

# Maria Caulfield's Update for Ringer Parish Council

Aug 2023

Please accept my apologies that I am unable to join you at your meeting next week. I do however have the following updates for the parish.

## 1. Ticket Office Train Consultation Extension

Rail companies have been surprised by the concern about this issue and we have an opportunity to change their minds. The ticket office consultation deadline has been extended from Wednesday, 26th July to Friday, 1st September. Train operators have allowed an extra five and a half weeks for responses. People can provide their feedback on the proposals at the given link

[\(https://www.transportfocus.org.uk/train-station-ticket-office-consultation/\)](https://www.transportfocus.org.uk/train-station-ticket-office-consultation/)

There is still ample time for those who haven't yet responded to do so.

## 2. 4.8% Increase in School Funding across Lewes

The Government is increasing per-pupil funding in every school across the Lewes constituency. With total funding in the constituency increasing by 4.8% and an average increase in NFF per pupil funding of 2.9% in each school.

This increase will bring the total funding for all schools in the Lewes constituency in 2024/25 to £60,117,306.

## 3. Major Boost for Women and Girls

Recently I announced new measures to improve women's health, including support for baby loss. The NHS website now has a dedicated women's health area and an HRT hub. Other initiatives include funding for women's health hubs, transparency on IVF treatment, and a Women's Health Champions network. The response to the Pregnancy Loss Review includes introducing voluntary certificates for parents who experience pre-24-week pregnancy loss. The aim is to provide better care and support for those facing multiple miscarriages.

#### 4. Improving our Public Toilets

I recently wrote to the leader of Lewes District Council in regard to the availability and disgusting state of public toilets across the area. In my letter I stressed the importance of this issue and asked that it is urgently investigated. These facilities across the District should be open to the public and in a clean and usable condition for people. It should not be the case that these basic facilities are not kept to a decent standard. I will keep constituents informed on any developments.