



In 2019 my constituency priority is the NHS

World Autism Awareness Week

While we've come a long way with public awareness, there's much to do to ensure that support for people with autism and their families fully meets their needs. We estimate 1,377 people in Camberwell and Peckham are autistic. Taking account of their families, this means autism is part of 5,508 people's daily life.

The government cutting Southwark Council's budget by almost half since 2010 means that they've had to cut the services they provide. Parents I met at Cherry Garden and Tuke Special Schools in Peckham this month told me how they struggle as the cuts hit them. It takes longer for their children to get the diagnosis they need. Which means a delay in getting support and help to families being cut. One mother told me that the weekly hours of help for her 12 year old child has been reduced from 24hrs to 16hrs. Tuke School no longer runs their invaluable after-school and summer holiday clubs that parents used to rely on.



Parents stoically battle for their children with autism and their other children, often struggling through complex systems without support. [I'm calling for parents to be fully included in the key decisions](#) about where their child goes to school and the care they get and for services to be properly funded.



Key Brexit votes in Parliament

Thanks to the 1000+ Camberwell & Peckham people who contacted me ahead of [#Indicative-Votes](#). 3 years on yet more uncertainty for people, businesses, NHS and security. I voted for a Customs Union, to [#RevokeArticle50](#) and for a [#PeoplesVote](#). I will continue to oppose a No-Deal Brexit or a Brexit based on the Prime Minister's rejected deal.

Help people hit by [#Cyclone Idai](#)

It's so important that [DFID UK](#) help people in Mozambique, Malawi & Zimbabwe. Government should back diaspora here with relatives in stricken areas, who know what needs to be done and send remittances.

[My question to the Minister.](#)



We cannot leave the rights of EU citizens to chance

EU citizens living in this country are anxious about the future. Even 3 years after the Referendum so many questions remain unanswered for them. Many have lived in the UK and paid into our social security for years or decades. Some have been here their entire lives. They deserve answers and clarity. Their rights to enter and live in the UK, seek jobs and access healthcare or education are all up in the air. This is unacceptable. As Chair of Parliament's Human Rights Committee I'm proposing amendments to the forthcoming Immigration Bill to ensure that EU citizens keep all their rights. This should be in the Bill itself, rather than relying on ministers promising to restore rights later. Stripping away people's rights is not something you do when you regard them as equals and value their contribution to our country.

[Read my Times Red Box article.](#)

Knife crime: public health approach needed

The sad truth is that parents & GPs often raise the alarm about young people at risk of getting involved in knife crime years before they end up in crisis or A & E. But the intervention services we need to help them are being cutback. The [APPG on Knife Crime questioned Health Secretary Matt Hancock & wrote to the Prime Minister](#) to demand a cross-government response to knife crime.



Backing South London Citizens Assembly

Great to welcome Southwark and Peckham Citizens to Parliament.

They've been campaigning for migrant rights for decades. It's long overdue to end indefinite immigration detention. This time, we can do it by working together!



Congratulations and welcome to our newest Member of the House of Commons Ruth Jones MP for Newport West!



Peckham Rye Station: Improving accessibility

[Important news that Peckham Rye station to get a lift.](#) Locally many have campaigned for years for safety & accessibility for wheelchairs, buggies, elderly, & people with restricted mobility.

We need the work done soon.

Ban use of solitary confinement on children in detention says Parliament's Human Rights Committee

Read our full report [here](#).

Improving patient care

Delays in mental health treatment, cuts at King's College Hospital, pressure facing GPs and health services' role in tackling knife crime—all on the agenda for my recent meeting with [Southwark CCG](#).



Cllr Peter Babudu catch up

Productive meeting on issues facing local residents in The Lane ward with local councillor Peter Babudu.



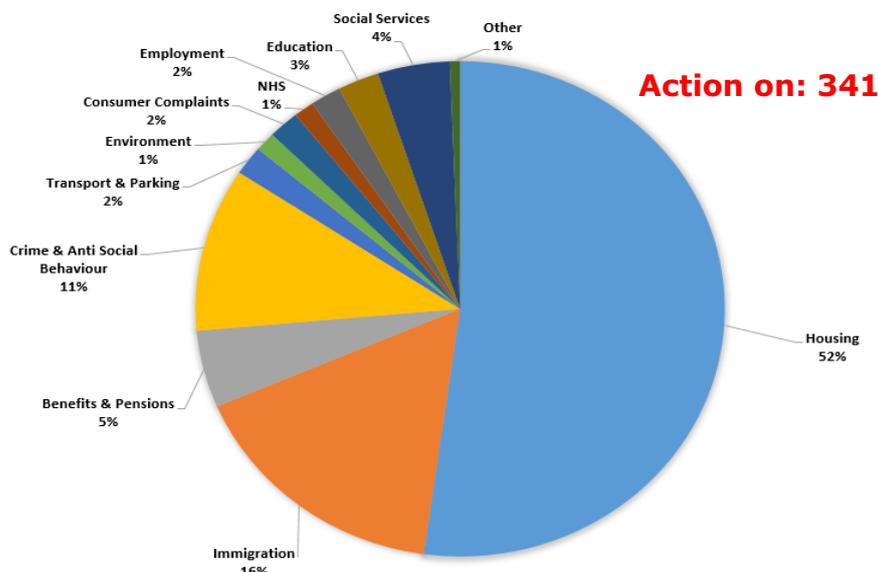
Policy issues update

In March 2,526 Camberwell & Peckham residents wrote to me about policy issues. The top 3 concerns raised were:

1. Back Margaret Beckett's amendment for a People's Vote. I voted for this.
2. Back [Joanna Cherry's amendment to revoke Article 50 if we face no deal](#). I voted for this.
3. Take action to halt climate change.

Read more about my position on policy issues & letters to Ministers on my [website](#).

MARCH 2019 NEW CASE BREAKDOWN



Helping constituents with their problems

A French man living in Camberwell with his British wife and 3 children contacted me because HM Passport Office refused to issue his 3 month old baby with a British passport, unless he provided them with his expired French passport, which was destroyed when his new French passport was issued. I contacted HMPO and they issued his son's passport shortly afterwards.

A Camberwell man contacted me because he was concerned that the early morning deliveries to the Southampton Way Tesco Express fill his flat with pollution because the delivery drivers do not turn off their engines while they unload. He had raised this with Tesco directly but had received no response. I wrote to Tesco and they have now apologised and reviewed delivery operations at the store and re-issued instructions to drivers that their engines must be turned off when waiting by the store.

A Nunhead man who had cared for his elderly mother with dementia in their home until she had to move into a care home contacted me because he was at risk of being evicted. I wrote to the council to ask if he could succeed his mother's tenancy and remain in their home. The council agreed and granted him the tenancy.

A Peckham man with cancer contacted me because he and his family were living in unsuitable private rented accommodation and they needed to be rehoused. They had been trying for 20 years without success. His cancer diagnosis means that he can no longer live in his current property. I made an enquiry with the council and my constituent and his family are shortly moving into a new home.



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