



[Alex's Christmas card designed by Iris from St Edward's]

e-UPDATE #105 - 22.12.2021

Welcome to this last update before the break. May I wish you all a very happy Christmas. A special thank you to Iris who designed my Christmas card this year.

The news is full of Omicron statistics of course, and speculation about what the future might bring. Plainly the key missing piece of data concerns the lethality of the variant; we know it is highly infectious, but not yet if it makes people as ill as Delta.

Omicron has affected Cheltenham hospitality of course, just as it was gingerly getting back on its feet. You will have seen a £1bn package of further support announced by Rishi Sunak - see more [here](#). Funding is also available to support cultural organisations such as the Everyman, Cheltenham Festivals and the Cheltenham Trust - which together have received over £4m so far in Government assistance.

Meanwhile, there are updates below on a **massive cash hike for Cheltenham schools** - up by 5.8% in real terms from next year. Bournside, Pittville, Balcarras, All Saints' Academy and Pate's will now receive a **minimum of £5,669 per pupil** (it was around £4,100 in 2016 when Cheltenham schools got a raw deal from a decades-old unfair funding formula). Meanwhile, if there are any retired teachers who are willing to support our schools temporarily in the New Year, you can read more [here](#) about how you can help.

There are other updates on **Cheltenham's brilliant booster campaign**, and I have been keeping the pressure on the UK Health Security Agency following the **Immensa** lab testing errors.

There is positive news on **my challenge to Stagecoach** to increase the number of Cheltenham bus drivers amid an unacceptable decline in punctuality - and I even found the **Severn Trent storm overflow site near Dowdeswell!** It wasn't exactly Indiana Jones, but it did involve following a map and digging around in the riverbank undergrowth (see picture below!) Now that I have identified it, I have asked for a site visit with Severn Trent to keep up the pressure on them to drive down sewage overflows.

As Solicitor General I will be reviewing whether there is a case for referring the sentences of six-year old **Arthur Labinjo-Hughes'** murderers to the Court of Appeal as 'unduly lenient'. And in other news, **I met with former US Presidential Candidate John Kerry** to discuss COP26 and how China can be persuaded to do more to tackle climate change.

Meanwhile, I know there is significant anger and frustration at recent allegations of **rule-breaking**. I was upset by the video and reports of parties myself. Although it doesn't compare with the tragedies that others have had to face, in a smaller way we too as a family have been impacted by this pandemic. First, all of us contracted Covid; second, I lost someone I cared for to the virus; third, I have experience of attending a funeral for a family member where only a small number of mourners could attend (I also had to Zoom into another funeral for a friend when I dearly wanted to be there in person); fourth, I have had to deal with my own distressed children, upset at being forced into repeated isolation during the 'pingdemic'.

As I say, none of this compares to the sacrifices that others have made. But I do have an insight and visceral sympathy for why many feel as they do. And it's why I refuse to defend the behaviour in the Downing Street video for example. It was contemptible, and rightly warranted an apology (and indeed resignation).

There is a special duty on lawmakers and senior staffers to act in a way that is beyond reproach, particularly during a pandemic when the actions impact on public health. Let me add for completeness, only because some have asked, that I did not personally attend any Christmas parties last year – at Number 10 or anywhere else.

Thank you for reading. Happy Christmas.

Best wishes,



Alex Chalk QC MP

PS I plan to spend Christmas Day and Boxing Day with the family, but otherwise will be available to attend to constituents' concerns over the break.

In line with data protection regulations, Alex Chalk's office processes constituents' data for policy and casework purposes under the lawful basis of public task. In instances where this lawful basis is not sufficient and explicit consent is required, a member of staff will get in touch with you to establish consent. You can find the full privacy notice on Alex's website [HERE](#)

BOOSTER JAB UPDATE



[Alex thank staff and volunteers earlier this week]

BOOSTER JAB UPDATE

Thank you to our brilliant Cheltenham East Fire Station team! Over 1,000 jabs done on just one day this week (remember Cheltenham's population is only around 115,000)!

There are currently three ways to access a COVID vaccination in Gloucestershire
Gloucestershire NHS ask that you do not contact GP surgeries at this time:

1. Via appointment at a GP-led primary care network vaccination centre (eg Cheltenham East Fire Station)

These appointments are not available on the national booking system (NBS), and people will receive an invite directly from local NHS services to book when it's their turn.

2. Via the national booking system

Some may choose to book an appointment at one of eight community pharmacies across the county (www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination or call 119).

3. At a drop-in clinic

These will continue at some community vaccination sites through December, offering boosters for people aged over 40, 12-15-year olds – first doses and first and second vaccinations. Dates and any changes to eligibility for future drop-in sessions will be available on the local NHS COVID portal.

Remember: Adults should not attend for a vaccination if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have had a positive Lateral Flow or PCR test within the last four weeks. Children under the age of 18 should wait until at least twelve weeks after a positive Lateral Flow or PCR test to get a vaccination.

UPDATES



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Director of Scientific Strategy
Chief Scientific Officer Group
UK Health Security
SE1 8UG

22 November 2021

Thank you for this email, which we have noted with care.

While we all agree with the messages about LFT and PCR tests, and have been exhorting constituents to get the booster, nonetheless our duty is to report back on what your investigation has revealed, how mistakes were made and what has been done to make sure that these won't be repeated either at this or any other lab. Only in that way can confidence in Gloucestershire about the validity of testing results be rebuilt.

In the worst case scenario you will understand that false readings could have led to residents travelling and unwittingly exporting the virus - or having the personal frustration of arranging a family holiday because of negative results and then testing positive on arrival abroad. As we get close to the Christmas holidays this is an additional risk on top of the major one that has already eventuated of increased local infection rates.

The absence of any timeline in your mail is therefore disappointing, and all six MPs in Gloucestershire therefore look forward to understanding:

- i. when the investigation will be completed
- ii. when we may expect to read of the any preliminary lessons learnt and additional protections put in place

While we understand that a precise date for the former may not be absolutely determined, you will surely have a plan that will give a clear idea of how long you anticipate needing. Apart from anything else the nation urgently needs to know if testing flaws could easily happen somewhere else.

We look forward to an update please.

Yours sincerely,

Alex Chalk QC MP

(on behalf of all six Gloucestershire MPs – Siobhan Baillie MP, Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP, Richard Graham MP, Rt Hon Mark Harper MP, Laurence Robertson MP)

ALEX UPS THE PRESSURE ON UK HEALTH SECURITY AGENCY OVER FALSE NEGATIVE TESTS

Alex has written again to the UKHSA to demand answers over the false negative tests at the **Immensa** lab. When the news of the errors emerged, Alex wrote on behalf of Gloucestershire MPs to the UK Health Security Agency calling for early answers to the investigation. It is essential this failing never happens again.

Alex was not satisfied with the response received and has written again to call for a detailed report on what their investigation has revealed and how the mistakes were made.

At the time of emailing, a response still has not been received.



[Alex on a pre-pandemic visit]

ALEX WINS CAMPAIGN TO STRENGTHEN CARE HOME VISITOR RIGHTS

Following his constituents' upsetting accounts of not being able to receive visitors, Alex launched a campaign to improve visiting arrangements for Cheltenham's care home residents.

Now, the Department for Health and Social Care have updated the guidance so that care home residents can still be visited by an essential caregiver during periods of isolation or when there is an outbreak in the home.

This will ensure that residents will benefit from companionship and additional care and support from someone with whom they have a personal relationship.

Alex said: *"I was delighted that the DHSC have listened to my concerns and introduced the essential caregiver role for periods of isolation or outbreak. This will uphold the critical importance of loving contact for residents in Cheltenham's care homes."*



STAGECOACH AGREES TO ALEX'S CALL TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CHELTENHAM DRIVERS

Alex is concerned that the service offered by Stagecoach is poor, and getting worse. That's why Alex called a (virtual) meeting with Stagecoach West Managing Director.

Alex urged Stagecoach to surge resources to Cheltenham so that Cheltenham is not disproportionately disadvantaged by the current staffing problems.

In response, Stagecoach have confirmed that more drivers will be coming to Cheltenham 'on loan' from Oxford to help even out Cheltenham's services.

Stagecoach have also confirmed that 150 new Gloucestershire based drivers will have completed their training by the end of January 2022.



ALEX TRACKS DOWN SEVERN TRENT RIVER CHELT SEWAGE OUTLET AND DEMANDS END TO DISCHARGES

Alex recently voted in favour of stronger measures to reduce harms from storm overflows, and wrote to Severn Trent urging them to publish an early update on its long-term plan for tackling storm overflows in Cheltenham.

Since then, Alex has tracked down the Severn Trent storm overflow into the River Chelt.

The online Rivers Trust map gave a rough idea of the location (near Dowdeswell Reservoir) and Alex wrote to the local landowner who kindly allowed him to track it down.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said: *"I have already challenged Severn Trent to provide their plan for reducing overflows into the Chelt. I wasn't satisfied that they properly understand the urgency of this. Now that we have the actual location we'll be better able as a community to hold their feet to the fire."*

"It's plain wrong in this day and age for sewage to be entering our town's river. Severn Trent need to fix this - and fast."



ALEX AND ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REVIEW EMMA TUSTIN AND THOMAS HUGHES' SENTENCES

Following the shocking murder of young Arthur Labinjo -Hughes, the sentences given to Emma Tustin and Thomas Hughes have been referred to the Attorney General's Office for review to determine whether they were too low.

Alex and the Attorney General will now make a decision as to whether to refer a sentence to the Court of Appeal.

Alex said: *"Many of us, whether we have children or not, have been deeply affected by the horror of the murder of six-year old Arthur Labinjo-Hughes. It is hard to fathom how people could be so cruel to a defenceless small boy.*

"I can confirm we have been contacted about this case and we are considering it. Whether it is one that can properly be referred, taking account of the sentencing guidelines that judges are required to follow, is something I and others in the Attorney General's Office will be scrutinising very closely in the coming days."



ALEX HOLDING CROSSCOUNTRY TO ACCOUNT

Alex is concerned that CrossCountry still hasn't reinstated the direct Cheltenham to Manchester service.

He was dissatisfied with CrossCountry's explanation and scheduled a meeting with the Rail Minister to raise his concerns and call for more to be done to hold CrossCountry to account.

The Rail Minister confirmed that his officials will take the matter up with CrossCountry.



SUPPORTING CHELTENHAM

Alex and his family enjoyed a visit to Cheltenham ice rink, including with his son Finn who was born at Gloucestershire Royal during lockdown.

The ice rink is in Imperial Gardens and is open until 2 January 2022.

For more information, please click [HERE](#).



Alex Chalk

ALEX'S INTERVENTION SEES ACID ATTACKER'S SENTENCE INCREASED

A man who hurled acid in the face of a doctor has had his sentence increased after Alex referred it to the Court of Appeal.

Milad Rouf threw sulphuric acid at his former partner's face and inflicted life changing injuries. He was sentenced to eleven years in prison

Following Alex's intervention, the Court of Appeal found his original sentence to be unduly lenient and increased it to 15 years' imprisonment with a 4-year extended licence.

Alex said: *"Rouf's crime was shocking and has severely impacted the future of a young doctor - who lives to heal others - by robbing her of her sight in one eye. I hope the Court's decision to increase his sentence acts as a warning to those who think of acting in such a cruel and barbaric way."*



ALEX MEETS FORMER US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOHN KERRY

Alex met with John Kerry, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, to discuss the CoP26 summit in Glasgow, and how we can ensure mega-emitters like China, the US, India and Russia drive down greenhouse gas emissions.

The former Secretary of State praised the UK's efforts to reduce its emissions by 44% since 1990.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said: *"Here in Cheltenham and across the UK massive efforts are being made, and our emissions are down by 44% on 1990 levels. But we're responsible for just one per cent of the global total. Unless China (close to 30%) and others step up, scientists agree there is little prospect of limiting global heating to 1.5 degrees."*



ALEX HELPS SECURE £195,000 OF GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR THE CHELTENHAM TRUST

Following lobbying from Alex to DCMS, the Cheltenham Trust received £195,000 in central government support for its post-Covid recovery.

The grant takes the overall package of support for Cheltenham's cultural heritage to over £4m.

As well as supporting iconic Cheltenham venues/institutions like the Festivals, Everyman and Playhouse, this has also gone to those companies, like Unique Sound Systems Ltd (£164,752) and Peak Hire Ltd (£157,429) which work behind the scenes, and which are crucial to helping culture in Cheltenham survive and thrive.

Alex said: *"The continued investment on an unprecedented scale means our theatres, galleries, music venues and arts centres can carry on playing their part in bringing visitors back to Cheltenham high street, helping to drive economic growth and promote good health."*



[Alex at the Millions Missing event in 2019]

CHELTENHAM GROUP HELPS CHANGE NICE GUIDELINES ON M.E./CFS

Alex meets regularly with members of Gloucestershire's ME/CFS Friendship Group to discuss how he can better support those who live with the disease.

In recent years, Alex has assisted the group with their efforts to change the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guideline on ME/CFS.

The new guidelines fundamentally changes the treatment approach, recognising that ME is a serious and complex medical disease that needs early and accurate diagnosis and that patient's deserve a personalised care and support plan.

Alex said: *"This is a very special day for people with ME, including our wonderful Gloucestershire M.E./CFS group. This new guideline will have a big impact on care for people with ME, and draws a line under the damaging therapies of the past."*



ALEX LEADS A PRAYER AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Alex was invited by the organisers of the Whitehall Carol Service to lead a prayer in Westminster Abbey.

The service was attended by Ministers, diplomats and civil servants

Alex said: *"It was a privilege to be among a congregation of civil servants who do so much to serve our nation. Those that I have encountered in the Ministry of Justice, the*

AGO, and Cheltenham's GCHQ have shown themselves to be extraordinarily able and hardworking, and a credit to our country."



HOUSE OF COMMONS CHAMBER COMES TO BALCARRAS

As part of Parliament Week, Alex was invited to attend Balcarras' School. The sports hall was laid out as the chamber of the House of Commons, with students from Balcarras and the High School Leckhampton playing the part of MPs.

Alex discussed his pride at being the Member of Parliament for his hometown and answered questions about COP26 and his work as Solicitor General.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said: *"It was SUCH a valuable event, and I'm so grateful to the leadership of Balcarras and LHS for their hard work to pull it all together.*

"The students gave an object lesson to real MPs on the art of 'orderly behaviour' and asking calm and respectful questions!"



UK LAW OFFICERS VISIT SCOTLAND

The three UK law officers are (L to R) the Advocate General for Scotland, the Attorney General for England & Wales, and the Solicitor General for England & Wales.

The UK law officers visited Scotland to discuss the vital role Law Officers play in all the jurisdictions of the UK.

During the visit, the law officers had a conference in Queen Elizabeth House in Edinburgh, before meeting young radar engineers at Leonardo UK who work to tackle

cyber threats by developing security solutions and addressing the modern and evolving threats to security and public safety.



PAEDOPHILE'S INCREASED SENTENCE FOLLOWING ALEX'S INTERVENTION

A man who sexually abused three girls over the course of more than a decade has had his sentence increased after Alex referred his sentence to the Court of Appeal.

Christopher Appleby abused three girls between 1999 and 2014. He was convicted of 12 counts of serious sexual offences, including five counts of rape and attempted rape.

Alex believed that Appleby's original 15 year sentence was unduly lenient and referred it to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal increased his sentence to 21 years.

Alex said: *"It is never too late for justice to be served and Appleby's actions were despicable. I am glad the Court of Appeal saw fit to increase his sentence today and I hope it brings some comfort to the brave victims."*



ALEX PLEDGES DETERMINATION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

On White Ribbon Day, Alex pledged determination to end violence against women and girls and support survivors.

Alex outlined the steps the Attorney General's Office is taking to tackle violence against women and girls, including:

- Boosting funding for rape and domestic abuse services' to £185 million by 2023-25
- Investing £80 million in the CPS to recruit more prosecutors across the country
- Launched Operation Soteria, driving transformational and sustainable change in how the police and CPS handle rape and sexual offence cases

Alex said: *"There have been really important changes over recent years: stalking has been made a crime, thanks to the brilliant campaigning work of Nick Gazzard, upskirting is now a specific offence, as is sending revenge porn images, coercive control, and non-fatal strangulation."*

"I was proud to help lead the Domestic Abuse Act through Parliament onto the statute book but there's more work to do to make women in our country feel safe, and to bring perpetrators to justice."



ALEX LOBBIES RISHI ON BEHALF OF CHELTENHAM BREWERS AND PUBLICANS

Alex has previously written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, on behalf of small Cheltenham providers.

Alex is raising his concerns about the 40l cut-off point for the lower rate of duty. As it stands, smaller breweries who use smaller kegs and casks will not qualify for the new reduced rate of alcohol duty.

Alex said: *"Beer brewing and cider making is an increasingly important part of Cheltenham's economy, and I was delighted that the Chancellor confirmed that alcohol duty will be frozen for another year."*

"However, there is more to do to support small brewers like Battledown Brewery Co. to help the brewing and hospitality industry back on its feet."



ALEX SUPPORTS CHELTENHAM SILVER BAND CONCERT AT HIGHBURY CONGREGATIONAL

Having helped them to find a new rehearsal space, Alex enjoyed Cheltenham Silver Band's recent performance.

The band, which was founded in 1937, is run by and for fun-loving brass players of all abilities. CSB's have a broad repertoire ranging from classical to film themes and modern day chart toppers.

For more information, please click [HERE](#).



ALEX THANKS ALL INVOLVED IN THIS YEAR'S HAMPER SCAMPER CAMPAIGN

Alex made the trip to Zurich's offices just north of Cheltenham to thank all those involved in Caring for Communities and People's annual Hamper Scamper campaign.

The campaign seeks to relieve some of the financial and emotional burden of Christmas on families and individuals who are already struggling.



CHELTHENHAM COMES TOGETHER TO FIGHT GROT SPOTS

Alex is stepping up his campaign against litter, graffiti and weeds in Cheltenham.

In the past Alex has scored a number of successes, from getting graffiti removed to replacing bent street railings.

He is now working with the brilliant Cheltenham Civic Society, who have launched an online portal for reporting grot spots, potholes and general observations about the town.

Cheltenham Civic Society collate the reports and forward them to Alex and the relevant council officers for action.

To visit the new portal, please click [HERE](#).



ALEX BACKS THE ROCK'S INNOVATIVE YOUTH WORK

Alex visited The Rock, a Cheltenham youth group, to see how their work is developing post-lockdown.

The Rock helps young people, who are often facing challenging social circumstances, to grow and feel that they belong through additional alternative educational provision.

Alex thanked the staff and volunteers at The Rock for all that they do to mentor and inspire the young people of Cheltenham.

Alex said: *"The Rock does such valuable work with young people locally, offering activities ranging from bike mechanics to cooking and even archery.*

"It has never been more important for young people to have the opportunity to put their screens away and interact in real life with people their own age. It was lovely to see lots of smiling faces!"



CHELTENHAM STREET PASTORS SWORN IN

Alex was delighted to attend the Annual Commissioning Service for Cheltenham Street Pastors' newly trained volunteers.

The Street Pastors are trained volunteers from local Cheltenham churches who patrol from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. on a Friday and Saturday night to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets.

Alex said: "Cheltenham Street Pastors do such vital work in looking out for late-night revellers who find themselves alone or otherwise vulnerable. I challenge readers to find a town where the volunteering, philanthropic tradition is so strong. It makes me very proud."



M5 JUNCTION 10 UPDATE

Gloucestershire County Council has launched a statutory public consultation for its proposed M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme.

The proposals will see significant improvements to M5 Junction 10, a new road linking Junction 10 to West Cheltenham and widening of the A4019 Tewkesbury Road.

The statutory public consultation runs from 8 December 2021 until Tuesday 15 February 2022. Feedback will be used to help Gloucestershire County Council refine its final scheme design, before developing its planning application for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Feedback on the detailed proposals can be shared by completing the online survey at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/J10.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

ALSO SINCE THE LAST UPDATE, ALEX HAS:

As HM Solicitor General:

- Chaired the Economic Crime Strategy Board
- Hosted a roundtable event with victims representatives to understand the impact of the Revised Disclosure Guidelines
- Went on a virtual visit to CPS Wales

- Represented the law officers at a PBL meeting
- Attended a virtual CPS Presentation

As Cheltenham's MP:

- Met with representatives from **Monkscroft** Carehome after a constituent raised concerns about visitation rights
- Attended the **Reclaim the Night** march in support of Cheltenham's women and girls
- Met with **BA Education students at UGlos**
- Visited the **Cheltenham Neighbourhood Watch** event at John Lewis
- Attended the **Hollie Gazzard Trust** dinner
- Met with the Chief Officer and Trustees from the Cheltenham's **Citizen Advice Bureau**
- Attended the **St Vincent and St George's** Association fundraiser event
- Went on a tour of the new **Hub8** facility in Cheltenham
- Visited **Glenfall Primary** to talk about climate change

Received Briefings from:

- NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Secretary of State for Health

WRITTEN PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

Since the last update, Alex has answered 5 Written Parliamentary Questions from MPs. Some of the topics raised include prosecutions and human trafficking.

See an example below:

Q. To ask the Attorney General, what the average turnaround time has been for inquest applications by the Attorney General to the High Court under the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 in each of the last 10 years.

Alex responded:

"Section 13 of the Coroners Act 1988 permits an application to be made to the High Court for either an order for a fresh inquest into a death, or an order to hold an inquest if

one has not already been held. An application under section 13 cannot be brought unless the Attorney General's authority – referred to as her 'fiat' – has been obtained. Once the Attorney General has granted or refused her fiat, the Attorney General's Office does not usually have any further role in the process.

"An applicant has six weeks from the grant of the Attorney General's fiat to make an application to the High Court. The High Court will then decide whether to order an investigation to be carried out in accordance with Part 1 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009.

"Neither the Attorney General's Office nor the Ministry of Justice hold data on how long it takes between the Attorney's fiat being granted and the High Court disposing of an application made under section 13."

IN THE MEDIA



[Click the image above to watch Alex's interview on Politics Live. Alex's interview begins at 1.24.04]

SINCE THE LAST UPDATE:

Alex has:

- (i) been interviewed on Politics Live. [WATCH HERE.](#)
- (ii) been interviewed by the Prison Service Journal. [READ HERE.](#)
- (iii) written four articles for the **Cheltenham Post**
- (IV) written four articles for the **Gloucestershire Echo**, in which he:

1. Welcomed the additional funding boost for the Cheltenham Trust [READ HERE.](#)
2. Stated that the Omicron variant was a cause for concern - but not panic [READ HERE.](#)
3. Wrote that society owes it to Arthur Labinjo-Hughes to learn every possible lesson from his tragic death [READ HERE.](#)
4. Urged people to get boosted. [READ HERE.](#)

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



SALVATION ARMY CHELTENHAM CHRISTMAS ANNUAL APPEAL

The Salvation Army in Cheltenham is again running its Annual Christmas Appeal

Last Christmas, The Salvation Army's Appeal gave out over 400 food parcels and over 600 gift parcels in Cheltenham.

The Salvation Army in Cheltenham is we seeking to support over 500 families with its Food and Toy Appeal this year.

For more information, please visit www.salvationarmycheltenham.co.uk or The Salvation Army Community Church Cheltenham is fundraising for [The Salvation Army \(justgiving.com\)](http://The Salvation Army (justgiving.com))



CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY

Preparations are being made for the 2022 Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts between 2 May - 14 May in the Town Hall.

The festival hopes to stage more than 300 performance classes of Dance, Music, and Speech & Drama as well as welcoming back all the choirs, ensembles, duets, trios and group performances.

For more information and details on how to register, please click [HERE](#).



UK PARLIAMENT AWARDS 2022

Nominations for the Your UK Parliament Awards are now open!

These Awards celebrate the amazing work of those who have made a difference in their community.

Now in their fifth year, the Awards are an opportunity to hear about the brilliant work people are doing in their community, raising awareness and bringing about change by engaging with UK Parliament and democracy.

Winners will be invited to an Awards ceremony hosted in UK Parliament in March 2022

If you or someone you know deserves recognition, nominate [HERE](#).



SCHOOL STREET TRIALS SURVEY

A survey has been on the School Streets trial running in Durham Close, by Warden Hill Primary School.

Roads are kept open at school run times for those travelling by foot, bike or scooter, to create a safer, cleaner environment and encourage sustainable and healthier streets for all.

The scheme was launched at the beginning of November 2020 and feedback from the initial consultation process covering the first six months of the trial revealed many families feel safer walking, scooting and cycling to school because of the reduction in traffic congestion and hazardous parking.

With less than six months of the 18-month trial remaining, a new survey has been launched to find out people's views. To participate, please click [HERE](#).

USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS

Gloucestershire County Council

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

01452 425000

Cheltenham Borough Council

www.cheltenham.gov.uk

01242 262626

Age UK Gloucestershire

www.ageuk.org.uk/gloucestershire

01452 422660

Gloucestershire Abuse Support

01452 726570

Citizens Advice Gloucestershire

01452 527202

GRASAC (Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre)

www.glosrasac.org

01452 305421



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Our mailing address is:

Alex Chalk MP

Office 11, Unit 22 Lansdown Industrial Estate

Gloucester Road

Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 8PL

United Kingdom

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