

Harriet Harman - MP for Camberwell and Peckham

Monthly Newsletter - February 2013

Dear Friend,

New Credit Union HQ in Peckham

I was delighted to open the new head office of the London Mutual Credit Union (LMCU) in Peckham on the 31st January. Staffed by local people, it offers a range of services including alternative 'payday' loans costing a fraction of the rate loan sharks charge.



Campaign to save South London emergency services

I joined supporters of the Campaign to Save Lewisham A&E and maternity services outside the Ministry for Health on the 30th January to hand a petition to the Health Secretary, Jeremy Hunt MP. Following his announcement, the next day, to downgrade the A&E and close maternity services, I wrote a joint letter with fellow South London MP's to express my concerns about the devastating impact these cuts will have on King's College Hospital, with more patients having to come to King's.



Visiting Rye Lane Traders - Rye Lane retailers have recently re-formed a Traders' Association and I met with members on the 31st January to listen to their concerns about trade, custom and community safety in the area. I was joined by Southwark Mayor Althea Smith and Councillors' Rowenna Davis, Sunil Chopra and Nick Dolezal.



Meeting Southwark Council Leader Peter John & Labour Group Councillors

Earlier this month I met Cllr Peter John at the Council offices in Tooley Street to discuss how we can improve services for our constituents including saving our local fire and police services, and bringing the tube to Camberwell & Peckham. I also met with the Labour Group to discuss casework and sharing expertise.

Since my last report activities include:

- Othello at the Bussey Building Peckham
- Challenging Nick Clegg at Deputy PMQ's
- Key note speech on Labour Arts Policy
- Cross party talks on Leveson
- DCMS Questions on the arts
- SW Regional Conference Exeter

Eastleigh By Election – Only 1 week to go!

I launched the campaign with our fantastic candidate John O'Farrell. Students from Barton Peveril College put him through his paces when we attended a "Question Time" style debate. This by-election on the 28th February is an opportunity for local people to send a message to the Tory/Lib-Dem Government that the cuts are not working. Please support the campaign – Hotline: 023 8061 3357/Campaign HQ: 69 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF/ Twitter: @eastleighlab



PPC Selections for Target Seats and AWS in London

Following consultation with local Labour constituency parties, the NEC has decided on 12 target seats for London, 5 of which will be choosing from All Women Short-lists. Information on how to apply for selection will be posted in the 'Parliamentary Selections' page on 'Membersnet'. The list is available on: <http://www.labour.org.uk/parliamentary-selections-update,2013-02-15>

Yours

Harriet

Child Poverty in Camberwell and Peckham

The Campaign to End Child Poverty - a coalition of over 100 NGO's – has just published a report mapping child poverty across the UK. The figures are broken down by Parliamentary constituency, local authority and ward. You can download the report at: <http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/why-end-child-poverty/poverty-in-your-area>

The figures for Camberwell and Peckham are deeply worrying. The total number of children estimated to be living in poverty in the constituency as a whole is 7,858 or 26%. In plain terms that is just over a quarter or 1 in 4 children locally.

The ward breakdown is even more concerning as it shows wide disparities between areas within the constituency:

• Peckham Rye	15% (468)
• South Camberwell	21% (546)
• The Lane	23% (797)
• Brunswick Park	25% (750)
• Nunhead	27% (814)
• Camberwell Green	27% (964)
• Peckham	30% (1,238)
• Faraday	30% (1,020)
• Livesey	35% (1,258)



We've come a long way since the last Labour government legislated to eradicate child poverty in a generation. Progress continued all the way to 2010, despite the economic crisis, because of a decision to prioritise protection of the poorest children and families through extra investment in financial support for children.

Now hundreds of children and families in Camberwell & Peckham will be hit by the Tory/Lib-Dem Government's cuts when welfare changes come in later this year. Action at a local level can make a difference. With the Tory/Lib-Dem Government devolving more decisions about how families are supported to a local level, it's all the more important that we have a Labour council protecting children and families across the Borough.

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MY ADVICE SURGERIES ARE NOW AT Walworth Methodist Church 'Clubland' 54 Camberwell Road, SE5 0EN



Tue 26 Feb 5pm

Tue 5 Mar 5pm
Fri 15 Mar 9am
Fri 22 Mar 9am

Tue 9 Apr 5pm
Fri 19 Apr 9am
Fri 26 Apr 9am

Fri 3 May 9am

Getting to Clubland: Bus Routes: 468, 148, 171, 45, 68, 176, 12

Casework Update February 2013

Since my last monthly report:

- I took action on 232 cases
- Including 148 new cases
- 3 Advice Surgeries
- 116 people attended surgery
- Average reply time: 9 days

