

DEAR NEWCASTLE, **CHI** ONWURAH

MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



Celebrating Matthew's Cheese Shop in the Grainger Market



NEW YEAR BUT SAME OLD STORY FROM THE TORIES

I hope everyone had the chance to take some time with family and friends over the Christmas and New Year break, after what has been another challenging year for so many. But I know that the continuing cost of living crisis, the cold snap and its impact on energy bills, as well as the rail and health strikes that the Government refuses to engage with properly, were of huge concern to many over the festive period.

I want to thank all those who supported people over the holidays, whether as key workers, in our public services, or for charities and food banks.

The New Year has brought no respite from Tory incompetence and intransigence. Rishi Sunak's big keynote speech offered only no concrete plans to improve quality of life for British people, or an inspiring vision for a future where the ambition and talent on everyone contributes to our shared prosperity.

That was left to Keir Starmer, whose set out new national missions for national renewal - for change, for a new Britain, and for hope. He promised that Labour will deliver growth and deliver an economy for everyone, that the British people deserve. For too long our economy, our public services and our communities have suffered from the sticking plaster politics that has characterised the past twelve years of Conservative governments.



Meeting Mandy, a Newcastle Central firefighter at the FBU Lobby of Parliament

BACKBENCH AND CONSTITUENCY ROLE

For Small Business Saturday I visited a whole series of fantastic Newcastle businesses – including the Magic Hat Café, Mrs T's and Trillions, who won Newcastle City Council's best small business award. Small businesses have had a hard time during Covid and I always like to take the opportunity to shop local!

I met with Newcastle University Students Union to discuss how the cost of living crisis is affecting students in our city. Many do not have appropriate maintenance support and some are working multiple jobs to try and make ends meet or are dependent on the University foodbank.

As part of the holiday festivities, I was fortunate to attend local community celebrations, tea parties and carol services. It was lovely to see so many Generous Geordies helping others.

I continue to engage with the Prime Minister, Ministers, Government Agencies and others regarding local bus services, the ongoing situation in Iran, pandemic recovery in Africa, cuts to local BBC services, pay disputes in the NHS workforce, and energy smart meter data privacy.



At the opening of Blakelaw Community Market

SHADOW MINISTERIAL AND PES ROLE

The Government continue to fail to keep their manifesto promise to participate in Horizon, the worlds largest science funding programme. I met with many research organisations to better understand the impact this is having on them.

The Autumn Statement announced changes to R&D tax credit for small businesses, reducing the amount that they can claim back. Many small research organisations in Newcastle and across the country written to me to emphasise that this would have a devastating impact, coming as it did with no warning and no guidance.

I continue to meet with stakeholders in the research, business and science communities to discuss how we can build an Innovation Nation.

ORGANISATION

We were joined by Elizabeth as a short term support in Westminster and also by Aidan as our Westminster Living Wage intern.



My team and I took part in an end of year litter pick at Hodgkin Park with Urban Green



With local councillors and a local Christmas celebrity

MEDIA

I appeared in national and local media including The House Magazine on Strengthening UK Life Sciences and I had articles in North East Bylines about the declining levels of wages in the region and also urging the Health Secretary to resolve industrial disputes with the NHS. I also spoke to the Chronicle about the declining state of our city's marvellous bridges, and gave my reaction to the announcement of a £4bn devolution deal for the North East region.

Parliamentary Activity

FROM THE FRONT BENCH: 2

Post Office: GLO Compensation Scheme 7 Dec SI: IMI Regulation (Amendment) 1 Dec

FROM THE BACK BENCH: 9

Annual Fisheries Negotiations with EU and North Atlantic States 20 Dec Topical Questions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer 20 Dec Convention on Biodiversity COP15: Outcomes 19 Dec Strep A Treatments: Supply 19 Dec Topical Questions to the Secretary of State for International Trade 15 Dec Illegal Immigration 13 Dec British Council Contractors: Afghanistan 12 Dec NHS Industrial Action: Government Preparation 12 Dec Rail Cancellations and Service Leads 1 Dec

WRITTEN QUESTIONS: 72

Environment Protection: Job Creation 29 Dec 2022
Research: Tax Allowances 28 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Medical Records: Data Protection 23 Dec 2022
Personal Records: Data Protection 22 Dec 2022
Housing: Energy 22 Dec 2022
Housing: Newcastle upon Tyne Central 22 Dec 2022
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Health: Children 21 Dec 2022
Asylum: English Channel 21 Dec 2022
Poverty: Children 21 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Food: Pre-school Education 21 Dec 2022
Science: Japan 21 Dec 2022
Science: Japan 21 Dec 2022
Research: Investment 21 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Nutrition: Children 20 Dec 2022
Russia: LGBT+ People 20 Dec 2022
Qatar: LGBT+ People 20 Dec 2022
Regional Accents: Discrimination 20 Dec 2022
Bus Services: Compensation 20 Dec 2022
Bus Services 20 Dec 2022
Universities: Research 20 Dec 2022
Nutrition: Children 20 Dec 2022
Telecommunications: Laboratories 20 Dec 2022
Dementia: Research 20 Dec 2022
Research: Finance 20 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Research: Business 19 Dec 2022
Research: Tax Allowances 19 Dec 2022

Small Businesses: Tax Allowances 19 Dec 2022
Mobile Broadband: Research 19 Dec 2022
Small Businesses: Tax Allowances 19 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Post Office: Fujitsu 15 Dec 2022
Post Offices: ICT 15 Dec 2022
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy: Departmental Responsibilities 15 Dec 2022
Environment Protection: Job Creation 15 Dec 2022
Clinical Trials 14 Dec 2022
Starlink: Broadband 14 Dec 2022
Flexible Working: North East 14 Dec 2022
Flexible Working: North East 14 Dec 2022
Business: Newcastle upon Tyne Central 14 Dec 2022
Small Businesses: Newcastle upon Tyne Central 14 Dec 2022
Lung Cancer: North East 13 Dec 2022
Social Media: Children 13 Dec 2022
Housing: Newcastle upon Tyne Central 13 Dec 2022
Post Offices: ICT 12 Dec 2022
Post Offices: ICT 12 Dec 2022
Starlink: Broadband 12 Dec 2022
Cancer: Waiting Lists 09 Dec 2022
Research: Tax Allowances 09 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
ICT: Innovation 09 Dec 2022
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Antidepressants: North East 07 Dec 2022
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy: Departmental Responsibilities 07 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Research: Investment 07 Dec 2022 show related items (2)
Health Services: Standards 06 Dec 2022
Mortality Rates 06 Dec 2022
[Cancer: Newcastle upon Tyne 06 Dec 2022
Healthy Start Scheme 06 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Care Workers 06 Dec 2022
Clinical Trials: Costs 06 Dec 2022
Research: Finance 06 Dec 2022 show related items (2)
Small Businesses: Tax Allowances 05 Dec 2022 show related items (1)
Wealth: North East 05 Dec 2022
Foreign Investment in UK: Departmental Responsibilities 05 Dec 2022
Mortgages: Interest Rates 02 Dec 2022
Mortgages: Interest Rates 02 Dec 2022
Cabinet Office: Departmental Responsibilities 02 Dec 2022
Science: Investment 01 Dec 2022
Research: Investment 01 Dec 2022



Meeting Northumbria University's new Vice Chancellor, Andy Long

MEETINGS AND VISITS

Africa APPG V&A Visit, Newcastle Bus Services, Brian Dickinson Small business photo, Magic Hat Café visit, World AIDS Day Melissa bus visit, LSE, John Moorcraft and Chris Geiser CEO TUV SUD UK, Joint Radio Company, Centre for medicinal cannabis, Guardian, APPG arts Winslow Homer exhibit, Craig Dawson GMB, Northumbria Uni Business Clinic visit, Northumbria Uni New VC, Grainger Market research, Be the Business, Science Policy Development with Jonny Reynolds, APPG France Quai D'Orsay meeting, Newcastle University Student Union cost of living, MP meeting, Pharmacy visit, Football Foundation visit, Form Ventures venture capital, Novartis, John McTernan BCW-Global, Iranian Activists photo op, Digital Markets Unit legislation.



Visiting the site of a new sports facility in Blakelaw being invested in by Football Foundation

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Westminster Abbey panel symposium, The Engineer Magazine / BAE Systems discussion, Pictfor supply chain diversification, BVCA conference, SME Productivity Report Launch, IET/Dods Engineering & Education reception, Medical research charity CEOs AMRC Day, Minister Holden surgery, Climate Tech roundtable, Parliamentary Science reception, Westminster Health Forum policy conference, Institution of Mechanical Engineers Anniversary



At the Mechanical Engineers 175th Annual Dinner in Newcastle



2022 Review

3730



Cases resolved for Constituents

659



Written Parliamentary Questions

514



Meetings and speaking events

143



Spoken contributions in the House of Commons



Held regular surgeries online, on the doorstep and in Central and West End Libraries

DEAR NEWCASTLE,
CHI ONWURAH
MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



Meeting with Shine to discuss
World AIDS Day.

REACH OUT

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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

To book phone: 0191 232 5838

Twitter:

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

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

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

TOP TWEET IN DECEMBER:

My mother fled war & famine in Biafra in the '60s w 3
small children.

The cargo plane we travelled in landed in Lisbon
because Portugal had recognised Biafra & was
'safe'.

I asked the PM if he thinks we should have been
required to stay there or join my Gran in
#Newcastle.

