

Sojan Joseph MP

Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages



Welcome to my monthly newsletter. I will be using this to keep you informed about my work in the constituency and Westminster.

Merry Christmas everyone! It's that time of year again when we can all reflect on what we're most grateful for, to think about those less fortunate than ourselves, and come together as a community.

This Christmas, I'll be reflecting on my values as a Christian and the role faith can play as a unifier in our communities. As your MP, I have had the privilege of seeing churches and faith leaders take an important role in creating strong community cohesion at a time when society seems ever more divided. As they open their doors for people over the Christmas period I know they will be bringing even more people together.

I am also writing this newsletter shortly before I leave for Estonia on an Armed Forces Parliamentary Delegation to thank our brave service personnel for keeping us safe.



Joining the Ashford Community Sleigh! A brilliant community scheme, which raises money for local charities, such as Pilgrims Hospice and various youth organisations. Thank you to everyone involved for letting me join the festive fun!



Visiting some of the winners of my Primary School Christmas Card Competition. Congratulations to all of the winners from East Stour, Kennington, Lyminge, Elham, and Bodsham!



SOJAN JOSEPH

Member of Parliament for Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages

Get in touch!

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I will be holding more surgeries across the constituency - I have had discussions with constituents regarding the following:

- Local healthcare
- Pensions, benefits, or welfare concerns
- Council disputes
- Political Policy
- School issues

Please make an appointment!

Surgery Sign-Up:
<https://www.sojanjosephmp.com/surgeries/>



Dropping by Ashford's Postal Depot to thank all the Royal Mail workers for their hard work over the year - but especially over the busy Christmas period.

Their efforts ensure that our letters and parcels reach family and friends on time - thank you to everyone at the Ashford Royal Mail Depot!



December 2025



Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages

Every month, I will update you on the progress I am making on your behalf in Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages – and in Westminster too.

I was drawn (again!) for Prime Minister's Questions on 10th December. I have now been drawn six times since being elected to Parliament.

This time I decided to ask the Prime Minister whether he thought the BMA-led resident doctors' strike should go ahead at such a difficult time for the NHS. He agreed that it is important to keep patients at the centre of the NHS and any further strike action could risk the real progress on waiting lists, the extra 5 million appointments, and 2,600 new GPs. So the BMA should instead work with the Government.

It is disappointing the BMA have decided to not work with the Government and go ahead with their strike. However, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of the frontline NHS staff at the William Harvey and across Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages who will be working extra-hard over this busy period due to the BMA-led strikes and the increase in flu cases. It is important we do all we can to reduce pressure on A&E services by ensuring we use the correct services. If you are unsure of what service you need check Kent and Medway Integrated Care System's 'Stop Think Choose' website.



Prime Minister's Questions



Kicking off the Festive Season at Ashford's annual Carnival of the Baubles!



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Last month I spoke with the Ashford Breakfast Club, where we were joined by small and medium enterprises from across Kent. We discussed issues faced by local businesses and steps the Government would be taking to help them, such as apprenticeship schemes and freezing business rates for 1,770 leisure, hospitality, and retail businesses in Ashford.



After meeting with representatives from Virgin Rail and my colleague Lauren Edwards MP. I have kept an ongoing dialogue with the key partners in the private sector since beginning of my campaign to restore international services to Ashford station.

