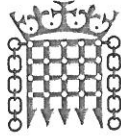


MATTHEW HANCOCK MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Wil Gibson  
Chief Executive  
Suffolk ACRE  
Brightspace, 160 Hadleigh Road  
Ipswich  
Suffolk IP2 0HH

23 JUN 2011

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011

*Dear Dr Gibson*

Thank you for contacting me about petrol prices.

As a resident of rural Suffolk, I share your concerns about the price of petrol. This is exasperated by the premium we have to pay at rural service stations.

I am pleased, therefore, that George Osborne has launched a pilot scheme to give the worst affected rural motorists an additional five pence a litre cut in fuel duty. Subject to EU approval, the pilot will investigate the impact of the discount in some of the most isolated communities in the UK. I will keep you updated on progress.

In 1998 the Office of Fair Trading published a report into retail petrol pricing but found no evidence of unfair practice. However, its terms of reference did not cover the responsiveness of retailers to fluctuations in world prices. I believe that this should now be investigated as a matter of urgency so I will write to OFT asking for something to be done on this matter. I will inform you of the response as soon as I have it.

Thank you once again for taking the time to contact me on this matter. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

*Yours sincerely  
Matt*

Working for West Suffolk

London: 020 7219 7186

[www.matthewhancock.co.uk](http://www.matthewhancock.co.uk)  
[matthew.hancock.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:matthew.hancock.mp@parliament.uk)

Suffolk: 01787 211 380