



John McDonnell MP

Member of Parliament for Hayes & Harlington

Dear Friend,

Welcome to my second newsletter of 2021. This covers 1st March – 31st May.

Firstly, my thoughts remain with those who have been affected by the virus through bereavement and continuing ill health and for those who have faced immense financial difficulties, loss of employment and for those living in uncertainty with what the future holds.

All our local agencies are working hard. The police, Council, Councillors, Fire Service, teachers, our local voluntary organisations, residents' groups and religious bodies, and of course our local carers, hospitals, doctors, paramedics and all those working in our health and social services.

You will understand my repeating this message. Their commitment and dedication are astounding, and I can't thank them enough for their work

The COVID-19 pandemic has created many problems for the residents of Hayes and Harlington.

In many situations, the crisis has made existing problems worse.

As a result, understandably there has been a remarkable increase in the number of constituents' that have sought my assistance since March 2020.

If you have any issue of concern, then please email mcdonnelli@parliament.uk or lowderh@parliament.uk and we will do all we can to assist or advice you

My Visit to the Memorial Wall.



I visited the memorial wall near St Thomas' hospital with Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice. People draw a heart in memory of their loss. It was incredibly moving.

On the day of reflection, I sent a condolence message with my deepest sympathy to all those who have lost someone they love and my thanks to all those who have worked so hard to care for us.

Claim the Future Project

With the support of the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung London, I have set up a project called Claim the Future

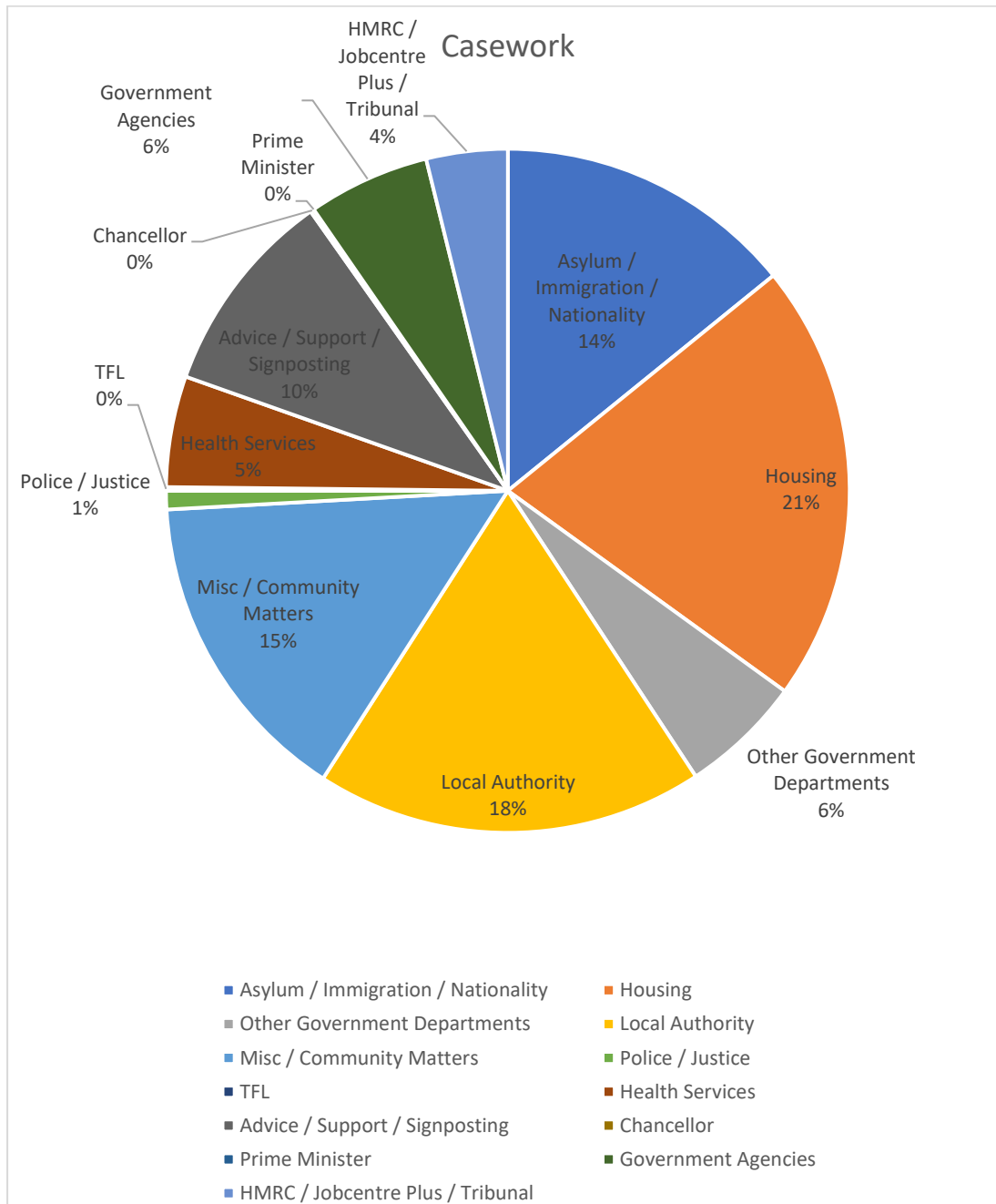
The project aims to ask and answer some of the questions that the pandemic has raised about the economy, the society we want to live in and the future of our planet.

Bringing together experts in each field, we have drafted policy position papers. Following discussions and online meetings, we aim to link new thinking with campaigning and action on the ground.

Here is the link to the website where you can find policy documents and news about discussion events <https://claimthefuture.today/home>

My Activities and Work

Below is a chart that shows the breakdown of casework my team and I have actioned from 1st March – 30th April 2021



In addition to casework, I received over **17,000 emails** from March 2020 – 31st May 2021 from constituents raising their concerns about policy positions and campaigns.

Parliamentary Debates

My spoken Contributions

Chamber

2nd March – Covid 19 – Cultural and entertainment Sectors

4th March – Third Party Campaigners Regulation

8th March – Budget Resolutions and Economic Situation

10th March – Hong Kong: Electoral Reforms

10th March – Dept for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

10th March – COP 26

16th March – Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

18th March – Sri Lanka



John McDonnell MP 
@johnmcdonnellMP

Spoke today in Parliament in advance of debate on Sri Lanka in the UN Human Rights Council next Monday. I've called for Johnson & Raab to intervene to strengthen UNHCR resolution and for the UK to lead in taking action against the abuse of human rights by the Sri Lanka regime.

22nd March – Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Bill

24th March – Online Anonymity and Anonymous Abuse

13th April – Finance Bill

19th April - Finance Bill

28th April – Immigration



John McDonnell MP 
@johnmcdonnellMP

I have spoken today in Parliament to oppose the appalling measure the Government is rapidly pushing through that it has admitted will mean more people, who have been victims of trafficking & modern slavery, will be forced into detention centres. The hostile environment is back.

17th May – Safe Streets for All

24th May – Finance Bill – I spoke on three aspects of the bill

Westminster Hall

8th March – Press Freedom and Safety of Protesters: India

10th March – Residential Leaseholders and Interim Fire Safety Costs

27th April – Support for Asylum Seekers

27th April Fire and Rehire

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/178/contributions>

My Record of Further Interventions

Follow the links to view the EDM's I have signed, to view the written questions I have raised, how I have voted and my spoken contributions

EDM's <https://members.parliament.uk/member/178/earlydaymotions>

Written questions

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/178/writtenquestions>

To see how I have voted

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/178/voting>

Joint Letters

I work closely with other MP's to raise issues collectively. Part of this is jointly signing letters and statements of support with Parliamentary colleagues. This is in addition to the letters that I have written to Ministers and other agencies on behalf of constituents through lobbies and casework.

Here is the link to my website where you can view past newsletters, joint letters, videos and news

<https://www.john-mcdonnell.net/> or follow me on twitter [@johnmcdonnellMP](https://twitter.com/johnmcdonnellMP)

TV and Radio Interviews

Sky News

I was interviewed on Sky News on 5th March regarding the current economic situation and on 26th April to discuss the loss of jobs and threat of fire and rehire being imposed by employers, cutting wages and terms of employment. I was interviewed again on 7th May to discuss the election results

ITV News

I was interviewed on 7th May about the election results

Peston

I appeared on Peston on 3rd March for the special addition for the Budget
“There’s a stealth tax going on, a council tax increase, there’s a pay freeze for the public sector, the £20 universal credit uplift is going and 2 million are still excluded.”
The rest of the interview can be found below

[John McDonnell: Labour needs a vision \(facebook.com\)](#) - [The Peston Podcast: The Budget and the Battle within the SNP on Apple Podcasts](#)

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1367246912143908867>

I was interviewed again on 21st April to discuss a wide range of current issues.

[The Peston Podcast: Mercer’s Resignation, Sturgeon’s Independence and George Floyd’s Justice on Apple Podcasts](#) - [Peston on Twitter: “Johnson’s not a political fool” Labour MP @johnmcdonnellIMP tells @Peston that Johnson was forced to act against the European Super League and recognised the political opportunity, rather than displaying true “beneficence towards working class people”. #Peston](#)
<https://t.co/saaLSD6BmW> / Twitter

I appeared on the Preston Show again on 12th May to discuss current issues
[Peston S7 Ep17 \(12th May 2021\) - Bing video](#)

Bloomberg

I was interviewed on Bloomberg about the road map to lockdown and the vaccination programme.

LBC

Former Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell demands Government 'pay the nurses,' and attacks Tory 'hypocrisy' in the proposed 1% pay increase for NHS workers.
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1368201227289432064>

I joined Iain Dale on his LBC show, Cross Question. Below is the link to hear the interview in full

[John McDonnell takes calls from LBC listeners | Watch Again - LBC](#)

Articles

[John McDonnell's green dream for Lancashire, as ex-shadow chancellor stages county event | Lancashire Evening Post \(lep.co.uk\)](#)

[The Alternative Queen’s Speech: How to build a fairer, healthier, greener Britain – LabourList](#)

[Government's new policing Bill will see ‘many more Shrewsburys,’ campaigners warn | Morning Star \(morningstaronline.co.uk\)](#)

[Our voting system is rigged. Labour must back proportional representation – LabourList](#)

[“By any measure, this is a Budget to be ashamed of” – McDonnell’s speech – LabourList](#)

Local Visits and Zoom Meetings in the Constituency

Due to Covid rules, I am unable to hold face to face meetings. However, I have met with constituents' over zoom to discuss individual cases and held regular meetings with local community groups, headteachers, police, trade unions, local businesses, local councillors, local doctors, nurses and health bodies, care homes, local religious bodies and engaging in wider discussions with groups about general topics at both local and international level that affect my constituents and have been raised by them.

I am also maintaining regular contact with the Borough Commander, the Chair of the CCG, Headteachers, Hillingdon Hospital, the managers of our local care homes, Harlington Hospice, the Mayor for London and the Group of London MP's.

This is helpful by way of updates, sharing information and assessing how we can all work together

Since March 2020 and as part of the lock down rules, I have used my daily exercise walk to walk around and inspect different areas of my constituency to monitor the area and report to the appropriate body any issues that I find needing action.

Meetings and Briefings, I have attended

Below are just some of the Zoom call meetings I have organised or attended, addressing local, national and international issues that I have been involved in.

Harlington Hospice Board Meeting

As a Trustee of Harlington Hospice, I attend regular board meetings to discuss the future role and activities at the Hospice.

Vaccination Rollout

I have attended regular meetings with NHS staff and ministers to discuss the roll out of the vaccinations locally and nationally

Weekly London MP's NHS Briefing

I attended an NHS briefing hosted by Lesley Watts, Chief Executive of the NW London Integrated Care System, along with Pippa Nightingale, lead for the vaccination programme. I received an update on the work that is being undertaken in terms of the pressures that our hospitals are facing and the rollout of the vaccination programme

GLA Covid Briefing for MP's

I attended the GLA briefing to get an update on Epidemiology, NHS capacity, testing and enforcement

The Excluded

I have held regular meetings with key representatives from FSB, IPSE, and academics working on an analysis of the problem of those 3 million people excluded from government support schemes. I continue to press the government on this.

All Party Parliamentary Groups

- ✚ APPG Environment and APPG Woods & Trees
- ✚ APPG Osteoporosis and Bone Health
- ✚ APPG SEND
- ✚ APPG for Parental Participation in Education
- ✚ APPG for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma - Friends, Families and Travellers
- ✚ APPG New Immigration Centre for Women
- ✚ APPG for Tamils
- ✚ APPG for India
- ✚ APPG on British Sikhs
- ✚ APPG for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
- ✚ APPG Working at Height
- ✚ APPG Heathrow
- ✚ APPG Future of Aviation
- ✚ APPG for Renters and Rental Reform
- ✚ APPG on Land Value Capture
- ✚ Gaps in Support APPG
- ✚ Universal Basic Income APPG

Parliamentary Groups

I regularly attend the following Parliamentary groups, PCS Union, National Union of Journalists, Bakers Unions and the Justice Unions Parliamentary Group

The 1928 Institute

I attended the official launch of the 1928 Institute's report on 'The British Indian Experience - Identity and Political Representation'. The think-tank is backed by the University of Oxford and has conducted novel research on British Indian voting patterns, policy preferences, and identity. This research is the first of its kind and is a novel insight into this diverse community. This is a fascinating piece of research, extremely well timed as the wider conversation on issues like political representation & decolonising the curriculum is taking off.

Jallianwala Bajh Massacre

This year marked the 101st anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in Amritsar. The massacre, where almost 400 innocent people were killed by troops under the command of General Dyer, was described at the time by Winston Churchill as "a monstrous event which stands in sinister and singular isolation".

For many years there has been a campaign for an official apology from the UK Government for what happened at Jallianwala Bagh. Prime Minister David Cameron visited the site in 2013 and described what had happened there as “deeply shameful” but stopped short of an apology.

Thankfully today the UK and India enjoy friendly and normal diplomatic and trading relations. Yet this event did leave a lasting legacy of pain both in India and among many UK citizens with family roots in India.

We met to discuss this awful episode and to agree to write to the Government to use the anniversary to issue an official apology.

No 3rd Runway Coalition Meeting

I attended the Coalition meeting and reported on the Parliamentary interventions planned for the coming period to bring a halt to the 3rd runway threat.

The Fight for Jobs at Heathrow Goes On

I continue to hold regular meetings with the management and trade unions at Heathrow doing all I can to protect jobs and wages and conditions of employment. I will continue to make representations to British Airways, catering companies and others and will join their campaigns.

The pandemic may continue to impact upon our economy for some time, nevertheless it is a temporary problem and yet many companies like Heathrow Ltd are trying to impose permanent wage cuts on their wages. This is unfair and disgracefully using the crisis as an excuse to increase the long-term profits of their shareholders. This is unacceptable.

PCS Union Briefing on DVLA Staff Ballot

I have supported the campaign to expose the risks to DVLA staffs' health by being forced into work in unsafe conditions.

Unite the Union Undercover policing

I joined a briefing for MPs on the undercover policing inquiry. I assisted in the setting up of the Blacklisted Workers Support Group over a decade ago. The group was the victim of undercover surveillance, which is the subject of this inquiry.

Police Federation

I met with representatives of the Police Federation and am helping to press for greater Covid protection for serving officers and full recognition of the pressures police officers are under.

Taxi Drivers Association

I met with taxi driver representatives to address the huge increase in charges they are facing from Heathrow airport Ltd. I have taken up their case with the company.

Goldsmiths, Liverpool and London Region of the University and College Union

It was a privilege to participate in a solidarity rally with these universities who are fighting back against staff cuts. Many of my younger constituents attend these universities and these cutbacks are impacting on their educational opportunities.

Labour Against Austerity

I spoke at a massive online rally of Labour supporters to outline the economic policies needed to address the coming period of economic instability.

Barnet Campaign

Barnet Council has outsourced 1,200 workers. I spoke at a meeting with the workers and union representatives about how we build worker power to fight back against outsourcing

People Before Profit

I attended this informative meeting at which there was a series of workshops. This included fighting redundancies – fighting for climate jobs, defending services – resisting austerity – opposing the pay freeze, Covid – the battle for safety at work, the battle for education under Covid, no to scapegoating and campaigning for welfare and housing.

Give us Back our Schools

I spoke at the above event, organised by the Socialist Education Association. There are fears that Gavin Williamson is looking to force more schools to join Multi-Academy Trusts. We discussed the campaign for the alternative: all schools to return to the control of democratically run local authorities.

Fair Share

I joined a discussion about how wealth tax and progressive tax can create equality

Julian Assange

I attended a meeting to discuss the Julian Assange case and the next steps to prevent his extradition, which the courts have judged to be a risk to his life.

Anti-Chinese Racism

We are witnessing an alarming rise of anti-Chinese racism globally fuelled by the racist narrative around the COVID-19 pandemic. I joined the discussion about the background to this and how it can be challenged

Open Democracy

I attended as a panel member to discuss Freedom of Information (FOI) and the increasing concerns about the lack of transparency on the Cabinet Office's "Orwellian" FOI Clearing House which vets' journalists' requests and could be breaking data protection law. Here is the link to the story.

Huge victory for the Shrewsbury 24

The Shrewsbury 24 were building workers who were tried for picketing offences in 1973 – 1974. Six were imprisoned, many received criminal records for striking for safe conditions and better pay for building site workers. They never received a fair trial and on 23rd March, the Court of Appeal quashed the convictions.

I have supported this campaign for decades and at a time when other MPs would not back them. I have spoken on platforms in their support and been on several demonstrations to highlight their case.

This picture was taken on the day, 3rd April 2012, when the application to the Criminal Cases Review Commission was lodged by the pickets including Ricky Tomlinson, Terry Renshaw, Kevin Butcher, Des Warren's son, Andy & the indefatigable campaigner Eileen Turnbull.

[The Official Shrewsbury 24 Campaign|To Overturn A Miscarriage Of Justice](#)



Signers Cooperative

Over the recent years we've seen deaf people's access to British Sign Language interpreting services being eroded. Large spoken language agencies are winning government frameworks and, in many cases, using BSL as a loss-leader.

The deaf community aren't getting access to the services they need. Turning up to medical appointments, has become a lottery, where they can't be confident an interpreter will be provided. Something needs to change.

I'm supporting Signalise, a new platform cooperative who want to see the money currently being taken as profit by agency shareholders, instead used to improve access and be reinvested into the community.

Local deaf people and interpreters are working together in Merseyside, along with frontline workers to come up with an online booking system that will be a real game changer.

Signalise can rebalance the system in favour of its users and workers and in creating a platform will make BSL provision fit for the future.

Reading Agency – Addressing Loneliness, Mental Health and Children's Literacy During the Pandemic

I met with the Chief Executive of the Reading Agency to discuss this summer's reading challenge. Delivered by charity The Reading Agency and the UK public library network, the summer reading challenge is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11

The Summer Reading Challenge combines completely free access to books with fun, creative activities in the library during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff and young volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading. Children can also take part online with digital rewards available. Each year the Challenge has an exciting new theme with this year's focus being on the environment delivered in partnership with WWF.

Given the hugely challenging environment in which children have been learning over the past 12 months, it's clearly vital this year in particular that we try to avoid the 'summer dip' in reading which tends to occur during the summer school holiday by maintaining engagement and enjoyment of reading.

www.readingagency.org.uk

www.summertimechallenge.org.uk

Neurodiversity Labour

Neurodivergent Labour is a campaigning organisation of members and supporters who are neurologically divergent (autistic, dyspraxic, dyslexic or otherwise atypical)

Many of the services that neurodivergent people rely on, including social care and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are provided by local councils. Over a decade of austerity has seen funding being cut. Councils also employ millions of workers, many of whom are neurodivergent.

I was a guest speaker at their event, "What do we need from our councils"

Neurodivergent Labour
FIGHTING for Socialism and Neurodivergent rights
Education Event



“What Neurodivergent people need from our local councils”

With guest speaker **John McDonnell MP**

Facebook, Twitter and YouTube
30th April 6pm
details at ndlabour.co.uk

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants

I attended the launch of the new research by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, looking at who makes up the undocumented population of the UK, and proposing new routes to regularisation.

The research, based on in-depth interviews with undocumented people, identifies the significant barriers that prevent people from acquiring and maintaining immigration status, and examines the severe consequences for those who fall out of status.

Children’s Care System

I met with Imogen Hailstone from Serenity Welfare who have launched their report about the issues related to the short-term safety and long-term wellbeing of some of the most vulnerable children and young people. This includes looking at the effects of using physical restraint and the importance of providing the emotional support and mentoring they need to fulfil their potential.

It also looks at the long-term financial implications for local authorities and the taxpayer from the inadequate provision of care and support for children and young people in or on the edge of care. It finds that such interventions could unlock £7 billion in savings for local authorities in England alone in the decade to 2030 – and help thousands of vulnerable children fulfil their potential.

They are calling on the government to:

- ✚ Ban the handcuffing, restraining, or caging of children except when there is a considerable risk of the child harming themselves or others
- ✚ Mandate that all organisations involved in the transportation of children in or on the edge of care be legally obliged to report any instances of the handcuffing of children
- ✚ Recognise that a new approach is needed that treats vulnerable children as victims instead of criminals and which provides them with the consistent, high-quality interventions they need to rebuild their lives
- ✚ Allocate specific responsibility for supporting the mentoring of vulnerable and at-risk children to a government minister in the relevant department

You can read the report by clicking [here](#).

Stigma and Eating Disorders

I met with Hope Virgo to discuss the difficulties people with eating disorders are facing in trying to access support because their BMI is not in an underweight category.

This is costing the NHS a lot of money but also costing the lives of many. There are so many who are left in the lurch and are unable to keep moving forward with their lives because of it.

Despite the NICE clinical guidance too often individuals are turned away from receiving essential support because they aren't skinny enough to be considered at risk. The guidelines are right, but these are not being uniformly implemented across the nation to the detriment of thousands of people daily. It is so important that we act on this now and make these changes to not only save the NHS money but to change public understanding of eating disorders and to save lives.

Hope launched "Dump the Scales" Campaign in July 2020 in order to change this.

Local Schools

I have been in regular contact with local headteachers to offer whatever support and I can throughout the pandemic and to hear from them the issues and questions they want me to raise with the government. I have also written to them all to thank them for the tremendous work they and their staff have undertaken to support our children.

Heathrow Education Hub Meeting

I attend regular meetings with Unite the union which launched the Heathrow Hub project to provide educational and training opportunities, especially for Unite members and their families impacted by the Covid crisis. This is an online response which will greatly help them in pursuing career opportunities. It is a great initiative for our area. Unite Learning Hub offers hundreds of free courses for members, their families and communities. Check out the courses on offer by clicking on the link, whether you are in work or not <http://learnwithunite.org/heathrow/>

Cladding / leaseholder

It has been over three years since the Grenfell tragedy. This disaster highlighted the use of flammable cladding, insulation and other materials that have been used in buildings. There have been inordinate delays in identifying the buildings with dangerous cladding and the removal of such materials. This has left hundreds of my constituents' living in fear as they could be residing in unsafe buildings. They are unable to sell their properties or re mortgage due to not having a safety certificate. Leaseholders also face an anxious wait to hear if they will be charged for any safety checks and the work to remove the material. On 1st February the Labour Party put forward a motion to prevent the costs of making buildings safe fall on the shoulders of tenants, leaseholders and shared owners and owners. It is the developers and builders who are responsible and who should pay.

Housing

We have an ongoing housing crisis in our area with homelessness, overcrowding, high rents and an overall shortage of genuinely affordable accommodation. Although we do all we can to assist families this problem will not be overcome without a

large-scale council house building programme and rent controls. I am working with the London Renters Union and Acorn, another renter's body, to campaign for an end to evictions during the pandemic and the scrapping of Section 21 which allows landlords to evict tenants without reasonable grounds. This was promised by Boris Johnson but has not been delivered. If anyone is interested in helping set up a local branch of the Renters Union, please contact me.

Hayes Canal Partnership

I continue to work with the local Canal Partnership that I helped to found. We have been focussing on improvements to the towpaths, securing residential moorings in Hayes town centre and ensuring developments along the canal in Hayes and West Drayton open up the canal to local residents and improve the overall environment.

Q & A Guru Nanak Sikh Academy Politics Students

I had a great time in a question and answer session with students studying politics. Really clever questions were posed by the students.

Austin Road

I convened a meeting of local residents impacted by the redevelopment of Austin Road. Our aim is to ensure that residents were fully aware of the options for the future and are able to secure a decent home in the future.

Meeting with GLA Regarding Austin Road

I met with Tom Copely from the GLA to seek the GLA's close involvement in the schemes to protect the interests of local residents.

Cranford Park

I am the Chair of the Friends of Cranford Park. We are a group of residents who came together to see how the park could be regenerated, what activities could be arranged and to look at the protection of the historical artifacts on site.

I am also on the Cranford Park Steering Committee, working in partnership with the council.

I am delighted to report that Cranford Park was awarded £2.28 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund which will help pay for essential repairs to the stables, the garden walls, the ha-ha and landscaping and regeneration of the orchard, woodland and meadows.

In addition, there are plans to open the vaulted cellars, to build a café, install circular cycling and walking trails, play areas and an informal football pitch.

There are also plans for an educational programme of archaeology, horticulture and orchard and river management

This is such an exciting and invaluable project. Here is the website link should you want more information about our meetings and events. www.cranfordparkfriends.org

Hayes Cricket Club

Hayes Cricket Club is re-opening and after liaising with the club's officials I contacted the council to complete the works on the club's boundaries to ensure the site was ready for the cricket season.



Whilst it is wholly unacceptable that foodbanks are needed in 2021, until there is long term change, people will still have the need for this support.

Below are the details of the foodbanks in our area, should you wish to donate or if you are in need of support

St Anselms Church

Open: Wednesday 12pm – 2pm
Station Road / St Anselms Road
Hayes

St Edmunds Church

Open: Saturday 10am – 12pm
Edmunds Close (off Yeading Lane)
Hayes
UB4 0HA

Bell Farm Christian Centre

Open: Tuesday 10am – 1pm and Thursday 10am – 1pm / 2pm – 4.30pm
01895 444406
Bell Farm Christian Centre
South Road
West Drayton
UB7 9LW

West Drayton Com Café

Open: Wednesday and Thursday 1pm – 3pm
01895 252 224
Com Café
62 Byron Way
West Drayton
UB7 9JD

Yiewsley and West Drayton Foodbank

Open: Monday 2pm – 4pm and Friday 12pm – 2pm
St Matthew's Church Centre
High Street
Yiewsley
UB7 7QH

I extend my deepest gratitude to the staff and volunteers who run all the foodbanks in our community and to those who assist with their donations

Shout Out

Numerous business, including pubs, the hospitality industry and the performing arts are suffering due to Covid-19
At this time, I would ask that wherever possible, try and buy local to support our local economy.

Our local theatre has also struggled. It is not just a theatre; it is a community hub. The Beck Theatre team support as many voluntary groups and initiatives as they can, and I would like to send my thanks and to give a "shout out" for their new programme of events for 2021.

<https://becktheatre.org.uk/Online/whatson>

Please do keep in touch and don't hesitate to contact me if you need my assistance.

Because of the high volume of work at his time I will always do my best to respond promptly but hope that you will appreciate that sometimes we are a bit stretched because of the high volume of work at this time.

Stay well and stay safe and as always thank you for the support you give me and my team.

Best wishes,
John McDonnell MP