

DEAR NEWCASTLE,
CHI ONWURAH
MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



Wonderful Parade and Palm Sunday Service at Robert Stewart Memorial Hall in Fenham, celebrating 100 years of the 49th Newcastle Scout Group.

THE TORIES SPENDING BLACK HOLE BOMBSHELL AS PUBLIC SERVICES ARE HIT

In the run up to the Budget, with the tax burden at a 70 year high, the Chancellor boasted of wanting to abolish National Insurance at a cost of 46 Billion pounds without a single word on how he will pay for it. Families in Newcastle know only too well the consequences of the Tories' unfunded promises – we are still paying the price in interest rates, higher housing costs and less investment. It's no coincidence that satisfaction with the NHS is at an all time low under Tory management, they want the NHS to fail so that they can justify privatising it.

Local authorities have been especially undermined by fourteen years of Tory Government. Newcastle has lost almost 50 per cent of its Government funding. Instead of giving local Government the powers and resources it needs to deliver the services Geordies want, the Government makes councils all over the country waste precious money and resource competing for small pots of cash. That's one of the reasons so many councils are in financial trouble right now.

With the local elections on the horizon the Government is once more promising that 'we have turned a corner' but as I said in my speech on the Budget "This budget was the Tories' last chance to try to repair the damage they've done, to stop the rot. And what did we get? More of the same failed economic policy that has plunged us into recession."

On International Woman's Day, in my role as Shadow Minister for Science, Innovation and Research, I was very pleased to announce Labour's new STEM for All plan to tear down the barriers to STEM careers with a cross Governmental action plan on STEM.

CONSTITUENCY ROLE

In my Budget speech I highlighted both the impact of Tory policies on people in Newcastle and the fantastic strengths and opportunities we have here in the North East if only we had the right Government to support us. You can read that speech here:

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2024-03-07/debates/24030716000001/details#contribution-277630B1-90F0-4038-8ACE-779B098F4A60>

I also continued my campaign for proper real time bus information – I have managed to get an action plan from the Government but it still needs some dates!

Many constituents continue to raise with me the terrible situation in Gaza. I raised it twice in Parliament this week and continue to press for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire, the release of all hostages, and to see the legal advice concerning UK arms sales to Israel and potential war crimes.

It was great to celebrate 100 years of the 49th Newcastle Scouts Group based in Robert Stewart Memorial church on Wingrove Road in Fenham and still such an important part of the community

Professor Carol Davenport from Northumbria University shadowed me in Parliament as part of the Royal Society Pairing Scheme which enables policy makers and scientists to learn from each other.

MEDIA

I was quoted regularly in national and local media.



Great take a ride on one of @gonortheast new electric vehicles whilst discussing issues constituents have raised: the impact of the strikes on both passengers and drivers, their commitment to providing #Northeast bus routes, environmental impact & of course, real time bus info



On International Women's Day, I announced Labour's commitment to a STEM for all action plan.

SHADOW MINISTERIAL ROLE

I was very pleased to be able to announce Labour's commitment to a STEM for All plan to increase diversity in science during a visit to Peterborough on International Women's Day. This is the culmination of months of work within the Science team and with colleagues in the Education and Equalities shadow teams, looking at the lack of diversity in different STEM sectors, some of the causes of it, and the current initiatives to address it. Labour will work across Government to ensure that Britain benefits from the talent of all our citizens.

I held a number of roundtables and meetings focusing on raising regional investment into science and innovation.

ORGANISATION

We are recruiting for a Living Wage intern based in the Westminster Office:
<https://www.w4mpjobs.org/JobDetails.aspx?jobid=92117>



Parliamentary Activity

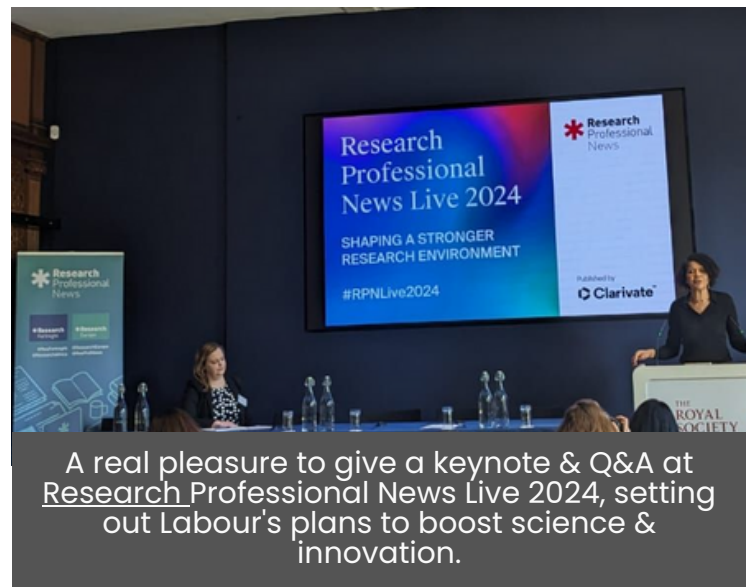
FROM THE BACK BENCH: 12

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration 4 March Budget Resolutions 7 March Chemicals Strategy 14 March Regional Variations: Unemployment and Inactivity 18 March Strength of the Economy 19 March Israel and Gaza 19 March Frank Hester 20 March Real Time Bus Information 21 March Active Travel: Newcastle upon Tyne 21 March Probation 26 March Israel and Gaza 26 March

WRITTEN QUESTIONS: 25

Prison and Probation Service: Labour Turnover 27 March State Retirement Pensions: Women 26 March Disability: North East 26 March Foreign Investment in UK: Science and Technology 26 March East West Rail Line 26 March London North Eastern Railway: Fares 26 March London North Eastern Railway: Fares 26 March Arms Trade: Israel 26 March Arms Trade: Israel 26 March Disease Control: Staff 25 March Department for Transport: Innovation 21 March East West Rail Line 21 March Tyne and Wear Metro: Railway Signals 21 March Life Sciences: Technology 21 March Sports: Location 20 March Housing: Cambridge 19 March East West Rail Line: Property Development 19 March Laboratories: Planning Permission 18 March Laboratories 18 March Oesophageal Cancer: Screening 18 March Batteries: Manufacturing Industries 18 March Nissan: Electric Vehicles 15 March Life Sciences: Canary Wharf 15 March ICT: Innovation 15 March ICT: Innovation 15 March UK Space Agency 15 March Sheffield Forgemasters: Finance 15 March Horizon Europe 15 March Research: Labour Turnover and Recruitment 15 March Disease Control: Drugs and Vaccination 14 March Sheffield Forgemasters: Welding 14 March Laboratories: Disease Control 14 March National Grid: Infrastructure 13 March Kate Sang 13 March Postgraduate Education: Childcare 13 March

NHS: Artificial Intelligence 12 March Advanced Research and Invention Agency 12 March Financial Services: Environment Protection 12 March Department for Science, Innovation and Technology: Business Plans 12 March Research: Skilled Workers 12 March Ministers: Defamation 12 March Department for Science, Innovation and Technology: Impact Assessments 12 March Infectious Diseases: Disease Control 7 March Science and Technology: Marketing 7 March Science and Technology: Research 7 March Department for Science, Innovation and Technology: Freedom of Information 7 March Government Office for Technology Transfer: Staff 7 March DNA: Screening 7 March Charity Research Support Fund 7 March Spaceflight 7 March Technology: Finance 4 March European Innovation Council and Innovate UK 1 March





Lovely to visit Breeze Creatives in Benwell's John Marley Centre, who are celebrating their 10th anniversary, and tour the studios of talented local artists.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Common Room Video; Global Health Partnership Reception; Unlocking UK's Space capabilities, Industry and Parliament Trust; British Science Week event; Voice of the Future panel session; Centre for City's R&D event; Gilead Sciences and Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult and (ATTC) Network Expert panel discussion; TusPark Biotech event; Research Professional News; Durham Energy Institute Exhibition; Policy Exchange Business Forum Conference; Newcastle University Engagement & Place Video.

MEETINGS AND VISITS

Go North East; STEM for BRITAIN; Eating Disorder Awareness Week Drop-In; Association of British HealthTech Industries Manifesto launch; Russell Schofield-Bezer; End Sewage Pollution reception; Fabian Society Roundtable with Alzheimers UK; Target Ovarian Cancer; CARE International; Urban Transport Group; BVCA; Association for Science Education; Anglia Ruskin University Peterborough; Peterborough College Visit; WorldSkills UK; Stemettes; Wellcome Centre for Mitochondrial Disease; Sustainable Aviation; Abbott; Mozilla; Cell Therapy Catapult; Dame Allan School; Public and Commercial Services union; Pharmacy First; US Embassy; Bridgewater Primary School; MarRI-UK; Martin Knight Queen Mary Uni; Viasat; Tom Lewis & Vivienne Sterne Universities UK; John Marley Centre; Newcastle Youth Council Count; Professor Siddharthan Chandran Dementia Research Institute; L'Oreal; Polygon; Midlands Mindforge; Thales; VisitEngland; Marie Curie; WaterAid; Colostomy UK; Academy of Social Sciences; Professor William Webb; Race for Life; The Entrepreneurs Network; Triple A Foods Tour; Syncona; Universities VCs; Jewish Leadership Council; Dementia UK; Hartlepool College of Further Education; Men's Pie Club, Riverside Centre.



DEAR NEWCASTLE,
CHI ONWURAH
MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



I caught up with Amy Whitfield who is the North East finalist for the [#Tourismsuperstar](#) award, to mark English Tourism Week.

REACH OUT

WEBSITE:

<https://chionwurahmp.com>

EMAIL:

chi.onwurah.mp@parliament.uk

ADDRESS:

Suite 24, 7-15 Pink Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 5DW

**Please note surgeries are by appointment only.
Surgeries take place:**

On First and Third Fridays of the month (except August) at City Library, NE1 8AX, from 1.00pm-2.00pm

On First Friday of the month at West End Service Centre, NE4 9JH, 3.00pm-3.45pm

On First Saturday of the month online, from 10am

To book phone: 0191 232 5838

Twitter:

[@ChiOnwurah](https://twitter.com/ChiOnwurah)

Facebook:

[NewcastleChi](https://www.facebook.com/NewcastleChi)

Instagram:

[chionwurahncImp](https://www.instagram.com/chionwurahncImp)

TOP TWEET IN MARCH:

The police came because your protest was becoming aggressive, banging on the Library walls & hurling abuse, then running around the building, attacking my staff member's car & jumping in front of traffic - all you need to do to speak to me is make a surgery appointment.

<https://twitter.com/ChiOnwurah/status/1768675780446351761>

89 Replies; 220 Retweets; 1.8k Favourites; 447.7k Views

