

Merry Christmas

Harriet Harman MP for Camberwell and Peckham

Parliamentary Report — November/December 2018



In 2018 my constituency priority is the NHS

No10 Cannot Ignore Parliament on Brexit

People in Camberwell and Peckham are rightly concerned about the Government's disastrous Brexit negotiations. The Tories are the first Government ever to be found in contempt of Parliament having refused to publish the Brexit legal advice, defying the will of Parliament. [I challenged the Attorney General on this on 3rd December](#) in the Commons. The Government were forced into a U-turn. Then, despite knowing for weeks they couldn't win the vote, the Government delayed the meaningful vote on the EU agreement at the last minute. It is unacceptable that Parliament won't get to vote on this until 14th January. Every week that passes means more damaging uncertainty for people, businesses & the economy.

Joint Committee on Human Rights

Following our inquiry on the rights of people detained in immigration centres, in particular the Windrush Generation, the JCHR is shining a spotlight on people who are shut away and made invisible. [I'm proposing an end to indefinite immigration detention](#) with a time limit of 28 days. We're also [hearing from parents and children with autism](#) who have been detained in hospitals on how their rights can be protected. I will shortly be publishing a report on autism and casework in Camberwell & Peckham.



40% of parents in Southwark miss out on first-choice secondary school

Having a good local secondary school for your child is one of the most important issues for parents living in Southwark. So every year [I produce a report](#) looking at how many parents do not get their first choice. [I've sent Damian Hinds MP, the Education Secretary, a copy of my report](#) to raise parents' concerns and propose that when Ofsted inspect a school they look at the views of parents who don't want to send their child to that school as well as views of parents who do have children there. This would enable government & councils to act on concerns of local parents to ensure every school is one which parents want to choose.

CLP Women's Forum

Congrats on the launch of Camberwell & Peckham CLP Women's Forum on 4th December with so many local Labour women and councillors. Thanks to Izzie Niven, our Women's Officer, for organising!



50:50 Parliament

To mark 100 years since women won the right to stand for election, on 21st November women from all over the UK including Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle came to Parliament.

Much work still to do — women are outnumbered by men 2 to 1 in the Commons.



Improving local rail stations

On 19th November Helen Hayes MP, Cllr Richard Livingstone & I met Network Rail again to demand action on overcrowding at Denmark Hill & Peckham Rye. Network Rail are now scoping a new entrance at Denmark Hill.



Brunswick Park Primary School Visit

Good to meet up with parents, children and staff at Brunswick Park Primary School on 4th December.



RIP JIMMY NAISH—It is with great sadness that we report the death of James (Jimmy) Naish of Benhill Road. Jimmy was a dedicated trade unionist and a longstanding member of the Labour Party. He worked for many years in Labour HQ including when it was in Walworth Road. He will be greatly missed, none more so than by his devoted wife of more than 50 years, former councillor and Mayor of Southwark Vicky Naish.

Annual Royal Mail Festive Visit

Great to meet posties at Camberwell Delivery Office working hard to

deliver Xmas for us on 11th December. Thanks for all you do!



Campaigning in Goose Green and Peckham wards

Thanks to all the members & local cllrs out campaigning on 24th November & 9th December. Lots of Brexit concerns raised by local people. All agree government chaos is causing deep problems.

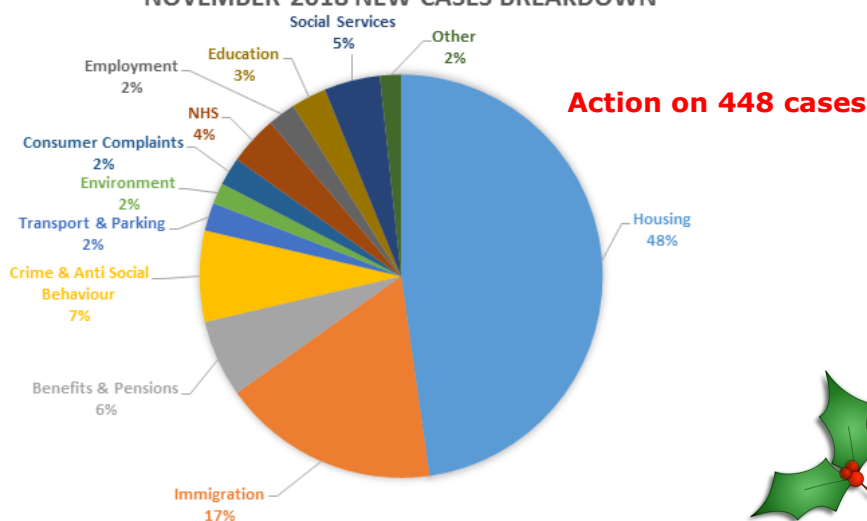


Launching GMB's 'Work to Stop Domestic Abuse Employer Charter'

[I'm working with Stephanie Peacock](#) MP to press Parliament to lead the way & adopt GMB's model policy to ensure employees suffering domestic violence get the support they need at work. Thanks to the brave survivors who spoke out in Parliament on 26th November.



NOVEMBER 2018 NEW CASES BREAKDOWN



Policy issues update

In November 1,421 Camberwell & Peckham residents wrote to me about policy issues. The top 3 concerns raised were:

1. Vote against Theresa May's Brexit agreement.
2. Oppose government delay to reducing stakes on fixed odds betting terminals.
3. Call for stronger protections in the Environment Bill.

Read my position on these issues and more on the '[Policy Issues](#)' & '[Letters to Ministers](#)' pages on my website.

Helping constituents with their problems

In March 2018 I reported that I had taken up the case of a Peckham man with renal failure whose hopes of receiving a kidney from his sister were hampered because she was refused a visa to enter the UK. I asked the Minister of State for Immigration to review the decision to refuse my constituent's sister's entry clearance into the UK. Her visa has now been issued and she will travel to the UK in January 2019.

A single mother with a severely autistic son came to see me because she was due to be evicted from her private rented flat came and feared they would be offered hostel accommodation miles away from Southwark and that her son would not be able to go to his school. I asked the council to offer her temporary accommodation in her preferred location and they have now moved into a flat in Walworth.

A Camberwell man contacted me because he returned a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) with his name misspelt to UKVI but had not received a replacement despite writing to UKVI twice. I wrote to UKVI and asked for a new BRP with the correct information to be printed and sent to my constituent and he received it shortly afterwards.



A Peckham pensioner came to see me as she was sent a summons to court for £89.25 in unpaid Council Tax. I asked the council to withdraw the summons. The summons was withdrawn on the same day and pensioner has now set up a direct debit.

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