

Since I last wrote, I have given two speeches on two very different topics, but they have one thing in common. The first was about rape conviction rates in this country. I talked about the fact they're too low and shared cases from constituents anonymously to highlight how the system doesn't work well enough for the victims. I shared stats I'd been given about public attitudes to rape that a constituent had given me and I stressed the need to educate boys about the right way to treat girls so they grow up to be men who behave in the right way towards women.

The second speech was about the lack of GP practices for the number of houses we've had built. Yes, I know, a regular theme I talk about, but I've joined forces with colleagues who have similar issues in their constituencies to maximise our campaigning efforts. I set out in detail the level of housebuilding we've had, the fact that years and years have passed without additional, promised GP practices being built and I talked about what I thought should happen, including infrastructure going in first and setting a maximum number of patients per GP or practice (surprisingly, there isn't one at present).

What the two very different topics have in common – apart from being longstanding issues – is that no one organisation is responsible for solving the problem. Both are of course significantly affected by what Governments do (or don't do). But the failure to see enough rape prosecutions is also partly about what the police, the CPS and judges do, as well as about societal attitudes, which affect jury decisions. And on GP practices, it's partly to do with the actions of housebuilders and developers, councils, the Clinical Commissioning Group and national NHS bodies. People understandably look to Government to solve problems, but authority in this country tends to be well dispersed – and for good reasons – so, unfortunately, no one lever being pulled in Westminster will quickly solve them.

David Johnston OBE MP invites
you to the

WANTAGE AND DIDCOT 2022 CLIMATE SUMMIT

with keynote speaker
COP26 President

ALOK SHARMA

27th June 2022

09:00am – 1:30pm via Zoom

Join me and our local and national experts as we discuss the big
issues and how we can build on the commitments made at
COP26!

Register at: www.david-johnston.org.uk



My Climate Summit this year will be on the 27th June, 9am – 1.30pm via Zoom, with Alok Sharma as the keynote speaker. One topic I know I want to cover is energy policy. We're having an important debate at the moment about our use of oil and gas, the cost of living and what role, if any, there is for things like onshore wind and nuclear power. As with the issues above, there isn't a simple answer. Sign up on my website www.david-johnston.org.uk to take part.

Alongside my usual surgery appointments and visits to schools, businesses, charities, etc, I had a fantastic visit to 11 EOD & Search Regiment in Didcot. They work tirelessly to keep us all safe and almost nothing they do will ever make it into the papers, but we should be very proud to have them in the constituency.

As ever, if I can help with anything then do contact me via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk