



Health Committee Questions NHS Proposals



On 5th April, the Health Select Committee, of which Valerie is a member, published its second report into commissioning; "Commissioning: Further Issues".

Valerie said; "I am concerned that this will lead to more bureaucracy, less accountability and privatisation by the back door."

Valerie welcomed the delay to the Health and Social Care Bill, announced on 4th April, but is concerned that the consultation announced by the Government will fail to address the most controversial aspects of the Bill.

The Bill proposes to give GPs budgets worth £60 billion to commission services for patients from NHS or private providers.

To Contact Valerie:

Westminster Office: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
Telephone: 020 7219 7176

Constituency Office: 114a Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1SZ
Telephone: 01922 635835
Email: valerie.vaz.mp@parliament.uk

VALERIE PRESENTS EMA PETITION TO PARLIAMENT



The abolition of EMA is still controversial. Valerie received a petition with over 400 signatures from students of Walsall College, opposing the abolition of Education Maintenance Allowance. She visited the College to meet the students who told her their stories about how EMA helped them to continue their further education.

In Walsall, the scheme was especially important as 66% of students were in receipt of EMA. Valerie presented the petition to the House of Commons immediately after the debate on the future of EMA.

VALERIE VISITS LOCAL MANUFACTURERS IN DARLASTON



Valerie visited Bonner Studs and ALCA Fasteners with representatives from the Black Country Chamber of Commerce to meet with managers and hear from them about the difficulties they face in the current economic climate.

Valerie said "These local firms told me that they need support to train new apprentices, and a reduction in red tape to enable them to run their businesses effectively."

"Apprenticeships would help to secure a balanced workforce, while investing in the demand for skilled workers, by supporting local manufacturing firms, will provide more stability and prospects for growth in the future."

Surgeries

Valerie holds regular surgeries. To arrange an appointment, please call the Constituency Office on 01922 635835