



SUPPORTING CONSTITUENTS IN ERITH AND THAMESMEAD

As we near the end of September many will be shocked and disappointed at the news that new lockdown measures are being implemented across the UK. COVID-19 cases are once again rising, leaving people feeling vulnerable and insecure about the future. I would like to let all constituents in Erith and Thamesmead know that I am here to support you. Whether it be concerns about schools, health, travel, housing or jobs - your wellbeing is my priority.

To ensure I can fully understand and support constituents through COVID-19, I worked with residents, businesses and organisations to understand the wide ranging impacts of the pandemic. I have collated these issues in to a report: [Leaving Nobody Behind in Erith and Thamesmead](#). This report details various recommendations that I will be urging the Government to implement to protect the most vulnerable people throughout COVID-19.

SUPPORTING RENTERS IN ERITH AND THAMESMEAD

The decision to lift the rent evictions ban on Sunday 20th September will have devastating impacts for people in Erith and Thamesmead. I campaigned to prevent the ban being lifted in August, detailing the [severe impacts for vulnerable families](#). I also raised concerns about people at immediate risk of eviction as well as the long term consequences of the risk of rent evictions alongside job losses, [in Parliament](#).

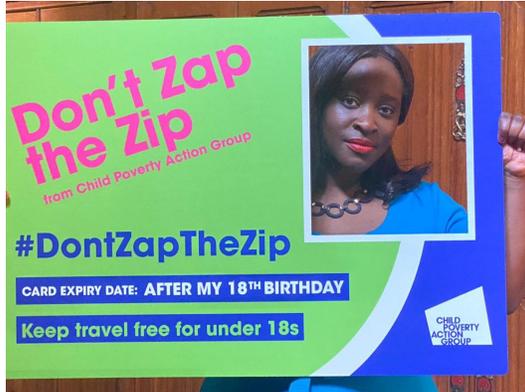
Councillor Anthony Okereke and local residents met with Shadow Secretary of

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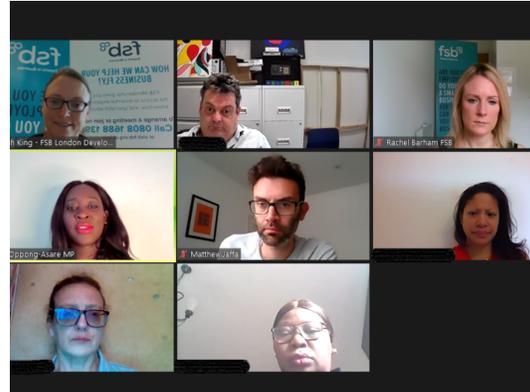
Past Issues

Translate ▼

which is why I have joined the Homes at the Heart campaign, advocating for [a once in a generation investment in social housing](#).



In August [I met with students](#) who have been impacted by COVID-19. Stopping free travel for under 18's will have huge financial and education impacts on vulnerable children and young people.



Earlier this month [I met with](#) small business owners in Bexley and Greenwich to discuss important community issues and ensure their voice and needs were being represented in Parliament.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH THE EXAMS FIASCO

In August thousands of local students were let down by the Government. Many of these students are still living with the consequences having been denied university places or work opportunities. I have been able to support individual students with higher education applications and exam results appeals but the overall Government response was [too little too late](#).

Earlier this month the Labour Party held a debate calling for the Government to publish all documents relating to the exams fiasco. Unfortunately the Government voted against this transparency, leaving students and parents in the dark about what went wrong. [Read my contribution to this debate here](#).

SUPPORTING STUDENTS TO GET READY FOR SEPTEMBER

Earlier this year, I reached out to students, parents and teachers to ask their views on the impact COVID-19 was having on education. I received hundreds

In response to this I organised a programme of summer events including, online dance classes, online educational and wellbeing activities, discussions about social and community issues and, the provision of free worksheets for young people.



GET READY FOR SEPTEMBER

10
Online events
and discussions

20
Local partners

1000
Free educational
worksheets

The Get Ready For September summer programme truly echoed the community spirit we have seen during the past few months in response to COVID-19. I am pleased to have been able to harness the amazing talent and compassion in the constituency to provide students with access to spaces for learning and discussion throughout August.

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AND JOBS

Unemployment levels continue to rise and it is my absolute priority that as many people as possible are protected from these devastating consequences in Erith and Thamesmead. I have been supporting constituents by making representations to companies acting irresponsibly during COVID-19. I have [written to the CEO of Centrica](#) regarding 'fire and rehire' threats made to British Gas employees.

British Airways employees have also faced threats regarding their jobs and employment contracts. A lack of support from the Government and a lack of accountability from employees is contributing to a growing jobs crisis. This is

