

Alan Campbell MP

Community News March 2022



Good afternoon

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

In this newsletter you will find information on some of the recent meetings and events I have attended online and in person as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of.

As ever, I have included some 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.

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](#)

Best wishes

Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth

Standing with Ukraine



I stand with the people of Ukraine in our shared fight for freedom and democracy. Putin's attack on Ukraine is an unprovoked, unjustifiable outrage and a heinous violation of international law that is having tragic consequences.

I would like to thank all of those residents who have been doing so much to provide aid, it shows once again the spirit of our area.

I have also been contacted by a number of local people who are currently trying to navigate the home sponsorship scheme. I and my office are working to try and get answers to individual cases but I am also working to lobby the government to simplify the system for taking refugees which as it stands is simply not working.

Regeneration of North Shields and the Fish Quay



The regeneration of North Shields and the Fish Quay is taking shape with ongoing work at Howard Street, Northumberland Square and work starting on the transport hub in the centre of Shields.

More than £22m towards sustainable transport in North Tyneside has been approved as part of the North East's Transforming Cities Fund, with £19m going towards the North Shields Transport Hub.

Located on the site of the former Co-op building on Bedford street, the Transport Hub will bring public transport together into one central place and attract more people to the town centre.

I am confident that by transforming the buildings and infrastructure of North Shields, we will begin to see the transformation of the town centre into the heart of the local community.

Boundary Changes

Have your say



I recently gave evidence at the Boundary Commission hearings about proposed changes to the constituency boundary. The initial proposals from the Boundary Commission are unnecessarily disruptive when it comes to our area and are proposing dividing Tynemouth constituency in half.

It is very disappointing that the local Conservative party is supporting the splitting of Tynemouth constituency and our local coastal community. I

made the case that this would be disastrous for the coast where our coastal community has a shared past and is benefitting from ongoing regeneration.

These proposals would also divide our community of churches, schools, and cultural and sporting events.

It's not too late to have your say. Visit the Boundary Commission website at

https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/?utm_source=bcereviews&utm_medium=newspicelaunch&utm_campaign=secondaryconsultation

You can submit a written submission but this must be done by **Monday 4th April.**

Young Mayor and MP Election



I recently joined North Tyneside MP Mary Glindon and Elected Mayor Norma Redfearn at an event to announce North Tyneside's Young Mayor and Member of the UK Youth Parliament.

I would like to congratulate Max Godfrey the new Young Mayor and Hannah Clark McKeran the new Youth Member of Parliament. I look forward to working with them.

A big thank you also to Suzie and Abi, the outgoing Young Mayor and MP for all their work over the last 2 years. They have achieved a lot during an unprecedented period over the pandemic.

Catch up with Cancer



I am supporting an important campaign - Catch up with Cancer.

Analysis by cancer experts shows the number of “missing” cancer patients is likely even higher than the 60,000 predicted by the National Audit Office. These “missing” patients do not know they have cancer and are therefore not getting the care they need. Extra investment in diagnostics is welcome but it is not enough. An increase in treatment capacity is desperately needed to ensure cancer patients get the care they need. Many of these patients will need radiotherapy treatments. However, despite radiotherapy being a high-tech and cost-effective solution to the cancer backlog, it is in desperate need of more investment to replace ageing kit and better commissioning in the UK.

With record cancer waiting times and delays, we need urgent action and I am raising this with Ministers.

Refugee Action Event



I sent a message of support to the organisers of an event at the Dome in Whitley Bay on their national day of action in support of refugees.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has caused a refugee crisis and brought home the importance of supporting refugees whatever area of conflict they come from. It shows that if there ever was a good reason for the Nationality and Borders Bill that reason has gone. We should be proud of our tradition in this country of helping those who need our help instead of making excuses and raising fears. Thank you for all you are doing to campaign on this issue and for supporting refugees in their hours of need.

Kim McGuinness Update



I'm backing Kim McGuinness in her bid to recruit more officers for Northumbria Police and also her bid for further funds to keep public transport safe. With crime on the increase across the country, we are working closely with residents across the constituency to tackle anti-social behaviour wherever it crops up.

North Shields Sea Fit



I am pleased that the Fisherman's Mission is once again organising an event, North Shields Sea Fit to help fishermen and their families with free health checks and information. The event is on Saturday 7th May from 10am at the Old Low Light Heritage Centre and they already have Newcastle United Foundation Health Checks, North Tyneside NHS Clinical Commissioning Group and Northumbria Police Marine Unit signed up to attend.

Herring Girls Campaign



The North Shields Fishermen's Heritage Project is aiming to raise £50,000 for a Herring Girl statue to recognise the essential role women have always played in the area's fishing industry. The appeal was launched last year and has so far raised £15,000.

The statue is being made by Ray Lonsdale, the artist who made Fiddlers Green overlooking the River Tyne.

I have pledged to support the project however I can. If you want to donate please visit

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/herringgirlsculpture?utm_term=qRpzeQxR

Cost of Living Crisis



A growing number of constituents are finding it difficult to pay their rising energy bills and we are doing all we can to help including getting information about what support is available.

We are also increasing the number of surgeries to respond not only to the fall out of the cost of living crisis but the many other issues that residents wish to raise. As ever, please get in touch if you have an issue or problem and we will do our best to help.

British Kebab Awards



A big congratulations to Whitley Bay restaurant Turknaz who won best regional restaurant at the British Kebab Awards recently. It is a well deserved victory and is a great showcase for our area.

Fairtrade Fortnight



I attended an event in Parliament to show my ongoing support for Fairtrade Fortnight.

In 2022, Fairtrade is continuing to call for climate justice for farmers and workers in low-income countries. After the welcome commitments made at COP26, we want to ensure that finance actually reaches those at the forefront of the climate crisis.

World Book Day



On the 25th Anniversary of World Book Day I went along to an event in Parliament to support the campaign.

Every year World Book Day curates a list of bespoke £1 books for children and young people across the UK and Ireland, which they can choose for free at their local bookshop using their £1 World Book Day book token.

Over 15 million book tokens are distributed in schools, nurseries and colleges across the UK & Ireland. 1 in 5 children receiving free school meals said that the book they 'bought' with their World Book Day book token was their first book of their own.

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than parents' educational background or their income. The National Literacy Trust says that if every child left primary school with the reading skills that they need, our economy could be £30 billion bigger by 2025.

Marie Curie National Day of Reflection

Join us for a

National Day of
Reflection
23 March

I was proud to be a part of Marie Curie's national day of reflection to support the millions of people bereaved during the pandemic and remember the family, friends, neighbours, and colleagues we have all lost.

Last year Marie Curie led the first ever National Day of Reflection, bringing the nation together to reflect on those we had lost during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic. The day brought together over 850 supporting organisations and millions of people to listen to and participate in a minute's silence at 12pm. Hundreds of UK landmarks were lit up in yellow, and public figures including Her Majesty the Queen, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition as well as other UK political leaders all gave their support.

With many more people having lost loved ones over the past year, it was only right that we again acknowledge that loss.

Community Heritage Awards



I have been encouraging local groups to apply for this year's Community Heritage Awards.

Every year the Community Archives and Heritage Group (CAHG) gives awards to outstanding groups and projects.

You can find out about previous awards winners here:

<https://www.communityarchives.org.uk/content/category/awards/previous-award-winners>

World Kidney Day

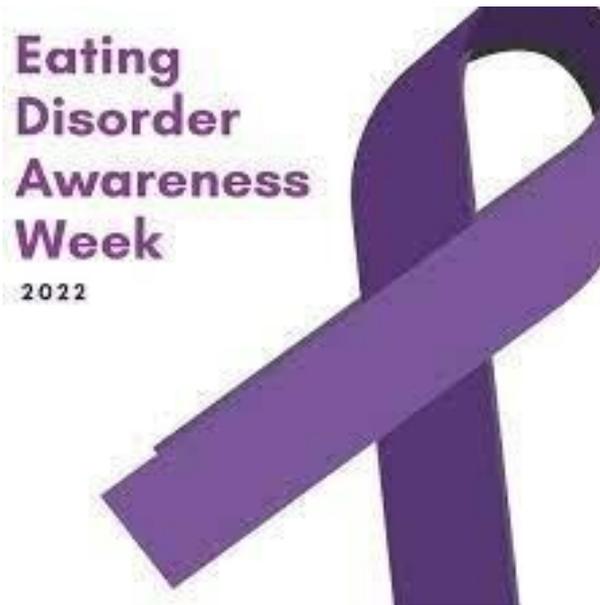


I recently wrote to the Minister of State for Care and Mental Health Gillian Keegan MP to raise awareness of the impact of kidney disease on mental health and call for everyone with kidney disease to have appropriate access to mental health support.

There are around 3 million people living with kidney disease in the UK and everyday 20 more people will develop kidney failure. An estimated 45,000 people die prematurely with kidney disease each year and kidney disease inflicts a huge toll on those living with the condition and their families, both physically and emotionally.

A survey by Kidney Research UK in January 2022 found that over two-thirds (67%) of kidney patients have experienced symptoms of depression and more than a quarter (27%) have considered self-harm or suicide as a result of their kidney disease. Yet people with kidney disease struggle to access appropriate mental health services, with 68% of respondents saying they have not been offered any mental health support.

Eating Disorders Awareness Week

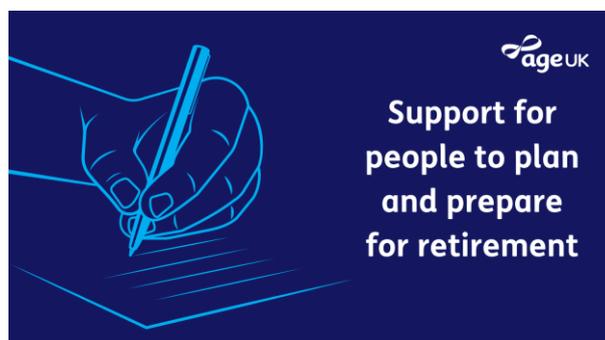


Monday 28th February to Sunday 6th March was Eating Disorders Awareness Week. This year, the focus was on ensuring that all UK medical schools and foundation programmes for junior doctors provide adequate training on eating disorders.

In the UK approximately 1.25 million people of all ages, genders and backgrounds have an eating disorder. All eating disorders can lead to severe long-term physical health consequences, and can have major impacts on individuals, families and wider society.

While serious, eating disorders are treatable and recovery is possible. However, in a survey conducted by UK eating disorder charity Beat in late 2021, 60% of patients with an eating disorder felt they received poor care from their GP and 58% felt that their GP didn't understand eating disorders. This has to change. I have written to the Minister for Care and Mental Health to bring this issue to their attention, and to find out what is being done at a national level to ensure that all future doctors are equipped to identify the early signs and symptoms of an eating disorder.

Age UK Retirement Resources



Age UK do an excellent job in providing advice and support for older people in Tynemouth and across the country.

Their latest resources are focusing on providing advice and support to people who are approaching retirement.

You can access these resources at:

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/work-learning/retirement/>



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