

Addressing major local issues..

No to new Council Offices

8500 signatures: the public doesn't want them!
Common-sense says No

Thank you to everyone who has signed my petition against the proposed new Council Offices and to all those residents and businesses who have campaigned against them. Truth is, the project is wrong and has been hugely costly to the tax payer.

I hope the public will maintain its support for my position. It is not party political but common-sense political.

I am totally opposed to the entire project. We do not need NEW Council offices. It is NOT a good use of public money. There is plenty of space in the County Council offices in Warwick and also Leamington Town Hall should be saved and used.



Gypsies & Travellers

We urgently need an OFFICIAL site: the community can't wait 2-3 MORE years

This cannot go on. In recent years there have been quite a few unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments.



Authorised sites must be set up urgently.

I have repeatedly called for action. A while back, I held a meeting with Councils and Police to understand how they were being addressed and to hear their plans for official sites. Government policy demands that Local Councils provide sites. Two years on, there are still no sites in the District. That is the Councils' responsibility.

I understand it may now be a further 2-3 years before a site is provided.

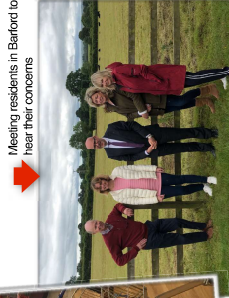
But it is the Councils that have to resolve the issues - otherwise the community will still be experiencing illegal encampments for the next two to three years.

Across the constituency..

I spend much of my weekends out and about in the constituency: attending events, meeting constituents at surgeries or in the community for meetings with businesses or organisations. Here are just a few examples:



Holding Residents surgeries most weekends, here in a local supermarket



Meeting residents in Barford to hear their concerns



Attending one of the many events among our diverse community



Raising over £1000 for Myton Hospice



Supporting the community in Bishop's farmbook



Enjoying a pint at Warwick Court Leet's Bear & Odeur Festival



Getting important coverage for Warwick & Leamington on regional TV



Supporting local retailers and businesses



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Matt Western MP

Newsletter & update - No.4



my Report back to you and Update on my work in the Constituency and Parliament this past 6 months...

- ▶▶ speaking out on the consequences of Brexit and No Deal on our businesses, NHS and our community
- ▶▶ campaigning against the desperate school cuts
- ▶▶ campaigning on social housing and against homelessness and rough sleeping
- ▶▶ supporting the call for a climate emergency and urgent need to address air quality
- ▶▶ calling for urgent action to address soaring crime in our community
- ▶▶ new Council Offices? No thank you

Working hard across Warwick & Leamington, Whitnash and surrounding villages

Dear Leader,

When I was elected in June 2017 I promised to produce a six-monthly update to ensure you were kept informed of the work I'm doing both locally and in Parliament.

Can I start by saying - and let me be very clear - we are in an extremely serious crisis, with many now describing it as the greatest since 1940. We have our third Prime Minister since the EU Referendum.

Brexit is seriously damaging this country and a 'No Deal' Brexit would be "catastrophic". Those are the words of the Chief Executives of Jaguar Land Rover, Ford and others and are echoed by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) and the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB).

As your representative in Parliament, I cannot vote for any Brexit deal that will make our community, or indeed the country, worse off.

Meanwhile, our public services are in crisis: NHS lead times and waiting times in A&E are exceeding the targets because of the cuts in funding. Adult social care, children's services, education, the Police, Fire and all local services are desperately struggling against the odds to serve communities. I'm afraid this Government simply doesn't care.

I will continue to speak out against these cuts and fight for more funding. The Government has become expert at blaming all others for the cuts (even the NHS, schools themselves and local authorities!) and not itself.

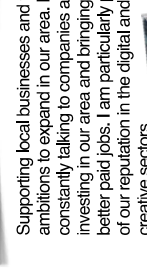
Our community deserves better.

Kid Regads, Matt

..supporting local businesses



Speaking at an event in Parliament on the importance of the Automotive Industry to this country and Warwick & Leamington



Supporting local businesses and their ambitions to expand in our area. I am constantly talking to companies about investing in our area and bringing more, better paid jobs. I am particularly proud of our reputation in the digital and creative sectors

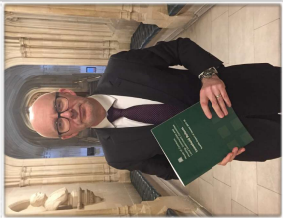


I organised a meeting with the Local Enterprise Partnership and Ministry of Business and Energy to discuss issues

To get in touch, call me on: 07908 253801
 email me at: Matt2representUs@gmail.com



Labour
labour.org.uk



A Strong Voice in Parliament

Campaigning against Education Cuts

We've got great schools across the constituency but they're seriously struggling... The Government's cuts (started under the Coalition Government) to our schools - secondary, primary, nursery - are damaging a generation. I am determined to stop this.

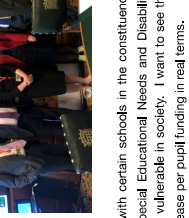
In Warwick & Leamington there have been A-level students teaching themselves subjects as there are no teachers!

On this, I questioned Prime Minister Theresa May in July about local students who had had to teach themselves A-level German, due to cuts and what she was going to do about it. Her answer showed no appreciation of the problems.

Schools have suffered huge real-term cuts in per pupil funding (ie even taking into account inflation), on average cuts of 8% with certain schools in the constituency suffering cuts of over £300 per pupil and the provision for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEN) is particularly shocking as it concerns some of the most vulnerable in society. I want to see the next Government invest in a National Education Service and increase per pupil funding in real terms.

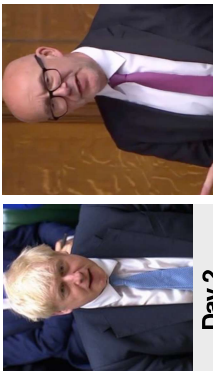
8% CUT in per pupil funding under this Government since 2015

6% average increase in class sizes since 2010



Brexit: it's Breaking Britain

We are in a crisis. "No Deal? No way!" as I've said repeatedly. I sit on the International Trade Select Committee and am very aware of the challenges that Brexit would bring. Real Trade Deals take 6-10 years to negotiate. A deal with the US will come at the cost of our NHS, our manufacturing and our Farming and Food businesses. The US-China Trade war is damaging the entire global economy and now is not the time to leave the EU - the world's best economic market - as even the WTO agree.



Day 2 ...

I asked the new Prime Minister about his infamous "F business" comments in the context of Brexit. Given the automotive industry is so important to Warwick and Leamington, I suggested his comments were irresponsible and that by extension did he mean 'F' my community too?

My Question to the Prime Minister can be viewed on facebook or my website mattstewart.org or on YouTube

The Pound in your pocket has lost 20%

The Pound Sterling has lost 20% of its value against both the Dollar and Euro since when the Referendum was called in 2015 and is forecast to fall a further 10% after Brexit, impacting on the price of imported goods and reducing the value of pensions

Prices continue to rise

As a result, prices are rising sharply: the cost of energy (which is priced in dollars), food, clothing, holidays and all imported goods have all shot up as a result, hurting household budgets

Business investment has fallen for four consecutive quarters

Business investment has fallen for four consecutive quarters. The decision to leave the EU has reduced Japanese investment and Honda has decided to close its first plant anywhere in the world (Sunderland) and Nissan has cancelled investment in Sunderland



Pictured above: attending meetings at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva

that's why :

1. I believe we MUST have a further Vote
2. I will campaign again to Remain

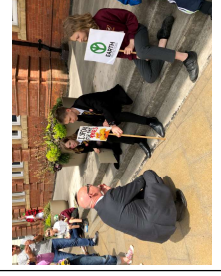
Calling for a Climate Emergency and better Air Quality

- TWICE I requested a debate on Climate Change in Parliament. Subsequently Parliament supported Labour's call and declared a Climate Emergency
- I chair the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Electric and Automated Vehicles
- I am a Member of the APPG on Climate Change

In recent weeks we have witnessed the very real evidence of Climate Change: heavy summer rains, flash-flooding and extreme temperatures. July looks as though it will be the hottest globally on record. June too.

In recent months I have spoken with many local young people staging School Climate Strikes, met with residents joining protests outside Parliament and was privileged to listen to Greta Thunberg address a group of us in Parliament. These activists are changing the agenda.

Energy and Transport are critical factors in addressing this crisis: I am delighted to have been elected the new Chair for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Electric Vehicles. Naturally, I added bikes to its remit. It will give me the opportunity to influence some of the areas I am passionate about: the climate crisis, the automotive industry and cycling. I've spoken with many young people who are leading the way. The climate crisis will affect us all, but it's ultimately the next generation that will be hit the hardest if we don't act.



A Rough Sleeping Crisis

I'm Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Campaign for Council Housing

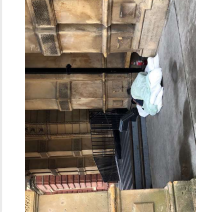
I also sit on the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee

The Government is being utterly callous - ruthless even. We've seen a massive increase in rough sleeping on our streets - up 170% since 2010. All because of it and the Coalition Government's failure to build enough social rent homes and their attack on welfare and in particular the introduction of Universal Credit.

I promised I would address this and I am: since 2017 I have held two Homelessness summits bringing together all agencies and authorities to work on sorting it. Because the Government's ambition to resolve rough sleeping by 2027 is 9 Winters too many in my book.

In June, my motion proposing a mass social housebuilding programme to fix our housing crisis was supported cross party - we'll see!

Only 8 Council homes have been built in Warwick and Leamington in the past 4 years. This is derisory and underlines the Government's and local Conservative Council's failure.



COMMITTED. Working Hard for ALL the Community ALL Year Round... For the Many, Not the Few.