



Harriet Harman QC MP

MP for Camberwell & Peckham



Do you want free work done for your community group?

Camberwell Green magistrates' court wants to hear from you if you're a community group in Southwark and know of an area, building or some other project that needs repairing, renovating or cleaning up. It's your chance to have a say in what unpaid work is done by offenders in your local area.

Everyone agrees that there must be public confidence in the criminal justice system and that includes sentencing. But where the offender is not sent to prison people think he or she has got away with it.

Now you will be able to say what work you want offenders to do and you will be able to see for yourselves that it has been done.

When I was Justice Minister, I brought in a 12 month pilot in Southwark which means offenders will make amends for their crimes to the community by carrying out tasks that benefit local people.

You can contact Camberwell Magistrates Court on:
g1-cgcourt.community@hmcourts-service.gsi.gov.uk



Leader of the House of Commons and Minister for Women

I'm delighted to have been elected as Deputy Leader of the Labour Party and to have been asked by our new Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, to serve as Chair of the Party.

The Prime Minister has also asked me to be Leader of the House of Commons and Minister for Women.

I am really pleased to be taking on these roles and working in Government to continue to fight for the best for Camberwell and Peckham.

I am very grateful for all the support from Camberwell & Peckham. Not just in the Deputy Leadership election campaign, but over the 25 years that I have represented the local area.

WEBSITE - www.harrietharman.org

On my website you can read about the work I have been doing locally and nationally, recent articles, speeches & reports and you can join me on my blog.

Police 1000 – Latest Figures

The Police 1000 campaign which I initiated in 2002 is continuing to meet regularly. 1,000 is the number of officers that the Southwark Police told me they need to carry out all their duties.



Harriet with Val Shawcross AM & Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle

We now have 873

police officers, 192 police staff and 87 Police Community Support Officers. Val Shawcross AM and I, along with Councillors and Southwark Police have called on the Mayor and the Commissioner for the Met Police to give Southwark 1000 police officers. We have asked the Leader of the Council to arrange for Community Councils to have the opportunity to also back the campaign and to take part in a community audit to let us know what policing their local area needs.

Please do get in touch with Val Shawcross AM at City Hall or me at the House of Commons to let us know what you want the police to focus on in your area.

We need to support our Community Childcare

Camberwell and Peckham has a high percentage of children under 5 years old. Most mothers work – to give their children a good standard of living or they study or train, to improve their prospects. They want their children well looked after while they do their important work in our public services and in our local economy. The National Childcare Strategy which I led has helped to make sure that there is childcare available locally which parents can afford, but I have recently received some concerns from childcare providers in Camberwell and Peckham. I contacted nurseries, after school clubs and day centres to find out how they felt about the future.

Half of the 50 providers who wrote back to me said that they are confident about the future, and half are less so.

- Five expect to increase places next year
- Only two said they expect a reduction in the number of places they will offer next year.

Community nurseries provide a good local service but I have heard of 2 that already have had to close.

I have submitted these findings to the Department for Children, Schools and Families and will work with individual childcare providers to support them.

Advice Surgery Times August & September 2007

**Southwark Town Hall, Peckham Road,
London SE5 8UB**

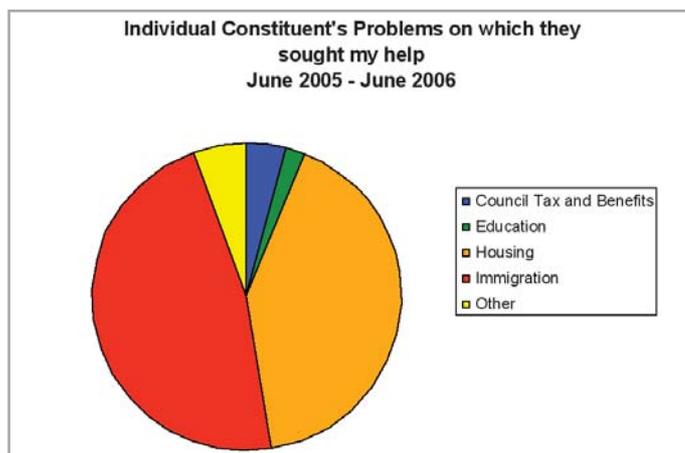
Tuesday 7th August	6pm
Friday 17th August	10am
Friday 24th August	10am
Friday 7th September	10am
Friday 28th September	10am

I hold regular surgeries at the Town Hall. If you've got a problem you can come to see me. Or you can email me on harmanh@parliament.uk or write to me at The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. There are about 60 people at every surgery. They tell me - and my team - what the problem is and we tell them what I am able to do to help. I then write and keep them informed of the progress on their case. I know my surgeries are important for those I can help - with problems on housing, benefits or immigration, but they also help me meet and keep in touch with the concerns of my constituents.

My House of Commons Action team - Dora Dixon-Fyle, Fiona Brenner & Charlotte Montague are well-known in Westminster as dedicated and hard-working.

Immigration and housing: constituents ask for help

In the last year, I have taken action on 1263 cases – that's an average of 24 new cases per week – as well as continuing to support many constituents in community groups, tenants associations, churches and mosques. Immigration and housing are by far the biggest issues of concern which I am asked for help on.



Maudsley Hospital – Emergency Services for Mental Health Users

I have been working closely with Tessa Jowell MP, local Councillors, community groups and mental health users to make sure that the changes undertaken by South London and Maudsley NHS Trust do not disadvantage the people who rely on the services.

I shall continue to remain focused on this until such time that the users of the emergency clinic feel confident that any changes mean that their care is better – and certainly no worse – than they get at present.

Government action – need for more affordable homes

Housing is the second biggest area of concern that people ask for my help on. I help them with their problems. Bad housing, overcrowding and homelessness make it difficult for children to do well at school, their parents at work, and puts stress on the whole family. Many constituents tell me of their family's health getting worse when they are in bad housing and the elderly, disabled and ill struggle when their homes don't meet their needs. Decent housing for all is crucial, so I have been calling for more social housing, and more low-cost ownership schemes to help people who otherwise can't get onto the property ladder.

So, I welcome the announcement by the Prime Minister that the Government is going to step up house building, make it easier to rent cheaply and help people to become home owners. He also announced the next steps for eco-towns and villages.

Visits in Camberwell and Peckham

I visit community groups, estates and projects in Camberwell & Peckham. Would you like me to come and visit you? If so, just get in touch.



Remittances: The Hidden Heroes of International Development

The London Borough of Southwark has the largest community of African origin in the UK. As well as working hard, often in low paid jobs, and supporting themselves and their family, many Africans in the UK send money back to their country of origin. This money, "remittances", is a vital, largely unseen, contribution to tackling poverty and helping development in Africa. The Government has made International Development a priority but the role of the UK in international development is more than what the Government does. As well as the work of Aid charities, such as Oxfam and CAFOD, hard-working men and women in the African Diaspora are making a huge difference with their generosity through remittances. The Government's aid budget is £4.4billion – remittances are more than half that, contributing £2.3billion to developing countries. I am meeting with the Treasury and DfID soon to see what further steps we can take to support people who send this vital money home.