

Alan Campbell MP

Community News July 2022



Welcome to the latest edition of my Community News. I hope you are keeping well including during the recent heatwave.

Parliament is now in recess for the Summer but as usual, my office will remain open to the public from 10am until 2.30pm Monday to Friday and accessible by phone 9am until 5pm Monday to Friday throughout the summer.

Get in touch at: 99 Howard Street, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE30 1NA, 0191 2571927 or email alan.campbell.mp@parliament.uk

Over the summer I will be taking the opportunity to get views of local people about issues in our area. Please look out for my Summer Survey in August.

In this edition of my Community News, you will find details of recent events I have attended as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of.

I have also included some information about help and support available for local people. I do hope you find it informative and useful.

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_uybFykBHP9Ze74JblWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijlCM68TFI_cGhOnsm_TvNnVuiYMhiLm

I continue to write my fortnightly column for the News Guardian, you can access these on my website.

I hope that whatever you are doing you have a great summer.

Best wishes

Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth

New Community Trigger Powers for Anti-social Behaviour



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With the school holidays approaching I know many residents are concerned about anti-social behaviour at the Coast.

I fully support our Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner Kim McGuinness who recently unveiled a new anti-social behaviour complaints process.

Households suffering from persistent anti-social behaviour have been offered extra support from the office of the PCC with the support of local councils.

The PCC's office will now oversee complaints to councils regarding ASB cases – a move designed to help to give victims a voice when demanding action.

In practice, the new process means the PCC can now bring together a high-level panel of organisations such as police, councils, housing providers and others to review persistent cases.

The process known as the 'Community Trigger' gives people the right to ask for a review of long-term ASB complaints and Kim McGuinness' office is the first PCC's office to roll-out the ASB complaints process this way.

As part of her ongoing commitment to improving lives and supporting victims, a dedicated ASB specialist has also been appointed to closely monitor people's issues and help bring partners together to address the causes and prevent further issues.

In the first instance, any ASB should be reported as normal to either their landlord, council or police. The community trigger should be viewed as a last resort for victims of anti-social behaviour if they believe more needs to be done. They can raise their case for consideration by completing a form on the PCC's website.

I welcome this move as an extra measure to help people suffering anti-social behaviour. No-one should have to put up with ASB. This new measure should bring together all the relevant agencies to ensure a joined-up approach which should see effective results.

More information can be found at:

<https://northumbria-pcc.gov.uk/asb-community-trigger/>

**Anti-Social
Behaviour
Awareness Week
2022**



I am pleased to support to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Awareness Week 2022, and I am committed to ensuring that everyone has the right to feel safe in their home and community.

The week ran from 18th to 22nd July and aims to encourage communities to take a stand against ASB and highlight the actions that can be taken by those experiencing it.

I am aware from correspondence with constituents that ASB is a major area of public concern that needs to be addressed on both a local and national level.

Locally, the council, police and Nexus are working together to keep our communities safe but there is still more to be done. The Police and Crime Commissioner's new community trigger powers should also help but the Government must also recognise the scale of the problem and to more to help local partners tackle ASB.

YMCA North Tyneside Founder's Day Event



It was great to visit the YMCA North Tyneside recently for their Founder's Day event, celebrating 178 years since YMCA's founding by George Williams.

I had a tour around the building and saw first-hand some of the amazing things they are doing, including their superb childcare facilities.

YMCA North Tyneside have always been an important part of our local area but in recent years they have gone from strength to strength. I was extremely impressed with the range and quality of the provision on offer in the building and I'd like to thank Dean and all the staff for the brilliant work they do.

Armed Forces Day



Armed Forces Day is held each year on the last Saturday of June to celebrate the service and sacrifice of our UK Armed Forces, veterans, and their families.

I am deeply proud of our servicemen and women – and theirs is the ultimate public service.

Our Armed Forces play a crucial role in defending our communities at home and abroad. They showed total professionalism with their support in Tynemouth during the pandemic and continue to play a crucial role in defending the UK and our NATO allies from Russian aggression.

Falklands Anniversary



I had the honour of attending a commemoration service for the Falklands 40th Anniversary at the Killingworth Jigsaw memorial today alongside Mayor Norma Redfearn, local councillors, the Royal British Legion and members of the armed forces.

I pay tribute to our armed forces who served in the defence of freedom and the Falkland Islanders way of life.

Supporting Ukrainians in our community



It was good to go to Christ Church recently along with Mayor Norma Redfearn to meet local host families and their Ukrainian guests. Local people have really stepped up and shown huge compassion and

community spirit. Myself and Norma have pledged to continue to support these efforts in any way we can.

Jobs and Support event for Ukrainians



North Tyneside Council are organising a Jobs Fair in North Shields.

Drop into the Beacon Centre on the 31st of August to speak to the employers themselves & discover how to apply. You can get support from our team on 0191 643 2111 or email employability.skills@northtyneside.gov.uk for a confidential appointment.

Find out more at: <https://fb.me/e/2yUhjdFeN>

League Against Cruel Sports

Reception



I recently attended the League Against Cruel Sports Annual Reception in the House of Commons in what was an opportunity to celebrate recent significant advances for animal welfare and the joint working that has made them possible. I am a keen defender of animal rights and that issue remains one of the biggest in my postbag.

With much still to do to improve animal welfare, and public appetite for further action still strong, we also explored priorities for animal welfare in the next session of parliament.

**Society of
Independent
Brewer's**



With a number of small breweries in our area, I went along to the Society of Independent Brewer's event in parliament as part of their 'Make it 20' campaign.

At the Budget the Chancellor announced that beer sold in pubs would pay 5% less duty from next year. However, this only applies to kegs and casks over 40 litres in size. Independent brewers also use smaller containers, of 20 litres and 30 litres, penalising smaller craft brewers in my constituency

SIBA was on hand to showcase the different containers used by small brewers and to encourage the Government to include all containers of at least 20 litres in size in the new draught duty rate.

**Thanks to the
National Lottery**



I have thanked National Lottery players for their role in raising much-needed funding for local charities and community groups. Local groups have received £190,000 of National Lottery funding over the last three months.

I would also like to congratulate Phoenix Detached Youth Project who are the latest local group to win funding, recently receiving £39,000 to help it continue delivering its youth work service for young people aged 13 to 25 years in Chirton.

Consultation on lettings policy



As a seaside town, I am encouraging people to have their views on a new consultation recently published by the Government on short-term letting.

As a first step, the call for evidence published today will gather views and information on the benefits and challenges related to short term lets.

We know that there has been a big expansion in this sector in recent years and I am pleased that the Government recognises that although this provides huge benefits to the tourism and wider economy it also impacts local people.

The government is keen to hear from all interested parties, including hosts, guest accommodation businesses, online peer-to-peer platforms, enforcement agencies and tourism bodies.

You can have your say
at https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/developing-a-tourist-accommodation-registration-scheme-in-england?fbclid=IwAR0IYPQILYBR_L3_xLMq6bFJYXFTowwaO2RuonVcJvY_NamRdBuJAp6oESmc

20 Years of Artsmark



This year marks 20 years of Artsmark which is the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England.

It is vital that we ensure all young people can be creative and access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

I hope that all the local schools who celebrated Artsmark Award's 'Day to Create' had a creative and fun time.

Ratification of the Istanbul Convention



The Government has announced they plan to ratify the Istanbul Convention on violence against women, however they plan to 'opt out' of key parts of the Convention that provide life-saving support and protections, particularly for migrant women.

I recently joined IC Change and leading organisations from across the women's sector in calling on Government to protect all women, including migrant women, when they ratify.

Find out more at <https://icchange.co.uk/>

Biomedical Science Day



On Biomedical Science Day I thanked all the Biomedical Scientists and hospital laboratory staff working on our behalf across our region. You are an inspirational workforce, behind the scenes, but at the heart of healthcare.

Take The Kids For Free



I am pleased that Nexus and local bus companies have agreed a 'Take The Kids For Free' offer across all bus services in Tyne and Wear, Northumberland and County Durham for the length of the school summer holidays.

The offer will run from Saturday, 23 July, until Sunday, 4 September, and allows an adult fare-paying customer to take up to three children aged 11 and under with them for no charge. Adult customers with concessionary travel cards for age or disability can also take the kids for free. Take The Kids For Free is already a permanent promise on Metro and the Shields Ferry, North East England is the first region outside London to make this offer.

Help with Benefits



I know people are struggling with the cost of living crisis. Benefits calculators are a useful online tool to assist you to find out

- what benefits you could get
 - how to claim
- how your benefits will be affected if you start work

You can access independent, free benefits calculators anonymously at:

- Turn2us <https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/> - for information on income-related benefits, tax credits, Council Tax Reduction, Carer's Allowance, Universal Credit and how your benefits will be affected if you start work or change your working hours
 - Policy in Practice <https://www.betteroffcalculator.co.uk/login> - for information on income-related benefits, tax credits, contribution-based benefits, Council Tax Reduction, Carer's Allowance, Universal Credit, how these are calculated and how your benefits will be affected if you start work or change your working hours
- entitledto https://www.entitledto.co.uk/?utm_source=BAdviser... – for information on income-related benefits, tax credits, contribution-based benefits, Council Tax Reduction, Carer's Allowance, Universal Credit and how your benefits will be affected if you start work

If you require assistance to access an online benefits check please contact my office on 0191 2571927

Help for carers

“ You may not even realise you're a carer. ”

As we enter the summer holidays I'm raising awareness of the support available for carers.

Many people may look after a partner, relative or friend who is disabled or ill due to physical or mental health but may not think of themselves as a carer, even though they are one, and they may be unaware of the emotional, practical, and financial support available to them.

Age UK published lots of informative guides on advice for carers includes practical and emotional help for older people who are looking after someone, such as:

- Financial support available for carers
 - Having a break from caring
- Organisations that support carers

In addition to this they also have a checklist to help carers get the support and information they need. This includes information on:

- Getting a carer's assessment
- Applying for Carer's Allowance
- Thinking about flexible working

The guides are free to download here <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/.../hel.../advice-for-carers-guide/>

Or you can call their free advice line to order free printed copies on 0800 055 6112.

Cost of Living Payment



For those on qualifying benefits, the Cost of Living Payment is £650 and this is to be paid in two lump sums of £326 (first payment) and £324 (second payment), to those who qualify.

The first payment will be made between 14.07.2022 and end of July 2022.

The qualifying dates for the first payment are of 26.04.22 to 25.05.22. It will be paid into the bank account of claimants who qualify as a separate payment to their usual benefit payment and will show on the account as

'DWP COST OF LIVING' (some banks and building societies may shorten this).

The second payment of £324 will be made in the Autumn but as yet we do not have any information on the qualifying dates or the exact payment period. I will update you when I know more.

Pension Credit



I'm supporting a campaign by Age UK and CAB to raise awareness of this unclaimed benefit.

In our country today 2 million people aged 66 or over are living in poverty. Pension Credit is designed to lift them out of poverty, but 4 in 10 do not receive it.

It's estimated that 2,248 older people in our area are missing out, and they're missing out on a massive £4,898,000 every year.

Anyone who thinks they are missing out can visit www.gov.uk/pension-credit

Ring the Independent Age helpline on 0800 319 6789. Or they can contact Pension Credit claim line directly on 0800 99 1234.

North East
child poverty
now highest
in the UK



I was alarmed to see recent figures published by The End Child Poverty coalition – of which the North East Child Poverty Commission (NECPC) is a member that show the North East overtook London to have the highest rate of child poverty in the UK, at 38% - up from 37% the year before. This equates to just over 11 children in a classroom of 30.

The cost of living crisis we are currently experiencing will only impact this further and it is completely unacceptable. I am joining colleagues from around the region in calling on the Chancellor to bring in further help for families struggling with the cost of living crisis now and hold and emergency budget.

School Holiday

Activity



North Tyneside Council has recently published a timetable of summer events for kids.

Here's a handy list of what's on over the summer:

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/node/30377>

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1542/north-east>

<https://all4kidsuk.com/holiday-clubs-and-courses-childrens/tyne-wear>

<https://www.northeastfamilyfun.co.uk/2019/07/whats-on-north-east-summer-holidays-2019.html>