

MP Parish Report January 2026

Local Elections Delay

As part of the Local Government Reorganisation that is currently taking place, existing authorities were invited to apply by the 15th of January to delay their local elections once again whilst reorganisation takes place. The Conservative-run East Sussex County Council have already applied to do this, which will extend current serving councillors terms from the original 4 years to 6 and then potentially more in the future.

I have been very clear in Parliament and to residents that these elections must take place. Many of the local issues that residents face, from pot holes to SEN provision are ultimately the responsibility of the County Council. Delaying these elections by another year, denies residents the right to hold the Council to account. I am meeting the Minister in person soon to convey my concerns once again.

Venezuela and Trump

The return to Parliament from the Christmas recess last week was marred by the chaos started by President Trump following his kidnapping of President Maduro of Venezuela. Following this blatant breach of international law, I have challenged Ministers to ensure that no UK military bases are used in ways that breach international law should Trump follow through on his threat to annexe Greenland.

Undermining and threatening the existence of NATO is a threat to our national security and one that we must take seriously. I hope that this does force Keir Starmer to start standing up for Britain and our allies when it really matters.

Summer Tour

As cold as it may seem at the moment, I am beginning to plan 2026's summer tour of our towns and parishes and would like to extend the offer again to your local council. I would welcome any suggestions or ideas for a visit to your area to meet your councillors and residents. Please contact Helen at helen.spearman@parliament.uk if you would like to register interest or host an event.