



Ruth Cadbury

Member of Parliament for Brentford & Isleworth

MP's REPORT TO BRENTFORD & ISLEWORTH May 2019

I provide regular updates on my work to local residents. You can find previous reports of my work on my web site; www.ruthcadbury.co.uk I also report regularly on my [Facebook page](#) and via Twitter [@RuthCadbury](#)

You can see full details of my questions and speeches, and get Regular updates about my Parliamentary activities on [TheyWorkForYou](#)



VIOLENT CRIME:

Following March's tragic killing of a teenager and a spate of violent attacks on youngsters by youngsters in Isleworth, my team and I organised a local crime summit at West Thames College. It enabled residents from the area most affected to tell Councillors and Council officers, the Police, the

youth offending team and the college their views on the causes and possible solutions, none of which are easy. They include; the drugs market and the role betting shops and some takeaways play in that, the cuts to youth services and to specialist support for vulnerable young people that provide effective early intervention, the need for adequate funding for community policing and replacing the lost millions of Government funding to London's police, the multiple pressure on some young people that draws them, often unwillingly, into gangs, and the need for support for parents worried about their teenage children.

Following this useful local meeting, I want to know how local residents feel about crime and so we are delivering a letter with a survey to every household in the constituency, Help with these deliveries would be welcome – if you can help, please email ruth@ruthcadbury.org.uk

I also attended a useful meeting of the Hounslow Community Policing Board where it was clear that good co-ordination and communication between different organisations is essential.

Just after the Easter recess I was drawn for PMQs so I asked David Liddington, standing in for the PM, about the link between knife crime and cuts to policing, education and specialist youth services which affect vulnerable young people. Needless to say I received yet another unsatisfactory answer.



LONDON MARATHON:

I ran the 26.3 miles in just under 5 hours, which was 1hr 10m faster than my attempt last year! More importantly I'm hoping to raise over £4000 for two great charities – Young Minds which is raising the issue of the growing crisis for children's mental health; and the CW+ Sun & Stars appeal to improve the environment for patients and parents

in the children's ward at West Middlesex University Hospital. If you can help me to help them please go to my Virgin Moneygiving site [here](#).



During April In Parliament

I finally got a chance to speak in a **Brexit** debate, on 27th March, supporting Margaret Beckett's amendment to ensure a referendum on whatever

deal is agreed. (it lost by less than 30 votes).

From our experience of losing **sub-post offices** in Brentford High Street and Grove Park, I raised the issue of cuts in revenue grants that are vital to keep the POs open. As the response in the late night debate didn't answer my question, I followed up with a letter to the Minister, to which I await an answer.

As Vice-Chair of the **Loan Charge** All Party Parliamentary Group, I co-sponsored a full parliamentary debate to demand action from the Treasury to put a hold on the loan charge. This was introduced in the Finance Bill in 2016 and is devastating the lives and livelihoods of tens of thousands of freelancers across the country, including some who I have met locally. They joined different types of deferred remuneration schemes as a result of tax regulation IR35 being introduced 20 years ago, supposedly to clamp down on the misuse of non-PAYE employment. Now these hard-working tax-payers are being pursued for tens, sometimes hundreds, of thousands of pounds of back payment to HMRC for joining schemes which they believed (and which were confirmed over the years by HMRC) were legitimate. Declarations were due by 5th April, whether or not HMRC clarified the years or amounts the charge applied to. This has caused untold personal stress, even suicides.

Another impact of **IR35** has been the way organisations such as the NHS have inconsistently and often wrongly, imposed IR35 rules on NHS Trusts. I raised this in a debate specifically on IR35. I'm coming to the conclusion that, in addition to the loan charge, another unintended consequence of IR35 is that skilled clinical staff from nursing assistants to doctors are leaving working for the NHS completely. Many are going to the private sector, other (non-health) sectors, or leaving the UK, rather than deal with the inflexibility and loss of income that working within IR35 means. IR35 is now to be extended to the private sector, which will hit many more freelance workers.

During April I co-signed letters

- to the Home Secretary re security for mosques
- to the Home Secretary urging Julian Assange to be extradited to Sweden
- to the Foreign Secretary to ask that the UK apologise for the Jallianwal Bagh Massacre in Amritsar in 1919
- to the BEIS minister re sub-post office closures
- to Foreign Secretary about human rights in Brunei after the announcement of terrible punishments there for homosexuality, abortion or adultery
- to Jeremy Corbyn, and to the Labour Party NEC, seeking commitment to a confirmatory vote in line with conference policy, in Labour's Euro election campaign

EDMs (Early Day Motions) signed

- LGBT rights in Brunei
- Israeli PM's threat to annex the occupied territories
- Fair pricing for medicines
- Opposing Antisemitism

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL SAVED:

I joined Labour MPs in a debate on the NHS in North West London. The debate particularly addressed the Government's announcement that they are shelving "Shaping a Healthier Future" – a report published 7 years ago that proposed downgrading Ealing and Charing Cross hospitals and closing Accident & Emergency department at Charing Cross. In my speech I congratulated the amazing community campaign Save Our Hospitals, acknowledged the impact on patient care of 7 years of uncertainty, and demanded that Government starts to answer questions about the future funding of NW London's hospitals.



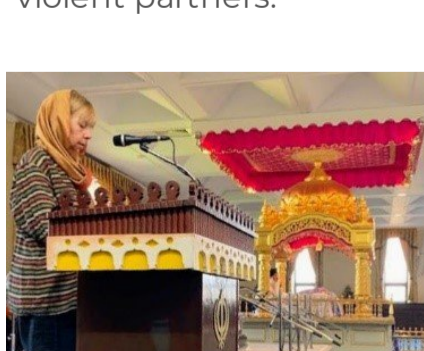
CLIMATE CHANGE:

It was an honour to be at the meeting in Parliament addressed very powerfully by **Greta Thunberg**. She is the Swedish teenager who has done so much to wake us all up to the climate crisis the world is facing, following the school strike for climate she initiated and which went global after the United

Nations Climate Change Conference last December. At the meeting I challenged Michael Gove to deliver more than warm words in response to the crisis. He acknowledged the role that Ed Miliband had taken in the UK as the first Secretary of State for Energy & Climate change, yet he lost the irony that his Government had abolished the Department and reversed most of the climate change actions of the 1997-2010 Labour Government.

LOCAL UPDATE

LookAhead run several supported houses for vulnerable youngsters on behalf of Hounslow Children's Services. I visited and met residents of one that supports young mothers before and following the birth of their babies. I heard of the opportunities the young women living there have, and also the challenges they face, including the difficulty of breaking the link with coercive or violent partners.



It was a pleasure to **celebrate** this month with the local communities at their key significant events; Sri Lankan New Year, Shri Vishwakarma Parkash Utsav, and the Sikh Festival of Vaisakhi, and I also celebrated Easter with my family.

Speak Out Hounslow are an advocacy group of and for people with learning disabilities. They kindly let me into their dressing rehearsal for their forthcoming drama production, which was wonderful!

I also attended a session of the **Memory Café**, a service for people with dementia and their carers held every month in the new community extension of Brentford's Danehurst Sheltered Housing scheme.



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Twitter: [@RuthCadbury](#) Web: www.ruthcadbury.org.uk Facebook: "[RuthCadburyMP](#)"
Casework: for issues to raise with me as your MP, please contact my office: ruth@ruthcadbury.org.uk
Tel: 020 8581 3646 or write: Ruth Cadbury MP, House of Commons, SW1A 0AA. I hold weekly advice surgeries, please get in touch for an appointment. Many issues can be dealt with quickly by email or a

phone call which saves routing for the next available surgery.

For Diary & Parliamentary Office: email ruthcadburympp@parliament.uk Tel: 020 7219 8590



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