



Marlyn Glen

Scottish Labour MSP for North East Scotland

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MSP welcomes increase in Angus breastfeeding figures

North East Scotland MSP Marlyn Glen has welcomed figures indicating a slight increase in figures for the number of mothers in Angus breastfeeding.

The figures, given in response to her parliamentary question, show that for babies born in the Angus Community Health Partnership area in 2006, over 46 per cent of mothers were breastfeeding at the time of the first visit after birth.

In 2005 the comparative rate had been over 44 per cent.

At the six-to-eight-week check in 2006, the figure for mothers breastfeeding was 37.2 per cent.

This compares with 37.1 per cent for the 6 to 8 week stage in 2005.

Ms. Glen said,.

"I welcome this increase in the number of mothers in Angus who are choosing to breastfeed.

"There is, however, although there is still some way to go to meet the target set in the last decade.

"This is that 50 per cent of women in Scotland are breastfeeding their babies at six weeks.

"A great deal of effort and resources have gone into promoting breastfeeding as the best kind of infant feeding.

"The message remains as ever that breastfeeding can bring benefits for both mother and baby.

"In the mother it may lower the risk of ovarian and breast cancer and in the baby it can help protect against ear and chest infections."

WEBSITE LINKS

MARLYN GLEN www.marlynglen.org.uk

ANGUS LABOUR : www.anguslabour.org.uk

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND LABOUR : www.nescotlandlabour.org.uk