



Vaughan Gething AM

Standing up for Cardiff South & Penarth



Welsh Labour and co-operative
Llafur Cymru a chydweithredol

Monthly Report

Following a recent column I wrote on 20mph concerns with speeding on South Road, Cog zones I have been contacted by a number of Sully residents over concerns of road safety in the area. Residents have expressed their concerns over the growing volume and speed of traffic which passes through the village and their desire for a 20mph speed limit to be implemented. I have long supported calls for 20mph in built up areas across the constituency and I am happy to endorse their campaign.

Residents are working with not-for profit organisation 20 is Plenty to campaign for 20mph to become the default speed limit on residential streets. Reducing road speeds in built up areas has a proven track record of saving lives and avoiding serious injury. Figures show that people hit by a car travelling at 35mph only have 50 per cent chance of survival. If the speed is reduced to 20mph the chance of survival leaps to 97 per cent. Shockingly more than half of all road deaths in the UK are caused on roads where the speed limit is 30mph. Studies from across the UK have shown that a reduction to 20mph can have a 70% reduction in child pedestrian accidents and a 21% lower injury odds for cyclists.

Last week I met with local residents and campaigners to discuss their concerns. I know that, like most places, there are hotspots of unsafe driving. Residents have raised particular

concerns with speeding on South Road, Cog Road and Beach Road. Constituents have told me that they are particularly concerned about these roads as many children use these roads to get to school each day. They have impressed upon me their concern over the reckless overtaking in the area and incidents of drivers ignoring crossing lights and pedestrian crossings.

Many local authorities across the UK have already adopted 20mph as the default speed limit in residential areas.

As a result of this many local authorities have reported significant reductions in average speeds. A 20mph speed limit would have a significant positive impact on the village. It is more than pure speed, a reduction would help to create a calmer and safer road culture in Sully. It would have a significant impact on pedestrian and cyclist safety. It could also get more people walking and cycling and help to create greener communities. Studies have shown that the number of residents who walk for 10 minutes or more in their local area has generally increased in every area where 20mph zones have been adopted.

I will be writing to the Vale Council to ask that they look into the implementation of 20mph zones in the area. I will continue to support residents on this issue. I will provide an update as soon as possible.

Standing up for Cardiff South and Penarth

New Play Facilities at Baden Powell

As part of my ongoing commitment to visit all schools in the constituency I recently visited Baden Powell Primary. I had the pleasure of meeting with the Head Boy and Head Girl and the



Student Council. They told me of their plans for the school over the coming months. We also had a discussion about future careers, there was a budding interior designer, pilot and doctor. I also officially opened their new play equipment. It was lovely to meet teachers and parents at the opening. The school community has done a fantastic job in improving play facilities at the school.

Meet my Mentee!

Ethnic Minorities and Youth Support Team (EYST) are running a BAME Routes to Public Life programme. The aim is to help BAME people develop their political skills and increase their



impact on public life. I am proud to be supporting the programme and to take part in its mentoring scheme. I was delighted to meet my mentee, Hannah Ahmad. Hannah is a Cardiff University academic and recently appointed Chair of the Cardiff University BAME Network. I want to see more people from BAME communities putting themselves forward for political elections and standing for public office. I look forward to mentoring Hannah over the coming months.

Compensation for Delayed Train Journeys

I have been contacted by a number of

constituents about disruptions to rail services in the constituency. I have been in contact with Transport for Wales who have assured me that that service levels are now back to normal and they do not anticipate any restrictions to services in the coming year. Transport for Wales has launched a Delay Repay scheme so that people are eligible for compensation if their train is cancelled or is late arriving at its destination. More information can be found at <https://tfwrail.wales/delay-repay-compensation>.

Changes to Bus Services

I want to congratulate Cardiff's Labour Council on committing to support at risk bus services for the next 2 years. I am also pleased to see our Penarth Labour Councillors taking a lead in negotiating a revised budget in the Vale which will provide additional support to bus services in Penarth and Llandough.

Cardiff Bus had announced that it would be removing services from routes across Cardiff and the Vale. Following the announcement I have been contacted by a number of constituents concerned about the loss of services. Far from being an uncaring organisation Cardiff Bus are stuck with a legal framework that stops them from operating on the same basis as commercial competitors. Competitors can cherry pick and target single profitable routes.

In future, the regulation of buses is the answer. We now have the legislative powers to regulate bus services here in Wales. The Welsh Government is currently consulting on proposals to reform bus and taxi services in Wales. More information on the consultation can be found at: <https://beta.gov.wales/improving-public-transport>. The consultation closes on 27th March – please do get in touch and take part.