



Ouseburn Voice

We are here for you



I have lived in Ouseburn with my husband and our two daughters for over 20 years, yet I find I am experiencing the neighbourhood with a fresh awareness.

I have gained greater insight from my experiences of being a service user about how our council services need to be accessible to everyone, and the

Importance of a good local Labour leadership to deliver the changes needed.

To truly represent the people of the city, councillors need to come from a broad range of experience. As a disabled person I am determined to use my experience to serve the people of Newcastle.

Labour Listens

I'd like to thank residents for their well wishes while I have been recovering.

Last year I had a heart infection that caused a number of strokes. I was lucky to have excellent care during a five month stay in hospital and from council care services since being discharged.

Now I am adjusting to my new life, I've been left with a small amount of residual vision, meaning I'm classed as severely visually impaired/legally blind. And I'm very excited to be approved for the waiting list for a guide dog. I am building my independence and finding new ways of working to serve the people of Ouseburn ward.

And I want to hear from you, what are your priorities, what is working well and what needs to be changed

I am out and about again, knocking on doors and talking to residents. If I miss you, or you want to talk about any issues or ideas you have then please get in touch.



Great News about Malmo Quay

I am delighted with the recent High Court decision on the plot 12 development.

The Council's planning committee had refused planning permission initially but, following an appeal by the developer, the government overturned this and granted planning permission.

However, the Council listened to local residents and took legal action to challenge the government's decision in the High Court.

This has been vindicated as the High Court has now quashed the planning permission. A victory for the council and local residents.

Alistair pictured with Council Leader Nick Kemp near the site at the mouth of the Ouseburn

Safer streets for all

I meet regularly with Cllr Jane Byrne, cabinet member for a connected, clean city, to discuss key issues within Ouseburn ward

Residents have been positive about the Low Traffic Neighbourhoods in the Heaton terraces but we are only the second ward in the city to implement it and there were some teething troubles, particularly around Wandsworth Road.

Cllr Byrne told me how the council is listening to residents' concerns and have already implemented changes to remedy the issues rapidly.

The consultation runs until 23 April 2023. Feedback will be reviewed alongside traffic data collected to determine whether the scheme should be made permanent. More information and the link to have your say is available at <https://safeheatontrials.com/monplace.is/>

The school streets scheme around Hostpur school has made an enormous difference to the pupils who walk cycle scooter and skate to and from school now with more freedom to enjoy active travel without fear.



One concern I had was whether people with disabilities and visual impairment, like me, were involved enough in the design of street schemes. I suggested that visually impaired residents should be invited to walk any future schemes before they are implemented.

Cllr Burn agreed and I will happily hold her to that commitment because when schemes are better for people with a visual impairment, they are better for everybody.

NEWS IN BRIEF

City Road flats

After a long campaign together with local residents we were successful in getting YHN to install better signage, renew the intercom system and have gained assurances that the balcony repairs will be under way in the spring. There is more to be done on this estate and we will keep up the pressure

Battlefield plays spaces

Funding has been secured from the Play Renewal Programme and charges imposed on developers (106 fund) to improve green spaces and play areas in Battlefield. Please share your local knowledge and expertise to pinpoint the issues that matter most to you and help to guide proposals. <https://forms.office.com/r/6qrZNLQR>

Funding for projects

Small grants are available through ward funding. Please get in contact if your group has suggestions for projects in the ward.

Show Racism the Red Card

In October, Newcastle City Council reaffirmed its commitment to anti-racism by raising the Show Racism the Red Card flag. Labour councillors were joined at the Civic Centre by footballers including Olivier Bernard.

The the council unanimously passed a motion pledging to make Newcastle an anti-racist city - one that doesn't just tackle inequality, but actively fights against racism.



Contact Your Local Labour Councillor



Cllr Alistair Chisholm
T: 07516 524 074
E: alistair.chisholm@newcastlelabour.org.uk

Councillor Surgeries

1st Tuesday of the month 11am-12noon
At Vinnies in the St. Vincent de Paul Centre, New bridge Street,



Greening Newcastle



We have to do everything we can to help minimise climate change and make sure that Newcastle is prepared to deal with the consequences.

Newcastle's Labour council has an ambitious plan to make Newcastle Net Zero by 2030, 20 years ahead of government targets.

This means the amount of CO2 the city produces equals the amount we absorb. So, we must reduce our emissions and increase the amount of CO2 we absorb. For example by: switching to renewable energy and greener transport, planting trees and using new technology like carbon capture.

We are making good progress We successfully bid for £27m from the government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to install low carbon heating and energy efficiency measures in public buildings. With 5 other local authorities we set up the North East Community Forest, a 30 year multi-million-pound project.

Cllr Alistair Chisholm, who sits on the Council's Climate Change Committee, said

"I am committed to doing all that I can to protect our environment, not only for us, the resident's of Ouseburn, but for the generations to come"

We have declared a biodiversity emergency and committed the to actions that include:

- Using our planning powers and policies to improve biodiversity in the city
- Developing a plan to phase out the use of weedkillers by Newcastle City Council within 5 years by working with local communities to develop appropriate alternative management systems for their neighbourhoods.
- Protecting and restoring the city's parks and green spaces, to maximise their contribution to biodiversity in the city by:
- Exploring ways of integrating planting into highways and traffic developments
- Setting up a natural burial ground

Cost-of-Living Crisis Emergency measures to support our communities

The Labour leadership declared cost of living as a priority in May and this has become increasingly important as the Government's actions have seen the markets crash, energy costs rise through the roof and massive increases in the cost of food.

We know how difficult times are for people. The council is working hard with our key partners and the voluntary and community sector to maximise the support available, reaching into every community.

We are providing winter warm zones, have a grant scheme to support organisations and are coordinating with partners to ensure support reaches those who need it. We produced the booklet 'Cost of Living Support for Newcastle' and Newcastle council is one of the first local authorities in the region to launch a seven-day hotline offering advice and support.

The city-wide package includes:

- An outreach team to assist vulnerable residents struggling with rising fuel, food and rent costs to help access relevant services;
- A network of "winter well-being spaces" including libraries and community centres where people can go to keep warm while being able to use free wi-fi, learn new skills and take part in activities like cookery classes.
- Supporting the Food Newcastle Network in providing residents with food parcels seven day a week.
- Opening access to meals on wheels.

For help and advice call the Council's seven day a week free hotline:0800 170 7001

See our guide to support and advice, find it at libraries or online at <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/cost-living>

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

Newcastle City Council has launched it's Better Lives, Safer Communities programme.

Community projects are being implemented across the city to build closer relationships with residents, learn more about their concerns and together develop plans to address disorderly behaviour.

The Neighbourhood and City Centre Task Force, operating on Friday and Saturday evenings alongside Northumbria Police and NE1, is being deployed across the city as the nights draw in.

We are recruiting new neighbourhood wardens to patrol and target ASB hotspots.

More funding is being allocated for the removal of graffiti.

Training and work opportunities for young people to be provided through mentored apprenticeships to increase investment in youth activities.

An extra £1.5m was invested by the Council in response to residents' concerns about the impact anti-social behaviour was having in their communities.

If you are affected by anti-social behaviour, please report by calling 101 or via the 'Tell Us Something' page of Northumbria Police's website.

In an emergency, or if a crime is taking place, always ring 999.

To report a problem about noise to the Council, visit www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/environment-and-waste/environmental-health-and-pollution/noise/noise- nuisance

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Registering to vote is quick and easy. You can register online at gov.uk/register-to-vote

Or ring electoral services 0191 278 7878



Signing up for a postal vote means you don't have to go to the polling station to make your vote count.

You can register online at postalvote.labour.org.uk

Or ring electoral services 0191 278 7878



VOTE LABOUR