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TRUDY HARRISON MP
Member of Parliament for Copeland



News

Praise for local businesses



It was a pleasure spending [Small Business Saturday](#) visiting a sample of the many excellent small businesses we have in Copeland.

This included The Woodlands Bistro and Team Rooms in Santon Bridge (top), Deja Brew in Egremont (bottom left), and Make New and Mend in Millom (bottom right).

The passion and ambition the owners have for their businesses shines through. Small businesses are the heart of our communities and we are lucky to have such quality and diversity on our doorsteps.

New business grants available

Chancellor Rishi Sunak has announced that due to the ongoing impacts of Covid-19, new grants are available for the hospitality and leisure sectors worth up to £6,000 per premises.

These grants will be issued by Copeland and Allerdale Councils, and I will share details of the application process when it opens up.

Further funding for Muncaster Castle

I am pleased that Muncaster Castle has received a further £170,000 from the third round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund.

Arts and cultural organisations in the Copeland constituency have received over £1.5 million in lifeline funding from the Cultural Recovery Fund so far, including theatres, cinemas and visitor attractions. A further £30 million has now been added to the fund.

Grants available for farmers

I am encouraging Copeland's farming community to apply for newly-launched Government grants.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is inviting applications to the £27 million [Farming Investment Fund](#), which offers grants for equipment, technology and infrastructure that improves farm productivity and benefits the environment.

This could include solar-powered electric fences, water treatment systems that use ultraviolet light rather than chemicals, and cameras for monitoring livestock.

Available to farmers, foresters and growers, the Fund is split across two strands:

- the Farming Equipment and Technology Fund, which focuses on smaller grants for equipment from a set-list, including electronic seeders and chemical-free disinfectant
- the Farming Transformation Fund, for more substantial technology with the potential to transform business performance, with an initial focus on water management.

Progress in addressing road safety concerns

I have received assurances from Cumbria County Council that measures are being taken to address [road safety concerns in Arlecdon](#).

I wrote to the council following concerns raised by residents around speeding vehicles and other traffic issues on the A5086, and their response outlines the measures being taken, including the creation of a permanent police bay now being attended by a safety camera vehicle on a priority basis.

Further 30mph signs are also being installed, and additional changes will be considered under a Traffic Regulation Order in the coming months.

In the community



I have enjoyed attending a number of community engagements and visits throughout December. This included a visit to the [Falcon Club in Egremont](#), which has been gifted to the community by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (top), and to [Sunbelt Rentals' depot in Whitehaven](#) (bottom left). It was also a pleasure to meet Sunbelt Rentals' double Olympic Gold sprint cyclist Phil Hinds (bottom right), who brought along his London 2012 and Rio 2016 Mens Sprint Team medals.

Consultations and events

- Copeland Borough Council has launched a [consultation into its budget proposals](#) for 2022/23. The deadline for responses is January 5.
- Allerdale Borough Council has launched a [consultation into its budget proposals](#) for 2022/23. The deadline for responses is January 10.
- A [new website](#) has been launched providing more information on the local government reorganisation process in Cumbria, which is replacing the current structure with two unitary councils.
- The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is holding a public consultation into proposals to phase out single-use plastics. Read further details and complete an [online survey](#) before the February 12 deadline.

Newsletters

I also offer two other newsletters - covering the nuclear and tourism sectors - that contain a wealth of news and information from myself and the industry.

Please view the [nuclear](#) and [tourism](#) newsletters and I hope you find them interesting. To receive them directly, please email me on trudy.harrison.mp@parliament.uk





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