

report 2024

**NEWS FROM
THE MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT
FOR YNYS MÔN**

Virginia
CROSBIE

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✓ UK Government secures Wylfa

✓ Levelling Up Holyhead

✓ New Freeport Jobs Website

“The huge socio-economic prize of delivering a Wylfa new nuclear build project could not be done without Virginia Crosbie’s incredible tenacity, persistence and hard work - Virginia has been and is Anglesey’s strong voice on nuclear - she never gives up. We will have nuclear new build at Wylfa and a big ‘diolch yn fawr’ to Virginia to her ongoing Wylfa crusade, the community needs and deserves a new Wylfa...”

Sasha Davies, Chair Wales Nuclear Forum

HARDEN
DUST EXHAUST SYSTEM

Hello – Welcome to my 2024 Annual Report

MY WORK IN NUMBERS

23,600

Pieces of casework handled

527

Written Questions and letters to Ministers

334

Mentions of Ynys Môn and Anglesey in Parliament

652

Spoken Contributions in Parliamentary Proceedings

£249 m

UK Government funding specifically allocated to Ynys Môn

31

Ministerial visits to Ynys Môn and two Prime Ministers

MY PRIORITIES FOR YNYS MÔN

1

Delivering New Nuclear to Wylfa

The UK Government has announced its purchase of the Wylfa site for £160m demonstrating its commitment to bring new nuclear to Ynys Môn. Once we get approval for large scale or small modular reactors on the site we will see thousands of good jobs for generations of local people. I am doing all I can in Westminster to make this happen.

2

Making a success of Anglesey Freeport

I campaigned hard for Anglesey to become a freeport so that the whole island will benefit. Freeport status is expected to deliver over 13,000 jobs and £1bn investment across North Wales with many exciting high-quality well-paid jobs coming to our island. The latest step is the Freeport Jobs website which will give local people access to the latest opportunities.

3

Local Jobs for Local People

I am showing high-quality businesses like GE Hitachi, Rolls-Royce, Bechtel and KEPCO around Ynys Môn. They recognise the fantastic opportunities here and want to be part of the future of Ynys Môn. I am asking every company that invests here to commit to my 'Local Jobs for Local People' campaign which means that, wherever possible, they will prioritise local people for the roles they offer here on Ynys Môn.

4

A third Menai crossing to improve connectivity

Following my community engagement event with the team repairing the Menai Bridge it is even clearer that there is the demand for a third Menai crossing. A third crossing will also make new nuclear at Wylfa and Anglesey Freeport more attractive and viable. The third crossing is a devolved matter but I am working with the UK Government to try and find a way forward.

5

Making the most of Energy Island

With new nuclear a step closer to reality, our island can be proud of its array of energy-making technologies. We have wind, solar, tidal and hydrogen projects in the pipeline with energy producers like HydroWing moving operations onto Ynys Môn to take advantage of our natural tidal resources and bring more jobs for local people.

6

Improving local healthcare

Health is devolved to the Welsh Labour Government in Cardiff yet it still makes up around a third of my serious casework. I frequently intervene to help constituents access the healthcare they need whether that is hospital appointments, dental treatment or access to GPs. One of my priorities is to highlight the shortage of GPs and lack of integrated health facilities in Holyhead.

Welcome to my fourth annual report. It is a privilege to be your Member of Parliament and to truly be the voice of Ynys Môn in Westminster. That is why I commit each year to deliver my annual report to every home across the island so that I am accountable to you, the people of Ynys Môn.

I am working hard to deliver for our island.

After four years of campaigning to bring new nuclear to Wylfa I was delighted that the Chancellor used the budget to announce that Great British Nuclear is purchasing the Wylfa site from Hitachi on behalf of the UK Government.

We are seeing excellent progress on our other major projects including the clearing of the old Anglesey Aluminium site to make way for Anglesey Freeport's Prosperity Parc and the repurposing of the old Newry Shelters as part of the £17m Holyhead Levelling Up programme.

There have been new exciting investments from the UK Government ranging from £98,000 for grassroots sports facilities in Bodedern, Holyhead, Llangefni and Tŷ Croes to £800m for improvements at RAF Valley.

Through my 'Local Jobs for Local People' campaign I am asking every business investing here to prioritise local people for jobs on Anglesey and work with local training providers to help skill up our workforce.

I continue to take every opportunity to raise the profile of Ynys Môn in Westminster and to fight to bring well-paid jobs and investment here. That is how I can ensure that our young people can work locally, stay in their communities, buy homes, raise their families here and keep our Welsh language and culture alive.

Virginia



I want to hear from you

- With any local issue or concern
- Your local success stories, heroes, events or businesses
- Ways in which you can support me as I work to bring positive change to Anglesey
- To say hello and introduce yourself

Let's work together to improve Ynys Môn

Please complete my two minute survey and tell me what matters to you and your community virginiacrosbie.co.uk/survey



This Annual Report has been produced thanks to:

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Valley Dental

Bleeper Services Ltd
Bishopsgate House Hotel and Restaurant
BS4C Finance Limited
Valley Pharmacy
Keith Best TD MA
Medic 1 Direct Ltd
Metex



“Freeport truly has the potential to transform the island’s economy. Many people worked hard to ensure Anglesey got freeport status but we also had a secret weapon: at the heart of UK government Virginia Crosbie lobbied persistently for the policy. It proved to be the key that unlocked the door.”
Robert Williams, WOW Training



£160m UK Government investment in Wylfa

When I was elected I committed to bringing new nuclear to Wylfa. In the past four years I have ensured that Wylfa is front and centre of the UK Government’s long term energy policy. Nuclear power at Wylfa will deliver the UK’s energy security strategy as well as bringing long-term secure employment to Ynys Môn.

In his Spring Budget 2024 the Chancellor of the Exchequer delivered the most significant win to date in this journey when he announced that Great British Nuclear, the UK Government’s nuclear vehicle, is purchasing the Wylfa site from Hitachi at a cost of £160m.

I was thrilled when the Chancellor said: “Ynys Môn has a vital role in delivering our nuclear ambitions and no-one should take more credit for today’s announcement than my tireless, tenacious and turbo-charged honourable friend for Ynys Môn.”

I have consistently delivered in my commitment to new nuclear including setting up and chairing the Nuclear Delivery Group, sitting on the Nuclear Financing Bill Committee and bringing Ministers and Prime Ministers to visit Wylfa.

I continue to hold discussions and arrange site visits with developers in both large-scale and small modular (SMR) reactors. Holtec Britain, GE Hitachi, Rolls Royce, NuScale, Westinghouse and EDF have been selected by the UK Government for the next stage of the Government’s SMR Competition. Winners will be announced later this year and I hope that we will soon have further concrete progress on new nuclear at Wylfa.

Anglesey Freeport progress continues apace

Getting the go-ahead for Anglesey Freeport marked the start of Anglesey’s economic renaissance. Since the announcement last year the Anglesey Freeport team has been working hard and has delivered their Outline Business Case (OBR) to the UK and Welsh Governments.

Whilst the whole of Anglesey will be designated a Freeport, the OBR makes the case for special tax or customs sites at Rhosgoch, M-SParc and Holyhead.

Stena, the owners of Prosperity Parc (formerly the Anglesey Aluminium site) have already taken huge steps in clearing the site – most notably with the demolition of the Tinto Tower which was watched by hundreds of people in Holyhead and beyond.

Once the OBR is approved, a detailed business case will be submitted but there are already advanced negotiations taking place to bring new companies to Prosperity Parc and with them new jobs, investment and opportunities.

The companies that set up in the Freeport, along with other businesses on Anglesey, are being offered the opportunity to advertise vacancies on a special jobs website for the island, set up by the Freeport team. I am also working with the Freeport team to make sure that the businesses that set up here:

- sign up to my ‘Local Jobs for Local People’ campaign,
- work with local training providers to deliver skills training to local people of all ages and
- engage positively with both English and Welsh languages.

I hope that the new jobs will also encourage people to return who had to leave the island to find work.

Everyone knows someone Virginia has helped

As your MP one of my most important roles is to help local people. I have managed more than 23,600 pieces of casework from people across Ynys Môn.

Here are some examples of the work I do, supported by my fantastic team in Holyhead.

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Virginia and all the team for your hard work behind the scenes. Without your help I doubt if this matter would ever have been resolved!” Mr Williams, Holyhead.

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for your assistance with my Council tax issue as I’m sure that without your intervention I would still be looking for answers.” Mrs Jones, Newborough.

“As one of our Patrons, Virginia has been exceptionally proactive in her support and championing of Ucheldre; supporting our community and educational projects, turning out in wind and rain to witness our tree planting, events and workshops.” Mike Gould, General Manager, Ucheldre Centre

“Virginia Crosbie has delivered tangible results; she has been consistent in her approach and is continuing to champion the benefits of investing in Ynys Môn on a National and local level.” Kevin Hogan, Hogan Group

“In amidst the turmoil of Westminster and the ineffectiveness of Cardiff Bay, Virginia Crosbie has continued to tirelessly campaign for Ynys Môn. We’re lucky to have her.” Kristian Cuffin, Cuffed-In Coffee

“It’s easy to talk and promise and make slick videos, but much harder to deliver. Virginia Crosbie’s delivery is there to be seen.” Alwyn Rowlands, Chair, Canolfan Beaumaris

Do you have a problem that I can help with? Contact me at virginia4ynysmon@gmail.com or 01407 470747 or PO Box 85, Holyhead LL77 9BZ or online at virginiacrosbie.co.uk



Local Jobs for Local People Campaign

When I speak with people on Anglesey about their concerns, bringing jobs and investment here is almost always top of their priorities. They are also concerned that those jobs are not all taken by people moving onto our island.

Too many local people have to leave in search of good careers so it is very important to me that they are the first to benefit from new opportunities. The aim of bringing new jobs here is so that locals can stay in their communities and our Welsh language and culture can thrive.

More than 25 employers have signed up to my 'Local Jobs for Local People' campaign so far, from global powerhouses like Bechtel to local businesses like Glyn Jones and Cuffed-In Coffee.

The companies are committing to:

- working with local training providers to help local people skill up for new jobs
- advertising jobs locally and
- prioritising local people to fill vacancies where possible.

If your company would like to sign up to my 'Local Jobs for Local People' campaign please register at www.virginiacrosbie.co.uk/LJ4LP

Improving Access to Local Healthcare

Although healthcare is devolved in Wales to the Welsh Labour Government in Cardiff, constituents' problems with accessing health services make up about a third of my casework.

For every £1 spent on public services in England, the Welsh Government receives £1.20 for people in Wales. However, the UK Government cannot tell the Welsh Government how it should spend that money.

Recent data for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) continues to demonstrate the failings in the NHS in North Wales. My colleagues in North Wales and I read so many harrowing personal stories from local people about the impact BCUHB's dire performance is having on them and their loved ones.

In April I held a debate on the subject of healthcare across the UK – including the devolved administrations – and I have called on the Secretary of State for Health in Westminster to look at whether we can find ways to address the appalling health inequalities we experience in North Wales.

In the meantime I will continue to raise every piece of health casework that comes in and to press BCUHB management and the Welsh Government for improvements for my constituents.

“With so many of our young people leaving the island to get decent employment, you have to worry about the future of the Welsh language. Ensuring good quality jobs go to local people is crucial if we are to turn this tide. Virginia gets it.”
Richard Jones, Jersis 'Maelog' Jerseys

“Health is a devolved issue they say. ‘The MP should stop interfering in matters that don’t concern her’. Well I’m glad she’s on the case. If she didn’t speak up, we’d have no one.” Laurel Knight, Medic 1, Llangefni

Have your say on 20mph

The implementation of the new default 20mph speed limit across Wales left my postbag groaning with unhappy constituents. A staggering 8,796 people on Ynys Môn have signed the petition to rescind the 20mph law.

The new speed limit was put in place by the Welsh Labour Government in Cardiff but was, in the opinion of many on Anglesey, ill-thought-through. Whilst no one denies that some areas like outside schools, hospitals and playgrounds there should be 20mph zones, the new regulations are creating even greater inequalities between rural and urban Wales. Rural communities like ours have seen journey times significantly increased, bus services slashed and businesses impacted.

Local Authorities can request “exceptions” to the 20mph limit – areas of road that they believe should be 30mph. Anglesey Council put in place 17 exceptions when the limit was first imposed (by comparison Gwynedd had 85) and have no plans to date to request further exceptions.

That is why I held a 20mph summit in Llangefni for local people to discuss their concerns about the new speed limit and to suggest roads that should, in their opinion, revert to 30mph. On behalf of my constituents, I have written to the Chief Executive of the County Council with their suggestions and hope we will see these requests progressed.

Menai Bridge: Community Engagement

When the Menai Bridge was shut at short notice in October 2022 I immediately engaged with the local community and particularly with those local businesses affected by the closure.

I continue to represent them in meetings with the Welsh Government and have put forward their case for compensation and support.

After several requests I was delighted when the company contracted by the Welsh Government to manage the repair work – UK Highways A55 Ltd – asked me to help them arrange a community engagement event.

More than forty people attended the event to discuss the works and gain a better understanding of the timescales for completion. It was also an opportunity for local people to share their thoughts for the 200th anniversary of the bridge in 2026 and discuss the need for a third Menai crossing.

If you support my campaign for a third Menai crossing please complete the survey at www.virginiacrosbie.co.uk/campaigns/fighting-third-menai-crossing



Bring Aldi to Amlwch

Earlier this year residents of Twrcelyn Ward asked me to help them to bring an Aldi supermarket to Amlwch.

What I expected to be a small meeting at Blueberries Café with resident Mandy Jones and local councillor Aled Morris Jones turned into a rally of sixty people all keen to show their support for the proposal.

As a discount retailer Aldi state that over 80% of its sales came from British suppliers in 2023 and it tries to work with local suppliers as much as possible, benefitting producers and consumers alike.

I have been in touch with Aldi and they are keen to explore establishing a supermarket in Amlwch but they need to know that the community is supportive and so I have set up a campaign page.

Hundreds of local people have already signed up to “Bring Aldi to Amlwch” and you can add your voice by visiting virginiacrosbie.co.uk/bring_aldi_to_amlwch.

“Within days of me contacting her, Virginia contacted Aldi, met with the local community in Amlwch and has now launched a campaign. I have been impressed with Virginia’s commitment to making a difference to people’s lives here in the North of the island.” Mandy Jones.



Improving Life for Local People and Families

As your MP one of my guiding principals is to give a voice to those who feel they have none. That is why bringing jobs and investment to Ynys Môn is so important to me. My Dad had to leave Wales to find work. I want our young people to have choices and our communities to stay together – and the way I can best do that is to provide good well-paid local careers for local people.

There are other ways in which I help local communities from running jobs fairs, sponsoring local sports clubs, visiting schools and youth groups. I have helped raise over £42,000 for local charities and community groups.

Last year I had a request from the children of Llanfawr Primary School in Morawelon, Holyhead. They got in touch to ask if I would help them get a Splash Park for their school. Within a couple of days I visited the school to hear from the children themselves.

Whilst in the classroom I rang a splash park business, put them on speakerphone and had a chat with them and the children about what would be involved. We discovered that splash parks take lots of planning, public consents and time. So we came up with the idea of a Splash Day instead.

To fund a Splash Day for Llanfawr School I asked a charitable trust associated with one of the companies involved in Anglesey Freeport if they could help - and they were delighted to support the idea.

Earlier this year I visited Llanfawr School again with representatives of the Competere Trust and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to present the children with a cheque for £600 which will fund all the equipment they need to set up their Splash Day.

If you would like me to support your school or community group please contact me at virginia4ynysmon@gmail.com or 01407 470747.



Bringing Anglesey to Westminster

My annual Anglesey Day event in November 2023 featured businesses that had benefitted from the Green Digital Academy which was funded by the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund. Companies including Bangor University, Anglesey Sea Zoo, Bryn Edynfed Caravan Site, Aria Film Studios, John Kelly Construction, Mona Lifting and Metex all came to exhibit, whilst South Stack Ynys Lawd volunteers helped coordinate the event and gift bags and it was sponsored by GE Hitachi.

A number of Ministers, Peers and MPs visited the event including the Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretary of State for Education and it was great to raise the profile of Ynys Môn to my colleagues.

I have also hosted a number of local people in Westminster – some come as part of a trip to London whilst others come for special events in the Houses of Parliament. In the past few months the following have also been recognised for their contributions to the community at receptions in 10 Downing Street.

I am always delighted to meet my constituents in Westminster. If you would like to visit please complete your details at: virginiacrosbie.co.uk/join-me-westminster.

Helping to resolve Brynsiencyn's double yellow line dilemma

Toward the end of last year several constituents of Brynsiencyn asked me to get involved with a local concern: they had been informed that their high street was going have double yellow lines imposed on both sides of the road.

I visited local residents on a wet and windy day in December to see and understand their issue. Putting the proposed parking restrictions in place would mean the loss of around 30 parking spaces causing problems for those with mobility problems, families or caring responsibilities. Residents were also worried that it would deter people from using local shops and pubs like Y Groeslon and the Heritage Coffee Shop.

I wrote to the County Council representing the residents and received an assurance that the consultation process was still underway. I provided guidance for residents to take part in the consultation and look forward to the Council making the right decision for local people.

If you would like me to help you with a community concern please contact me at virginia4ynysmon@gmail.com or call 01407 470747.