

The economy - we need a plan B

Inflation up, Unemployment up

Britain's fragile economic recovery is at risk because Conservative chancellor George Osborne is cutting spending too fast and by too much. As unemployment rises and economic growth has stalled, hard pressed families in Leeds are facing higher bills and rising living costs. Leeds North East MP Fabian Hamilton said "The Conservatives and their Libdem allies are making a bad situation worse by following an ideologically driven agenda to cut back on essential public services.

Economic growth down

Before the election David Cameron told us he would cut the deficit through efficiency saving, not cuts in public services. He wasn't telling us the truth. And you can't cut the deficit without economic growth, we need a plan for growth and we need it now. The coalition must change direction."

Unfair cuts start to bite in Leeds

Despite massive and unprecedented cuts in council spending imposed by the Tories and Libdems in London, Labour in Leeds is standing up for the vulnerable in our city, increasing council spending on adult social care and children's services.

Roundhay Ward Labour Councillor Ghulam Hussain told "Labour News", "Labour in Leeds are making massive savings by reducing bureaucracy and waste and we have cut right back on press and communications and councillors pay too, but this isn't enough to satisfy the Tories and Libdems in London."



Councillor Ghulam Hussain and Roundhay Labour candidate Christine Macniven. Despite Lib Dem/Tory cuts from London, Labour in Leeds are increasing council spending on adult social care and children's services

This means Labour are having to cut some frontline services where costs are high and demand for services relatively low. Cllr Hussain commented "while we are doing all we can to minimise the effects, some of these cuts are going to cause real hardship for service users, but David Cameron and Nick Clegg have left us with little choice." Roundhay Labour candidate, Christine Macniven commented "Tory cuts are damaging economic growth, harming plans to reduce the deficit and hurting people here in Leeds, and the Lib Dems are just going along with it.

We're not all in this together.

The millionaires in the cabinet are alright, while people here in Leeds suffer. Make sure you use your vote in May to tell the Libdems and Tories that we need to change direction."



Fabian speaks out in Parliament

Fabian speaks out for Leeds flood defences

In its latest review of spending on vital Flood Defence Schemes, The Tory LibDem Government has failed Leeds once again said Leeds North East Labour MP Fabian Hamilton. Leeds City Centre was almost totally overwhelmed in 2007 and since then a comprehensive Flood Alleviation Scheme has been designed. In a speech Fabian gave in Parliament on 9th February, he pointed out to the Tory Environment Minister that £190 million spent now on flood prevention could save hundreds of millions of pounds, if not more, should Leeds City Centre be flooded the next time there's a torrential downpour. "This is a false saving", Fabian said. "At a time when we need our economy to grow, it is vital that the engine of the Yorkshire economy - Leeds - is not prone to the danger of flooding. Money spent now could save a lot of pain later should the worst happen".

Introducing Labour's Christine

Christine Macniven is Labour's candidate for Roundhay in the Leeds City Council elections this May. Christine, originally from the Western Isles of Scotland, came to live in Leeds in 1990 after spending 15 years working in business in Edinburgh. Her career in Leeds took a completely different direction and focused on managing the delivery of projects which "readied"



Christine MacNiven Labour candidate for Roundhay on May 5th

unemployed young people and adults for employment, linking them up with appropriate job opportunities. Since moving to Leeds Christine and her husband Iain have always lived in Roundhay. She has been a governor of Hillcrest Community Primary since 1997 and has seen it develop from being a "failing" school to the successful school it is in 2011. She has recently been appointed to the Governing body of Roundhay High School. Christine said " I feel very privileged to have been selected as Labour candidate for the ward in which I live. If you elect me I'll work hard to represent the views of all residents of Roundhay, to ensure that the priorities of the ward are incorporated into the City Council's priorities. I shall channel my previous experiences - in commerce, in education and training to the benefit of Roundhay and the City of Leeds."

Contact your local Labour team

Fabian Hamilton MP

Write to Fabian at: The House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Email: hamiltonf@parliament.uk

Telephone: 0113 249 6600

Advice surgeries

Second Saturday each month, 10am-12 noon

New Testament Church of God Upland Road

Please phone for an appointment on 0113 249 6600.

Councillor Ghulam Hussain

Write to Ghulam at: Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR.

Email: ghulam.hussain@leeds.gov.uk

Telephone: 07881 655 705.

Advice Surgeries: 2nd Saturday each month 10am - 12 noon at the New Testament Church of God on Upland Road and 4th Saturday at 335 Roundhay Rd 11am - 1pm. No appointment needed - just turn up.

Christine MacNiven Labour Candidate for Roundhay

Write to Christine at: 8 Gledhow Lane LS8 1SA

Email: christine.macniven@msn.com

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Ghulam Hussain consults on use of open space

Labour Councillor for Roundhay Ward Ghulam Hussain is consulting with local residents about the possible future uses of a piece of open land near the Montagu and Upland areas.

Councillor Hussain and Labour candidate for Roundhay ward Christian MacNiven have recently visited the site with some of the local residents to discuss their views about improvements and future use of this land. Ghulam told "Labour News" that a full consultation with local residents will take place over the coming weeks to seek the views of residents.



Ghulam and Christine meet local residents at the site



Fabian tables questions on Tory/Libdem NHS plans

The Government's proposed plans for the NHS have raised a huge number of concerns from doctors, patients and the public. The proposals to bring private health companies into many parts of the Health Service are very worrying says Leeds NE Labour MP Fabian Hamilton. Following the issues raised in the last edition of "Labour News", Fabian has tabled a number of Parliamentary Questions (PQs) to try and get answers to some of the many questions which constituents have posed.

Protected status of NHS

For example, Fabian has asked whether the NHS will still remain a 'protected state service' under EU law? If not, then will the government be able to continue using taxpayers' money to subsidise the service, or will it be forced to become commercial - ultimately charging patients to use the service? The Government has not said that this is its intention, but could it be the consequence of its reforms?

Money wasted on reorganisation

Every time the NHS is reorganised money is wasted which should be spent on treating patients, so Fabian asked whether the proposed GP Consortia will be any less expensive to run and won't the extra NHS cash simply be swallowed up by restructuring?

"Cherry picking" by private companies

But Fabian's main worry is that private companies will cherry-pick the most lucrative parts of the the NHS, leaving the more expensive procedures to be paid for by the taxpayer.