19 Events
23 Hours
36,000 Households Contacted
Introduction

When I was elected, I promised that I'd be the voice of Hull West and Hessle in Parliament. To do this, it is important that I hear from as many of you as possible about the things you care about.

In September and October 2018, I organised The Big Conversation, a series of events which enable me to meet as many of you as possible and talk about the issues that affect your lives.

Over a four week period, 36,000 leaflets were hand delivered to Hessle, Boothferry, Pickering, Derringham, Central and St Andrew's and Docklands wards. These leaflets not only described the issues and actions I took after The Big Conversation 2017 events and advertised the events in the 2018 calendar, but also included a survey which you could fill in and return to my office to enable you to make your voice heard.

I held nineteen meetings all over the city. The aim was to talk about a wide variety of issues including health, education, housing, anti-social behaviour and many more. I arranged events for a diverse range of Hull and Hessle's people from young adults to the elderly, charities and local community groups. Here is a table of all the meetings that took place:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
<th>Issue Discussed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.09</td>
<td>BBC Radio Humberside - The Burnsey Show</td>
<td>Community Phone In</td>
<td>Constituency Issues</td>
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<td>14.09</td>
<td>Selby Street Mission</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Mental Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.09</td>
<td>Wheatfield Community Centre</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Community Issues</td>
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<td>17.09</td>
<td>Halfway House Public House</td>
<td>Hessle Road D.A.R.T.S</td>
<td>Community Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.09</td>
<td>Hull Central Library</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Allergies</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.09</td>
<td>Marquis of Granby Public House</td>
<td>Hessle First with Trading</td>
<td>Community Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.09</td>
<td>The Warren</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Young People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.09</td>
<td>Costa Coffee, Hessle</td>
<td>Community Drop In</td>
<td>Community Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.09</td>
<td>Hessle Youth Club</td>
<td>Hessle Youth Club Attendees</td>
<td>Youth Concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.09</td>
<td>Anlaby Park Library</td>
<td>Community Drop In</td>
<td>Community Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>Bean &amp; Nothingness</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Endometriosis Awareness</td>
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<td>1.10</td>
<td>Station Hotel</td>
<td>Old People's Partnership</td>
<td>Concerns of the Elderly</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>Priory Baptist Church</td>
<td>Humberside Police and Community</td>
<td>Ant-Social Behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>Boulevard Baptist Church</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Parental Concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>Kardomah</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>The Lonsdale Centre</td>
<td>Hull City Council and Community</td>
<td>Benefits and Welfare Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>Wheatfield Community Centre</td>
<td>Friends of Pickering Park</td>
<td>Community Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>The Deep</td>
<td>Hull Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>Business Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>Giroscope – Coltman Street</td>
<td>Giroscope and Community</td>
<td>Housing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Results of Leaflet Surveys

I received an overwhelming amount of surveys back. I have collated the information below and correlated it with what people told me during the meetings. It is clear that the cuts to the NHS and problems with anti-social behaviour remain significant concerns.

Q1. Which top three issues do you think should be my priority in parliament at the moment?

- NHS: 27%
- Crime: 15%
- Animal rights/Cruelty: 13%
- Environment: 11%
- Brexit: 8%
- Defence: 4%
- Pensions: 1%
- Housing: 21%

Q2. Last year you told me that education and mental health were your biggest concerns. Which issues are you most worried about now?

- Children’s Mental Health: 27%
- PIP: 15%
- NHS Cuts: 9%
- Hospital Waiting Times: 17%
- Homelessness: 15%
- Education Cuts: 9%
- Jobs: 9%

Q3. Which two issues are affecting you most locally?

- Fly tipping/rubbish: 21%
- Anti-social behaviour: 17%
- Traffic: 15%
- Pot holes: 13%
- Parking: 5%
- NHS Treatment: 5%
- School class sizes: 4%
- Public Transport: 2%
## Discussions and Issues
### Which Were Raised At The Events

There were many issues raised through the 19 organised events and many were individual and local issues which were dealt with immediately.

Below are the local and national issues which were identified as being the most important to you and what will shape my Action Plan for 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Action</th>
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</table>
| **Anti-Social Behaviour** | 1. To campaign for better Mental Health services within schools and for better funding for provision for SEND pupils through the education select committee.  
                           2. To campaign for more funding to NHS Mental Health Services.  
                           3. To support local community groups who help people with mental health issues and provide informal community spaces to help combat loneliness and its effects. |
| **Universal Credit** | 1. To continue to pressure the government to postpone the roll-out of Universal Credit across the UK.  
                             2. To support constituents who struggle with the move to UC and direct them to services that can help them.  
                             3. To add a page on my website which includes all advice services which can help with constituents’ concerns over moving to UC. |
| **Mental Health**   | 1. To debate in Parliament the rise of antisocial behaviour and highlight the cuts to our Police and to early-intervention programmes. Ensure the police pension changes are fully funded.  
                        2. To continue to support the local police force and to campaign for improvements and initiatives such as the return of a Hessle police base and installation of CCTV in troubled hotspots. |

People are concerned with the increase of anti-social behaviour in the area. There are reports of large gangs of youths, nuisance motorbikes and upsurge in theft and petty crime.

Universal Credit (UC) was rolled out across the constituency in November 2018 and there are concerns that claimants will not receive any payments for up to six weeks which will cause undue hardship.

More money needs investing in advice services. People find that it is not easy to find what advice services are out there so a page with everything available was suggested.

Constituents raised concerns over the increase of Mental Health in children, partly caused by increased school pressure and lack of funding in schools for mental health support. There is a lack of funding in the NHS for Mental Health and CAMHS and people are having to turn to charities and local community projects which are also struggling through lack of resources.
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Concerns were raised about underfunding throughout the Education Sector from mainstream education, Further Education and for SEND provision. Education now focuses too much around league tables and exam results and not about providing children with a broad, stimulating education.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|            | 1. To examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Department for Education and to push for more funding to schools, Further Education and SEND provision.  
2. To continue to promote an education system where children are provided an engaging curriculum which nurtures individual abilities and focuses less on league tables and exam results. |
| Allergies  | Local allergy sufferers have many concerns when it comes to this subject. There are long waiting times to be diagnosed. Restaurants and catering outlets change their ingredients all the time and people with allergies cannot always feel reassured to eat out. |
|            | 1. To write to Secretary of State for Health to raise constituents concerns regarding the waiting times to be diagnosed with an allergy.  
2. To offer support to allergy charities and help them in my role as an MP. |
| Endometriosis | At the endometriosis event many sufferers told of the struggle they had in getting diagnosed with the condition. Women are often disbelieved by medical professionals and on average it takes seven years to be diagnosed. |
|            | 1. To campaign for menstrual well-being to be taught in schools so pupils can know key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body. |
| Health Poverty | An example of health poverty which was discussed at the Parental Concerns event was the decision to restrict GPs and pharmacists to prescribe head lice treatments to only in extreme circumstances. This creates a situation where head lice outbreaks in schools are continuous when parents cannot get access to the remedies. |
|            | 1. To campaign and bring awareness to the problem of health poverty in society and fight for money to be released for the most vulnerable. |
**Period Poverty**

The issue of women and girls not being able to afford sanitary products and experiencing embarrassing situations by not having the products they need.

1. To support Hull City Council in their initiative to help tackle Period Poverty in the Hull area.
2. To continue to push local train services to provide a better service for rail customers.
3. Support Labour’s policy to renationalise our railway.

**Train Services**

Local trains are important to many people and groups across the community. The electrification on the line between Hull and Selby isn’t happening and is very disappointing. The service offered by Hull Trains this year has been very unsatisfactory due to the constant malfunctions of the trains.

1. To continue to campaign for the electrification of the line between Hull and Selby.
2. To continue to push local train services to provide a better service for rail customers.
3. Support Labour’s policy to renationalise our railway.

**Aviary in Pickering Park**

Local residents would like the Pickering Park aviary to be refurbished and reopened.

1. To continue to support Labour Councillors in the proposition of the restoration of the aviary.

**Youth Provision in Hessle**

When meeting with local young adults at Hessle Youth Centre they discussed how they would like to see some investment in areas where they can keep active. Some suggestions were a skate park closer to Hessle because the one on Foreshore is unsafe and also a soft (astro turf) pitch which they can use in winter.

1. To work with Paul Hogan, Labour Councillor to see if funds could be invested in creating improved outdoor spaces for young people to stay active.

**Litter and Fly Tipping**

Litter and fly-tipping is an issue across the constituency. The council is under pressure through funding cuts to Local Authorities but it was also discussed whether there needs to be more education needed in how litter damages the local environment.

1. Organise regular litter picks in Hull West and Hessle.
The Big Conversation 2018 was a huge success. Thank you to all the people and associations who attended the meetings, the venues who welcomed us and to the army of volunteers who helped me deliver the 36,000 leaflets.

Your help is really appreciated.

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