



**TOM
PURSGLOVE**



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LISTENING TO CORBY AND EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Councillor André González De Savage
Cabinet Member for Strategic Infrastructure, Economic Growth & Public Protection
Northamptonshire County Council
County Hall
Northampton
NORTHANTS, NN1 1AT

Copy via email to: agdesavage@northamptonshire.gov.uk

15th December 2014

Dear André,

RE: 'MORE FIRE COVER CAMPAIGN'.

I am writing to you as part of my *Listening to Corby & East Northamptonshire Campaign*, to reflect local concerns relating to the proposed changes to Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service arrangements in Corby.

Prior to writing, I met with Martyn Emberson, the Chief Fire Officer, Councillor Stan Heggs, FBU representatives and 'Green Watch' firefighters at Corby Fire Station.

In addition, I have attended a demonstration of the new Cobra Intervention Vehicle and it is clear that Northamptonshire is leading the way when it comes to Fire Service innovation - undoubtedly, in certain circumstances, Cobra plays a very important role in protecting the lives of firefighters, and those of the general public.

However, as you will appreciate, North Northamptonshire is rapidly growing - in particular, Corby and East Northamptonshire is seeing thousands of new homes built. For example, Priors Hall, when completed, will have seen the construction of over 6,000 new homes.

As such, in my view, it is essential to enhance fire coverage in our area. Therefore, it is my belief, having spoken to all those referred to earlier - some on a number of occasions, including over the weekend just gone - as part of my *Listening Campaign*, that, not only do we need to retain the two existing pumps at Corby, but the new Cobra Intervention Vehicle should be readily available for deployment across our area. **Essentially, this should be an additional tool in the box, and not introduced at the expense of an existing pump.** Indeed, I am particularly mindful of the fact that Corby Fire Station covers not only Corby Borough, but also a very considerable amount of rural East Northamptonshire.

To this end, today, I have launched the *More Fire Cover Campaign* with Peter Bone MP, to increase fire cover across North Northamptonshire. We are encouraging all interested parties to show support for this campaign. As you know, in the past, the *Listening Campaign* successfully fought Labour's plans to close Rushden Fire Station, with the support of Conservative County Councillors.

In closing, I just wanted to say that I very much appreciate your hard work and efforts, as

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU

Portfolio Holder responsible for Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service and in particular, your commitment to keeping Corby Fire Station open. Personally, I think you can be very proud of the fact that Conservatives at County Hall tore up Labour's Fire Service downgrade plans, meaning not a single Fire Station has been closed, whilst Conservatives have controlled Northamptonshire County Council. I hope, therefore, that you might be willing to meet in the near future, to discuss the matters raised.

With best wishes,

TOM

**TOM PURSGLOVE
CONSERVATIVE PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**