

March 2010

Dear

I am writing to introduce myself. I am the Member of Parliament for Lewisham Deptford and you live in the Lewisham Central ward which is being added to the Lewisham Deptford constituency. This change comes into effect at the general election.

If re-elected I will serve you with the same commitment and hard work that I do with all my constituents. I became a politician because I believed in trying to create a fairer, more just and equal society. I still do. I have been a champion for equal rights and an environmental campaigner all my life.

During my time in parliament I have introduced two private members bills. The first laid the foundations to tackle fly-tipping – it is still in use today – and the second revolutionised recycling which made possible for doorstep collection of recyclable material that is now used by all local councils.

As a shadow Home Office minister I wrote a report on racial attacks that led to Labour introducing aggravated sentences and further anti discrimination measures.

I was the first full-time minister for women in the new Labour government of 1997. Harriet Harman and I set out the priorities for the representation of women, for childcare provisions and for action on violence against women that Labour has worked for.

In 2007 I became an environment minister and today I am the Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change. As deputy to Ed Miliband on international matters I was actively involved in the Copenhagen Climate Change talks and at home I have introduced wide ranging energy efficiency measures.



In my constituency I hold regular surgeries at various locations, seeing up to 50 people at a time. I have helped thousands of people in the time that I have been an MP and I also stand up for people and communities on various issues that affect their lives – from policing to development to health facilities and train services.

I understand that political scandals have greatly affected people's respect for politicians but I have always acted with integrity and stuck to my principles - voting against the government going to war in Iraq. Also as an inner London MP I do not claim any second home allowances and no queries have ever been raised regarding any of my expense claims.

I hope we may have an opportunity to meet over the coming months when I am out and about with the Labour team in your area.

If there is anything else you would like to know about me do not hesitate to get in touch.

With very best wishes,

Ms Joan Ruddock MP

## Your Lewisham Central Council Candidates

Damien Egan



Damien is active in the Hither Green Community Association and has been involved in the campaign against the proposed demolition of Kidz Korner. Mike Harris



Mike Harris is a human rights campaigner who works for a charity. He was lucky enough to work on the Obama campaign in 2008. He's proud to call Lewisham his home.

Stella Jeffrey



Stella Jeffrey has lived in Lewisham for the past 33 years working as a teacher locally and bringing up her three children.

Online: www.lewishamcentralhithergreen.co.uk
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## Steve Bullock Mayor of Lewisham

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