



**Meet the Team**

The constituency office is based at 20-22 Southampton Street and is staffed by Sam Goold – researcher and campaigns assistant, Rose Oxford – diary secretary and Christine Bull – caseworker. These titles do not in any way give a real description of the work that the staff actually do in the office. No two days are ever the same and they have to be extremely resourceful.

The office is open from 9am to 5pm and is always extremely busy – my staff often work over and above their contracted hours for which I am very grateful.

**casework report**

560 people came to advice surgeries.

This included:

- 128 council services cases
- 53 benefits cases
- 26 govt dept cases
- 17 health – both local and national issues
- 155 – immigration, visas & asylum cases
- 11 police related cases

Other topics of concern were financial issues, legal problems, CSA, Education & employment, housing association issues, legal issues and one off issues

The office received:

- 9500 pieces of mail
- 15600 e mails received
- 500 faxes.
- Too many phone calls to mention

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**Financial Information**

<b>Alan Whitehead MP</b>	<b>£</b>
Parliamentary Salary	55,118
Additional costs	15,045
<b>Staffing Costs</b>	<b>£</b>
Research & Secretarial Costs	57,498
Employers National Insurance	5,243
Staff expenses	175
Training	942
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,859</b>
<b>Incidental Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
Office costs (includes rent, insurance, Office equipment, services)	6,885
Phones	1,550
Agency staff	620
Stationery	1,800
Website	1,150
Design, Publications & Communications	5,326
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,331</b>

I under spent my MP's allocated limit for additional costs, staffing, and office costs by £7,315.08. This goes back to the Treasury.

Photographs courtesy of The Southern Evening Echo, Mike Collins, Sam Goold and Southampton Football Club

*cut out and keep*

**6 ways to contact Alan Whitehead**

**Write to Alan Whitehead MP, Freepost, 20-22 Southampton Street, Southampton, SO15 2ED**

**Phone the Constituency Office on 8023 1942**

**Fax the Constituency Office on 8023 1943**

**Visit [www.alan-whitehead.org.uk](http://www.alan-whitehead.org.uk)**

**E-mail Alan at [alan@alan-whitehead.org.uk](mailto:alan@alan-whitehead.org.uk)**

**See Alan at one of his advice surgeries.**

**Alan Whitehead MP**

Sixth Annual Report to constituents in Southampton Test

Southampton Test Constituency: Bevois (part of), Cxford, Freemantle, Millbrook, Portswood and Swaythling, Redbridge and Shirley.



**Southampton's moving up...**

... and not just because we almost won the FA cup last year. With new amenities, jobs and developments coming into the city, there's a lot going on.

One of my jobs as MP is to help make that happen. I've been working hard on these issues as well as for individual residents of the city over this past year.

Here's my report to you on what I've been doing.



Saints fans in full voice at the FA Cup Final (I'm in there somewhere ....)



Secretary of State John Reid joins Alan Whitehead, health workers and patient representatives for a health discussion in Southampton

**Just Listen**

In order to maintain in good contact with local opinions I have started a series of 'just listen' meetings. Rather than stand at the front and tell people how it should be, the idea is for me to take a back seat and listen to the views of constituents and community leaders.

If you would like to attend a Just Listen meeting please call my office.

**Alan's Advice Surgeries**

I now have **four surgeries a month** to give constituents the opportunity to meet with me on a one to one basis.

Here you can discuss issues that you want to raise with me, or any problems you might have. Initial appointments last for ten minutes after which I may make representations on your behalf.

They take place at

**1st and 3rd Friday of each month** (3pm-5pm) at 20-22 Southampton Street (off London Road)

**1st Saturday of each month** (10am-12noon) at 20-22 Southampton Street (off London Road)

**3rd Saturday of each month** (10am-12noon) at either Lordshill Local Housing Office or Shirley Local Housing Office

Please phone my office on 8023 1942 or e-mail [alan@alan-whitehead.org.uk](mailto:alan@alan-whitehead.org.uk) to book an appointment.

## Representing Southampton Test in 2003

Just a selection of events and activities from last year



**Crime & Safety Roundtable for 16 – 19 year olds** - Brought together a group of 24 young people with police and education officers to discuss perceptions and misconceptions of crime and young people.

**Launch of Sure Start** - I officially opened the Sure Start Millbrook, Redbridge and Maybush centre which brings together early education, childcare, health and family support. The scheme will move to a purpose built centre on surplus land at Newlands School in 2004

**Opened extension to Cannon House** - this will support the expansion of the mental health care team and services in the Southampton area

### Action on motorbikes

Hosted a public meeting with residents, police and community workers to tackle the problem of joyriders on motorbikes.



**Ikea** - I have been making representations to ministers about the planning laws that make it difficult for large stores such as Ikea to locate close to city centres.



**Visit to St James' shelter and computer recycling project** - Highlighted the benefits of a ground-breaking computer recycling project which provides training and new skills to people who have found difficulty with employability.

**Dibden Bay** - The enquiry on this development proposal for the port of Southampton is now complete. We will know in the spring of 2004 what the inspector has decided. The development of Dibden is important to the future of the city, and if the extensive environmental mitigation is approved by the inspector, then I hope the scheme can proceed. I have been meeting ministers to ensure that, if the inspectors report is positive, then they will give an early approval to the project

### Summits

In 2003 I hosted three local summits about food, transport, and energy. Each brought together interested parties to look at problems facing Southampton and examined how we might improve them. Results include the establishment of the Southampton Food Network and the publication of 'Transport in the Solent Area: a vision for 2025' which is available from my office.



**Leukaemia Busters campaign against EU directive** - I backed the efforts of local charity against an EU directive inhibiting the development of leukaemia treatment. Please sign the petition on their web site [www.leukaemiabusters.org.uk](http://www.leukaemiabusters.org.uk)

## My year in Parliament ...

I represent our city in parliament in three ways –

- distributing letters and dispatches on local issues
- raising issues that have national significance but local impact
- advancing national issues through my local knowledge

Supporting the Trade Justice Movement campaign for Southampton to be made a Fair Trade City



I have served on several Bill committees this year:

**The Waste and Emissions Trading Bill** dealt with new arrangements for dealing with waste, and in particular the way in which waste could be diverted from going into landfill.

**The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill** dealt with new arrangements for local planning and the development of regional planning frameworks.

**The Hunting Bill** considered (yet again) the banning of foxhunting. This is an issue that excites great passion on both sides of the argument, and needs to be resolved.

**The Sustainable Energy Bill**, a Private members measure that, among other things explicitly commits the Government to actively pursue national energy targets.

I am now a member of the Constitutional Affairs Select Committee. We have been involved in enquiries into the Governments proposals for changing the structure of Courts and the way judges are appointed.

I have been active on issues concerning **sustainability**. This has led me to chair two Parliamentary Groups, on renewable energy, and sustainable waste.

The publication of the Governments White Paper on energy, emphasising a major future role for renewables has stimulated action in several areas, one of which – disposing of waste by incineration - combines the two fields. Simply burning recoverable waste seems difficult to justify. We must find solutions that do not rely on this method.

**Housing policy** is vital to the South East – and in particular the way house prices are drifting out of reach of people on average incomes. This has a knock-on effect on rental prices, homelessness and housing debt. I have been active in pressing for measures to control prices and speed up the development of more housing units in the South East.

I held public meetings and responded to a huge postbag during the build up to the war in **Iraq**. After much thought I felt I could not justify support for an invasion without United Nations sanction. This continued lack of international agreement on Iraq has led to problems with its reconstruction: but the task now is to ensure that Iraq receives the governance and service infrastructure it needs to complete the process.