



Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Congresbury

It was fab to meet up with Martin and Eleanor Thatcher at the National Association of Cider Makers' event in Parliament. Martin is the NACM's Chair and spoke passionately about the importance of cider-making and its contribution to the economy and environment. Cider-makers need details of changes to labelling and recycling regulations so they can plan for the future, and I'll do what I can to insist Ministers explain what's wanted and by when.

Thank you. Many of you wrote to me about banning social media for the under 16s, which is beyond party politics. Government must do far more to hold social media companies to account for protecting our children and young people, whose health and welfare should come before these giants' mega-profits.

Here in Somerset, I joined a South West Ambulance Service crew on shift. It was humbling to spend time with this dedicated team and I learned a lot about their jobs. The Health Secretary praised our Ambulance Service in Parliament for its improved response times in December.

In Parliament, I've asked the Cancer Minister about collecting data so we understand cancer treatment waiting times better – often radiotherapy is followed by surgery or by a course of drugs, but only the first treatment target is measured, which distorts the statistics for response times.



I voiced my dismay at yet another Government apology for WASPI women as Ministers decided not to pay a penny in compensation for the mistreatment of this group. At £1,000 to £2,950 for each woman affected, it's hardly a high cost for justice.

I've also asked about:

- * building on flood plains and the risk to future insurance cover for homes
- * Parole Board hearings, planned reductions in jury trials
- * freehold and leasehold changes for residents in care-led retirement living apartments
- * Parliamentary votes on the Gibraltar Treaty
- * treatment for those with severe and very severe ME
- * releasing the records relating to Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor's appointment as a UK Trade Envoy
- * ceasing Bereavement Support Payments after 18 months for widowed parents, especially those with very young children

If you'd like to raise concerns or questions, please contact me or come to one of my 'surgeries'. Your most local venues are below:

Friday 3rd April from 09:30 to 10:30 at **The Market Kitchen Café, Churchill**

Saturday 11th April from 14:30 to 15:30 at **The Coffee Bank, Winscombe**

Friday 17th April from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Note Warehouse, Yatton**

Friday 17th April from 18:00 to 19:00 at **The Bell Inn, Banwell**

Saturday 18th April from 09:30 to 10:30 at **The Community Café, Congresbury**

No appointment is necessary - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to meet me, I'll come to see you.

Thank you.

Tessa

You can contact me:

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone outside office hours)

Email: tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)

To keep updated on my work as your MP, find me on Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky and LinkedIn