

[View this email in your browser](#)

 [Share](#)

 [Forward](#)

 [Tweet](#)

TRUDY HARRISON MP
Member of Parliament for Copeland



News

Prime Minister visits Cumbria



We were pleased to discuss the future of Cumberland with the Prime Minister during his visit to the area this month.

The Prime Minister was on top form, engaging with local leaders at an event at Hunday Manor; he made time for everyone and all were thrilled to have his ear.

Earlier in the day, he saw the crucial work being carried out in the Northern Centre for Cancer at Carlisle's Cumberland Infirmary. The Prime Minister had a tour and spoke to every patient in the centre.

We had a second day planned where the Prime Minister was due to visit Whitehaven to meet with the National Nuclear Laboratory and Rolls Royce to make our case for future power station sitings in Copeland.

Although this meeting didn't happen when the Prime Minister had to return to London

earlier than planned due to the escalating situation in Russia, he has committed to return soon.

Celebrating the talent of our local apprentices





I spent the recent [National Apprentice Week](#) speaking with apprentices from a wide range of fields in a series of in-person and online meetings, and I continue to be blown away by the quality of apprentices we have here in Copeland.

It's been a privilege to meet just a sample of our apprentices to hear more about their routes into their chosen field and their ambitions for the future. The breadth of apprenticeships on offer is wide ranging - from nuclear, health, tourism, leisure and hospitality as well as traditional trades – and all the apprentices I met are a credit to themselves and their employers and I'm sure all have a bright future.

Those I met included apprentices from James Fisher Nuclear in Egremont (*top*), the West Cumberland Hospital in Whitehaven (*middle left*), Tornado Wire in Millom (*middle right*), The Kings Arms Hotel in Keswick (*bottom left*), and Rosehill Theatre in Whitehaven (*bottom right*).

I'd also like to direct readers to two Facebook discussions I hosted to offer viewers an insight from local apprentices and apprentice providers.

Firstly, joined by Alex Burghart MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Skills, I spoke with [apprentices and providers](#) from Sellafield Ltd, United Utilities, Lakes College, UCLan and the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway, who all spoke first-hand about the opportunities that apprenticeships provide.

I then hosted a [second online session](#) with my nearest and dearest apprentices - my daughters Savannah and Rosie and my own constituency office degree apprentice Oliver Dorgan – who discussed their experiences.

Both are sessions are available on [my Facebook page](#).

Go-ahead for hospital redevelopment



Funding has been confirmed for the £40 million second phase of the [West Cumberland Hospital redevelopment](#).

The- Department of Health and Social Care has given its final approval of the funding and work will start this winter - with a completion date of 2024.

The project represents significant Government commitment to healthcare in Copeland and builds upon the £90m investment from phase one of the project which was completed in 2015. By replacing up to 40 per cent of the original hospital, the new-build will include a paediatrics unit, a care of the elderly ward, a specialist palliative care/step down ward and a stroke/rehabilitation ward.

Copeland to be prioritised for arts funding

It is wonderful news that Copeland is on the list of the areas set to benefit from newly-announced [arts and culture funding](#).

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has pledged an additional £75m of funding, to be overseen by Arts Council England, to ensure better distribution of arts funding outside London.

Copeland has been identified as one of the 54 'priority places' by DDCMS and the Arts Council to receive a share of this funding to support new and established thriving arts organisations in our constituency.

STEP judges visit Copeland

I firmly believe that the Moorside site is the most logical for the exciting and prototype fusion power plant Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP), and it is welcome news that a team from UKAEA has visited to see what we have to offer.

As the Centre of Nuclear Excellence, there is nowhere else in Europe with the concentration of precision and specific skills in nuclear that we have here in Copeland. Copeland has been at the forefront of so many 'firsts' in the nuclear industry, and we are well placed to deliver another in the form of STEP.

Communities across the UK were invited to make a submission of a suitable location for STEP last year, and Moorside is among the shortlisted final five.

New Town Deal websites launched

New websites have been launched to provide a wealth of information and updates on the respective [Millom](#) and [Cleator Moor](#) Town Deals.

Both areas were offered £20m-plus in Government funding last year, and work is ongoing to develop the full business cases to draw down the funds.

Final phase of England Coastal Path opens

The final 11-mile section of the Copeland stretch of the England Coast Path - beginning in Silecroft and finishing at Green Road Railway Station - has been officially opened by Natural England.



The route is the third to be completed in Cumbria - following paths from Whitehaven to Allonby and around Walney Island - and brings the total distance covered by the England Coast Path in the county to 81 miles.

Borrowdale School featured in national campaign

It's fabulous to see Borrowdale School's pupils, staff and Headteacher Ralf Smits featured in this excellent [Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport video](#) to show how Gigabit Broadband is benefiting schools and communities in our local area.

In the community





It's been a pleasure to attend a number of visits and events in the community over the past month. This included accompanying my friend and colleague Will Quince MP, Minister for Children and Families, to the [Family Action South Whitehaven centre](#) in Mirehouse (*top*), [Beckermat Nursery](#) (*middle left*), [St Bees Little Learners](#) (*middle right*). Additionally, I enjoyed a question-an-answer session with pupils from [St Herbert's School, Keswick](#) (*bottom left*), and a meeting with Peter Greenhalgh, Managing Director of [James Fisher Nuclear](#) in Egremont (*bottom right*).

Consultations and events

- Peter McCall, Cumbria's Police and Crime Commissioner, has developed a business case for two viable options of governance for Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service once Cumbria County Council ceases to exist on April 1, 2023. Read both proposals and complete and [online survey](#) before the March 21 deadline.

- Cumbria County Council is inviting Keswick residents to give their feedback on a parking management scheme proposed for the 'back streets' area. Read further details and complete an [online survey](#) before the March 6 deadline.
- The Boundary Commission for England has launched a second consultation into its proposed new Parliamentary constituency boundaries. View the proposals and complete an [online survey](#) before the April 4 deadline.
- The Mid-Copeland GDF Community Partnership is holding a series of [public information sessions](#) between March 7 and 25 to provide further information about geological disposal - and what it could mean for this area.
- A [new website](#) provides 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 access to nature and safeguarding England's protected landscapes for future generations to enjoy. Read further details and complete an [online survey](#) before the April 9 deadline.

Grants and support

My website has a page dedicated to the various streams of [grants and support](#) that are available within the Copeland constituency. This includes grants for businesses, museums, music venues and community groups.

Newly added to this list this month are grants for businesses in affected by Covid-19, Green Homes Grants, and community funding from Allerdale Borough Council.

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

Additionally, I write a column in *The Mail* every week and in *The Whitehaven News* every four weeks, both of which are also available at [my website](#).



Trudy Harrison MP for Copeland
Main Street, Bootle, Cumbria, LA19 5TF
Trudy.Harrison.MP@parliament.uk
01229 718 333 / 020 7219 4002
www.TrudyHarrison.co.uk
