



Parliamentary News

Valerie Vaz MP

Issue 1



Valerie pictured at the opening ceremony of Chuckery Primary School's improved buildings with Dave Morgan from Chamberlin & Hill Castings Ltd. on 20th July 2010.

Dear Friend,

I am writing to you as your Member of Parliament as the first session of Parliament since the election has now ended.

It has been a very busy time in Parliament with many late night sittings of the House of Commons, including up to 3am! There has been heated debate on issues that will have a direct impact on the lives of families in Walsall South, such as the Government's decision to slash the Building Schools for the Future programme.

I have seen many of you at my surgeries and out and about in the constituency, and I hope to meet many more of you over the coming months.

Valerie

CONGRATULATIONS TO SURE START PALFREY CHILDREN'S CENTRE!



Valerie pictured with Sure Start Palfrey staff and Yvette Cooper MP

Sure Start Palfrey achieved 'Outstanding' in their Ofsted report, the first children's centre in the country to achieve Grade 1 in all categories.

Valerie tabled an Early Day Motion, congratulating staff, volunteers and families, and highlighting the vital help Sure Start centres bring to children and families.

VALERIE BACKS WALSALL SCHOOLS



Valerie with Lynne Hemming, a Walsall teacher, and Russ Brager a Walsall teacher and incoming Secretary of Walsall NUT

Valerie met the Walsall National Union of Teachers' delegation to discuss the Government's decision to cancel the Building Schools for the Future projects in Walsall.

During Prime Minister's Questions Valerie quizzed David Cameron about his decision to cancel the rebuilding of Joseph Leckie School and others, and invited the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove, to visit Walsall South and explain his decision.



Valerie Vaz MP - out and about in Walsall South

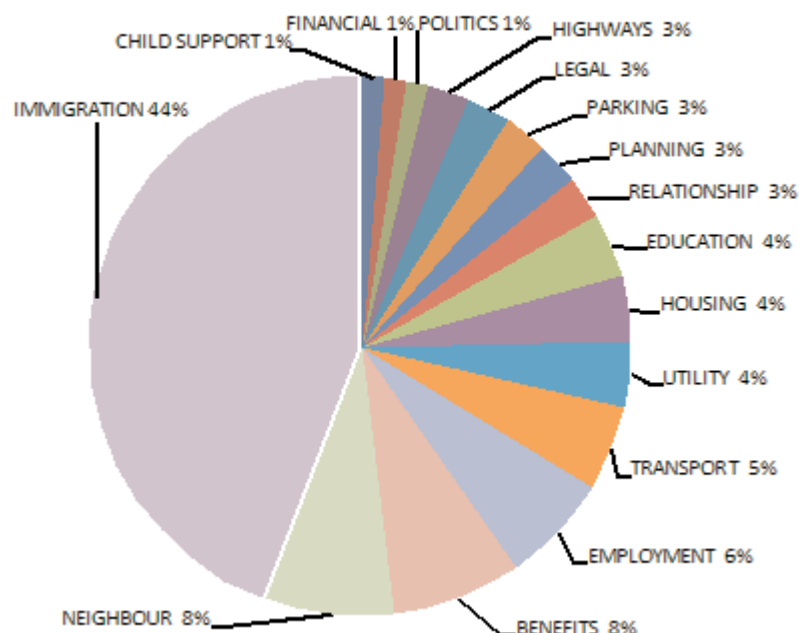
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR BRITAIN'S FIRST MEMORIAL TO A BRITISH ASIAN WOMAN

Valerie launched a national campaign to have a bust of the World War Two heroine Noor Inayat Khan placed in Gordon Square in London. She served in Winston Churchill's Special Operations Executive and after being betrayed in Paris was executed by the Gestapo in Dachau. If approved, this will be the first memorial to a British Asian woman.

SURGERIES IN WALSALL SOUTH

Since the election, Valerie has had a surgery every weekend across the constituency. Here is a breakdown of the cases dealt so far:

Walsall South casework statistics



Do you have a problem or issue that you want Valerie to take up for you?

Name:

Address:

Tel No.

Email:

Problem or issue:

Please return to: 128 Broadway North, Walsall WS1 2QE

Surgeries:

I hold regular surgeries across the constituency, for more information call my office on 01922 860 854

The information provided is for the use of Valerie Vaz and her office staff only. The data provided will not be passed to a third party or any other organisation.

SOME OF MY INTERVENTIONS IN PARLIAMENT

Gaza Flotilla (2nd June 2010)

Valerie Vaz (Walsall South) (Lab): My constituents want more than pressure. Will the Foreign Secretary come back to the House and report on a timetable for the discussions on a diplomatic solution, just as we did on Ireland?

Mr Hague: I think that there will be many more discussions in this House. I am not offering a timetable today, but I have indicated that we have not excluded other actions and pressures in the future. I would be very disappointed if we did not have a further opportunity to discuss these things.

Maple Leaf Bakery (24th June 2010)

Much has been said about the private sector mopping up after the public sector, but the reality is there to be seen in my constituency. On Saturday I met a delegation of workers from Maple Leaf Bakery in Raleigh street. They told me how they are under pressure to sign a new contract at different hourly rates. If they do not, and even if they put in a letter of protest, they will be sacked, so they either accept the new rate or go. The rate has been reduced from £8.48 an hour to £6.88. Those people make our daily bread. I met them, and some have been at the factory for more than 37 years, so they have the skills. If there had not been a minimum wage, who knows what their pay would be? ACAS has been involved, and all that the workers want to do is work. They have a way forward and have suggested a team to look at ways of reducing waste, upgrading the plant and cutting the number of managers. Its parent company in Canada is making a loss, but the company in my constituency makes a profit.

Detainees Statement (6th July 2010)

Valerie Vaz (Walsall South) (Lab): Does the Prime Minister know how many civil cases there are, and what the position would be if claimants did not wish to go to arbitration?

The Prime Minister: There are about a dozen cases, as I understand it. Obviously it will be better if the mediation is successful, those cases are rolled up, and we then go into the inquiry. Clearly the police have a view that the inquiry should not start until the criminal case is completed. I would hope that the civil cases can be dealt with through mediation, but if they are not, we will have to come back and consider what is appropriate.

The NHS (12th July 2010)

Valerie Vaz (Walsall South) (Lab): The Secretary of State talks about choice in the NHS, but could he confirm that GPs will be given the choice to join a consortium?

Mr Lansley: GP practices will all have to be members of a consortium, otherwise it will not be possible for them collectively to commission emergency and urgent care, and they will need to do that.