

THE LEIGH BUGLE

YOUR PRIORITIES ARE OUR PRIORITIES

SUMMER 2023

INSIDE:

More Police
on the beat

Extending free
childcare

Extra skills
investment



Meeting with the Secretary of State for Transport, Mark Harper MP, about transport investment in Greater Manchester and the possible reopening of Golborne Station

JAMES GRUNDY MP PUSHING TO MAKE GOLBORNE STATION REOPENING A REALITY

James Grundy, Conservative candidate for the new Leigh & Atherton seat, is continuing his campaign to re-open Golborne Station, aiming to re-connect the area directly with Manchester.

Making the case to Ministers, the Mayor of Manchester, and attending public meetings, he is proud to have played a key role in securing the £15 million committed so far from the Transforming Cities Fund to have the station re-opened.

Since being elected in 2019,

James has remained committed in his campaign to reconnect Leigh to the national rail network, which will make it the first built in Greater Manchester in 25 years.

Re-opening Golborne will help relieve pressure on local roads, connect the town to nearby towns and cities, and lead to more jobs

for local people.

The work is currently scheduled to start next year in 2024, and set to be completed in 2025.

So that everyone in Leigh can travel and commute safer, easier and quicker.

9,822 NEW DOCTORS AND NURSES FOR THE NORTH WEST

Our NHS was badly hit by the pandemic. That's why one of the Government's top five priorities is to cut the backlog.

Here in the North West, the Government has delivered an extra 2,394 new doctors and 7,428 new nurses for the North West – a big step towards cutting the backlog.

Ministers are also working with local NHS bosses to help residents access healthcare closer to home, with four new Community Diagnostic Centres open in Greater Manchester.

These centres can carry out X-rays, CT scans, blood tests and more. So residents have access to the best healthcare on their doorstep.



The Government is recruiting extra doctors and nurses for our local NHS



Above: The Prime Minister has made creating jobs and opportunities a central part of his five priorities

Local people to benefit from new skills training

One of the biggest concerns that local employers have is finding people with the right skills.

The Prime Minister has made jobs and economic growth a central part of his five priorities: to halve inflation, grow the economy, reduce debt, cut waiting lists and stop the boats.

That's why ministers have worked with local MPs to deliver new investment in skills training for Greater Manchester.

The investment includes millions to support Digital Skills Bootcamps for local people, helping them get the training that local employers need.

It also includes support for a

new Greater Manchester Institute of Technology, set to open in September 2023.

This will provide skills training as well as short courses in technical skills. So more and more local people will be able to get new qualifications without moving away – helping them secure good jobs with decent pay.

This news comes alongside the latest apprenticeship figures, which show that 321,010 new apprenticeships have been created in Greater Manchester since 2010. So more local young people are picking up the skills they need to get on in life.

1,280 EXTRA POLICE FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

Cutting crime is a top priority for local people. And it's a top priority for the Government too.

Ministers have worked with our local police force to deliver an extra 1,280 police for Greater Manchester. These officers are already on patrol, making our streets safer for every resident in every community.

The Government is now working with our new officers to make sure they have the funds and resources they need to target antisocial behaviour hotspots and make Greater Manchester an even safer place to work and raise a family.



Above: Conservatives have delivered on their promise to recruit 20,000 extra police

Lifetime Skills Guarantee helps local people get free qualifications

Access to skills training is not only good for local people – it's good for our local economy too.

That's why the Government has worked with local businesses and training colleges to introduce a Lifetime Skills Guarantee.

The Lifetime Skills Guarantee offers local people the chance to gain a free qualification, with almost 400 options to choose from – everything from engineering to social care. So residents can secure better jobs with decent pay.

This is part of the Government's plan to level up their investment and make sure everyone, wherever they live, can get on in life.



Above: Conservatives are extending free childcare to children aged 9 months to 4 years

Government announces EXTRA free childcare

Every parent should be able to balance work and raising a family. That's why the Government is extending 30-hours free childcare to children aged between 9 months and 4 years.

With the global cost of living crisis hitting local people, this is huge news. It means more parents will be able to make the right decisions for their families.

This news comes alongside extra investment in family hubs across the UK, where new mothers can get extra support – including parenting programmes and mental health aid.



BIG BOOST FOR DRIVERS, CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS IN GREATER MANCHESTER

Transport is vital to our local economy. The easier it is to get around, the more likely businesses are to set up in Greater Manchester.

That's why the Government is levelling up its investment in Greater Manchester's transport network with over £1 billion of new investment.

It will also kick start Metrolink extensions with £145 million of new funding, including improved links to Terminal 2 at Manchester Airport. As well as, money to connect Stockport and Wigan to HS2.

Ministers are also investing in 50

new zero-emissions buses in Greater Manchester, helping to make our public transport even cleaner. And they're investing in bus priority packages so that we can all get around quicker.

This is part of the Government's plan to level up investment in communities across the country and help everyone, wherever they live, get on in life.

our plan FOR LEIGH



1 FIGHTING FOR FAIR FUNDING

James continues to work in Westminster to ensure that Leigh receives its fair share of funding, including a recent discussion with Michael Gove to explore the possibility for an independent council for Leigh.

2 FIXING OUR BROKEN ROADS & PAVEMENTS

James is working with constituents to push for safer and better quality roads and pavements. He is continuing to hold the Council to account when it comes to responding to reports of potholes or broken roads/footpaths.

3 RESTORING PUBLIC SAFETY

James continues to work with Greater Manchester Police to reduce crime in our community. He is holding regular meetings with the police, and conducting public surgeries so you can raise your concerns directly. Making Leigh a safer place to live for everyone.

4 PROTECTING OUR GREENBELT

James opposes unnecessary plans for development on our green spaces, including unpopular development proposals at Pocket Nook Lane and Mosley Common, and has been working alongside residents' groups to push for Wigan Council to prioritise development on a brownfield first strategy.

5 RESTORING OUR RAILWAYS & BUILDING OUR BYPASS

James has been working with the Government to secure £15 million of funding to reopen Golborne Railway Station. Boosting our local economy, and making journeys quicker and easier for everyone. He is also continuing to push for completion of the Atherleigh Way bypass.

6 REGENERATING OUR TOWN CENTRE

James has reiterated to the Council that they need to use the full £20 million Levelling Up Funding to its full effect. He is holding them to account to ensure our town centre regeneration benefits residents and businesses, making Leigh an even better place to live and work.

@ james@jamesgrundy.org.uk



jamesgrundy.org.uk



facebook.com/james4leigh

James Grundy MP Welcomes Education Secretary to Atherton High School

James Grundy and Gillian Keegan discuss school expansion and improvement.

James Grundy, MP for Leigh, recently welcomed Leigh-born Education Secretary Gillian Keegan to the constituency on a visit to Atherton High School.

Whilst there, they discussed the need for expansion and partial rebuild with Headteacher Mr Layzell. James stressed the importance of school facilities being upgraded to match the increase in housebuilding seen in Atherton and the surrounding areas. So every child in our community has the opportunity to reach their full potential.



ABOVE: James is pushing for greater investment to regenerate Atherton High School.

MP HOSTS SUCCESSFUL LEIGH JOBS FAIR

Leigh MP, James Grundy, hosted a successful Jobs Fair in Leigh Town Centre earlier this year, with 21 local businesses and organisations exhibiting.

The event was so well-attended that all employers present signed up to next year's jobs fair. James is working to make this an even bigger event!



ABOVE: James is working with local businesses to match jobseekers to employment opportunities.