



James Sunderland MP – Annual Report 2020

Bracknell, Crowthorne, Finchampstead, Sandhurst, Wokingham Without



Twelve months ago I was honoured and privileged to be elected as the Member of Parliament for Bracknell Constituency which, of course, encompasses Bracknell, Crowthorne, Finchampstead, Sandhurst, Wokingham Without and surrounding areas.

This is my first Annual Report and in normal circumstances, it would be printed and delivered to your doorstep. However, this year, because of Covid 19 restrictions I have decided to make my Report available to you digitally.

As well as making this electronic document available I have recorded some short videos where I speak about Global

Trade, Education, Sports and the Environment. They will be available on my website in the New Year.

I arrived in Parliament on December 13 last year to be sworn in as your Member of Parliament.

My first job was to help deliver our Government's election promise to "Get Brexit Done". The European Union Withdrawal Bill was quickly passed as a result of our 80-seat majority and the trust given by the electorate to Boris Johnson.

In my maiden speech, in March 2020, I re-iterated my election promise to represent everyone in Bracknell regardless of how they had voted.

I have worked hard to keep that promise and you'll find below (and in my videos) some of the key areas in which I have been busy.

Coronavirus, Covid-19

This year has been very difficult for everyone in our Constituency and my heart goes out to every family who has lost loved ones because of Coronavirus, cancer or any other illness.

We have been blessed here insofar as we have had some of the lowest Coronavirus infection and death rates in the country. That is largely due to the role you have all played in accepting and applying the Government's guidelines and rules.

However, as I write this report, we are seeing huge increases in cases a result of another more infectious mutation of this awful virus. It is important that we all follow the rules.



We must not relax just because we now have a vaccine available.



Kelly Pollard (seated) who started Forces Scrub Hub at RMAS and Audrey Meek, TC Tech Repairs, Sandhurst

I would like to thank everyone who has supported our Constituency during this difficult year, particularly those:

- at Bracknell Forest Council led by Cllr. Paul Bettison OBE and Chief Executive, Tim Wheadon
- at Wokingham Borough Council led by Cllr. John Halsall and Chief Executive, Susan Parsonage
- and Healthwatch Bracknell Forest, Involve, Citizens Advice, the Kerith Centre in Bracknell, the Community Hub in Wokingham

and many other organisations and charities who have spent time telephoning vulnerable and elderly residents and delivering medicine and food parcels to all those in need.

The call for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was answered by many schools and community groups including, Sandhurst School, Wildmoor Heath, Ranelagh School and the wives and wider community at the Royal Military Academy in Sandhurst. And throughout the year my colleagues and I volunteered to deliver food parcels across the Constituency.

Of course, my thanks also go out to all community volunteers who stepped up and offered their time and energy.

My thanks and admiration also go to all doctors, nurses and staff across the NHS who have worked so tirelessly to support us and those who have needed their support.

And I must not forget that it is not only the NHS but all key workers in the care sector, teachers and local authority alongside the private sector who help ensure we are safe and who care for us.



CLOCKWISE: Mr Simon Cope, Head Teacher Wildridings Primary School, Cllr Paul Bettison (left) and staff at Bracknell Forest Council, Staff at Sandhurst Day Care Centre, Mrs Janes Gates OBE (third from right) and staff at Sebastian's Action Trust



Government Support in the Constituency



Sarai Hair and Beauty, Crowthorne



Star Fireworks, Bullbrook Bracknell

Our Government has and is, supporting people throughout the Constituency through a variety of measures which include the provision of

- £430,000 to Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough Councils to support children, families and the most vulnerable over the winter of 2020/2021
- The holiday activities and food programme has been extended until Christmas 2021
- Government has funded the Furlough of 16,000 people across the Constituency
- Provided £14.8 million to support 4,100 self-employed constituents
- Paid out £9.7 million off Business Grants
- Provided a grant of £280,000 to support South Hill Park

- We continue to support businesses with Grants for those businesses which were unable to access support earlier this year.
- I am pleased to be able to add that in Bracknell Forest the free school meals scheme will see increased support families from £15 to £20 per week for the Christmas and Easter Holidays.
- Additionally, Bracknell Forest Council has set up a hardship fund for those most in need of help.



3M Bracknell



Bond Brewery, Wokingham Without



Supporting Military Veterans and our Emergency Services



Major General Duncan Capps CBE – Commandant Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

I have 26 years service in the Army. As Co-chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Veterans I am proud to have supported the armed forces including the fight for the right to settle for Commonwealth veterans.

Respecting our fallen is vitally important and I am pleased and proud to be co-sponsor of the War Memorial Desecration Bill that will impose tougher sentences on those who wilfully damage the memorials to our fallen heroes.

Every family has a connection to the armed forces and today there are 2.2 million veterans who deserve our support. They have mine.



Bracknell War Memorial



I am also supporting action to create a Covenant for Emergency Services such as the Police.



Care for Police Survivors Event in Parliament

In Bracknell and throughout Berkshire I am working with the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue service to launch a monthly Veterans' Hub.



I am delighted that the Service has decided to roll this out across the Royal County and when conditions allow these will be run at the Fire Stations at Bracknell, Crowthorne and other stations.



Playing my part in other All-Party Parliamentary Groups

All-Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) are important because they allow campaign groups, charities and other non-governmental organisations to become involved in discussions and influence politicians.

My involvement ensures that I am aware of the issues impacting upon Constituents and enable me to add my voice to ensure that outcomes benefit you.

I am a member of the following groups:

As Chair:

- Armed Forces Covenant
- Motorsport
- Veterans

As Vice-Chair:

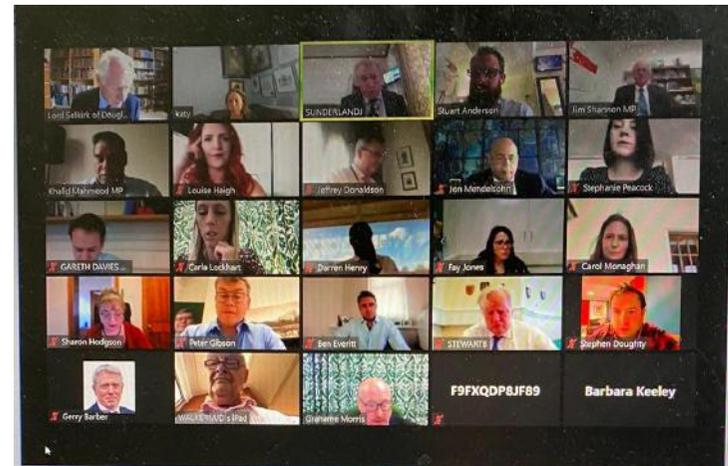
- British Overseas Territories
- South Western Railway
- Special Needs Education (SEN)

As a member:

- Western Rail Link to Heathrow
- Armed Forces
- Homelessness
- International Trade
- Loan Charge (IR35)
- Motor Neurone Disease



South Western Railway APPG



APPG Veterans

