

SOMERSET STAR

FROM JACOB REES-MOGG, YOUR LOCAL PROSPECTIVE MP - WINTER 2009



INSIDE: Improving and protecting the NHS is a top priority for David Cameron.



INSIDE: David Cameron's plans to improve the local economy.



INSIDE: Campaigning to save Somerset from unsustainable development.



INSIDE: Supporting the Royal British Legion and our Armed Forces.

IMPROVING OUR NHS FOR ALL

Jacob Rees-Mogg, Prospective local MP, has welcomed the commitment by David Cameron to make improving our NHS the top priority for the Conservatives.

Under Conservative plans the NHS will be not just protected, but improved with a promise of a real terms spending increase.

Jacob comments, "I know just how important access to free

high-quality healthcare is for the residents of North East Somerset and their families. We are fortunate to have access to hospitals like the RUH, Paulton Hospital and the new health facilities being provided in Keynsham. We will match our funding commitment with reform and change in the NHS to ensure that the money is not lost in bureaucracy and chasing pointless targets and instead delivers real improvements to patients."



Cllrs Brian Simmons and Charles Gerrish with Jacob Rees-Mogg outside the new Health Centre in Keynsham

HONESTY ON THE ECONOMY

Jacob Rees-Mogg believes it is time to be honest with North East Somerset residents about the scale of the economic crisis and the measures that will be needed to deal with it.

Jacob reports, "Despite Gordon Brown's self-congratulatory claims the reality is that Britain's economy has not come out of recession as quickly as any other major economy while the debt and financial crisis he has created is hurting people. I am pleased that David Cameron is being honest about what needs to be done."



A SOMERSET MAN FOR NORTH EAST SOMERSET

COMMENT



TIME FOR CHANGE

by Jacob Rees-Mogg

As your Conservative candidate I have called on hundreds of homes every month to meet and listen to the views of my fellow North East Somerset residents. Recently the message coming back is that people want change and want a more honest approach to politics.



In the wake of the expenses scandal it has become evermore apparent that politics has become less about the tradition of public service and contributing to our country and community and too often about greed and careerism. I hope to play my part in changing this for the better and to help restore people's faith in the system.

It will also be an opportunity to achieve real meaningful improvements for North East Somerset. We need to begin the enormous challenge of restoring our economy and escaping the sea of debt Labour has left us all drowning in. We need to build upon the tremendous work of our NHS professionals by developing and enhancing this most important of public services. Finally we must change the Government to ensure that Somerset's Green Belt and countryside is not sacrificed to Labour's central planning targets.

It is time for change. Fortunately here in North East Somerset we live in a constituency that will decide who wins the election so you have the power to achieve that change.

TACKLING LABOUR'S ECONOMIC CRISIS

The economic crisis is continuing to affect North East Somerset which has already seen a substantial percentage rise in unemployment.

In recent weeks David Cameron's Conservatives have been unveiling their plans to improve our local economy:

- Increasing the basic state pension for all by restoring the link to earnings.
- Protecting 100,000 public sector jobs by freezing pay in 2011 for public sector staff earning more than £18,000
- Keep Child Tax credit for the majority of families but scrap them for families earning more than £50,000 a year
- Preserve Child Benefit, Winter Fuel Allowance and free TV Licences for over 75s but scrap Child Trust Funds for better off families
- Create 60,000 new jobs by abolishing tax on new jobs for start-up businesses and cut spending on Whitehall and bureaucracy by a third
- Protect spending on the NHS but cut the salaries of Government ministers and cut the number of MPs
- Freeze Council Tax for two years and pay for this by cutting government spending on advertising

Jacob comments, "We are demonstrating we will make the savings but not at the expense of the vulnerable."



HELPING PEOPLE IN CARE KEEP THEIR FAMILY HOME

Every year 45,000 elderly people are forced to sell their family home to pay for residential care fees. Growing old and falling ill can result in having to spend lifesavings and sell the family home in order to pay for costly care home fees.

Jacob Rees-Mogg comments, "For people who have worked all their lives, building up savings and buying their own home, having to give this up is a personal tragedy. We want to offer a way of avoiding this for future generations. We will introduce a new policy that when people reach 65 they will have the option of paying a one-off sum, estimated at £8,000, for which they will be guaranteed protection from all permanent residential care fees. These would enable those who have done the right thing all their life



to have the security of knowing that their home and savings are safe in the future and for their family."

CONSERVATIVE NHS IMPROVEMENTS

David Cameron has announced a raft of improvements to the NHS planned by the Conservatives.

Jacob Rees-Mogg reports, "At the core of our plans is ensuring that patients and medical professionals drive the priorities of the NHS – not mangers and politicians. It is vital that clinical priorities and medical expertise are what determines how our NHS is run. We will for example give patients the right to choose their GP, hospital and consultant responsible for their care. There will be a series of internal reforms which will give power back to NHS staff.

This new approach will be supported by specific service improvements. These will include ending the mixed-sex wards by providing 45,000 more single rooms in hospitals, which will also help in preventing the spread of infection. We will also recruit 4,200 additional health visitors to improve preventative care. Achieving an improved NHS for all is a top priority."



Jacob Rees-Mogg outside Green Acres in Midsomer Norton.

DEFENDING OUR GREEN BELT FROM DEVELOPMENT



Jacob Rees-Mogg with Cllr Vic Clarke and local residents in Newton St Loe.

The campaign to save Somerset from being devastated by Labour's unsustainable development plans has received another boost.

The sheer weight of opposition locally and nationally is helping fight off Labour's plans.

Now even the Government has been forced to admit it will have to look again at whether their vision of a frenzy of building on our countryside is sustainable – casting doubt on their plans.

Jacob reports, "I pay tribute to local campaigners who are fending off these unwanted and unsustainable proposals. However, we will only be able to protect North East Somerset's Green Belt and countryside by scrapping the Government's powers to impose housing on local communities. Conservatives are committed to giving the local community the power to decide how many and where new homes are built. We need a Conservative Government to enable this to happen and protect our community not just for existing residents but for future generations."

NEWS IN BRIEF



Jobs bus in Keynsham with Cllrs Brian Simmons and Charles Gerrish

Jobs bus success

The introduction of the jobs bus has been a continuing success for communities like Keynsham and also Midsomer Norton (whose Job Centre was closed by the Government in 2004). The bus provides help and advice for those looking for job and training opportunities. It is supported by the local Conservative Council.

Caring for the environment

The local Conservative Council is working on exciting plans to ensure we make our full local contribution to meeting the global environmental challenge. These include reducing the Council's carbon emissions by 30% in five years, and increasing recycling rates with the aim of virtually eliminating the use of land-fill.

Tidy Somerset

Tougher measures are being considered by the local Council to help tackle litter. As well as investing £1.9 million in keeping the district clean the Council plans to introduce tougher penalties for those who leave litter. Fines of around £50 for littering could be introduced.



Supporting our Armed Forces

Jacob Rees-Mogg, a long standing supporter of the Royal British Legion recently pledged his support to them in their campaign to achieve a better deal for service personnel and their families. Jacob comments, "I pay tribute to the brave young men and women risking their lives in Afghanistan and elsewhere for Queen and country. The next Government must support them more positively and practically than has been the case. MPs must hold them to this and I will try to my bit to help the Legion's work in looking after service families."

HOW TO CONTACT JACOB REES-MOGG

Please feel free to contact me with any issue or concern, and if you would like to help my campaign to improve our community.

☎ 07785 524 537

✉ jacob@northeast Somerset conservatives.co.uk



CONTACT NORTH EAST SOMERSET CONSERVATIVES

☎ The Conservative Office, Rear of 16 High Street, Keynsham, Bristol, BS31 1DQ.

☎ 0117 987 2313

✉ margaret@northeast Somerset conservatives.co.uk

For news on Jacob's latest campaigns and information about your local Conservatives, visit:

www.northeast Somerset conservatives.co.uk



DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

Jacob Rees-Mogg has accepted David Cameron's new policy on Europe following the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty.

Conservatives have pledged to write into law that there can be no further transfer of power to the EU without a referendum. They have also pledged a new Sovereignty Bill to ensure that the final word on legislation will be with the United

Kingdom Parliament and not the EU.

Jacob comments, "It is a scandal that Gordon Brown has, despite promises to the contrary, refused to hold a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty. In doing so he has denied us our democratic right to have our say. I am pleased that the Conservatives will change the law to prevent this travesty of democracy and accountability happening again."

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK OR LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP

Let us know if you have any issues of concern:

We would like to keep in touch with you about the issues you have raised. If you would be happy for us to do this by email and mobile phone, please complete your details below:

Name

Address

Phone*

Email*

CAN YOU HELP?

Your local Conservative team is working hard. Please let us know if you can help with our work:

- I can deliver leaflets in my road
- I can display a poster at election time
- I would like a postal vote
- I would like to make a donation
- I would like to register my local support

Please return to:

Jacob Rees-Mogg, Rear of 16 High Street, Keynsham, Bristol, BS31 1DQ.

*By giving us your email address and/or mobile number, you are agreeing to receive communications and info from us by email or SMS.

Promoted by Margaret Brewer on behalf of Jacob Rees-Mogg, both of Rear of 16 High Street, Keynsham, Bristol, BS31 1DQ. Printed by PPC Ltd, 192 Bedminster Down Road, Bristol, BS13 7AF.

