

Alan Campbell MP

Community News

April 2026



Welcome to the latest edition of my Community News.

In this edition of my Community News, you will find details of recent events I have attended as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of.

You can also find useful information on my website at www.alancampbellmp.co.uk or on Facebook at;

https://www.facebook.com/AlanCampbellForTynemouth/?eid=ARct_uybFykBHP9Ze74JblWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijlCM68TFI_cGhOnsm_TvNnVuiYMhiLm

I continue to write my fortnightly column for the News Guardian, you can access these on my website at [News Guardian Articles - Alan Campbell MP for Tynemouth](#)

Best wishes

Alan Campbell MP, Tynemouth

Monkseaton Middle School Celebration Fun Day



I joined Monkseaton Councillor Martin Murphy and his family at a Celebration Fun Day at Monkseaton Middle School this weekend.

The event was held to celebrate the exciting future ahead for Monkseaton Middle School as they begin their new journey creating a new through-school with more specialist provision tailored for every child.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Head, Ms Marshall, the governors and local parents who campaigned so passionately on behalf of their children. Martin Murphy and I backed their cause and we're really pleased with the outcome. My thanks too to the council for listening and responding to the wishes of local residents.

It was good to meet so many local families who advocated on behalf of their community and their local school in person at the event.

Parliament Prorogues – A look back at the session

As the first session of parliament under this Government comes to a close, I recently used my News Guardian column to reflect on what progress has been made. You can read it at:

[Progress, but more to be done - Alan Campbell MP for Tynemouth](#)

Operation Coastwatch



I know local residents are understandably worried about the anti-social behaviour we witnessed in Tynemouth over the weekend.

I saw at first hand on Friday the visible police presence in Tynemouth.

I had recently asked for an update from local police regarding this year's Operation Coastwatch which tackles anti-social behaviour and disorder on the North Tyneside coast during the spring and summer months.

The police confirmed they will be carrying out regular proactive patrols and this year, the operation includes High Tide days of action, during which enhanced resources, high visibility patrols and co-ordinated partner activity will be deployed.

Police are working alongside the North Tyneside Council's Community Protection and Licensing Team, Metro security staff and others to keep North Tyneside the safe and welcoming place it is for all.

Anyone with concerns should approach an officer on duty or send Northumbria Police a direct message on social media or by using the live chat and report forms on the Force's website. Those unable to make contact via the above ways should call 101.

Our beautiful coastline rightly draws a huge number of visitors and young people are no exception. However, behaviour we saw over the weekend is not acceptable and I'm working with all agencies to make sure that everything that can be done is being done.

North Tyneside Big Local



I joined former Mayor Dame Norma Redfearn, Chair of the Percy Main Pride in Place Board on a visit to North Tyneside Big Local, whose Renew Project is based at the Royal Quays.

Repair and reuse offers environmental benefits by keeping valuable materials in circulation for longer, reducing the volume of waste sent to landfill and cutting the demand for new resource-intensive products. By extending the life of everyday items—whether through community repair projects, repair cafes and reuse shops we can make a significant difference to carbon emissions and promote a more sustainable, circular local economy.

It was great to meet with the North Tyneside Big Local Team and it will be good to see how the project, with its ethos of community involvement and engagement, can complement the Pride in Place Programme which will see Percy Main and surrounding areas get £20million over the next ten years for community led projects and investment in the local area.

Marine Park Visit



I visited Marine Park First School recently following their visit to parliament earlier this year. I met with the school council, had a guided tour of the school before joining an assembly and having a question-and-answer session. As when the students visited parliament, their questions were a great mix. Thanks to all the wonderful staff and students for inviting me.

Pride in Place Update



Pride in Place is a major initiative set up by the Government to regenerate neighbourhoods across the country and give local people more say over the future of their area.

To make it happen, Percy Main and surrounding areas are getting £20m in funding over the next 10 years.

To make sure that any plans represent the best interests of the community, a neighbourhood board will be created made up of local residents and key stakeholders.

I'm delighted the Board will be chaired, initially, by former Mayor Dame Norma Redfearn who was a councillor in the ward for many years and who has an outstanding track record of delivering regeneration.



This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the area to bring long lasting change, and we now want to hear from local residents.

If you live in the Pride in Place area, sign up to the Our North Tyneside Voice website at haveyoursay.northtyneside.gov.uk

There is currently a survey where you can have your say on the first stage of the Pride in Place programme – or you can email alan.campbell.mp@parliament.uk

If you're not online but want to take part, you can call the Council's Engagement team on (0191) 643 8215 and they will be more than happy to help you.

Teddy Bear's Picnic at the Meadows



I joined Dame Norma Redfearn, Chair of the Percy Main Pride in Place Board at a Teddy's Bears Picnic event at the Meadows in North Shields. The event was an opportunity to engage with local families about what their priorities are for the Pride in Place funding but it was also really interesting to see what an amazing community resource the Meadows is. Thanks to everyone for their feedback and to all the staff and volunteers for the valuable work they do in our local community.

Tynemouth Library Underway



It's great to see work starting on our new library in Tynemouth. I appreciate frustration at the delays which unfortunately were due to issues with the substation behind the site. I recently met with Cllr Julie Day at the site to see progress.

This is an important investment in our community, creating a welcoming space for learning, skills and connection for people of all ages. Thanks to everyone who's helped make this project happen — I'll be following progress closely and look forward to seeing progress in the coming weeks.

Social Media Update

I know that families across our constituency – and throughout the UK – are deeply concerned about the impact smartphones and social media are having on children's wellbeing. That's why I welcomed the government three-month consultation into children's social media use, including exploring the option of banning it entirely for children under a certain age.

It will also consider a phone curfew to restrict excessive use of mobile phones and examine addictive design features such as 'infinite scrolling'.

The consultation closes on the 26th May – Have your say at; [Growing up in the online world: a national consultation - GOV.UK](#)

Spring Gardens Visit



Over the past few months, I have been pleased to be invited to many of our local schools, and it was great to visit Spring Gardens Primary School ahead of their visit to parliament later this month.

It was a good opportunity for me to hear first hand about how our young people feel about a social media ban but also a chance for the students to ask me questions about my life and role as their MP. As it often is when I meet primary students, the questions were certainly not easy.

Libraries for Primaries programme



Change your story

I am writing to all local primary schools to let them know that the government has recently committed to ensuring that every state primary school in England will have a library by the end of this parliament.

Research shows that 1 in 7 primary schools in the UK do not have a library, rising to 1 in 4 in disadvantaged areas. Since 2021, the National Literacy Trust and Penguin Books have been working to address this through their Libraries for Primaries campaign. The programme has already transformed hundreds of primary school libraries across the UK, helping to create inspiring spaces where children can develop a love of reading.

Each year, participating schools receive a comprehensive package of support, including training and high-quality books

School leaders can fill out this application form to express interest in taking part in the Libraries for Primaries programme:

<https://www.librariesforprimaries.org.uk/schools>

Investing in reading is one of the most powerful ways we can support children's futures, and this programme offers a valuable opportunity to do just that. This is particularly timely during the National Year of Reading.

School Games Mark



The School Games Mark is a government-led award scheme, launched in 2012 and facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust, to reward schools for their commitment to developing competition across their school and into the community.

I'm delighted 25 schools in our area have been recognised for their commitment to PE and school sport. It's more important than ever that we support children and young people to be physically active, and activity during and around the school day can help every child unlock the benefits, including for happiness, health and access to skills.

Local schools that have been celebrated through the School Games Mark should be proud of their success. As well as congratulating the children and young people involved, I also want to pay tribute to the teachers, school leaders, volunteers and officials whose involvement is helping create vital opportunities and making sure no one misses out.

Visiting Parliament: Advice for Schools



Parliament's Education Service runs a great programme enabling schools to visit parliament, have a session in the education centre and do a tour of the Palace of Westminster. Schools outside London are eligible to receive a travel subsidy of up to 80%.

Next booking date is for the Autumn Term is 13th May at 10am. Find out more at [Education Visits - Parliament UK Education](#)

Energy Reforms

I've welcomed plans to overhaul the energy market so it properly stands up for families and businesses. Whether it's suppliers collapsing, the scandal of the force fitting of pre-payment meters, delays to compensation claims, or poor customer service, families and businesses have not received the service they deserve.

I know cost of living is the number one issue families are facing. That's why alongside reforming the energy system, the government has acted to bring down energy bills by 7% this month, and we will continue to stand by families as the impacts of instability in the Middle East become clear.

The situation in the Middle East has raised understandable questions about energy prices. Ofgem has published a short explainer on what this could mean for UK energy bills and how the price cap provides protection for households.

Read more: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/news/what-situation-middle-east-means-your-energy-bills>

Business toolkit

In addition, Ofgem has also published a toolkit for businesses, containing practical guidance to help non-domestic organisations who need to renew business energy contracts understand their options, avoid scams and find trusted support.

It can be found here: [Energy aware toolkit: Non-domestic business guidance](#)

Solar Panels for Riverside Primary School

Its great news that Great British Energy have installed new solar panels at Riverside Primary School. This installation is part of Great British Energy Solar – one of GBE’s first major schemes, in partnership with the Department for Education and the Department for Health and Social Care. This scheme will invest up to £255 million to enable around 250 schools, around 260 NHS sites and multiple military sites to increase their renewable energy generation and reduce their energy bills. As they continue installations between 2025 and 2026, it will deliver lifetime energy savings worth millions for the future.

The solar panels at Riverside Primary School will have an immediate impact – its estimated it will save the school £135,000 over the lifetime of the panels enabling Riverside to reinvest directly back into their school.

MS Awareness Week

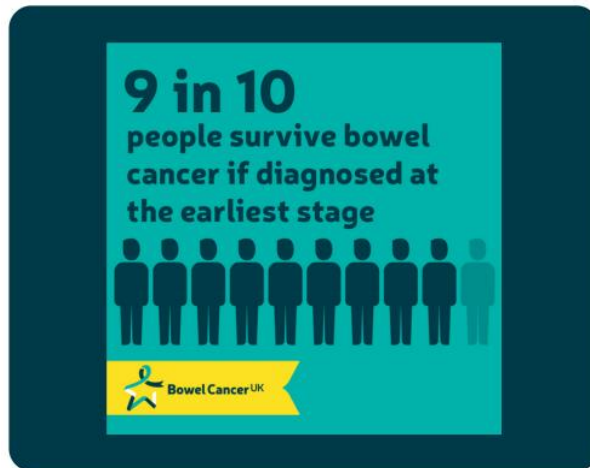


Multiple sclerosis is a neurological condition that affects more than 150,000 people in the UK, and approximately 6620 people in and around Tynemouth. It's unpredictable and affects everyone differently. It's often painful and exhausting and all too often, people struggle to access the treatment, care and financial support they need to manage their condition.

The theme of MS Awareness Week is challenging assumptions. People often don't understand MS, which means they don't know what life is really like for those living with it. These kinds of assumptions can lead to hurtful behaviour and real-life consequences - from being underestimated at work to being harassed for using a disabled parking space.

I'm proud to show my support for my constituents suffering with MS. You can find out more at: [MS Help](#) | [MS Society](#)

Bowel Cancer Awareness Month



Bowel cancer is the UK's fourth most common cancer and second biggest cancer killer. Sadly, around 17,400 people lose their lives to the disease each year. But it doesn't have to be this way. Nearly everyone diagnosed at the earliest stage will survive bowel cancer for five years or more compared to just one in 10 diagnosed at the latest stage.

Screening is a powerful tool in helping us to diagnose bowel cancer early when the disease is most treatable. It can spot the disease before symptoms start and can even help prevent cancer developing in the first place by identifying pre-cancerous polyps. Bowel cancer screening is offered every two years to people aged 50-74 in England, Scotland and Wales and to people aged 60-74 in Northern Ireland but a third of people across the UK don't complete the test.

In Tynemouth bowel cancer screening uptake stands at 76.2% which is still too low – especially when screening literally could save your life - so I am pleased to help highlight this important campaign.

The King's Speech

Parliament has now prorogued bringing the first session of this Government to a close.

There have been over 50 Acts of Parliament, 8 Private Members Bills with government support and 8 bills carried over to the next session - making this session of of the most active of recent times.

Highlight include:

[The Employment Rights Bill](#)

[The Renters Right's Act](#)

[The Water \(Special Measures\) Bill](#)

[The Football Governance Act](#)

[Mental Health Act](#)

[Great British Energy Act 2025](#)

[Passenger Railway Services \(Public Ownership\) Act](#)

[Planning and Infrastructure Act](#)

Local Elections on Thursday 7th May

Local elections are taking on Thursday 7 May.

Whoever you vote for, please make sure you vote.

Here's some things to remember on the day:

- Polls are open 7am until 10pm
 - You need Photo ID to vote
- Find your polling station at www.iwillvote.org.uk
- You can hand your postal vote into any polling station on the day.

