

# Catherine West MP



Autumn Report 2019

Labour Member of Parliament for Hornsey & Wood Green



## We must stop 'no deal' Brexit and give people the final say

I voted to remain in the EU and have spent the last three years fighting to stop the Tories' damaging Brexit. I voted against triggering Article 50, voted to retain our Single Market and Customs Union membership, backed proposals to revoke Article 50 rather than risk "no deal" and was one of the first MPs to call for a public vote on any deal. I've led calls to investigate the scandal that saw thousands of EU citizens denied their vote in the European Elections. Labour won't allow reckless Boris

Johnson to destroy jobs, devastate farming and manufacturing and throw into complete chaos the lives of the three million EU citizens who call the UK home. The damage caused by such an act of self-sabotage will be felt for generations and I'm part of a cross-party legal bid to prevent Johnson shutting down Parliament to push his plans through.

**A Labour government will give the public a final say on any deal or no deal. I will always campaign and vote to remain.**

## Services reach breaking point

Nine years of crippling austerity under the Tories and Lib Dems has left our hospitals, schools, police and social-care system at breaking point. Child poverty is a staggering 50% in some parts of the country and a rise in insecure, low-paid employment coupled with savage benefit cuts and a failing Universal Credit system has left families resorting to food banks to feed themselves.

We desperately need a Labour government that will invest in our children, crack down on unscrupulous employers making vast profits on the backs of hard-working people and deliver a social security system that supports people rather than one that pushes many into poverty.

As your MP, I've been standing up for our community in Parliament and leading the fight against Brexit.

It is a privilege to be your voice in Westminster. This Autumn News gives an update on just some of the things I've been doing, but you can keep up to date with my weekly blog or sign up for my e-news at [www.catherinewest.org.uk](http://www.catherinewest.org.uk)

*Catherine West*



## Clean city air local launch

Mayor Sadiq Khan and our local Assembly Member Joanne McCartney launched their campaign to tackle London's toxic air pollution in Hornsey & Wood Green (above). With the world-leading Ultra Low Emission Zone, plans for London's biggest car-free day and £6 million to fund schemes to tackle our polluted air, he's showing what Labour in power can do to enact real change.

Labour's efforts have seen the UK become the first Parliament in the world to declare an "environment and climate emergency", and in

government we'll kickstart a green industrial revolution with a massive increase in renewable energy to power 19.5 million homes and generate over 400,000 jobs. We'll ban fracking and shift funding away from fossil fuels into environmentally sustainable activities.

In Parliament I've called for all new homes to be zero-carbon and for radical action to decarbonise our transport system, the most emitting sector of the UK economy. Read my regular environmental reports at [www.catherinewest.org.uk](http://www.catherinewest.org.uk)

# Lobby leads to PM pay pledge

Everyone deserves a fair wage for a hard day's work, yet too many government departments still think it's acceptable not to pay their Whitehall cleaners a living wage. Since I was first elected I've been challenging this injustice, and on Boris Johnson's first day as PM I made him agree that all government departments should pay the living wage. I'll keep pushing to make that pledge a reality.

A Labour government will raise the minimum wage rate to the level of the real living wage to really tackle the problem of low pay that plagues our society.

# Youth protection boost



The Divert Team at Wood Green Custody Centre works to move young people away from crime

Nine years of austerity have seen 21,000 police officers taken off UK streets, 760 youth centres closed and schools at crisis point. The police and the Home Office recognise the link between this and the worrying rise in violent crime on our streets.

Hundreds of local people signed the open letter I delivered to PM Boris Johnson urging him to act

now on this national emergency. **Haringey's Labour council has invested in more youth services and, working with the Labour Mayor Sadiq Khan, has brought back detached youth workers to the borough.** In Parliament I've called for a special fund for children at risk of school exclusion as a high percentage of perpetrators were excluded from school in their early teens.

# An ever-growing housing crisis

At Prime Minister's Questions, I challenged Theresa May on the shameful rise in rough sleeping. The number of homeless households in London is 50% higher than when the Tories and Lib Dems took power in 2010. Brutal cuts to housing benefit have made private renting all but impossible for low-income families, and affordable housebuilding has

fallen to a 24-year low.

In Haringey, a pro-active Labour council is working to deliver 1,000 additional council homes by 2022, but we need a Labour government to solve the housing crisis, scrap the cruel bedroom tax and stand up for private renters with more secure tenancies and controls on unfair rent rises.

## GET IN TOUCH:

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 020 7219 6141

Name:

Email:

Phone:

- I normally vote:  Labour  
 Conservative  Lib Dem  
 Green  Brexit Party  
 Other  Don't vote

Comments:

# NHS: not for sale

I joined thousands at the Together against Trump demo to send the message that his hatred, misogyny and racism are not welcome here



President Trump's confirmation that the NHS would be "on the table" in trade talks with the US shows the real agenda of those pushing a hard Brexit. Our precious NHS is not for sale and Labour will fight with everything we have to prevent big US private healthcare corporations getting rich on the back of NHS contracts and potentially undermining the "free at the point of use" ethos that is so central to our healthcare system.

Labour created the NHS and we will always defend it, unlike the Tories and Liberal Democrats whose Health & Social Care Act oversaw a silent sell-off that has seen the amount of public money given to private health providers reach a record high.

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