

# FAISAL RASHID MP

## WARRINGTON SOUTH

Monthly Newsletter: December 2018



Working hard for all communities in Warrington South

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

Appleton | Bewsey & Whitecross | Chapelford & Old Hall | Grappenhall | Great Sankey North & Whittle Hall | Great Sankey South | Latchford East | Latchford West | Lymm North & Thelwall | Lymm South | Penketh & Cuerdley | Stockton Heath



Welcome to my December 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

**IN**  
**WESTMINSTER**

## BREXIT SURVEY 2018

Towards the end of 2018 I ran a survey on Brexit in order to get a greater understanding of my constituents' views on the subject. In total 935 people from Warrington South responded to the survey. The results are available on my website.

### FAISAL RASHID MP BREXIT SURVEY

WARRINGTON SOUTH CONSTITUENCY



Key headlines are:

- 1) 72.9% said they voted Remain in the 2016 EU Referendum.
- 2) 72.6% said they would choose 'Remain' if there was a second vote.
- 3) 61.1% would prefer a 'People's Vote' on the final deal.
- 4) 74.1% said they would vote to 'Remain in the EU' in a People's Vote.
- 5) 10% of respondents who voted Leave in 2016 would now vote Remain.
- 6) Of those who did not vote, 58.3% would choose 'Remain' and 25% would choose 'Leave'.

Please read more on the results here:  
<http://bit.ly/fr-brexite-survey-res>

## APPEALS AGAINST PARKING CHARGES

I recently spoke out on unfair parking charges. Since my election, I have been contacted by a large number of constituents who say that they are being unfairly targeted with letters demanding money and threatening court action.

The situation has become so bad that it is discouraging some motorists from making trips to the shops in fear of being targeted by rogue parking companies.

This is a sorry state of affairs; it is bad for my constituents and bad for our local economy.

Up and down the country our 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.

## DEBATE ON AFFORDABLE CREDIT

I recently spoke at a debate on the appalling and exploitative lending practices that target many of the most vulnerable people in our society.

Despite the welcome demise of big payday lenders such as Wonga, people without enough to get by remain over-exposed to manipulative lending practices. With in-work poverty on the rise, the Government must do more to reform the broken credit model and tackle the persistent debt spiral into which many working families have fallen. Often, low-income households are unaware of or unable to access affordable credit provision in their local area or nationally.

I hope that the Government will begin to take a proactive approach to solving this critical issue.

## NHS REORGANISATION DEBATE

I recently led a debate in Westminster on NHS reorganisation.

Opening the debate, I paid tribute to the NHS and its hardworking staff. However, I said that increasing pressures and eight years of chronic underfunding have pushed the NHS to the brink, rendering the issue of its reorganisation crucially important.

Critical of the top down reorganisation that had taken place under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, I warned of the damage that could be done if future reorganisation was not carried out in the right way – with more investment, more rational funding decisions and the reversal of privatisation.

I focused on a few key issues, including: clinical care commissioning groups; sustainability and transformation plans and partnerships; integrated care partnerships; health and social care integration; and healthcare infrastructure.

Once again, the Government is undertaking another NHS reorganisation, in what appears to be an effort to reverse the damage caused with the introduction of the problematic Health and Social Care Act 2012. But you would be forgiven for not knowing it was happening.

Parliament should be given the opportunity to properly scrutinise the ongoing process of its reorganisation. But this is simply not happening. If adopted, proposals to significantly change health and social care provision are taking place without even a vote or a debate.

The Health and Social Care 2012 Act launched 44 Sustainability Transformation Partnerships (STPs). That process has been characterised by Government secrecy, with little or no engagement with staff, patients, unions or the public before the publication of the plans.

The Warrington & Cheshire partnership is completely unworkable. It is the second largest of the 44 STP footprints, covering 2.5 million people, 12 CCGs and 20 NHS provider organisations. To be deliverable, it required £755 million in capital funding, against a backdrop of cuts to NHS capital budgets. It is unsurprising that the STP has made little progress.

For patients, the lack of integration of health and social care can be a maddening experience. As demands upon the NHS become increasingly complex and long-term, integrated care has the potential to transform the lives of millions of patients. But this is not something that can be achieved on the cheap. It must be properly funded.

Warrington Together offers a potential way forward as a locally appropriate, collaborative model of care - a single taxpayer-funded organisation working to a single integrated plan; promoting healthy lifestyles; utilising doctors and hospitals, as well as community care, social care and mental healthcare. While this is not without its challenges, our local model represents something we should try to achieve on a national scale, involving local stakeholders to provide integrated health and social care services.

Under Conservative-led Governments, complexity and fragmentation has characterised NHS reorganisation for several years. I believe the Government now has a clear responsibility to enable some joined up thinking and make the debate around NHS reorganisation far more accountable and accessible to the public.

**IN  
WARRINGTON  
SOUTH**

# STOCKTON HEATH COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE

I am pleased to hear the news that the closure of Stockton Heath Community Recycling Centre has been halted pending further investigative work.

In a report to Warrington Borough Council's Executive Board, council officers originally recommended that the Stockton Heath Community Recycling Centre be closed, but instructed "...officers to allocate a suitable site for the provision of a CRC site within the South of the Borough as part of the Local Plan Process."

While I had welcomed the Council's commitment to providing a new, fit for purpose alternative site in the south of Warrington, I expressed concerns about the proposal to close the Stockton Heath recycling centre upon completion of the improvement works at Woolston and Gatewarth, which would see residents in Stockton Heath, Appleton, Grappenhall, Thelwall, Walton, Stretton, Hatton and Lymm without access to a recycling centre in the local area.

I have since held discussions with council chiefs to call for the Stockton Heath facility to be kept open until the alternative site in the south of the town is delivered. Following these discussions, the recommendation to close the Stockton Heath site was changed as follows "Request officers re visit the current operating model for the facility at Stockton Heath in partnership with the existing contractor, with a view to reducing the operational cost of the facility and report back with the outcome of their discussions to the May Executive at the latest."

I have been in talks with Councillor Russ Bowden, Professor Steven Broomhead and senior officers from Warrington Borough Council over the future of the Stockton Heath Community Recycling Centre. I had raised concerns with them regarding proposals that would see the recycling centre closed upon completion of improvement works at Woolston and Gatewarth.

I am delighted to hear that following my work on this issue, the Council's Executive Board has now halted plans to close the Stockton Heath site and agreed to look again at ways to keep the site open until an alternative facility is delivered.

Throughout our discussions, I made it clear that whilst I welcome the Council's commitment to deliver a new recycling centre in the south of the town, there should be no gap in provision for residents in Stockton Heath, Appleton, Grappenhall, Thelwall, Walton, Stretton, Hatton and Lymm. The Stockton Heath site is well-used and therefore I believe it must remain in operation for as long as possible to ensure that communities in the south of the town do not experience any disruption to their recycling services.

The Stockton Heath Community Recycling Centre will now remain open while usage of the site is monitored and re-evaluated. I hope that the findings from the investigative work will ensure that the Stockton Heath facility is kept open until a new site in the south of Warrington is delivered. I will continue to work closely with the Council on this important local issue.

## CHRISTMAS IN WARRINGTON

I volunteered at Room at the Inn and The Y Project to help out the staff and volunteers during the busy Christmas period. This charity does vital work in providing important daytime services to homeless and vulnerable people and a 10 bedded night shelter. It was great to spend time helping the hardworking staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to support people going through difficult times. I also talked to many service users.



## CHRISTMAS IN WARRINGTON

I visited the local Aldi store to discuss their initiative on giving away any unsold fresh food to the local community during the Christmas period. They selected Warrington Salvation Army to receive this donation. I've previously discussed how the level of poverty we witnessed in 2018 is a disgrace – and that food banks, charities and other organisations like businesses are having to step in to provide crucial support where central government is failing. On Christmas Eve Aldi donated surplus fresh food to local charities and community groups. In Warrington South constituency, 501 meals were donated to good causes.



## VISIT TO WARRINGTON JOB CENTRE

In December I visited Warrington Job Centre Plus and met the team based at the Centre to discuss the work they do. I wanted to get a better understanding of the system and the processes my constituents have to undergo when turning their for support. During the visit I met members of the team who guided me through several aspects of the centre, including how people access welfare. Thanks to everyone who took the time to talk to me and to share their experiences.



## VISIT TO WARRINGTON DELIVERY OFFICE

Following my previous visit to Royal Mail's HQ, I visited the local Warrington Delivery Office. It was a great opportunity to meet and talk with the staff there, as well as gain a further understanding of the system and the reasoning behind the structures which are in place. This was part of my Industry and Parliament Trust Fellowship programme which aims to improve a parliamentarian's knowledge of different industries.





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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