



Parliamentary News

July 2006

Phyllis Starkey MP's Report to Constituents

More Money for Milton Keynes

The Labour Government continues to support the growth of Milton Keynes. In the last 6 months we have received:

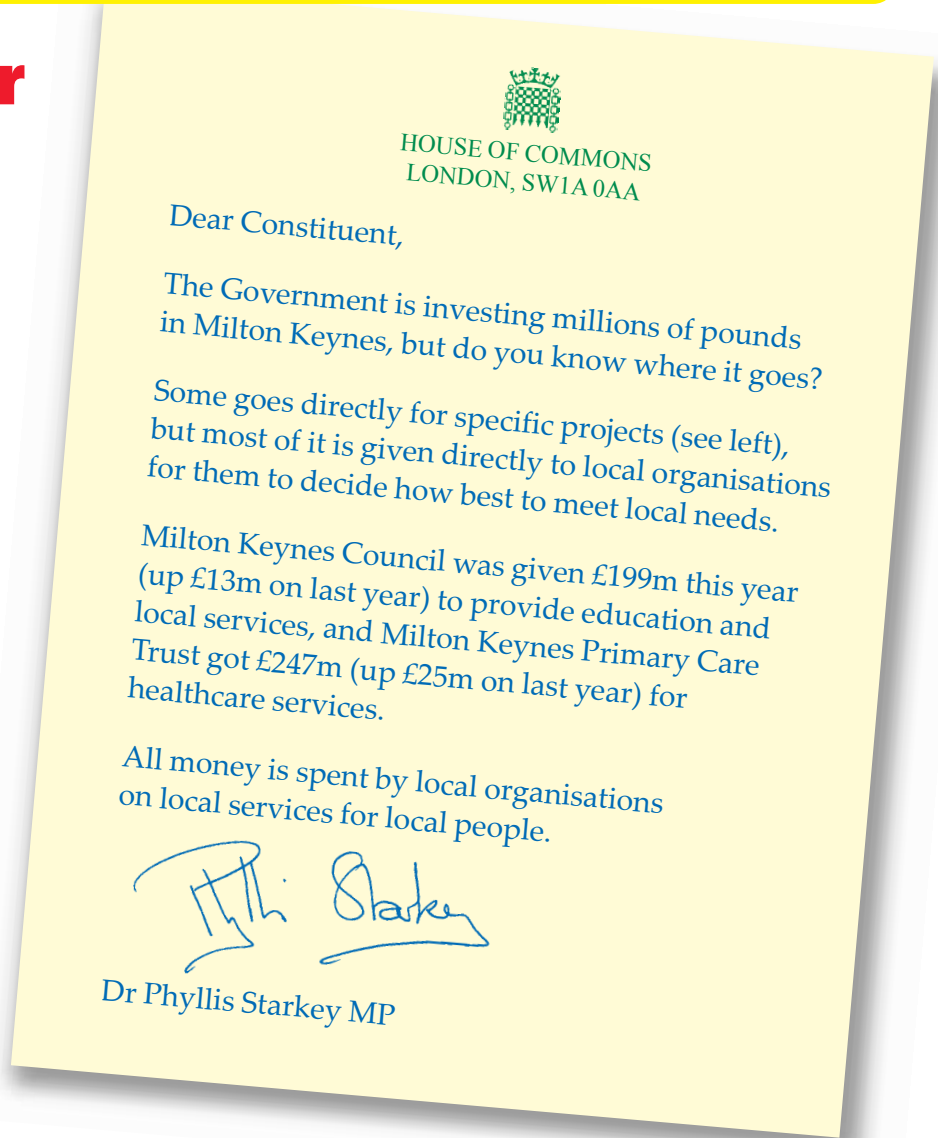
£11.4m from Department of Transport for improving bus links East-West across the city and upgrading J14 on the M1

£7.2m for MK General Hospital for a multi-storey carpark, freeing up land for future hospital expansion, care facilities and key worker housing

£4.85m to replace Bletchley leisure centre with state-of-the-art facilities

£3.5m for MK Council to support the growth of the city

And this does not include the millions we continue to receive in annual funding for health, education and local services!



Better Health for MK



Phyllis Starkey visiting MK General Hospital

The last six months have brought good news for healthcare in Milton Keynes. In March I visited MK General Hospital, where the A&E facilities have been expanded and a new Angioplasty Unit has opened. It means patients needing treatment for heart conditions no longer have to travel to Oxford.

I supported the Government's ban on smoking in public places. No one should be forced to suffer the terrible side effects of second hand smoke, especially people working in pubs and clubs. The ban will have massive benefits for the health of everyone in the long term. The smoking ban is expected to come into force sometime in 2007 and smoking cessation programmes are a high priority for the NHS locally.

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Newsflash

MK COUNCIL SAYS THANK YOU FOR EXTRA GOVERNMENT MONEY

"We are very grateful to Dr Starkey...for helping us push the case for Milton Keynes" – Isobel McCall, Milton Keynes Council Leader (February 2006)

BUCKS & MK FIRE AUTHORITY GRATEFUL FOR VITAL MEETING WITH MINISTER

"We are very grateful to Dr Starkey for recognising the pressure we would have been under without sufficient funding for the coming year, and for supporting our case at the meeting with Mr Fitzpatrick." – Cllr David Rowlands, Chair of Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire & Rescue Authority (March 2006)

LOCAL PATIENT FORUM APPRECIATES HELP FOR MK RESIDENTS ON WAITING LIST FOR JOHN RADCLIFFE HOSPITAL

"The Forum...express their gratitude for your intervention with the Minister. Thank you once again for your help." – Pat Thomas, Co-ordinator of Shaping Health – Patient and Public Involvement Forums (April 2006)

DR STARKEY HELPS FORMATION OF MK DONS SUPPORTERS TRUST

"Dr Phyllis Starkey MP has assisted the MKDSA immensely in our aims to form a Trust." – Milton Keynes Dons Supporters Association website (April 2006)

MP's Train Campaign Continues

I have been working with train companies and commuter groups in Milton Keynes to improve rail services to the city.

In December the Government committed £115m of funding for an extra platform at Milton Keynes Central Station and improvements at Bletchley and Wolverton, all due by 2008.

I have already raised in the House of Commons the need for the new timetable in 2008 to include more fast trains between Milton Keynes and London, and the North.

I continue to campaign for the re-opening of the East-West rail link from Oxford to Bletchley. The final



Dr Starkey at MK Central for

report on this visionary programme was published in April. I have organised a meeting for the East-West Rail Group to meet the MPs representing areas along the route to build support.

New homes must be energy efficient

The environmental effects of new housing have been a big issue recently, with the Government's proposed Code for Sustainable Homes aiming to improve energy efficiency standards.

I have been campaigning hard to make sure the Code sets tough standards so the impact of new houses on the local environment is minimised. At a meeting with the Prime Minister I urged him to make the Code mandatory across all building sectors; for new office buildings as well as social and private housing. The Select Committee I chair is currently scrutinising government policy on housing.



Small wind turbines can generate clean electricity at home

On a wider note, the results of the Government's Energy Review, which will set out proposals for the future of energy generation in Britain, are due this summer. I have supported a Private Members' Bill on microgeneration.

Ways to contact Phyllis Starkey MP

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⑥ **VISIT** one of my surgeries at Netherfield,
West Bletchley and Wolverton by appointment.
Please call 01908 225522.