



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Cllr Joe Baker
Redditch Borough Council
Walter Stranz Square
REDDITCH
B98 8AH

10 May 2024

Dear Cllr Baker

Congratulations on your Party's success in the local elections.

I look forward to a constructive working relationship with you as I did when Labour were last in control of the Borough Council under Bill Hartnett's leadership. I believe in constructive dialogue in the best interests of our town.

A good working relationship between the Member of Parliament and local government is essential, because funding and policy decided at Westminster can't be delivered without local agreement.

I have not always agreed with all the council's decisions regardless of whether it has been under a Labour or Conservative administration. However, it is my job as the local MP to hold our local councils to account on behalf of my constituents.

I know we both agree that our town and our Borough is a fantastic place to live, work and raise a family. We're both ambitious for the future of the town and care deeply about its prospects as a thriving community. I know we also both believe a well-run council is an essential ingredient in quality of life and life chances for local people.

I am certain there is much we agree on, particularly when it comes to the need for the regeneration of our town centre and of course the Alexandra Hospital.

Although, as you will know, the Borough Council has no control over our Acute Trust which runs the Alex, I know we both agree residents should have access to first-class healthcare services. It's vital we present a united front and speak with one voice to get the best for our town as we continue the fight to return a maternity and children's service.

And when it comes to regeneration, we both understand the desperate need to level up the town centre. Government funding has been secured to achieve this, and I'm keen to discuss this important issue with you further.

With this in mind, I seek an urgent meeting with you to discuss how we can work together in the best interests of residents who elected us to serve them.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Rachel Maclean MP