

## **Changing Cumberland for the better**



### **Our Manifesto: Together as one**

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#### **Overview**

Cumberland has long been an area of the country that flourishes in natural beauty. The lakes, rivers and mountains are what makes our area one of the most attractive for tourism in the country. But beneath all that are towns and villages that need more support. Young people being forgotten about, not listened to by others. Cumberland has the potential to be a hub for young people and together we can and we will make that change. Together we will improve thousands of young people's lives.

#### **Our plan for change**

##### **Education:**

- 1) Across Cumberland and the country children's diets are changing. 27% of children aged 2-15 are either obese or overweight, that is astonishing. To counter this, it has to start in schools and the education system which will then filter down into the home. Children need access to better, more nutritious and healthier food within school which in turn will support them to learn to the best of their ability. If you vote for me as your MYP, I will campaign on behalf of Cumberland's young people for improved and healthier food in our schools and education systems.
- 2) Within our education system we learn about science, history, drama, art along with many other things but not politics. Politics is involved in every major decision made by any company whether that be in finance or indeed education. I have witnessed first-hand some opinions that would not be held if politics was taught in school. The rise of social media is allowing young people to see content that is not necessarily true or safe for children. In a time of division around the

globe it is imperative that young people can share their opinions and learn about the political world. However it is important that when taught, teachers keep a neutral opinion when teaching politics. If elected as your MYP, I will campaign for the teaching of politics in schools (neutrally) whether that be as an option at GCSE in more schools, or it being more prominent in assemblies, form time or Personal development lessons.

- 3) Within schools you work hard for 5 years at GCSE, or 2 years at A level for a ½ hour exam at the end of it. I think that is deeply unfair. People work at different paces, abilities and some struggle with different areas more than others. Having experienced the pressure of many exams, I know the feeling of being worried, nervous and scared. Coursework would change this. In my opinion you should be judged on your work ethic across the whole GCSE/A level period with more coursework on more subjects for students. As your MYP I will work hard on a campaign for the implementation of more coursework for students to make the exam period fairer, more accessible and future proof for young people and the generations to come.

#### **Crime & awareness:**

- 1) Here in Cumberland and across the nation, anti-social behaviour on our streets, often at night, is on the increase and is a growing concern for residents. Anti-social crime such as vandalism, breaching of the peace and terrorizing residents is not acceptable and is something that needs to be reduced. As your MYP, I will campaign and lobby for more police officers on the streets especially in our town centres and at night to combat anti-social behaviour and for the addition of more CCTV in urban areas along with improved street lighting to make vulnerable people feel safer.
- 2) Drug crime is a growing problem in the country and especially in Cumberland. Our drug crime rate is higher than the national average and that needs to be solved. I want to work towards safer, healthier communities by raising awareness of drug misuse and supporting programmes that help young people stay safe. As your MYP, I would look to work with our MPs and our police and crime commissioner to help combat the drug problem and offer more support for recovering addicts and the families of the victims involved. I will also campaign for more awareness in schools especially for teenagers around the effect drugs have on our health and our lives.
- 3) Children are in a position now where alcohol, drugs, and vapes are more available than ever before. On high streets in places like Carlisle and Workington there are often 2, 3, 4 vape shops per street. These are becoming a hub for kids as young as 12 to hang out and buy things such as vapes which are detrimental to children's health. Schools need to do more to promote the dangers of this. As your MYP, I will campaign for more awareness assemblies and talks on the

dangers of substance misuse and the horrible effect this can have in the future on health, education and families and friends.

**Economy:**

- 1) In our area we are blessed with natural beauty in places like Keswick. But for young people it can often be a struggle to get there. Young people deserve the chance to see the outdoors more and more. It also applies if they are trying to get into town centres from rural areas or trying to travel to a part time job or meeting up with friends. Buses are free for over 65s so why aren't they free for under 18s? As your MYP, I will campaign for more bus routes into and from the Lakes and rural areas and I will lobby for free buses for under 18s to make your life easier and more affordable.
- 2) In a time where it is becoming ever more difficult to own your own home or find a suitable place to rent, young people deserve better and they deserve the opportunity to start their own life earlier and not be exploited. Affordable housing is an issue that is not talked about enough. As your MYP, I will campaign for more government investment to our area for affordable housing. I will lobby and work for stronger regulations to protect young renters from being exploited and ensure that the properties that they are renting meet the standards set by the government in our area, to make Cumberland more affordable for young people.

Finally, together we can make Cumberland brighter, bolder and better for the future! You have a chance to make a difference and I have a chance to use your ideas and opinions and try to make meaningful change for our area. Together we can make health awareness more prominent in schools, make anti-social behaviour a top priority to fix and protect young renters in Cumberland. Together we can make a difference!