



Emma McClarkin
MEP for the East Midlands



Your European Parliamentary report from Emma McClarkin MEP

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Dear Colleague,

Welcome to my latest newsletter. I have been as busy as ever these past few months working hard to defend British interests in Brussels, doing what I can to stop bureaucratic burdens and make the EU work better for us and of course getting out and about across the region.

I've met many of you on my travels across the region and visited as many places and businesses as possible in my role as your MEP.

We've received a fantastic response to my EU survey in my last newsletter, and I want to thank everyone who took the time to send me their views. There is still time to email your answers before we report back on the results in the next newsletter.

Emma McClarkin

2013 YOUTH CONFERENCE

This year I am again, in conjunction with the AECR, helping to organise the East Midlands Youth Conference, aimed at young people who are passionate about politics.

The conference will be held in Derby on Sat 19 October and I hope it will build on the success of the inaugural event last year (right).

We will once again be joined by a host of MPs and MEPs, who will be talking about how they got into politics as well as giving some tips. I hope you can join us there.



FIGHTING ONLINE CHILD ABUSE

My campaign against online child sexual abuse content is one that I feel extremely strongly about, and I have worked hard to help legislation move forward in order to protect children against these abuses.

As part of my campaign and work on this issue I have authored a Written Declaration and worked in conjunction with the Internet Watch Foundation to campaign against indecent online images.

I welcomed the Prime Minister's speech in which he signalled his intention to crack down on online pornography. I'm delighted that the Prime Minister is taking this lead in protecting children online, and not waiting for the ISPs to do something of their own accord.

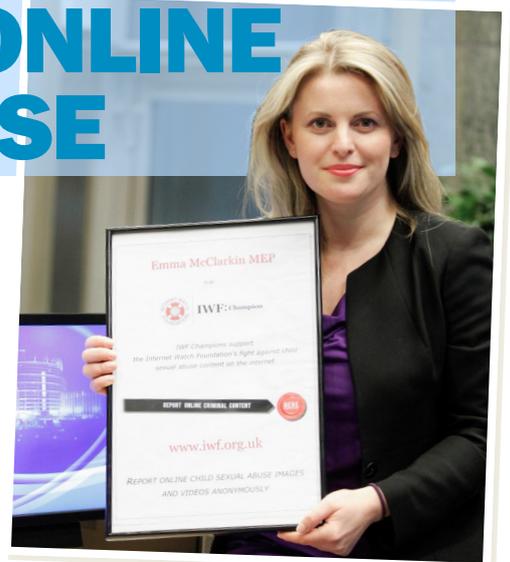
This action will help to protect British children as well as making it easier for parents to stop their children viewing unsuitable and illegal content.

I've long campaigned on this issue, and I'm so pleased that the UK is showing the world the way forward in helping to tackle online pornography and images of child abuse.

Due to the nature of the internet this type of crime goes beyond UK and EU borders, and I have been calling for global action to make child protection online a priority.

At Conference this year I will be hosting a fringe event with the Culture Secretary, Maria

Miller, titled 'The Global Fight Against Online Child Sexual Abuse Content'. It will be on Tues 1 Oct, 12:30 - 2pm, in the Midland Hotel. Please come along!



EU TAKES THE UK TO COURT

The decision by the European Commission to start legal proceedings against the UK over how we test if European migrants are eligible for benefits here in the UK has left many people – myself included – rightly incensed.

I welcome migrants who wish to come and work here in the UK - but not those who wish to take advantage of our welfare system.

We are in fact not alone in applying this test; similar rules also exist in Holland, Germany and Austria. I believe the Commission's decision to target the UK over this will not only strengthen the case for renegotiation, but could also help to convince other countries to support us in our efforts.

Those who are democratically elected by the people of Britain need to decide what is best for us, not Brussels, and I support Iain Duncan-Smith's stance against EU interference.

EMMA McCLARKIN MEP - Fighting for the East Midlands in Europe



Above: In Dronfield earlier this year with Cllr Angelique Foster.

Below: Visiting the RSPB at Frampton Marsh nature reserve.



Out & About across the East Midlands

With **EMMA McCLARKIN MEP**

Below: In Oadby this April, campaigning with Rani Mahal.



Below: AGM with Alan Duncan MP and Frances, Duchess of Rutland.



Above: Campaigning in Gedling earlier this year.

Below: At BASF Meas Ashby with Andrew Pitts and Graham Hartwell.



NEW EU—US TRADE TALKS: PROMOTING FREE MARKETS

The European Parliament recently voted overwhelmingly to endorse a start to negotiations for a comprehensive free trade agreement between the EU and the USA.

If a deal can be negotiated then the UK can expect to benefit hugely, as

a deal would not only boost exports in key sectors such as motor-manufacturing, but it would also make Britain a potential magnet for inward investment from America, something I am keen to support and attract for the East Midlands.

Britain would benefit the most from any deal, with an increase of up to £10bn annually. I hope a EU-US deal would help secure a

more outward looking EU that seeks to open markets and doesn't resort to protectionism.

The two sides are each other's main trading partners and enjoy the largest bilateral trade relationship in the world. We need to do all we can to reduce barriers to transatlantic trade.

As a member of the International Trade Committee I will be doing all I can to make sure we seize this opportunity and have the most open approach possible to negotiations at this stage. No red lines, no restrictions, nothing off limits. We need to go into this with open eyes and open minds if we're to secure the best deal possible.



EU WANTING CARAVAN MOTS

Conservatives are opposing proposals which would impose a cumbersome inspection and testing regime on caravans and light trailers.

The EU has drafted a raft of proposed legislation on vehicle testing which would hugely extend the scope of

INTERNET TV CHALLENGES

The campaign for more broadband access and speed continues. The latest work is on Internet TVs, calling for more accessibility and better infrastructure to ensure they are safe and available to all.

Internet TVs are already common in many homes, and this has a big effect on laws

EU HOLIDAY RULES UPDATED

The EU 'Package Holiday' laws have recently been updated, which should give travellers clearer rules & information regarding the holidays that they have booked, along with better guidelines on cancellation and complaints procedures.

The internet has given people

the current regime for tests.

This proposal would do nothing to improve safety. It is accepted that our roads are among the safest in Europe.

This is an important part of our leisure and tourism industry which we should be encouraging, not penalising.

meant to protect consumers, as they just didn't envisage TVs connected to the internet.

There are still large areas of the UK and Europe with poor internet speeds. Unless we can address these challenges, internet TV will be a luxury that can only be enjoyed by citizens living in urban areas with higher internet speeds.

a lot of choice, but EU law was designed for a pre-internet age and this has led to ambiguities when things go wrong.

The new rules proposed by the Commission would make passengers' rights and operators' responsibilities clearer. Some good news at last.

