



CAROLYN HARRIS MP
STANDING UP FOR SWANSEA EAST



As the hot weather rolled into town so too did the fiery political exchanges, as my month was filled with media appearances where I took the Government to task. With arrangements being made for #EveryoneDeservesASummer I am looking forward to a summer of getting out and about across the constituency and putting on lunch clubs for the little ones.

Taking on the Tories on TV

The first week of June saw a Politics Live appearance discussing all things cost-of-living. Platforms like these are always an ideal opportunity to step up to the plate and challenge the Tories on their record. The poor soul they wheeled out to defend the indefensible that week was Brendan Clarke-Smith MP, who made a right pigs' ear of it. When challenged on our crumbling public services and the UK suffering from the highest tax burden in 70 years, he pulled from the Johnson playbook by rattling off slogans totally irrelevant to the question. What did he have to say about the economy you ask? 'We're getting there.' Not good enough.

Next up was a spot on Sophie Ridge to raise awareness of the menopause. With so little movement on women's health coming from the Government, interviews like these can sometimes feel like shouting into the void. But with only 14% of the 13 million menopausal women in this country getting the support they need and deserve, someone has to do what the Government are not. So many women are not joining the dots. Symptoms like itchy skin or restless legs, migraines or brain fog can often feel unrelated, but since I have started campaigning on the menopause, many women have approached me to say 'I didn't know it was happening to me!'

Grilling Suella Braverman at Home Affairs

On June 14th, I and the other members of the Home Affairs Committee, questioned Home Secretary Suella Braverman. Braverman told the



Had a blast taking on the Tories on Politics Live



Always a pleasure to bang the menopause drum



Not an impressive showing from the Home Secretary



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committee that she was very proud of the Government's Modern Slavery policy. This prompted me to ask her what there is to be proud of when only three people have been fined for buying sex from trafficked workers in the last seven years? Her answer was a disappointing, pre-prepared response, designed to evade my question.

This was a theme that ran throughout the session, with Braverman failing to provide proper answers to important questions, such as how the Home Office will meet the PM's promise on clearing asylum backlogs by the end of this year, and what the Home Office are doing to find the 150+ unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors as a result of the Home Office's negligence. These are some of the most vulnerable children in the world, at constant risk of sex trafficking and exploitation. Braverman also failed to promise that she would ensure no future asylum-seeking children would be left unaccompanied.

Learning all about George's Law

I met with campaigner Keeley Emmet who is fighting for new legislation to allow parents who lose a pregnancy before 24 weeks, at least three days paid bereavement leave to grieve. 'George's Law', named after Keeley's late son, will highlight that miscarriage is not an illness and will ensure that parental grief is recognised in statute rather than being left to the mercy of the employer.

Dr Organics' Generosity

It was my pleasure to visit Dr. Organics earlier in the month in my capacity as co-chair of the Beauty and Wellbeing APPG. It is such a benefit to have Dr. Organics in the constituency as they are always so supportive of #EveryoneDeserves. This time, they are getting involved with the APPG's campaign to get donations of personal care and hygiene products to Ukrainian refugees.

Have a lovely summer everyone,

Carolyn



Absolutely lovely to meet with the formidable campaigner Keeley Emmet



Dr. Organics are such stars