

# DEAR NEWCASTLE, **CHI** ONWURAH

MP FOR NEWCASTLE CENTRAL



Route Newcastle promoting British local producers, in the heart of Newcastle

## A SUMMER OF TORY LIES BEFORE THEY IMPOSE THEIR NEXT PRIME MINISTER ON US

I hope everyone manages to have some rest and recuperation this summer. Politics, however, continues to be turbulent. Boris Johnson may have disgraced the office of Prime Minister, and become a byword for lies and bluster in Whitehall, but he is still in office and he is still pulling the strings. Even though over fifty ministers resigned in an attempt to kick him out as soon as he announced he would stand down the Tories decided they did have confidence in him after all, keeping him as Prime Minister and voting that they had confidence in the Government that can do nothing apart from mud-slinging at each other. The candidates, now whittled down to two, argue with each other about which outdated Thatcherite policy to bring back, whilst attacking the few policies they have to support a sustainable, green economy. As I said in my contribution to the vote on No Confidence, the Conservative Party "has no ideas and no convictions, it is a zombie Government, worse it is a vampire Government effectively dead but still continuing to suck the life blood from my constituents. Only a Labour Government can be the fresh start we deserve."

I also represented the All Party Parliamentary Group for Africa at the Commonwealth Women's, People's and Business Forums. I visited the Hostel where the British Government is trying to send asylum seekers for processing. Whilst the accommodation was of a good standard, that did not change my view that the policy is unworkable, expensive and immoral.

Knocking on doors across the city, the number one issue is the cost of living crisis. We know just how hard it is for already for people to make ends meet, the Tories are set on making it impossible. Working people are tired of being made to bear the burden of the financial crisis, austerity, covid, the Ukraine and inflation, but the Tories still don't get it, or don't care.

### Nunsmoor Centre's Diversity & Inclusion celebration



# BACKBENCH AND CONSTITUENCY ROLE

As a constituency MP I see the consequences of the Government's lack of investment in our public services on a daily basis – "Backlog Britain" is causing misery for constituents waiting for the passports, or driving licences, or visas, or to be seen in Accident and Emergency at the RVI. One constituent reported a seven hour wait!

The winds of the Sahara came to Newcastle in July as Britain boiled and temperatures broke records. This was an indication of how Climate Change will feel if we do not address it, with economic and social chaos as fires rage, road surfaces melt and the vulnerable are disproportionately affected.

I represented the APPG for Africa at the Commonwealth Summit in Kigali and raised issues around impact of Climate Change on African countries, sustainable UK trade with African countries, the African diaspora voice in the Commonwealth and woman's empowerment and education.

Following extensive consultation with constituents, Northumbria Police and Newcastle City Council I have completed a '15 point plan for Rubbish' which will be published over the summer to set out what is and can be done to address the key issue for many constituents.

It was great to be back at the Big Meeting, the Durham Miners Gala was a lovely sunny day with a big turnout and some great speeches!

I continue to engage with the Prime Minister, Ministers, Government Agencies and others regarding families of constituents in the Ukraine and Afghanistan, women in STEM, on behalf of leaseholders with structural issues in their flats, and R&D investment in Newcastle.



30th Newcastle Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers on their 65th birthday at St Andrews URC

## SHADOW MINISTERIAL AND PES ROLE

This is a critical moment for science as the Government continues to fail on its Manifesto commitment to associate with Horizon Europe, the worlds biggest science funding programme. And what does the Government do? It decides we don't need a science minister! The last science minister, George Freeman, took to twitter to try and lobby his own Chancellor for funding for their Horizon Plan B, and then resigned over Boris Johnson's behaviour. Johnson has refused to appoint a new science minister, all the while saying how important science is!

I am spending increasing amount of time meeting with science, research and innovation stakeholder to discuss science policy for a Labour Government.

## ORGANISATION

We are returning to all in-person surgeries at Newcastle Civic Centre and are looking at the security arrangements elsewhere. My new Parliamentary Researcher, Keir Lewis, started in Westminster and I am recruiting a new Caseworker/Communications Officer.

### VISITING THE NEWCASTLE CAB TO DISCUSS IMPACT OF COST OF LIVING CRISIS ON CONSTITUENTS



## MEDIA

Week in Westminster BBC, Tyne Tees interview on Tyne Bridge, BBC Politics, ITV Tyne Tees – Great British Railways HQ.



# Parliamentary Activity

## SPEAKING FROM THE FRONT BENCH: 2

Research and Development Spending 12th Jul 2022;  
Post Office Horizon Scandal 30th Jun 2022

## FROM THE BACK BENCH: 6

Public Services: Civil Servants (passport delays) 14 Jul 2022;  
Public Services: Civil Servants (civil servants) 14 Jul 2022;  
Rape Prosecution Rates 07 Jul 2022;  
Internet Access for Households and Businesses 07 Jul 2022;  
Rural Bus Services 30 Jun 2022;  
Topical Questions (Rwanda and trade) 16 Jun 2022



West End Food Bank celebrating  
City of Sanctuary Award

## WRITTEN QUESTIONS: 93

Members: Email 21 Jul 2022 Social Security Benefits 21 Jul 2022 Apprentices: STEM Subjects 21 Jul 2022 T-levels 21 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Greenhouse Gas Emissions 20 Jul 2022 Cancer: Drugs 20 Jul 2022 Physics: Females 20 Jul 2022 Mental Health Services: Waiting Lists 19 Jul 2022 Department for Work and Pensions: Staff 19 Jul 2022 Nurses: Training 19 Jul 2022 Cancer: Drugs 19 Jul 2022 Fracking 19 Jul 2022 Glycine 19 Jul 2022 Dental Services: Newcastle Upon Tyne 19 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Nigeria: Abortion 18 Jul 2022 Homes for Ukraine Scheme 18 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Research: Finance 18 Jul 2022 Visas: Tourism 18 Jul 2022 Asylum: Applications 18 Jul 2022 Fracking 18 Jul 2022 Fracking 18 Jul 2022 Research: Ministerial Responsibility 18 Jul 2022 Innovate UK: Expenditure 18 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Innovate UK: Expenditure 18 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Universal Credit 18 Jul 2022 Horizon Europe 18 Jul 2022 Innovate UK: Expenditure 18 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Proteins: Novel Foods 15 Jul 2022 Proteins: Novel Foods 15 Jul 2022 Novel Foods: Research 15 Jul 2022 Newcastle Station: Commuters 15 Jul 2022 Breast Cancer 14 Jul 2022 Innovate UK: Expenditure 14 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Visas: Applications 14 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Research: Finance 14 Jul 2022 Research: Visas 14 Jul 2022 Agriculture and Manufacturing Industries: Photonics 13 Jul 2022 Equality: Technology 13 Jul 2022 Railways: Students 13 Jul 2022 STEM Subjects: Equality and Social Mobility 12 Jul 2022 Small Businesses: Energy 11 Jul 2022 Season Tickets: London and Newcastle 11 Jul 2022 Public Footpaths: Urban Areas 11 Jul 2022 Charity Commission: Internet 08 Jul 2022 Measurement 07 Jul 2022 Public Footpaths: Greater London 05 Jul 2022 Research, Development and Innovation Organisational Landscape Review 05 Jul 2022 Visas: Research 04 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Physics: Females 04 Jul 2022 Foreign Investment in UK 04 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Venture Capital 04 Jul 2022 show related items (1) T-levels 04 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Measurement 04 Jul 2022 Carbon Emissions and Hydrogen: Finance 04 Jul 2022 Fuels: Prices 04 Jul 2022 show related items (1) Swaziland: Human Rights 04 Jul 2022 Swaziland: Human Rights 04 Jul 2022 Health Services: Racial Discrimination 04 Jul 2022 Health Professions: Racial Discrimination 04 Jul 2022 Health Professions: Racial Discrimination 30 Jun 2022 Innovate UK: Grants 28 Jun 2022 Fuels: Prices 21 Jun 2022 show related items (1) NHS: Medical Records 21 Jun 2022 Food: Advertising 21 Jun 2022 Visas: Research 21 Jun 2022 show related items (1) Migrant Workers: Research 21 Jun 2022 Research: Finance 20 Jun 2022 Rare Diseases: Medical Treatments 20 Jun 2022 Medical Treatments 15 Jun 2022 Cancer: Research 15 Jun 2022 Cancer: Medical Treatments 15 Jun 2022 Cancer: Diagnosis 15 Jun 2022 Clinical Trials 15 Jun 2022 Postgraduate Education 15 Jun 2022 Visas: Ukraine 15 Jun 2022 Driving Licences: Administrative Delays 14 Jun 2022 Driving Licences: Administrative Delays 14 Jun 2022 Digital Technology: Data Protection 14 Jun 2022 Antimicrobials: Developing Countries 14 Jun 2022 Social Rented Housing: North East 14 Jun 2022 Hikvision: CCTV 13 Jun 2022 Innovation 13 Jun 2022 Overseas Students: Fees and Charges 13 Jun 2022 Cancer: Research 13 Jun 2022 Data Protection: Regulation 13 Jun 2022 Civil Servants: North East 13 Jun 2022 Local Enterprise Partnerships: Finance 13 Jun 2022 Data Protection: EU Law 13 Jun 2022 Arts: Data Protection 13 Jun 2022 Dental Services: North East 13 Jun 2022 show related items (1) Passports: Applications 13 Jun 2022 Universities: Industrial Disputes 10 Jun 2022 Drugs: Licensing 10 Jun 2022

# MEETINGS

CEO Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust - James Duncan, North of Tyne Combined Authority Strategic Partnership Group - UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan, 30th Newcastle Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers celebration, The Publishers Association, "We're Right Here" Parliamentary rally, Ana Avaliani & David Cleevely - Royal Academy of Engineering - Spotlight on Spinouts authors, Bill Thompson, Coadec and Index Ventures' London Tech Week, Pure Maths Campaign, Launch of Kingston University's Future Skills Report and League Table 2022, The City UK Interview Britain Thinks, Manchester University: Innovation Agenda policy toolkit - prof Richard Jones, Sir Ian Blatchford call, Heat Pump Discovery Exhibition, Foxglove - Facebook event, The Advertising Association, Clean Air Day, Breast Cancer Now's Early Diagnosis Event, Fashion, US Embassy Juneteenth event, Foxglove & APPG Africa, Party of European Socialists - Joe Corry-Roake, The UK Industrial Decarbonisation Research and Innovation Centre (IDRIC) Reception for decarbonising UK, Tony Ryan - Design and Technology, Margaret Ridley: North Benwell Youth Project, Ava Labs, Home Group: Opening of One Strawberry Lane, Places for People & Clayton St Residents, CHOGM/ APPG Africa Delegation-Kigali visit, We Demand Better March, US Embassy Independence Celebration, Pulsic CEO - Mark Williams, Citizens advice bureau - Hannah Finney, Royal Naval Association, Community Diversity Celebration, Roundtable - CAR-T therapies during COVID-19, Hadrian's Wall Walk, Workie Ticket - Northern Stage, , Embracing All Tones of Women, Apple, Philanthropy Roundtable Dinner, Nigeria APPG AGM, Celebrating Ethnic Minority Leaders in Business, Sky Arts SalonFor the World campaign launch, Brian Walker- Newcastle University, CEOs at BioIndustry Association, Kenton Manor Care Home, Hong Kong Reception & Community Forum, Credera - Ewan Miller, Curious Festival, 10th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Higgs Boson, Association of British HealthTech Industries, APPG Open Banking and Payments Planning, Vodafone UK, Royal Academy of Engineering, Historic Vehicles Group, Aviation Reception, NHS Parliamentary Award Ceremony, Westminster Climate Solutions fair, Royal Society Science Exhibition and met researchers

Plabour Link Forum MPs Panel York, Durham miners Gala, Gina Neff, Amali de Alwis, Renu Mehta Fortune Forum, TechUK, Robin Grimes of Royal Society, George Dibb, Arradis, National Manufacturing Day - Spincraft, Elliot Smith Dance Company Gosforth Civic Theatre, Royal Mail Sorting office, Central Lofts, People's Postcode Lottery, BP Levelling up, Trade Union & Labour Party Liaison Organisation (TULO). Hepatitis event, Newcastle university Coloplast research visit, home group visit, cultural centre visit, meeting Batonbearers, Queens baton event, launch of inspirational women exhibition Newcastle, US innovation and technology, social care lobby day, APPG Africa reception, Yorkshire day drop in, Anthony McCaul, , Stomas in parliament, Rebecca Lewis meeting, APPG summer reception, association commonwealth university meeting, North East England African Community Association (NEECA): UEFA Women's EURO 2022, City of London corporation - Nickie Aiken, Newcastle West End Foodbank volunteers,

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

London First Business & University - UK Science Superpower, Newcastle University Migration - Inclusion & cultural understanding -Erasmus + ENACT project celebration, Climate Justice in North East, , Labour in Communications Q&A, Stand up to Racism Refugees & Rwanda proposals, Durham Business School Leaders in Innovation Fellowship, Space Sector Development and Investment webinar, Parliamentary Links Day, Launch of the Ryder Review on Biometrics Governance, Industry Forum, Coding Black Females, Virtual Tech Conference, The Creative Workforce event, P&SC Annual Lunch, Parliamentary roundtable for British IP day, Present Award at Royal Academy of Engineering Awards Dinner, HIV prevention medicine, unveiled Frederick Douglass statue BIS team science policy



On the eve of Armed Forces Day I joined the Royal Naval Association



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## CONTACT AND MEDIA

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*Please contact the office for surgery  
appointments*

Visiting NE Ambulance Service at Northern Pride

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**TOP TWEET IN JUNE:**

Some have raised last night's #bbcqt w me. I didn't see it, but will, as always, raise \*constituent\* concerns if emailed I have been concerned at comments on social media & want to emphasise that #Newcastle is wonderful, open, diverse, majority #Labour voting & a #CityofSanctuary