
Pippa's Week in South Cambridgeshire

From Pippa Heylings MP - South Cambridgeshire <info@sclibdems.org.uk>

Date Fri 04/10/2024 21:05

To Patrick Grove <paddy_grove@hotmail.com>



Dear Patrick,

Welcome to the latest of my regular emails keeping you up to date with what I'm doing as your MP across South Cambridgeshire and in Westminster.

Campaign on Health and Social Care: Cancer and Children's Hospitals



I have now met twice with the senior leads responsible for the new cancer and children's hospitals. We were all very relieved to have the Chief Secretary of the Treasury approve the outline business case for the children's hospital and I will continue to support the fundraising activities led by Mary Archer and ACT.

I have requested a meeting with Wes Streeting, Secretary of State for Health, to urge him to give confirmation for the cancer hospital, given that it has been included in the new Labour Government's review of the new hospital programme.

I am proud to be hosting an event on the 5th November, in Parliament, together with Cambridge University Hospitals, to raise awareness with the Government and key stakeholders of the ground breaking importance, not just locally, but regionally and nationally, of both these new hospitals.

Campaign on Health and Social Care: Save our Pharmacies!



A huge thanks to the wonderful team at Linton Village Pharmacy for explaining to me the challenges faced by our community pharmacies.

The previous Government kept asking pharmacies to do more - including under their Pharmacy First scheme - but without providing the funding needed to provide additional services. And with the rising cost of critical drugs and staff shortages, pharmacies are buckling under the pressure.

We can only fix the NHS by strengthening primary care - such as by the great example of beloved Linton Village Pharmacy - which means providing them with the funding to pay for the services they provide.

Children's Health and Wellbeing: Local Charity Internet Watch Foundation Protecting Children Online



It is heartbreaking and distressing as a parent to hear that 80% of the reported child sexual images online are now self-generated by children, often unsuspectingly, in their own bedrooms, with parents and carers having no idea.

It was an honour to be able to meet the hard-working analysts at the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) who have the incredibly challenging task of viewing child sexual abuse imagery day in day out.

Last year the IWF found and removed more than 275,000 webpages containing child sexual abuse imagery, more than ever previously recorded.

As a new member of the All-Party Parliamentary Groups on Children's Online Safety and on Youth Affairs, I am delighted to become a champion for the IWF and to be able to speak on the charity's behalf in Parliament. I will work to do everything I can to support the IWF in its mission to make the internet a safer place for our children.

Campaign on Climate and Environment: Appointment as Liberal Democrats Spokesperson on Energy Security and Net Zero

It is a huge honour to take on this role and speak up for climate change. I will use this position to take green issues to the heart of Westminster, including local concerns about insulating homes, meeting our climate targets and caring for our environment - issues that matter greatly to the residents of South Cambridgeshire.

Do watch this space. My first task will be the line-by-line review of the new Government's Great British Energy Bill. I will be pushing hard to get community energy and home insulation included in the objectives and scope of the bill.

Campaign on Climate and Environment: Students Put Motions to Council's Climate and Environment Committee



It was fantastic to hear students from eco clubs at Comberton and Sawston Village Colleges and other schools across South Cambridgeshire put some cracking motions to the South Cambridgeshire District Council Climate and Environment Committee.

Involving the next generation is vital to tackle climate change - as I highlighted in my maiden speech - so it was fantastic to see their proposals for action as a school and as a community.

They presented questions formally to the Committee about action on air quality, water scarcity, circular economies, food waste and biodiversity. The students' motions will be a great inspiration for the members of the Climate and Environment Committee.

Campaign on Climate and Environment: Protecting the Source of the River Shep at RSPB Fowlmere



RSPB Fowlmere Nature Reserve is an oasis for wildlife set in farmland in South Cambridgeshire. It is the source of the River Shep, one of our very important chalk streams and one of the UK's rarest habitats. It is home to Brown Trout and Water Voles and of course it is a reserve much-loved and used by local residents.

According to the RSPB, 1 in 6 UK species are now at risk of becoming extinct, making the UK one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. It was great to hear from Dan Pulman, Senior RSPB Conservation Officer for Cambridgeshire, and Rose Buxton, Parliamentary Officer, about the amazing work the RSPB does at Fowlmere as well as the local river action group, Friends of the River Shep, and Rob Mungovan of the Wild Trout Trust, to protect and restore our chalk streams.

As you know I will continue to campaign on chalk streams as I did during the General Election and you can see me speak [here](#) in my maiden speech 'A Love Song to the Chalk Streams of South Cambridgeshire'. There are twin threats to our chalk streams: raw sewage dumping and over-abstraction by the water companies and I'll continue calling on the Government and relevant authorities to make sure they are doing more.

Funding Challenges at Hills Road Sixth Form College



Having met representatives from the National Association of Colleges at the Liberal Democrats conference last month, it was very important to visit one of our top providers of post-16 education. I heard from Jo Trump, Principal of Hills Road Sixth College (HRSFC), about the serious funding challenges presented by the fact that sixth form colleges were not included in the Government's pay deal for teachers.

My concern is that if this is not resolved swiftly, there may be industrial action taken by teachers at HRSFC and other sixth form colleges, to the detriment of young people's education at a key time in their studies.

Constituency Surgeries

I have now held surgeries in Cherry Hinton, Melbourn and online, and there will soon be a calendar of surgeries. If you would like an appointment, please do email me at pippa.heydings.mp@parliament.uk.

As always, I welcome your feedback. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, volunteer, or get involved with our campaigns by clicking the links below.

MAKE A DONATION

GET INVOLVED

If you are writing as a constituent, I will need to verify that you reside in the South Cambridgeshire parliamentary constituency in order to reply and deal with your case. Therefore please ensure that you have included your full name and home address in your email.

As a newly elected MP, I am receiving a significant volume of emails whilst also setting up my office and staff. Therefore it is expected that the response time to your email will be greater than usual, and your patience in these first weeks is appreciated.

CONTACT ME



Best wishes,

Pippa Heylings MP
South Cambridgeshire

This email was sent to Patrick Grove at paddy_grove@hotmail.com.

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