

MP Parish Report May 2026

WASPI Update

I recently raised questions in Parliament with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Pensions regarding compensation for the WASPI women. These are women born in the 1950s who were affected by changes to the state pension age and who argue that they were not adequately notified of the impact on their retirement plans. This continues to be an important issue for many local residents, and I will keep pressing for clarity and fairness as discussions progress.

Energy Prices

Recent international events have contributed to rising gas and oil prices, which continue to affect household energy bills. There has been long-standing concern about the way electricity prices in the UK are linked to the price of gas, even as renewable energy becomes more widespread and affordable.

Calls for reform of the wholesale pricing mechanism have now been acknowledged by the Government, which has announced that it will take steps to review and change the system. Ensuring that consumers benefit from lower-cost renewable energy, and improving the UK's overall energy security, remain important priorities for reducing and stabilising household bills.

Defence Bonds

In my role as my party's spokesperson for Defence, I have been focusing on practical ways to ensure that the UK's Armed Forces have the resources they need. Senior military leaders have highlighted the funding pressures facing the services, and recent operational deployments have illustrated the challenges involved.

One proposal I have put forward is the creation of £20bn in Defence Bonds. This would allow pension funds and individuals to invest directly in strengthening national defence, providing a new and stable source of funding for long-term capability.

SEND Consultation and Local Events

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) remain one of the most frequent issues raised with me by parents locally. The Government has launched a consultation on SEND provision, and I encourage parents and carers to take part and share their experiences.

To support this, I will be holding two events for constituents—one online and one in person—to listen to concerns and ensure that local voices are reflected in my own submission to the consultation. Please encourage your residents to participate.

Online discussion

12 May, 7:00–8:30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1987315459035?aff=oddtcreator>

Drop-in event

14 May, 5:00–7:00pm

Mercread Hall, Seaford

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1987306749986?aff=oddtcreator>

The consultation closes on **18 May**.