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I am not sure my constituency is unique but it is certainly unusual in that it has two motorways running through it, thus providing an excellent base for many haulage and distribution companies to reach UK and European customers. However after its employees the biggest cost to some of our local businesses will be fuel and with the price at the pump being so high, some are beginning to find it difficult to make ends meet.

This is not a problem exclusive to businesses. Normal people are finding filling up the car an expensive necessity. Driving to work, picking up the children from school, taking them to football, doing the family shop – this is not a luxurious use of a motor vehicle, this is an essential aspect of everyday life.

I drive a diesel Kia. It is not a fancy car and it has a good fuel economy rate but it costs around £65 to fill up. I earn a decent salary and I don't have kids or other major expenses, but even I inhale deeply when I pay for my fuel at the garage (and before you ask, I don't claim for fuel). It is a large single expense that most of us don't want to pay but have to and it is crippling household budgets.

It's for that reason that I have called for the Chancellor to scrap the proposed 3p increase in fuel duty expected in August. While it is true that petrol prices have come down in the last month or so, and that the Government scrapped Labour's fuel duty escalator meaning fuel is 10p cheaper than what it would have been if we hadn't taken action, the fact is fuel remains expensive and any further increase in duty would hit local families and businesses hard.

The country is broke and the Government needs to raise money to reduce the deficit left by the last but I don't think hitting businesses and families through the petrol pump is the best way to do it. I don't know what will be the outcome on the proposed increase but I do know I will continue to play my part as your local representative and make the case for a better more affordable price at the pump.