



In 2019 my constituency priority is the NHS

Operation Yellowhammer Southwark

This week Parliament defeated the Government by 311 to 302 votes to force them to publish their planning and scenarios for a No Deal Brexit. So called "Operation Yellowhammer". I voted to require the Government to publish this information. What was revealed confirmed our worst fears. Laid out in black and white in official Government documents are stark predictions of shortages in vital life-saving medicines, including insulin for people with diabetes and medication for people with epilepsy, along with rising fuel and food prices, thousands of job losses and security problems. The official documents confirmed that those who can least afford it will be hit hardest: *"low income groups will be disproportionately affected"*. I want to see the local impact No Deal would have on my constituents. So I'm undertaking an "Operation Yellowhammer" in Southwark. I've asked Southwark Council, King's College Hospital, the Maudsley Hospital, Southwark and Lambeth Police, Southwark CCG, local foodbanks and supermarkets to publish their contingency plans. This Government is wilfully committed to a policy that they know will destroy jobs, push up food prices in the shops and risk people's health. And has tried to prevent the public seeing it. And now with only weeks to go until Brexit and knowing that there is a majority in Parliament against a catastrophic No Deal, the Government has, against the will of Parliament, shut the House of Commons down until 14th October. I will work with MPs across the House of Commons to do all I can to protect our country from the dangers of a No Deal Brexit and from an undermining of our democratically elected Parliament.

Backing Southwark Independent Voice

The people who understand best & care most about a child or young person with special educational needs are their parents. Full support to Independent Voice Parents Forum launched today. Admiration & respect to Cllr Jasmine Ali.



The Government should not be knighting domestic abusers

I've condemned the award of a knighthood to Geoffrey Boycott by Theresa May in her resignation honours. He viciously attacked his girlfriend holding her down and punching her 20 times in the face. The picture of her bruised face and black eyes were there for all to see. Though he pleaded not guilty he was convicted in 1998.

Singling out a perpetrator of domestic violence for one of our highest civic awards sends out a terrible message. It says to women that their bruises and broken bones don't matter. It says to men you can still be seen as an exceptionally good guy even if you've beaten your girlfriend black and blue.

Theresa May wanted the Domestic Abuse Bill to be her key legacy. Now the Boycott honour has overshadowed it and the Bill has been scrapped because parliament is prorogued.

Domestic violence is a growing problem. Domestic homicide reached a new high last year with 173 people killed by their partner or former partner - nearly all the victims women, nearly all the killers, men.

The Government is paralysed by Brexit. But Brexit is not the only thing that matters. Women's lives are being lost!



Government must end irreparable harm to children with mothers in prison

A child's right to family life should be a central concern when a judge is thinking about sending a mother to jail. Our Human Rights Committee inquiry found too often this is not the case. Judges often don't even know a defendant has a child. When a judge sends a mother to prison (80% for non-violent offences) they sentence her children to harmful separation. [Our report](#) calls for a change in

the law so judges must consider the effect on children. It's wrong to punish children of non-violent women offenders. There are other ways to deal with crime.



Southwark CCG to review ban on single women getting IVF

[Encouraging response from Southwark CCG](#) to my letter asking them to review the ban on single women in south London getting IVF. The Government must now step in and outlaw this nationally. Prejudice has no place in society let alone our NHS.

RIP former mayor Mary Ellery

RIP Mary Ellery. A strong and determined Labour stalwart. A proud daughter of Southwark. A rock at the heart of her loving family. A real sister & adviser to me. Her passing is the end of an era. My deepest sympathy with Norman, her children & grandchildren. Her funeral is on 20th September.

Champion Hill campaigning

Out in Camberwell listening to what constituents want to talk about ...mostly Brexit! But many also raised the Speaker election.



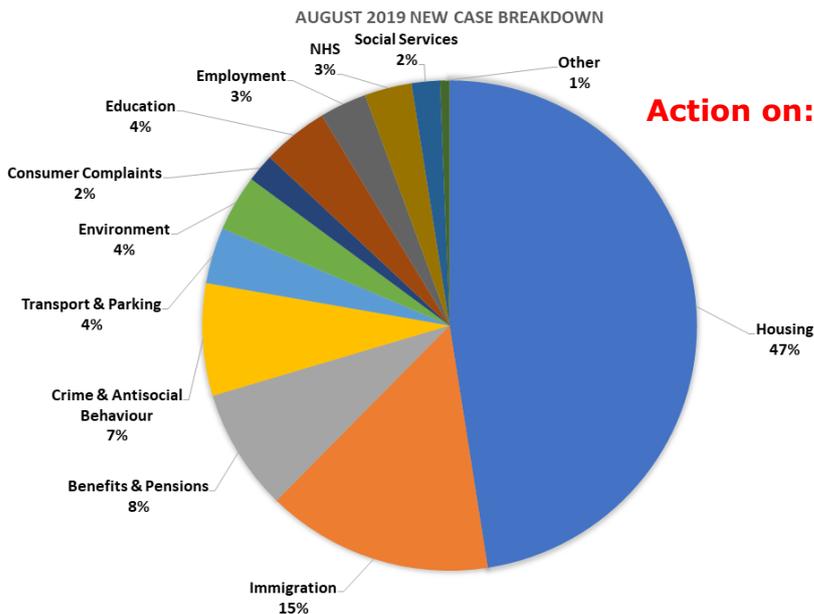
First time I've ever heard Speaker election raised on doorstep! High public awareness of importance of parl't & of Speaker role! #SpeakHer

The climate crisis is urgent

The pictures of the Amazon rainforest burning and turning the homes of indigenous people and millions of plant and animal species to ash were devastating. This isn't an accident. This is what a climate emergency looks like. And this Government is failing to take action. Together with Labour colleagues I'm calling for a commitment to get 60% of energy from low carbon or renewable sources by 2030, end the ban on onshore wind, and immediately ban fracking.

Helping more women into Westminster

All credit to Women in Westminster, a new group supporting young, working class women who want to work in Parliament. Who works here matters. I'm urging the House to back them with resources so they can be a force for change.



Action on: 412

Policy issues update

In August 843 Camberwell & Peckham residents wrote to me about policy issues. The top 3 concerns raised were:

1. The undemocratic shutting down of Parliament. Which I opposed.
2. Make sure the Government keeps our NHS out of a future US trade deal. I agree.
3. Support local pubs. I'm calling for communities to have more powers to protect pubs.

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

Helping constituents with their problems

A Wyndham Estate resident contacted me because his kitchen floor started to bubble up only a few months after his kitchen was renovated by the council. He reported the problem and contractors attended his home but the problem persisted. I contacted the council and asked them to carry out urgent repairs and compensate my constituent. All repairs have now been completed and compensation will be paid once a sum is agreed.

A wheelchair user contacted me because she and her partner were going to be made homeless in 14 days, as their landlord was selling his property. I wrote to the council and they were given emergency temporary accommodation that met her access needs. The council is now working with them to find them a permanent home.

A Denmark Hill Estate resident contacted me as he was £379 worse off each month on Universal Credit than when he was on Employment and Support Allowance and he was finding it hard to buy food and pay his rent and bills. I wrote to the DWP and he was given a backdated payment of £2,329.76 and he will get an extra £332.26 each month going forward.

Three concerned Chabot Drive residents contacted me as their homes were being damaged by a leak that the council's contractors could not locate. I wrote to the council to ask them to investigate again. They traced the leak to a neighbouring building and fixed it and repaired the damage to my constituents' homes.



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