

Save Frimley cancer centre

NHS centre of excellence under threat

MICHAEL GOVE has been campaigning with local community groups and NHS workers to save a nationally renowned cancer unit at our local hospital.

The Upper GI Unit at Frimley Park Hospital is acknowledged throughout the National Health Service as a centre of excellence for treating upper gastro-

intestinal cancers. Its two leading surgeons, Iain Paterson and Suhkpal Singh, are recognised as leaders in their field.

The figures show that their team has some of the best recovery rates and lowest mortality rates anywhere in Britain. The unit provides a comprehensive service from initial referral to

completion of treatment and discharge

But now it is threatened by plans to break it up. Doctors, nurses, radiologists, patients and relatives are united in opposition to these plans to dismantle the unit.

Michael Gove has been demanding that the plans be dropped. Michael has asked in a House of Commons debate for

the centre to be saved. He has written to the Secretary of State for Health to ask for a rethink, has cross-examined local bureaucrats to press for a review of the decision and has set up a website to campaign against the closure.

You can join the campaign to save the Upper GI Unit by logging on to www.savetheuppergiunit.com

'The Minister will be aware of the direct threat to the upper gastro-intestinal cancer unit at Frimley Park hospital in my constituency, not least because I have written to her Department three times to request a meeting . . . and three times I have been told no'

Gove parliamentary question, May 16, 2006

WILLIAM HICKMOTT

Michael backs battle to improve schools

Michael Gove has been visiting local schools to meet heads, teachers, parents and pupils to discuss how to raise standards even further.

Michael has been delighted to be able to celebrate success recently. He was pleased to be able to award the prizes at Ash Manor School, where the Head teacher, Bob Linnell does a superb job and was glad to be able to congratulate Walsh Church of England Primary School when it was recognised by the Government for its achievements.

Michael has also recently visited Tomlinscote, Gordon's, Kings International, Collingwood, Valley End, Ravenscote, The Watchetts, Bristow, and Frimley Church of England school.

He said after his visits: "We are fortunate to have good schools in our area with superb teachers but they need proper backing. I am campaigning for a better deal for teachers, freedom for schools to concentrate on the teaching best suited to each pupil and proper powers to keep discipline."

Knives the biggest danger to young

JUST last month Michael Gove raised the crucial issue of safety in our schools, and the threat from knife crime, in the Commons with John Reid, the Home Secretary.

Michael first started campaigning against this danger ten years ago, working with Frances Lawrence, the widow of the murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence. Stabbings are the single greatest threat to life for young people and Michael is pressing for tough action.

You can keep up with Michael's Commons performances on his website, www.michaelgove.com



SURREY ADVERTISER

MICHAEL BACKS SCHOOL STANDARDS: Michael visits Bristow school, above, and helps pupils at The Watchetts to paint teachers for the developing world

Pupils get a DIY teacher

MICHAEL recently visited The Watchetts Junior School in Camberley to join pupils who were campaigning for more teachers – in the developing world.

The pupils designed and painted their own portraits of teachers to highlight the lack of teaching facilities in poorer countries. Michael joined in painting his own model teacher and talked to the school about what politicians are doing to help children in the developing world.

Afterwards he said: "This is a superb campaign and I was delighted to be able to help. The children were very well-informed about the problems young people face in poorer countries. Their compassion, and commitment shone through."

