



IN PARLIAMENT

Early in April, as a member of the Health & Social Care Committee, I had the opportunity to question Secretary of State Wes Streeting and Chief Medical Officer Professor Chris Whitty on the future of our healthcare system. We covered welfare reform, workforce challenges and the potential restructuring of NHS England. It was a very open and constructive discussion and I'll continue to advocate for greater transparency, accountability and ambition as we work to shape a stronger, more sustainable health and social care system.

More recently, I secured a Backbench Business Debate on obesity and fatty liver disease, calling for a more comprehensive and proactive public health strategy toward liver disease.

I also attended very positive Parliamentary

Drop-in events on Smoking and Health, on the extra costs facing those with disabilities, and on child poverty, meeting with UNICEF, frontline charities and children with first-hand experience to discuss the growing inequalities impacting children and families across the country. I also wrote to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in support of Worthing Football Club and their involvement in the '3UP' campaign.

I met with Luke Pollard, Minister for the Armed Forces, to discuss ways to tackle antimicrobial resistance within the context of Defence. This was in response to a question I raised with him in the Chamber in March and I will continue to press for this growing global health emergency to be recognised across all the relevant policy areas.

MENTAL HEALTH



Beccy at the Health and Social Care Committee

Community Mental Health provision is an essential part of our health service but currently struggling due to years of underinvestment.

As part of the Health Select Committee I heard from key figures in the voluntary sector about the vital role they play and how their work can be improved by sustainable funding streams and better partnership working with the NHS.

Recommendations for action will now be sent to the Department of Health and later made available to the public.



Dr Beccy Cooper
Member of Parliament for Worthing West



I hope this newsletter finds you well.

Welcome to my April - May update for the constituency, keeping you informed about my work as your MP, both in Parliament and across our community.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their thoughts, concerns, and ideas with me so far.

I hold regular casework advice surgeries and host tea (and coffee!) mornings around the constituency. Look out for dates and please do contact my office if you have any queries.

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CHAPTER ONE

As a member of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Gambling Reform, I recently spoke in Parliament at the launch of @ChapterOneCharity, a fantastic organisation offering support, training and evidence-based treatment for those affected by problem gambling.

Gambling harms are an increasingly urgent public health issue, yet only 1 in 200 people affected make the decision to access treatment and only then at the point of crisis. Alarming, children are becoming more at risk, with youth gambling harms doubling in the past year.

I was very pleased that the government has now shelved proposals to liberalise rules around high street slot machines, preventing outlets from installing more higher-stakes machines.

As I told The Guardian, I believe local councils should be given more powers to restrict the number of outlets in our local communities.

If you or someone close to you is experiencing gambling harms, you can find free and confidential support at <https://www.chapter-one.org/>



Beccy at the Chapter One Event

WORTHING WEST



Beccy at Bright Horizons Nursery

It's been great to be out and about in Worthing West during the sunny Easter recess. I've met with Angmering, Kingston, Ferring and East Preston Parish Councils, discussing issues from community mental health support, to public transport and devolution. Parish councils give a strong voice to local residents and will continue to play an important role in the future.

I had a really enjoyable visit to Bright Horizons Nursery, meeting the wonderful children and dedicated staff there, where we talked about the challenges currently

facing the nursery sector. I've also met with Worthing Mencap, Sight Support Worthing and visited Worthing Hospital - more on that below.

I also loved spending time at the Angmering Wellbeing Fair and at the beautiful Tolmare Farm in Long Furlong, discussing everything from the poor profitability of milk to the effects of climate change.

As always, I've also held some busy Meet the MP sessions and will be holding more events this month so please do register if you can and join me for a cuppa.

ON THE CASE

We want to hear about the issues you're facing, and our casework team is working flat-out to resolve as many as we can.

With over 100 cases ongoing at any time, and local services stretched to the limit, we're working incredibly hard — but reaching out to your MP can be a real lifeline, so please do email me at beccy.cooper.mp@parliament.uk


Casework

APRIL 2025

- 727 letters and email correspondence received
- 141 constituents helped with issues
- 481 policy queries addressed
- 1 Casework surgeries held

Top three casework concerns

- Social Security & Pensions
- Health Services
- Housing & Planning



LOOKING FORWARD



Beccy meets the Easter Bunnies

Easter was the perfect time to pause and spend time with loved ones and I hope you were able to do that too.

As we move into May, along with my work in Parliament, I'll be honouring our veterans at the many VE Day events, as well as joining Worthing Women's Rugby Club at their exciting upcoming festival.

We are also currently moving office so I'll be letting you know our new address soon and I hope to see you there!

Beccy

Dr Beccy Cooper

Member of Parliament for Worthing West



LIVER CARE



Beccy with Worthing Hospital Hepatology Team

As Co-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Liver Disease and Liver Cancer, I visited Worthing Hospital's Hepatology Department with Pamela Healy OBE, CEO of the British Liver Trust.

We met with senior leadership and frontline clinicians

to see the wonderful work they are doing not just to treat but proactively fight the disease.

Liver disease is a 'silent killer', with symptoms often not showing until it's too late. We visited the hospital's community hepatology van, which brings health checks directly to people at higher risk. We also heard about the hospital's involvement in the Liver Health Check pilot, aimed at improving outcomes through earlier diagnosis and intervention.

It was great to hear that Worthing Hospital has recently benefited from increased funding into liver services, with the addition of two new Clinical Nurse Specialists. But more broadly, greater investment is still urgently needed into scanning equipment, addiction



Beccy with the Outreach Team

services and community outreach, along with — crucially — better access for all to nutritious, healthy food. As we move forward, I'll be working alongside the British Liver Trust to keep liver health at the forefront of our 10-year NHS plan.



Dr Beccy Cooper

Member of Parliament for Worthing West

Working for you in Worthing West
Newsletter April-May 2025