

Working for you locally



Norman joins youngsters at St. Anne's School to celebrate the school's 50th birthday

For Norman, helping local people and tackling local issues always comes first. He works all the year round, not just when Parliament is in session. He likes to get round the constituency as much as possible to support local events, thank local groups for what they do, and to pick up issues where he can be helpful.

Norman's key local campaigns this year include:

- Helping local people in the aftermath of the terrible floods, particularly on insurance matters.
- Fighting for investment in local railways.
- Organising a petition of almost 5000 signatures against the proposed incinerator in Newhaven.
- Working for road improvements and safety measures.
- Working to ensure a fair deal for the farming community..
- Calling for more bobbies on the beat and clamping down on vandalism and youth crime.
- Calling for skateboard facilities in Lewes, Newhaven and some villages.

A strong voice in Westminster

Norman never hesitates to take important local issues straight to the top when necessary. He continues to write literally hundreds of letters to Ministers, question them closely in the Commons, and arrange face-to-face meetings with them. He has also introduced a number of debates of importance to our area. This year these include the following:

- Opposing plans for an incinerator locally, and campaigning for greener solutions to waste.
- Championing the case for the earliest possible start to improved flood defences for Lewes.
- He has called for cuts in fares, a new station for Newhaven and the re-opening of the Lewes to Uckfield line.



Back from the floods. Here, Norman reopens Lewes sorting office.



Here, Norman takes on the 'Incinerator Dragon'. He strongly opposes plans for an incineration plant in Newhaven



Norman is campaigning hard for cheaper rail fares and better public transport.

Other issues Norman has worked on include: Opposing Land Raise Plans Near Ripe... More Beat Officers... Regeneration of Port & Town of Newhaven... Free Care for the Elderly... Opposing Incinerator Plans in Ouse Valley...

IBSTOCK

Chailey: traditionally made - investing in the future

Ibstock's local factory has been in the news again for all the right reasons. Norman Baker came to the factory in July this year to present the coveted ISO 14001 certificate for Environment Management Systems.

It is a tough award to get, and even tougher for Chailey where we still rely on traditional clamps for brick making. As part of the process, we have planted many new trees to improve a bridleway which goes through the heart of our factory

Also Chailey paid for a natural gas pipeline to come to the works, and now is using natural gas, with less emissions than before, and no longer any need for LPG road tankers to make twice weekly deliveries.

Chailey – traditional bricks made for the 21st century.



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Campaigning for us in Europe

*Local Liberal
Democrat Euro-
MP Chris Huhne
is working closely
with Norman
Baker MP to
represent our area.*



**Please feel free to contact Chris on any
European matter of concern.**

**Write to Chris at:
European Parliament Office
2 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON SW1H 9AA
Visit Chris' website at:
www.chrishuhnemep.org**

This feature is supported by the
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NORMAN BAKER MP

How to contact your Member of Parliament

You can write to Norman at the address below or you can ring for a surgery appointment. Norman holds surgeries every Saturday morning, alternating between Lewes, Seaford, Newhaven and Polegate. Village surgeries and home visits are also undertaken.

Tel: 01273 480281
Fax: 01273 480287

E-mail:
normanbaker@cix.co.uk

Norman Baker MP
204 High Street
LEWES
East Sussex BN7 2NS

What you say about Norman

"I sincerely appreciate your efforts on behalf of the community in which we both live. Whilst there are people who seem to find fault with every way of doing things except their own it seems to me that every right minded person must applaud your sincerity and hard work."

Mr B, Seaford

"We all feel we really have an MP who actually reads what we say, and does something about it!"

Mrs C, Laughton

"What a joy it is ... to have a Member of Parliament who represents us, who speaks in the House, and who is involved in issues and reported in the national press."

Mrs M, Ditchling

Norman's Contract with you

- DONE** ✓ I will always put constituents before party and work for everyone regardless of what party they support
- DONE** ✓ I will take no paid directorships, no paid consultancies, and no cash from lobbying companies
- DONE** ✓ I will hold frequent advice surgeries in every town and major village in the constituency
- DONE** ✓ I will keep in touch with local people, reporting back regularly
- DONE** ✓ I will be an active and regular attendee at the House of Commons, speaking up strongly for the interests of our area

NORMAN BAKER MP's 4th ANNUAL REPORT



October 2001

Dear Resident,

I am delighted to send you once again a report of my activities as your MP. As before many thanks to our advertisers who have made this report possible.

I was very grateful for the trust you showed in me when you re-elected me as your MP in June, with a majority of almost 10,000 - way beyond our highest hopes. Thank you. I shall continue to do my best for you, no matter which party you support. You don't have to be a Lib Dem!

Representing you in Parliament is an honour, but the best part of my job is the contact I have with my constituents locally. Each week I receive up to 400 letters, cards and emails from you, and I am able to meet many more of you at events, surgeries and other meetings around the constituency. I do not claim to be successful every time in getting solutions, but I do always try my best to be helpful.

Thank you for all the kind comments many of you have sent in. Please do contact me if you feel I can be of any help to you.

Best wishes

Norman Baker

Campaigning nationally

The result here at the General Election in June 2001

Norman Baker
(Lib Dem)
25,588

Con
15,878

"I will continue to work hard for all constituents - no matter how you voted."

Norman Baker - June 2001.

Lab - 3,317



Lib Dem leader Charles Kennedy MP chatting with Norman Baker at Westminster

RESPONSIBILITIES

Since the General Election, Norman has been appointed Home Affairs spokesman for the Lib Dems.

He therefore leads for the party on:

- * Police
- * Civil Liberties
- * Freedom of Information
- * Voluntary Sector
- * Human Rights

He is one of only 5 MPs on the important Human Rights Committee. Additionally, he continues as Animal Welfare spokesperson for the Lib Dems.

NHS SURVEY

In early 2001 Norman conducted a survey on the National Health Service.

On the key issues you said:
97% think you should not have to pay to see a GP.

76% agree that eye and dental charges should be free.

54% feel that mixed sex wards in hospital are unacceptable.

73% were 'not at all satisfied' with the food provided in hospital.

The answers you provided offer Norman the opportunity to lobby on your behalf on this vital issue.



Keeping our area on the map

Lewes



Norman raises an issue at question time in the Commons

visit Norman's web site at:
www.normanbaker.org.uk

* For the second year running Norman has been voted runner-up in the 'Opposition Politician of the Year' Award category by Channel 4!

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

'Norman Baker .. is clever, independent and sticks to his guns.' **Matthew Parris** **The Times** 24/2/01

'Norman Baker .. a fully paid up member of the awkward squad' **James Naughtie** **Radio 4** Oct 2001

* In November 2001 Norman was named 'Inquisitor of the Year' in the Zurich/Spectator Parliamentarian of the Year Awards.

OPENING UP GOVERNMENT

Norman has hit the national news a number of times this year in his campaign to open up government, hold ministers to account, and expose sleaze and spin.

◆ The MP asked the 'killer question' about the Hinduja passport affair which, within days, led to the resignation of the then Trade Secretary, Peter Mandelson.

◆ Norman made legal history with a landmark judgement in the court that MI5 was subject to Data Protection law and each application to see files should be treated on its merits.

◆ Most recently, Norman exposed spin and figure-fiddling in the Home Office when he made public internal emails which he had been handed.

Other issues Norman has worked on include: Road Safety & Traffic Reduction... Fair Deal for Pensioners... School Class Sizes... Recycling... Local Authority Funding... Breast Cancer & Prostate Awareness... Human Rights...