

MP Parish Report February 2026

Local Elections Delay

Following on from my previous report, I am extremely disappointed that the government has decided to postpone our County Council elections yet again. I met with Minister Alison McGovern in January ahead of this decision to implore her to ensure these elections went ahead.

Residents from across the constituency regularly raise issues from SEN provision to speeding through our rural villages, all of which the County Council have responsibility for. It is deeply disturbing that our residents will be denied their say of how their County Council is run, for a second year, extending councillor terms to 6 years, which will eventually become 7 as the new authority will not formally start until 2028. Whilst elections to the shadow authority will take place next year, it is this administration that needs to be held to account.

Our Roads and Transport

During recent weeks you will have all seen the deterioration of our local roads following the wet weather. I would urge residents to report new and existing pot holes via the online portal at <https://live.eastsussexhighways.com/report-problem/report-pothole> so that the Highways team are aware and can inspect the conditions.

I recently met with the Minister for Local Transport, Lilian Greenwood, to discuss the A259 Major Road Network's improvement plan and when a decision will likely be made on its implementation - I am told that an announcement is coming soon. I also raised the issue of accident data taking a long time to feed into National Highways, regarding frequent accidents on the A27, particularly at junctions such as in Falmer. She assured me she would raise this with the Chief Executive of National Highways, so that safety improvements can be made more quickly.

In a Westminster Hall Debate on Transport in the South East I raised the issue of the Exeat Bridge, local pot holes, restoring the direct Seaford to London rail service, the affordability of buses and lack of routes as well as the decriminalisation of parking in the Wealden District part of my constituency.

Summer Tour

Thank you to the local Parish Council's that have already been in touch about organising a visit in the summer to meet yourselves as councillors and your residents. I am beginning to plan these visits now with my team so please do contact Helen at helen.spearman@parliament.uk if you would like to register interest or host an event.