



John McDonnell MP

Member of Parliament for Hayes & Harlington

Dear Friend,

I hope you and your family are well.

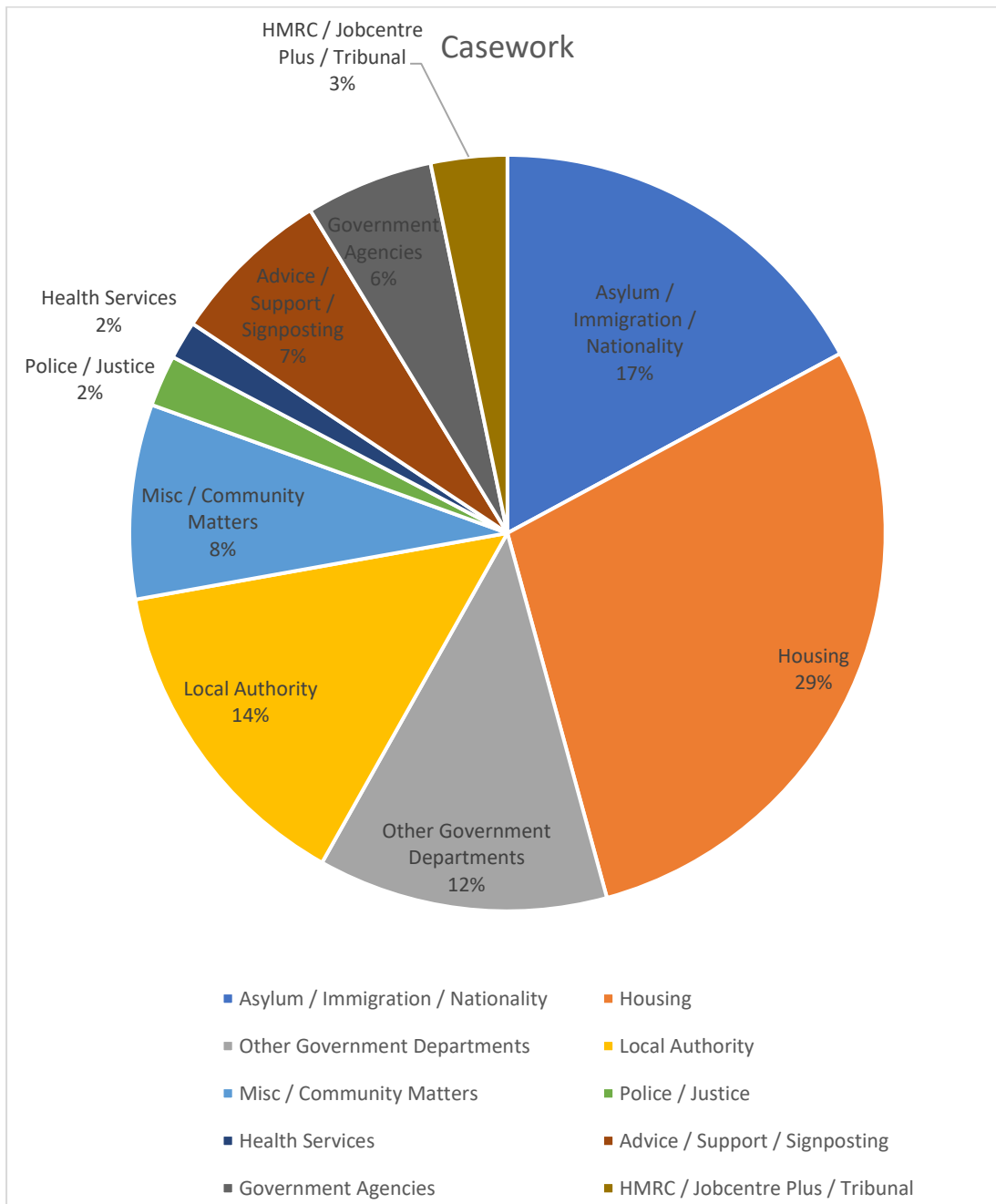
Welcome to my latest newsletter. It has been an intense month in Parliament and of course as a team we've been working hard in the constituency.

Just as reminder, if you or anyone you know has any issue of concern that you wish me to assist with, then please don't hesitate to email me on mcdonnellj@parliament.uk or lowderh@parliament.uk and we will do all we can to assist or advice you.

Just a Flavour of the Volume and Types of Local Constituency Casework

Below is a chart that shows the breakdown of casework my team and I have actioned in March and April 2023 and gives you a flavour of the work our team deals with.

In addition to casework, I received a large number of emails from constituents raising their concerns about policy positions and campaigns.



Local Visits and Meetings

I continue to meet with constituents, local community groups and statutory agencies. This is helpful by way of updates, sharing information and assessing how we can all work together

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.

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.

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.

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

Carers Group

Unpaid carers provide support to family members who are often in desperate need as a result of disability or chronic illness. They are awarded a pittance in Carers Support Allowance and many face real hardship. To give carers a voice in Labour's policy making I have brought together a group of carers who are Labour members and supporters to form the Labour Carers Group. Please let me know if you would like to join this group.

International Women's Day

I attended events in Parliament and in the constituency to celebrate International Women's Day.

Hillingdon Women's Centre organised both an educational conference with Women's Health Talks, Fashion Shows, and special guests. Local stall holders promoted their services and later that evening there was entertainment and music to showcase local talent

Somali Community Festival

Somali National Helpline and other local groups held their event in Hayes and Harlington Community Centre. They held workshops, stalls and entertainment too.

Grange Park school

I visited Grange Park School to meet their new school council. The school has launched a podcast and the children interviewed me on World Book Day. The children's love of reading was inspiring. Here is the interview.

<https://grangeparkjuniorschool.co.uk/gpjs-podcasts/>

De Salis Studio College

I visited De Salis Studio College which is part of Hewens College to speak to their economic students. We discussed the economy and politics. Enthusiastic students with some great questions

Harmondsworth Moor

I convened a meeting of residents and representatives from British Airways to discuss concerns about anti-social behaviour taking place on Harmondsworth Moor. After a productive discussion, it was agreed to revamp the friend's group who will work with BA on measures and improvements that can be made to deter the behaviour on site

Meetings. Briefings and Events I have attended

It's important that as your local MP I try and keep well briefed on this issues that impact upon our community.

This gives you some idea of how I do this through meetings and briefing sessions that I organise or attend addressing local, national and international issues.

Parliamentary Groups

Trade Union Groups I regularly attend the following Parliamentary groups, Unite. Unison, PCS, FBU, National Union of Journalists, Bakers Unions and the Justice Unions POA, NAPO.

I also receive regular briefings from USDAW, GMB and Equity and liaise with them on campaigning.

Fair Share

I am working with this group to develop the ideas on how our taxation system can be made fairer though progressive taxation.

Make Votes Matter Alliance

I am a supporter of electoral reform as are several constituents who have written t me on this and so I am working with this coalition of groups to promote reform and to oppose the Government's attacks on our existing rights.

Labour Climate and Environment Forum

This is a newly formed independent organisation whose purpose is to work with the Labour movement to strengthen ambition on tackling the climate and environment emergency

Lobbying for Good Lobbying

I spoke at the lobbying for good lobbying meeting.

It is clear from the CIPR and Policy Mogul report, ['The Never-Ending Scandal'](#) that we need to build trust in lobbying and that, if less than [4% of lobbying activity is captured](#) (Transparency International), the 2014 'Lobbying Act' needs reform. This is a campaign to secure lobbying reform, greater transparency and a level playing field

My Beautiful Eye Day Lobby

I hosted a meeting for those who have suffered damage to their eyes following refractive surgery. We discussed their campaign to call upon the government to regulate the refractive surgery industry



Royal National Institute of the Blind

I attended the cost-of-living parliamentary drop-in event organised by the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)

Before prices began to rise, one in five blind and partially sighted people said they had difficulty making ends meet, and the rising cost-of-living has only made this situation worse. Extra costs can be incurred from a need for assistive technology, a greater need for taxi journeys, support in the home, additional lighting, and much more.

RNIB is urgently calling for more support for people with sight loss to cope with energy bills, including the development and implementation of a social energy tariff, and for benefit rates to be reviewed and rebased so people can afford an adequate standard of living and manage the extra costs that come with sight loss.

encourages people living with a vision impairment who might be finding the rising cost-of-living challenging or would like to talk through their options, to call RNIB's Helpline on 0303 123 9999, visit rnib.org.uk/advice or email helpline@rnib.org.uk.

Royal National Institute for the Deaf

I attended a parliamentary drop-in event hosted by RNID. The event set out the evidence for hearing checks to be included in the existing NHS Health Check as a means of reducing the number of people who develop dementia.

New and growing evidence shows a link between dementia and hearing loss. In 2020 a Lancet Commission on dementia prevention identified hearing loss as the largest potentially modifiable lifestyle risk factor for dementia, with unmanaged hearing loss in mid-life responsible for up to 8.2% of all dementia cases globally. However, there is substantive evidence that early treatment for hearing loss, including the use of hearing aids, removes the increased risk of an individual having dementia. We know that a large proportion of those who could benefit from hearing aids do not have them. For example, it takes an average of 10 years for people to seek help for their hearing loss. Introducing systematic screening across the NHS, in

all parts of the UK, would be an important step increasing the uptake of hearing aids and reducing the number of people with Dementia.

At the drop-in RNID will set out the evidence that integrating hearing check within the NHS Health Check is one potential way to do this. Tools like RNID's free online hearing check, which already features on the hearing loss page of the NHS website, could be added within a digital health check and would support the improved access to hearing checks.

Here is the link to their website should you need support or advice with hearing issues. [RNID - National hearing loss charity](#)

The race against resistance: what it means for affected communities in the global south and global health security.

The aim is for this roundtable to bring together parliamentarians from across a number of global health and related APPGs to meet with scientists and international development experts to discuss the how the UK can best support the fight against drug resistance/AMR and insecticide resistance and the impact these issues have on communities. The Government's decision to establish a new department for Science and Innovation means that this discussion is well-timed. By placing resistance at the heart of the Government's strategies for global health science, we will be able to tackle one of the fundamental challenges facing global health head on.



Save our Pharmacies: Emergency Summit Roundtable

The situation for pharmacies remains critical, and so I supported the emergency summit to learn about the issues affecting pharmacies and about the urgent action needed to address them.

Sector representatives gave a view from the frontline on the delivery of vital services, and the pressures pharmacies are facing. They also provided information about the implementation of a [Pharmacy First](#) service, which would enable pharmacies to provide additional services to the general public and reduce pressures both in primary and secondary care, provided fair funding is made available for it.

The community pharmacy sector is uniting behind a new #SaveOurPharmacies campaign in recognition of the extreme and intolerable pressure that pharmacies are facing and the concern for the millions of patients who rely on them. Here is the link for further information (<https://saveourpharmacies.co.uk/>)

National Covid Memorial Wall

It was an honour to be invited to the commemoration service at the National Covid Memorial Wall. It was extremely moving to join the service and sadly to meet families who had lost relatives

NHS Rally

I have now spoken at each of the rallies supporting health workers taking industrial action to secure a decent pay rise and to ensure the NHS is properly funded.



Ban Trophy Hunting

I was pleased to attend Parliament to support the ban on trophy hunting imports. I agree with Chris Packham that this will speed the transition away from trophy hunting towards a more sustainable future. Congratulations to those campaigners who have brought this about

Budget Day

In the budget debate I urged that action is taken to address the threat of a new banking crisis, including renewed stress testing of banks by the Bank of England and a halt to the Governments recent legislation to reduce regulation of our financial services

Here is the link to my speech in Parliament [Budget Resolutions and Economic Situation - Hansard - UK Parliament](#)

It was frustrating to read that the Bank of England Governor warns firms raising prices hurts people and that raising prices could drive up the cost of living even further and would hurt the least well off the most

This is at least 12 months too late. Many of us have been calling for action on prices for over a year and warnings are not enough, we need price controls starting with rents and basic food stuffs and failing that, an excess profits tax

I joined James Meadway on his podcast to discuss the budget. Here is the link [Budget Reaction w/ John McDonnell – Macrodose – Podcast – Podtail](#)

I also discussed the current banking crisis with Andrew Marr on LBC about what needs to be done to protect our economy. Our conversation reflected the concerns I raised in Parliament this week. <https://t.co/kl3Dt0bnrR>

Renters Reform Coalition

As I was speaking in Chamber at the time I was unable to meet with renters who were lobbying MP's as part of the Renters Day of Action. However I expressed my support and have called for rent controls and an end to no fault evictions.

The Renters' Reform Coalition comprises 20 leading organisations supporting and representing private renters. Their immediate goal is to ensure the Government's promised Renters Reform Bill becomes law, to move them in the direction of a private rented sector that provides secure, safe, and affordable housing for all tenants.

Stand up to Racism Rally

I spoke at the Refugees Welcome Demonstration to reaffirm my strong opposition to the Illegal Immigration Bill. How can we call ourselves civilised when we imprison children?

In the name of humanity and common decency, this bill should be scrapped.

My speech at the demonstration is here

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1637818225953067008>



Photograph: Wiktor Szymanowicz/Rex/Shutterstock

A copy of my letter to the Guardian can be found here

[Stop this illegal migration bill, in the name of humanity and common decency | Immigration and asylum | The Guardian](#)

How to support Iranian journalists in the UK

I attended a briefing with representatives from Iran International TV, established in 2017 in the UK, has been and still is one of the main credible sources of information for Iranians inside and outside Iran. Iran International's 24/7 coverage of nationwide protests following the death of Mahsa Amini in September 2022 is one of the many reasons the Islamic Republic has resorted to terror to silence access to news and information that does not strictly align with its rhetoric.

According to Scotland Yard, police and MI5 have successfully stopped at least 15 plots to abduct or assassinate UK-based individuals perceived as enemies by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

I joined this session to hear the gravity of the situation first hand and to discuss what support MP's can provide.

I also chair a new committee of Iranian men and women linking Iranian campaigners with supportive trade unions in this country.

Strikes

I was proud to join constituents in the PCS Union who have been forced to take strike action to fight against low pay and secure a decent pay deal. As you can see, we were all huddled under a tree as it was pouring with rain but spirits were really high



I also joined the picket lines at the schools in my constituency and spoke at the NEU rally in support of our teachers



Fuel Poverty Action

I signed in support of the #FuelPovAction Manifesto and spoke at the launch of the manifesto. [Sign the Energy For All Manifesto - Action Network](#)

Show Racism the Red Card

The Socialist Campaign Group met with Ged Grebby from Show Racism the Red Card to hear about their work and how we can get involved



Palestinian Solidarity

I met with representatives of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign to express my support for the work they are doing to oppose the attacks on Palestinian villages by Israeli settlers and military.

Windrush rally

I hosted another rally in Parliament calling for the government to address the ongoing injustices of the Windrush generation.

New Thinking Lectures

I am hosting a new series of lectures and discussion in Parliament providing a platform for authors, researchers and campaigners providing new thinking in politics. These talks are open to anyone with an interest in the policies we need to tackle the economic, social and environmental challenges we now face.

[New Thinking to Transform a Society in Crisis Tickets, Mon 27 Mar 2023 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Parliamentary Debates – Spoken Contributions

Now that I am no longer Shadow Chancellor, I have the freedom to be able to speak on any subject and I usually intervene on issues that my constituents have raised with me. My role is to be the voice of the local community in Parliament.

In the Main Chamber

6th March - Social Security (Additional Payments) Bill

7th March – Illegal Migration Bill

9th – Brain Tumour Research Funding

13th March – Illegal Migration Bill

21st March – Metropolitan Police: Casey Review

21st March – Budget Resolutions and Economic Solutions

28th March – Illegal Migration Bill

28th March – Afghan Resettlement Update

20th April – International Trade and Geopolitics

20th April – Human Rights Protections: Palestinians

26th April – Illegal Migration Bill

Westminster Hall

7th March – Civil Service Pay

22nd March – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities: Specialist Workforce

27th April – Imprisonment for Public Protection Sentences

Here is the link to read all of my contributions in Parliament

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

Using other Parliamentary Devices to Get Constituents' Voices Heard

There are a range of other devices to ensure local constituents' voices get heard.

This includes Early Day Motions, which are like petitions from MPs to the government, parliamentary questions and of course votes.

If you follow the links you can view the EDM's I have signed, 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>

All Party Groups

On a number of issues, I will work across the political parties to promote the policies that will benefit my constituents and to respond to issues they have raised with me. This work is often done through all Party Groups.

I also work closely with a number of trade unions that represent my constituents and so I am a member of several trade union groups in Parliament.

- ✚ 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 No Recourse to Public Funds
- ✚ 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

Joint Letters

Another method I use to get our constituents' voices heard is a joint letter.

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 [@johnmcdonnellIMP](https://twitter.com/johnmcdonnellIMP)



[Hillingdon Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis](#)

Whilst it is wholly unacceptable that foodbanks are needed in 2023, until there is long term change, people will still have the need for this support.

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

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