

Hello again,

This is rather a long email but will hopefully provide you with information about my work in the last few weeks.

Since being drawn sixth in the Private Members Bill ballot I have been flooded with letters, calls and emails, some from the most obscure of organisations but all, no doubt with the best of intentions! I am genuinely "open to offers" (see below).

I have news on my meetings with two Ministers and an update on the Forestry Commission plans at Toton Sidings. There is also, some bad news, I'm sorry to report for Trowell residents.

My office "situation" has been resolved and I have details of my surgeries for the next month. Finally some plugs for community events this coming weekend and a thank you to everyone who attended Saturday's Hemlock Happening and the St. Barnabas Summer Fayre in Chilwell. If you have an event that needs some publicity and/or you would like me to attend please email me at [anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk)

As ever

Anna Soubry

#### **Meeting with Transport Minister, Norman Baker re the tram extension.**

As you may have heard on the local news I had a meeting today (Monday) with the Minister responsible for trams, Norman Baker. The Coalition Government is conducting a full review of private finance initiatives (PFI's) which is a scheme created by the last Government to bring together public and private money for projects like new schools and hospitals. Norman Baker and I shared our concern that some projects have resulted in considerable pressures on public funds. Norman Baker made it clear that the Coalition Government will not go behind the Inspectors approval of the route through Beeston and Chilwell, so in effect the argument about the route is over. His department will look at the proposed Government funding of the project (over £520 million) and will announce whether they are prepared to fund the tram. As I have said on a number of occasions, we need a decision one way or the other. I am of the view that we can't afford the tram extensions, I may be wrong but I am confident we will soon have certainty. That will end the blight that has affected Beeston in particular, and the distress indecision has caused to so many with homes and businesses along the route.

#### **Anonymity for people accused of Rape**

In the Queens Speech, the Coalition Government announced it is considering changing the law to allow people accused of rape to remain anonymous. What it actually means is that the media will be prohibited from publishing the name and address of anyone accused with rape in the same way anyone who makes a complaint of a sexual offence or is under the age of 16, has anonymity.

Notwithstanding that I have defended a number of men (and on one occasion a woman) accused of rape I have little if any enthusiasm for any change to the current law.