



Our Magazine is published every other month and is freely available to our members

**Oct — Nov  
2023**

[www.cenca.co.uk](http://www.cenca.co.uk)

Stay 'In Touch' with the

**Corby & E Northants Conservative Association**

Published by RM Boyd on behalf of Corby & E Northants Conservative Association, both at CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, NN17 1SZ  
Printed by Contract Printing Services Ltd., Unit J, Cavendish Courtyard, Sallow Road, Weldon North Industrial Estate, Corby, NN17 5DZ

## **ENERGY SECURITY IS NATIONAL SECURITY, AND IT HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT**

**BOOSTING BRITAIN'S**

# **ENERGY SECURITY**



**Hundreds of new oil and gas licences to be granted — supporting 213,000 UK jobs**

Image by wasi1370 from Pixabay

We need to make sure we're powering Britain from Britain. And we're the only party that gets it.

Hundreds of new oil and gas licences will be granted in the UK, the Prime Minister has confirmed. So share the news with a friend.

*Labour have said they'll BAN new oil and gas developments. Right when you need your energy bill protected. You've got to wonder: are they on the side of British families or on the side of Just Stop Oil?*

*First Labour take £1.5 million from a Just Stop Oil donor — and then Keir Starmer lets them write Labour's energy policies.*

*These aren't the actions of a party serious about energy security. And we need to let people know.*

We're putting energy security and British families first.

New oil and gas licenses will do more than strengthen our energy security.

- They'll create more decent jobs for British people.
- They'll protect your energy bill.
- They'll provide billions in tax to help fund schools and our NHS.
- They'll help grow our economy.
- And they'll ensure we don't drive up emissions by using foreign gas imports with four times the carbon

footprint.

**So if you think British power should be in British hands, share the news with a friend.**

Together we'll safeguard our national energy security with new oil and gas, a world-leading network of renewables and a new era of Great British Nuclear.

Yours sincerely,

**Grant Shapps**

Energy Security Secretary

**HAVE YOU ENTERED OUR FREE PRESIDENT'S DRAW YET? IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO WIN A TICKET. LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE AND A NEW PUZZLE IS IN THIS ISSUE**

# PHISHING/SCAM WATCH

Phishing emails should be reported to the National  
Cyber Security Centre on

[report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

Please report every one of them. It is our weapon to  
stop the scammers

## CONTENTS IN THIS ISSUE

- Cover. Energy Security
2. Scam Watch
- 3/4. Association Chairman's report/  
Office hours
5. New EV Plant
- 6/7. Stephen Mold PFCC
8. CPF Report
9. Share your views
- 10/11. Tom Pursglove Report
12. The President's Puzzle
13. Andrew Griffiths MP
- 14/15. Council Leader's Report
16. Heating Grants
17. Message from the Prime Minister
18. Tom Pursglove's Weekly Surgeries  
and Social Care help
19. Keep Labour Out.
20. Corby Conservative Club



Watch out for this  
clever new scam.

The scammers stick a scam  
QR Code over the original one.

If you scan the fake code you will be taken  
to a scam site which looks genuine but it will  
ask you for your details.

Your bank account will then be emptied.

One more reason why the option to pay by  
old-fashioned cash should be available.

You can sign up for email scam warnings by  
searching: **which scam alert service**

## Take care if you're shopping on online marketplaces like Facebook

There has been a 75% increase in people  
getting scammed when shopping for things  
like cars, tickets and clothes on Facebook  
Marketplace.

Here are some things to look out for:

- **Is it too good to be true?**  
*It's not a bargain if it never* **SCAM**  
*turns up.*
- **Do you have to pay right away?**  
*A genuine seller won't pressure you into*  
*a quick sale.*
- **Can you meet the seller in person?**  
*Look for things nearby so you can check*  
*the item before you pay.*
- **Will they let you pay by card?**  
*Never pay by bank transfer. Pay by debit*  
*or credit card to protect your money.*

# Conservative Association Chairman's Report to Members

Cllr Lee Wilkes ((Association Chairman)

26 Sep 2023

With the new parliamentary boundaries taking effect, approvals & selections for North Northants Council (and Town and Parish Councils) taking place, and a General Election expected next autumn, our mission to promote Conservative values has never been more important.

While the media and our political opponents are writing our Party off and expecting a change in Government, I firmly believe that a Conservative majority can be delivered next year.

After the restrictions of the pandemic and the pressures caused by inflation, the public need a Government that will embrace and promote the economic freedoms that they value and which will help them succeed.

When the economic situation was tough and challenging in the 1980s, the public rejected socialism, high taxes and state control. Instead, the public voted in favour of Margaret Thatcher's ambitious economic programme that reduced taxes, embraced supply side reforms and gave hard-working families and businesses the freedoms they needed to succeed, to own property and to fulfil their potential.

We need to keep on making the case for freedom, enterprise, low taxes, public sector reforms, and being robust on law and order. We have great amount of work to do if we are to save our country from the threats of socialism and chaos under Labour and the Lib Dems.

## Council-maintained schools outperform academies:

Schools that stay with their council have continued to outperform those that converted to academies, research commissioned by the LGA has revealed. A

recent report analysing Ofsted inspections by school type has found 93 per cent of council-maintained schools in England were rated 'outstanding' or 'good' as of 31 January 2023, compared with 87 per cent of academies that were graded since they converted.

The report also found that since 2018, 72 per cent of council-maintained schools have retained their outstanding rating, compared with 60 per cent of outstanding academies that received inspections in their current form and did not inherit grades from their former maintained school status. The LGA says this demonstrates why councils should be given powers to open new maintained schools, and is a reminder of the excellent track record of councils in school improvement and maintaining educational standards. Councils want to ensure that every child gets the very best education and schooling in life.

That is why it is vital they are given a central role in providing education and that government recognises councils as the excellent education partner they are.



Continued>>>>

HALVE INFLATION | GROW THE ECONOMY | REDUCE DEBT | CUT WAITING LISTS | STOP THE BOATS

### London's Ultra Low Emission Zone:

Ninety per cent of cab drivers opposed, 80 per cent of outer London businesses opposed and 80 per cent of outer London employees opposed.

You would think that these statistics demonstrate a clear lack of public support for the capital's Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ), yet the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has decided to plough ahead with his £400m plans to add another stealth tax on people across London and the home counties. We continually hear Labour talk about the situation we face with the cost of living, yet when it comes to bringing forward practicable solutions, the answer seems to be introducing further taxation on the most vulnerable. Indeed, Transport for London's (TfL) own data supports the fact that those who are most likely to be penalised by ULEZ are the most vulnerable residents in London. Of course air pollution is important, but ULEZ is not the answer. Data from Transport for London suggests that pollution would fall by a mere 0.3 per cent across most of the outer London boroughs.



Image by Sabine Kroschel from Pixabay

### Police Fire and Crime Commissioner:

The FBU is the same union that is protesting against our PFCC. They do not like fire services to be run by Commissioners. (They were wearing t-shirts saying PFCCs out). They also object to direct entry (bringing in people from outside the service) and they strongly resist any change in culture. The culture of the service was criticised in the HMICFRS report and scored "Requires Improvement" with a cause of concern due to lack of progress in this area. These factors are all behind the recent stories in the press.

Thank you for your support and all the work and campaigning in the months ahead.

Onwards and Upwards

Yours,

Councillor Lee Wilkes  
Chairman  
Corby & East

Northamptonshire Conservative Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lee Wilkes'.

### Town and Parish Council Candidates:

We are looking for new candidates to stand for election for the Town Councils over the next few years. If you are interested in standing up for your community, please contact the Office.

### Fire Brigade Union:

The FBU are one of the most left-wing unions in the country, being affiliated with Labour at a National Level and sponsoring events such as "Unite the Left"

**Kettering Constituency  
Conservative Association**  
**Conservative Women's Organisation**  
**Luncheon with Lee Anderson MP**  
**Conservative Party Deputy Chairman**

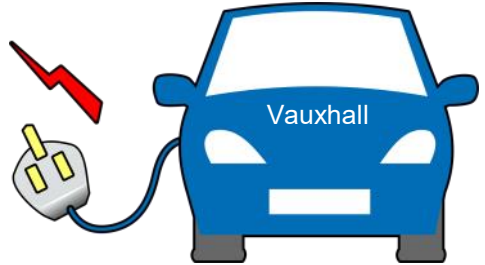
**Friday 13 October 12 noon – 2pm**  
**at KCCA, 27 Crown Street, Kettering NN16 8QA**  
Tickets £16.50 from KCCA 01536 512007  
admin@kettering-conservatives.co.uk  
(please advise of any special dietary requirements)

# NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLANT FOR ELLESMERE PORT

6 Sep 2023:

The Ellesmere Port plant was built in 1962 and produced its first car, the Vauxhall Viva, in 1964. Among the first electric vehicles to be produced at Ellesmere Port is the Vauxhall Combo Electric. It is capable of up to 175 miles of range, while a 0-80% charge can be completed in just 30 mins from a 100kW rapid charger.

Image by Mark Harvey from Pixabay



Kemi Badenoch, Secretary of State for Business and Trade, said: "This announcement in which Ellesmere Port becomes the UK's first electric vehicle-only manufacturing plant and the first Stellantis plant globally dedicated to electric vehicles, is a very visible demonstration that this Government has got the right plan for the UK's automotive sector."

"Alongside recent investments from other major vehicle manufacturers, we are ensuring the UK remains at the forefront of automotive innovation as well as securing jobs in this critical industry and its wider supply chain."

***IN SPITE OF ALL THE GLOOM AND DOOM IN THE MEDIA WE MUST BE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT!***

## AND MORE GOOD NEWS

The Prime Minister said, "Recently I was in Oxfordshire to celebrate BMW/Mini announcing a £600 million investment to produce two next generation Mini electric models at their plant from 2026.

This landmark investment is securing thousands of jobs, strengthening our supply chains and boosting economic growth, whilst also making sure we have the EVs we need if we are going to meet our Net Zero commitments.

It's no secret that to secure this sort of brilliant investment from the car industry the government is providing targeted support, and there is plenty of evidence to suggest our plan for the sector is working. BMW's multi-million-pound investment today brings the total automotive investment in the UK to over £6 billion in the last two years.

Just last week, Stellantis - makers of Vauxhall, Peugeot, Citroen and Fiat - announced the start of electric vehicle production after a £100m investment to make their site in Ellesmere Port their first globally dedicated solely to producing EVs.

And these major investments are in good company, with Tata Group recently announcing plans to invest over £4 billion to build a new gigafactory here in the UK, whilst £1 billion from Nissan and AESC will create an EV manufacturing hub in Sunderland, and £380 million from Ford is set to make Halewood their first EV components site in Europe.

Working in partnership with the car industry, we are securing high quality jobs and investment and boosting economic growth.

I am determined to make the UK the best place in the world to build cars. After this announcement, and our recent track record of success, you can see the plan is working.





# Northamptonshire PFCC

## Stephen Mold's

### Newsletter



26 Sep 2023

Working with our partners, we have produced a powerful short film to raise awareness to parents of a growing issue in the UK – known as 'Child Exploitation'. This new film seeks to help parents and other trusted adults spot the signs of a problem and highlight the crucial part they can play by taking appropriate action.

We need to work together across the partnership and with parents, to put an end to this type of abuse. It is important to understand that young people who are caught up in this type of activity often do not see themselves as victims, as those who are exploiting them make them feel important, respected and looked after.

Most children are safe and won't be criminally or sexually exploited but we can't ignore that child exploitation is happening here in Northamptonshire and is increasing. This new film gives us the opportunity to raise awareness to parents that this could happen to their child, to think about the signs, and to know that help is available."

Child exploitation can involve bribery, intimidation, violence and/or threats. The child does not need to have met whoever is exploiting them – children can be exploited via the internet or using mobile phones. They can also be targeted on social media platforms and gaming forums.

People who exploit children use the fact that they have power over children, because of an age difference or some other factor like gender, intelligence, strength, status or wealth. A child may have been exploited even if it looks as if they have been a willing participant.

Evidence shows children are more likely to open up to an adult they have an existing and trusting relationship with. This can include parents, grandparents and extended family

members, teachers or other school staff, sports or leisure coaches and community leaders.

Every one of us can potentially make a difference to the safety of a child by knowing the signs to look out for. Some of the common signs shown in the film include changes in 'normal' behaviour, increased messages or calls, and having new belongings or money that can't be accounted for.

Exploiters are manipulators. They groom children and young people, make them feel special, befriend them, and gain their trust, sometimes buying them gifts or treats. Often the children themselves don't realise they are a victim of exploitation until they are in too deep, or they may feel ashamed, embarrassed, or too afraid to tell anyone what's happening. They may feel things have spiralled out of control, or they could have drug debts, or threatened with violence, keeping them bonded to their abuser. We want to safeguard them and lead them towards getting help and support.

Combating violence against women and girls is another key area of our work. A pioneering training package for all taxi and private hire drivers in Northamptonshire that aims to help keep women safe on nights out has been shortlisted for an international award.

The online tutorial is currently being rolled out in both North and West Northamptonshire Council areas – to help taxi and private hire drivers spot signs that women may be in danger.

Drivers already play a big role in informally coming to the help of revellers who may find themselves vulnerable. The training aims to consolidate good practice and provide formal support.

The project is part of a package of measures intended to improve the safety of women and girls, particularly in public spaces and at night.

*Continued>>>>*

Stephen Mold Continued>>>>

The taxi training package and the wider programme of work has been funded largely through the Home Office Safer Streets Fund after a successful bid by the Northamptonshire Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

Now the training package has been recognised on the global stage, making the finals of the Music Cities Awards – a competition designed to acknowledge economic, social, environmental and cultural development in cities and places all around the world.

Taxi drivers are in a unique position to spot if someone is vulnerable or at risk, so we wanted to make sure that they understand the signs and know what to do. Being nominated for this award is the icing on the cake, however for me the true measure of success will be that our taxi and private hire drivers are part of the network ensuring people are safer on a night out in Northamptonshire.

The training package will be disseminated to all new and existing drivers and comprises three short videos and a knowledge check for drivers to complete, primarily around women's safety. Over time, the intention is to factor this into both NNC and WNC licensing conditions with the aim that it will eventually be mandatory for drivers to complete.

Finally, we have worked hard to make our roads safer for both motorists and pedestrians. A Northamptonshire scheme allowing community groups to apply for grant funding to improve road safety has been highlighted at a regional safety summit. The East Midlands and East of England Road Safety Summit took place in Lincolnshire and gave Police and Crime Commissioners, road safety experts and local transport officers a forum to discuss strategies to make our roads safer.

The event highlighted schemes from around the region that are being put in place to help cut the number of road accidents. One of the projects on show the Road Safety Community Fund which allows local community groups to apply for grants of up to £5,000 to improve road safety in their communities and supports initiatives that positively affect the Commissioner's road safety priorities, including speed reduction, anti-social



road use, distraction driving, and initiatives that improve road safety around school gates.

This year, community groups and parish councils have already received more than £25,000. This has enabled them to buy Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS) and Speed Indicator Devices (SID), install traffic calming measures and has funded signage, parking buddies and lollipop provisions to improve road safety around some of our county's schools.

The harm and loss of life on our roads is a real cause of concern. The number of incidents in our county each year is still far too high, and I know this is a concern to communities across the county. The Summit gives us the opportunity to gain experience from others and bring ideas that have succeeded in other places that we can bring back to Northamptonshire to tackle road safety."

To apply for a grant, click on the following link: Grant Schemes – Northamptonshire Police & Fire Commissioner [www.northantspfcc.org.uk](http://www.northantspfcc.org.uk)

Complete the application form and follow the guidance on supporting material. Email your completed application to [funding@northantspfcc.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:funding@northantspfcc.pnn.gov.uk)

As ever, if you need any help or assistance, I can be contacted at:

[commissioner@northantspfcc.gov.uk](mailto:commissioner@northantspfcc.gov.uk)

## Stephen Mold

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire

## What is the CPF?

The local Policy Forum meets to discuss the Conservative Party policies. It is open to members and supporters for a friendly informal discussion session. The summary is sent to the Conservative Party Headquarters where results are collated and ultimately fed through to the Prime Minister's Policy Consultation Office.

Many of the suggestions put forward are ultimately incorporated in our Party's policy.

## Summary by our Conservative Policy Forum of the consultation on Deregulation and the Future of Artificial Intelligence

This was an exciting topic that proved to spark a number of interesting conversation points. Firstly, regarding deregulation, the consensus amongst the participants was that modern recruitment is becoming too 'woke' and enforcing quotas on who to employ rather than simply employing those who are the most qualified and best fit for the job in question. These quotas are impossible to shake off and companies that are not seen as 'diverse' enough, are often called out by larger groups and organisations simply because they don't meet the expected diversity requirements. This is damaging to the business and therefore has a knock on effect to local and regional economies. It was felt that diversity quotas are holding back business expansion and economic growth is suffering as a result. The conversation surrounding AI was very thorough and targeted key points regarding AI and how we can move forward in the future. These key areas were AI and Targeted Utilisation, Bursaries and Grants for AI Training, The future of Jobs, concerns surrounding hostile powers (predominantly China), and government power over the regulation of AI.

To demonstrate the abilities of AI to those who may not understand its capabilities, the following paragraph is written by AI. I asked it to simply discuss the points that were in the agenda and it covers all the points that we discussed in our 90 minute meeting. This paragraph took less than 20 seconds to produce and is almost identical to what was discussed at the meeting. AI is an incredibly powerful tool that is making mincemeat of human effort and time.

*'The future of AI is all about precision and specificity. While AI has already found its way into numerous sectors, including healthcare, finance, and manufacturing, its future lies in targeted*

*applications. Advanced AI algorithms will be custom-tailored to meet the unique needs of specific industries, leading to greater efficiency and innovation. As AI continues to disrupt traditional job markets, governments and organisations will be compelled to invest in reskilling and upskilling programs for individuals whose jobs are at risk of being automated. Grants and subsidies will be made available to uneducated or undereducated individuals to acquire the skills needed for jobs. The widespread adoption of AI will undoubtedly reshape the job landscape. While some routine and manual tasks will be automated, AI will also create new opportunities in areas like AI programming, data analysis, and machine learning engineering. The future of AI raises concerns about its potential misuse by hostile actors. AI-powered cyberattacks, disinformation campaigns, and autonomous weaponry pose significant threats to national security. Governments and organisations must invest heavily in AI defence systems, cybersecurity, and international cooperation to mitigate these risks. Governments will face a delicate balancing act when it comes to regulating AI. On one hand, regulations are necessary to ensure the responsible development and deployment of AI technologies, especially in sectors like healthcare and autonomous vehicles. On the other hand, overregulation could stifle innovation and hinder the economic benefits of AI.'*

Thank you again to everyone who came to the meeting and the discussion was fantastic, despite the fact AI replicated our meeting in about 20 seconds!

The next meeting will be held on October 12th at the Corby Conservative Club and surrounds the future of transportation.

**Cllr Adam Fernley CPF Chairman**

Our next meeting will be at Corby Conservative Club on Thursday 12th October 2023 at 7.30pm. All members and friends are welcome to attend.



# Share your views on tackling serious violence in Northamptonshire

Residents are being asked to have their say on how serious violence is tackled in Northamptonshire by taking part in a consultation which has recently launched.

The Serious Violence Duty was introduced in January 2023 and requires organisations across the public sector to work together locally to tackle, prevent and reduce incidents of serious violence, including knife crime and domestic abuse, and make local communities safer.

Serious violence includes:

- Personal Robbery.
- Possession of a weapon.
- Domestic Abuse.
- Sexual Violence and (but not limited to) violence against women and girls.
- Youth Violence – Under 25 specifically – (could include but is not limited to) Child exploitation and drug dealing where organised criminal groups use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas, this is called County lines.
- Night-time Economy Violence.

Anyone affected by serious violence in the last year is asked to share their experience in the survey and how this has affected them and their family, as well as the issues affecting their local community. All results are recorded anonymously and there is no obligation to provide any information that will identify anyone.

All feedback provided will help the Northamptonshire Serious Violence Alliance deepen its understanding of the views and experiences of residents across the county and identify the kinds of serious violence that happen in Northamptonshire, enabling the specified authorities to put effective schemes in place which focus on preventing crime and intervening early to reduce the chances of someone committing or becoming a victim of crime.

The specified authorities responsible for the Northamptonshire Serious Violence Alliance include Local Government Authorities, Criminal Justice, Health and Social Care, Police, and Fire and Rescue authorities.

The Northamptonshire Serious Violence Alliance will also be going out to communities and involving various stakeholders to collect information in addition to this survey. Dates and times of these public events for people to attend to find out more will be released at a later date.

The survey closes at midnight on Friday 27 October. Anyone who would like to share their views about serious violence in Northamptonshire can take part in the online survey via the North Northamptonshire Council Consultation Hub.

## SUPPORT FOR OUR LOCAL PUBS AND CLUBS

The Prime Minister recently announced the Government's plan to protect the price of your pint at the pub, utilising freedoms gained by the UK leaving the EU, by bringing in one of the biggest changes to the alcohol duty system in 140 years. The 'Brexit Pubs Guarantee' will keep it this way going forward.

The Prime Minister wants pubs to continue to be at the heart of our communities across the UK, so the Government is levelling the playing field to prevent them from being undercut by

supermarket competitors, making the duty paid on pints in pubs up to 11p cheaper.

This will mean cheaper drinks when you go out, with drinks being taxed by strength. This automatically lowers the duty in shops on many of the UK's favourite drinks. Prices on certain bottles of pale ale, G&T cans and Irish cream - as well as others - are all going down. Low-alcohol drinks have become more popular, so the Government want to back these businesses as much as possible.

# TOM PURSGLOVE

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CORBY & EAST  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR WORK AND PENSIONS**

30 Sep 2023

I'm really proud that we've landed the new Corby Sixth Form College in the town centre - a nearly £10 million project, and a key part of the Government's 'Corby Town Deal' investment, which I campaigned hard to secure. It was great to be taken round the new first-class facilities recently as the finishing touches were made - and welcomingly they are in a regenerated town centre building, with green credentials at the forefront.

I also really enjoyed meeting some of the teaching staff and hearing more about the wide range of courses set to be on offer, including extra support to students in achieving higher GCSE grades, had they just missed out first time around.

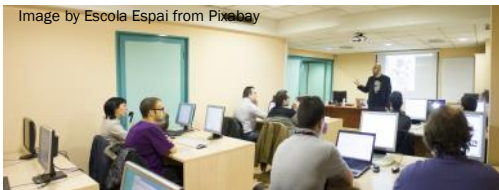


Image by Escola Espai from Pixabay

There is also a desire to work closely with the business community locally to help ensure our educational offer is providing the skills our local economy needs and great exciting careers for our young people - this can only be a good thing and is something I intend to support on an ongoing basis, by way of helping to facilitate meaningful engagement and connections, to make sure this new provision has the biggest positive impact possible long-term for our community.

I also just wanted to say 'thank you' to all those involved in getting the project delivered, including North Northamptonshire Council, Bedford College and all those who serve on the Corby Town Deal Board.

And this is just the start of these projects coming to fruition, bringing about the next wave of welcome regeneration in our town.

You can find out more and enrol, at:  
<https://www.corbysixthform.ac.uk>.



## **Ministerial visit to West Lodge Farm**

I was very pleased to visit West Lodge Farm recently with Philip Hollobone MP and Mark Spencer MP, the Minister of State for Food, Farming and Fisheries, along with more than 35 NFU members from across North Northamptonshire.

Here in Northamptonshire, we have some of the best-quality food producers in the country and so I was pleased that our dedicated local farmers and food producers had the opportunity to voice their concerns, including surrounding the distribution of the forthcoming Sustainable Farming Initiative Grants (SFI), the speed and ease with which support payments are made, and labour recruitment challenges, amongst others.

## **Visit to the Restart scheme site in Corby**

It was great to visit the Restart scheme site in Corby to find out more about Jobs 22 and its partner in CorbyWorkpays.

Jobs 22 is an employment services provider which aims to tackle economic inactivity and inequality, something I am particularly interested in given my national role, but also given how crucial this is to our local economy. As a primary Restart scheme provider, Jobs 22 has been supporting individuals of all ages and backgrounds in Corby to return to work, by providing access to wraparound services, working closely with employment coaches, as well as health and education specialists, as they search for roles that best suit individuals in the local community - an intensive person-focussed approach, focusing on people's ambitions and skills, as well as linking in with training and upskilling opportunities.

Being a huge advocate of employing local people, I was interested to hear how they have been supporting people in the job hunt process, including providing participants with

Continued>>>>

a dedicated employment coach who can assist with overcoming individual challenges presented by the assessment and interview processes. Workpays also holds employability workshops to teach CV and cover letter writing skills, as well as IT skills.

This is a fantastic resource in our community and I look forward to supporting them however I can in the future.

### **Visit to Voyagecare sites in Corby**

I was glad to visit a number of Voyagecare sites and meet their wonderful staff and residents in Corby at the end of August. The homes provide tailored support to individuals with learning disabilities and a range of complex needs, with residents supported in engaging in fulfilling everyday tasks and activities, both at home and in the local community, which previously may not have been possible for them. Welcomely, residents are encouraged to build confidence in essential skills and I was particularly interested to learn more about their work and the difference this invaluable provision is making. A fantastic local service; a place of real happiness, led by such a dedicated team - thank you for having me!

### **New Corby Community Diagnostic Centre - first look at the plans!**

The release of the plans for the new Corby Community Diagnostic Centre is a very important step forward in getting this key new health infrastructure delivered, having been announced recently as a significant new infrastructure investment locally. Having campaigned for more capacity and accessible appointments, this new facility will facilitate thousands of tests, checks and scans a year, and I'll be pressing for it to be built and open on the earliest possible date. More details can be read in this magazine.

### **Visit to Willowbrook House in Corby Old Village**

I was pleased to visit Willowbrook House in Corby as part of another busy Friday in the constituency, to meet their leadership team and some of the wonderful staff who care for the residents there, with passion and dedication. The visit provided a valuable opportunity to hear more about their early experiences as a new social care provision, and about some of the challenges they face, as well as how the services they provide are being improved to better serve local residents. What was most heartening is that they want to be a good friend and neighbour to the Corby Old Village community and I look forward to supporting them in that endeavour. Thank you for having me!

### **Pen Green visit**

I was pleased to check in at Pen Green a week ago to discuss some key issues, including SEN school provision locally, which I understand is especially significant at this time of year, particularly as we work to ensure all our young people have smooth transitions from early years' education in to other school settings. Providing appropriate, personalised, wraparound support for SEN students as they move through their school lives is vital, so as to allow students to thrive and learn essential skills. We had a useful conversation about what more could be done locally to improve these transitions and ensure all the right support is in place to facilitate it. Indeed, I look forward to continuing to work with Pen Green and North Northamptonshire Council on this issue to secure further improvements where we can.

### **Dental Practice issues**

I was pleased to meet with representatives of Bupa UK to discuss dentistry provision locally, which I know is a key issue for a number of local people currently, especially in light of the recent regrettable Bupa Dental Practice closure at Oakley Vale.

More broadly, this is something I have been pressing on in recent weeks and months, with a view to seeing NHS capacity increased. A number of interesting points were made, and it was very useful to fully understand the background to their decision. They also explained how NHS patients who were affected by the closure are being re-allocated elsewhere, as well as sharing insights as to how local dentists can be better encouraged to take on more complex treatment, as well as children's dentistry.

Following the meeting, I have raised a number of points directly with Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board, who now have oversight of dentistry provision locally, and will share further updates as I have them, not least having requested a meeting with them to discuss their plans to bolster provision across Corby & East Northamptonshire. This is a big priority issue for me, and I shall continue to press hard for further action.

Sincerely

**Tom Pursglove** Member of Parliament  
For Corby & East Northamptonshire

## MAJOR NEW DIAGNOSTIC CENTRE FOR CORBY



Image by Sasin Tipchai from Pixabay

A major new diagnostic centre is planned for Corby as part of the biggest single investment in the town's healthcare in a decade

The new centre is planned to be open every day for 12 hours, and should begin to operate in less than a year from now.

This is a multi-function medical centre which will mean fewer trips to hospitals in other areas. This is of particular benefit to local people on lower incomes who find it difficult to get to Kettering and other hospitals.

A total testing capacity will be increased by around 80,000 a year.

Access for vehicles will be via a new entrance in Willowbrook Road and, importantly, it will have up to 40 parking spaces.

A government capital grant of £8.3m will help fund the project.

Source Evening Telegraph 4 Sep 2023

**Jacob Rees Mogg:** 22 Sep 2023

Starmer doesn't want to deviate from Brussels at all, ever.

In reality, he just wants to rejoin.

## PRESIDENT'S PUZZLE

Members have an opportunity to win a nice prize for Christmas - at no cost.

The President has donated a case of 6 mixed bottles of wine as a prize.

And this is how it works:

A cryptic clue will be given in each magazine up to the December issue. All you have to do is solve a clue and email your answer to the magazine editor. You don't have to solve every clue but every correct answer will give you one chance to win in our Christmas draw. Make the subject: Puzzle.



Each correct answer will win the member a ticket in a draw to take place before Christmas and one lucky winner will win this nice prize. You just have to collect it and then enjoy it. Last month's quiz still open.

This month's cryptic clue:

**The campanologists' drink?**  
(5 letters)

Last month's cryptic clue:

**A bird lover found in Alcatraz**  
(3 letters)

If you are not on the internet you can post your answer to the office.

Thanks to Ollie Curtis for the idea of a competition

**Just a thought: It's easier to fool a man than to convince him that he has been fooled. Mark Twain.**

## Andrew Griffith MP 5 Sep 2023

The deafening silence is Labour not having the grace to admit they were wrong.

- X **Wrong to say economy smaller than before Covid**
- X **Wrong to say slower recovery than France or Germany**
- X **Wrong to talk down Britain.**

How many days before they correct the record?

Extract from a letter sent by Andrew Griffith MP to Sir Keir Starmer MP and Rachel Reeves MP

On 1st September the Office of National Statistics (ONS) released revised figures on post-pandemic growth. **The revisions show our economy grew the third fastest when compared with our G7 allies.**

This means the UK economy emerged from the pandemic growing faster than any other G7 nation, behind just the United States and Canada. In fact, the economy has grown faster than Italy, France and Germany not just out of the pandemic but consistently since 2010.

I know Labour's trademark is to talk down Britain.

However, Labour achieved a new level of disdain and naysaying when declaring the UK'S economy was lagging behind our European neighbours as we emerged from the pandemic.

Leadership is about having the ability to say when you've got it wrong. I notice neither of you have so far seen fit to correct the record. I would therefore like to encourage you to take the opportunity to do so, in the House at your earliest convenience.



The full text can be read at <https://tinyurl.com/2czhaxu3> or use the QR code above.

## HORIZON EUROPE



Image by Lucas Vasques from Pixabay

UK scientists will have access to the world's largest research collaboration programme, Horizon Europe, as the Prime Minister secures a bespoke deal with improved financial terms for the UK's participation.

From Thursday 7 Sep 2023 UK researchers have been able to apply for grants and bid to take part in projects under the Horizon programme, with certainty that the UK will be participating as a fully associated member for the remaining life of the programme to 2027.

### UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said:

*Innovation has long been the foundation for prosperity in the UK, from the breakthroughs improving healthcare to the technological advances growing our economy.*

*With a wealth of expertise and experience to bring to the global stage, we have delivered a deal that enables UK scientists to confidently take part in the world's largest research collaboration programme – Horizon Europe.*

*We have worked with our EU partners to make sure that this is right deal for the UK, unlocking unparalleled research opportunities, and also the right deal for British taxpayers.*

### Michelle Mitchell, Chief Executive of Cancer Research UK, said:

*Horizon Europe association is overwhelmingly in the best interests of cancer patients and scientists, and it is great news for cancer research that agreement has finally been reached between the UK and EU.*

Home Secretary Suella Braverman in a speech to the American Enterprise Institute.  
**'Uncontrolled immigration, inadequate integration and a misguided dogma of multiculturalism have proven a toxic combination for Europe over the last few decades.'** 27 Sep 2023





This article has been condensed  
from the Leader's web update

## Corby Library

Corby Library is now a donation point for Baby Basics Northampton - a charity which supports vulnerable mums-to-be with essential items for themselves and their baby.

## Forthcoming meetings

- \* Executive: Thursday 12 October from 10am.
- \* Full Council: Thursday 26 October from 6pm. The agenda and papers will be published on the Council meetings section of our website in the week before the meeting. These meetings will be live streamed on our YouTube channel.

I am pleased to highlight the fact that the council has worked to help strengthen the electric vehicle charging network with the installation of 32 new charge points.

In my regular update I have included information on a range of other important campaigns and initiatives below including information on:

- Global acknowledgement for pioneering women's safety initiative.
- Getting your two or three-year-olds protected with the free flu nasal spray.
- How you can share your views on tackling serious violence in Northamptonshire.
- Corby Library proud to support new parents and babies.
- Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Partnership launch film to tackle child exploitation.
- Road safety community fund has been highlighted at a regional summit.
- Have your say on the Sustainable Travel to Education strategy for North Northants.

Details of some of these items are included in this magazine but you can see my full report by going to the council website and searching for Leader's update.

Working with local midwives, health visitors and other professional, they provide starter packs that include a safe place for baby to sleep, as well baby clothing, blankets and toiletries for baby and mother. The team are always looking for donations of items. Baby Basics has donation points in Northampton and Kettering, but the new donation point will be the first for the Corby area.

Donations can be dropped off at Corby Library during term time.

## Cold weather support

As we edge closer to Winter, I am sure we will all be thinking about the costs of heating our homes. On this subject, I have highlighted in this magazine some government funding that is available for measures that can improve the energy efficiency of homes such as insulation and heating systems. Residents living in private homes, both owned and rented, who have a gross household income of less than £31,000 are encouraged to apply for a government grant to help improve the energy efficiency of their homes. ECO4 Flex is a government scheme funded by energy companies that supports households on lower incomes or those particularly vulnerable to the impact of living in a cold home. Please do help spread the word.

## Electric Vehicle Charging

North Northamptonshire Council strengthens electric vehicle charging network with installation of 32 new charge points

North Northamptonshire Council has partnered with Believ, the UK's fastest growing electric vehicle (EV) charge point operator (CPO), to install 32 more EV charge

Continued>>>>

points across 17 sites as part of an ongoing project to provide on-street public chargers for residents without driveways or off-road parking, with these charge points going live in the next few weeks.

The latest installations, including the first charge points in Desborough, located in Victoria Street, add to the 22 charge points at 12 sites already available via the work with Believ, and the new batch is set to strengthen the council's efforts to facilitate a publicly accessible EV network that also contributes to lower emissions, widens choice, and improves air quality across the area. All locations include dedicated bays for EV charging only.

Believ is a specialist in delivering all speeds of charge point infrastructure at zero cost to local councils or taxpayers. It works in collaboration with partners, communities and the customers they serve, to develop and deliver an EV charging network that is accessible, reliable and futureproofed. The company will own, operate and maintain the charge points, which will be delivered via its strategic delivery partner Virgin Media O2.

### **Taxi and private hire training initiative**

A pioneering training package for all taxi and private hire drivers in Northamptonshire that aims to help keep women safe on nights out has been shortlisted for an international award.

The online tutorial is currently being rolled out in both North and West Northamptonshire Council areas to help taxi and private hire drivers spot signs that women may be in danger.

Drivers already play a big role in informally coming to the help of revellers who may find themselves vulnerable. The training aims to consolidate good practice and provide formal support.

The project is part of a package of measures intended to improve the safety of women

and girls, particularly in public spaces and at night. The taxi training package and the wider programme of work has been funded largely through the Home Office Safer Streets Fund after a successful bid by the Northamptonshire Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. Now the training package has been recognised on the global stage, making the finals of the Music Cities Awards - a competition designed to acknowledge economic, social, environmental and cultural development in cities and places all around the world.

It will compete against entries from Bogota and Dallas in the Best Night-Time Economy Initiative category with the winners announced at a ceremony in Huntsville, Alabama, USA on Wednesday 18 October.

The training package will be disseminated to all new and existing drivers and comprises three short videos and acknowledge check for drivers to complete, primarily around women's safety.

The three videos cover drink spiking, sexual abuse and domestic abuse with training available in five languages: English, Turkish, Punjabi, Bengali and Urdu.

Over time, the intention is to factor this into both North and West Northamptonshire Councils' licensing conditions with the aim that it will eventually be mandatory for drivers to complete

With Best Wishes,  
Jason



Jason's latest report can be read via the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/yj98touj>

## OUR OFFICE OPENING TIMES

A MESSAGE FROM RAY BOYD AT YOUR  
LOCAL ASSOCIATION OFFICE

The office is open from Monday to Friday from 11am to 1pm. Outside office hours you can reach me at:  
Email: [office@cenca.co.uk](mailto:office@cenca.co.uk). This email address is monitored seven days a week.

The office telephone (01536 200255) is manned during the above hours. My home telephone is: 01536 742954 (Unless already registered you may have to identify yourself on this phone before being connected as there is a spam filter fitted). If I am unavailable please leave a message and I will get back to you. Please check the website for office holiday closure dates.

You can also contact the Chairman, Cllr Lee Wilkes. Email me if you need to get in touch with Lee.

Kind regards and keep well,

*Ray Boyd*



Image by Gino Crescoli from Pixabay

PLEASE  
CHECK YOUR  
EMAILS  
FROM  
MAILCHIMP

Our office sends out regular emails to all members via Mailchimp. Unfortunately it seems many of these end up in the recipients' Spam box, so please make a point of checking your Trash/Spam boxes to avoid missing our emails.

This is particularly important now as we are sending out regular updates on our local campaigning. These give details of our weekly schedule of meetings for our volunteers.

### Northamptonshire South Conservatives

**An Evening with  
Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP  
Secretary of State  
for the Home Department**

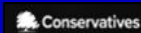
**15th December 2023  
6.30pm for 7pm**

**Venue to be advised  
24 hours in Advance**

**Tickets £50**

**To book email:  
[info@northamptonconservatives.com](mailto:info@northamptonconservatives.com)**

***Please note that the venue is likely to  
be near Northampton***



### HEATING GRANTS

Residents living in private homes (both owned and rented) with a gross household income of less than £31,000 are encouraged to apply for a government grant to help improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

ECO4 Flex is a government scheme funded by energy companies that supports households on lower incomes

or those particularly vulnerable to the impact of living in a cold home.

Funding is available for measures that can improve the energy efficiency of homes such as insulation and heating systems.

Improving the energy performance of properties could save residents hundreds of pounds in fuel bills each year. Further information

Please visit the ECO4 Flex energy efficiency scheme section of the Council website for more details.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER RT HON RISHI SUNAK, MP

**INFLATION  
DOWN  
AGAIN**

**Inflation decreased to 6.8%**  
in July from 10.1% in March  
according to the Office for  
National Statistics

**Conservatives**

Our economy is growing. Wages are up. Inflation is down. By sticking to the plan, we can deliver on the people's priorities.

Inflation has fallen to 6.8% from 10.1% in January. It's inflation that eats into your savings, and it is inflation that makes your money go less far at the shops. Halving it is my number one priority. And here's how we're getting it done:

- Taking a responsible approach to public finances – We cannot spend our way out of these challenges, and we've made tough decisions to give our brilliant public sector workers a fair pay deal without increasing inflation, taxes or debt.
- Tackling the causes of inflation – By boosting energy supplies, and helping parents back into work through a new childcare support package.
- Providing Cost of Living support – To help families and businesses we've implemented the largest ever increases to the National Living Wage, frozen fuel duty, capped bus fares outside of London, cut national insurance and saved the average household £1,500 on energy bills through our Energy Price Guarantee.

I'm determined to build a better economy for you, your children and your grandchildren. That starts with tackling inflation, and the latest figures show that the plan is working. As well as inflation, we're also delivering on your priority of growing the economy – meaning more money for the public services you and your family rely on.

This week's employment statistics show that wages are growing by 7.8%. There are 33 million people in employment – almost four million more since 2010. Getting more people into work helps us grow the economy. More people with a pay packet helps them provide security for their family.

And all of this means we can reduce debt and put more money into public services.



## ROYAL YACHT BRITANNIA REPLACEMENTS

Plans have been unveiled for 3 multi-purpose ships to replace the Royal Yacht Britannia. These vessels are designed for various roles, including disaster relief, research, environmental cleanup and communication.

They will be constructed by British shipyards and funded exclusively by the private sector. The multi-purpose ships will promote the UK internationally and it is envisioned they will serve as a training platform for merchant mariners and will promote the UK's capabilities and international partnerships.

### 200 CLUB

The winners of our £25 monthly 200 Club Draw

Sep	25	DA George
Oct	17	GP Kerruish

Members can join at any time and will be entered in all draws from the month of their first payment.

The cost is £15 a month.

The monthly prize is £25 and we have the big prizes of £100 and £50 in February.

Contact the office for a standing order form.

## TOM PURSGLOVE, MP's WEEKLY ADVICE SURGERIES



As your local MP, Tom believes it is extremely important to be as accessible as possible, in order to be able to best help with any problems or concerns that his constituents have. As such, he holds weekly advice

surgeries.

To book an appointment, please telephone 020 7219 8043, or email [pursglovet@parliament.uk](mailto:pursglovet@parliament.uk), or go to <https://www.vote Pursglove.co.uk/weekly-advice-surgeries>. as he operates his surgeries on an appointments basis, utilising virtual, telephone and face-to-face methods - ensuring that his constituents do not have to rush through their concerns and to best meet people's individual circumstances and requirements.

Tom's work never stops on behalf of local people, and he just wanted to restate that he is always available to hear your concerns and worries, or about any issues that you may be facing and would appreciate some help with. You can get in touch via telephone, letter, or email and can also organise an appointment for one of his weekly surgeries if you would like to have a more detailed discussion.

Please do get in touch if you have any issues or concerns.

**You can write to him at:**  
Tom Pursglove, MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA

## LOCAL FUNDING BOOST FOR SOCIAL CARE THIS WINTER

The Government has unveiled a £600 million package to help with local recruitment and retention in social care. The fund will support the social care workforce and boost capacity in social care, in turn supporting the NHS ahead of winter and through into next year. The funding for adult social care includes a £570 million workforce fund over two years, distributed to local authorities, and £30 million of funding for local authorities in the most challenged health systems.



Overall, it will help to improve recruitment and retention, boost workforce capacity and ensure a sustainable social care workforce fit for the future. It can be used flexibly based on local need, including to increase the fees given to care providers, which will enable better pay for care

workers.

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) has also launched a new £10 million per year funding programme focused on social care research. The Research Programme for Social Care will collect information on the people at the heart of care, providing the Government and the sector with clear paths on how they can improve, expand and strengthen social care for people in need of care, carers, the social care workforce and the public.





## Keep Labour Out

Angela Rayner has let it slip

Keir Starmer is famous for fudging his words. Because he thinks that if he stays vague, he can deceive people into thinking Labour has changed.

But it looks like Angela Rayner didn't get the memo.

Rayner spoke at the Trade Union Conference on 12 Sep 2023, and she did what Keir Starmer won't do: she told the truth about a Labour government.

**She promised to repeal the Anti-Strikes Act. She promised to make it easier for unions to strike.**

And if you think Labour will stop there, think again.

The unions are trying to cause chaos. They are trying to disrupt your lives.

They want more money, more power and more control – and if Labour get in, Angela Rayner will hand the unions everything they want.

**More strikes. Disruption. Damage to the economy.**

## By-Election Result: Girvan and South Carrick

### Conservatives gain from SNP

Just a local council result but it shows we still have support in Scotland. The Labour lead nationally can still be overturned.

Although this was only a local election the negative SNP swing was significant.

Robert Jenrick MP 15 Sep 23

First Labour vote against every new law to stop the boats.

Now Labour have pledged to open Britain's borders to 100,000 more migrants. Arriving each and every year.



**LABOUR'S BORDER PLEDGE MEANS**

# 100,000

## MIGRANTS

## ARRIVING IN BRITAIN EACH AND EVERY YEAR

Keir Starmer said he wanted a new migrant returns deal with Europol which would see smuggling gangs treated 'on a par' with terrorism – but Conservatives said it could see 100,000 illegal migrants being 'dumped' by other European countries.

Since our returns deal with Albania in December we have seen a 92% reduction in the number of Albanians arriving illegally, and overall small boat arrivals are down by 20% despite significant increases in illegal arrivals into Europe

As Sir Keir continues his holiday from reality he should add Lampedusa to his itinerary to see the harsh reality of what he wants to impose on communities here in the UK - against their will. Sir Keir's grand plan is simply to make illegal migration legal.

# CORBYS CONSERVATIVE CLUB

## POP IN AND PICK UP A MEMBERSHIP FORM



COME ON IN – MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME

[www.the-cons.co.uk](http://www.the-cons.co.uk)

01536 203711

Photo: R Boyd



## CORBYS CONSERVATIVE CLUB

### COMING EVENTS

<b>FRI. 20th OCTOBER</b>	<b>GRANT'S QUIZ</b>
<b>SAT. 21st OCTOBER</b>	<b>THE BRUGE</b>
<b>SAT. 4th NOVEMBER</b>	<b>CODE 44</b>
<b>FRI. 17th NOVEMBER</b>	<b>THE STAFF'S QUIZ</b>
<b>SAT. 18th NOVEMBER</b>	<b>ADAM WHITTEN BAND</b>
<b>SAT 2nd DECEMBER</b>	<b>BLACKWAVE</b>
<b>FRI. 15th DECEMBER</b>	<b>BILL COOK'S QUIZ</b>
<b>SAT. 16th DECEMBER</b>	<b>HAYLEY &amp; THE HEARTBEATS</b>

### EASY QUIZ EVERY SECOND SUNDAY

Hosted by John Headley

from 8th October

Between 3pm and 6pm. Quiz starts at 4.15pm

Just £1 a person - All welcome.

MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME AT ALL OF OUR EVENTS.

THE CLUB'S HALL AND LOUNGE ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PARTY AND FAMILY RECEPTIONS

## POLITICAL LIFE

Our magazine is available as an A5 printed booklet.

Issues are also available in a format suitable for reading on iphones, ipads and PCs. Details of publication date are emailed to members via Mailchimp.

A copy of recent magazines is also available on our website at

[www.cenca.co.uk](http://www.cenca.co.uk)

Printed circulation is restricted to Conservative Party members.

Non-members who would like to receive our magazine regularly will need to join the Association. Please contact our office by email at [office@cenca.co.uk](mailto:office@cenca.co.uk) or telephone 01536 742954

Our address is CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, NN17 1SZ  
OUR WEBSITE IS AT [www.cenca.co.uk](http://www.cenca.co.uk)