

Sir David Amess live updates: Man arrested on suspicion of murder after Conservative MP stabbed to death

We (me, friends, family) have been following this all afternoon, Leigh on Sea near Southend (East London's nearest seaside) being relatively local to me and the home of several friends.

He had been an MP for constituencies (they change borders and names every few years) in South Essex for nearly 40 years. So many people are commending him as a decent constituency MP.

From [Stephen Timms MP who survived a jihad attack](#) by a constituent with a knife at one of his surgeries in Newham in 2010. Jo Cox MP of Batley didn't survive an attack by local man Thomas Mair the day before the Brexit vote in 2016.

Sir David was popular locally but his consistent votes in favour of Brexit and traditional social values attracted criticism in some circles.

[The Guardian's](#) crime correspondent is now being told that counter-terrorism police are poised to take a lead in the inquiry.

I doubt the defendant will be named until his first appearance at court, which may be tomorrow or Monday. If reported his demeanour there may give an idea of his motive. I can't imagine that it isn't political in some way.