



# Caroline Dinenage

**MP for Gosport,  
Lee-on-the-Solent,  
Stubbington and  
Hill Head**



*Welcoming Haselworth's Young Governors to Parliament*



*At the H&IOW CRC Women's Symposium*



*With Flick Drummond MP & BAE Apprentices at Portsmouth Naval Base*

This month our headlines have naturally been dominated by the EU Referendum and the aftermath of the British vote to leave the European Union. The result was clear, the people have spoken. Brexit will offer both challenges and opportunities. We now need to unite and make this work in the best interests of our area and our country.

One unexpected development is the need to choose a new Prime Minister to take this forward. I was very sad to see David Cameron resign but fully understand his decision. After talking with Conservative Party members in this area I have decided to back Theresa May. I firmly believe she alone has the skill, strength and unrivalled experience to effectively negotiate our Brexit, stabilise our economy and bring the country together at this deeply uncertain time. Conservative MPs will vote in the coming weeks until there are two candidates remaining, then Conservative Party Members will elect the winner.

In Gosport this month, I met with the Chief Executive and Leader of Gosport Borough Council. They updated me on the forthcoming management partnership with Portsmouth City Council. GBC have an excellent record in driving efficiency savings while protecting frontline services and these plans are an extension of this work. I sought reassurance that Gosport and Lee on the Solent would retain our independence.

In Westminster, I met with other Hampshire MPs to discuss important local issues such as education, transport, health, local government and planning. We are determined to work together and use our strength in numbers to push for improvements in our county.

I also met the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership for an urgent update on vital local transport improvements, the Stubbington Bypass and the next stage of the Bus Rapid Transit Scheme (BRT). Both projects are essential to solving our area's traffic problems. The bid for the Government funds to complete both projects has now been submitted. I met with Hampshire County Council's new Transport boss, Cllr Humby, to push the County to put in their share of the money for the Stubbington Bypass - this is absolutely crucial if the Government is to support this bid.

We also discussed the Daedalus Enterprise Zone. I am delighted that the Business Innovation Centre is already full two years ahead of schedule and that plans are afoot to open a second one at Daedalus as soon as 2018.

While in Winchester I attended a symposium on women in the criminal justice system hosted by the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Rehabilitation Company.

I caught up with representatives from BAE Unions and visited Portsmouth Naval Base to meet BAE apprentices from our area. As a key local employer it is very important to keep up to date with BAE's projects at HMNB Portsmouth and the views of those employed there. Having such a high technology company as BAE in our area training the next generation of engineers is a real boost for the local economy. The arrival of the QE class aircraft carriers will be a source of great local pride.

We have such a strong military heritage in our local area and I was pleased to pay tribute to our servicemen and women on Armed Forces Day but was disappointed at the lack of events in our area to mark this.

In education news this month, I visited Haselworth Primary School and helped deliver an assembly on internet safety. I then welcomed Young Governors from Haselworth up to Westminster to take a tour of the Houses of Parliament and pose their questions to me about my role as MP. I was seriously impressed by the enthusiasm and engagement of these youngsters.

I caught up with the Principal of St Vincent College, to hear about the college's plans to form a multi-academy trust partnership. This new structure allows colleges to reap the benefits of academisation as they jointly pursue excellence, whilst retaining individuality.

Brune Park Secondary School was put into special measures this month following an 'inadequate' Ofsted rating. This news is deeply concerning for pupils, staff and parents alike. I made immediate contact with Hampshire County Council and the Department for Education & have offered my full assistance to all concerned with turning the prospects of this school around.



At Haselworth Primary School, helping to promote internet safety



At Alverstoke Infant School's Queen's 90th Birthday Street Party

A massive thank you to all those who worked so hard organising events for her Majesty the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I had a fantastic time at Alverstoke Infant School's party. The pupils all looked very patriotic in red, white and blue and some wonderful hand-made hats. There were street parties in Alverstoke, Lee on the Solent and Stubbington where I was invited to be a judge in the 'bake-off' – a really difficult task as the cakes were all so delicious. How does Mary Berry do it?!

Some great Gosport groups had birthdays this month. I enjoyed celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gosport Borough Hockey Club. I also visited CESSAC House to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of this sheltered housing scheme for ex-Service people in Gosport. I was also pleased to visit Stubbington Lunch Club at the Crofton Community Centre which provides an opportunity for friendly fun and companionship for older people.

I was pleased to speak at Y services for Young People's LGBT 'Voices for Change' Conference in Hampshire. We have made considerable progress towards LGBT equality but it is right to reflect on what more needs to be done to ensure young people are protected from bullying.

Continuing on the equality theme, I spoke on behalf of the Government in a debate in the House of Commons on the 150th Anniversary of the first petition to Parliament by the Kensington Society asking for women to get the vote. I was sure to give special mention to Gosport Borough Council, where I am very proud that 40% of our councillors are female.

In Westminster I met with representatives from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. I'm backing their 'Respect the Water' campaign because being an MP for a coastal constituency, I know full well how important it is that we promote water safety.

Finally, I met with Councillors from Lee on the Solent and Peel Common to discuss National Grid's plans to build an IFA Interconnector at Daedalus. The planning application is now in with Fareham Borough Council who have had hundreds of responses so far, there's still time to [submit your thoughts](#).

Best wishes

Caroline



Supporting the RNLI's Respect the Water Campaign

## GET IN TOUCH

Please feel free to contact me on any issue, or to find out when my next surgery is. I'm always happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster for my constituents. Please contact my office at least three months in advance to make sure you get a place - the tours are very popular!

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