for a new £1.2 million sports hall. Work on new classrooms at Guilsborough Primary School (£400,000) and Montsaye Community College (£1million) is progressing well.

Construction work is well underway on the new sports hall and community facilities at Grange Primary School (£980,000) and Latimer Community Arts College is to receive £500,000 over the next three years to develop its arts facilities.

Investment in education continues to be a Government priority.



BYPASS AT LAST

Having campaigned for a Rothwell / Desborough bypass since I was first elected as a member of Desborough Town Council over 25 years ago, I am delighted that the new road is now open.

The new bypass, opened in August 2003, has taken traffic out of Rothwell and Desborough making our communities safer and reducing pollution.

The campaign for a bypass has involved local Councillors and local residents and I would like to thank all of them for the support they have given on this issue.

The bypass provides an opportunity to review road safety in both towns and will enable environmental improvements to take place.

A large number of constituents contact me direct or sign petitions on issues of concern and I was pleased to support the recent campaign to safeguard the future of community pharmacies. I have taken this issue up with Ministers and have sought to impress upon them the important role of local Chemists.



Village halls provide a vital function in rural areas and I have been campaigning with members of Northamptonshire ACRE and other county MP's to secure better funding for these local facilities. Village halls are part of the fabric of rural life and I will continue to actively campaign for more resources.

