



**AUTUMN 2002**

## *Here to help...*

Lawrie Quinn MP  
can be contacted locally:

**Write or call into**  
53 Westborough  
Scarborough  
YO11 1TU

The Coliseum  
Victoria Place  
Whitby  
YO21 1EZ

**By phone:**  
Scarborough office:  
01723 507000  
Whitby office:  
01947 821733

**By Fax:**  
Scarborough office:  
01723 507008  
Whitby office:  
01947 604726

**MP's Surgeries:**  
Lawrie holds regular surgeries  
at both Scarborough & Whitby  
offices.

For an appointment call either  
of the above numbers.

If you would like further  
information visit Lawrie  
Quinn's website at

[www.lawrie-quinn.org.uk](http://www.lawrie-quinn.org.uk)

# PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW *for Scarborough & Whitby*

## Reporting back... *listening to you*

Just over a year ago I was honoured  
to be re-elected to serve as your  
Member of Parliament.

During the General Election  
campaign I pledged to retain  
constituency offices in both Whitby  
and Scarborough to provide  
stronger contacts with Parliament  
and to meet the demands of local  
people for their MP.

It is impossible to measure the work  
of an MP but one thing's for sure:  
being an MP for this Constituency is  
a varied as it is satisfying.

The most enjoyable part is the  
opportunity it provides to meet local  
people and listen to what they have  
to say.

Each month on average I visit more  
than 30 local groups: business,  
public bodies, community and  
volunteer groups, schools, churches  
and colleges.

My most important task as your MP  
is to take up your concerns with  
Government Ministers and Whitehall  
departments, as well as local  
organisations and statutory  
authorities.

With the help of two full-time and  
two part-time staff, I have dealt with  
almost 6,000 enquires from



constituents in the last five years. On  
page 4, you can see the type of  
issues you've been most concerned  
about.

**I CAN ONLY BE EFFECTIVE AT  
REPRESENTING YOU IF YOU LET  
MY KNOW ABOUT YOUR  
CONCERNS, VIEWPOINTS AND  
HOPES FOR OUR  
COMMUNITIES...If you think  
there's any way I can help you,  
please get in touch.**

Finally, I'd like to thank you for all the  
encouragement and support I get  
from so many local people. It's a  
personal honour to be allowed to  
serve as your MP.

# "Some of the questions"

**Q** How do you combine constituency work and the need to be in Parliament for much of the time?

**A** When Parliament is in session, I travel to London early Monday morning and come back to the constituency late on Thursday evening. A great deal of Constituency work - dealing with your questions and issues - is carried out during Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

**Q** How do you stay in touch?

**A** Your letters keep me firmly up to date with what's going on - and how you feel about both local and national issues. I respond to dozens of phone calls, letters and emails daily, with the help of my staff.

Then there are the people I meet during weekly surgeries. Most weekends I attend meetings with local companies, organisations, and individuals in our community. With all this contact, I consider myself very well informed on local issues.

## LAWRIE WORKING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



▶ Launches IT training scheme at Whitby Community College.

▼ Celebrating the Jubilee with Elder Street Lunch Club.



▲ Welcomes Alan Johnson MP, Minister of Trade at Plaxtons to sign Scarborough's economic development strategy.

▶ Lawrie joins Whitby folk in celebrating the blessing of the boats.



# ...as I'm often asked...

**Q** *How do you find out what constituents feel about Government plans?*

**A** As well as all the contact with local people, I hold consultation meetings and then feed the information back to Ministers.

Where it is appropriate I arrange for constituents or organisations to meet with Ministers in either the Constituency or London.

**Q** *How do I arrange a tour of the Houses of Parliament?*

**A** I am delighted to arrange visits to Westminster... simply contact the offices and discuss your requirements ...see contact details on front page

**Q** *Why does the Chamber of the House of Commons often look empty? Where are the MPs?*

**A** People do wonder what we're up to if they don't see us in the House! A great deal of the work of Parliament is done in Committees, except on Wednesday afternoons when it's 'standing room only' for Prime Minister's Question Time.

There are 659 MPs but only space for 420 on the green leather benches. The problem of overcrowding is particularly acute on the Government's side - only 210 spaces for 417 MPs!

**Q** *What Parliamentary committees do you serve on?*

**A** I am currently a member of the Regional Affairs Committee for England and European Standing Committee A which considers agricultural, environmental, fishing and transport policies...

Generally committees fall into a number of categories. Select Committees are appointed by the House to perform a variety of tasks, including scrutinising the work of Government Departments.

**Q** *What are EDM's ...do you sign them?*

**A** EDMs are Early Day Motions and allow parliamentary opinions to be expressed without debate or taking the time of the House. They allow Backbenchers to sign up to propositions which might not be covered during a sitting of the House. As a Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Cabinet Office parliamentary protocol does not allow me to sign EDMs.

## UNITIES...



▲ Opens Eastfield's parents and childrens centre.

▼ Supporting anti crime strategies.

# For the future of the Regions...

Regional Policy Unit,  
Office of the  
Dep. Prime Minister,  
Zone 1/A4, Eland House,  
Bressenden Place,  
LONDON SW1E 5DU

**Email:** regions.whitepaper@dtl.gov.uk

**Find out more by visiting Lawrie's web site:**  
www.lawrie-quinn.org.uk



## All Change??

# IT'S UP TO YOU!

Earlier this year two important consultations started which could have important effects on the future of our local communities.

The Government launched a White Paper 'Your Region Your Choice' aimed at revitalising the English regions. This could mean that existing County and Borough Councils are abolished and that Yorkshire people would have a greater say in key issues currently decided in Whitehall.

You'll get your say about these changes at a referendum across Yorkshire if the White Paper policy is accepted.

Also earlier in the Summer the regular review of the Parliamentary constituency boundary was announced.

So if you want to have your say about these proposed changes

## CONTACT

### For the Parliamentary Boundary Review

**Address:**

The Secretary,  
Boundary Commission for  
England, PO Box 31060,  
1 Drummond Gate,  
London, SW1V 2FF.

**Email:**

bcomm.england@ons.gov.uk

## Your major concerns...

You might find it surprising to learn that I've received more lobbies from constituents about animal rights, particularly hunting with dogs, than any other issue!

Typically we get upwards of 700 communications each week!

Here's a breakdown of the policy issues that have been raised with me by local people during the last 12 months.

Issue	%
Animal welfare and hunting with dogs.....	11
Housing .....	9
Health .....	9
Social Security – benefits and pensions .....	8
Agriculture including GM crops.....	7
Transport.....	6
Social Services in Scarborough & Whitby.....	6
Crime and anti-social behaviour.....	6
Education in Scarborough & Whitby.....	6
Foreign & International Development Policies .....	5
Planning issues and applications .....	5
Environment .....	4
Tourism related issues .....	4
Economic development including telecommunications .....	4
Other Scarborough & North Yorks Council responsibilities.....	3
Ethical issues, particularly medical research .....	3
Fishing industry .....	2
Issues raised by constituents not classified above.....	2