



Caroline Dinenage

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



After an eventful summer September always heralds the start of a new term not only for local students but for the House of Commons too. This month I was able to compare notes with both Bay House School Politics Society on their tour of Parliament and also Matt Atkinson, the CEO of Lighthouse Trust who run St Vincent's College, to discuss Further Education funding and the challenges ahead.

September also brought some exciting new local developments. After years of deadlock and concerted lobbying, I am delighted that the remaining part of Royal Clarence Yard, known as the 'Retained Area' will no longer sit disused, as it has been acquired from the MoD by [UK Docks Marine Services](#), a big national marine maintenance and repair company who already operate locally out of Endeavour Quay. I met with bosses to discuss their exciting expansion and development plans.

Deliveroo also landed last month in Gosport. I met with them to discuss the 18 local restaurant partners and the employment opportunities, with 30 riders already hired.

It was good to see Gosport businesses and organisations so well represented at this year's Southampton Boat Show - I took the opportunity to catch up with many of them including the Haslar Marina team and [Oarsome Chance](#) charity.

The fantastic Gosport Heritage Open Days are always among my favourite events of the year and make me very proud of our incredible local history! This time I went on a fascinating tour of Fort Brockhurst and once again took a turn manning the tea tent for the Royal Haslar Hospital visitors. It's a wonderful chance to showcase our incredible local heritage from Diving to D-Day.

I was also proud to join the first anniversary of the [Gosport Community Lottery](#) and be given the job of announcing that it has raised £38,538 for local good causes in the last year - massive thanks to everyone who bought tickets and Gosport Voluntary Action for organising this excellent scheme.

I was very happy to meet with the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust to hear about their exciting and ambitious [Centenary Care Home Project](#), which will build a new 66 bed home for veterans and their dependents from the Gosport and Portsmouth area.

I also met with [YOU Trust](#) who are piloting innovative social prescribing services to hear about some of the incredible results that can come from patients being referred to support and activities beyond pills and lotions.

Regular readers will know of my ongoing commitment to protecting the strategic gap between Fareham and Gosport from housing that would place further pressure on already overstretched infrastructure, roads and public services. I was pleased that plans for 261 homes in Stubbington were refused, but less pleased to hear that Bargate Homes plan to submit an application to build 100 homes to the east of Newgate Lane. They generously met with me to outline their plans and were disappointed to hear my strong opposition to the scheme. I also met with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to outline how detrimental plans like this would be on our local area.



*With Bay House Politics Society
in Parliament.*



*Catching up with the Haslar Marina
Team at the Southampton Boat Show.*



*Celebrating the 1st anniversary
of Gosport Community Lottery.*

I'm sure that you don't need me to tell you that it's been an extremely dramatic and tumultuous month in Parliament. You can find my statement on the [prorogation](#) here and the [Supreme Court ruling](#) here. It's been clear for months that Parliament, like the country, is deeply divided over Brexit. In my opinion, this endless bickering only serves to make folk feel increasingly bitter that Brexit, democratically voted for by the British people, still hasn't been delivered. This month I even voted twice to trigger a General Election, to help break this endless stalemate. To me, voters have every right to feel disillusioned and frustrated. Politicians of all Parties need to tone down the rhetoric and focus on delivering the result of the referendum and rebuilding trust in our Parliament.



Celebrating Gosport Heritage Open Days.

Meanwhile, EU Exit preparations have continued and Portsmouth Port has received [funding](#) to help. I have also encouraged the Secretary of State for Transport, Grant Shapps, to consider Portsmouth as a flagship [freeport](#).

Outside of Brexit this Government is continuing to deliver. [Employment levels](#) continue at an all-time high. This year's [Spending Round](#) saw cash boosts for the [NHS](#), including for [mental health services](#) and palliative care and hospices. There were also cash boosts for education, meaning local schools will see [further funding](#), including salary rises and a pension boost for our hard working teachers. Gosport has also been granted a vital [share of £95 million](#) to help revitalise our High Street.

Steps to help tackle crime included [£800 000 for the Hampshire Constabulary](#), and the introduction of [stronger safeguards for children](#) and support for victims of [domestic abuse](#) and sexual assault.

Crime is always a hot topic in our constituency, I hosted a [Crime and Policing Event](#) with representatives from 19 organisations including Hampshire Constabulary, Victim Support, Gosport Community Safety Partnership, Neighbourhood Watch and Street Scene giving up their time to answer residents' questions and hear their concerns. We had a fantastic turnout - with over 200 visitors.

This summer was notable for a spike in incidents of anti-social and threatening behaviour. Waterfront areas like Hardway were particularly worst hit but there were also fires in the Alver Valley Park and other acts of vandalism. This month I've [met with Gosport & Fareham Chief Inspector](#) and the Borough Council to discuss the

action being taken to tackle this dreadful behaviour. More broadly I've been working alongside the team from [Motiv8](#) who support some of our most troubled young people and their families. Through them I've started meeting with some of those concerned and its clear to me that some of the youngsters are desperately lacking a suitable adult role model. As a result, I'm keen to set up a local mentoring project which I plan to launch later in the autumn. If you'd like to get involved, please drop me an email at caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk.

In other news, the Government has announced they will launch an [urgent consultation](#) on stopping the importation of barbaric trophy hunts. The Prime Minister has also announced further [commitments to tackle global climate change](#). Some local people took part in the [Strike for Climate](#) at the Gosport Ferry and I went along to meet them and hear their concerns.

Coming up, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, don't forget to 'Wear it Pink' on 18th!

The [free 55+ Info Fest](#) also takes place at Thorngate Halls, 10am to 2pm on October 18th.

Finally, with a General Election looming in the months ahead, Gosport Conservatives are very keen to hear from potential new members who might like to help volunteer, to put up a poster or deliver leaflets. For more info please email office@goscons.plus.com.



'Wearing It Pink' for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

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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