

£50,000 for community safety

I'm supporting organisations delivering crime prevention or safety projects in West Lancashire to get up to £50,000 in grant funding. Through Labour's Police and Crime Commissioner's MP funding, the proceeds of crimes are being fed right back into community safety initiatives.

Last year, £50,000 was awarded between 4 organisations. I visited one recently, Stable Lives, to see firsthand the impact of this funding.

Stable Lives provides a rural environment for people struggling with their mental health. They'd previously focused on helping adults, such as individuals from emergency services or the military, but through the PCC funding they have been able to increase their scope to also help young people.



Coming soon: youth employment support



This Labour government is investing in the future of young people in West Lancashire.

We will be receiving funding for a Youth Hub, to support local young people aged 16-24 with their employment, education and training. The support will include Job Centre Plus work coaches, local partners and employers, access to other services such as health, housing and wellbeing.

This announcement follows the findings of the Milburn Report on Young People and Work, which made clear that too many young people face barriers to opportunity. With one million young people currently not earning or learning, this cannot continue.

Youth Hubs are central to the Labour's once-in-a-generation drive to tackle youth unemployment, backed by £2.5 billion investment.

[Read more](#)

Ongoing uncertainty over the Derby Centre



I have been continuing to hear from constituents about the Derby Centre in Ormskirk.

Whilst local people and I are pleased that our petition and other campaigns have forced Reform-led Lancashire County Council (LCC) to keep the Derby Centre open - for now - we remain concerned about potential reduction in services for the longer term.

That's why I have written to LCC to urge them to secure the long-term security of the Derby Centre, a place that is a true lifeline for so many.

SEND in West Lancashire

I attended a meeting about Lancashire County Council's (LCC) proposed changes to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) services.

Alongside this, LCC have been consulting on new SEND school places in Lancashire.

The need for more SEND places in West Lancashire is high. Parents, carers, and professionals tell me this all the time.

I have written to LCC to ask them why West Lancashire has been left out from their plans once again.

I'll be holding Lancashire County Council to account, to make sure children and families feel the benefits in West Lancashire.



If I am not counted, I do not count



[Learn more](#)

Whilst I am no longer a Health Minister, I do have metastatic breast cancer. And working on treatment and care for people like me with metastatic breast cancer remains a priority of mine.

I attended a debate in Parliament on breast cancer and used my firsthand experience of having metastatic breast cancer to dispel some myths, including whether it is curable. It's treatable, often for a long time. But not curable.

I also took the opportunity to ask some questions of Sharon Hodgson MP, Minister for Public Health and Prevention:

- What progress has been made on counting metastatic breast cancer and will she set a deadline for Trusts to report?
- What progress has been made to establish the cancer trials accelerator by 2027?
- What developments have been made on NICE's severity modifier*?

I'll be meeting with Sharon to discuss these further.

*NICE's severity modifier is an algorithm that makes sure the methods they use to recommend treatments are appropriate for severe conditions.

▶▶ **Assisted Dying Bill**

My colleague Lauren Edwards MP is bringing back the deeply flawed and unsafe Assisted Dying Bill.

The majority of emails I receive from constituents on assisted dying are very concerned about this bill.

We have spent over a year debating this bill and supporters have refused to listen to or make the necessary changes.

It cannot be brought back as it is and forced through.

I will be working to improve the bill, and if it cannot be improved, to ensure a dangerous law is not passed.



Banning LGBT+ conversion practises



This Pride Month, I'm taking time to celebrate how far we've come while recognising the work we still have to do.

The Labour government has published a draft law that will ban conversion practises in England and Wales. This is a huge step forward for the LGBT+ community in West Lancashire.

On top of this, we are equalising hate crime law, righting the wrongs endured by LGBT+ veterans and we have a target to end all new HIV transmissions.

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