

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.

I hope you all had a peaceful and positive Christmas period and a positive start to the New Year.

As we look forward to 2026 together, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on what we achieved last year and our ambitions for the year ahead.



Hosting my first community coffee morning of 2026 at The Dog House Micropub in Smeeth. I hope to engage with as many constituents as possible over this year - my next community coffee morning will be in Wye - for future surgeries and events check my website or send me an email!



I know what a huge issue the A&E Department is at the William Harvey Hospital and how corridor care has become a real issue at the hospital in recent months. I was drawn for the first Health Questions of 2026 and chose to follow up on the issue with the Health Secretary, Wes Streeting. He assured me that the Government is "determined to consign corridor care to the history books, and not just in Ashford but right across the country."

I will continue to press to see an improvement in NHS services. I have already held a positive meeting with the Kent and Medway NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) who outlined a broad plan for steps they will be taking to improve our local healthcare services in the coming months.



SOJAN JOSEPH

Member of Parliament for Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages

Get in touch!

- Website - <https://www.sojanjosephmp.com/>
- Twitter - @sojanuk
- Email - sojan.joseph.mp@parliament.uk
- Telephone - 01233 515107

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/>



It was a pleasure to attend the Ashford Hero Awards.

Congratulations to the Ashford and Tenterden Samaritans - and all of the other winners - for winning the Public Services Hero Award.

They are a fantastic charity, who do incredibly important work for people who are in mental health crisis.



January 2026



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.

This year, I'll be continuing my push to return international services as soon as possible.

Achieving this goal will be such a huge boost for jobs, our local economy and for businesses in Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages. It will remain one of my top priorities heading into 2026.



At the 'Bring Back the Magic' 30th Anniversary of International Rail Event with Helena Dollimore MP and Tony Vaughan MP

I recently hosted Portrait Theatre and Whitstable Unplugged performance if Generation FOMO in Parliament. A fantastic and incredibly moving performance, which displayed the difficulties caused by social media, and smartphones – ranging from body dysmorphia to anxiety and depression.

I have backed calls to strengthen the laws to prevent under-16s from accessing social media with a joint letter to the Prime Minister. As a former mental health nurse, I have seen the dangers caused by social media and reliance on technology. I believe it is our duty as legislators to protect young people from the harm it can cause.



With Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP, Kevin McKenna and Writer and Co Director – Isabelle Defaut



Generation FOMO live in Parliament's Jubilee Room



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It was a pleasure to join a 'pub talk' for the Catholic Union of Great Britain – centring mostly around mental health, my experience as an MP, and the Church's role in helping people integrate into the community. The wide range of questions I received from such a politically-engaged audience was brilliant and I hope to join similar events very soon!

I was recently elected to the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC).

I know that maintaining high environmental standards is incredibly important to many of my constituents and I intend to be a constructive voice on the committee.

I will be holding those responsible to account and ensuring that standards are raised across various sectors – especially water and air quality which I know have been a real issues of real concern for many in Ashford, Hawkinge, and the Villages for many months.

For anyone interested in submitting evidence to the EAC's Air Pollution In England, I have attached a link at the bottom of this email.

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