



Alex Brewer MP

Monthly Newsletter

March Highlights:

The Spring Statement

The Spring Statement this month gave the Government an opportunity to take real action for families and businesses across North East Hampshire. Sadly, it was another missed opportunity.

In the midst of so many pressures, people need the Government to tackle the cost of living, get Britain growing again, and protect our country.

That is why I am calling on the Government to:

- **Support people with rising petrol prices**, which need urgent action.
- **Scrap the National Insurance jobs tax**, to support Britain's high streets.
- **Boost growth and take pressure off people's paycheques**, for cost-of-living relief.

Most recently I have been calling on the Government to **tackle Trump-flation** and open their eyes to the gas hike price.

I am also pushing for the Government to **negotiate a new UK-EU customs union**. It is the most logical step towards kickstarting growth, cutting red tape for businesses and building ties with our reliable allies in the face of the chaos coming from Trump's America. We are missing out enormously by refusing to even have this conversation.

On defence, I want the Government to **create a new Defence Bonds programme** launched as part of a serious plan to reach 3% of GDP on defence spending by 2030.

And on the cost of higher education, Ministers should **end the repayment threshold freeze** to put real money back in graduates' pockets, rising year on year.

Our Treasury spokesperson Daisy Cooper put it plainly during the Spring Statement debate earlier this month: the country is paying the price for two anti-growth Labour Budgets.

Speaking Up for Women in Parliament



Alex speaking in the International Women's Day debate - ©House of Commons/Roger Harris

On a personal note, I was honoured this month to speak as the Liberal Democrat spokesperson in the International Women's Day debate. It is a cause close to my heart.

We still have so far to go when it comes to equality. Women remain underrepresented at every level of public life, face structural barriers in the workplace, and too often find that their voices are not heard in the places where decisions are made.

I will keep using my platform in Parliament to make the case loudly and clearly, and I am proud to stand alongside so many brilliant women in our community who are already leading the way.

You can find my full speech, which is about FGM in the UK and overseas, [here](#).

Lib Dem Win: Sunshine Bill Becomes Law

I am delighted to share some great news for all those people who see renewable energy as part of our future.

Max Wilkinson, our Liberal Democrat Home Affairs spokesperson, has been campaigning hard for his Sunshine Bill, which would require new homes to be built with solar panels as standard and I was proud to support his bill by speaking in favour of it in the Commons.

I am thrilled to say that the Government has now incorporated this into its Future Homes Standard.

This is a real, tangible win for the environment, for energy bills, and for the future of housing in this country. It shows that when the Liberal Democrats campaign as a group, we can make a real difference.

Casework Highlight: Getting Licences Back Where They Belong

Every month, my team works through hundreds of cases, and each one matters.

This month, I want to highlight the work we have been doing to support constituents who have faced significant delays in getting their driving licences returned after a medical situation.

For some of the people we have helped, losing access to a car is not just an inconvenience. It affects their ability to work, to care for loved ones, and to live independently. Waiting months for a decision, with little communication and no clear timeline, is deeply stressful.

I am glad that we have been able to push for resolutions and get results for a number of constituents in these circumstances. One person we helped wrote to me to say: *"[Alex] is someone to be trusted to keep her word and do her best to help."*

If you or someone you know is struggling with a DVLA delay following a medical condition, please do reach out to my office.

If you know anyone else who might need my help, please do get in touch by emailing **alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk**

Due to the volume of cases I receive, I have to prioritise responding to those who require my most urgent assistance. If you are currently waiting for a reply to your question, please know that I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Fixing Hatch Park Road



For years, a road in Old Basing has been left to deteriorate.

Land Registry records showed no registered owner, and Hampshire County Council had declined to adopt or

A Letter to Number 11



This month, I hand-delivered a letter to the Chancellor at Number 11 Downing Street, demanding that the Government make funds available now to rebuild Basingstoke & North Hampshire Hospital.

maintain it. This came at the expense of elderly residents, and those with limited mobility, who suffered greatly as a result.

That could not continue.

Residents contacted me as part of their campaign. My team and I got involved with direct negotiations with the council, and I am pleased to say that the road has now been resurfaced. Hampshire County Council acted because residents demanded it, and I made sure their voices were heard.

This is exactly the kind of issue that might seem small, in the grand scheme of things, but is critical for those it affects.

Now, the road not only looks stunning, but, more importantly, is also accessible and safe for the residents who need it.

Lib Dems Back Business



Businesses do not just drive our economy, they are our economy.

That is why this month's Liberal Democrat Business Summit mattered so much to me.

We are fighting to reverse the rise in Employer National Insurance Contributions, to slash rising energy costs for households and businesses, and to change the broken business rates system.

At the summit, I chaired a roundtable on how to get the economy moving again and heard directly from entrepreneurs about the challenges they face. There was also a fireside chat with Treasury spokesperson Daisy Cooper, and an inspiring speech from Liberal Democrat Leader, Sir Ed Davey.

The message from businesses was clear: they need a government that works for

This project has been delayed for far too long, and the figures are deeply concerning. The National Audit Office has indicated that the rebuild is unlikely to be completed until 2045.

That is simply not acceptable.

Every day this continues to be postponed, it costs taxpayers more and leaves patients and staff in a building that is not fit for purpose.

I made clear to the Chancellor that this community deserves better, and safer medical care options.

To help me fight for the hospital that local people need, were promised, and deserve, sign my petition calling on the Government to accelerate this rebuild - [which you can find by following this link.](#)

Saving the Bell Pub



At the end of February, I had the pleasure of visiting The Bell Pub in Odiham to pull a half pint of the now famous Odiham Drizzle, and I have to say it tasted all the sweeter for what it represented.

I have been working closely with the Save The Bell team for over a year, writing to the Minister multiple times to seek support for the pub, making the case that places like this are worth fighting for.

Pubs like The Bell are where friendships are formed, where neighbours catch up, and where local character is kept alive.

I was honoured to be there to raise a glass and celebrate with the community that fought so hard for this outcome.

This is exactly what local campaigning looks like when it works, and the people of Odiham should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

them, and so that's what I'll keep pushing for as your MP.

Stunning Squashathon



Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting Hook Squash Club for their incredible 24-hour 'Squashathon', raising money for Comic Relief.

Players of all ages took turns through the night, rackets in hand and spirits high. It was joyful, exhausting (for participants!) and moving in equal measure.

New Look for Local Gov.

The Government has imposed local government reorganisation on Hampshire, and more details have been released.

Of the options on the table, a North Hampshire council combining Basingstoke and Deane, Hart, and Rushmoor is the best outcome for North East Hampshire.

These councils already work together, and genuine local leadership matters.

But let us be clear: reorganisation will not fix the funding crisis, and it will not address Hampshire County Council's very real risk of bankruptcy.

Ministers must now deliver a sustainable financial settlement. Without it, this is simply rearranging the furniture while the house is on fire.

I will continue to hold the Government to account on this, because it's critical to the future of our communities.

Vibrant Volunteering



I was delighted to attend a recent Hart Voluntary Action event, bringing together organisations looking for volunteers with local people who are keen to help.

If you are looking to give back, or if your organisation needs support, please do get in touch with Hart Voluntary Action, who can help find a role to suit you.

Jury Trials on Trial

I'm proud to have voted against the Government's plans to scrap jury trials.

Trial by jury is one of the oldest and most important pillars of our justice system. It is a fundamental right, not a technicality, and is something I am not prepared to see quietly dismantled.

The courts backlog is real, of course, and it is causing genuine hardship for victims, defendants and their families. But let us be honest about how we got here.

Years of neglect under the Conservatives, who cut legal aid, underfunded the courts and failed to invest in the justice system, created this crisis.

That is not a reason to strip people of the right to a fair trial, it is a reason to give the system the funding it needs to work.

Cutting corners on justice is a shortcut, not a solution, and comes at an immense cost to the values we hold dear. This is something I will always stand against.

Do You Need Help with an Issue? Contact Me

It's an honour and a privilege to serve as your MP for North East Hampshire, and I'm committed to working hard to repay this trust by being the best MP I can be.

My number one priority will always be helping and supporting my constituents. If you live in the North East Hampshire constituency, you can contact me via the channels listed below, and my team and I will get back to you as soon as we can.

- You can email me at: **alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk**

- You can leave me a voicemail at: **020-7219-7560**

- You can write to me at: **Alex Brewer MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA**

I'm here to represent you, and this monthly update is just one way I hope to keep you informed and engaged.



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