



Police Campaign



Lib Dem MP Edward Davey wants more police in Kingston and action on graffiti

News that further cuts to Kingston's police were *not* happening, as threatened, was the most welcome moment in this year's campaign on crime.

However, I still believe Kingston's police numbers are far too low. Cuts over the last 5 years by Labour and the last Conservative Government, have reduced local numbers by around 25%.

Graffiti

The most obvious effects have been a reduction in police response times when residents ask for help and a rise in crimes like graffiti and vandalism.

So, as well as campaigning for more police, I have supported new punishments to tackle anti-social crimes. These include giving magistrates the power to order vandals to clean up damage like graffiti. This year such court orders can be used locally for the first time.

I have backed crime prevention projects like the "Safer Stations Initiative" and new CCTV cameras for Hook and Norbiton.

Since the Met Police have problems recruiting, I have called, in the Commons, for the restoration of the police's London housing payment, which the Tories abolished.

Dear Constituent,

Keeping in touch with your concerns is a key task for me. That's why I am conducting the largest ever survey of local opinion.

The results so far show the state of the NHS is your top priority, followed by schools, police and pensions. So winning extra investment in these areas will continue to be my priority - and the Liberal Democrats' priority too.

If you aren't one of the 45,000 residents to whom the FOCUS Team delivered a survey, and you want to give me your views, please contact me and ask for a form.

Thank you for your help.

Edward Davey

Highlights of Year

- Extra £5.7m announced for new Casualty Unit at Kingston Hospital after pressure from Edward Davey at Prime Minister's Question Time
- Three year programme visiting all local primary & secondary schools completed
- Appointed to Treasury Select Committee - a top Commons' position
- Spoke and voted for a better deal for pensioners than the 75p a week rise
- Successful campaigning on facilities for the disabled & Chessington health centre

Working hard all year round for local people

In Parliament ...

A Campaigning MP ...

I regularly use debates, questions and votes to raise issues of local concern. As part of my campaigning, I have also delivered petitions to Number 10 and signed and proposed Parliamentary Motions.

As Treasury Spokesman for the Liberal Democrats, I am closely involved with our campaign against the tiny 75p rise in the basic state pension. I regularly brief the new Liberal Democrat leader, Charles Kennedy, as he tackles Labour's pension mistakes at Prime Minister's Questions.



Tolworth Girl's School pupils and Edward Davey petition Tony Blair on the Jubilee 2000 campaign to cancel unpayable third world debt.



Campaigning with Lib Dem leader, Charles Kennedy MP, against the 75p 'insult' to pensioners

... raising issues in the House

I speak on average once a week, raising constituency issues, or in my role as Lib Dem Treasury Spokesman. Last year the Speaker granted me special debates on:

- * School nurses
- * The Voluntary Sector & Time Banks
- * Nut allergies & food labelling

All my speeches in the Commons are available from [Hansard](#) . Extracts are included in the long version of this report - available in local libraries.

Questions included:

Abandoned vehicles
Affordable housing
Education spending
Mobile phone masts

Motions backed included:

Free use of cash machines
Human rights in Sri Lanka
Children's Commissioner
Kingstonian FC

... questions in Committee



Questioning the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, on the key Treasury Committee

My appointment to the Treasury Select Committee allows me to question people like Gordon Brown and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, face-to-face. My main focus so far has been the need to reduce the value of sterling for exporters and the spending review so vital for services like the NHS.

I also served on two key committees - one looking at the Budget and one at the Government Resources and Accounts Bill, which will make public spending more open to scrutiny and improve value-for-money.

... votes in the Lobby

This year I voted more often than the average MP.

Key votes were:

Against the Government on:

- Removal of right to elect for jury trial
- Pension rise of 75p (too small!)
- Post office closures

With the Government on:

- New public rights of way - "right to roam"
- Higher standards in social care
- Northern Ireland Peace Process

I now publish details of [my voting record](#) on my website.

I have requested that the Commons' Library put *every* MP's voting record on the web.

... and locally

Health

Last year the long campaign for modernising Kingston Hospital's Casualty Department gained £2 million. This year I am delighted an extra £5.7 million has been won: Kingston is to have a state-of-the-art casualty department, with building beginning this autumn.

A £22 million project to replace the temporary Roehampton Wing has also received approval.

While these buildings are being constructed we must continue to see standards raised. So I regularly meet managers and staff to review progress and relay comments from constituents.

Kingston NHS Challenge

While the Government has, at long last, found some new resources for the NHS, I am campaigning to make sure Kingston receives its fair share. This year I launched the "Kingston NHS Challenge" to help me build our case. I am encouraging people to tell me about their NHS experiences - good and bad.



Photo: Kingston Informer
Kingston's Lib Dem MPs, Edward Davey and Jenny Tonge, celebrate A&E cash with Kingston nurses

Chessington Health Success

- New bus service to Kingston Hospital from Chessington
- Firm plans for primary healthcare centre on old computer centre site
- Daycare centre for elderly, next to health centre, planned by Age Concern

Edward Davey opening a new IT centre at St Matthew's, Surbiton



I have now visited every primary and secondary school in the constituency at least once. These visits provide a detailed understanding of local and national issues facing our schools. Kingston is certainly well served by many dedicated and talented teachers.

However, I am frequently shocked by the inadequate standard of buildings, the lack of books and the time that has to be spent battling for cash and form-filling.

Yet some campaigns are on the way to success - including Kingston's smaller class size plan, school crossing patrols and nursery places for those on low incomes.

I am continuing to push for more school nurses.

Education

Helping people

Last year I published my "MP's Charter" setting service standards local people could expect when asking for help.

While most standards were met, I failed too often to meet the 25 day target to provide a full reply. This was mainly due to the 75% rise* in requests for help last year alone.

I apologise for any delays anyone experienced. I have taken on an extra staff member, which has already put me back on target.

**150% in 3 years*

Other campaigns

- Won local "black cab" drivers the right to dual licences (here & Epsom & Ewell)
- A "Flooding Initiative" as nearly 300 homes were hit by floods in the summer
- Pressure on Railtrack & South West Trains for station & security improvements
- Continued opposition to Thames Water developing the filter beds in Surbiton