



Southampton Test Constituency: Coxford, Freemantle, Millbrook, Portswood, Redbridge, Shirley & St Lukes

# Working for you in Southampton Test

Since I was first elected to serve as your MP in 1997 communication with you has been a top priority for me. That is why I publish these Annual Reports to keep you in touch with my work on your behalf in the last year both in Southampton and Parliament. They are also available on my website [www.alan-whitehead.org.uk](http://www.alan-whitehead.org.uk)



Alan Whitehead visits the Southampton General Hospital with Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott during the General Election Campaign

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## Alan Whitehead thanks voters in Southampton Test



Alan Whitehead celebrates the announcement of the result in Southampton Test at 1.19am on Friday 8 June 2001.

The final result for the general election was:

Alan Whitehead (Labour)	21,824
Richard Guterbrook (Conservative)	10,617
John Shaw (Liberal Democrat)	7,522
Others	1,612

Commenting on the campaign and result Alan says, "This past year has been one of big campaigns and big issues. The big change-around came with the General election in June: a hard fought campaign, but one that allowed me to visit, during the course of the election, almost every street in the constituency and talk to hundreds of constituents about their views on the city and their priorities for it. I was grateful and proud that the people of the constituency renewed their confidence in me as their MP: but I also recognised that I had learned more in four weeks of intensive campaigning on important or forgotten issues in the city."

# Out and about in Southampton Test

## COXFORD

Campaigned successfully with local residents for a bus shelter near to sheltered accommodation. Pressed for clean up of grass verges and resurfacing of uneven pavements. Campaigned for measures to prevent motorcycles being driven on paths and through subways. Turned on the new floodlights at the Coxford Community Centre.



Alan visiting the Crèche at the HQ of Ordnance Survey in Romsey Road.

## FREEMANTLE

Worked with local residents on the issue of addressing parking problems in the local area. Opened new school library at Foundry Lane School.

## PORTSWOOD

Campaigned with local councillors and people to save the number 20 bus route. Opened a new surgery (combined doctors' and dentists'). Visited local businesses to talk with them about problems they are having with local youths. Went on a visit to the Divert project which helps rehabilitate drug users through a mixture of support and access to treatment services.



Alan Whitehead with fellow Southampton MP John Denham led a campaign to stop cuts to bus services in the city. Here they are handing in a petition to Councillor Richard Williams.

## ST LUKES

Regular visits to Gurdwaras and mosques in the Ward. Campaigned for clean-up of rear access lanes in the Ward.



Alan taking a break from an interview on community station Radio Art Asia.

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## REDBRIDGE

Campaigning for access to Studland Playing Fields. Visited Crisis Fairshare, which provides food for local homeless people. Supported the work of the Outer Shirley Regeneration Project. It receives government funding to develop local projects, which meet the needs of local people.



The Outer Shirley Regeneration Project has a vital role to play in improving the quality of life of local people. Alan Whitehead met with the team to discuss the projects that they are involved with in the west of the city.

## SHIRLEY

Launched campaign to remove graffiti from bus shelters with the local council. Worked with Bellemoor School to secure renovation funds. Visited the new NHS walk-in centre, which opened in Shirley Road. The Centre acts as both an advice centre and one-stop point for local people to ease pressure on doctors and the general hospital. Went to the Tauntons to discuss the planning proposals and voice constituents' concerns.



With Councillor Richard Williams Alan demonstrates the tools needed to erase graffiti from bus shelters.

## MILLBROOK

Pressed for tidy-up of grass verges and pathways. Launched new abandoned car initiative with the Council. Visited Regents Park School and gave a tutorial to the children on the issue of citizenship. Continued to work with staff and management at BAT.

# A Year in Southampton . . .



Alan Whitehead at the Despatch Box in the House of Commons.

**The election was followed almost immediately by an invitation from the Prime minister to join the government as a Junior minister with responsibility for Local Government, the Fire Service, and Health and Safety matters.**

**This inevitably produces tensions with my role as a constituency MP. I am away in London more, and some constituency issues have to be 'referred' because of the need to act totally independently as a minister. However, I believe that I have been able to represent the city well and indeed, much of the knowledge and experience gained from close involvement with city matters has been of benefit to me as a Local Government minister.**

A new example that springs to mind concerns abandoned cars: during the election I talked to many people about their experience of having cars dumped or sometimes set alight in their streets or car parks. I also talked to the Council and after the election to those responsible for framing the rules on periods of notice and towing vehicles away. I was able to play a part in framing some radical new action on ensuring that abandoned cars can be dealt with more quickly by local authorities, and that those responsible for dumping them can be more easily traced and, if appropriate asked to pay the cost of their removal, instead of the local council tax payer.

But I have also been involved in a number of important issues in the City during the year.

There was the campaign, ultimately successful, to ensure that Vospers received full consideration for the building of Fisheries Protection vessels and for new Navy destroyers. It may be that some of Vospers will be moved to Portsmouth as a result of the securing of these contracts, but the importance of the work for hundreds of families in Southampton cannot be underestimated.

The effect of new tar content regulations on the production of cigarettes at British American Tobacco in Millbrook also took up much time. I used considerable energy in lobbying for extended periods of implementation of the new regulations to allow BAT to adjust its production, and on clarifying the way the regulations would allow BAT to describe their products. In both cases a partial victory was won, but one which will safeguard jobs in the city for the future.

The future of buses in the city has been a continual cause of concern throughout the year. I have worked actively with local people to protect existing routes such as the 20 and 21, and with the City council in looking at new ways to support services, or introduce new operators better able to preserve vital routes. Much progress has been made.



Alan Whitehead being interviewed by local television about the Abandoned Cars Initiative to tackle the problem across the citywide. Alan was able to play a major role in framing new powers for the council to take decisive action.



## Meet the team

In my Southampton office Christine Bull, Rosemarie Oxford and Mike Collins keep things running smoothly, while in London Mike Kelly helps with parliamentary work on a day- to-day basis. Together they deal with casework, campaigns, press work and organise my time in the constituency.

In the last year we had nearly 300 people visit my surgeries, more than 250 people call into the office and more than 600 items of casework, plus nearly 3,000 e-mails.

*Cut out and keep* ✂

## Financial Information

### Parliamentary Salary and Allowances

Salary	£45,444
Additional living allowance	£9,852.37

### Costs Met from Office Cost Allowance

#### Staff Costs

Research and Secretarial Staff costs	£32,406.78
Employers National Insurance	£1,991.86
Travel Costs	£21
Training	nil

#### Office Costs

Rent, services, telephones and insurance	£6,189.02
Agency Staff	£1,816.67
Stationery and printing	£1,356.79
Equipment (office) leasing and maintenance	£2,649.18
Other Costs	£1,228.03

**Total: £47,659.33**

Every year I present my accounts and this year is no exception. I have no other source of income other than my MPs salary.

**All the information shown has been obtained from the Fees Office at the House of Commons.**

### MP Advice Surgeries

- **FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**  
(10am - 12 noon) — at the Maytree Nursery and Infants School, Derby Road.
- **SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**  
(10am - 12 noon) — at Shirley Local Housing Office, Shirley Precinct.
- **THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**  
(10am - 12 noon) — at Lordshill Local Housing Office, Lordshill Centre East.

**Please contact Alan's office on 8023 1942 to book an appointment.**

### 7 Ways to contact Alan Whitehead:

- **WRITE** to Alan at 20-22 Southampton Street, Southampton SO15 2ED.
- **WRITE** to Alan at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.
- **PHONE** Alan's Constituency Office on 8023 1942.
- **FAX** Alan's Constituency Office on 8023 1943.
- **SEE** Alan at one of his surgeries (see left).
- **E-MAIL** Alan: [alan@alan-whitehead.org.uk](mailto:alan@alan-whitehead.org.uk).
- **VISIT** [www: alan-whitehead.org.uk](http://www.alan-whitehead.org.uk).