



Kate Osborne MP
Monthly Newsletter
June 2023

Hello,

I am writing to you today with an update of my work, in June both in Parliament and across our Jarrow constituency.

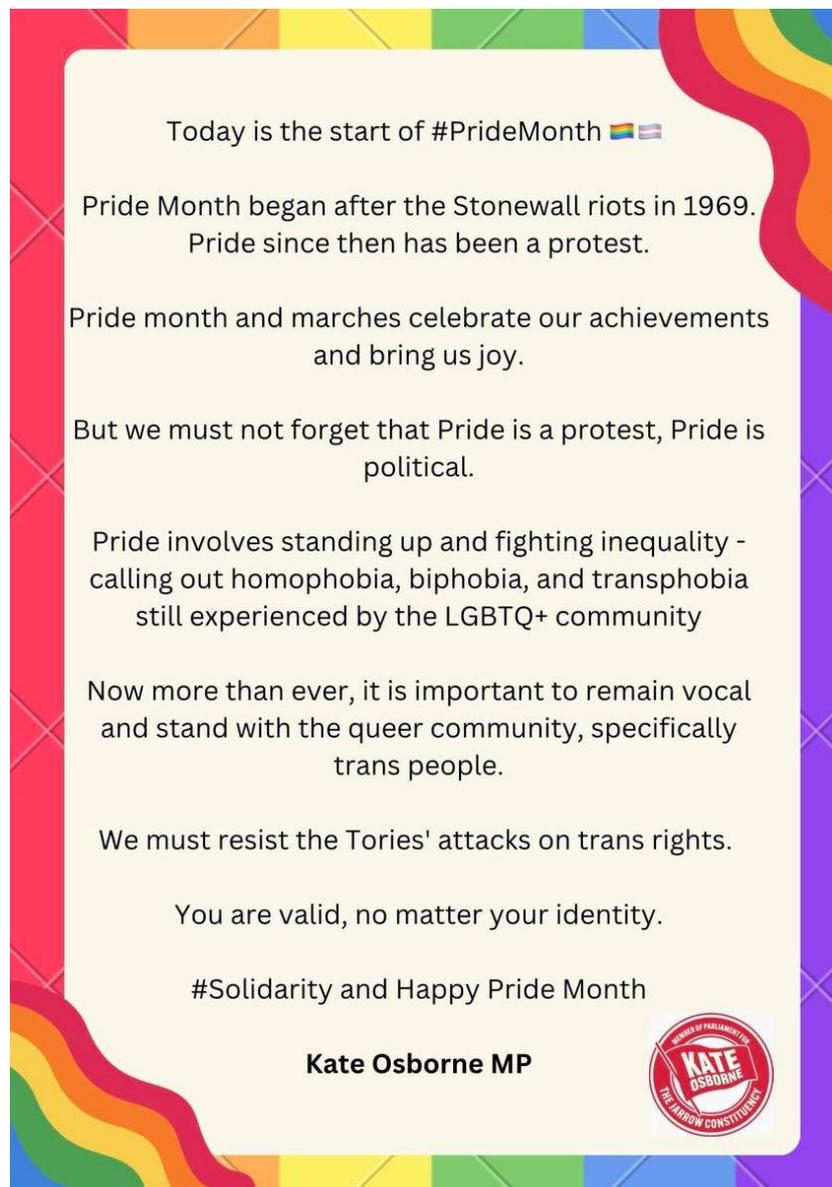
It's been a busy month as usual, from the former Prime Minister finally being proven guilty of lying to Parliament and the country, to out-of-control inflation as a result of 13 years of disastrous Tory economic policy, a huge number of visits and debates and our fabulous Jarrow Rebel Festival and volunteering to work the bar at Glastonbury to raise money for our Jarrow Rebel Festival and their new banner!

June is of course also Pride Month and that featured heavily in my work.

Pride Month 2023

Pride Month began after the Stonewall riots in 1969. Pride is a protest, Pride is political – it involves standing up and fighting inequality – calling out homophobia, biphobia and transphobia still experienced by the LGBTQ+ community.

Below is my statement from the beginning of Pride Month.



Today is the start of #PrideMonth 🏳️‍🌈

Pride Month began after the Stonewall riots in 1969.
Pride since then has been a protest.

Pride month and marches celebrate our achievements
and bring us joy.

But we must not forget that Pride is a protest, Pride is
political.

Pride involves standing up and fighting inequality -
calling out homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia
still experienced by the LGBTQ+ community

Now more than ever, it is important to remain vocal
and stand with the queer community, specifically
trans people.

We must resist the Tories' attacks on trans rights.

You are valid, no matter your identity.

#Solidarity and Happy Pride Month

Kate Osborne MP



I also have written a piece for Labour Outlook to mark the end of Pride Month which reminds us that pride is as much about protest as it is about celebration. You can read this in full [here](#).

Boundary Commission

This month the Boundary Commission for England published its final recommendations for new parliamentary constituency boundary proposals – you can read these in full [here](#).

I welcome the two new Gateshead wards being added to the Jarrow constituency and I'm sad to lose the Cleadon and East Boldon ward to the South Shields constituency.

However, I am disappointed and angry that at the last minute the Boundary Commission have decided to revert to their original proposal to change the name of our historic Jarrow constituency. Giving us no chance to make representations against this decision.

You can read my response to the boundary commission here - <https://kate-osborne.co.uk/2023/06/29/kate-osborne-mp-blasts-boundary-commission-for-riding-roughshod-over-history/>

I wholeheartedly oppose altering the name of the long-established and historic Parliamentary Constituency of Jarrow to Jarrow and Gateshead East and find it absolutely staggering that the new constituency name of Jarrow and Gateshead East has not once been put out for review or consultation once throughout this process.

In my opinion, the Jarrow constituency should not be renamed and should remain as "Jarrow".

Later this year, on October 5th, we will commemorate the 87th anniversary year of the famous Jarrow Crusade, a hugely important commemoration that the people of Jarrow and the wider region participate in every year.

North East Child Poverty

It is an absolute disgrace that Tory policy continues pushing more and more people into poverty. In the North East there is a child poverty epidemic. In the Jarrow constituency, child poverty has risen by 10.6% since 2015 – meaning there are an extra 6000 children in poverty.

It is appalling that in one of the richest countries in the world so many are living in poverty – this comes as a failure of the Government to fix child benefits, by scrapping the two-child limit, and ensuring there is well paid and secure work in our area.



Show Racism The Red Card

I was pleased to join Show Racism The Red Card in Parliament this month lobbying for anti-racism curriculum and teacher training. It is so important that we have an inclusive curriculum that explores the way history has shaped our society – a curriculum that breaks down barriers and helps to reduce racism in society.



Universal Basic Income (UBI) Pilot

We are one of the richest countries in the world and it is not right that so many millions are living in poverty. We must take action to lift people out of poverty and I am pleased that Jarrow has been selected to participate in having a UBI pilot.

Below is my statement on the announcement of this pilot:

UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME PILOT

I welcome the pilot happening in my historic constituency.

A universal basic income will put a solid foundation beneath everybody so that they can have a life with security and stop worrying about everything.

We heard this week that we have a child poverty epidemic in the North East.

In Jarrow we have nearly 6000 children living in food poverty - many people are living so close to the edge all of the time and we've got to take that away and give them much more security in their everyday lives.

We are one of the richest countries in the world and it's not right that so many millions are living in poverty.

We must take action to lift people out of poverty.

I'm pleased Jarrow is having a UBI Pilot - and I'm looking forward to seeing the results and if we can roll this out for a wider group of people.



Consecutive Conservative governments and their shameful policies have pushed people deeper and deeper into poverty. UBI is one way we can lift people out of poverty – although a wealth tax, an end to the grossly unfair two child benefit limit and an extension of free school meal provision would also help!

You can read more in one of my regular Shields Gazette columns about the UBI launch and the impact it could have on communities – [click here](#).

☰ THE SHIELDS Gazette

KATE OSBORNE MP: Shameful Tory policies have pushed people deeper into poverty



Jarrow has been selected as one of two areas in the country for a proposed Universal Basic Income pilot scheme that would put a solid foundation beneath everybody so that they can have a life with security and stop worrying about everything.

Tour of Parliament

It was really lovely to welcome Jarrow constituents Colin and Matthew to Parliament this month for a tour. It's always a pleasure to have constituents visit Parliament, as I know it is a long way to travel from Jarra!

You can request a free tour by contacting my office who will then contact the tours team in Parliament to see if one is available on the date requested. Please note booking in advance is needed as tours fill up quickly! More info here: https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/visiting-and-tours/tours-of-parliament/tours/?fbclid=IwAR1ozM9e19_XiKa0HoOMXeRhNb-lef8Gql8BjdE4rQBU123Jk1Ygt7Tgy1U



APPG for Young Carers and Young Adult Carers

It is vital we have proactive local strategies in place to identify young carers and young adult carers to ensure that their needs are being met. I was pleased to meet with young adult carers in Parliament this month where I pledged my support to the Young Carers Pledge – you can read more [here](#).



#KeepBBCLocalRadioLocal

I was pleased to meet NUJ General Secretary Michelle Stanistreet and Gerry from BBC North East on the day NUJ members took industrial action in their dispute with management and their plans that will come at the expense of local radio and the communities it serves. Management must enter into serious negotiations with the NUJ and ensure we can keep BBC Local Radio local. I also joined 15 other North East MPs in writing to BBC Director General urging him to rethink local radio cuts – you can read more on this [here](#).



Right to Clothing

I met with Right to Clothing campaigners in Parliament this month to discuss clothing deprivation and the environmental impact of fast fashion. Whilst there I raised the important work done by Hebburn Helps and Bede's Helping Hands both do in our constituency with their clothing banks.

It is appalling that in one of the richest countries in the world, 5.5 million adults in the UK are experiencing clothing deprivation. We must ensure that all have access to adequate clothing.



Following on from this meeting, I signed my name to Apsana Begum MP (Poplar and Limehouse) calling on the Government to acknowledge the growing issue of clothing deprivation and to publish a clothing strategy to ensure that no one is unable to access adequate clothing.

Clothing poverty awareness

EDM 1271: tabled on 06 June 2023

Tabled in the 2022-23 session.

This motion has been signed by 13 Members. It has not yet had any amendments submitted.

Motion text

That this House notes with concern that rising numbers of people are unable to afford adequate clothing in the United Kingdom, that the demand for clothing banks has increased dramatically, that even despite the best efforts of clothing banks clothing deprivation is an hidden aspect of poverty in the United Kingdom; further notes that whilst other deprivations, notably food deprivations, are highly publicised and visible in the United Kingdom's public consciousness the same is not true of clothing deprivation; acknowledges that the through its voluntarily ratification of a range of treaties the United Kingdom has recognised, and assumed obligations in international law to work towards the realisation of, the right to adequate clothing; recognises right to adequate clothing; calls on the Government to acknowledge the growing issue of clothing deprivation; and further calls on the Government to publish a clothing strategy to ensure that nobody is excluded from accessing adequate clothing.

Healthy Start Scheme

It was great to join my constituency neighbour Emma Lewell-Buck MP (South Shields) in Parliament to support her Healthy Start Scheme Bill which aims to auto-enrol 200K families with young children and pregnant women who are currently missing out on essential healthy food and milk for young children. For more info on the healthy start scheme – www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply/



Café Boldon

I had a lovely visit to Café Boldon this month. It is a great independent café with such friendly staff, I highly recommend popping in for a cuppa overlooking Boldon Pond – you might even catch a glimpse of Boldon swans, Bob, Faith and their cygnets while there!



NASUWT

I caught up with Simon and Laura from NASUWT Northern this month at their regional office based in Boldon Colliery this month. We had some brilliant discussions on topics including NASUWT's ongoing ballot over pay, workload and working time. The Government must listen to our teaching unions – we need a better deal for teachers.



Hebburn Fun Fair

I had a great time at Hebburn Fun Fair at the Jarrowians RUFC at Lukes Lane Sports Pavilion – there was some great rides and a variety of games for the whole family. Whilst there I was really glad to catch up with Hebburn Helps and play on their tombola raising money for their foodbank.



Coffee Mornings

I have started hosting a series of Coffee Mornings across each of the wards within the Jarrow constituency. The first of these coffee mornings was held at Rosie's Café in Jarrow town centre and it was great to speak to so many constituents. Thank you to all who took time out to come down and speak with me and my team whilst supporting a brilliant independent local café.



My second coffee morning this month was at Café Obscura in Hebburn where I met with more constituents and had some great discussions on important topics such as protecting our green open spaces, the cost of living crisis and NHS privatisation.

Keep an eye out for announcements on upcoming coffee morning dates across the constituency!



This month I spoke with Pink News about the toxic debate that has emerged around trans issues. Some people are using the review into RSE to push an anti-trans agenda and this government are helping them with its war on woke designed to distract from the cost of living caused by their disastrous policies.

Labour MP Kate Osborne says sex ed review ‘undoubtedly’ being used to push anti-trans agenda

Jun 09 • Written by Sophie Perry



Willowdene Care Home

Claire and Christine gave me a great tour of Willowdene Care Home in Hebburn this month to speak with residents about what is important to them. I had a good discussion with Marjorie who was visiting her husband Norman over a cup of coffee.



Northumbria Police Ride Along

This month I spent 5 hours with Northumbria Police accompanying them around the constituency, spending time in the custody suite and joining them out on calls. It was good to see first hand typical Friday night issues in the constituency and discuss other calls they have attended, including checking on Boldon Swans, shoplifting and off-road motorbikes.

Unfortunately on one of the calls some officers were injured as they were carrying out their duties – I want to thank them for the risks they take on a daily basis to keep us all safe. It was an incredibly informative and helpful night. There has rarely been a tougher time to be a police officer as 13 years of Conservative rule has seen round after round of devastating cuts. I wrote more about my experience in one of my regular columns for the Shields Gazette which you can read in full [here](#).

The Shields Gazette

BREAKING Father of two goes missing swimming... >

KATE OSBORNE MP: There has rarely been a tougher time to be a police officer as 13 years of Conservative rule has seen round after round of devastating cuts

This month I joined Northumbria Police's Response Team, accompanying them around South Tyneside and joining them out on calls spending more than five hours with them to get a real insight and see first-hand the many typical Friday night issues in the constituency.

Hebburn Litter Pickers

It was fantastic to join Hebburn Litter Pickers tidying up Hebburn Town Centre ahead of the Local Heroes Market this month. They meet every Saturday and work hard at keeping our green spaces, parks, and town centres clear of rubbish. If you're looking to volunteer with a local group – I highly recommend joining the litter pickers if you want a really warm welcome by a lovely group.



Education Questions:

In Parliament this month I asked the Government when they're going to take action to tackle the teaching recruitment crisis. Their own data shows a consequence of real terms cuts in pay and unmanageable workloads – posts without a teacher have more than doubled in the last two years. You can watch my question to the Minister [here](#) – as usual they had no answer.

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Questions

Colombia's Attorney General is harming President Petro's Total Peace Policy – this month in Parliament I asked the Government what they, as UN Security Council penholders for the Colombia peace agreement, can provide to ensure that Colombia's institutions are supporting peace. You can watch this question in full [here](#).

WASPI

Earlier this year I called on Government to bring forward a compensation package for 1950s women impacted by state pension changes. This month we saw Pension Credit week of action and I wrote to the Ombudsman on behalf of WASPI Campaigners in my constituency urging the Government to follow the WASPI 10 point plan. You can read this letter in full below.

Kate Osborne MP

Member of Parliament for the Jarrow constituency



House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

Parliamentary Ombudsman
Millbank Tower
21 Millbank
Westminster
London
SW1P 4QP

13th June 2023

Dear Whom it May Concern,

Women Against State Pension Age Increase

I am writing to you on behalf of around 11,000 of the women affected by State Pension changes from the South Tyneside area.

Earlier this year, I called for the Government to put forward a compensation package for women born in the 1950s who were affected by the changes to their State Pension age.

The Minister responded *"Well I don't accept that. I think the WASPI issue has been covered many times by Ministers from the Department of Work and Pensions and elsewhere."*

This issue however remains unresolved, despite your initial findings in July 2021 that the DWP had failed to communicate with enough urgency and finding the DWP guilty of maladministration in July 2021 and following the legal challenge against your stage 2 ruling, leading to further delays.

I raised this again in Parliament in March 2023 and I am now writing to you to ask you to urgently conclude revisiting stage 2 and to urge you to follow the WASPI campaigns 10-point plan:

1. Complete the investigation with a sense of urgency
2. Clearly and correctly identify when maladministration began
3. Clearly and correctly identify when maladministration ended
4. Reach a sound conclusion on what would have happened if women had been correctly notified of the changes to their state pension age
5. Make realistic findings on direct financial losses
6. Look at the lost opportunities for women to make different financial decisions
7. Properly consider the distress, anger and hurt of those affected
8. Take account of varying impacts based on circumstances
9. Reach conclusions in a fair manner including consultation with WASPI
10. Make compensation recommendations that are fair, fast and straightforward

I look forward to your urgent response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Osborne'.

Kate Osborne MP
Member of Parliament for the Jarrow constituency

It is a disgrace that these women have suffered such discrimination – despite the Ombudsman finding the DWP guilty of maladministration in 2021 these women are still waiting for justice.

Newcastle WASPI women join fight for pension compensation

Campaigners say that poor communication left them with "insufficient time" to prepare for up to six years without their pension

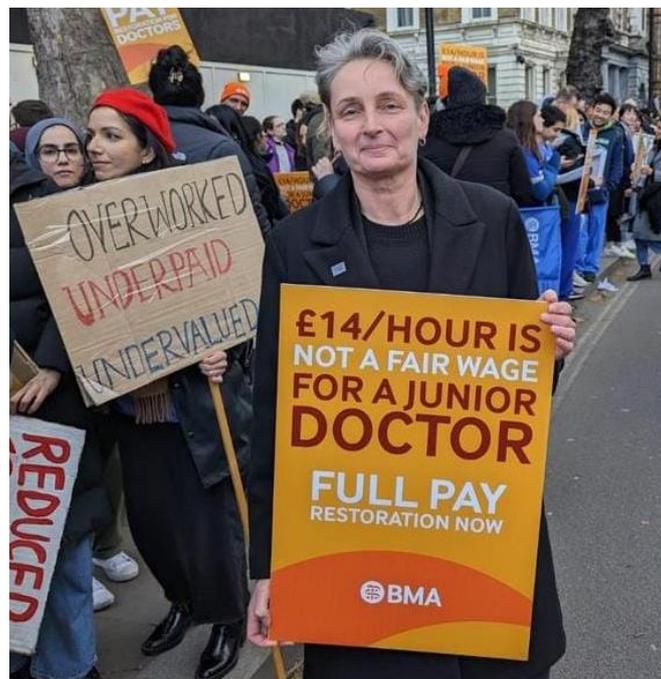
Christine says the WASPI campaign has the backing of many local council and MPs, including [Jarrow](#) MP Kate Osborne.

"Earlier this year I called for the Government to put forward a compensation package for women born in the 1950s who were affected by the changes to their state pension age," she said. "The Minister responded "Well I don't accept that. I think the WASPI issue has been covered many times by Ministers from the Department of Work and Pensions and elsewhere" - dismissive and arrogant sums up this Government. Despite the Ombudsman ruling that the DWP had failed to communicate with enough urgency and finding the DWP guilty of maladministration in July 2021, these women are still waiting for justice.

"Around 11,000 of the women affected by state pension changes were from the [South Tyneside](#) area, with a total of 65,000 in the North East. The Government should be ashamed that so many women have died whilst waiting for justice. I raised this again in Parliament in March 2023 and I have written to the Ombudsman backing the WASPI women's ten point plan. It is an absolute disgrace that women born in the 1950's have suffered such discrimination. They have my full support and I will continue to raise this in any way I can."

Junior Doctor Strikes

I want to extend my solidarity to Junior Doctors who were out on strike this month over pay. Whilst workload and waiting lists are at record highs, junior doctors' pay has been cut by more than ¼ since 2008. To protect our NHS – the Government must engage and address junior doctors concerns as soon as possible.



British Red Cross and Voices Network UK

I met with British Red Cross and Voices Network UK in Parliament to hear about their research led by women with first hand experience of seeking asylum in the UK. It is vital we make changes to ensure the UK asylum system is safer and fairer for vulnerable women and girls.



Guide Dogs

I joined Guide Dogs UK Lobby on access rights in parliament this month, to speak with guide dog owners about their experiences and the discrimination they receive from establishments because of their service dog. I fully support Guide Dogs UK Open Doors For Guide Dogs campaign.



Tesco Summer Reception

It was a pleasure to attend Tesco's Summer Reception in Parliament to hear about donations made by Tesco & their charity partners to help community projects in communities across the UK.

They have awarded over £100m to community projects since 2016, great to hear about work they're doing in the Jarrow constituency.



Neurodegenerative Diseases

Neurodegenerative diseases affect millions of people worldwide. In Parliament this month I met with UK academic and NHS innovators to learn about the flavour simulation device can be used as means to screen early for Alzheimer's Disease and other Neurodegenerative conditions.



Jarrow Rebel Town Festival

Since elected I've joined the Jarra Rebels every year to commemorate The Seven Men Of Jarrow, William Jobling & of course Red Ellen Wilkinson. It is vital we remember our past, Jarrow has a proud history of standing up for workers rights. I was proud to pay a wreath on the memorial stone for William Jobling at this years Rebel Town in honour of all those who have sacrificed in the fight for workers rights.



When speaking at the Jarrow Rebel Town Festival this month, I said that this Government are attempting to exploit people's anger. But we should be angry – we should be angry with the Tories and their destruction of services, our NHS, their attacks on workers rights and on our communities. We should not be angry with each other, and not with migrants and LGBTQI+ communities. The power is with the people – and the people have had enough.

You can watch my speech in full [here](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who donated to our online fundraiser for the Jarrow Rebels and to those who played on our tombola on the day! We raised over £500 which will be split between the Jarrow Rebels and my General Election fighting fund – with 10% donated to local foodbanks in the constituency.



Glastonbury 2023

I led a team of 6 who worked the bar at Glastonbury doing 6 hour shifts every day across the weekend to raise money for the Jarrow Rebel festival. It was incredibly hard work but good fun and will add to our fundraiser for the banner and next year's festival. It will bring our fundraising total to over £1000. If you would like to donate to this fundraiser you are still able to do so by [clicking here!](#)



Partygate report

After ensuring his cronies, some of the most discredited people in Britain got their rewards – Boris Johnson resigned before the recommended sanctions could be put forward by the Privileges Committee.

Peerages for cronies, allies, those who put profit over people, all have been rewarded for backing a disastrous lying Prime Minister. Sunak could have stopped this, but he was too weak. Its time for this to be stopped permanently, for the Lords to be abolished and honours system with it.

I voted in Parliament this month, to accept the Privileges Committee report that finally confirmed what we all knew – Boris Johnson knowingly and repeatedly lied to us all. This utterly corrupt Government truly believe they are above the law.

My full statement on this vote is below:

BORIS JOHNSON PARTYGATE REPORT

Tonight in Parliament, I will be voting to accept the Privileges Committee report.

A report that has finally confirmed what we all knew – **Johnson knowingly and repeatedly lied to us all.**

He willingly lied to Parliament, lied to the country, and lied to the people who lost loved ones. But still the Tories are standing by Johnson.

At the same time as Conservative Party staffers were invited to "jingle and mingle" at their headquarters in December 2020, Nurses were at the point of collapse, loved ones were dying alone. Many spending Christmas that year entirely alone.

Those families will never get that time back.

Johnson's last act as a MP, before resigning, was a slap in the face to everyone who lost people, to everyone who followed the rules to keep society safe, to ensure his cronies, some of the most discredited people in Britain, got their rewards. It makes a mockery of an already flawed honours system. Those who were jingling and mingling should have their honours revoked.

Yet still, the Prime Minister stood by Boris.

Sunak backed his lies, he partied with him and he refused to stop his peerages for cronies.

Tonight Sunak is nowhere to be seen, too weak to speak out against Johnson out of fear of those in his party still standing by Boris the liar.

This utterly corrupt Government truly believe they are above the law.

It is not just Johnson who should have resigned.

The whole of the Conservatives must go.

We need a General Election now.



Legal right to access school toilets:

Limiting access to toilets in school for pupils having their period prevents them from changing period products regularly.

Bright Futures Young Womens Project have launched a petition called for a legal right to access school toilets for pupils having their period. You can read more about the petition and sign here: https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/637669?fbclid=IwAR3M8U3rzzXMIVmvtHcatYpPkuPG9Ya6e7a2QCRisz7zX7_fguD7eELRa7A



Petitions

UK Government and Parliament

Petition

Give students a legal right to access school toilets when they have their period

Bright Futures NE proposes that young people should have a legal right to access school toilets when they have their periods. Young people, when they have their period, should never be refused access to use the toilet.

Mortgage payments

My office has spoken to constituents who are extremely worried about paying hundreds more each month on their mortgage payments . As a result of this Tory Governments disastrous economic policies households have shelled out over a billion in extra mortgage payments.

If you are in need of advice with debt management and financial support please do get in touch and my office will signpost you to support available.

OverRide Skate Park

It was a pleasure to meet George and Diane, owners of OverRide Skate Park. A family business offering a range of skateboarding and scooter lessons for all ages and abilities – so if you're looking for a new hobby, they've got something for everyone!

Great to hear they have signed up to join the Holiday Activities and Food Programme so keep an eye out on the council's website and their social media for more information about sessions available!



Early Day Motions

As part of my Parliamentary work, I have signed my name to many motions this month, a list of which you can see below:

- EDM1345: The Ministerial Code and Parliamentary Standards
- EDM1344: Prescription Charges

- EDM1333: Impact on bereaved families of the non-attendance of offenders at sentence hearings
- EDM1327: Improved public transport to support cleaner air
- EDM1302: Honouring Olivia Pratt-Korbel's 10th birthday
- EDM1301: Recognition for railway cleaners
- EDM1299: Automatic enrolment on the NHS Healthy Start scheme
- EDM1292: Durham Miners Gala 2023
- EDM1288: Sixth anniversary of the Grenfell Tower Fire
- EDM1275: Pride Month 2023
- EDM1271: Clothing poverty awareness
- EDM1260: Tackling skills shortages
- EDM1255: Support for the Anti-Stigma Network
- EDM1238: End Child Poverty Coalition All Kids Count campaign

To see more detail about each of these motions you can visit this website:

<https://edm.parliament.uk/>

General Election Fighting Fund:

You can help with our General election plans by making a donation online here:

https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/keep-jarrows-red-flag-flying-2?source=direct_link&

Donations will go towards the next general election campaign – 10% of all donations will go to our local foodbanks. (Donation policy can be read in full via my website)

Stay up to date with my work via my social media channels:

Website: www.kate-osborne.co.uk

Twitter: @KateOsborneMP

Facebook: @KateOsborneMP

Instagram: @KateOsborneMP

Tiktok: @kate.osborne.mp

If you need assistance with anything, please don't hesitate to contact me via kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk or by calling my office on 0191 466 1509.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Osborne MP