



# Andrew Dismore Member of Parliament for Hendon

Constituency Report # 15  
27<sup>th</sup> April – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2007

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## New Website

Can I firstly draw your attention to my new interactive website [www.AndrewDismoreMP.com](http://www.AndrewDismoreMP.com): this is a much improved site, on which I am putting a lot of important and useful information, especially in the new and improved “reports” sections. I hope you will find it of interest and use.

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## House of Commons and Westminster

The main topic at Westminster over the last couple of weeks has been the **Prime Minister's** announcement that he is standing down and the consequent process for choosing the new **leadership of the Labour Party**. **Gordon Brown MP** has become leader-elect unopposed. Even so, he has made clear that he intends to go through the same leadership process, to be questioned by party members, and will tour the country to meet and listen to people's views. At the end of June, he will become Prime Minister.

The deputy leader position is up for election, too. The contest is wide open, with six candidates. I am supporting **Harriet Harman**, the Justice Department minister, whom I nominated.

I have opened a new section on my website, for those who wish to follow these events, including all the main speeches and links to candidates' websites. To access this [click here](#).

Turning to the main business of the Commons, I spoke during the report stage on the **Borders Bill**, [click here](#) for my speech, on the issue of people trafficking and the treatment of asylum seekers, based on the report of the **Joint Select Committee on Human Rights**, which I chair. To view both reports, [click here](#) for the Committee's website.

As you may recall from previous reports, I have played a leading role in the campaign for a new law, the **Corporate Manslaughter Bill**. This is now near the end of the Parliamentary passage. I spoke extensively in the Commons debate on amendments made by the House of Lords (that have to be considered in the Commons). The main outstanding issue is whether **deaths in custody** should be included within the scope of the Bill. The Government has made a series of important and welcome concessions on this, having originally vigorously opposed

my earlier amendment to this effect. I spoke on this issue, as well as making other points on the content of the Bill. For my speeches, [click here](#).

I also spoke briefly during the debate on **Community Radio** – especially regarding **Shalom FM** and **London Greek Radio**. For my contribution, [click here](#).

The **Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill**, is a Private Member's Bill which has just been passed by the Commons. It has received a lot of adverse publicity. I have prepared a detailed separate briefing on this: [click here](#) to see it.

The **Joint Committee on Human Rights** has, as usual been very active. We are coming towards the end of our inquiry into the **treatment of the elderly** in the NHS and care homes. I expect us to publish our report at the start of the summer recess. We have announced our next two inquiries: **access to services for adults with learning difficulties**; and a **British Bill of Rights**. Our terms of reference and call for evidence on these can be accessed on the committee website [click here](#).

We are also re-opening our inquiry into the **conduct of UK forces in Iraq**, in the light of recent court martials. [Click here for the press notice](#).

We also paid an extremely useful visit to **Paddington Green police station**, where terrorist suspects are held, for up to 28 days. Originally an ordinary police station, parts of its cells area have been adapted for this high security work. We found the staff competent and careful for the interests of the detainees under their charge, but the conditions – designed for periods of detention of only up to 48 hours – are unsatisfactory for the lengthier periods now allowed, and possibly to be extended.

I have been appointed by the **Inter Parliamentary Union**, an international organisation which represent about 150 Parliaments around the world, as their representative on the issue of people trafficking, probably in recognition of the work I have been doing on this challenging issue, through the Human Rights Committee. This is a tremendous honour – but will mean some additional hard work, by the time I have produced an interim report in October.

Also, around Westminster, I was the keynote speaker at a legal conference on **Corporate Manslaughter**; I met with the **Legal Services Committee**, to discuss the changes in legal aid, about which I am very concerned; and Francesca Klug, an LSE professor on human rights, to discuss the work of our committee.

I arranged for Barnet Council leaders to meet with **Treasury Minister John Healey MP**, where we discussed new ideas to bring capital investment into our Borough.

As **chair of the London Labour MPs**, I met with **Education Minister Andrew Adonis** and his officials to discuss education in London. The significant improvements across the capital over recent years are pretty stunning, and far better than the press would have you believe, especially when compared to elsewhere in the country – but of course there is still much to do.

On a lighter note, I attended the **Parliamentary Jazz Group** annual concert night; and the launch of this year's **Tiffin Club Cup**, (the Tiffin Club is a Commons charity of which I am a member, raising money for charitable causes in the Indian subcontinent). Every year, we nominate South Asian restaurants, to find the best Parliamentary recommendation in the country. I nominated **Day of the Raj**, Mill Hill

Broadway – and I wish them luck in the regional next round!

I also was honoured to be invited to the **Board of Deputies' President's annual dinner**

I have sponsored and signed the usual wide range of **Early Day Motions**, to see them [click here](#).

To see my written **Parliamentary questions** use the [Parliamentary Search Engine](#), which you can use to see them all, or just those that you have a particular interest in.

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## **Constituency**

I have done extensive “door knocking” to meet residents in **Burnt Oak** and **Edgware** over the last month.

I held a coffee morning at the **Royal British Legion**, Edgware, for residents in that locality to meet with me.

I attended the opening of the new **Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team** base in Hartley Avenue, for the Mill Hill and Hale police teams, and met with the officers and PCSOs, there.

I was also present at the induction of the new United Reformed Church minister, for the **Mill Hill United Reformed Church**.

I have published reports on:

- [Grahame Park Estate Consultation](#)

and eUpdates on:

- [Transport for London – roadworks on the A41](#)
- [Transport - London Underground Investment and Works](#)
- [Animal Welfare - Shambo the Bull](#)

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## **Media**

I appeared on **Today in Parliament**, Radio 4, who interviewed me about **Freedom of Information** (see above); and my speech on **Corporate Manslaughter** was reported there, too.

I appeared on **Radio Wales** and in the **Daily Telegraph** about **Shambo the Bull**. I was quoted in the **Evening Standard** about the need for investment in London, especially for transport.

The full range of press releases I have issued to the local and specialist press can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

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## Support

In response to these monthly updates, quite a few people have responded, asking how they can get involved in my campaigning work, or make a donation to support the costs of what I do, or join the Labour Party. If you are interested in any of these please [click here](#) and I'll get back to you, on how you can help!

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I would be very interested to hear any feedback on the issues raised in this report. I have now started a series of occasional meetings for constituents, on Sunday afternoons, to receive feedback, both from these reports and more generally on what is going on in and around the constituency. Please let me know if you would like to have invitations to such events, which will be held at my constituency office next to the Town Hall in Hendon. To register your interest, email me with your name and address; just [click here](#).

I hope that you have found this report of interest, and if you would like to receive my specific subject based reports just [click here](#). If you have any comments, please do not hesitate to let me know by emailing me at [updates@hendonlabourparty.com](mailto:updates@hendonlabourparty.com).

If you have any friends or neighbours in Hendon who might be interested in this report, please feel free to send it to them. If they would like to be added to my email list please ask them to email [updates@hendonlabourparty.com](mailto:updates@hendonlabourparty.com).

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Dismore  
Member of Parliament for Hendon

\*\*\*\*\*[You can find out more at my website -just click here](#)\*\*\*\*\*

PS. To join my mailing lists for any of my reports just [click here](#)

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