



# MARION FELLOWS MP

Championing local communities in Motherwell, Wishaw & Bellshill

## Co-Operatives

*I have backed the recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee to grow the number of worker-owned and cooperative businesses in Scotland.*

*The benefits of employee-ownership and workplace democracy are vital to improve our economy and working lives.*

*Workers having control over their business can lead to higher wages, safer conditions, more leisure time and flexibility for parents and carers.*

## Travelodge

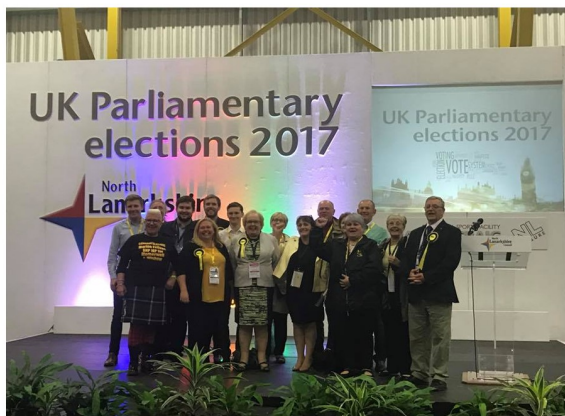
*I strongly oppose plans from Travelodge revealed last month to build a hotel on council land potentially using council funding.*

*North Lanarkshire Council must immediately rule out any sale of council land to Travelodge. Council land should be used for council homes.*

## A Message from Marion

*In June of last year, the people of Motherwell & Wishaw put their trust in me once again as I was re-elected as MP for the constituency.*

*Over the last year, I have continued to work as hard as possible for the community. At Westminster, I have continued to oppose Tory cuts at every turn; continued to campaign on vitally important matters such as the scandalous treatment of the*



*WASPI women and flaws in the Child Maintenance Service; and continued to be a strong voice for local people.*

*From my constituency office in Motherwell, my team and I have continued to support & promote local businesses & organisations; continued to tackle poverty across*

*the constituency through the Poverty Action Network; and continued to spend each and every day assisting local people with a whole range of matters, from issues with immigration and unfair benefit sanctions to Post Office closures and taking on secondary ticketing websites*

*One year ago, the election stood as an opportunity for people to re-elect an experienced local champion, with a strong record and a pledge to continue to be a strong voice for ordinary people, and I was delighted that they chose to do so.*

*It has been a huge honour to serve the people of Motherwell & Wishaw for the last 38 months and I look forward to continuing to do so moving forward.*

*Marion*



@marionfellows



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www.marionfellows.scot



# Around the Constituency

In June, I was honoured to be the first Scottish MP to sign up to the Carer Positive employment scheme.

Run by Carers Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government, Carer Positive awards are presented to employers in Scotland who have a working environment where carers are valued and supported – recognising the benefits to employers as well as helping individual staff and their families.

While caring for my husband George, my experiences have given me a new found appreciation for the work that carers across Scotland do and I call on firms to complete the simple self-assessment process themselves.

Later in the month, my office held suicide alertness training - safeTALK - for elected representatives in the area, their staff, and local organisations.

It is a vitally important and thoroughly worthwhile course that will stand everyone who attended in good stead in the future. And trainers Lynne and David ensured that discussions were candid and engaging, despite the often difficult subject of the training.

For Volunteers' Week, I visited Chris's House and FAMS who provide support around mental health and dealing with grief. The recent loss of local young men through suicide highlights the great need for these organisations and the work they do.

June was also Duchenne Awareness Month and I was keen to highlight the genetic disorder which affects around 2,500 people in the UK today.



## Westminster Review

As well as participating in the effective and necessary walkout of SNP MPs, I was also able to raise a number of issues at the House of Commons last month. Following the debacle that was the miniscule 15 minute debate on devolution, I sought to raise the matter of electronic voting within the Parliament as the current archaic systems simply do not work.

I was also able to take the Secretary of State for Scotland to task regarding the EU Withdrawal Bill. It is vital that David Mundell MP finally begins to stand up for Scotland instead of allowing himself to be constantly treated with contempt by his own Government.

At Business Questions, I raised the issue of Tory MP Ian Liddell-Grainger's unacceptable shout of "suicide" at SNP Westminster Leader Ian Blackwood and urged the Leader of the House to consider suicide awareness training for Members.



### Marion Fellows MP

Working for Motherwell and Wishaw

#### Surgeries

##### Motherwell

First Friday of each month - by appointment only  
Dalziel Building, 7 Scott Street, Motherwell, ML1 1PN

##### Wishaw

First Saturday of each month - 10.00am to 11.00am  
Wishaw Library, Kenilworth Avenue, Wishaw, ML2 7LP

##### Bellshill

Second Friday of each month - 10.30am to 11.30am  
Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre, Busby Road,  
Bellshill, ML4 2BW

For alternative surgery times, please call my office.

Dalziel Building,  
7 Scott Street,  
Motherwell, ML1 1PN

☎ 01698 337191

✉ marion.fellows.mp@parliament.uk



## Power Grab

Last month, Westminster voted – after only a 15 minute debate – to remove powers over procurement and fishing, for example, from the Scottish Parliament. The Tory power grab rips up the constitutional settlement that has been respected for 20 years and signifies a dark day for devolution. We have had our Parliament treated with utter contempt. We have had our Parliament stripped of powers by the Tories while Labour allowed them to. We have had our will ignored. Scotland will not forget.