

# FAISAL RASHID MP

## WARRINGTON SOUTH

Monthly Newsletter: November 2018



Working hard for all communities in Warrington South

**Our community is our strength – Together we are stronger**

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# IN WESTMINSTER

Welcome to my November e-newsletter with news of some of my work in Westminster and in the Warrington South Constituency as your Labour MP.

For all the latest news on my work locally and in Parliament you can also visit my website, follow me on Twitter or add me on Facebook.

With very best wishes,

*Faisal Rashid*

Labour Member of Parliament for Warrington South

## EDUCATION FUNDING DEBATE

I passionately believe that in life you get what you pay for, and without adequate investment, we simply will not have a fit-for-purpose education system that provides young people with a quality education, and staff with the resources they need to provide that quality education.

Earlier this year, I conducted a survey of schools across my constituency of Warrington South. I did so to better understand the impact of underfunding on pupils and frontline staff, and the response was utterly damning. Some 100% of the 31 schools that responded were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with their current funding situation, while 81% said that since 2015 they had had to make staffing cuts due to funding pressures.

These young people are our future and if this Government are serious about the future of this country being bright, it is high time that they started seriously funding our schools.



## THE FINANCE BILL

I recently spoke about how the Finance Bill is nothing more than half measures and tax giveaways. It does nothing to address eight years of economic failure and it fails to include measures that would create a truly progressive tax system, address tax avoidance and close the tax gap.

It is time for a radical reform of our entire tax system. Only then can we truly transform our economy and ensure a fairer taxation system that shifts the emphasis on to those best able to afford it.

Sadly, as it stands today under a Tory Government, we are left with a Finance Bill that will dis-

proportionately affect those people who are already struggling to make ends meet. Along with my Labour colleagues, I will continue to call on the Government to adopt a fair taxation system.

## CHALLENGING THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE BREXIT DEAL

During the Prime Minister's statement in the House of Commons earlier this month, I challenged the Prime Minister on her draft Brexit Deal.



During the debate, many MPs criticised the deal, slamming the Prime Minister for negotiating a worse deal than our existing arrangement with the European Union.

The Prime Minister has been plagued with resignations, as it became increasingly clear there is no support from the majority of MPs for this deal to be passed.

The Government has failed to achieve a Brexit deal that delivers for working people in this country.

I have said from the start that I would judge the Prime Minister's deal once all the plans had been fully revealed. Having now seen the deal, I am disappointed that we have been presented with what is clearly the result of a miserable failure of negotiations.

Only 7 out of the 585 pages of text that make up the draft agreement focus on the UK's future with the EU. The deal does not include a permanent Customs Union, it fails to protect manufacturing, offers no firm protections for services and fails to protect workers' rights

and the environment.

What is increasingly clear is that the deal we are being offered will leave us in a worse situation than we are currently in. This deal is bad for the United Kingdom, and it is bad for Warrington.

Whilst I respect the result of the Referendum in 2016, the deal that has been presented to us is not one that anyone voted for – regardless of whether they voted to Leave or Remain.

I understand that individuals across Warrington South are deeply divided on what our future partnership with the EU should look like. But this deal will have catastrophic consequences for the lives of the people I represent, and therefore it is not a deal that I can support.

This is an incredibly difficult time, and there are many difficult decisions to be made.

As the Member of Parliament for Warrington South, I will do my best to make the right decisions for my constituents, and for the country – with the information that is available to me.

## FAIRER FUNDING FOR CHESHIRE POLICE

In response to a letter about the determinantal impact of police cuts in Cheshire from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Acting Chief Constable, several Cheshire MPs and I have written to the Home Secretary to raise concerns about police funding.

Cheshire constabulary has faced £60 million worth of cuts since 2010 and is expected to make a further £12 million worth of cuts in the next two years. Concerns over the impact of these cuts have already been raised by UNISON and the Cheshire Police Federation.

Collectively, we have asked the Home Secretary to provide us with assurances that Cheshire Police will have the resources they need to keep local communities safe.

In the letter we share our concerns about rising

crime figures and the impact of budget cuts on the safety of our constituents. We also raised concerns about the Government's decision to hit our constituents in the pockets by asking them to fill the budget gaps through pushing PCCs to increase the policing precept.

We have pledged to do all we can to secure a fairer funding settlement for police in Cheshire. A settlement that ensures police officers have the resources they need to tackle crime in their local communities.

## APPEALS AGAINST PARKING CHARGES

This month I also spoke out on this issue which affects many of my constituents, as I believe that all operators, whether large, medium-sized or small, should be part of this code of practice.

Some of my constituents are being targeted with letters demanding money and threatening court action. Indeed, some people have contacted me to tell me that the situation has become so bad that motorists are being discouraged from visiting some of the town centres for fear of being targeted by rogue parking companies. This is a deeply sorry state of affairs; it is bad for my constituents and bad for our local economy, especially in the run-up to the festive season. High streets and town centres are already struggling. Rather than coming into town to spend money on the high street, people are choosing to stay at home and shop online.

The regulation of private parking companies that this Bill proposes is long overdue, and I am pleased that it has secured cross-party support. If this Bill is passed, it will be welcomed not only across this House, but across the country.



# IN WARRINGTON SOUTH

## WARRINGTON SOUTH CLP 'GENERAL ELECTION FIGHTING FUND' FUNDRAISER

This month Warrington South CLP launched our General Election Fighting Fund with a very successful fundraiser. We were joined for the event by our fantastic Shadow Foreign Secretary Emily Thornberry. Around 150 people joined us for the event which was held at the Park Royal Hotel. Emily was a superb keynote speaker and her presence was very much enjoyed by all who attended the night. It was wonderful to see so many local members together - both long-standing and new. And it was good to welcome MPs and MEPs from across the region, along with our PCC David Keane and many local and regional councillors. It was a fantastic night. Thanks to everyone who joined us and supported the launching of our General Election Fighting Fund.



I am delighted to say that Chapelford Health Centre will be opening to the public late next year, after much work by myself and local councillors. I recently attended the ground breaking ceremony where the new centre will be situated. This is excellent news for residents and a great achievement after experiencing long delays due to technical and red tape issues. I will continue to monitor progress with ward councillors as we are committed to delivering this project successfully for everyone in the area.

## CHAPELFORD HEALTH CENTRE



## CHAPELFORD CHRISTMAS FAYRE

I attended this year's popular Chapelford Christmas Fayre. There was a great turnout for the switching on of the local Christmas Tree Lights. I would like to thank the fantastic volunteers for all their hard work to make it happen and to give us a great opportunity to enjoy this year's festive celebrations together.



## ROVING SURGERY APPLETON

This month I held a roving surgery situated at the Bridge Lane shopping area in Appleton. It was a great session where I was able to meet and engage with many of my constituents and local residents on various issues which are currently concerning them. Thanks once again to the local Labour supporters who also helped on the day and also to the local shops for their support.



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

I also attended the annual Remembrance Day Service and Parade at Bridge Foot. I paid tribute to the men and women who have given their lives fighting for our country. This year I also joined the town in marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.



## QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH CANOPY

I have joined over 500 other MPs to plant trees as part of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy, a network of forest conservation initiatives to mark Her Majesty's lifetime of service to the Commonwealth. The trees – two silver birch, two rowan, and a hazel were planted in Bank Park on Thursday 22 November. I am pleased that Warrington South is taking part in this fantastic initiative. This is a great opportunity for the constituency to engage on the vital role trees have in our environment, and how we must further recognise the importance of tree conservation. Many thanks to everyone who attended the ceremony. I am delighted that many senior figures from Warrington Borough Council and local representatives took part in what is a great addition to the legacy of our town.



As your local MP, if there are ever any issues I can help you with, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

I hold surgeries at my constituency office at 1 Wilson Patten Street every Friday. Please contact my Constituency Office to arrange an appointment.

To book an appointment:  
Email: [faisal.rashid.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:faisal.rashid.mp@parliament.uk)  
Call: 01925 351 010

For up to date information about my work:  
Visit my Facebook page at [facebook.com/faisalrashidMP](https://facebook.com/faisalrashidMP)  
Or my website at [www.faisalrashid.com](http://www.faisalrashid.com)

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