

Ellie takes Herefordshire's concerns straight to Parliament

Rising oil prices



HM Treasury
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

Dear Rachel and Ed,

I write following the meeting which I and other MPs of rural areas attended today to discuss the situation faced by constituents reliant on heating oil.

As you know, constituents in North Herefordshire and other rural areas are disproportionately affected by the dramatic spike in heating oil prices seen since the commencement of the US and Israel's attack on Iran in late February.

Ellie has written to the government about rising cost of heating oil

Ellie has been supporting constituents affected by the surge in oil prices following the war in Iran, an issue which has particularly hit rural communities.

Ellie took part in a cross-party meeting between rural MPs and Ministers to express constituent concerns about the spike in heating oil prices. She also wrote to the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Energy Security to press the government to hold heating oil suppliers accountable, protect consumers from profiteering, and help households like those in North Herefordshire with the immediate higher costs they faced.

Ellie has also kept up ongoing work on her campaign to improve home insulation and energy efficiency, to keep energy costs down long-term.

Ellie and her team have also been speaking to constituents directly affected by the rising costs in order to help them secure financial support. One resident said: **"Warm Homes Hereford are today issuing us a voucher for £357.30, to enable us to order 500 litres kerosene - that being the difference between what we normally pay (£330) and the current price of £657.30. A brilliant success for your team - thank you so much."**

Ellie is deeply concerned with ensuring that children with special educational needs (SEND) can access proper provision in North Herefordshire, following the government's cancellation of plans for a new specialist school in the constituency.

Ellie has raised these concerns multiple times in Parliament, including through questions in the House of Commons. Ellie also secured a meeting with the Minister for Children and Families, Josh MacAlister, where she emphasised the need to properly fund SEND provision in North Herefordshire.

Ellie is always fighting for fairer funding for Herefordshire to provide the essential services we need like SEND education, social care, and road repairs.

Get involved

Can you spend an hour every few months delivering Ellie's MP update leaflet near you?

To let us know if you can help, or for other ways to get involved please visit:

elliechowns.org.uk/get-involved



Keep in touch

Contact Ellie to raise a concern or request a slot at a constituency surgery:

ellie.chowns.mp@parliament.uk

Subscribe to Ellie's email update:

elliechowns.org.uk/updates

Follow Ellie on social media:



SEND support



Ellie meeting with the Minister of State for Care to discuss fair funding for Herefordshire Council



Herefordshire MATTERS

News from Dr Ellie Chowns MP

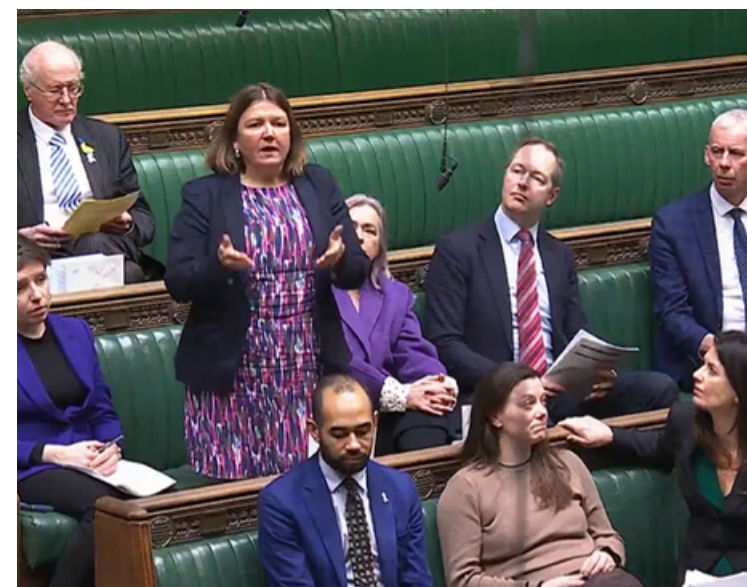
Summer 2026

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Find out how Ellie is taking our local concerns straight to Westminster!



Ellie's yearly round-up

Ellie supports thousands of locals and takes our concerns to London



Ellie spoke in Parliament hundreds of times in 2025, making her the second most vocal backbench MP according to PoliMonitor.

Ellie has been working her socks off for Herefordshire residents both in Westminster and in the county. Some of Ellie's achievements include:

✓ Ellie spoke in Parliament 403 times, tabled 289 written questions to government, and supported 563 Early Day Motions in 2025

✓ Ellie responded to thousands of cases raised by constituents, feeding their concerns into government and helping to resolve countless local issues affecting residents of North Herefordshire

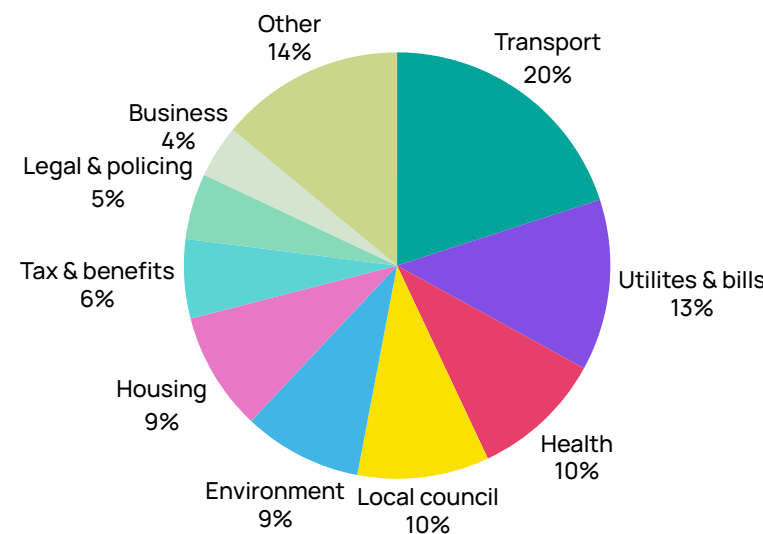
One constituent that Ellie assisted in getting an issue solved said:

“I really want to thank you and your team for all your help and support. I am so grateful that Ellie and all the team make time for your constituents the way you do. You are true champions!”



Ellie has supported thousands of residents. Here's Ellie with a constituent who has had solar panels retrofitted.

Ellie has helped local people with a wide variety of issues, from delayed NHS operations to emergency housing. Here's what people have been asking Ellie about:



If you have a concern, issue or question please do get in touch. Ellie will be glad to help.

INSIDE: See where Ellie's been working near you!

Ellie working hard all across North Herefordshire

Constituency visits

Ellie has made hundreds of constituency visits over the last two years - here are a few highlights! From healthcare visits to businesses, charities, and volunteer groups, constituency visits are one of the highlights of Ellie's role. Ellie hears about the challenges faced and opportunities available directly from our community.

Visits allow Ellie to forge relationships with countless organisations and groups across North Herefordshire, meaning when constituents write to Ellie with concerns - about access to GP services or local transport issues for example - Ellie can follow up with the organisations best equipped to make changes locally.



Ellie has met with farmers across North Herefordshire as part of her work championing the Wyescapes Landscape Recovery Project - here she is discussing the Wyescapes Project with Nick Helme at Wharton Court Farm near Leominster. Recently Ellie and her team were able to help Wyescapes farmers secure a extension of the funding break-clause, offering them more security and confidence in continued government support as they transition towards more river-friendly farming methods.

Some of the ways Ellie has helped residents

1. When a resident wasn't able to contact their energy company to fit a new meter, Ellie's team got in touch and got it sorted.

2. Quickly resolved multiple DVLA delays regarding medical concerns. One resident said: **"I cannot thank you enough, your efficiency and knowledge of who to contact has returned me to the ranks of motorists, the past 7 months have been inconvenient for me but a virtual prison sentence for my wife."**

3. Helped get housing for a constituent after their request for support had been refused. Ellie's team helped overturn the decision and a housing officer was appointed.

4. Supported a resident with Alzheimer's to look into adjusting their Pension Credit and check they're getting the correct benefits.

5. Helped a constituent with cancer get the benefits they need after delays.

6. Pushed a local parish council to maintain a culvert they are responsible for that was leading to flooding after they refused.

7. Helped a village hall get export payments from their solar panels after delays. An apology was issued, the issue fixed and £650 was credited for missing payments.

8. Helped get progress on a planning application to the council after no response.

Have a similar concern or issue?
Please get in touch with Ellie and her team, they'd be happy to help!

After constituents in Birley contacted Ellie about their poor local broadband connection, Ellie was able to arrange for a provider to connect residents to fast broadband.



Ellie has been speaking up for residents of Kington and surrounding areas after Tim Allen, Kington's postmaster, was refused permission for his post office to open a banking hub. Ellie has raised the matter with Ministers and local stakeholders, liaising between Westminster and constituency to press for access to local banking for Kington residents.



Ellie was delighted to attend the opening of Hereford Community Diagnostic Centre, which aims to ease pressure on the hospital and cut waiting times for North Herefordshire patients.

Ellie holds regular public meetings across North Herefordshire, providing an opportunity for residents to come along and ask questions about Ellie's work or local issues. Here's Ellie speaking in Bromyard about concerns surrounding the Hop Pole, a derelict hotel.



Following local water outages, Ellie helped arrange a meeting between residents of Withington, the Parish Council, and Welsh Water to secure a commitment for improvements to the water mains.

