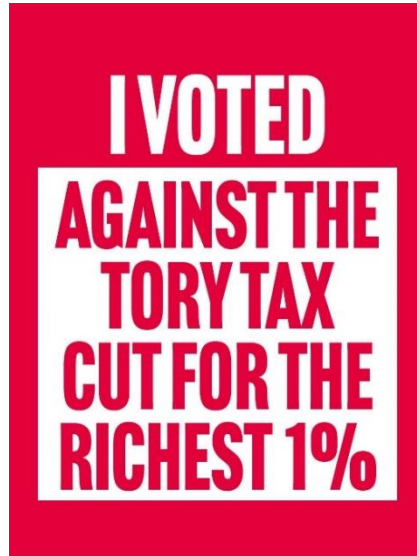


Rt Hon Harriet Harman KC MP
Member of Parliament for Camberwell and Peckham
Mother of the House of Commons

Parliamentary Report

28th March 2023



House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
0207 219 4218
harriet.harman.mp@parliament.uk
www.harrietharman.org.uk
[@harrietharman](https://twitter.com/harrietharman)

This is my March report 2023 in which I:

- share with you how I'm going about my work as MP,
- hear from you if you agree with how I'm approaching things and
- what further issues you think I should be addressing.

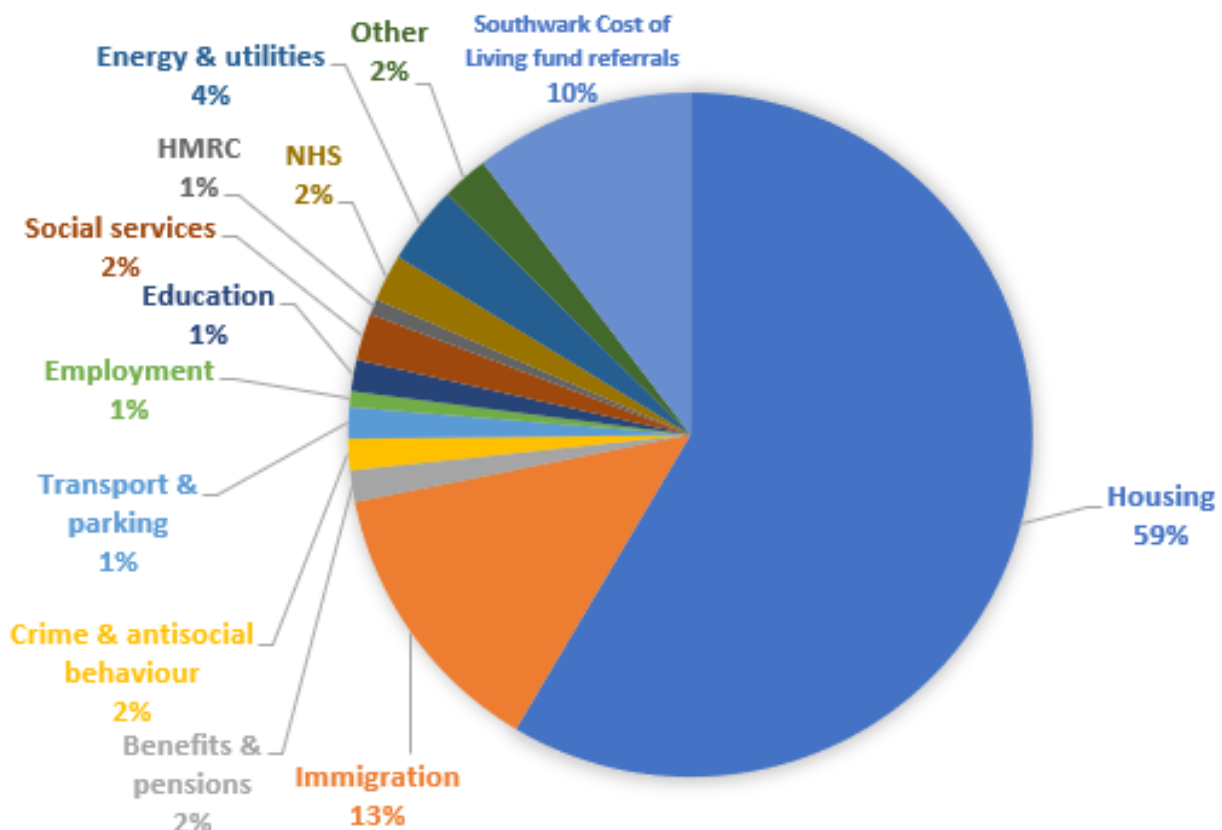
Haniel Harman

Constituency problems - update

There continues to be an increase in the number of constituents seeking my help with their problems.

New cases breakdown – February 2023

In February I took action on **609** cases and recouped **£1,650** for constituents. In 2023 so far I have recouped **£9,308.38** for constituents.



Case summaries:

- A woman from Peckham asked for my help claiming a refund from HM Passport Office (HMPO). She had booked an urgent passport renewal appointment that she was told at the time of booking was flexible and could be changed at no further cost. Due to illness she had to change the appointment. When she tried to rebook at a later date there were no urgent appointments available, meaning she was unable to get an urgent appointment despite having paid for one. She claimed a refund from HMPO but had not received any responses to her emails. I wrote to HMPO on her behalf and as a result my constituent received a refund of £147.
- I was contacted by a man living in Walworth who told me that he had accidentally paid twice when he applied to renew his Biometric Residence Permit and pay his Immigration Health Surcharge in 2021. He had contacted UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) to notify them of his error but was told that he would have to wait for a decision to be made on his application before a refund was considered. A decision was subsequently made in June 2022 and UKVI attempted to issue a refund but did so to an incorrect bank account and as a result my constituent did not receive his refund. I wrote to UKVI to ask when my constituent would receive the refund. UKVI wrote to inform me that the refund was being processed. My constituent has now received the refund of £1560.
- A woman from Camberwell wrote to tell me that she had had a leak at her Southwark Council property since December 2022. The leak had caused significant damage and her family could no longer use their kitchen. I wrote urgently to Southwark Council to ask that contractors carry out the necessary repairs and address the source of the leak, and for them to compensate my constituent for the damage to her property. I received a response from the Council stating that the leak had been fixed and arrangements have been made for a Technical Quality Officer from the Leaks from Above Team to visit the property to make an assessment for compensation. I have shared this response with my constituent and encouraged her to contact me if she has any further concerns regarding this situation.
- A woman from Peckham contacted me for assistance with her Southwark Council housing bidding account. The account had been suspended without notice, preventing her from bidding for a property, and she had been unable to sort it out with the Council. I wrote to Southwark Council on her behalf to ask for a full report. The Council told me that my constituent's original account had been created when she had applied via the homelessness route due to her lease expiring. However, as the constituent had been able to negotiate a new lease on her property, the Council discharged the homelessness duty and a new housing application was made for rehousing my constituent as a private rented tenant, which is why the previous bidding account had been suspended. The Council have confirmed my constituent's new bidding number under the new application and she is now able to resume bidding. The Council have contacted her directly to explain the situation.
- A woman from Peckham contacted me regarding outstanding repairs at her property caused by a leak from the flat above in 2018. The leak had caused damage to the bathroom ceiling and the interior of the property, resulting in

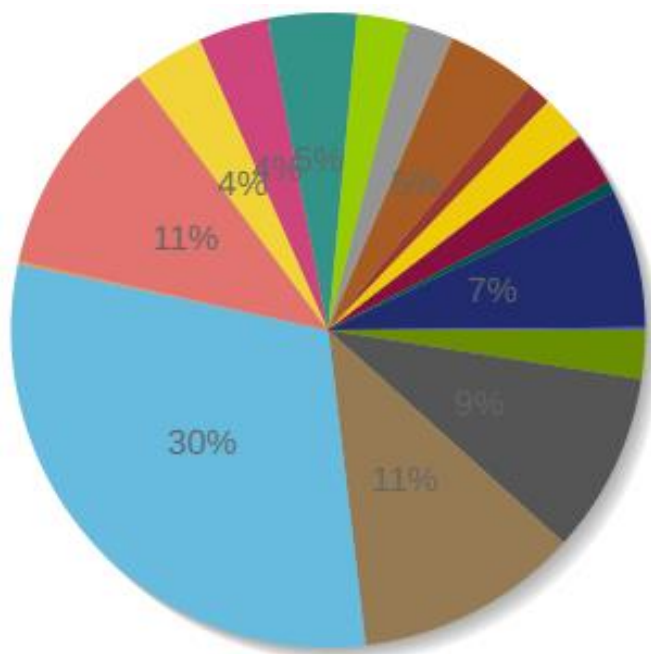
persistent damp and mould over the last five years. I urgently wrote to Hexagon Housing Association to ask that contractors carry out the necessary repairs as soon as possible. Hexagon contacted me to confirm that the repairs would be carried out urgently and that my constituent would be compensated £1,650.

- I was contacted by a constituent from Peckham Rye who informed me that he had not received the energy bill support that he was entitled to through the government Energy Bill Support Scheme. I urgently wrote to his energy provider British Gas to inform them of the error and to ask that they rectify their mistake. British Gas replied confirming that my constituent had been issued the vouchers that he is entitled to, backdated for 4 months.
- A woman from Peckham wrote to me expressing her concerns about the level of graffiti in Peckham Rye. I wrote to Southwark council to ask for a report into this and for information about how they plan to tackle graffiti. In response the Council provided information about what their team does when graffiti is reported and they informed me that they are about to launch the 'Fix My Street' app which allows residents to report graffiti directly to the Council for a quicker response.
- I was contacted by the parents of children at 1st Place Nursey who had been informed at very short notice by Eat Work Art, the new owners of Cambridge House where the nursery is located, that the nursery was no longer able to use the premises. The closure of the nursery with no alternative provision would cause significant disruption and was a huge worry for parents. I told that the locks on the building had been changed overnight without warning, so the nursery were unable to access their normal space and the children had to be sent to other nursery sites that morning. I wrote urgently to Eat Work Art and to Southwark Council regarding this matter to demand a reversal of this decision, and as a result 1st Place Nursery were able to regain access to their usual space the next working day. I have been assured that in the future 1st Place Nursery will be able to continue to use the space in Cambridge House, now Cornerstone Studios, and I understand the nursery is working with lawyers to ensure that this remains the case.

In February I received **440** emails from constituents on policy issues including:

- Support the campaign to tackle the crisis in young people's mental health – I support Labour's plan to guarantee mental health treatment within a month.
- Ban conversion therapy – I completely agree that we must introduce a full ban on conversion therapy.
- Support teachers on strike – I want the Government to do more to support our teachers and ensure they are free to focus on ensuring the highest standards in our schools.
- Concern about closure of Royal Mail customer service points – I understand the concerns and welcome the fact that Royal Mail has decided to maintain the current number of customer service points.
- Defend the right to strike – I am opposed to the Strikes (Minimum Service Levels) Bill and will continue to oppose its passage through parliament.
- Retained EU Law Bill – I voted against the bill and continue to oppose it.

- Take action on mileage rates – I understand concerns about mileage rates and urge the Government to assess the merits of the HMRC mileage allowance rates.
- Support the Long Live the Local campaign to lower business rates – I support an overhaul of business rates.



Parliament, government and politics	Health services and medicine
International affairs	Crime, civil law, justice and rights
Culture, charities, media and sport	Education
Asylum, immigration and nationality	Agriculture, animals, food and rural affairs
Energy, utilities and environment	Social Security and pensions
Employment and training	Defence
European Union	Housing and planning
Transport	Business, industry and consumers
Communities and families	Economy and finance
Local Government	

Remembering Dolet Hill, Tanysha Ofori-Akuffo and Samantha Drummonds

Harriet Harman @HarrietHarman · Mar 9

Such a powerful speech by @jessphillips in #IWD2023 debate. RIP Dolet Hill, Tanysha Ofori-Akuffo & Samantha Drummonds, my constits are 3 of 100+ women killed by men in past year. The list never any shorter. We desperately need action to end epidemic of male violence against women

Jess Phillips MP @jessphillips · Mar 9

We need deeds not words to stop the avoidable killings of women by men. It was an honour to read their names in front of bereaved families. Every year it is overwhelming.

9:23 411.1K views

st year I read the list of killed women.

10 25 144 16.5K

On 25th April 2022 Joshua Jacques killed my constituents Dolet Hill, Tanysha Ofori-Akuffo and Samantha Drummonds, as well as Denton Burke. Dolet, Tanysha and Samantha are three of the over hundred women who have been killed by men over the past year.

Each year in the debate in Parliament to mark International Women's Day my colleague Jess Phillips MP reads out all of the names of those women killed by male violence, and each year the list does not get any shorter. Tragically, this year the list included Dolet, Tanysha and Samantha.

There is an epidemic of male violence against women and the shocking number of dead women is a stark reminder that

the Government has not done anywhere near enough to end it. You can watch Jess' speech in Parliament [here](#).

ULEZ – ‘It is a big expansion of a radical policy but I fully back it’

11th March 2023

Camberwell and Peckham is sandwiched between outer London, where hundreds of thousands of people live, and central London, where hundreds of thousands of people work.



We are a densely populated area with crowded housing and shopping areas. We are also a young area with many families with young children. 28% of households in Camberwell and Peckham have at least one young child.

Southwark has long suffered with being a through-route for people driving into central London. This clogs up the streets local people need to drive through, cycle on and walk beside, leads to air pollution which causes ill health (particularly in children), makes it more dangerous for cyclists and causes more injuries through traffic accidents.

So our area had much to gain from the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan's pioneering initiative launched in April 2019 to bring in an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to limit the number of cars, vans and lorries using Southwark as a through-route to central London.

This has been a highly controversial policy. To deter polluting vehicles from driving in the ULEZ, cars and small vans are charged a daily rate of £12.50, with big vans and lorries charged £100. The charges apply to vehicles that don't meet emissions standards, 24 hours a day for every day including weekends. The only day exempt from the ULEZ is Christmas Day. But it is working. The Mayor is now planning to increase the areas covered by ULEZ charging, due to come into force on August 2023. It is a big expansion of a radical policy but I fully back it.

A recent report carried out by City Hall and academically peer reviewed has shown that the ULEZ has already cut the levels of harmful pollution in central London by almost half. In inner London, the pollution level is now 21% lower than it would have been had the Mayor not introduced the ULEZ. And there are 74,000 fewer polluting vehicles in the ULEZ than there were before its expansion.

This means that all children in Camberwell and Peckham are benefitting from cleaner air thanks to the Mayor's policy.

The ULEZ is also contributing to the UK's carbon reduction targets. It is estimated that since the ULEZ was brought into effect, CO2 emissions from vehicles across London have been cut by 800,000 tonnes compared with what the amount would have been without the ULEZ, moving London closer to becoming Net Zero by 2030.

But there is more to do. London as a whole still fails to meet the World Health Organisation's air quality guidelines. Around 4,000 Londoners die prematurely every year due to polluted air and 500,000 Londoners live with asthma and are therefore more vulnerable to the effects of toxic air.

The lesson here is that it's important to identify what the problem is, consider plans which will make a practical difference, consult on them before introducing them and

review their impact. That is exactly what the mayor of London has done with the ULEZ and I support his policy.

International Women's Day 2023

10th March 2023



International Women's Day on Wednesday was time to celebrate what women have achieved and what they

contribute but also to reflect on the oppression and inequality they still suffer.

When I first became an MP 40 years ago most women gave up work when they had their children and when they went back to work it was usually only part-time.

Men were paid much more than women and did not expect to play much of a role in the daily care of their children.

Domestic violence against women was often justified on the basis that "she provoked him", or "she brought it on herself".

Women who had been raped were frequently blamed for wearing revealing clothes or being out late at night.

Men were in charge of every area of public and private life from the workplace to the home.

And politics was male-dominated with 97 per cent of MPs men and only three per cent women.

Much has changed for the better.

Now most women work and the pay gap has narrowed, from 27.2 per cent in 1981 to 12.3 per cent now.

Though men don't yet share the childcare and housework they certainly do more than they did.

Now 27 per cent of UK High Court judges are women, compared to three per cent 40 years ago.

And 225 of the 650 MPs in Parliament are women, an all-time high of 35 per cent, and there are women in nearly every parliament around the world.

Although the scourge of male violence against women persists, all political parties are now committed to tackling it and numerous laws have been passed to that end.

There is widespread recognition of the prevalence of domestic violence and a consensus that it is abhorrent that women should be beaten in their own home, often in front of their terrified children.

But one dreadful problem which remains to be dealt with is that men get away with rape, and they even get away with murder when the victim is a woman and they say they killed her by mistake in "rough sex gone wrong".

The conviction rate for all rape cases that go to trial is an unacceptably low 7.2 per cent, and for domestic abuse cases it is even worse at 2.1 per cent.

The Government is bringing in a Bill to protect victims.

The Victims Bill is a welcome initiative but it needs some measures added to it.

I will be bringing forward some changes which would restrict the use of a woman's sexual history by the defendant in rape trials and in trials for sexually-motivated homicide.

This would end the problem of these trials turning into a trial of the victim rather than the defendant and prevent men from dragging a woman's reputation through the mud to try and protest their own innocence.

This is not a party politics issue.

There should be no reason for the Conservative Government to block it.

The shadow of rape and the murder of women hangs over this International Women's Day.

But we can take steps to deter men and ensure justice for women.

International Women's Day event with Fleur Anderson MP

On 6th March I spoke at an event hosted by Fleur Anderson MP. I addressed over 200 women from Fleur's constituency who were there to celebrate International Women's Day. I have confidence that with women like Fleur in the House of Commons, Labour's agenda on equality and women's rights will be carried forwards by women deeply committed to making positive changes.

Time to give the Equality and Human Rights Commission powers to tackle the gender pay gap

On 7th March it was announced that the UK gender pay gap has widened by 2.4%, and is now 14.4%. According to a new report by PwC, women's employment losses from Covid-19 were worse than men's, and that the increasing cost of childcare is partly responsible for the increase in the gender pay gap.





Labour has committed in its New Deal for Working People to close the gender pay gap by cracking down on unfair and low pay, removing the barriers that face women at work and increasing transparency across the board on pay rates. I also want to see the Equality and Human Rights Commission given powers to set targets for sectors and organisations to close their gender pay gap, and to impose fines if those targets are not met. There is no point in just wringing our hands as the pay gap gets wider.

Women in Westminster: The 100 by Dods



HARRIET HARMAN MP

■ Labour MP for Camberwell and Peckham and Chair of the Committee of Privileges

Harriet Harman was elected to Parliament in 1982. Since being elected, she has fought 10 elections, witnessed nine Prime Ministers, and served under eight Labour leaders. In 2022, Harman said that after 40 years in Parliament, she intends to step down at the next election. Harman has achieved an enormous amount in the last four decades. Even before entering the House, she was an active campaigner to increase the number of women in politics.

It is worth remembering that when joining Parliament in 1982, Harman was one of only 10 female Labour MPs. In a Parliament that was 97% men, Harman set up the first parliamentary Labour Party Women's Group. She is currently the female MP with the longest continuous service, making her "the Mother of the House".

The steps that Harman was taking 40 years ago created the foundation for better gender representation in the House of Commons

across all parties. That is a hugely positive thing for our democracy.

But before Harman steps down, she has another critical duty to perform.

As Chair of the Committee of Privileges, Harman is leading the group tasked with deciding whether Boris Johnson misled Parliament over lockdown breaches in Downing Street. The Committee is expected to publish its findings at some point in early 2023.

Even though Boris Johnson has stood down, the recommendations of the Committee will still mark an important political moment for the nation. It will put the scandals of Partygate back on the front pages and create a level of discomfort for the current Prime Minister who was found to have breached lockdown laws himself.

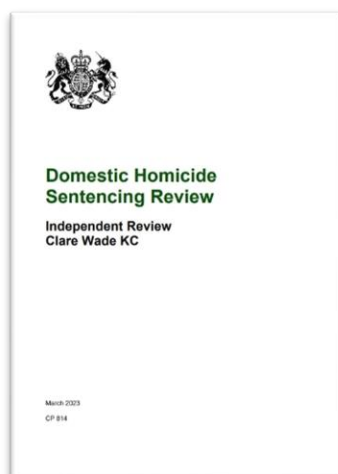
As a true pioneer who has challenged the status quo for 40 years, it could turn out to be a fitting ending to Harman's lifetime of political service. 🇬🇧

Women in Westminster: The 100

On 7th March I attended the annual reception for the Women in Westminster: The 100, hosted by Dods, as one of their 100 women. The list was made up of women from Parliament, the Civil Service, journalism, public affairs and the media. We heard speeches from the Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP, the Deputy Speaker of the house of Commons, Dame Eleanor Laing MP, and the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Dame Meg Hillier MP. The evening was an opportunity to celebrate all of the impressive achievements of women in Westminster over the past year.

Changing sentencing for rough sex "gone wrong" killings

On 17th March the Government published the independent Domestic Homicide Sentencing Review undertaken by Clare Wade KC. I was very pleased that the review recognised the problem of deplorably low sentences for men who kill their partners during sex, and has recommended that sentencing for this crime should be increased to a starting point of 12 years' custody. But ultimately it is my view that this is murder not manslaughter. Rough sex "gone wrong" should not be a defence and the sentence should be life.



Shocking Baroness Casey Review reveals failures of the Metropolitan Police and need for reform

On 21st March Baroness Casey published her review into the Metropolitan Police which was commissioned after the horrific murder of Sarah Everard in March 2021. The final report details how racism, misogyny and homophobia is rampant within the Metropolitan Police and contains harrowing stories of abuse within the organisation.

Whilst the details are shocking, they are not surprising. Time and again the Met has been shown to be incapable of stamping out discrimination. It is no surprise that women have no trust in the police. And I do not think it's a matter of restoring that trust. There has not been, since I have been MP over the last 40 years, a golden age of trust in the police to which we need to return.

Sir Mark Rowley, the new Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, has vowed to reform the police. And as a London MP I will be holding him to account on that promise. Until such time as the Met have rid the force of racists and misogynists they won't command the confidence of local communities.

On 6th March I met with Sir Mark Rowley and other London Labour MPs to press him on his work reforming the Met. I asked what progress he was making on changing the rules for disciplinary processes in the Met, and demanded that the Met start treating indecent exposure and flashing as a serious crime that has a high chance of leading to even worse sexual offences, as we saw in the case of Wayne Couzens.

Particularly in light of Baroness Casey's review I welcome the appointment of Sebastian Adjei-Addoh as Detective Chief Superintendent of Southwark Borough Command. I have already met with him and I look forward to working with him.



Ben Bradshaw
@BenPBradshaw

Delighted and touched by the overwhelming support from MP colleagues from all parties for my Ten Minute Rule Bill on Equal Marriage in the @ChurchofEngland. Here's the draft Bill and link to my speech - parliamentlive.tv/event/index/9f...

Signing Ben Bradshaw MP's Bill on Equal Marriage in the Church of England

I was pleased to add my name to the Ten Minute Rule Bill sponsored by my colleague Ben Bradshaw MP that proposed to enable clergy in the Church of England to conduct same sex marriages. This came after the Church of England did not vote to allow its members to conduct same sex marriages at a vote in February.

The Bill is unlikely to become law but is an important opportunity to send a message to the Church of England about what Parliament thinks on this matter.

This Bill has the strong support of the clergy of St Peter's Walworth.

Same Sex Marriage (Church of England): Motion for leave to bring in a Bill (Standing Order No. 23)

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a

Bill to enable clergy of the Church of England to conduct same sex marriages on Church of England premises in certain circumstances; and for connected purposes

That: Mr Ben Bradshaw
Sir Peter Bottomley
Caroline Nokes
Iain Stewart
Sir Robert Buckland
Daisy Cooper
Caroline Lucas
Ms Harriet Harman
Dame Diana Johnson
Hilary Benn
Dame Margaret Beckett
Sir Chris Bryant

Attending the Commonwealth Day flag raising ceremony



Monday 13th was Commonwealth Day. Commonwealth Day is an annual celebration observed by people all over the Commonwealth, a voluntary association of 54 countries home to 2.4 billion people. I was pleased to be able to celebrate the day by attending the parliamentary flag raising ceremony along with my parliamentary colleagues and ambassadors from across the Commonwealth.



Chairing the Privileges Committee

I continue in my role as Chair of the Privileges Committee's investigation into whether former Prime Minister Boris Johnson MP misled Parliament when he said that there were no parties in No. 10 during lockdown and that no rules or guidance was broken.

We have obtained documentary evidence from the Government, on 3rd March we published our interim report which you can read [here](#), and on Wednesday 22nd March we held our oral evidence session with Boris Johnson MP, which you can view [here](#).

The members of the Privileges Committee are four Conservatives, Sir Bernard Jenkin MP, Alberto Costa MP, Andy Carter MP and Sir Charles Walker MP, one Scottish National Party, Allan Dorans MP, and myself and Yvonne Fovargue MP from the Labour Party. You can read more about the committee's work [here](#).

Voting against the Tory budget and against a tax cut for the richest 1%

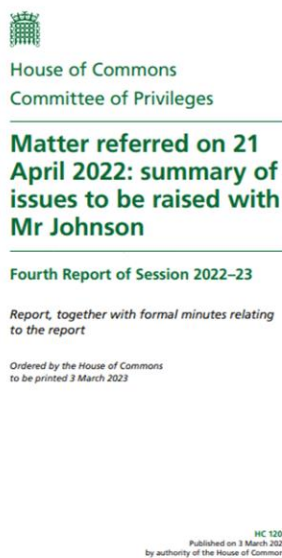
On Wednesday 15th the Chancellor announced the Government's budget.

This Budget was a chance for the Government to unlock Britain's promise and potential. But instead they decided to continue papering over the cracks of 13 years of economic failure.

The only surprise was a handout for the richest 1% and their pension pots, which Labour voted against.

Growth was downgraded in this Tory Budget, but Labour will not allow the UK to keep bumping along this path of managed decline.

With Keir's mission to secure the highest sustained growth in the G7, Labour will create good jobs and productivity growth across every part of our country.



Where the government has thrown in the towel, Labour will build a better Britain.

RIP Betty Boothroyd who died 26th February 2023



Betty Boothroyd was a remarkable woman, an outstanding parliamentarian, a national icon.

She became an MP in 1973 in a Commons where 630 of the 650 MPs were men. She got elected to the speaker's chair 19 years later by a Commons that was 90% men.

She was utterly determined, running for parliament on four occasions before, on the fifth, she got elected. She not only got into parliament, she made her voice heard. This was no mean feat at a time when there was not the remotest sense in the Commons that women's voices *should* be heard. Far from it: women were to be excluded and if they got into parliament, they were

marginalised. It was despite this, by sheer grit and force of personality, that she became speaker; she defied the culture of her time that said women were to be seen, but not heard.

Not only was she the first woman to have ever been speaker, but – having been a Tiller Girl and being from a working-class Yorkshire family – she defied all traditional expectations of what a senior MP should be. She did that by being utterly professional, having a breathtaking energy – and always being more briefed than anyone else in the room.

Her parliamentary ascent was not due to her being a wheeler-dealer behind closed doors, nor to her schmoozing her way up the greasy pole – although she did enjoy a drink and a smoke in the bar. She did it through her extraordinary personal qualities and profound commitment to politics and parliament.

She ruled parliament with a rod of iron. I was in awe, but also in fear of her as she held us to the same high standards as she held herself. With her in the chair, I lived in terror of making a mistake. She made us the best we could be because she wanted parliament to be the best it could be. There may well be another woman speaker, but there will never be another Betty Boothroyd.



Harriet Harman [@HarrietHarman](#) · Feb 27

Betty Boothroyd was a remarkable woman. For her, as a woman to get to chair the over-whelmingly male Commons she had to be tough, professional, authoritative and indomitable. Betty was all those things. And she showed us women how to do it! RIP Betty



Sir Lindsay Hoyle [@CommonsSpeaker](#) · Feb 27

I'm very saddened to hear of the passing of my friend the Rt Hon. Betty Boothroyd, Speaker of the House of Commons 1992 - 2000.

I'd like to offer my heartfelt condolences, on behalf of the House, to Betty's family and loved ones.

'Not only was Betty Boothroyd an inspiring woman, but she was also an inspirational politician, and someone I was proud to call my friend.

'To be the first woman Speaker was truly ground-breaking and Betty certainly broke that glass ceiling with panache.

'She was from Yorkshire, and I am from Lancashire – so there was always that friendly rivalry between us. But from my point of view, it was heartening to hear a Northern voice speaking from the Chair.

'She stuck by the rules, had a no-nonsense style, but any reprimands she did issue were done with good humour and charm.

'Betty was one of a kind. A sharp, witty and formidable woman – and I will miss her.'

ALT



Help and Support

Concerned about British nationals who need assistance in Ukraine?

Consular support is still available to British nationals through the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office helpline (open 24 hours, 7 days a week) on:

+380 44 490 3660 (from Ukraine)

+44 (0) 1908 516666 (from the UK)

[Click here for UK Government advice about the situation in Ukraine.](#)

Concerned about non-British family members in Ukraine?

The British Government has announced that British nationals and people of any nationality settled in the UK will be supported to bring family members to the UK. This includes immediate family members (under Family Migration visas) as well as parents, grandparents, adult children and siblings (under the Ukraine Family Scheme).

To check your eligibility and begin the application call the helpline (open 24 hours, 7 days a week) on:

From Ukraine: **+44 808 164 8810** – select option 1

From the UK: **0808 164 8810** if you are in the UK – select option 1

[Find further information on UK Government guidance support to Ukrainian nationals and their families.](#)

Concerned as a Ukrainian national in the UK?

The Home Office has agreed some temporary concessions to support Ukrainian nationals currently in the UK who are now unable to return when their existing visa expires.

If you are in the UK and need assistance, contact UKVI on:

0808 164 8810 – select option 2

Monday to Thursday (excluding bank holidays), 9am to 4:45pm.

Friday (excluding bank holidays), 9am to 4:30pm.

[Find further information on UK Government guidance support to Ukrainian nationals and their families.](#)

Need legal advice?

The Ukraine Advice Project UK offers free legal advice on UK immigration, visas and asylum by qualified legal advisors for Ukrainians affected by the crisis.

Send details of your circumstances and the advice you need to:
ukraine@freemovement.org.uk

Find further information from **[Ukraine Advice Project UK](#)**

Support and resources for British and non-British nationals who have been affected by the situation in Afghanistan from August 2021. Please click on link to information and advice:

- **[Support for British and non-British nationals in Afghanistan](#)**
- **[Afghan citizens' resettlement scheme](#)**
- **[Afghanistan - Foreign travel advice](#)**
- **[Support for veterans](#)**

Southwark Council:

- **[General information on Coronavirus](#)**
- **[Covid-19: What can you do to help](#)**
- **[Financial support for residents](#)**
- **[Food access](#)**
- **[Coronavirus housing advice](#)**
- **[Covid-19: Support and information for businesses and employers](#)**
- **[Southwark COVID-19 community grants](#)**
- **[Voluntary sector help and advice on Coronavirus](#)**
- **[Impact on council services](#)**
- **[Advice on potential coronavirus related scams](#)**

Bereavement support:

- The government has published a **[bereavement support leaflet](#)** to help those who have lost a loved one. The leaflet shares information to help bereaved families, friends, or next of kin make important decisions during this national emergency, sets out what to expect next, and signposts the extra help and support that is available.

Citizens Advice – Benefit advice:

- **<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/coronavirus-check-what-benefits-you-can-get/>**

Government business advice:

- **<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>**
- Government's Business Support Helpline on 0300 456 3565, Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm.

HMRC:

- [helpline for businesses and self-employed people who are concerned about their tax](#) due to COVID-19.
- 08000 241222, Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm.

Domestic violence help and support:

- [Solace Women's Aid](#) - Advice Line - 0808 802 5565
- Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm. Additional 6pm - 8pm on Tuesdays.
- Email: advice@solacewomensaid.org

Mental health help and support:

- [Lambeth and Southwark Mind](#)
020 8159 8355 - 8am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
- [Samaritans](#) - 116 123 - 24/7
- [The Nest](#) - 020 8138 1805

Legal advice

- [Southwark Law Centre](#)
- [Citizens Advice Southwark](#)

Advice line: 080 8278 7849

Drop-in sessions from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm 5 days a week at:

- Peckham - 97 Peckham High Street, SE15 5RS
- Bermondsey - 8 Market Place, Southwark Park Road, SE16 3UQ
- Walworth – 6-8 Westmoreland Road, Walworth, SE17 2AY



House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
0207 219 4218

harriet.harman.mp@parliament.uk
www.harrietharman.org.uk
@harrietharman

Let me know your views at [harriet.harman. mp@parliament.uk](mailto:harriet.harman.mp@parliament.uk)