DR CHARLES TANNOCK YOUR CONSERVATIVE LONDON REGION MEP

Reporting Back

Full ranking of London MEP candidates

Congratulations to the following candidates, selected in the following ranked order, to fight the European Elections in 2014

1. Syed Kamall MEP
2. Charles Tannock MEP
3. Marina Yannakoudakis MEP
4. Caroline Attfield
5. Lynne Hack
6. Sheila Lawlor
7. Glyn Chambers
8. Annesley Abercorn

London has a good chance of seeing its three Conservative MEPs re-elected at next year’s elections. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me regarding campaigning activities in your ward or constituency. I would be delighted to assist. My contact details are overleaf.

New London MEP candidates announced

MEP team takes fight against Labour and UKIP to doorstep

I am delighted and honoured to have been ranked second in the list of MEP candidates for next year’s European Elections by London Conservatives in the recent ballot to all members.

Key will be working together with local Councillors, whose elections also fall on 22nd May, and activists, to ensure victory against Labour, UKIP and other opposition parties. Things are looking up for the Conservative vote in London and it is essential that the eight-strong MEP candidate team works together as a cohesive unit for this purpose. Conservatives have a strong message both on the domestic and European policy front; one of signs of economic recovery, a reduction in net immigration figures, serious crime figures falling under the tough approach of Home Secretary Theresa May and Prime Minister David Cameron’s robust pledge to renegotiate Britain’s relationship with Europe and following this an In/Out referendum on EU membership in 2017.

Conservative MEPs for London are: Charles Tannock, Marina Yannakoudakis and Syed Kamall

Follow me on Twitter @Charles Tannock

With officers, instructors and cadets of TS Trafalgar Merton Sea Cadets at their annual inspection. The unit is the third oldest in London and has been in existence since 1911. The Sea Cadets is a national charity that inspires young people through nautical adventure and each unit is run by volunteers. Find out more about the Sea Cadets at www.facebook.com/seacadetsuk

Delivering my report on the Sahel region to the European Parliament Human Rights Subcommittee. A crisis occurred over the past 18 months in Mali, a Sahel country which had previously seen political stability and relative peace but required urgent French military intervention with some UK assistance to prevent a takeover by militant Islamists linked to Al Qaeda.

With a visiting delegation of Conservative MPs from the Fresh Start backbench Westminster parliamentary party initiative aimed at setting out Conservative party policy on reform and repatriation of powers from the EU to the UK. I actively participated in the exchange of ideas with MPs colleagues in several key policy areas and prior to this also gave evidence to the Balance of Competences review of the government.

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Observing a minute’s silence for Britain’s fallen heroes on Armed Forces Day, at the War Memorial in New Malden High Street, which has three VCs named on it, invited as a guest of Malden and Coombe branch Royal British Legion.

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Tories oppose Tobacco directive from medicalising e-cigs

Conservatives in the European Parliament are fighting moves to classify e-cigarettes as medicines, which would see more people going back to harmful tobacco. E-cigarettes are battery-operated devices that deliver nicotine via inhaled vapour and are a popular tool for kicking the habit. It makes no sense for harmful tobacco to be freely on sale in retail shops while e-cigarettes are only available in pharmacies. A revision of the EU Tobacco Products Directive would classify most e-cigarettes as a medicinal product, despite the fact that in the UK it is estimated 25% of all attempts to kick the habit are made using e-cigarettes, making them the most popular aid. The European Commission had proposed that e-cigarettes containing 4 milligrams or more of nicotine must be classed as medicinal products but an EU parliamentary committee went further, voting to classify all e-cigarettes as pharmaceuticals, regardless of the strength of nicotine content. But the vote is not the end of the process and British Conservatives will continue to lobby to make other MEPs see sense and support e-cigarette producers and users. Far from helping those smokers who want to switch, medicines regulation will add costs, impose burdens, apply restrictions, and hold back innovation. It may result in many smaller and more innovative producers of electronic cigarettes going out of business. Medicines regulation creates a default prohibition and requirement for approval, leaving dangerous tobacco cigarettes as the only easily marketed source of nicotine.