



May 2016 Newsletter

Progress on Dying to Work Campaign



In last month's newsletter I spoke about the Dying to Work Campaign I brought to the Prime Minister's attention at Prime Minister's Questions. I am happy to report more progress has been made with many MP's showing their support for the campaign at its official Westminster Launch in April. Members from all parties signed the pledge to support giving better legal protections to terminally ill workers. Importantly, companies are also signing up, with E-on becoming the first major employer to commit to improving the support they offer terminally ill workers. The campaign is being supported across Europe too. I think Jacqui Woodcock, the woman who started the campaign and has taken it to where it is today deserves credit for her hardwork and perseverance given that she has been diagnosed as terminally ill.

EU Referendum Debates in Mid-Derbyshire

I am chairing two meetings on the EU Referendum where representatives from both the 'Stay' and 'Leave' campaigns will put forward their arguments. You are invited to attend one of the debates to learn more about the arguments on both sides of the debate.

The dates of the debates are:

Friday 10th June 2016, 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

St Peter's Church, 6 Chesterfield Road, Belper, DE56 1FD
Chris Heaton-Harris MP for Daventry (Leave campaign) and a further speaker (Stay campaign) to be confirmed and

Thursday 16th June 2016, 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

The Sixth Form Centre, Ecclesbourne School, Wirksworth Road, Duffield, DE56 4GS
With Jeremy Lefroy MP for Stafford (Stay campaign) with Andrew Lewer MEP for the East Midlands (Leave campaign)

The Vote on the EU Referendum will take place on Thursday 23rd June 2016
To attend one of the debates, please register by emailing howitta@parliament.uk or call 01332 676679.

And finally....

Job Opportunity in my Office

I am looking for a new Caseworker to join my constituency Office in Spondon. It is a part time role working as part of a friendly team helping resolve constituent cases.

The full job description and responsibilities are available here: <http://www.paulinelatham.co.uk/news/job-opportunity-i-am-looking-new-caseworker>

April has been a varied month, and I'm not just talking about the weather.

In Westminster business has ranged from the final stages of the Finance Bill, which passes the Chancellor's budget, to a debate on the value of golf, a topic that was certain to divide opinion.

One mechanism that is increasingly making a difference to debates are petitions. The Government introduced the E-Petitions system at the start of this Parliament with the rule that any petition receiving over 100,000 signatures goes to the Petitions Committee who consider whether it should be debated.

In April I joined colleagues from all parties to take part in the debate on funding for research into brain tumours after the petition calling for it reached over 120,000 signatures. It is shocking to know that brain tumours kill more children and adults under 40 than any other cancer. Unfortunately, of the Government funding given to researching cancers, brain tumours receives just 1.5 per cent.

There has been real progress made in increasing five-year survival rates of other cancers and I hope the strong showing at the debate by MP's will see the Government take action to bring brain tumours up to the same standard. This doesn't just mean increasing funding research, though this is essential, but building on successful campaigns to increase awareness of symptoms for the public and doctors. Too often cancer is not diagnosed until people go to A & E. I will continue to support any effort which helps change this, whether it is speaking up in Parliament, participating in social media campaigns or working with cancer charities.

I also participated in the debate on Autism Awareness, highlighting the problems Derby City Council have had in implementing new changes to the law to support people with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families.

I was deeply moved by a meeting I had before last year's election with families who have children who are autistic. To hear the pressures put on parents before they have the diagnosis and the delays that often come with obtaining one shone a spotlight on a situation I was unaware of.

Unfortunately the situation in Derby is not good enough and people with ASD and their families are being let down by the pathetically slow pace of getting a diagnosis and a care plan.

I was happy to have a chance to raise this issue in the House of Commons and hope it will act as a catalyst for the Council to deliver the support families deserve.

As always, if there is ever an issue you want to contact me about or an event you think I can help with please do not hesitate to contact me on Pauline.latham.mp@parliament.uk or 0207 219 7110.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Latham

Graduate and Apprenticeship Fair

My Graduate and Apprentice Fair takes place on Friday May 13th. It is free to attend and you can just turn up on the day. I encourage anyone who is considering an apprenticeship and would like to speak to businesses who have apprenticeship/graduate opportunities to join us.

The details are:

Time: 10.00am – 3pm

Location: The Atrium, University of Derby's Kedleston Road Campus.

A large number of local businesses will be present who have graduate and apprenticeship opportunities. There will also be a CV clinic, so attendees can bring along a copy of their CV to see whether it can be improved to help them follow the career they feel is right for them.

For further details, please call my Constituency Office on 01332 676679 or email howitta@parliament.uk.