

Dear.....

I very much hope the end is in sight in our battle against plans to build an enormous incinerator in Wisbech. The Planning Inspectorate has spent six months reviewing the proposals to decide whether to give the go-ahead to bring in hundreds of thousands of tonnes of non-recyclable municipal and commercial and industrial waste to our town. That "examination" is now complete, and the panel's findings, conclusions and recommendations will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero by 21 November.

The incinerator plans are deeply flawed, and I have campaigned against the scheme from the beginning. It's simply not suitable for an incinerator of this size in such a location with the accompanying impact on health, traffic and the environment. I hope we will get the right outcome from the Planning Inspector and if not from the Secretary of State.

We have secured significant government investment in both education and health in recent months. It's great to see a new special free school in March has received the go ahead from my colleagues in the Department of Education, which will be a major boost for our constituency. The 210-place, multiple needs school for children aged two to 19 with Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs will open in September 2026. Children with additional needs in the constituency can face long journeys to and from the nearest school so this is excellent news for parents and children.

This new free school, and the new £15 million school investment in Barton Road, Wisbech, as well as the new hospitals being built at Kings Lynn and Huntingdon, and the new diagnostics facilities at the North Cambridgeshire hospital site, all show how the Government is investing in both education and health facilities in our area.

The second March Armed Forces Fair last month was a fantastic event packed with visitors, things to do and see, and even a flypast. I very much hope this will now be a permanent date in the town calendar after two successful years. It was a joy to attend and if you haven't yet had the opportunity, I urge you to put it in the calendar for next year!

Finally, as the weather turns colder and autumn starts to bite, I'd encourage all those people eligible for flu and Covid jabs - which includes all over-65s - to get their vaccination booked in.

Steve Barclay

<https://www.stevebarclay.net/>

--=- Steve Barclay · United Kingdom

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