

DEAR NEWCASTLE, **CHI** ONWURAH

MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



At a Motability handover ceremony with constituents Mollie and Carl as they received their new cars!

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS AND CONTINUING COST OF CONSERVATIVE CRISIS

King Charles was crowned in Westminster Abbey at a ceremony which brought together world leaders and centuries of tradition. Across Newcastle many celebrated with Coronation Tea Parties or simply enjoyed a long bank holiday weekend with friends and family. I met the King and Queen at a Parliamentary Reception and invited them both to Newcastle.

The economic situation however continued to worsen for many. Inflation remains high and wages have not kept up. NHS waiting lists are at an all time high, causing real pain and suffering for many. As a consequence more and more North East children are facing difficulties. I raised this at Prime Ministers Questions when I said to Oliver Dowden, the new Deputy Prime Minister:

Half the children in Newcastle upon Tyne Central are growing up in poverty. Over the last five years, the delivery of food parcels to north-east children has risen by 250%. The number of north-east children who are homeless rose by 50% last year, and on average their parents' wages have fallen by £1,000.

If any of this affects a child's mental health, they face a five-month wait for treatment. Why are his Government making it so hard for our kids?

In response the deputy Prime Minister praised the Government's track record! Britain has huge potential but we need an active Government to help realise it. Keir Starmer launched Labour's third mission, to build an NHS fit for the future, and set out details of how that will be achieved.

I spent a few days in Silicon Valley, speaking at a Biotech conference there, and then visiting leading examples of innovation including Google X and NASA. I also visited leading universities like Berkeley, Stanford and Santa Clara. I want to see an innovation ecosystem in the North East that helps create great jobs here.

Like just about everyone in the constituency, I am thrilled that Newcastle United will be playing in the Champions League next season.

BACKBENCH AND CONSTITUENCY ROLE

Surgeries continue to be very busy with housing a major issue for many constituents. Every week I see families desperate for a secure, affordable home. Access to benefits is also a major concern, and the lack of reliable, affordable bus services is regularly raised with me.

I visited the National Audit Office's Newcastle office and was very impressed with the work they do ensuring value for money in public spending. They also are focused on ensuring that they are an open, inclusive culture offering good jobs in our region.

I continue to engage with the Prime Minister, Ministers, Government Agencies and others regarding additional bus stops for new bus routes, the swing bridge, Sudan, social housing repairs, housing and homelessness, drugs and vagrancy, Horizon Europe, palliative care, and social mobility in engineering.

MEDIA

I have spoken to local and national media about a range of issues in the last month. On BBC Radio Newcastle I gave my verdict on the local Election results. I was interviewed by Manufacturing TV on the importance of innovation in manufacturing. My visit to America to talk at a conference on Synthetic Biology was reported by North East Bylines who noted the 'shout out' I gave to great local businesses. In Newcastle, I commented to the Chronicle on the worrying situation of far right extremists handing out food parcels with propaganda. The Chronicle also mentioned my PMQ (above).

I was also quoted in PinkNews on the government's poor response to my question on safe routes for LGBTQ+ Ugandans. On a lighter note, my visit to Mrs T's Right Royal Tea Party was reported by Politico's Playbook!

ORGANISATION

We succeeded in recruiting a trainee administration assistant. Lydia will be starting next month.



With apprentices at EY at an ICAEW roundtable event.



Visiting the Elswick Pool and Gym to chat about the wonderful community owned building.

SHADOW MINISTERIAL AND PES ROLE

I sat as a Shadow Minister on the Data Protection and Digital Information (2) bill. This bill attempts to modify the EU legislation on data protection GDPR to improve it whilst remaining compatible with European Union data flow requirements. It is not surprisingly a mishmash which fails to protect consumers or enable real competition. There are serious concerns that it could open the door to further abuse of individual's data. It is also not forward looking and barely takes account of Artificial Intelligence, for example. I spoke at the Foundation for Science and Technology in response to the Sir Paul Nurse Review of the UK's science and R&D landscape, offering Labour's vision for a high wage, high skill and high growth economy.

I continue to engage with stakeholders on Labour's science, innovation and research policy, visiting science driven startups here and in California's silicon valley.

Parliamentary Activity

FROM THE FRONT BENCH: 7

Small Business Growth 18 May Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill (Sixth sitting) 18 May Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill (Fifth sitting) 18 May Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill (Third sitting) 16 May Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill (Fourth sitting) 16 May Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill (Second sitting) 10 May Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill (First sitting) 10 May

WRITTEN QUESTIONS: 19

Science: USA 26 May 2023 Artificial Intelligence: Research 24 May 2023 Research: Expenditure 23 May 2023 Newton-Bhabha Fund: Finance 23 May 2023 Science: Laboratories 22 May 2023 Biology: Research 22 May 2023 Biology: Research 22 May 2023 Research: India 19 May 2023 Research: India 19 May 2023 Food Banks 19 May 2023 Medical Equipment: Procurement 18 May 2023 Carer's Allowance and Personal Independence Payment: Newcastle Upon Tyne Central 18 May 2023 Homelessness: Newcastle upon Tyne 17 May 2023 Child Trust Fund: North East 17 May 2023 Drugs: Procurement 17 May 2023 Medical Equipment: Developing Countries 16 May 2023 National Insurance 16 May 2023 Science and Technology: Grants 15 May 2023 Government Departments: Public Expenditure 09 May 2023



Meeting local GPs to talk about the challenges facing General Practice after 13 years of Tory Government.

FROM THE BACK BENCH: 3

Prime Minister's Questions 17 May National Emergency Test 11 May Industrial Strategy 9 May



Questioning the Government's appalling record on child poverty at PMQs.



Discussing growing instances of homelessness in Newcastle and the long-awaited Renters Reform Bill with Shelter North East.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Make UK Industrial Strategy, Africa APPG Reinforcing equal partnership UK/Africa Higher Education, FST Nurse Review, BVCA Going for Growth: Investing in UK, SynBioBeta Conference California,

MEETINGS AND VISITS

Amlo, Tate Britain, APPG Engineering with Kenton School, Hope not Hate, Huntington's Disease Awareness, Diabetes UK, Co-op Party Alternative business launch, MSD Life Sciences Investor, Labour Women in Tech, His Excellency President of Zambia, Society of Chemical Industry Awards, BEIS Public accounts committee & NAO office, Motability Car handover, Shelter, Sixth Form Colleges Association, Women in Nuclear, British Museum Citi exhibition, Mental Health Foundation, Northern Rail, Alzheimer's Society, Thames Water Ventures, Islamic Relief Eid event, Planet Labs, Digitalfire, ICAEW/EY, Lizzie Withington Company Creation Newcastle University, Crown Prosecution Service, Northern Chords, Elswick Pool, GP's & NHS Ways to Wellness, CalTestBed, Google responsible AI, James Proud, British Consulate General San Francisco, Google X, Bakar Labs, Todd Pray Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, High Beam Foundation, Santa Clara University, NASA Ames Centre, Katherine Mayer, Stanford University, Pronto AI



Stateside Geordies! With Newcastle University's Matt Burrige at SynBioBeta Conference in Silicon Valley.



With Sarah, a local Sainsbury's Community Champion at a reception in Parliament.



At the National Audit Office to meet staff there.

DEAR NEWCASTLE,
CHI ONWURAH
MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



Speaking at the SynBioBeta Conference in
Silicon Valley, California .

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

On First Saturday of the month online, from 10am

To book phone: 0191 232 5838

Twitter:

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

TOP TWEET IN MAY:

Both [@UKLabour](https://twitter.com/UKLabour) & [@MakeUK](https://twitter.com/MakeUK) believe that to tackle regional inequality, compete on the global stage & deliver high paid jobs, we need an Industrial Strategy. But when I asked the Tory Minister about it he couldn't even mention 'industrial strategy' in his so-called 'answer'!

<https://twitter.com/ChiOnwurah/status/1655966371316916225>

