

RICHARD BURDEN MP

2014 Parliamentary Report to the People of Birmingham Northfield



Richard Burden MP

Your Labour MP for Birmingham Northfield

Dear Resident,

I am very pleased to send you my report of some of the things I have been doing over the last year as your Member of Parliament.

Times have been tough here in the past few years. Month by month local people have been seeing the prices of food, heating and travel rise faster than their wages. The number of residents - especially those under 24 - out of a job for over a year is unacceptably high.

I also know that many people feel that political parties do not listen enough. I have always tried to be a different kind of politician. Not the kind who buys a house in the area to keep up appearances - but someone who has genuinely lived here for many years. It is why I stand up for our community in Parliament and why I want residents to have more say in the issues that matter to you. It is why I want this area to get a **FAIR DEAL** from the government so it can **CLIMB** to a new **FUTURE**. And why I will always be straight with local people when there are difficult decisions to make. People are fed up with politicians who will say and claim anything just to get your vote.

All this is why the **CHOICE** that people in Northfield face in the General Election next May is so important. It is why I know we need a Labour Government to get rid of David Cameron and help create a Britain that works together, not just for the privileged few. There is a lot more to do - both locally and nationally.

I hope you enjoy reading this report. And, as ever, I want to know your views so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature of Richard Burden in black ink.

One Nation | **Labour**
labour.org.uk

“ I find Richard to be a very hard working MP and tireless campaigner

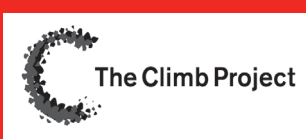
Ian Fryatt, Longbridge

INSIDE:

- + Getting our area to CLIMB
- + An NHS with the time to care
- + Building a strong community
- + Giving local people a voice

Campaigning for a Fair Future for Frankley, Kings Norton, Longbridge, Northfield, Shenley, Rednal, Rubery, Weoley and West Heath

Getting our area to CLIMB



Local people tell me that what they hear from David Cameron does not reflect the reality of life in the Northfield area. They are right. **People are £1,600 a year worse off than they were in 2010.** Food and heating bills are up by £300. And while in 2009 there were just 25 young people in Northfield out of work for over a year, today there are over 5 times more.

That is why, as your MP, I back Labour's plans to freeze energy bills, increase the Minimum Wage and bring in a job guarantee for young people. Over 1700 local people back my petition to freeze energy bills. You can back that **CHOICE** too by voting Labour in next year's General Election.

It will take a Labour Government to turn things round, but I have already been taking action. Last year I launched the **CLIMB Project** to boost the profile of our area to increase opportunities and investment here.

A **CLIMB** jobs and apprenticeships fair at Bournville College last year attracted 1500 people.



Getting the BBC back in Birmingham

Over the past year, I have campaigned for the BBC to expand their operation in Birmingham.



The BBC has now committed to move nearly 300 jobs to our city, providing new opportunities in the digital and creative industries for local people.

Working hard for Northfield

CLIMB Project in Action

One of the 1500 people who attended the Climb Jobs Fair I hosted in February was Stuart. He had been out of work for six years after being made redundant and caring for his mother. He didn't get the support he needed from the Government's Work Programme, and he never thought he would get a paid job again.

After meeting the City Council's Employment team at the Jobs Fair, he has now found full time work. He says it has changed his life.

Securing an **£8 million package for better transport in Longbridge** - including a new station upgrade next year

Calling on the Government to **secure the future of Balaam Wood Academy** in Frankley with key rebuilding works



Backing Cycle South Brum to get lottery funding

Row... wh... includ... millio... the fr... wh...

An NHS With the time to care



I have met with local people struggling to get the appointments they need, and with GPs who told me of the crisis facing family doctor services. But the Tory led Government has wasted £3 billion on a reorganisation that has just made things worse.

I back Labour's **CHOICE** to get more doctors and nurses in post, give you the right to see a GP in 2 days and get a cancer test within a week. It's costed and we know how to fund it. It's the right thing to do.

Immigration - Local People's Concerns

I know many local people are worried about immigration. People do not like the fact that political parties either seem to peddle hatred, or are unwilling to talk about it. That is why I will be running a survey and holding a public meeting so local people can give their views on the issue. If you would like to know more about Labour's ideas on immigration, **please get in touch** - you can find out how overleaf.

Why have the Tories got it in for our city?

We all know times are hard but the Tory-led Government are hitting every household in Birmingham with £140 of cuts, compared to a national average of just £40.

I am telling the Government it's time to give our city the **FAIR DEAL** we deserve.

“Why do the most deprived areas with the highest needs get the biggest reductions?”

Asking Local Government Ministers about cuts, February 2014





Standing alongside the King George V Bowls Club when their future is under threat.

Calling on the Council and Police to tackle congestion at Lifford Lane



Richard and Frank, outside his Clock Cafe in Northfield

Calling on Ministers to save the SWEET PROJECT - a social work provider supporting 400 families in Kings Norton



I work closely with the police and emergency services to help cut crime, keep the area safe and ensure the right action is taken when things go wrong - such as after last summer's tragic fire at Northfield Manor.



Action on housing

Every year I help hundreds of people who come to me with housing problems.

With housebuilding levels at their lowest since the 1920s, I also know we need national action. I back Labour's plans to build 200,000 homes a year. I also make sure local residents voices are heard on local planning issues.

Better and safer roads

We all rely on roads to get around - whether we drive, walk, get the bus, or cycle. But all year round my mailbox fills up with people's concerns about traffic jams, potholes, parking and road safety.

As Labour's Shadow Roads Minister, I am telling the Government to change their priorities and fix the roads where people live and work.



REMEMBER: If you have problems on your street, road or around your school that you think I should tackle, please get in touch...

Campaigning for former MG worker workers to get what they deserve - including part of the £14 million fine imposed on firms' accountants, which should come back to the community.



Calling on Ministers to keep Kings Norton's Farmers Market as a community charity in Parliament in March

Politicians should be straight with you

People have a right to expect politicians to be straight with them.

That is why I have exposed the shallow way Tories try to con local people into thinking Northfield is going to lose its swimming pool.

In reality, the plan is for our area to get a new, better pool and leisure centre.

It is why I am also not afraid to tell Birmingham Council straight when they get it wrong - like on green waste collections and fly tipping.



Standing up for you

I work week in, week out, to help residents with your local Labour team:

Councillors Brett O'Reilly, Peter Griffiths, Valerie Seabright, Ian Cruise, Jess Phillips, Andy Cartwright - and candidates Steve Booton and Robbie Lea-Trengrouse.

GIVING LOCAL PEOPLE A VOICE



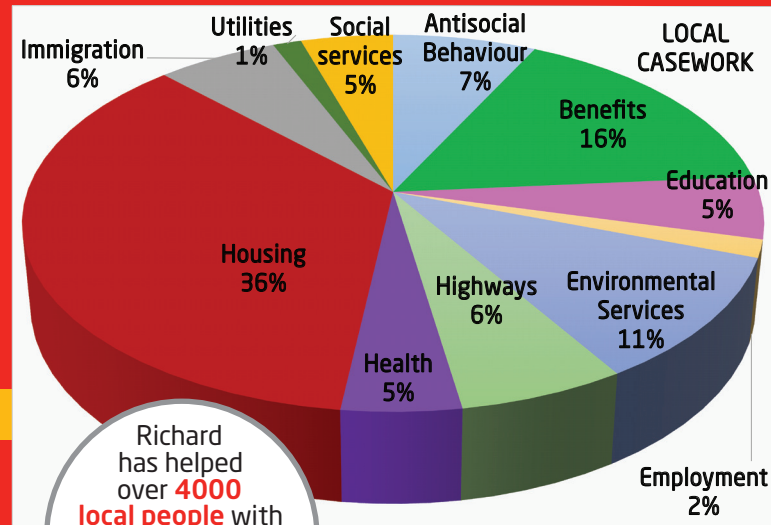
I often hear people say the world of politics is out of touch with their lives.

I have always stood for a different kind of politics. I try to ensure local people's views are heard on the decisions that affect them - whether that's local planning applications, getting more investment into our area, creating a better environment for our shopping centres, or pushing for community hubs to protect local services in a time of cuts.

It is also why I want to get more decisions that affect Birmingham made in Birmingham - not London. So I back Labour's plan to give cities like ours more say over how public money is spent on housing, transport and jobs.

GET IN TOUCH

- PHONE:** 0121 477 7746
- WRITE:** House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
- EMAIL:** Richard.Burden.MP@parliament.uk
- MEET:** Richard at one of his advice surgeries. Call 0121 477 7746 for an appointment
- ONLINE:** www.richardburden.com
- TWITTER:** @RichardBurdenMP
- FACEBOOK:** RichardBurden4Northfield



Richard has helped over **4000** local people with individual problems brought to him since 2010

Did you know?

Since 2010 - with the help of my staff in Birmingham - I have held over 150 advice surgeries across the constituency and taken up over 4000 new cases on behalf of local people. These are the local cases that I have been contacted about most frequently over the past three years...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

LET ME KNOW YOUR VIEWS...

Are there any issues you would like to raise with your local MP?

If the General Election was tomorrow who would you vote for? Labour Conservative Lib Dem Other

Who will you vote for in Birmingham City Council's elections next May? Labour Conservative Lib Dem Other

Have you voted for Labour in a previous election? Yes No

CAN YOU HELP? Campaign & deliver leaflets to secure a Fair Future for Northfield? Yes No Maybe

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE MY E-NEWSLETTER? I send out regular email updates to constituents Yes

Richard Burden and the Labour Party may contact you using the data you have provided. If you do not wish to be contacted please let us know by emailing Richard.Burden.MP@parliament.uk or writing to Richard Burden MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Promoted by and on behalf of Richard Burden MP House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Printed by Lion FPG Ltd, Oldbury Road, West Bromwich, Birmingham, B70 9DQ.

Email address

First name Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Return for free to:
RICHARD BURDEN MP
 FREEPOST
 RTHC-RGBL-ZJLA
 Birmingham, B29 4BR