



July Newsletter

Dear Ruby,

July has been another busy month, with opportunities to meet residents, visit local businesses and community organisations, and continue campaigning on the issues that matter most across the Daventry Constituency.

This month also marked two years since I was elected as your Member of Parliament, giving me the opportunity to reflect on everything we have achieved together and to thank everyone who has supported my work over the past two years.

In this edition, you'll find updates on campaigns to protect local banking services, my continued opposition to the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm, visits to businesses and organisations across the constituency, and details of this year's Best Pub Awards, where voting is now underway. You'll also find information a round-up of my work in Westminster during July.

As always, thank you to everyone who has contacted my office, attended one of my events or shared their views with me. Your feedback helps shape the work I do both in Westminster and across our constituency, and it remains a real privilege to represent you.

With best wishes,

Stuart

Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP

Member of Parliament for the Daventry Constituency

Two Years Serving the Daventry Constituency



This month marked two years since I was elected as the Member of Parliament for the Daventry Constituency. Looking back, my overwhelming feeling is one of gratitude.

Over the past two years, I have had the privilege of meeting thousands of residents, visiting schools, businesses and community groups, and working alongside local organisations to tackle the issues that matter most to our communities.

Together, we have helped protect free parking in Daventry, stood with residents opposing the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm, supported the return of palliative care beds at Danetre Hospital, pressed for improvements to potholes and road safety, and assisted more than 11,500 constituents with individual casework.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me, attended an event, invited me to visit, or simply stopped to share your thoughts while I have been out and about across the constituency. It remains a real privilege to serve as your Member of Parliament, and I look forward to continuing to work hard on your behalf.

Positive Progress on Cheque Deposit Services

Thursday 25th June 2026

Dear Members of Parliament,

Thank you for your letter of 4 June to Charlie Nunn about the availability of cheque deposit services over the counter in Post Offices and Banking Hubs. I am replying as the CEO Consumer Relationships at Lloyds. We recognise the strength of feeling you have expressed, and I welcome the opportunity to set out our position in full.

It might be helpful to set out the background to our original decision, which we first wrote to customers about in March 2025. As you know, our personal and small business customers can withdraw and deposit cash over the counter in any Post Office, as well as in Banking Hubs. From the start of this year, as part of the new five-year agreement between the Post Office and UK retail banks – known as Banking Framework 4 – we confirmed we would no longer accept cheque deposits into our accounts through these channels.

We took that decision in light of the low use of cheques, and because we can offer alternatives – both through our app, and a postal service – that we believe offer a more convenient service for our customers. Cheques now account for just 0.1% of consumer payments overall, and use continues to decline. In 2025, around 730,000 cheques were paid into our accounts at the Post Office or a Banking Hub by personal customers, and 277,000 by business customers. Although usage patterns naturally varied between locations, with 11,500 Post Offices and hubs across the UK, that equates to an average of 87 cheques over a year at each Post Office/Hub – or under two cheques paid in per Post Office/Hub per week.

We have simple routes in place to ensure customers can pay in cheques easily. For most customers, the easiest and quickest way to deposit a cheque is via our mobile app. This allows cheques to be paid in securely from home, without the need to travel, and our experience is that once shown how to use it customers are comfortable doing so. We are seeing strong adoption from customers who previously used the Post Office. Among those who deposited cheques there last year and have deposited cheques again in the first four months of 2026, almost half have chosen to use the app.

Alongside the change to the Post Office and Hub service we also introduced a Freepost service, available to all of our personal customers, so that cheques can be sent directly to us. Customers can write the account details on the back of the cheque, place it in an envelope addressed to "Freepost LBG", and either put it in a post box or hand it over at a Post Office counter. In practice this widens access, since physically paying in a cheque no longer requires a visit to a Post Office or Hub. As before, cheques are processed at our processing centre and it is just as quick as before, once received by us. Alongside that we took steps to support those customers who we knew had paid in cheques before at a Post Office or Hub through direct communications, additional guidance, and one-to-one help through our colleagues and Community Bankers. There is a postal service for small business customers too.

Overall, therefore, in making the change we put in place a replacement designed to be more easily accessible and with support for those personal customers who needed help to make the transition. However, we do understand that for some customers – particularly those who are older or vulnerable – familiarity and reassurance remain important, and we have reflected on their feedback.

With that in mind, we have asked the Post Office to accept cheque deposits into our accounts in Post Offices and Hubs until the end of 2030, so that customers who have opted not to use the new service can still pay in a cheque by handing it to the Post Office or Hub staff as before without putting it in a Freepost envelope. This will require a variation to the current Banking Framework contract, and so that change would take effect subject to the Post Office's agreement on acceptable commercial terms. For the avoidance of doubt, we will continue to provide and promote the new Freepost service, since it continues to offer a more convenient alternative for many customers who might previously have had to travel to deposit a cheque. This decision to extend cheque deposits for a transition period until 2030 ensures that those who may need more time are supported.

Lloyds is strongly committed to financial inclusion and to ensuring that all customers can access banking services effectively, including through our ongoing support for the expanded Banking Hubs network. The Access to Banking Review represents an opportunity for the whole financial services sector, not only those banks and building societies that have already heavily invested in physical service provision and continue to do so, to consider how we can play our part in supporting customers as usage patterns change and services provided across both public and private sectors move increasingly online. We look forward to working with Government, regulators, industry partners and Members of Parliament on these issues in the coming months.

Yours sincerely,



Jasjot Singh OBE
CEO, Consumer Relationships
Lloyds Banking Group

¹ UK Finance Payment Markets Report 2025 (data from 2024)

Lloyds Banking Group plc. Registered office: The Mount, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ. Registered in Scotland with company number SC095000.

I was pleased to receive some positive news this month following concerns raised about the future of cheque deposit services.

After joining 119 other MPs in calling on Lloyds Banking Group to restore cheque deposit services at Post Offices and Banking Hubs, the bank has confirmed it has asked the Post Office to continue accepting cheque deposits until at least 2030, subject to agreement.

This is a welcome step for many people who continue to rely on cheques, particularly older residents, charities, community groups and small businesses.

Thank you to everyone who contacted me about this issue. I will continue to support access to essential banking services for communities across the constituency.

Supporting the Tickled Pink Campaign



I was pleased to attend the Asda Tickled Pink reception in Parliament and celebrate 30 years of this important campaign.

The event highlighted the importance of early diagnosis and the role that awareness campaigns play in encouraging people to know the signs, check regularly and seek medical advice if something doesn't feel right.

My thanks to Asda, Breast Cancer Now and CoppaFeel for their continued commitment to raising awareness and supporting people affected by breast cancer. Their work has helped make a real difference to countless lives over the past three decades.

Parking Update for Daventry



There has been a further development regarding the proposed parking changes in Daventry.

Following West Northamptonshire Council's decision to keep the existing parking arrangements, work has now begun to remove the ANPR infrastructure that had been installed at Primrose Hill.

A number of residents have since contacted me to question why the works went ahead before the consultation had concluded, only for the equipment to now be removed. They have also raised understandable concerns about the cost to the taxpayer.

I have asked the Reform-led West Northamptonshire Council to explain the decisions that were taken and what costs have been incurred. I will continue to keep residents updated when I receive a response.

Inspiring the Next Generation Through Work Experience



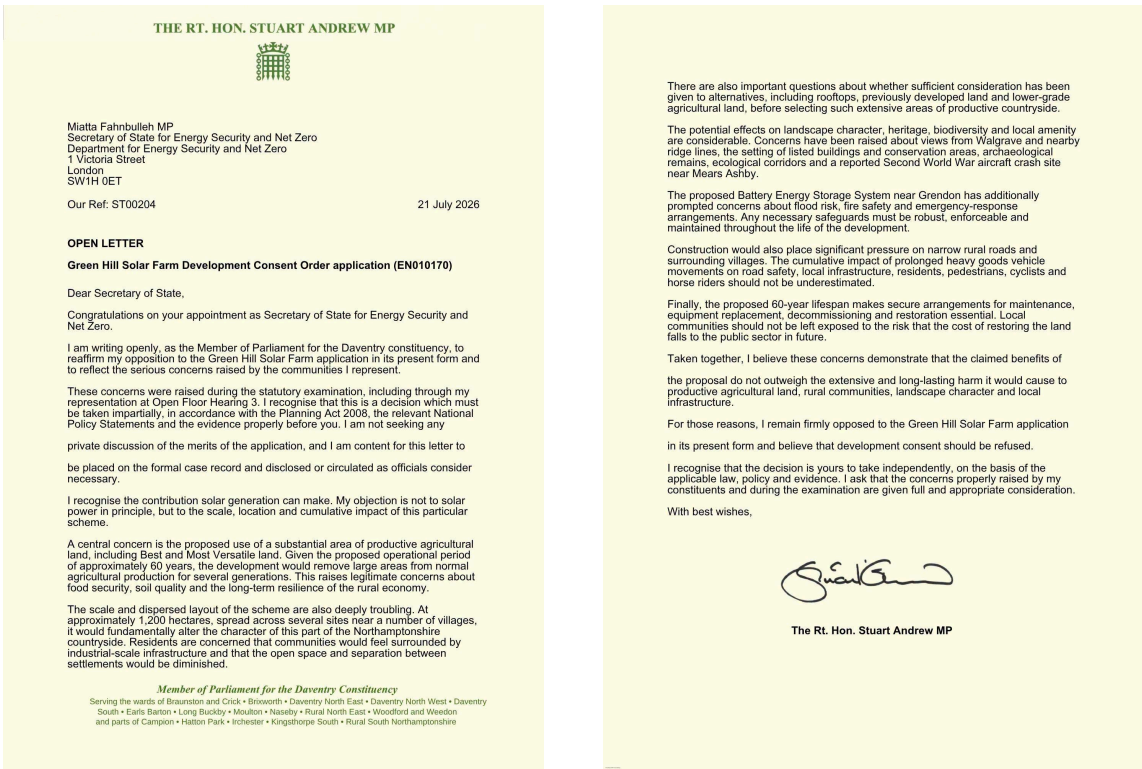
It was a pleasure to welcome Maddie from Braunston to my office for a 'Day in the Life of an MP' work experience placement.

During her time with the team, Maddie gained an insight into how constituency casework is handled, learned more about the work of Parliament, and experienced the varied day-to-day responsibilities of being a Member of Parliament.

Supporting young people who are interested in politics and public service is something I greatly enjoy, and I continue to offer work experience placements in both my Westminster and constituency offices, subject to availability.

I wish Maddie every success for the future and hope the placement provided a valuable insight into the world of politics and public service.

Reaffirming My Opposition to the Green Hill Solar Farm

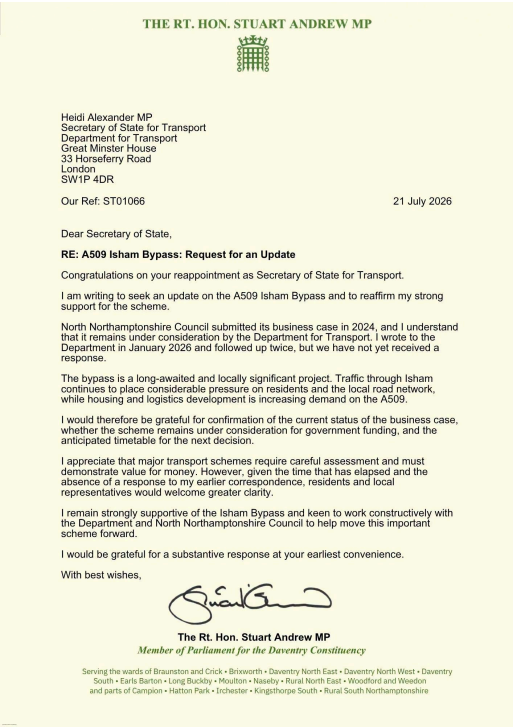


This month, I wrote to the new Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to reaffirm my opposition to the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm.

While I support renewable energy, I continue to believe this particular scheme is too large and in the wrong location. The potential impact on productive farmland, our countryside, local villages and rural roads would be significant and long-lasting.

My letter brought together the concerns I raised throughout the examination process, along with the views consistently shared with me by residents. I will continue to ensure those concerns are heard as the application progresses through the independent statutory decision-making process.

Seeking Answers on the A509 Isham Bypass



This month, I wrote to the Secretary of State for Transport to reaffirm my strong support for the proposed A509 Isham Bypass and to seek clarity on the future of the scheme.

The bypass has the potential to reduce traffic through Isham, improve road safety and support planned growth across North Northamptonshire. However, despite contacting the Department on a number of occasions, I have yet to receive a substantive response.

Residents and local representatives deserve a clear update on the progress of the business case, funding and the next steps for the project. I will continue pressing for the answers that local communities have been waiting for.

Celebrating the Success of Local Businesses



It has been wonderful to see so many businesses from across the Daventry Constituency recognised for their hard work and success over recent weeks.

At this year's Northants Life Awards, businesses from across the constituency were celebrated across a wide range of categories, from pubs, cafés and restaurants to retailers, hospitality and business services. I was pleased to pop into The Barber Shed in Daventry to congratulate the team in person following

their recognition.

I also recently visited Baker Benjy after the family-run business was named Food Retailer of the Year at the Business Awards UK Regional Awards. It was a pleasure to congratulate Ben, Debbie and their two boys on their well-deserved success. Their award is a fantastic achievement and a real testament to the hard work that goes into the business every day. I even had my first Daventry Pothole while I was there... absolutely delicious!

Congratulations to every business recognised recently. Our independent businesses are at the heart of our communities, and it is fantastic to see so many receiving the recognition they deserve. I wish them all every continued success.



Voting is now open for the Daventry Constituency Best Pub Awards 2026, and I would love your help in recognising the fantastic pubs that are at the heart of our towns and villages.

Whether it's your favourite traditional village pub, a welcoming local, somewhere known for great food, or the perfect spot to enjoy a drink with friends, now is

your chance to show your support.

The awards celebrate the pubs and dedicated teams that help make our communities such special places to live, work and visit. Every vote helps recognise the businesses that go above and beyond for their customers and local communities.

Thank you to everyone who has already cast their vote. If you haven't yet taken part, I'd encourage you to support your favourite local pub. I look forward to celebrating this year's winners later in the year.

VOTE HERE

Let's
STAY CONNECTED!

Follow Stuart Andrew MP online

Working hard for everyone across the **Daventry Constituency.**

FACEBOOK
Stuart4Daventry

INSTAGRAM
@Stuart.Andrew.MP

X (TWITTER)
@Stuart.Andrew.MP

LINKEDIN
Stuart.Andrew.MP

TIKTOK
@Stuart.Andrew.MP

YOUTUBE
Stuart.Andrew.MP

WHATSAPP
Stuart Andrew MP
Community

*Scan the QR code
to sign up to the
Monthly Newsletter*

Follow Stuart Online

Westminster Roundup



July was another busy month in the House of Commons, with MPs debating legislation such as:

- The National Security (State Threats) Bill
- The Health Bill
- The Immigration and Asylum Bill
- The Representation of the People Bill
- The Steel Industry (Nationalisation) Bill

Other topics debated included infected blood compensation, outdoor education, mental capacity, UK defence readiness, NHS corridor care, trade with illegal Israeli settlements, strategic lawsuits against public participation, offshore detention and deportation, freedom of information and the monarchy, the registration of stillbirths, national security, and a range of constituency and national issues raised during the Sir David Amess Summer Adjournment Debate.

The Conservative Party also held an Opposition Day, with debates on summer jobs and the early release of prisoners.

Departmental Oral Questions that took place in July included Defence, Energy Security and Net Zero, Northern Ireland, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Solicitor General, the Home Office, Health and Social Care, Scotland, and Transport, alongside the weekly Prime Minister's Questions.

Parliament has now risen for the summer recess and will return on 1 September.

Contact Me

The best way to reach me is by email or post.
Please include your full address, including postcode, in all communications.

Rt. Hon. Stuart Andrew MP
Icon Innovation Centre,
Daventry,
Northamptonshire
NN11 0QB

Email: stuart.andrew.mp@parliament.uk

PS. Reminder that this is only a selective snapshot of the work I do and won't cover every single issue/topic/community.



iCon Centre, Daventry NN11 0QB

This email was sent to clerk@holcot-pc.gov.uk by stuart@stuartandrew.org.uk

You've received this email because you've subscribed to Stuart Andrew's newsletter.

[Unsubscribe](#)