

EMMA SPEAKS UP FOR FREE TRADE AT THE WTO

Early in October, Emma was present at the World Trade Organisation's Public Forum in Geneva, titled 'Why Trade Matters to Everyone'.

As the lead MEP for Trade on behalf of the Conservative Party in the European Parliament, Emma attended the event in order to advance free trade across the world to provide opportunities for



businesses in the East Mids and the wider UK. Emma said: "Trade is an essential part of development and is crucial to the economy, not just of the East Midlands and the UK, but also of the entire world."

"I believe it is more important than ever that we look outwards and build relationships with other parts of the world, especially those whose economies have been growing fast.

"Trade is a priority for us, and I work hard to ensure that a positive message for opening up trade is heard loud and clear in the EU and beyond".

ANDREW APPOINTED TO KEY COMMITTEE POSTS

After being elected in May, Andrew has been appointed to two key committees within the EU, on which he will be able to use his experience and knowledge of local Government.

are vital to the people and the economy of our region.



Andrew has been appointed to the Regional Development Committee, which plays a key role in local government throughout Europe, and also to the Culture & Education Committee.

Andrew said: "This is good news for the East Midlands, as I hold full voting rights on these two committees and lead for the whole ECR Group on them. This means I can really put the case for local government, culture, heritage and the arts. These are subjects that

"I am very keen to ensure that people across Britain - and in particular the East Midlands - benefit from my work in Europe. Culture, education and sectors involved in regional development are large employment sources - the role of the EU in them is surprisingly significant. It is my job to make sure we take advantage of opportunities but stay alert to unwelcome interference."

ANDREW TAKES THE LEAD IN FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

Andrew has recently played a key role in putting together the European Parliament's response to the Commission's report on The Fight Against EU Fraud in regional development projects.

He did so as the Conservative Spokesman for Regional Development and the lead MEP on this area for the whole of the European Conservative movement.

Andrew commented: "Too often the Commission focusses on technical issues instead of working with Member States to take on the crooks who steal British taxpayers'

money. We want more action on the latter and less obsessing about the former.

"We do not want a European Public Prosecutor's Office being set up to trample on British laws and add yet another layer of bureaucracy to an already top heavy structure."

Although most other MEPs were supportive of the fight against fraud, many tried to add statements to the report that called for more powers for the EU and yet more money to be paid into the EU budget; Andrew led the charge to have these thrown out.

EMMA PLEDGES SUPPORT TO END WILDLIFE CRIME

Emma has recently pledged her support for a report by the International Fund for Animal Welfare which shows how thousands of endangered species are bought and sold online.

The report reveals that a 6-week investigation in early 2014 found a total of 33,006 endangered wildlife, wildlife parts and products for sale via 280 online market places across 16 countries.

Criminals are attracted to wildlife trafficking for the huge profits and low penalties. The proceeds are often used to fund armed rebel and militia groups who are willing to kill species and people to obtain wildlife parts.

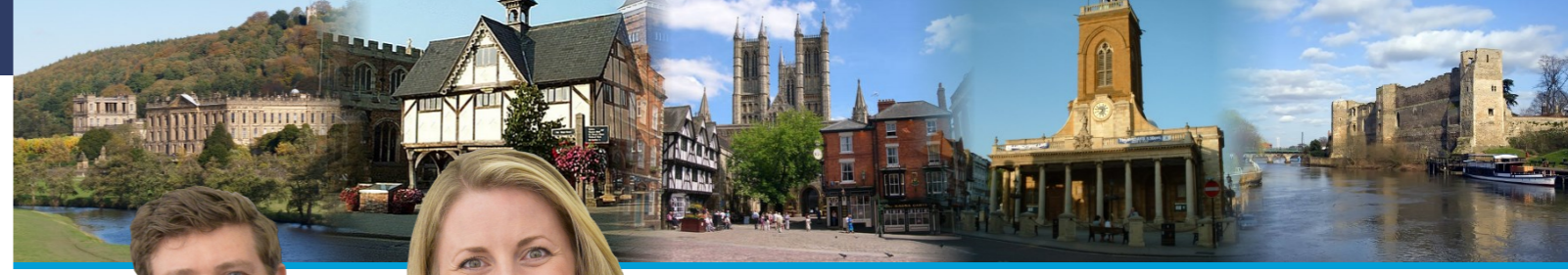
Emma said: "More than

100,000 elephants lost their lives to ivory poachers in the past three years; while in 2013 more than 1,000 rhinoceros were killed by poachers for their horns in South Africa alone.

"I'll be pushing for the EU



to implement an EU Wildlife Trafficking Action Plan, which was overwhelmingly voted for by MEPs earlier this year, to bring this heinous trade to an end"



Andrew Lewer MEP and Emma McClarkin MEP

Winter 2014

*Working for you,
Working for the East Midlands*

WORKING TOGETHER FOR EAST MIDLANDS RESIDENTS

We are proud to say the East Midlands is once again benefiting from having two Conservative MEPs in the European Parliament.

Emma McClarkin and Andrew Lewer MBE have joined forces since their election this May and are working hard as a team to fight for the best interests of the East Midlands.

Andrew said: "There has been a lot to learn over the last six months, but my previous experience as a County Council Leader has assisted me

greatly in getting to grips with a large organisation and its assorted processes and protocols. Emma's advice and help has also enabled me to get off to a good start."

Emma said: "I am delighted that Andrew has joined me in the European Parliament. More Conservative MEPs for the region means we can have a stronger voice both in the EU promoting the interests of the East Midlands and back in the region reporting back on our work."

ANDREW OUTLINES HIS VISION FOR MEP ROLE IN HIS MAIDEN SPEECH

In his first address to the European Parliament, recently-elected Conservative MEP Andrew Lewer spoke about delays from the European Commission in releasing regional development funds.



In doing so he referred to the UNESCO World Heritage Site he used to Chair - the Derwent Valley Mills in Derbyshire - and quoted from his literary hero, Dr Samuel Johnson.

Andrew also underlined the importance of local government, as well as outlining his vision of merging a pragmatic day-to-day approach to European Union business with a need to work for profound and meaningful change in the UK's relationship with the EU.

Andrew ended by saying: "I hope our actions will have a beneficial effect for funding partners, especially our key friends in local government, for recipients and, most important of all, our taxpayers."

EMMA CONDEMNS EU ACCOUNTS

The EU has demanded an extra £1.7bn from the UK, despite the fact that it cannot give a clean bill of health to its own £100bn budget.

This year the Court of Auditors refused to sign off EU accounts for an unbelievable 19th year in a row. Along with fellow Conservative MEPs, Emma has consistently voted to refuse to sign them off - but the parliament majority always shamefully votes to do so anyway. However, we have kept up the pressure by withholding the discharge for a further two sets of accounts from 2012 including one set from the EU Council itself.



Emma said "Conservatives have consistently refused to support a discharge for any single set of accounts until the budget as a whole receives a positive statement of assurance from the Court of Auditors.

"Sadly this stand of ours over the EU's accounts has a long, long history. However, we will never stop reminding the EU institutions that the money they fraud, is not theirs... it is the public's. They even have the cheek to ask us for more of our hard-earned cash. Budgetary control must be better, for the sake of the taxpayer."

Ashover

Andrew visited Marsh Green Farm Shop near Ashover in Derbyshire earlier this year, where he discussed with the owners the different ways in which the European Union affects their business.



Bakewell

New Close Farm Shop in Bakewell, Derbyshire, welcomed Emma earlier this year, as she visited them to see their multi award-winning products for herself.



Nottingham

Nottingham-based company Zitzel, which specialises in hi-tech safety systems for high risk industries, gave Andrew a tour of their factory recently. They also discussed EU trade deals and funding.



Rushden

Emma met with Northamptonshire food and drink awards to discuss the many companies competing from across Northampton, and future EU projects.

Uppingham

A group of young people from Uppingham recently won Microsoft's 'Kodu Kup', to code a futuristic computer game. The young trio beat off rivals from across Europe, and Andrew was on hand to congratulate them.



Grantham

Emma spent a day in Grantham last month. She visited Duncan and Toplis Accountants in the morning, Signature Materials in the afternoon and spoke at a Fish and Chip Supper at Grantham Museum in the evening.

Leicester

Mowmacre Hill Primary School welcomed Emma this November, when she spoke to their Assembly about what a politician in the European Parliament does.



Out and about in the East Midlands, with Andrew Lewer MEP and Emma McClarkin MEP



Market Harborough

Earlier this year Emma supported the 'I Love MH' Festival and met with local community groups working on sustainable Harborough projects.



Oakham

The East Midlands Council Scrutiny meeting at Rutland County Council welcomed Emma back in September, when she discussed EU funding and her role in the European Parliament.

Northampton

Emma took part in Democracy Week in Northampton, where she spoke to school children from across the County about the EU and being an MEP.



Gainsborough

Andrew met with Councillors on a recent visit to Gainsborough and talked about various topics, including the work of the EU Parliament and expansion of the ECR group.



Ollerton

Ollerton & District Economic Forum run & manage the 'Wild Sherwood' project at Sherwood Pines. Emma is pictured here with Ranger Sonia Hardy, looking at the 'grow your own' allotments.



Holbeach

In September Emma visited the National Centre for Food Manufacturing in Holbeach to tour the facilities and discuss food production, flood defences and EU funding.



Loughborough

Andrew recently attended a Conference in Loughborough on railway investment in the East Midlands, which was opened by Rt. Hon. Nicky Morgan MP.

CWO Conference 2015

The 2015 Conservative Womens' Organisation Conference will again be held at Morley Hayes in Derbyshire, on Saturday 7th March, from 10am to 4pm. Emma will be one of a host of guest speakers and hopes to see many of you there in 2015.

