

CHARLIE ELPHICKE MP

REPORTING BACK ■ FEBRUARY 2013

PORT SAVED ■ NEW HOSPITAL ■ JOBS ACTION



FAIR SHARE OF HEALTHCARE

Local MP Charlie Elphicke has been campaigning for Dover and Deal to have a fair share of healthcare. Charlie has been working hard to make up for the years we were overlooked and forgotten under Labour.

NEW DOVER HOSPITAL

Buckland Hospital was decimated by Labour for over a decade and wards were axed one by one.

After just two and half years in office, Charlie has secured a new £20m hospital for Dover. Health chiefs say Dover's new hospital will be open in late 2014.



Moving ahead: A new hospital for Dover

Charlie says, "This is a major victory for our community. At long last Dover looks set to get a fairer share of healthcare. Yet there's no room for complacency. I won't rest until the hospital is built and we get the care beds we need."

PROTECTING DEAL HOSPITAL

Charlie is campaigning to save services at Deal Hospital. Charlie has been active in securing assurances on the future of the minor injuries unit and diagnostics like X-ray machines.

While consultant outpatient services are under review by hospital chiefs, Charlie is campaigning for safeguards for vulnerable people who find it hard to travel. Charlie is also seeing if more community based services can be provided – making healthcare even more local and accessible.

Charlie says, "It would be the wrong thing to withdraw outpatient consultations from Deal. I'm very alive to the concerns about Deal Hospital which is why I'm pressing local health chiefs to retain consultations for the most vulnerable in our community."

Championing Dover & Deal...



Speaking up for us

Charlie has been our MP for just two and a half years. In that time he hasn't just fought for local priorities like a fair share of healthcare and saving our port.

He's also been active in Parliament on the things that matter to us all. Charlie has tabled a British Bill of Rights, supported welfare reform to make work pay, campaigned for fairer taxes and the right of children to see both their parents following a family breakdown.

British Bill of Rights

People often say how angry they are that Labour's human rights laws too often give villains and terrorists the upper hand.

This is why Charlie has tabled a British Bill of Rights and Responsibilities in Parliament. Under the Bill of Rights, the discredited Human Rights Act would be torn up.



Time for a British Bill of Rights



In it for the poorest, not for himself

Caring for the least well off

Charlie's campaign for the poorest to be taken out of income tax was backed by nine out of ten local residents in a recent survey. Charlie's campaign is paying off – from April this year, people won't pay tax until they earn £9,440.

Now Charlie is waging a parliamentary campaign to stop the tax rip off by big foreign multi-nationals. Companies like Google, Starbucks and Amazon pay hardly any tax in the UK and

Charlie wants to see them pay a fair share. Charlie has also honoured his promise not to claim expenses for homes, food or furniture.

Charlie says, "Under Labour, between 1997 and 2010, income tax went up 80 per cent while corporation tax paid by businesses went up just 6 per cent. I want to see change so that big businesses pay a fair share of tax and taxes are cut for people who work hard like you and me."

**PORT OF DOVER
FOREVER ENGLAND
SELL-OFF STOPPED**

VICTORY!

PUT UP FOR SALE BY LABOUR ■ SAVED BY THE CONSERVATIVES

We were all shocked when Gordon Brown's Labour Government put our port up for sale. Once the sell off was proposed it seemed impossible to stop and that our port would be sold to the French or whoever.

Yet just two and a half years later, our community has won an incredible

victory. The Government has axed Labour's privatisation plan and the Port of Dover will remain forever England.

Charlie says, "We need a new focus on regeneration. A new partnership of port, community and ferry companies to transform Dover back into a jewel in the crown of the nation."



Labour's port sell off axed

Working for a fairer share of jobs and money...

JOBS AND MONEY



Fast train success!

More local jobs and money is a priority for us all. It's been a tough time for everyone, yet there are signs the economy locally and nationally is beginning to heal.

Charlie has been active in promoting jobs and money locally:

- The campaign for the fast train to Deal paid off. The commuting service has been so full that Charlie is now making the case for an all day service;
- Stopping Labour's Port of Dover sell off which would have led to asset stripping and destroyed morale. An alternative plan to regenerate and improve Dover for the long term;
- Fast action to save jobs following the Pfizer shutdown. The Discovery Park Enterprise Zone together with a £40m Regional Growth Fund for East Kent;
- Support for high street improvement bids in both Dover and Deal;
- A Jobs Fair in Dover Town Hall on 8th March 2013, 10am-4pm.

Locally, Labour failed to secure us any growth money and let unemployment spiral. We all remember when the Audit Commission were brought in to investigate Labour's financial incompetence on Deal Town Council – while Conservative controlled Kent County Council has helped families by FREEZING council tax for yet another year.

Supporting local traders

Robin Green heads up the Deal Society and is leading the charge to boost the High Street with a community interest company. Robin says about his work:

"The Portas funding we have received has been a real help. We have been able to set up a community interest company to move things forward. Deal's traders know how we can most improve the High Street and that is what we are now working hard on.

"The team is now engaged in plans for the whole of 2013 beginning with a French themed event in mid March."



Listening to Deal traders

Dover

jobs fair

Dover Town Hall Biggin Street, Dover, CT16 1DL

Friday 8th March 2013 10am - 4pm



Are you a job seeker looking for work? Or a business looking to take on more employees?

Charlie has organised a jobs fair at Dover Town Hall for **Friday 8th March 2013 10am-4pm**. It's about getting local businesses and job seekers together to boost jobs and money locally.

Stands are free to all employers. So if you are an employer and want to take a stand at the fair, please call Terri on 01424 441833. Go to www.doveranddealjobsfairs.com for more information.

If you are a job seeker, you will also be able to come and get advice on interview techniques and help with writing a CV.

Growth Fund grant

Deal Businesswoman Esme Chilton writes:

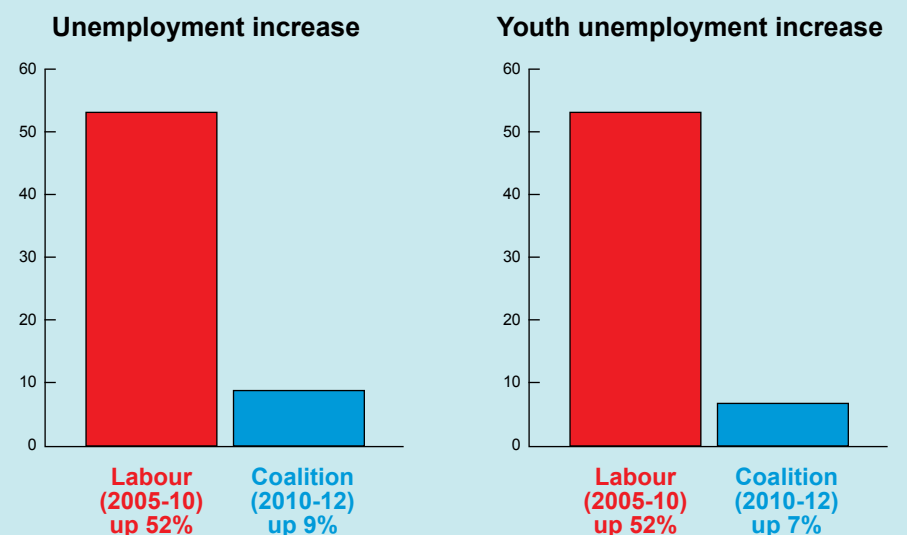
"I wanted to set up a holistic nursery business in Deal – 'Creative Minds'. We need to help parents with childcare and there is a big need for high quality provision locally.

"Thanks to the new Regional Growth Fund I was able to get a funding award to help with setting up Creative Minds. It will mean there will be jobs for 14 people locally and that more parents will be able to go out to work to provide for their families. Without the Regional Growth Fund it would have been so much harder to get the business off the ground."

DOVER & DEAL IN NUMBERS

As the economy starts to heal things are turning round, slowly but surely. Yet the figures show how much there is to do as unemployment rocketed under the previous government.

This is why Charlie is working so hard to fix our local economy and is waging a war on unemployment – especially youth unemployment. Charlie's aim is to see lower unemployment locally by the end of this Parliament.



Figures from Office of National Statistics