Listening to Corby & East Northamptoushire

LET ME KNOW YOUR VIEWS

I am very keen to hear your views and concerns as part of my 'Listening Campaign'. Please take just a few minutes of your time to let me know what issues matter most to you and return your completed form to TOM PURSGLOVE MP, CENCA, FREEPOST NAT20178, CORBY, NN17 1BR.

What three natio	nal issues are of	most concern to you?	
Climate Change Economy Europe Health Jobs What local issue	Crime Education Family Housing Transport	Defence Environment Foreign Affairs Immigration	
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personal data. The types of information we and information about your ethnic origin, p be retained by Tom Pursglove MP and Corl he provisions of the Data Protection Act 19	e may collect about you will p olitical opinions, and religiou by and East Northants Conse 198 and related legislation. T	bly comprise personal data about you and may orobably include your name, address and conta s, philosophical and other beliefs. The data you arvative Association ("the data holders") in accor he data holders will use the data we collect for (ingdom, (ii) to compile and provide anonymous	ct information provide will rdance with the following

woters in the United Kingdom; (iii) to tacilitate our operation as a political party; (iv) contact you in the future by telephone, text or other means, even though you may be registered with the Telephone Preference Service, without asking for further permission. Your data will not be sold or given to anyone not connected to the Conservative Party. If you do not want the information you give to us to be used in these ways, or for us to contact you, please indicate by ticking the relevant boxes: Post I email DSMS Phone. Promoted by Robert Gough on behalf of Tom Pursglove, CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, Northants, NN17 ISZ. Printed by DATS Print Services Ltd, 30 Victoria Street, Irthlingborough, Northants, NN9 5RG.

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PAID FOR WITH THE HELP OF LOCAL SUPPORTERS AT NO COST TO THE TAXPAYER

GET IN TOUCH with TOM

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- fb.com/TomPursgloveMP

CAMPAIGNING FOR BETTER BROADBAND

The lack of broadband coverage in some areas is a source of great frustration to many of my constituents, especially as recent figures show that 90% of homes in the UK now have access to a superfast connection. For the remaining 10%, including parts of the constituency, it is vital that we keep campaigning for this important utility, and I will continue to take up local broadband challenges that are raised with me, and meet regularly with BT, Northamptonshire County Council, and Ministers, to ensure that connectivity is achieved as soon as possible. I also continue to make the argument that new developments should have appropriate broadband coverage in place from day one - this is now a crucially important utility from both a life and work perspective and it should be installed as standard.

KETTERING GENERAL HOSPITAL URGENT CARE HUB

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Along with my two colleagues in North Northamptonshire, Peter Bone MP, and Philip Hollobone MP, and indeed my predecessor, I have been very supportive of the plans for a new Urgent Care Hub at Kettering General Hospital - a project which has rightly united politicians on all sides in our area. KGH has seen increasing attendances at A&E, making the need for a new, innovative, solution even more pressing. Working together, we met with Ben Gummer MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality at the Department of Health, last year, to discuss the plans, which I have also raised regularly in the House of Commons - if built, this innovative Urgent Care Hub would bring A&E, urgent care, social care, mental health provision and GPs, all under one roof. Rest assured that I will continue to make the case for this important development, and do all I can to help secure much-needed investment in KGH.

TheyWorkForYou

TOM PURSGLOVE (SINCE JOINING) Debates spoken = 103 Voted = 96.50%

LAST LABOUR MP (IN FINAL YEAR) Debates spoken = 49 Voted = 78.25% *Independent figures as at 3rd May 2016

Tom Pursglove MP's Westminster Report

CORBY EDITION

Dear Constituent,

It's a huge honour and a privilege to be your Member of Parliament for Corby and East Northamptonshire. At the end of my first year in Parliament, welcome to my Westminster Report for 2015-16, where you can find out more about what I've been doing as part of my 'Listening Campaign', both in Parliament and the constituency, over the last year.

As always, if I can ever be of any help to you, please feel free to contact me at any time using the following details:

Address: Tom Pursglove MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA Email: pursglovet@parliament.uk Telephone: 020 7219 8043

I also hold weekly advice surgeries in both Corby and East Northamptonshire, and as I said in the run up to the General Election, I remain committed to being Corby and East Northamptonshire's voice in Westminster and not Westminster's voice in the constituency.

Now, for some of what I've been getting up to!

With best wishes,

Tom

Tom Pursglove MP - Member of Parliament for Corby & East Northamptonshire

TOM STANDING UP FOR **OUR STEEL INDUSTRY**

Since my election last year, I have taken a significant interest and role in parliamentary activity on the UK steel industry, and in my first week in Westminster, before I even had an office, I became Vice-Chairman of the APPG on **Steel and Metal Related Industry.** As one of very few Conservative members with a steelworks in my constituency, I have been very outspoken on this matter, both in the House of Commons chamber and in meetings with Ministers.

The steelworks is a very important employer in Corby, and our steelmaking heritage goes right to the heart of our town. We simply cannot afford to lose the highly skilled jobs that the industry provides. As I have long maintained, it is



also fundamental to ensuring our national security. You never know what the future holds and it is unacceptable to rely upon the prospect of importing steel during any period of national crisis or emergency. As such, I have been working very hard on a cross-party basis to try and resolve some of the challenges facing the industry, both through the APPG, working with the unions, industry and Ministers, and locally, with Councillor Tom Beattie, the Leader of Corby Borough Council, and Margot Parker MEP. the UKIP MEP for the East Midlands. My work has particularly focused on the unfair and uncompetitive 'dumping' of steel on our market, business rates, and energy costs, all of which are placing a real strain on the operational costs and viability of the industry. In essence, we must ensure that our steel industry is able to compete on a level playing field and secure its future.

Following the announcement that Tata Steel were selling their UK operations back in March, I hand-delivered a letter to 10 Downing Street urging the Prime Minister to intervene urgently to ensure the Government played a full role in helping to convene discussions, with a view to identifying a strong and sustainable future for Tata's sites, including Corby - ideally identifying a buyer, rather like Tata purchased Corus' portfolio of sites back in 2007.

gning the Charter for able British Steel.





- the most nervous I've ever been!



Visiting the Corby steelworks.

This was followed by a visit with Councillor Beattie and the Rt. Hon Anna Soubry MP, the Minister of State for Small Business, Industry and Enterprise, where we met with both senior management and union leaders to discuss the broad challenges facing the industry, whilst also receiving a briefing on the Corby site in particular. We also had a tour and met some of the 600 workers. Crucially, the Corby site is a viable business, and there is a strong plan in place to help improve matters further - it will, however, require both time and investment to see it through: the importance of which I have regularly stressed to Ministers during their discussions.

Throughout, I have been clear that nothing should be ruled out, and that all the options should be kept on the table to help secure the future of our steel industry. I stand by that position. This is not a matter of left or right, or of ideology - more one of pragmatism, and arguably, right and wrong

To secure the future of the industry, not only do we have to tackle the day-to-day challenges of dumping, energy costs and business rates, but we must also ensure that it has a truly stable footing. Corby is a proud steel town and those employed at the site, and the wider community, are very concerned about what the future holds. Rest assured that, as your local MP, I will continue to do everything I can to help protect this vitally important industry - not just in Corby, but across the country.

Listening to Corby & East Northamptonshire

UNEMPLOYMENT **KEEPS ON** FALLING



Visiting Amaray, where I learnt the DVD case was first manufactured in Corby!

I am delighted that the number of people claiming JSA in Corby and East Northamptonshire has continued to fall by over 63 percent since its 2009 peak. We are very lucky to have such a variety of employers in Corby, and over the past year, I have had the opportunity to visit many of them, both large and small.

For example, large local employers such as RS Components, Aluminium Shapes, Tayto and Amaray are a great advertisement for Corby's proud manufacturing base, and employ thousands of local people. I have also been hugely impressed by the great breadth of small and medium-sized businesses that we have in the town - businesses such as Bred's Food and the Corby Company Shop, along with the excellent newly-opened Corby Smash Table Tennis Centre, all of which make a huge contribution to the local community and beyond.

It has been great to visit such a diverse range of businesses and see first-hand the terrific work that they do - with many highly skilled local people excelling in their specific fields. And, when local firms have got into difficulty, such as Fairline Boats, I have worked with the unions, the employees affected, other local businesses, along with JobCentre Plus, the local authorities and Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership, to ensure that all of the appropriate help and support has been made available, with the vast majority finding alternative suitable employment locally. This is testament to the strength of our local business community and what always strikes me is the loyalty of our workforce and the pride individuals take in their work, and in the business as a whole. As the local MP, I am right behind them and I will always shout from the rooftops for more jobs and more investment – as the fastest growing town in the country, it is clear we need more jobs, more investment and more infrastructure.

LITTLE STANION

The ongoing situation at Little Stanion has understandably been a very important issue for every resident of the development.

As well as holding a Little Stanion Summit last year - where residents could speak with all interested parties and have the opportunity to raise any concerns, before Corby Borough Council's Development Control Committee met to make key decisions - I have been in regular contact with my constituents living in Little Stanion, and with Corby Borough

Council and Northamptonshire County Council, about progress. The issue of the development stalling and the associated lack of infrastructure is still ongoing, and I share residents' frustration that effective solutions have not yet been found. This is a hugely complex issue, involving legal processes, and one that I have been working on closely with the excellent Little Stanion Village Association (LSVA), since my election. Going forward, rest assured that I will continue to fight for the development to be properly completed, and to ensure that residents are able to obtain answers to the questions they have.



PROGRESS ON RAIL ENTERPRISE ZONE BID ELECTRIFICATION

In October 2015, I was delighted to hear the Secretary of State for Transport's announcement that work will commence on the electrification of the Midland Mainline.

As part of Network Rail's Route Upgrade Plan, they will be delivering a programme of work to enhance the Midland Mainline between now and 2023. The work will include the electrification of the line, as well as alterations to station platforms, remodelling of signalling and track and a variety of other improvements to railway infrastructure that will mean it will be possible to run more trains, longer trains, and faster trains, as well as reducing carbon emissions. In our area, these upgrades have already started with track improvements between Kettering and Corby.

Network Rail have announced that electrification of the line north of Bedford to Kettering and Corby will be completed by 2019 and the line north of Kettering to Leicester, Derby/Nottingham and Sheffield by 2023, thus, continuing the biggest investment into our railways since Victorian times. I will certainly continue to keep a close eye on progress and keep up the pressure for more services both northbound and southbound, from Corby.



Taking local business leaders to Downing

Street to meet the Chancellor to celebrate 🚽 their success and raise concerns.

Late last year, I was disappointed to learn that the local bid for a new Enterprise Zone on the boundary between Corby and East Northamptonshire had not been successful, after months of enthusiastic lobbying in the House of Commons in support of it.

As such, I was determined to identify where the Government perceived the weaknesses in the bid to be, in order that more work can be done to address these concerns.

I met with the Minister for Local Growth and the Northern Powerhouse, James Wharton MP, in January, to discuss this matter. Whilst it is clear that Corby and East Northamptonshire is in a fantastic strategic position, the competition was fierce. Officials agreed, therefore, to meet with Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership, Corby Borough Council and East Northamptonshire Council, amongst other partners, to discuss the bid and what improvements could be made to any future submission, to ensure it has the best possible chance of success.

Going forward, I will continue to work with all involved to make the case for a new Enterprise Zone – with the housing growth we are experiencing, it is only right that we receive infrastructure boosts like this.

THE PM COMES TO TOWN!

Back in September, I was pleased to join the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Education at Corby Technical School, where the announcement of a new free school in Corby was made

Pupils at the school had the opportunity to put their questions to the Prime Minister and it was a areat opportunitu for him to see the results of the fantastic work local teachers, parents and students have put in to make CTS an 'Outstanding' school. The announcement of the new free school also demonstrates the Government's commitment to investment in Corbu and I am delighted that it will deliver additional school places, along with greater choice for parents. I have also kept up the pressure for fairer funding for schools in our area, after years of underfunding under successive governments, and I am pleased Ministers are taking action to put this right.

WASTE PLANT **PROPOSALS: CORBY SAYS 'NO'!**

the Brookfield Plantation.

Ever since that first march, I have stood shoulder to shoulder alongside local people in opposing these proposals for the plantation, having heard loud and clear the calls of "Corby says 'NO'!", along with the many strong reasons why it is totally inappropriate and unacceptable.

Similarly, earlier this year, I was pleased to hear that the planning application relating to amendments to the proposed agsification plant at Shelton Road was called in bu the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, having pressed for this to happen. Subsequently, I submitted my representations to the Secretary of State's consultation, and the decision now rests with him, although I keep a close eye on progress.



THE FIGHT AGAINST UNWANTED OVER-**DEVELOPMENT: PROTECT OUR VILLAGES**

As a rapidly growing town, Corby has seen significant new development in recent years, and as your local MP, it is one of my top priorities to ensure that this development is reasonable and proportionate, and that appropriate infrastructure investment accompanies it.

Protecting our rural areas against unwelcome over-development has also been one of my key priorities, and an issue which has dominated my postbag. In the villages around Corby, we have seen a

number of unwanted planning applications come forward and I have done everything I can to help support the objections of the brilliant local campaigns launched to oppose them, including in Cottingham, Middleton, and Weldon. Alongside this work, in Westminster, I continue to make the case that the planning system should respect the wishes of local residents – to my mind, if an application is refused by the Council, then the developer should listen to this judgement and let the matter rest there.



(Peak was May 2009 - Claimant total 3,133)

Keep up to date with what I am doing, visit votepursglove.co.uk

Upon my selection as the Parliamentary Candidate back in April 2013, the first local campaign I got involved in was to oppose the proposed waste agsification plant on

SUPPORTING LOCAL POLICING



Supporting our local magistrates in the fight to keep Corby Magistrates' Court open. Unfortunately, our efforts were unsuccessful.

Our police have been chronically underfunded over many years, relative to other areas, and this year, we have seen a number of changes to police funding, something I have lobbied the **Chancellor of the Exchequer and** Home Secretary on.

Not only will the new Police Funding Formula ensure greater funding fairness across the country, but I was delighted when it was announced in the Autumn Statement that overall police spending would be protected in line with inflation - this will be an increase of £900 million by 2019-20.

Whilst I will always press for more police officers out on the beat, catching criminals and deterring crime, I have been impressed by the forward-thinking work that Northamptonshire Police have been doing, particularly to help reduce rural crime - as we all know, crime crosses county boundaries and tackling it must be achieved through coordination with neighbouring forces. I am also pleased to receive regular updates from the local policing teams, along with the organisations they work closely with to tackle crime – for example, the

Corby JAM project, which has done incredible work over many years in the town to drive down antisocial behaviour.

Visiting Rockingham Castle to see this jewel in the Corbu crown and to understand the business. I continue to help fight to protect stunning rural settings such as this.