



Kate Osborne MP
Monthly Newsletter
August 2022

Dear Constituent,

I have spent the summer recess touring our Jarrow constituency with visits to communities, businesses, and charities and throughout August holding summer roadshow drop-in events speaking to constituents in every area from Pelaw and Leam Lane in Gateshead to Jarrow, Hebburn, Cleadon and Boldon hearing your concerns about local and national issues,

After a difficult couple of years through the pandemic, to be able to spend the entire summer out and about in our wonderful constituency felt like a real pleasure, meeting so many constituents in every ward of the constituency and to talk about so many important issues.

If you've been unable to attend a drop-in, you still have the opportunity to let me know what your priorities are by filling in my Summer Survey online - <https://forms.gle/MemCE7egxdVJriwq7>

Parliament returns next week, and I am looking forward to continuing to take this shameful Government to task over this mismanagement and inexplicable running of this country – regardless of who the new Prime Minister is.

Roadshow roundup

When running my roadshow, I've been really pleased to speak to many constituents about key issues in each ward within the Jarrow constituency. Due to Covid and the subsequent lockdowns, I have been unable to run a roadshow event in the constituency until now, so I am particularly pleased to have had the opportunity to get out and meet some lovely Jarrow constituents.

Some of the key issues that have been raised included the local plan, privatisation of our NHS, immigration, social care, traffic, and housing. The most prominent issue raised by constituents was the cost-of-living crisis.

With the cost-of-living crisis raging and inflation spiralling, families are struggling. It is more important than ever that we support each other as a community and reach out if in need of help.

The Tories may not care if our families and towns in the North are struggling as they are preoccupied with leadership campaigns and empty slogans - but myself and my office will continue to work hard to support Jarrow constituents across South Tyneside and Gateshead throughout the summer.

If you need support or advice, please reach out to kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk or 0191 4661509

I have discussed the huge rise in costs associated with the cost of living in a recent column for the Shields Gazette which you can read [here](#).

Residents across the borough are rightfully concerned about green belt, green open spaces and parks being earmarked for future development as part of the local plan. I share these concerns and was pleased to be able to meet people at Disco Park, I have written to the Leader of the Council and the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to raise my own concerns as well as concerns of constituents.



Cost of living crisis

Despite big businesses pocketing record profits, Energy companies this month talking about £170Billion in excess profits - workers are still being told there is not enough money for a pay rise.

Inflation is at a 40 year high of 10.1% and predicted to rise as high as 18%

People are scared and left wondering how they are going to cope, as I heard at Hebburn Helps and on the roadshows - those that used to donate to the foodbank are now reliant on it themselves.

With the growing cost-of-living crisis pushing most people into poverty - it will no longer be a choice between heating or eating – people won't be able to do either.

Tokenistic philanthropy from energy companies won't work. We cannot continue to let private companies make obscene amounts of profits from our essential services whilst people can't afford to heat their homes.

We must freeze bills, not people and we must nationalise our essential services. Read more [here](#).

Jarrow constituency levelling up bid & Jarrow Hall visit



After working closely with South Tyneside Council for the past year, our joint levelling up bid has been finalised and submitted. You can read about the bid [here](#). The core aim of the bid is to invest in our proud industrial heritage whilst paving the way for a greener and more sustainable future.

A large part of the bid involves investment into Jarrow Hall to cover a substantial restoration of the site to improve facilities and investment in new cultural learning. I recently visited Jarrow Hall to discuss their plan for

development alongside the levelling up bid. I was able to take a tour of the grounds and museum ahead of discussing with Groundworks how the investment would be used to improve the site. In support of the joint Jarrow constituency levelling up bid with South Tyneside Council, I have written to the Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities in support of our bid and to urge the Government to truly level-up our constituency.

Kate Osborne MP

Member of Parliament for the Jarrow constituency



House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

(Correspondence sent via email)

1st August 2022

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing to you today in support of Jarrow's levelling up fund bid which aims to boost pride in our industrial heritage whilst paving the way for a greener future.

The Jarrow constituency has an incredible history and further to ensuring a greener future for the constituency, this levelling up bid also aims to provide transformational investment in Jarrow Hall and the Bede Museum which will be used to attract visitors from outside of our communities so we can share our rich history and culture whilst improving our local economy.

Investment into Jarrow Hall will improve the facilities available meaning there will be more capacity to host travelling exhibitions as well as support and work with children and young people with SEND. Our constituency is often known solely for the famous Jarrow March, and whilst I am so proud of that – I feel it is important that we uplift and celebrate all of our historic assets equally and this funding will allow us to do that more so.

Regional inequality continues to worsen with the gap in spending between London and the North doubling over recent years. This bid, if successful will bring a spotlight to the Jarrow constituency giving significant investment into Jarrow and Hebburn town centres. An expansion of the Hebburn Minewater Scheme as well as a creation of a public green space in the Mountbatten Centre which will hugely improve the experience of visitors.

The core aim of this bid for funding is to invest in a low carbon community. If we can use the levelling up funding to create a greener constituency that celebrates our past whilst investing in our future, I believe this bid will benefit us for generations to come.

I urge yourself and the Prime Minister to give the green light to this bid. It will be transformational for the communities I represent after being underfunded and let down for so long.

Yours Sincerely,

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

Kate Osborne MP
Member of Parliament for the Jarrow constituency

Address: Kate Osborne MP, The Clervaux Exchange, Clervaux Terrace, Jarrow, NE32 5UP
Phone: 0191 466 1509 / Email: kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk

Proudly representing Jarrow/Hebburn/Boldon/Cleadow/Pelaw/Heworth/Bill Quay/Leam Lane/Wardley

Summer of Solidarity

We have seen a wave of industrial action across multiple sectors this summer, as workers are continuing to see their pay and conditions irretrievably damaged. Whilst the Tories continue to put their party before the country.

Trade Unions standing up for members in the face of attacks against workers this summer. I am proud to have stood on picket lines for the RMT and the CWU, and wish workers across all sectors in similar disputes, all of the best for standing strong during industrial action this summer.

We must shout loudly and fight back strongly if we are to stop workers paying the price for the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis – just as it was workers and our public services that paid the cost of the banking crisis and have continued to pay ever since. Read my Labour Outlook article [here](#).



Constituency roundup

Throughout the recess I've been really pleased to get out around the constituency. I've visited local foodbanks, small businesses, local residents etc. and discussed with each the issues that are directly affecting them.

Hebburn Helps

At a recent visit to Hebburn Helps, Angie and the team discussed with me the demand that the foodbank is facing. They are running low on sanitary products, dried pasta, instant mash, and instant noodles – if you can pop down and donate, please do.



Boldon Bees

A brilliant constituency visit this month was at Boldon Bees. I popped along to buy some honey as a gift to my team and Rob was kind enough to show me around his apiary.

It is always great to support local businesses and I highly recommend trying out Boldon Bees honey!



Maples Estate Walkabout

It was great to join residents on a walkabout around the Maples Estate this month, with representatives from Barrett Homes and Taylor Wimpey to discuss the completion of outstanding works to the development.

I understand the frustration of residents and I was pleased to facilitate this important walkabout with Labour Councillors Angela Lamonte and Wilf Flynn. I am pleased that positive progress has been made but understand that more work is needed.

I look forward to receiving further updates on this issue and the opportunity to join a walkabout in December to see how improvement works have progressed.



National Citizen Service

It was brilliant to meet the local NCS and Headliners North East team recently to learn more about the kind of work they do.

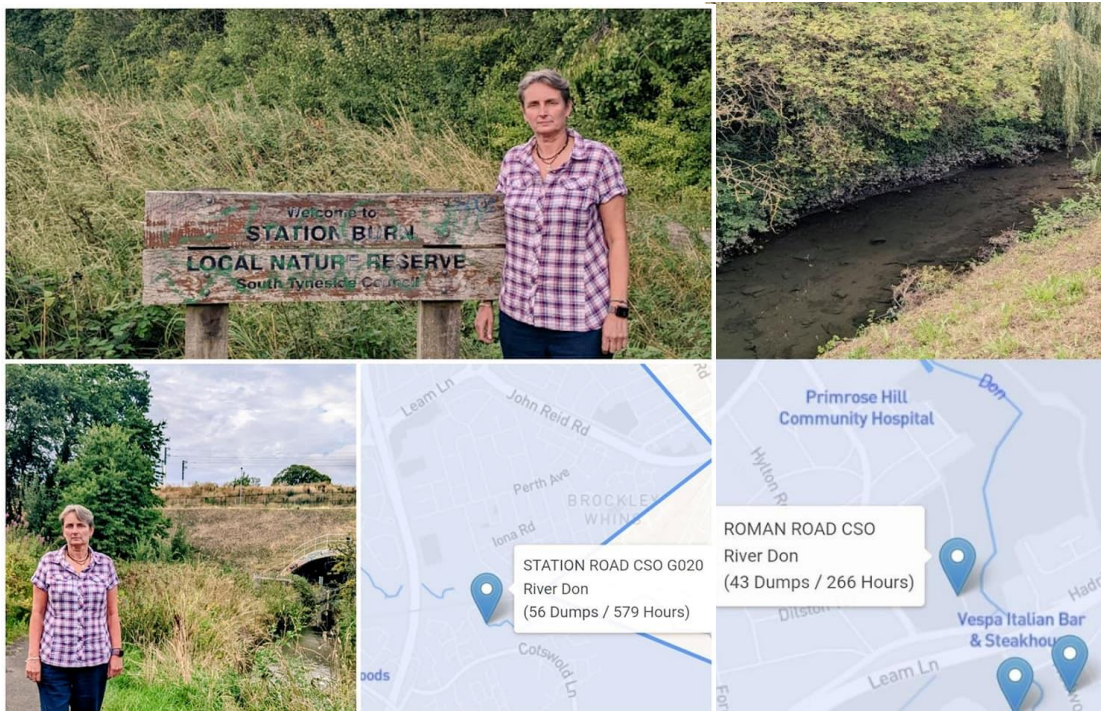
Speaking to the young people about what activities they've been able to do while on NCS they told me that from litter picking, to raising money for the homeless and the Red Cross – they've gained so much from the experience.



Sewage

It is absolutely shocking and disgraceful that the Government has allowed sewage dumps to continue. Over 42 sites in the Jarrow constituency there has been 1248 dumps.

I have written Northumbrian Water, Ofwat, the Environment Agency and South Tyneside Council. Water companies in England and Wales are polluting for profit making £2 Billion a year since privatisation. These sewage dumps are environmental vandalism and must be stopped.



KATE OSBORNE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

23 August 2022
Our Ref: KO3967

Ms H Mottram
Chief Executive
Northumbrian Water
Northumbria House
Abbey Road
Pity Me
Durham
DH1 5FJ

Dear Heidi

I am writing to you to express my concerns about recently published data regarding sewage overflows, where sewage is intentionally dumped into waterways across England and Wales. I am informed that over the last six years, there have been at least 1,261,498 sewage spill events. This means that on average, water companies have been allowed to spill sewage onto our beaches and into our waters every two-and-a-half minutes. I understand that there were at least 470,000 "sewage spills", including 1,248 sewage dumps in 42 sites across the Jarrow constituency. This data that has emerged suggests widespread shortcomings in how water companies were running sewage treatment works. The protection of our environment, and the community that enjoy it, is paramount and these figures are hugely alarming. Our country is facing a dirty water emergency and the Government and water companies have failed to face up to this serious problem, presiding over a water system that is ageing and at bursting point, with poor planning and neglect of our vital infrastructure. Families across the country are trying to enjoy the summertime. Whilst water companies are paying billions in dividends, filthy raw sewage has been dumped onto our playing fields, onto our beaches and into our waters. I therefore strongly feel that this form of environmental vandalism, which affects the whole country, is wholly unacceptable and it is disgraceful that this is allowed to continue. It really is shocking that raw sewage is being dumped into our waters at the same time as water companies across the country such as Northumbrian Water have collectively made an average £2 billion profits a year since privatisation. I would therefore be grateful if you could look into this matter further and provide me with a response as to why this sewage is still being dumped in this way. It is so important to the environmental wellbeing of my constituency and the wider North East region that this form of environmental vandalism is eradicated. I look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely

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

Kate Osborne MP

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Email: kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk
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Kate Osborne MP, The Clervaux Exchange, Clervaux Terrace, Jarrow, NE32 5UP

Jarrow Job Centre

Unemployment in Jarrow is at 6% - 2% higher than the national average. At Jarrow Job Centre I discussed how we ensure the people in our community have access to support. This Government has abandoned people, leaving them to face massive uncertainty and anxiety about the future.



South Tyneside Draft Local Plan

The Draft Local Plan has identified areas of potential housing development across the Borough.

Myself and my office took the time to consider the Draft Plan in full and I'm extremely concerned about the negative impact these plans would have on our greenbelt land and wonderful green open spaces.

I have written to Councillor Tracey Dixon, Leader of South Tyneside Council, and the Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government, about this extremely important issue.

I have spoken with multiple residents' groups about their concerns. I have met with campaigners from Boldon who voiced their opposition to earmarking land on Disco Field and Dipe Lane, you can read about this in full [here](#).

I have met with and discussed the local plan with residents across the South Tyneside wards within the Jarrow constituency, including Cleadon and East Boldon, Hebburn and Fellgate and Hedworth. I have written to the Leader of the Council and the Secretary of State to raise each concern regarding the Draft Plan.



South Shields Museum and Art Gallery

I was very grateful to South Shields Museum and Art Gallery for affording me the privilege of seeing their Ellen Wilkinson collection. I was shown archive footage of Jarrow, Boldon and Hebburn, Palmers Ship displays, the original Gibbet used on William Jobling and HMS Kelly's Bell.

There was so much history to take in, I highly recommend visiting!



Abuse.

While I've had a brilliant recess out and about in the constituency, there has sadly been instances of abuse that I've had to face. Sadly like most MPs I get abuse on social media and in real life usually sexist & homophobic. I will always take abuse seriously and refer to police when necessary, but I won't let it stop me. You can read more [here](#).

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to send a message of support and solidarity regarding the abuse I've received.

You can read my statement from the morning of the recent court case below:

This morning I have been at South Tyneside Magistrates giving evidence as a victim of harassment from a local constituent and I welcome the findings of the court.

The defendant was found guilty of harassment without violence with the judge remarking on the homophobic content.

The homophobic abuse I have been subject to has been totally unacceptable and has no place in our local community or society as a whole.

Sadly, these types of instances seem to be taking place more often, with a rising tide of abuse and aggression shown towards MPs being dismissed as just part of the job. For an LGBTQ+ woman the abuse often includes sexist and homophobic attacks.

The language of politics in the media and in public is creating situations where people think that any MP is fair game, epitomised by The Sun doorstepping and taking photos of me this morning as I entered the court.

We must of course hold all elected representatives accountable for their actions and I am proud of my record of standing up for workers and for a better fairer society - abuse however is unacceptable.

Separately to this case there has been a number of incidents of abuse in my constituency with abusive graffiti and stickers - designed to intimidate.

I will not give in to this, as this case shows I will report it to the police when necessary and I will continue being out in my constituency of Jarrow, representing my community without fear of this hatred, using my platform to campaign for a better more tolerant society.

I would like to thank both my sister and my team who have helped me through this stressful time, and the Police for their support in pursuing the case.



Advice Surgeries:

As always, I will advertise my upcoming advice surgeries across my social media platforms – so keep an eye out for details as they are released. Alternatively, you can contact my office via kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk or 0191 4661509 to request an appointment.

You can stay up to date with my work throughout the month via my social media channels:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

www.kate-osborne.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Kate Osborne MP