



How to get in touch with your MP

Write to:

Tim Loughton MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
email: loughtont@parliament.uk
website: www.timloughton.com

or

East Worthing & Shoreham Conservative Association, 4 Union Place, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1LG.
Telephone: 01903 235168
Fax: 01903 219755

TIM LOUGHTON is your MP and may be able to help with problems you may be having locally. He is always willing to listen to your views and explain the issues on national matters. He is here to serve you regardless of any political affiliation.

Some of the most common problems he has dealt with over the last year have been access to mental health treatment, public transport, school admissions, Child Support Agency, affordable childcare and housing over-development.

Working for you at Westminster

As Shadow Children's Minister

Much of Tim's time in 2004 was taken up leading for the Conservatives in support of the important Children Bill which became law in November. In response to Lord Laming's Inquiry into Victoria Climbié's tragic death, the legislation instituted new methods of joined up working between professionals responsible for dealing with vulnerable children; set up a Children's Commissioner for England; instituted minimum allowances for foster carers and promoted education and welfare outcomes for children in care.

- He organised a summit at Westminster on equal parenting bringing together groups campaigning for a change in the law to improve access to children for non-resident parents and to support families before break-up.
- Initiated a debate and brought together industry bosses, police, media and children's charities to promote tougher safeguards against children accessing extreme images on websites and being abused by internet paedophiles.
- Helped develop alternative affordable child care policies.
- Spent a day in the offices of 'Cosmo Girl' learning about problems that teenagers face.
- Spoke at numerous conferences on children's issues including 'Solve It', the charity campaigning for tougher safeguards against volatile substance abuse.

Here are a few of the other Parliamentary activities in which Tim was involved in 2004:

- Initiated a debate calling for tougher penalties against those causing accidents whilst not entitled to drive, and presented a petition to Parliament signed by over 20,000 local people on behalf of Shoreham constituents whose daughter was killed at the hands of a Hove driver who had not even passed his test.
- Led a delegation from Worthing Alzheimer's Society to see Health Minister Stephen Ladyman about lack of help for younger people with dementia.
- Met His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Parliament as an active member of the All Party Parliamentary Tibet Group exposing human rights abuses by China.
- Went undercover with officials investigating smuggling of illicit bush meat imports at Heathrow Airport
- Worked with Cardiac Risk in the Young to secure better screening for young people with serious undetected heart defects.
- Tabled over 500 Parliamentary Questions to ministers, on a wide range of subjects.

Parliamentary Accountability

- If you have a complaint about MPs and have failed to resolve the problem with them first, you can contact The Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, House of Commons, London, SW1AA (e-mail: standardscommissioner@parliament.uk)
- As from this year full details of how MPs use their allowances are published. More than 60 per cent of Tim's budget was spent on employing a full time secretary and full time researcher at his

Westminster office and an additional part time secretary. The rest went mostly on travel on parliamentary business and the cost of staying in London when Parliament was sitting. This annual report is paid for out of Tim's Parliamentary Office Costs Allowance and distributed free by local volunteers. Tim remains a full time MP and has no other paid employment.

- Tim made one trip abroad on Parliamentary business in September 2004 to the Republican National Convention in New York ahead of the US elections. For a full list of all the Parliamentary groups of which Tim is an officer check his website on www.timloughton.com For his voting record and other information see: www.theyworkforyou.com

Constituency Surgeries

Constituents can discuss problems and issues with Tim Loughton in confidence by booking an appointment at one of his fortnightly surgeries (Telephone 01903 235168)

These are normally held on Friday evenings or Saturday mornings at five accessible locations across the constituency.

Full details of how MPs have voted and speeches and questions raised are available on www.parliament.uk

Taking the Biscuit

The husky puppy which Tim is holding melted hearts at Westminster when the WWF created a life size igloo, hand sculpted from ice, to raise a sense of urgency among MPs about the devastating impact of climate change around the world.

Tim met explorer Millie Porslid to hear about her work measuring the impact of global warming in the Arctic.

He said, 'We are facing an increasingly worrying situation whereby people are deluding themselves that freak weather conditions such as recently occurred in Scotland are nothing to worry about.'



'We are still apathetic about doing our bit for the environment. We need to work together by recycling more, saving energy and thinking about the environment if we are to save vulnerable species from becoming extinct and preventing disastrous environmental consequences affecting us all.'



Annual report of your local MP

TIM LOUGHTON

Year 2004

From: Tim Loughton M.P.
East Worthing and Shoreham



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dear Constituent,

As your MP I try very hard to keep you in touch with my work on your behalf. This annual report is an important part of that process and it also ensures that you know how to contact me if you need my help in the future.

Our local weekly newspapers in the excellent Herald Series, Splash FM radio and Southern FM as well as other media, help me a lot to keep you informed.

However, more can always be done as illustrated by the lady who wrote to me about problems with local bus services and shops closing down. She suggested that I had forgotten about those who live in the East Worthing part of my constituency which she called 'Worthing's forgotten corner'. So I went to see her.

I pointed out that 'Worthing's forgotten corner' was the phrase that I actually coined myself a couple of years ago. And that is why I have spent a lot of time trying to get a better deal for local residents there – helping to close down the infamous cannabis café; persuading South Central trains to improve safety for schoolchildren on crowded platforms at East Worthing station; campaigning to keep local sub post offices open; working with local businessmen on an East Worthing relief road to take lorries away from residential areas; working with residents and Worthing Homes to clamp down on anti-social behaviour around the Angola Road estate; promoting the East Worthing festival; holding public meetings and drop in surgeries at East Worthing Community Centre....and so on.

'Oh yes, I suppose you have,' she replied.

This is my sixth annual report to you. Given the deluge of post that the previous issue provoked, annual reports seems to be noticed. Once again the aim is to deliver a copy to every letterbox in the constituency. This task is carried out by volunteers whose support I greatly value.

Last year I also produced an audio tape version of the report for people with visual impairment thanks to Adur Talking News. Please call my office if you would like the current report on tape or if you require extra copies.

Do not hesitate to let me have your comments on this report, including any suggestions as to how I might improve my service to you as your MP. I really am quite 'user friendly' and approachable – by post, telephone, fax, email, through my website or by appointment at one of my fortnightly surgeries. As I always point out, I am here to serve all my constituents, regardless of political persuasion.

With best wishes

Tim Loughton

The East Worthing and Shoreham constituency includes
Coombes, Fishersgate, Kingston Buci, Lancing, Shoreham, Sompting, Southwick,
and the eastern wards of Worthing: Broadwater, Gaisford, Offington and Selden.

What does your MP

do for you?

Tim's primary job is to stand up for the people of East Worthing & Shoreham in Parliament. When Parliament is sitting Tim spends most Mondays to Thursdays at Westminster, attending debates in the House, working on legislation, questioning ministers, speaking to all manner of organisations and special interest groups, welcoming constituents and school parties to see round Parliament, dealing with the media and working on policies and campaigns with colleagues. But most of his time is spent dealing with problems for his 72,000 constituents, and typically his busy office handles around 80 letters a day.

In addition Tim is a Conservative front bench spokesman on health. Since 2003 he has also been the Shadow Children's Minister taking him to see many interesting projects around the country.

Most Fridays and Saturdays Tim is out and about in the Constituency speaking to, and more importantly listening to, his constituents and local organisations. He organises numerous public meetings and holds fortnightly surgeries, Saturday morning street surgeries, and special surgeries in schools.

EVERYONE KNOWS SOMEONE

‘Making Worthing Worth It’

One of Tim’s key objectives has been to include young people in decision making. After a series of special school surgeries he launched ‘Making Worthing Worth It’ and invited local schools to make a presentation to a full meeting of Worthing Council with their ideas on developing some of the town’s black spots with young people in mind.

The ideas which came up were very impressive and Tim is now working with six schools to influence local businesses and council officials on future developments by giving young people a say in their local environment.

Earlier in the year he joined hundreds of local people, including many children, demonstrating against threatened closure of the Aquarena and Worthing Museum and is now working with the new council to upgrade these important facilities. His autumn talk to the Worthing Society about giving more power to local people to run their own town can be read in full on www.timloughton.com



Back to school

Tim spends a lot of time working with the 38 schools in his constituency. He has been liaising with parents and the Education Authority to make sure that reorganisation of Heronsdale and other local special schools brings real improvements for pupils.

He joined a mobile Life Education Centre class at Chesswood School teaching children how to say no to drugs, tobacco and other dangerous substances, and welcomed Buckingham School pupils to Westminster after the school was nominated for a First Light Film award for their high tech movie.

Tim also opened the impressive new student support centre at Kings Manor School and has been working with staff and parents at Manor Hall First School to clear up vandalism and anti-social behaviour around the premises.



Our green and pleasant land?

Green spaces around Adur and Worthing are constantly under threat. Tim again joined protesters in Beeches Avenue, Worthing, mobilised against renewed attempts by developer Hargreaves to build houses at the foot of the Downs. He has also challenged similar overdevelopment proposals in the strategic gap near Lancing Manor roundabout and has intervened in proposals affecting the future of the popular Lancing Ring. He is also working with residents’ groups and councillors to monitor Shoreham Airport’s expansion proposals.

A major environmental issue in Worthing has been the new TETRA police communications mast at Woodside Road in a densely populated area causing major concerns about the effects on residents’ health and TV signals. Tim remains strongly opposed to this mast and has been working with councillors, residents and other West Sussex MPs in parliament to get it moved away from people’s homes. He joined Southwick councillors in raising funds to replace fallen trees on Southwick Green and has been supporting new moves at Westminster for stronger targets to reverse climate change.



WHO'S BEEN HELPED BY TIM



Being chairman of the Conservative Disability Group was not enough to save Tim and fellow MPs from a thrashing by the British Paralympics bronze medal basketball team led by BBC television presenter Ade Adepitan in a game at party conference.

Keeping People Safe

Tim regularly goes out on patrol with the police and this year he joined British Transport Police on the line between Brighton and Worthing and has been out on the beat with some of the new Community Support Officers who are going down well in Adur.

He also joined members of Adur Youth Council from Boundstone on Friday night patrol to see the impact of the Section 30 'curfew' on young people in Lancing where many problems remain.

Tim supported recruitment drives for more special constables across Worthing and Adur and helped promote Crime Stoppers at Holmbush. He spent a morning at Worthing Magistrates' Court to see at first hand the problems caused to the community by a minority of mindless hooligans.

At the request of Age Concern he also brought together the areas MPs, councillors and many groups for a summit at Methold House on improving care for elderly people. He has also been an active supporter of the Adur Domestic Violence project and is a patron of the Brighton Women's Refuge.

Tim has also been active in promoting better safety on our roads, especially for schoolchildren. He handed out awards to schoolchildren who had designed road safety posters displayed across Adur during Road Safety Week. Working with local councillors he secured a reduction in the speed limit on Grinstead Lane, Lancing and is now putting pressure on the County Council to improve pedestrian safety across the A24 along Findon Valley especially children and parents using the Vale School.

No time to stand and stare

As captain of the parliamentary hockey team Tim keeps fit. This year he joined a bunch of competitive MPs running a mile up the Mall for Sport Relief but was left hanging around by teams of expert climbers at the St Barnabas charity marathon climb on Shoreham's new climbing wall, including Spiderman.

He was delighted to support the fantastic efforts of Chris and Mick Smith whose hard work is bringing the community together on the Angola Road estate and was roped in to cook hundreds of burgers at their second East Worthing Festival (no cases of food poisoning were reported!). Amazingly he was also invited to cook breakfasts at the Worthing Churches Homeless project, where he is patron.

Tim also opened Worthing Homes' hugely popular Family Fun Day and met the youth football team they sponsor.

It has also been a year in which to pay tribute to those who have gone before us and Tim was honoured to join veterans commemorating 60 years since D-day with events at Southwick and Worthing. He was particularly pleased to see so many young people turn out. He also spoke at celebrations in honour of Shoreham's only VC, Wing Commander James Nicolson.

