



Anneliese Dodds MP 2018-9 Annual Report



Anneliese Dodds

On your side in Oxford East

Email: anneliese.dodds.casework@parliament.uk

Write: Anneliese Dodds MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Telephone: 01865 595 790

Facebook: @AnnelieseDodds

Twitter: @AnnelieseDodds

Dear reader,

This report summarizes my activities as your MP over the last year.

It has been a busy year: deepening concerns about Brexit, particularly a 'no deal' outcome which would be deeply damaging for our city; rising awareness and activism around the climate crisis; and continuing challenges around homelessness and the cost of living in our city.

This report indicates how I have endeavoured to take up the concerns of my constituents, in Parliament, with Government Ministers, in the media, and in a range of other areas. There are three key areas where we have achieved change. First, after extensive pressure, the government finally amended immigration regulations, after initially appearing to have worsened the situation for EU nationals. Second, legislation was passed to ensure that BMW Cowley could continue to sell its minis in the rest of the EU. And third, after many years of campaigning, the UK's Crown Dependencies have finally agreed to make company ownership information publicly available- a big step forward for tax justice.

If you have any comments on this report, or would like me to take up an issue on your behalf, please do not hesitate to contact me at anneliese.dodds.casework@parliament.uk.

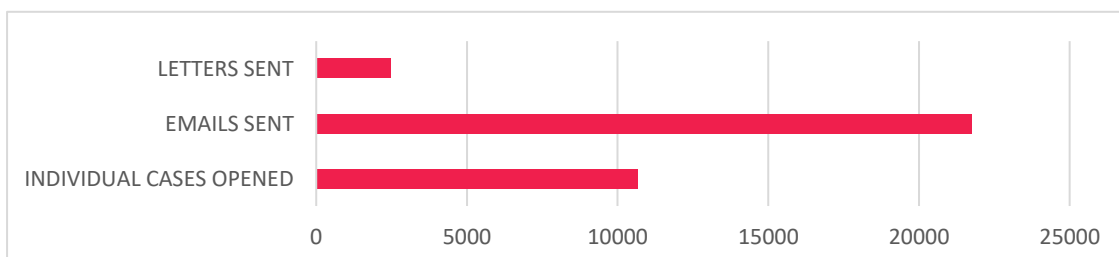
Thank you, and very best wishes

Anneliese

Helping local people

I would like to say a big thank you to all the local advice centres, charities, local law firms, local councillors and government and statutory authorities who have assisted my casework team and helped get positive results for my constituents. Above all I am very grateful to my staff who have done their very best to help people contacting me with their issues.

Casework Summary Statistics (generated from caseworker.mp from 20/06/2018 to 26/06/2019)



Overall, I have opened 10,655 cases, and sent 21748 emails and 2469 letters to constituents, in response to their enquiries.

Surgeries

I organise regular surgeries in Blackbird Leys, East Oxford, Barton, Rose Hill and other locations. These surgeries are held on the first and third Friday in any month. Since June 2018, I have seen over 250 constituents during my surgeries. Since September 2018 I have increased the amount of appointments available by remaining at the same venue on each surgery day, thus avoiding travel time between venues. If needed, I have made surgery appointments available at different times and venues. I am also able to see constituents by holding an event at a single venue for particular issue. This has included surgeries on environmental concerns, Brexit, for Windrush generation people, and concerning end-of-life arrangements.



Casework successes include:

- Enabling a number of people to stay in their homes and avoid eviction, after they had fallen into debt problems.
- Continuing to support my constituents affected by the 'Windrush' scandal through casework and advocacy. I have confirmed British nationality for two Oxford born Windrush grandchildren who had been refused British passports.
- Getting local children school places who would otherwise be out of school.
- Obtaining much needed funds for a large number of low-income constituents, from both social security and charities – including unlocking underpaid benefits that have included increasing the annual income of a pensioner by £3,500, establishing by review and appeal entitlement to Personal Independence Payments, and finding identity errors that led to earnings being incorrectly attributed to Universal Credit claims leaving sick and disabled people with no income.
- Making successful representations and appeals for EU nationals wrongly refused Universal Credit, by establishing their right of “permanent residence”.
- Intervening to support East Oxford Cricket Club to keep its home on Lincoln College sportsground.
- Chasing considerable delays at the Home Office, bringing about decisions for constituents who have been waiting for many years.
- Helping overturn erroneous visit visa decisions enabling parents to attend a constituent’s wedding, allowing academics to attend conferences, parents to visit children and grandchildren.
- Preventing vulnerable families being evicted; in one case, from their housing association due to Universal Credit miscalculations. Also helping a number of other people with housing problems, including rough sleeping, repairs and maintenance and support with social housing applications.

In Oxford East

I have visited a large number of local organisations, including:

Agnes Smith Advice Centre
Barton Karate club
BMW Cowley
Bullington Neighbourhood Watch
Campsfield House
Cheney School
Christ Church
Citizens Advice Oxford
Daily Mile with Year 1 at Windmill Primary School
EM Normandie Business School (Activate Learning, Oxpens)



Family Links (Cowley)
Grandpont Nursery School
Green Templeton College (re General Practice in Oxford)
Home-Start Oxford
Jazz Pharmaceuticals
John Henry Newman Academy
Littlemore Coop (Respect for Shopworkers Week)
Lloyds Bank, Carfax
Magdalen College School
Maggie's Oxford
Meadowbrook College, Marston
Minister for Business and Industry (Richard Harrington MP) re BMW
Mirada Medical (Oxford Innovation Centre)
National Citizen Service (Oxfordshire County Council)
Northfield School
Nuffield College

I have attended a number of local events, including:

175th Anniversary Celebrations of the Railway coming to Oxford
Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk (University Parks)
Ashmolean One World Festival
Assisted Dying surgery
Aston Centre for Europe event on Brexit
Barton Bash

O'Hanlon House and Oxford Hub (with Shadow Housing Secretary)
Oxford City Council
Oxford Mail (Osney Mead)
Oxford Police Commander
Oxford Castle & Prison for Helen & Douglas House 'Jail & Bail' fundraiser



Oxford Science Park (re South Oxford 'Science Village')
Oxford Trust (formerly Stansfeld Park), Headington
Oxford University Hospitals Trust (once re suspension of gynaecological procedures; once re theatres maintenance and PET-CT cancer scan)
Oxford University Pro-VC
Oxford Waterways with Environment Agency
Oxfordshire County Council
Oxfordshire Hospital School
Oxfordshire NHS MP meetings (Oxford Business Park)
Oxfordshire Youth (Headington)
People Nursery (Blackbird Leys)
Refugee Resource (Cowley Road)
Restore (Manzil Way)
Ruskin College
SSE (Oxford Business Park)
St Gregory the Great School leaders
Swan School site
Tesco Food Collection (Cowley)
Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner
TOAD Distillery (Cheney Lane)

Barton Windrush event
BBOWT Woodland Day
BMW Community day
BMW Cowley Quarterly Meetings
Brexit summit
Celebration of 100 years of (some) women's suffrage, Cheney School
Chaplain's Chat, St Hilda's College

Chinese New Year Celebration (Oxford Town Hall)
 Christmas Light Festival
 Clean Air Day event (Town Hall)
 Community Wealth Building event at Make Space
 Oxford
 Cowley Branch Line walk
 Cowley Road Carnival



Crisis Skylight 'everybody in' event
 CWU South East Political Committee
 Dashain and Thiar party, Nepalese community,
 Oxford Academy
 Deputy Mayor and various office-holders,
 Wroclaw (Oxford's new twinned city)
 Earthwatch Reception- Sheldonian Theatre
 Evening of Youth Empowerment with Level UP UK
 (Oxford Brookes)
 Flofest
 Future of Social Enterprise Summit
 Grand Menorah Lighting (Broad Street)
 Great Hedgehog 'Bake Off' and Fancy Dress Party,
 Florence Park
 Hawkwell House Family Funday (for Helen and
 Douglas House)
 Helen and Douglas House 'Jail and Bail' event
 Holi, Basant and Nowruz celebration
 Holocaust Memorial Day Service
 Homeless Oxfordshire 'Toast' event
 Home-Start 30th Anniversary Concert and
 reception (Queen's College)
 Inauguration of Novo Nordisk Research Centre
 (Headington)
 Inspiring Future Public Sector Leaders conference,
 Oxford University
 Intercultural Mass, Sacred Heart Church,
 Blackbird Leys
 Interfaith Walk
 IPSU Trade Unions' Organising Conference on Tax
 Justice (Geneva)
 Iraqi Family Club, East Oxford Community Centre
 Konigswinter Economic Conference (near Essen,
 Germany)
 Littlemore Fun Day (twice!)

Lord Mayor of Oxford's Carol Concert
 Lord Mayor's Dinner (St Edmund Hall)
 Men's Health Cup Football Tournament
 Mini Exhibition, Templars Square
 Mock Trial Competition (Oxford Magistrates
 Court)
 Model United Nations Event (MCS)
 MRC festival of medical research (Westgate)
 'Never Again' exhibition, Town Hall
 NHS 75th birthday
 Nigerian Community 58th independence day,
 Oxford Spires Academy
 Novo Nordisk research centre opening (Old Road
 Science Area)
 Numerous visits of local schools to Parliament
 Opening of Schrodinger Building, Oxford Science
 Park
 Ovada Neurodiversity Exhibition Opening
 OxClean Spring Clean
 Oxfam Policy Roundtable
 Oxford Brookes conference on digital
 communications
 Oxford East School Heads Meeting (Tyndale
 Community School)
 Oxford Eid Extravaganza x2
 Oxford for Europe debate- 'Speaking out about
 Business and Brexit'
 'Oxford for Europe' event
 Oxford Half Marathon
 Oxford Homeless Project Grand Iftar
 Oxford International Women's Festival (Town
 Hall) and Dinner (Rose Hill)
 Oxford Mela



Oxford Older Peoples' Day (Town Hall)
 Oxford Playhouse 'Women in Power' symposium
 Oxford Playhouse Gender Pay Gap event
 Oxford Polish Association Diversity Picnic
 (Blackbird Leys)
 Oxford Reclaim the Night March
 Oxford School of Public Health Annual
 Symposium
 Oxford School of Public Health keynote lecture
 Oxford Sudan protest event
 Oxford Syrian Sisters Play Scheme
 Oxford TUC Event on cuts to local public services
 Oxford University Maths Festival

Oxford University Student Union Freshers' Fair
 Oxford Week in Bonn (Football Tournament featuring Mansfield Road and Rose Hill footballers, Performance in Bonn City Centre, and other events)
 Oxfordshire County Council Armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony
 Oxfordshire Mental Health Partnership and Restore 'Tea and Talk' event
 Oxfordshire Reuses- Zero Waste Festival
 OxLEP innovation in Oxfordshire breakfast
 OxLEP round table with North Rhine Westphalia representatives
 Plastic Waste Proaction Event (Oxford Martin School)
 Political Corruption Conference (Oxford Brookes)
 Pro-cycling event, Flo's (Florence Park)
 Remembrance Sunday commemoration
 Restore Tea and Talk event (Elder Stubbs Allotments)
 Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre 30th birthday party and AGM
 Rose Hill Bike Day
 Ruskin College graduation day
 Ruskin School of Art Degree Show
 Science at the Shops, Oxford Science and Ideas Festival (Templars Square)
 Sisters Act Too! A Blackbird Leys Musical

Small Business Saturday (visited eight businesses)



Social Enterprise UK round table (Cowley)
 Social Saturday (New Road Baptist church)
 Space Day, Oxford University
 STEM for Britain
 Student Debate for Mental Health Awareness Week, City of Oxford College (Oxpens Road)
 Toast event (Homeless Oxfordshire)
 Training run with Alex Langford (fundraising for suicide prevention charity)
 UK Older Peoples' Day (Town Hall)
 VIP+ Fundraiser (Oxfordshire-based charity helping young people)
 Visit My Mosque event (Stanley Road Mosque)
 Waspi women panel
 Windrush Years Next Generation launch (Town Hall)
 Young Enterprise Trade Fair, Templars Square

Action in Parliament

I have raised a number of issues in Parliament which constituents have informed me they are concerned about, including: Brexit, science and innovation; the EU exit negotiations; 'no deal' planning; the EU citizens' settlement scheme; the unacceptably poor arrangements for EU citizens at the last European elections; the potential impact of future trade deals on the NHS; the climate crisis (from a number of angles); cycling provision; tenant fees; the taxation of technology companies; modern slavery; safe standing in football grounds; problems with Universal Credit; problems with the Mental Capacity Act; gaps in literacy; the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review; take-home pay for low-paid workers; the Loan Charge and IR35 tax rules; the privatisation of local NHS services; far right activity; education funding; police funding; the treatment of UK nationals in Syria; the availability of Orkambi to treat Cystic Fibrosis; young carers; funding for local nursery schools; the Vagrancy Act; and more. Overall I have spoken in more debates, and tabled significantly more parliamentary questions, than the average MP.

Some specific issues which I have worked on include:

EU citizens' status: My staff discovered that a new set of Immigration Regulations contradicted assurances that had been made to EU nationals, imposing additional requirements which many people would have found it difficult to meet, even though they had lived in the UK for many years. I lobbied the Prime Minister, Home Secretary and Immigration Minister repeatedly, and eventually the regulations were changed. As a result, EU citizens should not now be required to prove that they have been 'exercising their EU Treaty Rights' before they can obtain settled status.

BMW Cowley and 'no deal': I have continually argued against a 'no deal' Brexit, and the Conservatives' EU exit deal, because of the damage both would cause to manufacturing. However, given that there is still a risk of both occurring, I have worked with a range of groups, including BMW, to try and make sure they are as protected as possible from the negative outcomes that would ensue. This has included pushing government and a range of MPs to support plans to enable BMW Cowley to continue to sell their Minis across the EU (this would have been in jeopardy if we had not passed 'type approvals' legislation- which we finally did, this February).

Oxford to Cambridge Arc: I have pushed the Housing Minister to include targets for genuinely affordable and social housing within the Arc proposals. I have also argued for the railway line to be made electric. Now that the Arc proponents are no longer linking the Expressway road to additional housing, I have argued for the railway to be prioritised and the Expressway not to be continued with.

Oxford's PET-CT Cancer Scanning Service: Alongside numerous campaigners and clinicians, I have resisted the transfer of the Churchill Hospital's excellent cancer scanning services to a private company. While NHS England has backed off from handing the entire service to a private provider, they are continuing to argue that our NHS service must be provided under a contract from that private provider, which I will continue to argue is not legitimate.

In addition, I pushed for funding to be sorted out speedily for the new Swan School (which did eventually happen, albeit after much uncertainty being caused for local parents). Following representations from constituents who are from the Sudanese and West Papuan diaspora, I have pushed the Foreign Office to condemn human rights abuses.

As a Shadow Treasury Minister, I have represented the official opposition on a number of pieces of legislation, including the Finance Bill 2019 and a number of pieces of 'no deal' legislation including relating to VAT, Financial Services and a range of other issues. I have also represented the opposition on issues including NHS pensions, access to financial services, local bank closures, beer taxation and money laundering. In my role as the shadow Minister covering HMRC capacity, I have visited ten closed or closing HMRC offices, with the closures depleting the Revenue's ability to help taxpayers and to prevent tax avoidance and evasion.

Accountability to local and national media

I believe it is essential that politicians are held to account for the decisions they make. This can be aided by politicians participating in discussions in the media. To that end I have appeared on ITV (regional and national), Daily Politics, BBC Oxford, Sunday Politics South, Victoria Derbyshire, All Out Politics (Sky), Heart FM, Politics Live, World at One, LBC, Any Questions, Westminster Hour, CNN, the World Tonight and 5 live. I have also been interviewed by the Headington Occasional, the Cherwell (student newspaper) and of course the Oxford Mail.



Thank you for reading this report. If you have any comments, or would like to raise any matters with me, please do get in touch at: anneliese.dodds.casework@parliament.uk.