



Caroline Dinenage

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



July has seen a whirlwind of political activity a new Prime Minister, a transformative cabinet reshuffle and a number of positive announcements.

I retained my post as [Minister of State](#) at the Department of Health and Social Care. I am excited to continue my work in this important role, particularly in addressing the issues around adult social care and, as ever, being a good constituency MP & strong local voice remains a priority.

MPs from across the House recognised and [paid tribute to Theresa May's](#) tenacity, dedication and commitment to public service as she left office.

Boris Johnson, the new Prime Minister, represents an opportunity to regroup and redouble our focus on delivering Brexit and then moving beyond it. His [first speech](#) on the steps of Downing Street committed to: getting Brexit done by 31st October, making sure people start seeing the £20 billion new NHS funding in their GP surgeries and local hospitals, properly funding adult social care, hiring 20,000 new police officers and increasing funding for our schools.

In other news this month, the Government announced £37 million additional funding to mark the anniversary of the '[Road to Zero Scheme](#)' which will expand the network of electric vehicle charging stations, helping to make purchasing ultra-low emission vehicles more attractive and practical; as well as the rollout of a new [16-17 Railcard](#), allowing young people to take advantage of a 50% discount. [New measures](#) to enhance wildlife, transform our waste system and improve the resilience of water supplies were also announced.

A landmark [Domestic Abuse Bill](#) was introduced signalling a major step forward in supporting victims of this dreadful crime as well as supporting those who bring perpetrators to justice. Almost a million [public sector workers](#) have been handed a second year of inflation-busting pay rises including the highest pay rise for the [armed forces](#) since 2007.

There was plenty of cause for celebration this month, I joined Loud and Proud at their Awards Ceremony - this fantastic community group for young people volunteer a great deal of time in the local area. I also waved off the wonderful Bridgemary Carnival in all their glorious costumes and I attended the opening of the new Splash Park at Lee on the Solent and couldn't resist a quick 'go', getting drenched in the process! I stepped back in time at [Little Woodham](#), as Gosport's magical 17th Century living history village celebrated their 35th anniversary and caught up with the Gosport Probus Club at their Ladies Lunch.

My Gosport Task Force met again for an update on Gosport sites such as HMS Sultan, Fort Blockhouse and HMP Haslar. I also took Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, the new Defence Minister, to HMS Sultan, so she could see first hand its importance to the Armed Forces and Gosport Constituency.

I visited the Hyde Tower Blocks to meet with Hyde Management and the contractors to discuss the unacceptable delays with re-cladding works and press for them to be completed as soon as possible. I met with Gosport Borough Council, Homes England and the Ministry of Communities, Housing and Local Government to discuss the plans for the Daedalus Waterfront site, which was visited last week by the new Housing Minister, Esther McVey, in her first public engagement.



Joining the start of the Bridgemary Carnival.



Trying out the new Splash Park at Lee on the Solent!



Stepping back in time at Little Woodham 17th Century Village

The first annual [Hampshire Day](#) took place this month -an opportunity to celebrate our unique culture, tradition and diverse communities. A number of Hampshire businesses came to Parliament to showcase their products in a 'Taste of Hampshire' including Gosport's very own [Explorer Coffees](#).

In Westminster, I met up with [NATS](#) to learn about how airspace is to be modernised across the UK, delivering quicker, quieter and cleaner aviation.

Great news that Hampshire primary school students have performed better than the national average in their SATs. 15 local schools competed in Gosport Schools in Bloom, a special shout out to Gomer Junior School who were named best overall! I popped along to Crofton Anne Dale Infant School to hand out their citizenship awards, it was lovely to hear about their great work in the community.

Sadly there are 24 governor vacancies at schools across Gosport, I met with Governors for Schools to discuss how we can address this. Their [website](#) has resources to find out more about becoming a governor (you don't have to be a parent!) & full training and support, get in touch if you're interested.



With Cookie & Nala and their mums Avril & Tiffany.

Warm weather over the school holidays has attracted large gatherings of youngsters at points along the waterfront. The vast majority are well behaved but Hardway residents have been particularly affected once again by some [anti social behaviour on The Green](#). I met with the Gosport Chief Inspector to discuss the action the police and other authorities are taking to combat this issue.

Projects such as the [Gosport Summer Passport Scheme](#) provide a number of exciting activities for senior school aged students over the summer break and I popped along to see another record attendance in this, their 13th year of the scheme!

To welcome the [Animal Welfare \(Sentencing\) Bill](#) bringing in tougher sentences for animal cruelty, I celebrated all the local people who love their pets by holding a Gosport's Cutest Pet Competition on my Facebook site. It was a delight to meet the winning pooches Cookie & Nala and their mums, Avril & Tiffany!

Keeping with the furry theme, I met the Founder of [Hounds for Heroes](#), Allen Parton, and assistance dogs Rookie and EJ. Allen set up the charity after sustaining serious injuries in the Royal Navy and seeing how much difference a special dog, Endal, made to his recovery. The charity now provides Assistance Dogs to veterans in



Meeting Allen, Rookie and EJ.

need nationwide. I also welcome the creation of an [Office for Veterans' Affairs](#), which is so important for our area.

While the Gosport Constituency has been the recipient of over £950,000 of the [National Lottery Community Fund](#) for local projects over the last 6 years, it's a lot less than other areas. I met with the National Lottery to discuss this, I'm keen to see local organisations apply for short term funding for projects under £10,000 or long term funding, over £10,000.

Lloyds Banking Group have announced bad news that the [Stubbington Bank](#) branch will be closing in October, I met with them to express my concerns about the impact of the closure on local elderly or vulnerable customers who may depend on accessible banking services close to home.

I was really proud to Captain the UK Parliamentary Team's inaugural Netball International against Australia and New Zealand Parliaments. The matches took place on a pop up netball court which was built in Victoria Park, next to Parliament, to celebrate the Netball World Cup. Taking part in sports is a great way to keep healthy and I met with the Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group to discuss Local Healthcare provisions, GP surgeries and how they can better engage with local people.

I am also hosting a Crime and Policing Event to inform you on what is being to reduce crime levels and increase public safety. The event will be taking place on Saturday 7 September between 1000 and 1200 at Thorngate Halls, Gosport and more details will be online soon.



The inaugural Netball International.

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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