



Diana Johnson MP Parliamentary Report

News from Westminster - April 2009

www.dianajohnson.co.uk

Shortest hospital waits ever in Hull

The NHS now has the shortest waits since its records began.

In Hull and across England the NHS has met its target to treat patients within a maximum of 18 weeks from referral by their GP - an achievement which was unimaginable 12 years ago.

This is a great achievement by NHS staff in Hull who should be proud of the difference their hard work has made to every NHS patient.

Shorter waiting times make a significant difference for patients in Hull. In the 1990s it was not uncommon for people to wait 18 months or more for an operation.



It was great to see progress at the Hall Road site of the long-awaited Orchard Park Neighbourhood Integrated Service Centre (NISC).

The £14 million state-of-the-art scheme is part of the Government's massive investment in Hull's health services, delivered by Hull Citycare.

Price hike threat to Hull's sports clubs

I am opposed to Hull City Council's plans to hit Hull's sports clubs and their users with massive hikes in hire costs and rents.

The hikes threaten local swimmers and athletes. It comes in the middle of the recession and after Hull City Council

refused Government money for free swimming for under-16s and over-60s.

By not taking part in the free swimming scheme, which started across England from 1 April, Hull also misses out on extra cash for improving local swimming pools.

Diana Johnson: Hull North's local MP

Real help for new mums in Hull

Having a baby is an exciting time for mums and their families. From getting a pushchair to stocking up on nappies – and there are bills to pay.

During the tough times we're facing at the moment in Hull I've supported the Government's action to give real help now to families. Part of the help that we are giving is a one-off cash boost of £190 that expectant mums can claim.

From this month, there are tax-free payments from the Government to help mums-to-be who are at least 25 weeks pregnant. The payment is called 'Health in Pregnancy Grant'.

It won't make any difference to tax credits or any other benefits and every mum in Hull will get the same amount—going directly into bank or building society accounts.

To get the grant mums to be will need to get a claim form from their midwife or doctor.

To make it easier you can get a free text message or e-mail reminder to help you remember to claim if you are not 25 weeks pregnant yet. To sign-up for the reminder service go to www.campaigns.direct.gov.uk/money4mum2be/alerts.jsp.

This cash boost will make a real difference to families in Hull.



I recently raised the issue of over-zealous wheel-clamping with Home Office Minister Alan Campbell MP. The Government has now announced action to curb the excesses of the clampers.

How to contact Diana Johnson MP

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