

report 23/24

AUTUMN 2023

Virginia
CROSBIE

NEWS FROM THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR YNYS MÔN

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“Despite our political differences, I cannot but praise Virginia Crosbie for her hard work for Holyhead and Anglesey. She has been a true champion of our town and island. I look forward to continuing working with her for the sake of our communities.”

Cllr Hywel Williams, Holyhead Mayor

✓ Freeport status granted with £26m funding

✓ £20m funding for Holyhead Breakwater refurbishment

✓ £17m Levelling Up Fund

Hello – Welcome to my 2023 Annual Report

MY WORK IN NUMBERS

19,300

Pieces of casework handled

380

Written Questions and letters to Ministers

287

Mentions of Ynys Môn and Anglesey in Parliament

251

Spoken Contributions in Parliamentary Proceedings

£83m

UK Government funding specifically allocated to Ynys Môn

19

Ministerial visits to Ynys Môn and two Prime Ministers

MY PRIORITIES FOR YNYS MÔN

1

Delivering New Nuclear to Wylfa

Thousands of good quality jobs for generations of local people will be delivered once we get approval for new nuclear at Wylfa. I am doing everything I can working with Ministers, developers and organisations to bring new nuclear investment to Ynys Môn.

2

Making a success of Anglesey Freeport

Our whole island will benefit from our new freeport status; with over 13,000 jobs and £1bn of potential investment. New businesses like the US company Westinghouse are already bringing high-quality jobs here and benefitting existing business. I campaigned hard for Anglesey to become a freeport and the Prime Minister came to Ynys Môn to announce it.

3

Improving local healthcare

Healthcare is a third of my postbag despite it being devolved and the responsibility of the Labour Government in Cardiff. I regularly intervene on behalf of my constituents to co-ordinate the GP, dental and hospital appointments and operations they desperately need. I have worked with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to recruit more island GPs.

4

A third Menai crossing to improve connectivity

A robust and resilient transport infrastructure is critical for people on Anglesey to access healthcare, education and employment. My campaign for a third crossing has highlighted the lack of investment from the Labour Government in Cardiff and how important our road links are to attract new employers.

5

Making the most of Energy Island

Anglesey has wind, wave, solar, tidal and hydrogen projects - and hopefully new nuclear. Our island is playing its part in helping to tackle climate change. By creating a platform for companies like Morlais to succeed I am ensuring that our Energy Island will bring jobs and prosperity to local people.

6

Generating Prosperity Across Ynys Môn

Delivering well-paid jobs for local people is the best way to ensure my constituents can afford to buy their own homes and raise their families on Anglesey, whilst protecting our Welsh language and culture. Since the island elected me the UK Government has awarded over £83m to Anglesey to deliver new jobs, skills training and develop local businesses.

Welcome to my third annual report. It is a privilege to be your Member of Parliament and this is my opportunity to be accountable to the people of Ynys Môn.

Since the island elected me I have continued to fight to raise the profile of Ynys Môn on the global stage and have been successful in bringing investment and generating exciting new opportunities for local people.

The UK Government is committed to levelling up places like Ynys Môn, as evidenced by £26m for Anglesey Freeport, £20m for the Holyhead Breakwater refurbishment, £17m from the Levelling Up Fund, £16m Shared Prosperity funding, £3m Community Renewal funding and almost £1m from the Safer Streets Fund.

If the island uses these funds wisely, Ynys Môn has the opportunity and resources to enjoy an economic renaissance by welcoming new investment and delivering high-quality well-paid jobs for local people.

I am determined to continue to deliver the opportunities Anglesey needs to protect our Welsh language and culture and ensure people across our island have a bright future – and that future is here.



Virginia

As your MP I have a proven track record of delivering for local people

Mr Tate's son needed an urgent eye clinic referral after being told he might lose his sight.

Failures in the health service meant the referral was lost. I spoke with BCUHB and managed to resolve the matter quickly.

Mr Tate said: "Virginia certainly played a very big part in this situation and I feel that we would not have fared so well without her intervention."

Ynys Môn benefits from £83m UK Government funding since 2020

I want to hear from you

- With any local issue or concern
- Your local success stories, heroes, events or businesses
- Ways in which you can support me as I work to bring positive change to Anglesey
- To say hello and introduce yourself

Let's work together to improve Ynys Môn

Please complete my two minute survey and tell me what matters to you and your community virginiacrosbie.co.uk/survey



This Annual Report has been produced thanks to:

Adelphi Vaults Amlwch
Anglesey Hamper Company
Arfor Camping Moelfre
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Hamilton Hair Salon Llangefni
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Newry Juniors
Nova Chrome UK
Royalty Recruitment
Sandy Mount House
Siop Llandeg
The Bull Hotel, Valley

The Gwalchmai Hotel
The Hogan Group
The White Eagle
Treaddur Bay post office and Spar convenience store
United Artisans UK
Wonderfully Wild Ltd
WOW Training
Y Dec Moelfre



Anglesey Freeport gets the go-ahead for 13,000 new jobs

Anglesey Freeport marks the start of our economic renaissance. The Freeport covers the whole island which means that both businesses already based here and new organisations setting up here will enjoy the benefits of freeport status.

Local people deserve a good income and a future on Anglesey and that means we need high-quality skilled jobs. Secure well-paid long-term local employment will stem the loss of our young people who currently leave in search of careers elsewhere, taking with them our Welsh language and breaking up our communities.

Freeport status means that we can eliminate import and export duties, remove some employment and business taxes, streamline paperwork and more. Existing businesses also stand to benefit from new supply chain opportunities and increased customer wealth. These changes will make it cheaper to manufacture and run a commercial operation on Anglesey making our island a more attractive place to do business.

I am determined to make a success of our freeport which is why you will see me bringing companies around the island like GE-Hitachi, KEPCO, Westinghouse, Airbus, Rolls-Royce, Moltex and Bechtel. Many of these organisations have average salaries almost twice those on Ynys Môn and are keen to invest and bring new good-quality jobs here. Our first Freeport success is Westinghouse who have set up a de-commissioning operation at M-SParc creating 15 new jobs with more to come.

To find out more about what our island's freeport status means to you and your business please contact me to attend one of my regular Freeport Seminars.

Exciting progress on new nuclear jobs at Wylfa

I have campaigned for new nuclear at Wylfa as it will bring thousands of construction jobs and hundreds of well-paid permanent roles to Ynys Môn.

The £120m Future Nuclear Enabling Fund was launched at Wylfa; Wylfa is now recognised as one of the best sites for new nuclear in the UK.

I have mentioned Wylfa more than 58 times in the House of Commons, led Westminster debates, sat on the Nuclear Financing Bill Committee and championed green taxonomy for nuclear. I chair the cross-party APPG for Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and the Nuclear Delivery Group, I hosted Nuclear Week in Westminster and regularly speak at conferences and write articles.

I will keep fighting for new nuclear at Wylfa at every opportunity until I see spades in the ground.

To join my campaign for new nuclear at Wylfa... www.virginiacrosbie.co.uk/nuclear



Everyone knows someone Virginia has helped

As your MP one of my most important roles is to help local people. I have managed more than 19,300 pieces of casework from people across Ynys Môn.

Here are some examples of the work I do, supported by my fantastic team in Holyhead.

Mr Rowlands contacted me after a spate of road accidents near his home. After I intervened the road was resurfaced and extra warning signs were erected. Mr Rowlands told me: *"thank you as you have managed to do more after one letter than the local councillors and the authority's highways section have in twenty years."*

Jennifer's daughter-in-law to-be was refused a visa to enter the UK for her wedding. After I stepped in, her application was approved and the wedding went ahead. Jennifer said: *"Thank you very much for your help with this matter. It helps restore one's faith in human nature."*

Mrs Williams contacted me about her carers allowance. Following my intervention, her payments were restored and she was given full back-pay. She said *"I don't think this would have been sorted without your help so I'm very grateful"*

Mr Owen was entitled to a VAT refund but was struggling to get HMRC to process the payment. After my intervention, HMRC paid Mr Owen what he was owed. He said: *"I should also be grateful if you would convey my gratitude to Virginia Crosbie for escalating this matter. I'm sure her intervention was critical in its resolution."*

Mrs Jones asked for my help when an inadequate culvert next to her home caused flooding. I contacted the Council who have now installed a new drainage system. Mrs Jones said: *"I am very grateful to Virginia for this support and the action taken by her and also Anglesey Council"*.

Mr Hughes thought he was going to have to cancel his planned holiday in Europe when the DVLA misplaced his driving licence renewal application. After contacting my office Mr Hughes said: *"After numerous and frustrating attempts to contact the DVLA to resolve the matter to no avail I decided to contact Virginia Crosbie's office as a last resort. The matter was promptly dealt with and my licence arrived within two weeks. I cannot thank her and her team enough for sorting this out quickly and efficiently. A big thank you from my wife and I and for all the good work that she does for the community and Anglesey."*



Anglesey's apprentices take centre stage in Westminster

As your Member of Parliament I was proud to showcase many of our island's fantastic apprentices in Westminster.

Working with Grŵp Llandrillo Menai my Anglesey Skills Day featured Babcock Group, Holyhead Marine Services Ltd, Carelink Homecare Services, the Oystercatcher, Anglesey County Council and Mona Lifting. The event was sponsored by Bechtel, Sizewell C, Last Energy, Read Construction and WSP.

I was thrilled that the Secretary of State for Wales, Rt Hon David TC Davies MP, gave a welcoming speech in Welsh and English and chatted with employers and their apprentices. Other high-profile MPs who came along included the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP, the Under-secretary of State for Wales, Dr James Davies MP, and the Minister for Levelling Up, Dehenna Davison MP.

My next Anglesey Day in Westminster is Wednesday 22 November 2023 2-4pm in the Jubilee Room. I will be proudly showcasing many of our island's successful local businesses including Mona Lifting, Metex, John Kelly Construction, BIC Innovation and Red Boat Ice Cream. Everyone is welcome; please kindly email me at virginia4ynysmon@gmail.com if you would like to be my guest.

125 local jobs available at my June Jobs Fair

"I am happy to inform you that I have been successful in obtaining a support worker job which would not have happened if I had not gone to the Jobs Fair, so many thanks for the invite."
Ms Hughes

More than 100 local people attended the Jobs & Opportunities Fair I organised with the local DWP and Job Centres. Over 15 organisations attended with more than 125 jobs available between them. I also invited organisations looking for volunteers, like the Holyhead Welcome Committee who welcome visitors from cruise ships.

Helping you find more money to tackle the cost of living crisis

In response to casework and the challenges facing many across our island I held Cost of Living Advice Fairs in Holyhead and Amlwch. Alongside myself and my casework team, up to 24 organisations attended to offer practical support and advice to local people.

Those organisations included local groups including Isle of Anglesey County Council, Môn CF and Menter Môn, bank and utility companies like HSBC, Centrica and Dŵr Cymru, national support organisations like the DWP and CAB, and charities like Shelter Cymru and SSAFA.

The event was free with the costs covered by money I have personally raised to help people on Anglesey.

Bringing more money into local communities

Many local sports clubs have benefited from my annual sponsorship including Aberffraw Football Club, Amlwch Town Football Club, Benllech Bowls, Holyhead Hotspurs, Holyhead Rugby Club, Llangefni Football Club, Llangefni Rugby Club, Menai Bridge Cricket Club and Trearddur Bay Football Club. If you would like me to sponsor your club please do get in touch.

I was delighted that Anglesey came ninth in the Island Games and pleased to play my part in raising funds towards travel costs – helping to raise more than £6,000 for Holyhead student travel costs and more than £1,600 for Anglesey's Ladies Football Team.

I have hosted a number of Gala Dinners which have raised more than £20,000 for local charities, including Riding for the Disabled, Ynys Môn Schools Football Association and others.

To support local groups I have personally raised over £4,500 which has benefitted the following local groups:

3D Kids, Aberffraw Football Club, Age Well, Anglesey Feline Support and Rescue, Anglesey Foodbank, Anglesey Hawks Basketball Club, Anglesey Young Farmers, the Armed Forces Covenant, Autism Parents Group Anglesey, Barnardo's, Benllech and District Good Turn Scheme, Canolfan Iechyd Amlwch, Cemaes Bay Football Club, Cylch Meithrin Llanerchymedd, Cymunedau Ymlaen Môn Communities, Digartref, Eagle House Youth Development, GirlGuiding, Gorwel, Hedgehuggles, Hope House, Island Games competitors, Malltraeth Ymlaen, Marie Curie, Men's Sheds, Môn SAR (Anglesey Lowland Search and Rescue), NCI Point Lynas, North Wales Accessible Holidays, NSPCC Pentraeth, Pancreatic Cancer UK, PAWS Anglesey, PIWS, the Red Squirrel Trust, Rhosneigr Sports Club, The Scout Association, St Cybi's Church, St David's Hospice, Stepping Stones, Tide Carers, Transplant Games competitors, Trearddur Bay Football Club, Twrcelyn Thrift Shop, Unlock Your You, Ynys Môn Riding for the Disabled and Ynys Môn Schools Football Association.

How I helped Anglesey tourism and hospitality workers

For the many people on Anglesey who work in the tourism and hospitality sector I sponsored a Private Member's Bill – Employment (Allocation of Tips) Bill which amended the 1996 Employment Rights Act.

This Bill gained Royal Assent in June and will benefit more than two million people across the UK adding an average of £200 to workers' take-home pay in the sector each year.



My work to bring positive action for Ynys Môn's farmers

The farming community is important to Ynys Môn which is why I invited the Farming Minister to visit the Anglesey Show this year. I sponsored the Anglesey Show and held a gala dinner which raised £2,000 for the Anglesey Agricultural Society. The Minister thoroughly enjoyed his visit to this iconic Anglesey event.

Local farmers contacted me concerned about dangerous dog attacks. Working with the North Wales Police Rural Crime Team and the National Farmers Union (NFU) I was proud to introduce the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) five-minute rule bill in Westminster.

To ensure the farming community has a voice I have arranged meetings for local farmers with the Secretary of State for Agriculture, the Secretary of State for Trade and the Australian High Commissioner to discuss the Agriculture Bill and UK Trade Deals.

To celebrate the reopening of lamb exports to the US I brought local farmer, Peter Williams, to Westminster to present a leg of Anglesey-raised lamb to the Prime Minister.

My work to protect and grow our Welsh language and culture

Over half of our island's population speak Welsh which is why my first EDM in the House of Commons was about the importance of the Welsh Language. When the island elected me I committed to learn Welsh and I continue to do all I can to promote and sustain it.

I am delighted that money from the UK Government's £2.7m Community Renewal Fund has been used to protect and expand the use of the Welsh language under the Iaith Môn scheme.

The best way I can protect our Welsh language and culture is by ensuring that there is good quality employment on Ynys Môn. This is why I am determined to make a success of our Anglesey Freeport, bring new nuclear to Wylfa and attract high quality investment.



A mile of bunting celebrates the King's Coronation

The weekend of 6-8 May was an historic event for everyone across the UK as we came together to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

Many people on Ynys Môn used this event to bring their communities together to celebrate and have fun.

I attended as many celebrations across Anglesey as I could, meeting the community champions who organised them and local people of all ages celebrating together. From nursing homes to hospital wards, schools, community centres, village halls, markets, churches and shops.

To help people celebrate I personally funded more than a mile of Union Flag bunting which I handed out for free.



How you can use me to shine a light on Ynys Môn

Every MP has the opportunity to ask written questions of Government Ministers. These are formally recorded by Parliament and give me a fantastic opportunity to get answers for my constituents about Government policy.

I use written questions to raise Ministerial awareness of issues directly affecting local people and businesses on Ynys Môn. The 380 written questions I have submitted have covered topics as diverse as the contaminated blood scandal, autism, nuclear power and rail services.

So far this year I have had an unprecedented five Prime Minister's Questions, each time using these opportunities to raise the national profile of Ynys Môn and mention local people and organisations.

Many people have commented on my enthusiastic "bobbing" at Prime Minister's Questions on a Wednesday and also in Ministers' Questions in the House of Commons.

The sudden closure of the Menai Suspension Bridge, the importance of the Welsh Language, support for new nuclear at Wylfa and the issue of poor rail services to Anglesey have all featured in Westminster debates that I have led.

