Helping people in Goose Green & Dulwich Hill

People from Goose Green & Dulwich Hill seek my help for many different reasons including housing problems, immigration and visa problems and getting the benefits they’re entitled to. Often I am able to cut through red tape, challenge an injustice and make progress for them. Since the 2017 General Election I have helped 10,096 people in Camberwell and Peckham. Here are some examples of the people I’ve helped in the Goose Green & Dulwich Hill area:

- A local resident came to see me because his Filipino wife’s spousal visa was refused by the Home Office on the grounds that he did not meet the financial requirements, despite him proving that he has an annual income which far in excess of the £18,600 threshold. I wrote to UKVI and shortly after the decision was overturned, and his wife’s visa was issued.

- An owner of a small business based in Copeland Park wrote to me because she had received a letter from the council demanding £21,000 in business rates, which she did not owe. I wrote to Southwark Council for clarification. They realised it was a mistake and cancelled the demand.

- I was contacted by residents concerned about a planning application to increase the number of telecommunication masts on the roof of 136 Peckham Rye. I raised their concerns with Southwark Council and I was informed shortly afterwards that the application was recommended for refusal.

- A Dunstans Road resident contacted me concerned about dog mess on her road. She wanted the council to take action. I wrote to the council and they installed more bins, signage and set up patrols by undercover wardens in the area.

- A council tenant living off Peckham Rye Common asked for my help because her boiler had broken down and she’d been without heating and hot water for 7 weeks. I raised the issue urgently with the council. Her boiler was replaced. She was paid £96 to cover the extra costs of using a fan heater and £100 in compensation.

Harriet Harman MP for Camberwell and Peckham
Goose Green & Dulwich Hill Branch Report
May 2018 - August 2019

DULWICH HILL & GOOSE GREEN WARD NEW CASES BREAKDOWN MAY 2018 - JUNE 2019

- Housing: 48%
- Other: 2%
- Environmental: 6%
- Benefits & Pensions: 5%
- Crime & Anti Social Behaviour: 5%
- Transport & Parking: 4%
- Consumer Complaints: 5%
- NHS: 6%
- Education: 4%
- Social Services: 4%
- HMRC: 1%
- A concerned mother living near Peckham Rye Common contacted me because her teenage son who suffers with anxiety and depression had been out of school for 2 years and his return to school had been delayed while the council looked for a suitable place. Following my intervention he is now attending an independent performing arts school and sat his GCSEs in June.

**Harris Boys’ Academy East Dulwich**

Cllr Jasmine Ali, Cabinet Member for Schools, local councillor Jon Hartley and I visited Harris Boys’ Academy East Dulwich. Good to see the Year 8 boys learning about child birth and C-sections in their biology class! I offered students from the school the opportunity to do work experience in my office.

**Backing the Clean Air Bill**

There is increasing air pollution in South London. It is estimated that air pollution causes 40,000 early deaths a year in the UK with children, older people and those with medical conditions most at risk. I’m sponsoring a Bill to require steps to reduce toxic fumes. The Bill would expand the areas of low emission zones, ban vehicles idling with their engines on, restrict the sale of vehicles with polluting engines, and require local authorities to carry out tree-planting and promote electric buses and taxis.

**Backing Southwark Pensioners**

Great spirit at the packed Southwark Pensioners AGM & summer party. Thanks to Cllr Charlie Smith and Cathy Deplessis for organising. Lots of issues for older people in Southwark including government cuts to vital services, problems with services moving online & means-testing over 75s TV licences, which I’m opposing.

- A pregnant woman in the late stages of a high-risk pregnancy contacted me because her landlord planned to evict her and the council could only offer her temporary accommodation from the day of eviction. She feared the uncertainty would harm her unborn baby’s health, and that she would have nowhere to go after giving birth and would be unable to leave hospital. I asked the council to use their discretion and offer her temporary accommodation before the eviction and the birth and they agreed to do so.

- A pensioner contacted me because he had appealed an unfair Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) on the grounds of inadequate signage and an error on the time. He had not received a response from the council for over 4 weeks. I wrote to the council on his behalf, they cancelled the PCN and put up signs.

- A Ghanaian man living in Goose Green contacted me because his American fiancé had applied for a visa to join him in the UK but the Home Office had mistakenly returned her documents to someone else. I wrote to UKVI asking that they urgently investigate this. The mistake was reported to management and her visa was granted shortly afterwards.