

Everyone knows someone who has been helped by Douglas Carswell

Here are some **key facts** about your own MP.

- Douglas received **327** separate letters and emails from constituents last week.
- He has written personally to over **6,400** local people, championing their individual case.
- Your MP has spoken in **29** debates in the House of Commons this year.
- Douglas introduced a **10** Minute Rule Bill on the floor of the Commons designed to allow voters a direct say on what MPs debate on.
- He has tabled over **200** written Parliamentary Questions on your behalf - well over average for an MP.
- More than **330** people attended his Advice Surgeries this past year.
- Over **1,000** people have attended one of his regular local Coffee Mornings.
- His website, TalkCarswell.com has been read by over **12,000** people.
- Douglas employs **zero** family members at public expense.

For help, advice or an appointment at one of Douglas' regular surgeries:

email: carswelld@parliament.uk
or write to: **84 Station Road**
Clacton-on-Sea
Essex CO15 1SP

talkcarswell.com



Clacton Town Hall



Scout jamboree at Kirby



Visiting our troops in Helmand



Douglas Carswell M.P.



I'm working to bring our community together - and to speak up for you. The internet can help me do this. That's why I've created three special sites which I hope you'll look at

www.TalkClacton.co.uk

Have you ever wanted to write to the local paper, but not had the time? Perhaps your letter wasn't published? If so, this is a site that allows you to air your views.

Thousands of local people read this site each week - and many contribute views. I hope you'll view the site - and add your comments.

www.TalkCarswell.com

This website allows you to hear directly from your own MP. I add to it personally each day with comments about both local and national concerns.

www.douglascarswell.com click on "clactontv"

This website allows local people to make short video clips about things that matter to them. Tending pensioners, local school children and youth groups have all starred on ClactonTV. Have a look, or let me know if you have a video clip you want added to the site.



Fishing (fairly) near the back waters



A Message from Douglas Carswell M.P.

Dear Neighbour,

I'm writing to you personally to keep you informed as your local Member of Parliament.

Over the past few weeks, I've taken action to:

- *Allow older people to use their bus passes from 9am*
- *Defend our local health services*
- *Ensure sea defences are properly funded*

In Parliament, I've been raising concerns on your behalf over the rise in the cost of living. I've also kept up the pressure on Ministers over crime, immigration and Europe.

I'm always out and about, so I do hope to see you.

Warm regards,

Douglas

PS. I'm directly accountable to you, so please let me know if I can help.



talkcarswell.com



Douglas Carswell MP

He says what he means and he means what he says

MP opposes car tax increase

Most car owners in Tendring will be hit by the hike in Vehicle Excise Duty. Some face increases of up to £245 per year to run a car. From April 2010, some local people could even pay up to £455 for their tax disc.

Douglas Carswell is fiercely against this tax increase. "Older, second-hand cars are going to be taxed the most. And guess who has older cars? It's often older people and those who can least afford to pay more".

"How can the government create a system where someone with a brand new Porsche pays less than a pensioner or a family with a people carrier?"

Despite all the extra tax, this will reduce carbon emissions in the UK by less than 1%.



Jaywick Fayre

Holland-on-Sea - action on sea defences

Douglas has been at the forefront of the campaign to sort out our sea defences at Holland-on-Sea.

Following a meeting that Douglas held at the House of Commons with Environment Agency officials, they gave the green light to repairs to the battered sea wall.

"Like many local people, when I heard that the work would finally go ahead, I thought 'About time, too!'" says Douglas. "I made it very clear to the Environment Agency chiefs that this work had to go ahead - or things might get even more serious". They have now given the go-ahead.

"This latest repair work, however, is only a sticky plaster. What we need as well is a much more substantial project to re-do our sea defences. The fact is that the government had promised us over £20 Million to re-do the sea defences, yet we have not seen that money spent in this area."

"Until we get the government to okay the major work that is needed on our sea front, the local council is going to find itself under constant pressure to carry out yet more repairs. That's why my campaign to ensure we get a proper set of sea defences goes on!"

Cost of living rise hurts pensioners

"Have you noticed how much costs have gone up? Every time I fill up the car or a utility bill comes in or I go to the supermarket, I notice how prices are up" says Douglas.

Times are tough, and could get a lot tougher - especially for families and for older people on pensions.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Douglas has demanded action. "Pensioners face a fall in their standard of living. Their incomes are by and large fixed, but the costs of energy and utility bills and council tax bills have shot up. What does the minister think can actually be done?"

Douglas believes that the basic State Pension should have been increased in line with average earnings. He also believes that the Council Tax is an unfair way to pay for local services. "We need a fairer way to pay for local government - one that does not hit older people like the council tax does".



Fighting to save Post Offices



Shaking up Westminster

Douglas is prepared to speak out. As your representative, he says what he means - and he means what he says.

Douglas features regularly in the national media. Writing in the Mail on Sunday, Douglas caused a stir by calling on the Speaker to quit. He also appears regularly on BBC Radio 4.

Over the past few weeks, he has featured in The Sun, The Daily Express, The Daily Mail, The Daily Telegraph, The Mirror and on Sky News - speaking out about the things that matter to you.

Irish vote - give us an EU referendum

Douglas believes that the European Union lacks proper democratic legitimacy. As your voice in Parliament, he has consistently voted in favour of allowing a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty. He explains "The Irish, French and Dutch were all allowed votes on the EU Constitution. And they all voted "no". But we are the people of England; and we have not spoken yet".

"The European Union has been created by the politicians and for the politicians. Those who favour the EU have a choice. Either they can let us have a vote on the EU as it stands now, or they will eventually have to give us a vote on whether or not to come out completely."

"Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland and Canada are outside the EU, yet seem to manage pretty well. In fact most successful countries seem to be outside the EU."



Douglas at the Town Hall

Bus passes - victory for 9am campaign!

Your local MP spearheaded the campaign to allow local pensioners to use their bus passes from 9am.

The council had previously ruled that local pensioners had to wait until 9:30am before they could use their passes.

"I intervened and took up this case because it seemed daft to me" says

Douglas. "Older people were being forced to

queue at bus stops while almost empty buses passed by. At the same time, it meant fewer shoppers in town until later in the morning - which couldn't have been good for business".

Douglas lobbied the council and argued that the decision needed to be reviewed. The council has since agreed to allow pensioners to travel from 9am.

Local health services

Douglas recently attended a service organised by the Salvation Army in Clacton to mark 60 years of the NHS.

"Everyone I know has to depend on our local NHS. Local doctors, nurses and NHS staff deserve our praise".

Yet despite all the extra money that has been spent by officials, some problems still remain. "The brand new Harwich hospital is still more than half empty. Yet another "consultation" threatens to

"reconfigure" local GP services. In addition, many local people were very concerned and angry that their personal details were stolen on a laptop"

Douglas is campaigning to make our local health care better. He has taken up many hundreds of individual cases on behalf of local people concerned about the treatment that they receive.

"I'm absolutely determined to ensure that everyone gets the standard of local NHS care that we all have a right to expect".

10p tax hike

The government doubled the rate at which many local people pay tax. This means that those on the lowest incomes are now having to pay more.

At a time when the nation's finances are heading into the red, the most vulnerable have been hit hardest hardest.

Douglas says "How can it possibly be right to double the income tax band on those on the lowest incomes? It makes me very angry"

"Those people most hard hit by this are local cleaners, hospital staff, nurses and others. The very people who can least afford it".



Jaywick campaigners

Douglas is campaigning for Britain to leave the European Union.