

Visit to Burghfield on Friday

Yesterday I spent the afternoon in Burghfield accompanied by three West Berkshire Councillors to talk to people about local and national issues. Mostly people wanted to talk about local matters, including the state of pavements, overhanging trees, the future for local shops and questions about local schools.

I promised to take up again the level of business rates and its impact on retail businesses, where rates have got up following the revaluations at a time when retail competition is intensifying from new stores and more particularly from the internet.