



# Message from your MP

[www.nickhurd.com](http://www.nickhurd.com)



This newsletter is designed to keep you in touch with some of the issues which I think will have a big bearing on quality of life in Ruislip, Northwood and Harefield. It is also a chance for you to come back and tell me what is important to you.

In this issue:

- **Asylum situation in Hillingdon**
- **Olympics Funding**
- **Support Mount Vernon Campaign**
- **RSPCA Shop opens**
- **Stop the Garden Grab**

## NICK HURD: "WE NEED A FAIRER ASYLUM DEAL FOR HILLINGDON"

Nick Hurd MP fully supports Hillingdon Council's decision to campaign for a fairer funding deal for the 900 unaccompanied asylum seekers who have arrived in Hillingdon.

A joint letter has been sent by the 3 Hillingdon MPs to John Reid, the Home Secretary, which calls for the Council to be "reimbursed the full costs of providing such support." This was because the Government changed the rules for funding after Hillingdon had allocated its budgets for the year.

Currently, Hillingdon receives only a limited amount of support, around £120 a week per person from central government, which does not meet their full costs.

Hillingdon Council took the Government to court in a judicial review, but lost the case at the end of February.

Mr Hurd has tabled the cross



party Early Day Motion 1072 in the last two weeks, on Supporting Failed Asylum Seekers.

Mr Hurd is writing a letter to other MPs facing a similar problem, and has been interviewed on BBC London about the issue.

He has also worked closely with Uxbridge MP John Randall (Con) to press Home Office Ministers on the case in the House of

Commons. He said: "The Government is passing the financial burden onto local taxpayers and not allowing local Councils to improve other services for residents."

Hillingdon should receive a fair level of support whilst the Government gets it act together and deports those who have failed to prove they have a right to stay in the UK."

**TELL ME YOUR THOUGHTS by emailing me at [hurdn@parliament.uk](mailto:hurdn@parliament.uk) or by writing to me at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA**

## COST OF OLYMPICS TREBLES - WHO PAYS?



Last month, Nick Hurd MP challenged Tessa Jowell, the Minister responsible for the Olympics, to guarantee that Hillingdon taxpayers will not face an increase in the Olympic levy:

The Secretary of State was unable to confirm that Londoners would face having to

pay more money. She also admitted to MPs that the revised £9.3 billion bill is over three times the £2.4 billion original estimate when London successfully won its bid to host the event.

Nick Hurd MP said: "The fact that the Olympic budget has almost trebled in just a year is a sign of massive financial

incompetence from the Government. The tragedy is that local taxpayers in Hillingdon will be raided further to pay for Gordon Brown's mistakes.

I have written to the Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone, to ask him to guarantee what the Government was pointedly unable to do."

# LAUNCH OF MOUNT VERNON PETITION



On Friday 23rd March, Nick Hurd MP together with MPs John Randall (seen above) and Gareth Thomas, and the patient group Community

Voice, launched a paper petition in a cross-party effort to save Cancer Services at Mount Vernon Hospital in Northwood.

With the recent collapse of the project to build a new hospital at Hatfield, Nick Hurd MP said that there is now an historic opportunity to save cancer services at Mount Vernon, and urged people to sign the petition.

"We need to win the argument that this is the most affordable solution, that this is the most sensible place to build on the investment that's already been made, the staff that are already here and the vital support of the community in order to keep cancer services at Mount Vernon."

The centre is widely supported by local residents across north-west London, with 7 MPs, 1 GLA member, over 30 Councillors and 2,500 people registering their support online at [www.supportmountvernon.com](http://www.supportmountvernon.com). The website also gives opportunities for local people to express their messages of support on a discussion forum.

Community Voice, the local health pressure group, will be collecting signatures over the next two and a half months. Forms can be obtained on request from the organisation by calling 01895 636095 or 01895 634015.



## RSPCA SHOP OPENS

A NEW charity shop in Ruislip Manor had a special opening when the local MP arrived to have a look around.

Les Drussell, chairman of the local Chamber of Commerce, invited Ruislip-Northwood MP, Nick Hurd, and local councillor Douglas Mills

along to the opening of the RSPCA charity shop in the Manor ward last week.

Nick Hurd said, "It's great to see the RSPCA coming to Ruislip Manor, and I encourage everyone to support the valuable work that they do."

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT I'M DOING?**

**GO TO:  
[www.nickhurd.com](http://www.nickhurd.com)**

**Do you need my help? If so, you can contact me in several ways:**

## STOP THE GARDEN GRAB

How do you feel about new housing developments in your community? It is clear that local people are finding that they no longer have a say in how developments proceed.

That is why I have launched a new campaign to protect local gardens from being concreted over and stop the

over-development of local neighbourhoods.

My first parliamentary petition calls for local people to be given a greater say on planning decisions and for communities to be consulted on changes to their communities.



**SIGN THE PETITION AND FIND OUT MORE AT:  
[www.stopthegardengrab.com](http://www.stopthegardengrab.com)**

BY POST:

House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

BY TELEPHONE:

House of Commons:  
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