

Andrea Leadsom MP: Profile

Andrea was elected as the first MP for South Northamptonshire in May 2010. She is a Member of the Treasury Select Committee, is Co-Chairman of the APPG on European Reform, and is the Vice Chairman of the APPG on Sure Start. Prior to election she had a 25 years career in Finance, and was also Chairman for 9 years of the Oxfordshire Parent Infant Project (OXPIP). Andrea is married to Ben and has three children.

Andrea is an active campaigner on 3 'national issues':

- European Reform – Andrea is working to support a substantial renegotiation of Britain's relationship with the European Union in order to repatriate powers and give our citizens want more control over their own lives. A founder of The Fresh Start Project, she is working with MPs across party lines, along with leading 'think tanks', interest groups, Peers, MEPs and constitutional experts to examine the options for a new UK-EU relationship, set out what this new relationship could look like, and build political support to make it happen.
- Banking and Financial Services – Andrea is a key advocate of more competition in the UK banking sector and has written and lobbied extensively to help bring this about. She is also a supporter of the Green Investment Bank, and has campaigned for the renegotiation of certain PFI contracts.
- Early Intervention – Andrea believes that the way to mend our broken society is to fundamentally change our approach to supporting the earliest relationships. She served as Chairman of Trustees for OXPIP (the Oxfordshire Parent-Infant Project), a leading charity to 'help Parents bond with their babies and thereby to promote lifelong emotional wellbeing'. Building on this successful model, Andrea recently launched NORPIP (the Northampton Parent-Infant Project) and envisages similar organisations across the country.

And on 3 'local' issues:

- HS2 – Andrea is leading campaigner against the current plans for HS2. She does not support the current route, strongly questions whether 250mph is realistic, does not believe the business case is sound - in particular the economic value ascribed to each minute of journey time saved. Andrea believes that new train infrastructure is vital and that any new train infrastructure needs to fit clearly within our existing train network.
- Wind farms – Andrea is working closely with Northamptonshire Councils and other action groups to give local communities a proper consultation process and the opportunity to say no to proposed wind farms. Andrea remains concerned about the impending 'Energy Gap' but believes that onshore wind power remains unproven as a valuable contributor to our energy security needs.
- Planning and Localism - How much housing, and where it should go is a decision that should be taken by the local communities that will be affected by it, and Andrea is a supporter of much of the government's Localism agenda. She believes that planning power rightly belongs with local authorities that know and understand the local area.

Andrea is also involved with a campaign to improve the suitability of materials used in Sex and Relationship Education in UK Schools, in running Job Clubs in Towcester and Brackley, in a project to link schools in Uganda and the UK, and in other campaigns as they arise.

Further information:

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