

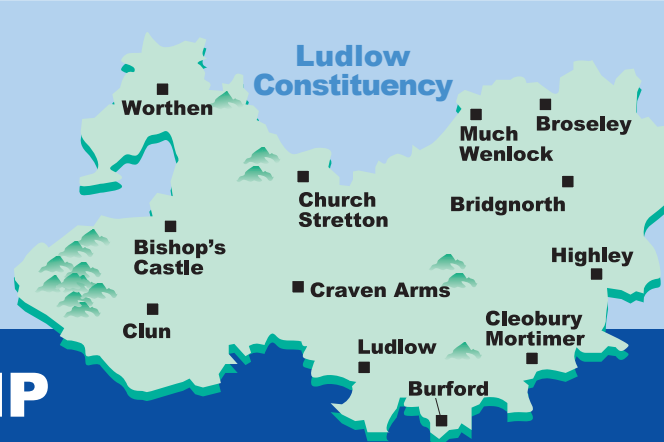


What the people say...

During 2009 Philip held around 40 advice surgeries and wrote more than 8,000 letters to, or on behalf of, local residents, mostly helping tackle individual problems. Here are extracts from notes he has received in recent months.



If you need help or advice, contact your Member of Parliament



Philip Dunne MP WESTMINSTER Report

FIXING BROKEN ECONOMY

Dear Philip...



Showing Castlefields pupils the Royal Marine march past Parliament



Backing world class local business



Supporting Ludlow Food Festival



Taking Wenlock Olympians to London 2012 site

"I would like to thank you on behalf of the volunteer-tutors at Second Chance in Bridgnorth for the interest you have shown in our concerns and for all you have done for us. We very much appreciate it."

J.L.,
Bridgnorth

"I would like Mr. Dunne to know that he has been directly responsible for keeping my family together and I owe him a debt of gratitude."

M.B.,
Bridgnorth

"I now have a broadband installed and working absolutely fine, in fact I don't know how I ever got by before! I'm sure this would not have been possible without your intervention, for which I am very grateful!"

D.T.,
Craven Arms

"I am sure that your intervention on my father's behalf has led to the Pension Service awarding Pension Credit payments to my father at last... I would like to say a huge "Thank you" on my father's behalf... without your help I would still be tearing my hair out with frustration, getting nowhere."

G.C.,
Ludlow

"It scares me to think what well-meaning and good intentioned legislation may achieve... especially with regard to the elderly. A difficult decision for you both personally and as a member of parliament, but I am reassured by your sensitive response to such a very profound and difficult subject and I sincerely support your approach so far."

J.C.,
Much Wenlock

- House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
- Constituency Office, 54 Broad Street Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1GP
- 01584 872187
- dunnep@parliament.uk

Appointments can be booked online at:
www.philipdunne.com
or by telephoning 01584 872187

Let Philip know your views by completing his latest survey on-line at:
www.tellphilip.com

LISTENING TO YOU...

Philip Dunne is always keen to hear views of his constituents. He conducts regular advice surgeries in each of the main towns in the constituency and during the summer months takes his mobile advice surgery around many villages. He also undertakes Residents' Surveys each autumn, as well as specific surveys of groups of people affected by a particular Government proposal. He uses these results to inform Ministers in the House of Commons of what is really going on in the Ludlow constituency. Please let him know if there is a particular issue you would like him to conduct a survey on.



MP expenses: transparency and simplicity

LOCAL MP Philip Dunne has been confirmed as one of a handful of MPs, and one of only two whose constituencies are not in commuting distance of Westminster, who has not made any claim under the second homes allowance since elected. Nor has he employed any member of his family. Nor has he had to pay any money back under any of the enquiries into expenses this year.

"The public have been rightly incensed by the abuse of parliamentary allowances by a handful of MPs, and the seeming extravagance or lax interpretation of the rules by many. It is vital to start the long process of rebuilding trust in politics in Britain by reforming the system of MPs' expenses. Providing openness and transparency about what taxpayers' money is spent on is a good start. That is why I was one of the first MPs to put my expenses on line as incurred from the beginning of this financial year," said Philip.

To see Philip's expenses for yourself, click on the 'Expenses' button on his website www.philipdunne.com. It is a simple click through to view detailed claims for previous years and real time claims for the current year.



December 2009

Dear Resident

The British economy has suffered a longer and deeper recession than any of our major competitors, most of which began to emerge with some growth in the third quarter of this year. Sadly in Britain our economy continued to shrink which meant more jobs were lost.

In Shropshire we have been spared major employer collapses, but there have been several smaller businesses tragically go under. The Ludlow constituency has not been immune, with some businesses ceasing trading and many more shedding jobs. Unemployment is now nearly double what it was a year ago, with 1,126 people in the Ludlow constituency claiming Jobseeker's Allowance, some 2.5 per cent of the resident working age population.

But some businesses are making a modest recovery from the low point last year. I sincerely hope this will soon start to restore some confidence to consumers and help reverse threatened job cuts.

There remains the major problem posed by ballooning public debt. The country is borrowing more than ever before in peacetime. Public debt is now double the level when the UK was last bailed out by the IMF.

This will be my last Westminster Report before a General Election. You will have the chance when the election comes to vote for change at the top.

Philip Dunne

www.philipdunne.com

www.philipdunne.com

Young people's priorities

In the last edition of my Westminster Report I asked some questions about how the credit crunch has impacted my constituents' shopping habits, the replies to which are listed below.

- How do you use supermarkets for your regular shopping since the credit crunch?
 - MORE** 6%
 - LESS** 14%
 - SAME** 80%
- Do you consider your supermarket to be good value for money?
 - YES** 71%
 - NO** 29%
- What would encourage you to use local independent shops more?
 - LONGER HOURS** 9%
 - BETTER PARKING** 34%
 - WIDER RANGE** 24%
 - OTHER** 33%

Many thanks to all who found the time to complete and return the survey to me. It is a great help for me to know the strength of feeling of my constituents.

Let me know your views...

When complete, please return to:
Philip Dunne MP,
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA

What is your top domestic national priority for the next government?

RESTORE ECONOMIC GROWTH

REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT

REDUCE PUBLIC DEBT

OTHER (please name) _____

What is your top international priority for the next government?

AFGHANISTAN

EUROPEAN UNION

CLIMATE CHANGE

OTHER (please name) _____

What is your top local priority?

NHS

SCHOOLS

WELFARE SYSTEM

OTHER (please name) _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel _____

Email _____

The information provided is for the use of Philip Dunne MP and his office only. The information provided will not be passed to a third party or any other organisation.

Promoted on his behalf by Philip Dunne MP, 54 Broad Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1GP and paid for from his Communications Allowance. Printed by St Leonards Press, Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DL

THIS autumn Philip undertook a survey of young people who are eligible to vote for the first time.

"I was pleased to receive views from many young people across the constituency in response to my new voters' survey. Some also raised issues not on the main political agenda which I found very interesting," said Philip.

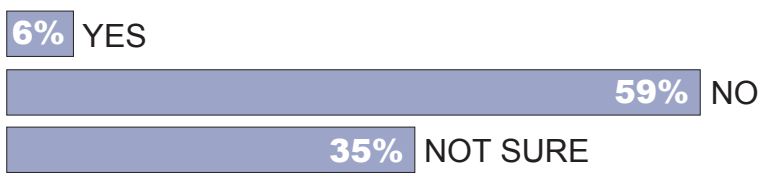
A summary of the key findings follows.

THE ECONOMY

Are there enough job or training opportunities for young people?



Do you think the Government has done enough to help?



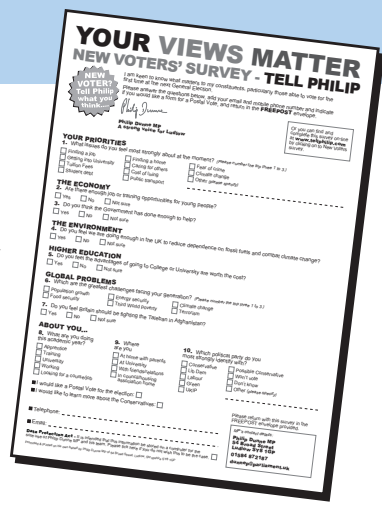
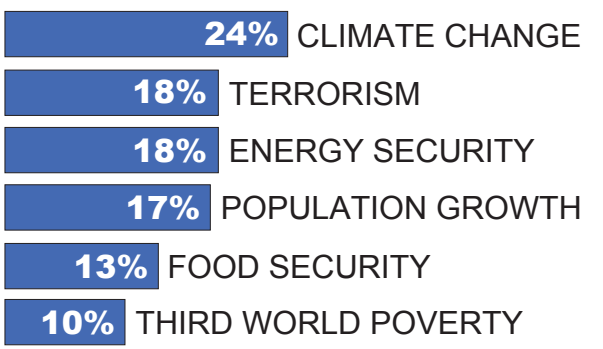
THE ENVIRONMENT

Do you feel we are doing enough in the UK to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and combat climate change?



GLOBAL PROBLEMS

Which are the greatest challenges facing your generation?



HOSPITALS BACK IN HEADLINES

THE health service in Shropshire has had a busy six months, starting with a debate on the subject which Philip led in Parliament in the summer. While the £1m redevelopment of Bishop's Castle Community Hospital at Stone House cracks on apace, there has been much behind the scenes work in putting together the business case for a rebuild of Ludlow Community Hospital.



Inspecting redevelopment of Bishop's Castle Community Hospital

Philip has chaired the Ludlow Health Facility Forum, performing a similar role to that he pioneered in Bishop's Castle. This has provided an outlet for representatives of the town and surrounding area to voice their opinions before decisions are made.

Philip commented, "The bid has been submitted to the Strategic Health Authority in Birmingham for their decision on funding. This is a critical time for the project. Much work has been done. If the bid is successful I shall chair a public meeting to bring everyone interested up to date with what this might mean."

Meanwhile the immediate threat to services at the acute hospitals in Shrewsbury and Telford has been lifted.

JOBS WANTED, APPLY INSIDE



Helping growing businesses recruit local people

WORRIES about threats to jobs have become a major concern for many people over the past 12 months.

Philip has spent much of the year meeting local employers and business groups, listening to their concerns and seeking more effective measures to help keep jobs in Shropshire.

Despite the recession there are businesses growing in the constituency. Philip has helped identify training opportunities to encourage local people to develop the skills to fill local jobs.

SHEEP RULES COMING TO A HILLSIDE NEAR YOU

AS a livestock farmer himself, Philip has a good understanding of the challenges sheep farmers face this New Year with the introduction of electronic identification for sheep.

He said, "Negotiations over implementation of EU farming directives have been a major issue for those representing rural areas this year. None has been more emotive than the sheep identification regulations due to come in from 1st January 2010. I have pressed Ministers for over a year to seek a voluntary rather than compulsory code. I believe the introduction of this regulation will be a costly and pointless additional pressure for our sheep farmers."



Discussing the impact of EU regulations with a local farmer