

PEOPLE & POWER

LUKE WALSH looks at the south Essex political scene

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Echo

COMMENT

Do crime stats tell



More about 'The Last Resort' in Friday's Echo!

Quotes

OF THE WEEK

residents - *Peter Webster, deputy leader of Rochford District Council, reacting to John Prescott's guidance that councils should create more travellers' sites and grant more planning permission for travellers' homes.*

I feel totally disgusted that

you should think I'm here as a political pawn. I am my own woman. This Government has broken me and so many others; they have brought us to our knees - *former Labour supporter and Benfleet mother Maria Hutchings responds to allegations she was being*

used as a political pawn when she helped the Conservative Party launch its education policy.

They are just telling us what they want. Any company's going to start off on that stance. Based on the pretty pictures I have seen so far, there's a lot of work to be done - *Anna Waite, Southend's executive councillor for planning and regional development, on Westcliff Casino's latest map of its proposals for a seafront supercasino.*

I'm not a multimillionaire yet, or able to think about

giving up my day job, but it's fingers-crossed time - *Engineer Paul Wilson on the success of his Talking Cone, which gives verbal warnings to people in an attempt to stop them slipping over.*

I'm a great lover of Southend - I was born and bred here - but on this occasion we thought it wouldn't hurt to send the council up a bit - *Chris Taylor, from Ashingdon, is part of a group from the Westcliff Film and Video Club which has won through to a regional short film heat with Deadend-on-Sea: the Last Resort.*