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TRUDY HARRISON MP
Member of Parliament for Copeland



News



Support for Ukrainian families

Like everyone, I continue to be horrified and appalled by the ongoing attacks on Ukraine, and my heart goes out to all those affected by this terrible situation.

Since the attacks began, I have been contacted by a lot of constituents who are desperate to help in any way they can.

Thank you so much to all those who have contacted me and I am signposting those who wish to make donations to the Disasters Emergency Committee's appeal for Ukraine, which will pay for humanitarian aid – including food and healthcare supplies, shelter – for affected families.

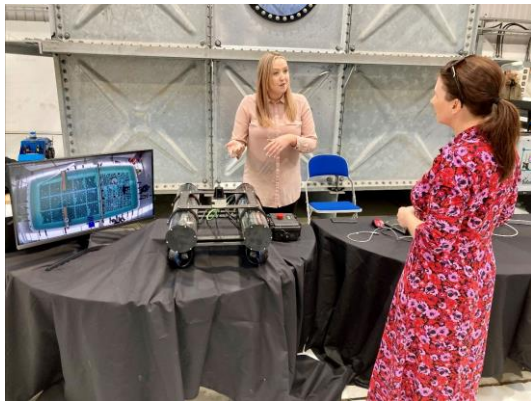
The charity is in Ukraine, as well as neighbouring countries, and your donations will make a direct difference. In addition, the UK Government has pledged to match-fund donations to this appeal, meaning your support will go even further.

To make a donation and for more information, visit the [charity's website](#).

The Government has now opened its Homes for Ukraine programme, offering people in the UK the opportunity to sponsor an Ukrainian individual or family and to offer them a home.

For more information and to register an interest – either as an individual or an organisation – visit [the website](#).

New robotics hub opens



I had the pleasure of visiting RAICo1 in Whitehaven for a preview of the outstanding new facility.

It was fascinating to see demonstrations of the robotics and artificial intelligence capability that will soon be deployed here to be able to work in hazardous environments and address significant decommissioning challenges.

The facility is a fantastic example of collaborative working, between Sellafield Ltd, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, UK Atomic Energy Authority, National Nuclear Laboratory and the University of Manchester, and the robotics and artificial intelligence developed will be used at nuclear facilities not only in this country, but has the potential to be rolled out across the world.

Read Sellafield's [announcement](#) on RAICo1's opening, and [view a video](#) of the facility.

Progress for SMR programme

I am thrilled at the announcement that [Rolls Royce SMR](#) are taking the significant next step of entering the Generic Design Assessment process.

I have been a champion of small modular reactor (SMR) technology since my election to Parliament so it's great to see progress. Technologies like SMRs could provide the future nuclear pipeline in Copeland.

It is more important than ever that we build new nuclear, large and small, to reach net zero and so we aren't reliant on foreign countries for energy.

Support for farming community

I have [written to Defra](#) to highlight issues facing the Copeland constituency's farming industry.

My letter has been sent on behalf of the farming community in the Bassenthwaite area, following the issues raised in my meeting with local farmers and the National Farmers' Union representatives.



Awards for health heroes

I'm pleased to again be taking part in the annual [NHS Parliamentary Awards](#) that recognise the contribution of staff, volunteers and all those working in our health and care sector. I will be soon be sharing details of those I have nominated on my website and Facebook.

Dream Placement

I was delighted to again take part in the Dream Placement programme and welcome St Benedict's School student Joseph McQuirk to my constituency office for a week.

Joseph said: "I had an enjoyable time and felt very welcome. I especially enjoyed learning about the job of an MP and working on my presentation about nuclear fusion, which helped to develop my confidence to speak publicly."



Research and development loans available

New loans are available from the [Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy](#) to support businesses' research and development projects and to enable SMEs to grow and develop the UK's research capability.

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.

In the community



I have enjoyed attending a number of meetings and visits in the community over the past month. This has included a meeting and introduction to the benefits of e-bikes with the team at [Cyclewise at Whinlatter Forest](#) (top); a tour of the excellent community and wellbeing services on offer from [Millom Network Centre](#) (middle left and right, bottom

left); and an update on the exciting [Millom Heritage Triangle Project](#) from members of Millom and District Local History Society (*bottom right*).

Consultations and events

- Copeland Borough Council has announced changes to its kerbside recycling collection service from October; with two bins replacing the current boxes/bag system. Further information is [available online](#) and at a series of roadshows starting at The Beacon Portal, Whitehaven, on Wednesday, April 6 from 10am to 3pm.
 - Copeland Borough Council is inviting visitors to Castle Park, Whitehaven, to complete a [short survey](#) to help inform future decisions and funding opportunities.
 - The Boundary Commission for England has launched a second consultation into its proposed new Parliamentary constituency boundaries. View the proposals and complete and [online survey](#) before the April 4 deadline.
 - 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.
 - The Department for Education is holding a public consultation into proposals to improve support for children and young people with SEND. Read further details and complete an [online survey](#) before the July 1 deadline.
 - The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport is holding a public consultation on tightening the rules for the online advertising industry, giving greater powers to regulators to tackle harmful, offensive and misleading content. Read further details and complete an [online survey](#) before the June 1 deadline.
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Grants and support

My website has a page dedicated to the various streams of [grants and support](#) that are available within the Copeland constituency.

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](#).



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