



Caroline Dinenage

**MP for Gosport,
Lee-on-the-Solent,
Stubbington and
Hill Head**



The return of parliament has meant a busy few weeks! With the help of some late night sittings, crucial legislation relating to Brexit passed through parliament. The EU Withdrawal Bill, which was approved with a majority of 36, establishes the legal framework to deliver a smooth transition from March 2019, and is a key step towards ensuring that businesses have the certainty they need.

We also heard the PM deliver an important speech in Florence which set out a bold and ambitious vision for our future relationship with the EU. I was pleased to hear Theresa May emphasise the UK's continued commitment to supporting our European neighbours whilst reiterating that any transition period will be strictly time limited.

The Secretary of State for Education outlined the final National Funding Formula, which has been designed to end the postcode lottery and make school funding transparent and fair. I have always supported the aim of the Formula but I was concerned by early indications that Gosport schools would lose out by nearly £200k under the new calculations. Having lobbied Ministers to protect local funding, I was thrilled to learn that the revised formula will see every school in the constituency attract a funding boost, some of over 7%. The overall budget will now rise by around £2.6 billion in total, which is great news for local schools.

I met with representatives from Breast Cancer Now to show my support for their important 'Wear It Pink' fundraising campaign. The initiative will see thousands of people across the UK adding a splash of pink to their outfits on Friday 20 October, raising vital funds for breast cancer research. Visit the ['Wear It Pink'](#) website to get involved! To mark Organ Donation week, which ran from 4 – 10 September, I met with representatives from Kidney Care UK and NHS Blood and Transplant, to discuss the importance of encouraging conversations about organ donation within families.

I was thrilled to attend the launch of the WWF's new Picture England exhibition, which includes fabulous images of the Hampshire countryside. It was a lovely reminder – if one were needed – of what a beautiful part of the country we live in.

Back in the constituency, I convened an on-site meeting with local stakeholders and the onsite organisations carrying out the infrastructure works at Daedalus. I was reassured to hear of all the tests and reports that have been undertaken to ensure that the site continues to be safe for neighbouring residents during the demolition and construction works.

The public consultation on the proposed residential development of 180 new homes at Old Street, Hill Head, provided a useful opportunity to discuss the impact this would have on the local area. There is, understandably, a great deal of local concern and while planning is ultimately the province of the Local Council, I share Hill Head residents' worries and will support them in any way I can.



Wearing it Pink for Breast Cancer Now



Setting up shop in Gosport ASDA



Catching up with Anastasia Lonergan, our local Youth Parliament rep

I enjoyed a really engaging meeting with our local Youth Parliament rep, Anastasia Lonergan, a student at my old school, Oaklands in Waterlooville, and agreed to promote the Youth Parliament's 'Mark Your Mark' campaign, which encourages young people to participate in a UK-wide ballot to decide the topics of their House of Commons debate. To vote on this click [here](#).

I met with Fareham and Gosport District Commander Sharon Woolrich, to ensure that everything possible is being done to address the worrying rise in some types of crime locally, and also sat down with the Chairman of the Hampshire Police Federation, John Apter, to get an update on policing issues across the county.



Celebrating 100 years of flying at Daedalus!

Heritage Open Days are always a real treat, and this year was no different, with over 85 events across Gosport there was plenty of fantastic tours, talks and walks to choose from! My fabulous guide, Carol, was a fountain of knowledge on our walking tour of Gosport - who knew that within a 280 yard area inside the old walled town, there were once 20 pubs and 2 breweries? The Gosport residents of old certainly knew how to party!

Sticking with heritage, it was fantastic to celebrate 100 years of flying at Daedalus. The airfield opened in 1917 during the First World War and played a major part in the Second World War, particularly the D-Day operations. The event was a sell-out, with over 2500 people taking advantage of the impressive collection of aircraft on display.

Exciting proposals brought forward by Heathrow Southern Railway Limited could see a direct train line link Basingstoke and Heathrow airport in as little as 40 minutes, which would be great news for local residents currently having to travel via an

unreliable bus connection at Woking or into/out of London. I have arranged for Hampshire MPs to collectively meet with the Secretary of State for Transport to emphasise the important local benefits the scheme would deliver.

I have also been busily making plans for this year's Gosport Enterprise Fair, following the success of last year's event which brought together over 100 aspiring entrepreneurs. The event will take place on Friday 17th November, with more details to follow shortly – so save the date and watch this space!

Further to my regular surgeries, the generous people at Gosport ASDA let me hold a drop-in surgery in their store, which saw over 50 people come by to discuss personal, local or national issues – and lots pop in just to say hello! This was a brilliant opportunity to hear people's views and I'll be doing some more mobile surgeries in the coming months, no appointments necessary. The next is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd October at Bridgemary Library, from 11 – 12.30. I hope to see you there!



Visiting Gomer Junior School

Best wishes

Caroline

GET IN TOUCH

Please feel free to contact me on any issue, or to find out when my next surgery is. I'm always happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster for my constituents. Please contact my office at least three months in advance to make sure you get a place - the tours are very popular!

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