Nick Timothy MP for West Suffolk

REPORTS BACK TO YOU

Budget offers nothing for Suffolk … and could YOU be a local councillor?



We may have a new Prime Minister and Chancellor, but in the Budget Andy Burnham and John Healey sounded a lot like Keir Starmer and Rachel Reeves. Inflation is on the up, which means higher mortgage rates and more pain for families struggling with the rising cost of living. Taxes will reach their highest level ever, with yet another raid on savers. And the economy is stagnant.

And what does it all mean for Suffolk? The family farms tax – and family business tax – still stands. And there was not nearly enough action on energy prices – and nothing at all about heating oil. The Chancellor confirmed the plan to house illegal immigrants in RAF bases – like RAF Barnham nearby – with a new £150 million refurbishment fund.

I have long campaigned for better transport connections in West Suffolk, but the Chancellor offered nothing that might lead to the Ely and Haughley junction upgrades, a rail link between Haverhill and Cambridge, a dualled line between Newmarket and Cambridge, or much-needed investment to improve Fiveways near Barton Mills and Mildenhall.

Do you want to serve your community?

With local elections due next year, it is time for people to put themselves forward to stand as council candidates. Local councillors play a really important role in the way things run in West Suffolk. They come from all walks of life, and you do not need any particular experience – just a genuine interest in helping make our community a better place. If you would like more information about becoming a Conservative candidate, please get in touch at nick@nicktimothy.com



Your voice in Parliament

Suffolk receives less funding for education and children's services than our neighbours in Norfolk and Essex – on some measures, by up to £200 per pupil. So, ahead of the Budget, I wrote to the Education Secretary to ask why the Government's approach to funding prioritises large metropolitan areas – like London and Manchester – and leaves rural and semi-rural communities, like West Suffolk, coming up short.

This week I continued to hold the Government to account on its insane plans to release thousands of criminals from prison early. The Justice Secretary promised all released prisoners would be tagged and monitored electronically. But he still

had no idea how many had been tagged. I asked an urgent question in the House of Commons – and the minister responding hadn't a clue

Listening to you

Last week, I asked you to tell me how the sharp rises in the cost of heating oil are affecting you. Around one in three respondents told me they are now spending more than ten per cent of their income on heating oil. And three quarters of you agreed that we need to open up the North Sea and invest in producing our own oil and gas, which would go directly to heating British homes. I know how worried people are about the coming winter, and I will continue to urge ministers to offer more support.



This week, I want to hear your response to the Budget – and your thoughts on the economy and family finances more generally. Please click here to fill in my two-minute survey.

Out and about in Suffolk

I was pleased to attend at this year's Suffolk Convention, the annual conference organised by Suffolk Chamber of Commerce. The Convention brings together business leaders and policymakers from across the county to discuss the future of the local economy.

While I was in Ipswich I held meetings with Cllr Michael Hadwen, the Leader of Suffolk County Council, and Cllr Christopher Hudson, the Cabinet Member for Transport, about how we can work together to improve services for residents. Cllr Hadwen agreed to accompany me on a visit to Lakenheath Community Primary

School, which was forced to close after his officials removed essential road markings.





I also had a useful meeting with Cllr Richard Rout – the Leader of the Conservative Group at Suffolk County Council – to discuss our work together on local issues. We want to see a different approach to housing development, with infrastructure coming ahead of increases in the population. We also talked about my campaign for a rail link between Cambridge and Haverhill, and our opposition to the proposed Redmere wind farm near Lakenheath and Mildenhall. And of course we discussed our plans to oppose the Government's plan to use RAF Barnham to house illegal immigrants. You can sign my petition to stop it here.



I had a useful meeting with the East West Rail Company and the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation to discuss my campaign for a Haverhill-Cambridge rail link, which would bring investment and jobs to Haverhill.



I want to congratulate all the remarkable local businesses which were recognised at the West Suffolk Business Awards earlier this month. Among them were EDR Technology, which was recognised for its commitment to investing in West Suffolk

– and KluraLabs, a maker of special packaging which extends the shelf-life of food, which received an award for scientific innovation.

And I wish everyone a happy Halloween. In Newmarket, Frankel is being ridden by a headless rider. If you have any favourite Halloween photos in Suffolk, I would love to see them.



In the media

A violent thug stabbed a girl ten times after she rejected him. The judge called him a “bright lad” and said prison was “the last place” for him. He was given a twelve-month referral order. As I told *The Telegraph*, he belongs behind bars, and it is disgraceful that he has avoided real punishment.



The *Daily Mail* and other newspapers covered my urgent question in the House of Commons about the early release scheme. Labour refuse to say how many new crimes have been committed by the offenders they have let out onto our streets, and they are gambling with public safety.

Afghans are twenty times more likely to commit sex crimes. In a tone-deaf article, *The Economist* accepted that I am correct to say that immigrants from some countries are more likely to commit serious sexual offences – but criticised me for saying it. They even played down public concerns, claiming sex crimes by immigrants are “hardly an epidemic.” I will not apologise for standing up for the safety of women and girls.

Britain | Making sense of the census

Do immigrants from some countries commit more sex crimes?

A hard look at Britain's data suggests so. But it is hardly an epidemic

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Scrutinising the Government

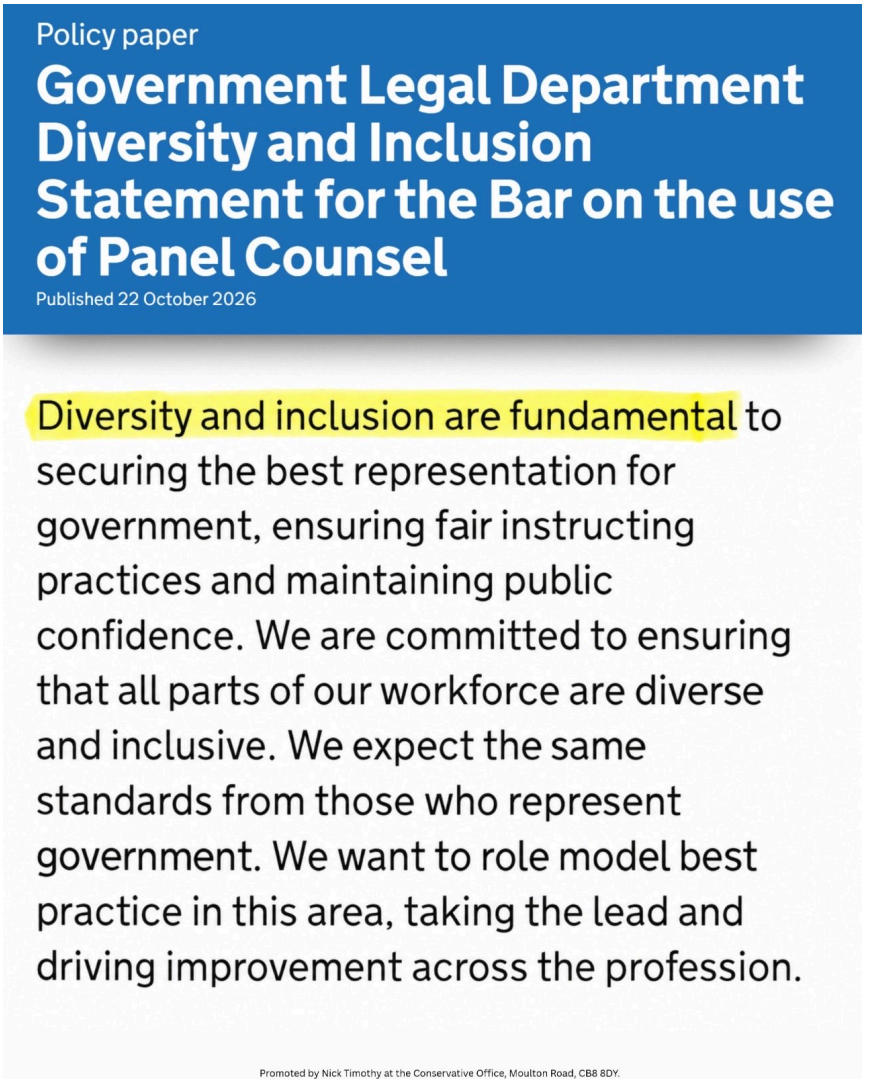
Two-thirds of prisoners released homeless reoffend within a year. But Labour's prisons crisis means released prisoners are being given tents to live in, which makes it almost impossible for them to stick to their licence conditions. I have written to the Justice Secretary to ask him to explain himself.

The Government said they had no choice but to let thousands of dangerous criminals out of prison. But my questions have exposed the truth. Many cells are out of use because of vandalism, wasteful projects, and even bedbugs – while some repairs will not go ahead until 2031. Meanwhile, Labour and Reform are working together on a £20,000 project to build prisoners their own personal podcast studio. This is a ridiculous waste of taxpayers' money – and an insult to victims.



Yet the Justice Secretary is determined to shut down all criticism. I recently wrote to him calling for an investigation into Tan Ikram, the Deputy Chief Magistrate, who after a string of controversies has been linked to an organisation that dismissed the rape gangs as “so-called grooming gangs”. Alex Norris’s response was to tell me to stop this “dangerous public criticism”. I do not make a habit of criticising judges, but Ikram’s conduct outside the courtroom raises serious questions – and I will not be silenced.

And the Government’s warped priorities are clear for all to see. A new Government policy proudly announces that “diversity and inclusion are fundamental” to its approach to legal matters. We are seeing the erosion of equality before the law, and it is no wonder that there is such a crisis of confidence in our justice system.



Policy paper

Government Legal Department Diversity and Inclusion Statement for the Bar on the use of Panel Counsel

Published 22 October 2026

Diversity and inclusion are fundamental to securing the best representation for government, ensuring fair instructing practices and maintaining public confidence. We are committed to ensuring that all parts of our workforce are diverse and inclusive. We expect the same standards from those who represent government. We want to role model best practice in this area, taking the lead and driving improvement across the profession.

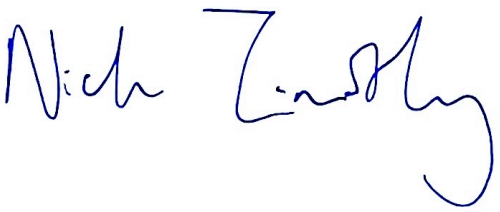
Promoted by Nick Timothy at the Conservative Office, Moulton Road, CB8 8DY.

Surgeries and support

If you need any help at all you can reach me at nick.timothy.mp@parliament.uk

And if you know anyone who you think might welcome receiving this email, please do forward this onto them and mention that they can sign up by writing to nick@nicktimothy.com

Very best wishes



Nick Timothy
MP for West Suffolk

PS Please click here to sign my petition to STOP the Forest City if

you have not already done so. Many thanks

Nick Timothy

Member of Parliament for West Suffolk

Published and promoted by Nick Timothy MP, all at The Conservative Office, Moulton Road, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8DY

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