



Diana Johnson MP Parliamentary Report

News from Westminster - July 2009

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Hull fails to apply for flood protection cash

On 17 December 2008 the Government launched the Flood Protection Grant Scheme as part of the Government's response to the Final Pitt Review Report into the 2007 flood.

The scheme provides funding to help improve household flood resilience, through measures such as door boards and airbrick covers. This modest investment could save residents, taxpayers and others much larger sums of money and the stress caused to those residents whose homes are flooded.

Better household flood protection has also been cited by the insurance industry as a factor that will enable premiums to become fairer, after the sharp increases seen in Hull after 2007.

On 25 June 2009, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) announced that 25 local authorities had been awarded funding under the first round of this scheme.

However, Hull City Council had failed to apply for this money. Given that Hull was one of the most affected areas in the 2007 flooding, Hull would have received a significant sum under this scheme.

There is a further opportunity for local authorities to bid for money under the Flood Protection Grant Scheme during the autumn when a second round of funding is available.

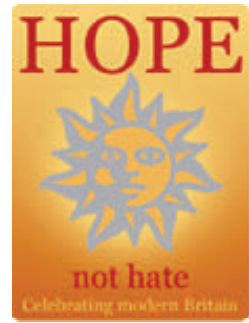
I have written to Hull City Council encouraging them to apply for this money.

In June I was appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF). It is a privilege to serve as a Government Minister. I am especially pleased to be doing so in the field of education, so crucial to Hull's future.



Diana Johnson: Hull North's local MP

Hope not Hate in Hull



Many people have expressed understandable dismay about the election of a British National Party (BNP) MEP to represent Yorkshire and Humber. This was one of two BNP candidates elected to the European Parliament on 4 June.

Like most decent people I abhor what the BNP stands for – their desire to divide our country according to skin colour and faith, their true anti-democratic nature, their dishonest opportunism and the record of many of their members.

Although the threat posed by the BNP should be kept in proportion, recent events prove that we must not be complacent about the potential support that the BNP could attract in places such as Hull.

This means exposing the myths and sheer ignorance that the BNP spreads about immigration, showing that the immigration system works fairly for those who play by the rules and that care is taken to manage the impact of migration on jobs and public services.

I will continue to engage with local people in Hull North on all these bread and butter issues.

Race for Life...

On 31 May I completed the Hull event for Cancer Research UK's Race for Life at the Hull's Costello Stadium. Anyone wanting to sponsor me can do so until 19 July at www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/DianaJohnsonMP.



How to contact Diana Johnson MP

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