



This week's news from Ben Bradley MP

As you may expect, I began this week responding to the flooding we've experienced across the county. I've been in Retford with Environment Secretary Therese Coffey, meeting residents who have been among the worst affected by flooding over the weekend. As we moved through the week I'm glad we were able to share more positive news on the flooding situation and current activity.

We're now able to work on 'recovery', including seeking to establish what support will be made available from Government. [Watch my update here.](#)

We had positive news on this at Prime Minister's Questions, with up to £5,500 of support to be made available to households and businesses affected by flooding. We're working with Government currently to put the mechanisms in place to deliver this to Nottinghamshire residents.

I've also approached the Chancellor, Transport Secretary and Local Government Secretary to ask them to consider additional funding to support reinstating infrastructure, to help us do things like repair roads and bridges that have been damaged.

[See what the PM had to say here.](#)

[Flooding help and advice here](#)

Keep in touch!



[Join my constituents only Facebook group here!](#)

**A NEW
APPROACH
TO REACH**

**NET
ZERO**

**What's your
opinion on the
PM's new approach
to net zero policy?**

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Levelling Up Bill is finally becoming law!

Really big news this week that the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill is becoming law, and will be given what's called 'Royal Assent'. That's really big news for our area because it confirms changes that allow us to access billions of pounds of new investment, and draw decisions down from Whitehall so that we can make them locally instead.

Government will now formally offer our area the chance to implement the devolution deal we agreed last year, to create a new East Midlands Combined Authority covering Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Local leaders will be asked to accept the deal in a month or so's time, and to confirm the £1.14bn economic development funding we've agreed, a £1.5bn transport fund to deliver all those vital local transport projects (such as our Robin Hood Line!), and further powers and funds related to skills and training, housing and all sorts.

This is a MASSIVE change, because it finally brings us in line with places like Birmingham and Manchester who have had this for ages, and have been billions of pounds better off than us as a result.

Of course this administrative change is only the start of a journey, but the end goal is the chance to deliver those outcomes; better public transport; more investment in infrastructure; attracting new private investment, business and jobs to the area; a better and more long term plan for housing so that we can develop in the right places rather than the easiest or quickest, and to ensure we bring forward brownfield sites first whilst protecting green spaces.

All of these things are possible now the Bill has passed and become law, and it's a really positive opportunity for our area.

[**Watch my video on this here!**](#)



Millions in new transport funding secured!

A privilege to work with Transport Ministers and the Secretary of State to secure major new funding for the Mansfield, Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands, with first instalments announced this week.

This week it's been announced that there will be a further £4.6m for bus service improvements in 24/25, to be followed shortly by new Highways funding for the same period. I know these are important and immediate priorities for residents, so this is fantastic news.

Last week, news of a £1.5bn Transport Settlement for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire was brilliant, and will give our new Mayor some really significant opportunities to deliver major new projects and infrastructure over the coming years

Ours is area with huge potential and amazing opportunities. It also has unique challenges, and this funding will help us deliver improvements to local transport, including connecting every community to the bus network, extending 'On Demand' buses, rolling out integrated 'tap on/tap off' ticketing, and restoring rail connections like the Robin Hood and Maid Marian Lines to link communities in to major hubs and jobs.

Fantastic news, and a big opportunity!



Finally, the end of migrant hotels

Good to see that finally a programme is finally rolling out to close down migrant hotels, starting with the most expensive ones for taxpayers, and instead transferring illegal migrants to secure and more cost effective accommodation such as the barges.

Government continues to work through the backlog, and nobody who arrived here by illegal means after Spring '24 will have any legal right to stay in the UK. Numbers of boats are down by a quarter this year and Government remains hopeful that we'll soon hear a positive outcome to court proceedings around Rwanda deportations, so that we can remove more people.

There's loads more to do - and I will be pressing to ensure that Mansfield is early on the list of hotel closures - but we're making progress, and you can be bloody sure that a Labour Government would be making no attempt to act on this, and would be opening up the doors!

[Read more here](#)



Tackling parent's concerns with sex and relationships education

Really positive steps from the Education Secretary to support parents, after many people have raised concerns about the content of their child's relationship and sex education at school. With some really extreme examples appearing in the media of wholly inappropriate content in a handful of schools, it's important that parents can be assured that what their child is being taught is factual and appropriate.

This week the Minister wrote to schools to confirm that all parents have a right to know what their child is being taught, and that there can be no more hiding behind 'copyright' or 'contractual clauses' to keep things a secret.

"No ifs, no buts and no more excuses. This government is acting to guarantee parents' fundamental right to know what their children are being taught in sex and relationships education."

[Find out more here](#)



Meeting with the Sports Minister to discuss funding for Mansfield Town FC

I've met with the Sports Minister Stuart Andrew, along with colleagues, to discuss the progress of the negotiations between the Premier League and the EFL, to increase the levels of TV Rights and funding that trickle down the pyramid and support local clubs.

This is really important for EFL and National League clubs, including Mansfield Town Football Club and Mansfield Town Community Trust, who are set to benefit by several million in additional funding over the next three years, of press reports are to be believed.

That all helps to ensure that local EFL teams - often the heart of local communities - are viable businesses with sustainable finances. Nobody want to see more Bury-type situations where clubs go bust. Importantly this money will need to spent on the club's infrastructure and financial sustainability, and long term investment in communities. It cannot be spent on inflating wages or agents fees.

We've seen Mansfield Town go from strength to strength as a business over recent years, under the Radfords' ownership, and their stewardship of the club, bringing it back to to the EFL and hopefully further still (this season) has been brilliant for the town. Additional support from above can only be helpful in boosting the infrastructure and delivering success.

It's also positive that the bodies involved - PL and EFL - look likely to come to an agreement themselves without needing Government intervention. I think that's a much healthier way to manage things. I'll continue to press all the bodies involved to find a solution that benefits Mansfield Town, other EFL and lower league clubs, as well as grassroots engagement and facilities.



Speaking to local business leaders about the challenges and exciting investments coming our way!

I've been at North Notts Business Connections this week speaking to local business leaders about the area, the challenges and the opportunities. We spoke about exciting new Transport funding, about clean energy and STEP Fusion, and about the skills and training opportunities of that project, all under the umbrella of the new powers and investment we're getting for our area through the new Combined Authority.

I was pleased to be joined by the UK Atomic Energy Authority and by Cllr Keith Girling, to talk us through the opportunity we have to make North Notts an international hub for Fusion technology. There's more on that here including how local businesses can engage in the supply chain: <https://step.ukaea.uk/step-siting/>

With amazing local infrastructure in energy production and access in to the grid at multiple large power stations, as well as the flagship projects and businesses we have at STEP, at Rolls Royce, Toyota and others working on clean energy projects, our part of the world could become a genuine national hub of innovation and energy production.
Lots of exciting work going on!



Presenting a cheque to Reach Learning Disability!

Dropped in to Reach Learning Disability to present them with this big cheque, much to the excitement of the service users who were

gearing up for a Halloween Party on Friday afternoon!

The money is to support the centre's technology group, with some new equipment including some new laptops. It's a pleasure to be able to help these guys with their learning, and to support the Reach team.

Have a great party guys!



Meeting the Energy Security Minister with local business leaders

On Friday I met with colleagues from local business and education, to speak with Energy Security Minister Graham Stuart MP.

Really grateful to Graham for taking the time to come down from his Yorkshire constituency and give us the benefit of his thoughts on the whole clean energy agenda, from challenges and bottlenecks in the system, to the skills requirements we need for the sector.

He also spoke about the opportunity for Britain to be world leading in this space; in hydrogen, fusion, modular nuclear, carbon capture and all sorts else. We could become a net exporter of energy in the future and boost our economy selling our clean product and our expertise to the world, rather than relying on imported energy and fuels as we do now.

That's an exciting prospect, and one that's well within our grasp as we are literally the best in the world currently at carbon reduction, whilst we lead the way in all sorts of these exciting technologies. Really refreshing to hear a message on 'net zero' that is about growing the economy, creating jobs and bringing in investment, which benefits everyone.

I told Graham that I think Rishi having shifted the dial on this, moving towards this positive approach and away from banning things and taxing things, is one of the best decisions he's made since becoming Prime Minister.



In Chesterfield with Ben Flook!

I've been over to see Conservative candidate for Chesterfield Ben Flook, to talk about town centres and regeneration. Ben is doing a brilliant job engaging with local businesses and market traders here to understand what's needed to get the town buzzing again.

Obviously there's a lot of shared experiences and learning when it comes to Market towns, like Mansfield, Chesterfield and many others around our area. They often have very similar challenges, so it was really interesting to come and hear from people about their perceptions, and how Towns Fund and Levelling Up money from Government is being spent here.

Interestingly the perception was that Chesterfield's Labour Council weren't being forward thinking enough with their plans, and weren't delivering quickly enough. Those I spoke too were pleased that Government is investing in the area, but concerned that the opportunity might go to waste if the Council was left to deliver it. That rings a bell too, doesn't it!



Historic Metal Box site to become retirement complex

This is fantastic news and a really positive, regenerative project for the town!

[Read more here](#)

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 - Weekly food waste collections
 - Cracking down on dodgy waste dealers
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[Find out more](#)

Your feedback matters!



Every so often I like to ask Mansfield constituents to share a general sense of their thoughts and priorities, both in terms of local and national issues, and also on the politics of it all.

It only take two minutes to tell me what you think, and it helps me to make sure I'm on the right track.

Please take my survey here, and help me to do the best job that I can.

[Fill in the survey here](#)

And finally... This week's column



"Brilliant to see the success of local charity Hetty's"

Thank-you for reading my latest update, I hope you have a great weekend!

Warmest regards,

**Ben Bradley MP,
for Mansfield & Warsop**



Keep up to date with my work



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