

# MP Ian Murray supports local shops



Ian Murray MP pledged his support for local shops when he met with local retailer Dennis Williams at the Association of Convenience Stores' Heart of the Community reception to celebrate the important role that local shops play in our communities.

Heart of the Community is an annual event which brings retailers from across the country face to face with MPs to air their concerns about the future of the sector.

Ian said:- "Local shops provide essential goods and services in our communities and it is vital that MPs show support for these retailers both in Westminster and the local area – they really are at the heart of communities and Government must do everything they can to ensure that they succeed during this difficult economic time."

ACS Chief Executive James Lowman said:- "We welcome the support of Ian Murray MP in recognising the importance of the convenience stores and the services and jobs they provide in South Edinburgh. Businesses face many competing challenges, from rising rates and energy bills to increasing pressure from small format supermarkets. It is now more important than ever that MPs engage with their local small business community, and work to ensure Government cuts and new regulations will not harm small business or undermine consumer confidence."