

West Lancashire Borough Council elections

Congratulations to all the councillors who were elected in the West Lancashire Borough Council elections which took on 7 May. I look forward to working cross-party with councillors to improve the lives of people living here in West Lancashire.

Thank you also to everyone who stood but was unsuccessful at the ballot box. Standing for public office is a brave thing to do but so important for a healthy democracy.

SEND roundtable

I held a special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) roundtable with local families and education professionals across the area.

The meeting discussed the improvements that Labour plans to make to the system of support for children with SEND, and the extra investment the government is putting into schools to meet children's needs.

12 members of the public attended the roundtable, sharing views based off their lived experience or professional expertise.

This conversation will feed into the government consultation on reforming the SEND system so families don't have to battle to get support, following extensive engagement to develop these plans since Labour entered government.

Alongside this, I had a survey live on my website to collect the views of constituents on the SEND changes. I collated the views from the roundtable and the survey and sent these to the Department for Education as part of the consultation.

[Read more](#)

Congratulations Kevin!



Congratulations to Kevin Davidson, our new Chair of the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board for Digmoor!

Kevin grew up in Digmoor, attended local schools and has spent more than two decades working in and for the Skelmersdale community. Kevin currently runs SHARES Lancashire, supporting 31 local schools. He also serves as a governor at three Skelmersdale primary schools.

I'm excited to work closely with Kevin, the Neighbourhood Board and West Lancashire Borough Council to engage with Digmoor residents about the changes they want to see made in Digmoor.

If you live in Skelmersdale, please have your say on how £20 million should be spent:

[Share your views](#)

▶▶▶▶ Royal Mail

I'm continuing to hear from constituents about the poor Royal Mail service in Skelmersdale.

Whilst I take up each case individually with Royal Mail, I have also now written directly to the Chief Executive, Mr Alistair Cochrane, to raise my serious concerns about the service and to ask for:

- A clear explanation of the root causes of the persistent service failures in Skelmersdale.
- Details of the contingency measures that are (or should be) in place to address staffing shortages.
- A specific action plan, with timescales, for restoring a reliable and consistent delivery service in the area.
- Assurance that critical correspondence, particularly NHS-related mail, will be prioritised to prevent further harm.



Queenscourt Hospice



I recently visited Queenscourt Hospice with Bill Esterson MP for Sefton and Patrick Hurley MP for Southport to discuss the hospice's financial crisis.

I know many people in West Lancashire use this hospice and it means a lot to individuals and their loved ones.

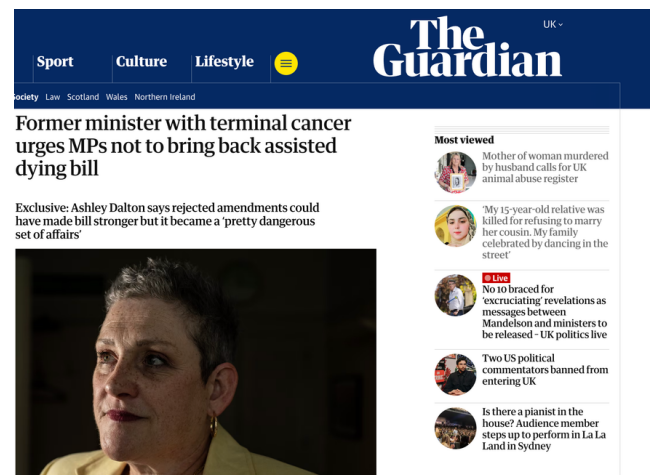
If you'd like to support them, you can do so by visiting their website.

[Learn more](#)

▶▶▶▶ Assisted Dying

I was interviewed in The Guardian about Assisted Dying, urging Labour MPs not to bring back this bill.

[Read the article](#)



Count Us In

Count Us In is a joint pledge by Breast Cancer Now (UK), Breast Cancer Network Australia, and Rethink Breast Cancer (Canada) to advance global visibility for metastatic breast cancer.

I recently met with representations from these charities, as well as Clive Jones, MP for Wokingham and Chair of the Breast Cancer All Party Parliamentary Group, and Claire Myerson, patient advocate and campaigner, to celebrate our progress one year on and to discuss next steps.

I'll be working closely with the Department for Health and Social Care to support their work on the National Cancer Plan, with a focus on ensuring that people with metastatic breast cancer are included in the data.



Over 50 new laws



Since Labour was elected in 2024, we have started to overturn some of the damage done to this country by the previous Conservative government.

Just some of our achievements in the first Parliamentary session include strengthening the rights of ordinary people including the Employment Rights Act, the biggest upgrade to workers' rights in a generation and the Renters Rights Act, which outlaws no-fault evictions amongst other protections for private renters.

We're lifting 450,000 children out of poverty with the Removal of the Two Child Limit Act. We're making this country safer, tackling violence against women and girls, anti-social behaviour and rebuilding public confidence in policing and the wider criminal justice system, with the Crime and Policing Act.

The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 is the single biggest piece of child protection legislation in a generation. This includes cutting the cost of children going to school, with free breakfast clubs and a cap on the number of branded school uniform items. We already have 8 free breakfast clubs in West Lancs and I'm so excited that every primary school will have one. Other changes include landmark reforms to children's social care.

When I was Health Minister, I was honoured to lead the third reading of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill on behalf of the Government. This new law will protect children from smoking and vaping, and record funding will support millions of adults to quit.

Labour has an ambitious next Parliamentary session and I will continue to work hard on behalf of my constituents in West Lancashire.

