

Alan Campbell MP

Community News June 2021



Good afternoon

Welcome to the latest edition of my Community News. I hope you are keeping well and staying safe.

In this edition you will find information on some of the recent meetings and events I have attended online as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of. There are also links to various organisations that may be of help to people. Please be assured that all links have been tested and are safe to click through to. I do hope you find it informative and useful.

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/186/elections-and-voting>

If you need to get in touch please call 0191 2571927 or email

campbellal@parliament.uk

You can also find useful information on my website at

www.alancampbellmp.co.uk or on Facebook at;

https://www.facebook.com/AlanCampbellForTynemouth/?eid=ARCt_uybFykBHP9Ze74JblWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijiCM68TFI_cGhOnsm_TvNnVuiYMhiLm

I continue to write my fortnightly column for the News Guardian, you can access these [here](#).

With all best wishes

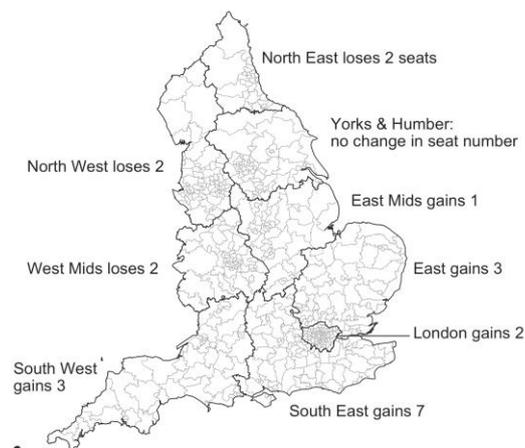
Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth

Boundary Change proposals

Proposed constituency boundaries

Changes in number of seats in each region under initial proposals published on 8 June 2021



Source: Boundary Commission for England



The Boundary Commission has recently published their proposals for the new parliamentary boundaries. The full proposals can be accessed online at:

<https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/2023-review/>

The consultation can be accessed at:

<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/>

The consultation is open until Monday 2nd August 2021.

This is a lengthy process and there will be 2 further opportunities for consultation.

Roundtable with local Headteachers



I joined a meeting of local Headteachers earlier today for a discussion on the current challenges in our local schools in light of Covid.

It is clear there are a number of very serious concerns about the lack of government support, both in terms of safety and also the economic impact Covid has had.

The Government is spending just £1.5bn on children's recovery – 10 times less than the Government's own education recovery commission Kevan Collins has told Ministers is needed.

Ministers have ignored parents' call's for wellbeing to be a priority with their plan solely focused on additional tutoring, despite their current programme failing to reach the children who need this support.

The Government has been warned that failing to help children to recover lost learning could cost the economy and taxpayer as much as £420 billion. I have pledged to raise concerns with Ministers at every opportunity.

Opening of animal rescue charity in Whitley Bay



I was pleased to officially open Farplace Animal Rescue Whitley Bay, a North East based animal rescue helping animals rejected elsewhere recently.

I met staff and volunteers and several Kickstarters, young people taken on for 6 months using the new DWP scheme to give them a start in their careers. Already, 2 of the Kickstarters in Whitley Bay, Matt and Jenna, have made such a difference, Farplace has created new permanent roles for them once their time on the scheme finishes.

It is a pleasure to open the shop formally and to meet young people making their first start in the world of work. They need as many opportunities as possible to gain experience and build their futures and I am delighted to wish Jenna, Matt and all young people well in their future careers.

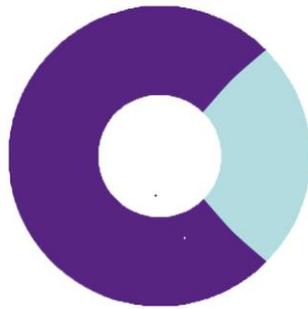
<https://learning.parliament.uk/en/session-workshop/primary-secondary-school-online-workshop/>

Meeting of Whitley Bay Rotary Club



It was good to join Whitley Bay Rotary Club at their last online meeting. I spoke about my role in Parliament and we had a good discussion of issues in the constituency. I wish them luck in their ongoing community fundraising.

North Tyneside Carer's Survey 2021



North Tyneside
Carers' Centre

North Tyneside carers centre want to hear about experiences of caring during the pandemic and understand what services they would like to access in the future. Views and feedback will help improve services in North Tyneside. This survey will take about 15 minutes to complete and you could win £100.

The survey asks you about experiences as a carer, the experiences of the person you care for and the places you have accessed information and support during the pandemic.

To complete the survey please visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NTCarers2021>

Child Poverty Pledge



Child poverty is on the rise. Between 2019 and 2020, 200,000 more children were pushed into poverty.

The fallout of Covid-19 has cut thousands more families adrift, with job losses, illness and increased economic pressure pushing too many over the brink, limiting the life chances of millions of children and young people.

I am proud to support the No Child Left Behind Campaign and have taken a pledge to do everything I can to get the government to commit to eradicating child poverty in the UK, to leave no child behind.

Find out more at www.nochildleftbehind.org.uk

Consultation on visas for non-UK troops



Ministry of Defence

A new public consultation has been launched by the Defence Secretary and Home Secretary to offer service personnel from non-UK nations indefinite leave to remain in the UK for free.

If the proposal is approved, non-UK service personnel would be able to apply for indefinite leave to remain after serving at least 12 years - the length of

time all service personnel initially sign up to serve, known as the initial engagement period, saving each applicant £2,389 in fees.

Currently there are over 10,000 non-UK citizens serving in the UK Armed Forces from countries around the world including Australia, Canada, Fiji, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, St Lucia and South Africa, many of whom may consider applying for indefinite leave to remain in the UK when their service ends.

The public consultation is running for six weeks from 26th May to 7th July and can be accessed at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/immigration-fees-public-consultation>

Bid for 2026 European Athletics Championships in North East



I have joined with North East MP's in writing a joint letter to the Prime Minister urging support for Newcastle/Gateshead's bid to host the for 2026 European Athletics Championships.

Bringing the event to Newcastle and Gateshead would be an excellent opportunity for the North East to showcase its vibrant and unique culture, history and people to the world and if successful we can work to ensure the whole region can benefit.

Carer's Week



Carer's Week this year ran from 1-7th June and is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support.

For lots of information on how to access support visit

<https://www.carersweek.org/about-carers-week/information-for-carers/>

Kickstarter information events

**KICKSTART
SCHEME**

Following on from the Kickstart Employer events held by the DWP during May they are holding additional events in June. The last event is on 23rd June at 10am.

To register your interest, email the address below stating the date and time in the email subject you would like to attend. Additionally, if you are unable to attend these events and would like a 1-2-1 discussion please let the team know using the same address and someone from the team will be in touch.

Email ntw.kickstarteam@dwp.gov.uk

Invites will be sent the working day beforehand.

Free online guided tours of Westminster



There are a range of free online guided tours of the Palace of Westminster and a number of free talks about the history of parliament, all ran by the Parliamentary Engagement Team.

To see what's available and book a talk or tour visit:

https://ukparliament.seetickets.com/content/ticket-options?utm_campaign=0521-mar-ve-onltalkstours&utm_medium=email&utm_source=yourukparl&utm_source=B2C+Your+UK+Parliament+%28Individuals%29&utm_campaign=78abaaa0a9-9-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_06_18_01_28_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_26d0645ea9-78abaaa0a9-102601733&mc_cid=78abaaa0a9&mc_eid=68266818e1

Mental Health Awareness Week



I recently supported Mental Health Awareness Week, the UK's national week to raise awareness of mental health.

Mental Health Awareness Week has grown to be one of the biggest awareness weeks in the UK. This year the theme is on nature and its central role for our mental health. Since the beginning of the pandemic, millions of us turned to nature to help us get through lockdowns and research shows that good mental health depends on us being able to connect with nature in some way and its power in both prevention of and recovery from poor mental health. To find out more and for help and support visit

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

Funding for North Shields



Great news that North Tyneside Council has been awarded a grant of nearly £73,000 from Historic England as part of the North Shields High Streets Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) to create and deliver community-led cultural activities on the high street over the next three years.

The Cultural Programme in North Shields will bring together residents, local community groups and established artists to celebrate the uniqueness of the

town. Local people will help co-create and deliver a programme of high-quality workshops, oral history projects and public performances. The programme will culminate in a community-produced play celebrating the history of the North Shields HSHAZ and its importance to commercial and civic life.

This is another important step on the road to the regeneration of North Shields and the Fish Quay.

Centenary of the Royal British Legion



The 15th May marked 100 years since The Royal British Legion (RBL) was formed in the aftermath of the First World War to fight for the rights of those who had given so much and come back to so little.

Today, we continue to stand with the Armed Forces community and challenge injustices to ensure all those who have served and sacrificed on our behalf get the fair treatment and recognition they deserve.

Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Week 2021



Diabetes UK is coming together with NHS England and Public Health England to encourage people to use our Know Your Risk tool, to understand their risk of developing type 2 diabetes and get the support they need.

Type 2 diabetes can lead to serious health complications if left untreated. The good news is that you can significantly reduce your risk by making lifestyle changes with support from your local Healthier You programme.

Find out your risk today: <https://riskscore.diabetes.org.uk/start>

Walk to school week



I'm supporting the pupils in Tynemouth this week who are taking action to improve air quality and get active by walking to school, as part of Living Streets' Walk to School Week

Walk to School Week is organised by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking. It encourages families to walk, wheel, cycle or scoot to school and see the big differences that come from small steps, from healthier and happier children to fewer cars outside the school gates.

Walk to School Week gives children the chance to enjoy fresh air and exercise. It reduces congestion, improves road safety and means we have cleaner air and less problem parking around schools.

Walk to School Week provides a fantastic opportunity for families to give walking to school a go and see how they could make a more permanent change to their travel plans.

To find out more about Walk to School Week, visit

www.livingstreets.org.uk/wtsw or search #WalktoSchoolWeek

Covid support and help still available



VAT deferral – final chance to join online

The VAT deferral new payment scheme is open for all businesses who deferred paying VAT due between 20 March and 30 June 2020 and were unable to pay in full by 31 March 2021.

The last day businesses can join this scheme online is 21 June. If they join by this date they can spread their payments across up to eight instalments.

If businesses in your constituency have deferred paying VAT and have not yet joined the VAT deferral scheme they may be charged a 5% penalty and/or interest if they do not join online by the deadline of 21 June or pay in full by 30 June.

Businesses can join quickly and simply online without needing to call HMRC. To find out more, including what you need to join online, go to VAT deferral on GOV.UK.

Calculating the fifth SEISS grant

The amount of the fifth grant will be determined by a turnover test, which details how much the eligible customer's turnover has reduced in the 2020-21 tax year compared to pre-coronavirus trading.

Eligible people in Tynemouth do not need to have submitted their 2020-21 Self Assessment tax return to be able to calculate their turnover to claim the fifth SEISS grant. However, they should ensure their records are up to date so that turnover for the year April 2020 to April 2021 is readily available.

If an eligible customer's turnover reduced by 30% or more, they will receive a grant worth 80% of three months' average trading profits (capped at £7,500). If turnover reduced by less than 30%, they will receive a grant worth 30% of three months' average trading profits (capped at £2,850).

Eligibility for the fifth grant

To be eligible, self-employed people in Tynemouth must:

- have submitted their 2019-20 tax return on or before 2 March 2021
- have trading profits that are no more than £50,000 and at least equal to their non-trading income, based on their 2019-20 tax return or an average of relevant tax years between 2016-17 and 2019-20
- declare that they intend to continue to trade and are either:
 1. currently trading but are impacted by reduced activity, capacity or demand due to coronavirus, or
 2. have traded previously but are temporarily unable to do so due to coronavirus (if the only reason a customer is temporarily unable to trade is because they have to quarantine or self-isolate after going abroad, this does not meet the requirement).
- declare that they have a reasonable belief that there will be a significant reduction in their trading profits between May and September 2021 due to reduced business activity, capacity, demand or inability to trade due to coronavirus.

If you previously heard from HMRC that you were not eligible for the fourth grant, you will not be eligible for the fifth grant either. This is because the same tax returns have been used to determine eligibility for both grants.

Customers ineligible for SEISS may still be eligible for other UK Government support, including Restart Grants, the Recovery Loan scheme, business rates relief and other business support schemes. More details are available on GOV.UK.

Submit CJRS claims for June

CJRS claims for periods in June can now be submitted and must be made by Wednesday 14 July.

Employers in Tynemouth can claim 80% of their furloughed employees' usual wages for the hours not worked, up to a cap of £2,500 per month.

Employers can claim before, during or after they process their payroll. If they can, it's best to make a claim once they're sure of the exact number of hours their employees will work so they don't have to amend their claim later.

Flexibly furloughing employees

If a business in Tynemouth continues to be affected by coronavirus, they don't need to place all their employees on full furlough. Employers can also use the CJRS flexibly if they bring their employees back to work for some of their usual hours. They can claim a portion of their employees' usual wage costs, but only for the hours spent on furlough.

Changes to the CJRS from July

In July, the UK Government will pay 70% of employees' usual wages for the hours not worked, up to a cap of £2,187.50. In August and September, this will reduce to 60% of employees' usual wages up to a cap of £1,875.

Employers in Tynemouth will need to pay the 10% difference in July, and 20% in August and September, so that they can continue to pay their furloughed employees at least 80% of their usual wages for the hours they do not work during this time, up to a cap of £2,500 per month.

Employers can still choose to top up their employees' wages above the 80% level or cap for each month if they wish, at their own expense.

To help employers plan ahead for future claim periods, the CJRS calculator is available to help them work out how much they can claim for employees up to the end of September. To find this and everything they need to know about the CJRS, go to claim for wages on GOV.UK.

Small businesses encouraged to apply for Brexit Support Fund before 30 June deadline

With two weeks to go before the deadline, small and medium sized businesses in Tynemouth are being encouraged to apply for funding to help them adapt to new customs and tax rules when trading with the EU.

The £20m Brexit Support Fund, which closes 30 June, enables businesses who trade with the EU to access up to £2,000 of funding for practical support including training and professional advice on new customs, rules of origin and VAT processes.

More information on the fund and how to apply can be found on GOV.UK.

HMRC can help towards the cost of children's summer holiday activities



HMRC is reminding working families that they can use Tax-Free Childcare to help pay for their childcare costs over the summer.

Tax-Free Childcare – a childcare top-up for working parents – can be used to help pay for accredited holiday clubs, childminders or sports activities – giving parents and carers that extra peace of mind that their child is having fun during the school summer holidays and it can save them money.

Tax-Free Childcare is available for children aged up to 11, or 17 if the child has a disability. And for every £8 deposited into an account, families will receive an additional £2 in government top-up, capped at £500 every 3 months, or £1,000 if the child is disabled.

Parents and carers can check their eligibility and register for Tax-Free Childcare on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

