

independent people together (ipt)

WELCOME TO PUTTING THE COMMUNITY FIRST CAMPAIGN

COACHING, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

The development of a community is influenced by the educational opportunities provided to its members. We will make coaching, training and employment our priority and aim to:

- Adopt a coaching mentality in our training initiatives to make education more relevant to the needs of the local community.
- Encourage training partnerships to ensure that people are confident as they enter the work place.
- Empower the community to create its own opportunities, develop and sustain its businesses and in so doing create 'community entrepreneurs'.
- Reduce unemployment by promoting alternative learning methods and encouraging community education
- Provide training and coaching opportunities through apprenticeships and business partnerships

Coaching into Employment

We aim to make education more relevant to the needs of the local community by promoting coaching relationships in all training initiatives. Coaching will be promoted between businesses, entrepreneurs and the unemployed. Coaching partnerships and work placements will be encouraged for those leaving educational institutions and seeking employment.

Training will be provided to include practical coaching methods that prepare people entering, and re-entering the workplace to provide them with the confidence and skills required to make them receptive to the challenges of a competitive working environment. We will encourage apprenticeships in the trades carpenters, plumbers, electricians. We will encourage training programmes to include life-skills communication skills, work place etiquette, time management and goal setting with the aim of retaining the workforce and preventing further unemployment.

Training Partnerships

We will work with well-established national and international organisations which have experience in training and preparing the unemployed for the workplace. We will aim to learn from organisations such as LEAP, a North West London training project that has over 15 years experience in training young people, the unemployed of all ages, and those leaving educational institutions, to ensure that get jobs and retain them. (LEAP is the UK partner organisation to STREVE, a US New York based organisation). As your MP We will seek to learn from successful projects nationally and internationally bringing best practices back to Tottenham .

STIMULATING THE ECONOMY

We will aim to stimulate Tottenham's local economy by targeted programmes of change. We aim to:

- Recognize that local businesses have a social responsibility to re-invest in their host community in order to stimulate the local economy. We will reward local businesses for their investment in Tottenham.
- Encourage the funding of new home grown businesses and entrepreneurial activities.
- Encourage coaching partnerships between educational institution, local businesses and entrepreneurs offering alternative careers to traditional employment.
- Promote the restoration of disused buildings as premises for small home grown businesses.

Investing in Tottenham

Many businesses in Tottenham do not always directly re-invest their income in their host community. We will encourage local business to take social responsibility issues seriously and re-invest in Tottenham to stimulate the local economy. We will invite local businesses to contribute to the development of the local community by donating their products and services to support local community projects and groups. We will actively reward and recognize, in writing, the contributions of all such local businesses for their re-investment in Tottenham. We will also host an annual Tottenham Business Recognition Award ceremony (TBRA)

Entrepreneur Coaching Partnerships

We will promote coaching partnerships between educational institutions and local business entrepreneurs. We will encourage those leaving educational institutions to explore alternative careers to traditional employment and to develop business skills to equip them to become business owners/ entrepreneurs. Training programmes on entrepreneurship will be run by local / national business mentors and will include: writing a business plan, business registration, accounts cash flow, profit/ loss and sales. The reading and studying of self-help motivational books will also be encouraged.

Restoration of Buildings

Tottenham has a large number of disused buildings which could be used by the community if restored. We will encourage the restoration of these buildings for use as premises for small businesses. We will seek partnerships between public funders and businesses to support a scheme where new small local businesses use restored building premises for the first six months rent and rates free. Big brother partnerships (business-buddies) will be created between large and new small businesses to mentor them in the first twelve months of their business.

Transforming Tottenham High Street

When Tottenham Football Club has a home game, we have hundreds of visitors to Tottenham. This will increase with the redevelopment and expansion of the Spurs football ground which will have a capacity for 60,000 people.



Many football supporters will want to use our shops and services, particularly around West Green Village and Tottenham High Road. From Seven Sisters station onwards, football supporters want to eat, drink and relax before and after the game. By providing attractive shop fronts, we could increase the investment of visitors to Tottenham in the football season.

2012 Olympics

Tottenham is strategically placed to service the Olympics. Located 20 minutes from the Olympic Village, Tottenham strategic rail links will provide easy access to the Olympic site. From 2010 to 2012 We will act as an ambassador for Tottenham to ensure that we access job opportunities. We will work closely with the Olympic Committee to ensure that Tottenham is able to take advantage of any economic opportunities that could benefit the people of Tottenham.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We will support social responsibility initiatives which:

- Prevent crime by making anti-social behaviour the responsibility of the whole community. We will seek to prevent crime rather than merely contain it.
- Unite local and national institutions and initiatives that educate our young people in the early prevention of crime through after-school clubs and other creative community learning methods.
- Actively work towards educating young people at primary level on the consequences of anti-social behaviour.
- Recognize and reward initiatives that prevent anti-social behaviour in communities.

Crime Prevention

Current initiatives that address crime in our community, seek to contain crime rather than prevent it. They are also primarily directed at youth, whereas crime occurs within all age-groups of the community. We will support projects that prevent crime by making anti-social behaviour the responsibility of the whole community. The rate of re-offending is an issue that must be addressed, and by creating real career opportunities through effective life coaching and business partnership we will begin to make a difference. We will begin our crime prevention initiatives by engaging

our young people in dialogue. Young people want to be heard, recognized and respected. They are looking for opportunities to progress in their path to personal development.

We will aim to create a pro-active system that rewards and recognizes the success our young people and does not merely react to their failures.

Young people need and want boundaries. The failure to set appropriate boundaries has seen the rate of crime in our communities increase. Our young people today are our adults and potential leaders of tomorrow. We need to prepare them for this role. We must equip them with the necessary tools to enable their growth and development.

We are in favour of community projects for young people which would include all UK citizens who are not entering further education, taking up apprenticeships or going on to full time employment. Project activities would include Community Trade Apprenticeships (CTA) such as refurbishing disused buildings, inter-generational projects, outreach to disadvantaged communities and other community activities. Young people participating in this project would receive benefits, community recognition and civic awards which would enhance their CVs when seeking employment.

We will aim to implement productive crime prevention measures such as holding police and ex-offenders open days. We will work alongside good local initiatives such as Haringey Young People Empowered "HYPE" a young peoples organisation focused on bridging the gap between young people and the police through their relationship-building activities. We will encourage greater investment in localised community youth clubs & initiatives. We will continue to work closely with Haringey Community & Police Consultative Group, the Haringey Peace Alliance and Haringey Youth Service. We will actively foster closer relationships with community groups within Tottenham.

Supporting Parents

As a father of three children, We have experienced the challenges that parents face in bringing up young children. It is right and proper that care should be taken to ensure the safety, health and well-being of our children. However this should not be done at the expense of eroding parental rights and responsibilities, because if we make the decision to be responsible, respectful and reliable parents the chances of successfully raising our children is assured.

We will encourage programmes that encourage building trust between young people and their parents. Trust is the key to building good communication. Trust breaks down barriers. If you can't build trust you will never be heard. We offer our young people good education and many social amenities, but it is also our responsibility as parents to learn to listen to young people and value their views and opinions.

Supporting Teachers

Our school system is still not fully equipped to deal with some of the social and economic challenges we encounter in educating our children. We cannot simply continue to exclude our so called 'problem children'. We must ensure that our teachers at all levels are well equipped with the knowledge and experience of dealing with children from all backgrounds. We will work to equip new primary teachers with real 'hands on' experience in dealing with children to ensure they are able to respond

appropriately to challenging behaviour. There should be no negotiation or compromise on discipline and education.

It would appear that many teachers have become overwhelmed with the deluge of paperwork and constant testing and league tables consequently they do not enjoy teaching and subsequently are no longer the passionate educators of the past. A large number of teachers have been left feeling isolated, undervalued, and have almost become answerable to their students. We cannot substitute friendship for discipline or education for statistics. We will work with our teachers to ensure they have the support they need to nurture, lead and develop our children to become the future leaders of this generation.

LOCAL CAUSES

We will advocate for local causes that affect the continued development of our community. We will:

- Champion local causes that care for the young, elderly, disabled, disadvantaged and hard-to-reach sections of our community.
- Advocate for road safety and higher accountability for drivers.
- Evaluate current housing stock to make the best use of disused properties in the community.
- Ensure that the local community has easy access to information and services that could improve their housing needs.
- Support affordable low cost housing and energy conservation projects. We will work closely with the community to provide solutions to local housing problems

Engaging Youth in Community Life

Our young people need good role-models, but we must first earn their trust by being consistent role-models ourselves. Young people need to be challenged and supported to achieve to the highest level. Our young people need consistency and systems to develop their maturity. We must create systems around the needs of young people and not make young people adjust to the systems that we have created. We believe that maturity comes from learning from life's experiences. Let us give our young people rewarding experiences that help them mature into great people in our community. Local celebrities that were raised within our communities and are willing to return to Tottenham and act as role models for our young people, will be rewarded with community recognition and civic awards at the civic award ceremony (CAC).

Reaching out to the Elderly

Our elderly need our support, particularly those that live alone. We will promote initiatives that support the delivery of essential products (E.g. food and clothing) and services (E.g. household repairs) to the elderly in their homes. Donor funded delivery schemes will be rewarded and recognized at the civic award ceremony (CAC).

Caring for the Disabled

We will look for innovative ways to support the disabled. Greater support will be given to ensure that disabled people have disabled access particularly close to their homes. We will promote the creation of more disabled friendly pavements and for

those who have satisfied the necessary criteria, when granted a disabled bay outside their home, this bay will be reserved for the exclusive use of the named resident.

Supporting Disadvantaged and Hard-to-reach communities

We have not sufficiently supported the disadvantaged and hard-to-reach communities in Tottenham. We will engage in dialogue with the disadvantaged and hard-to-reach communities to identify their concerns and develop a strategy to address their specific needs. We will support these communities by targeted community driven initiatives.

Road Safety

I am concerned about the number of road accidents in particular those involving young people. We will campaign for legislation which states that all new drivers regardless of age can only own and drive a vehicle of no more than 1.2cc for the first two years after they obtain their full driving licence. We believe the result of this would be an increase in smaller car sales encouraging lower fuel emission and the reduction in road accidents.

I am also concerned about the ever increasing number of cars on our roads, particularly those driven by single drivers. We will encourage drivers to car share by offering incentives such as the use of bus lanes for cars with a minimum of 3 passengers as these vehicles would effectively become people carriers hence qualifying for new road privileges.

Housing

We will ensure that the local community has easy access to information and services that could improve their housing needs. We will review current housing legislation and its impact on vulnerable groups in Tottenham's community and advocate for changes that will improve their access to housing services.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The health and wellbeing of the community is vital to me. We will:

- Diligently investigate and challenge mental health issues that affect our communities.
- Actively promote good nutrition and exercise, community walks and other social activities that support healthy living and community cohesion.
- Promote local produce and farmers markets.
- Establish a community 'Lifestyle' card for residents which will enable them to purchase health products and use health facilities at reduced rates.

Mental Health Campaigns

Having worked as a coach and mentor with men in prisons and within the mental health sector, We have an understanding of the challenges that the families and the people within these institution face. We also understand the reasons and often varied circumstances that have resulted in them being placed in these institutions. We will use my role as MP to further root out, investigate and challenge where necessary issues on behalf of local families affected by any injustices in the system.

Community Health Activities

We are keen to promote education over medication for all Tottenham residents. It is well known fact that nutrition plays an important part in our children's development and behaviour. We will establish a scheme that assigns nutritionists to primary schools to educate children in a fun and informative manner on staying healthy. We believe good nutrition is the fundamental building block in the development of young people. We are passionate about educating our young to the long term benefits of good nutrition and will seek to do so in innovative ways. We will launch "The Estate Cup" which will be an annual football competition between all the Haringey estates and sponsored by local businesses. These healthy sports competitions will help to create a sense of civic pride in young people's post code. Young people will be encouraged to focus on the benefits of sporting excellence and good health in the light of the 2012 Olympics.

Farmers Markets

Tottenham has a large number of allotments owned by local residents. We will encourage the community to sell their produce at the local farmers markets. We will promote the sale of organic food by local people and make it available to the community at a price they can afford.

Tottenham Community "Lifestyle" Card

We will launch the Tottenham Community 'Lifestyle Card' which will allow specific groups in the community free use of Council run gyms and free cinema entry during off-peak hours and concessionary tickets at local Premier Football clubs and events. The 'Lifestyle Card' will include the support and sponsorship by companies such as Sainsbury's or Tesco's who have a large presence in our community. The card will also offer a 10% discount in local stores in particular health foods, fruit and vegetables and include eateries targeting healthy eating.

POLICING



Excellent policing is the safety net for any society. Laws are necessary to prevent crime and to allow law abiding people to feel safe and secure in their community. In Tottenham We will encourage a greater understanding of cultural values and policing between the Police force and our multi-cultural community. We will seek to work closely with the Police and the Community to develop a policing strategy for the unique issues that Tottenham as a diverse community faces.

We believe it is now imperative that we as a community work together with the police, the young people and our elders to promote law and order in every section of our community. Our police should be secure in executing their authority and when dealing with the prevention of crime. As a community it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to ensure an achievable and transparent standard is set and maintained.

The globalisation of crime is a concern to me and I am interested in the establishment of international links and partnerships between forces of different nations in the successful execution of law and order. Standardisation of processes

and best practice is crucial to the continued development of an effective police force for this country and worldwide in the 21st century.

Personal security is very important and we must work closely with the Police force to ensure we have a safe community. We are also aware that there are people who have had negative experiences at the hands of police officers. We will work to ensure that Police Officers exercise their powers with respect and integrity. We feel that we will be able to exert my influence in satisfactorily addressing these issues as your Member of Parliament.

IMMIGRATION, NATIONALISM AND MULTICULTURALISM



As a black Afro-Caribbean and a product of parents who were invited to the country in the 50s, I am well positioned to address the issues surrounding, race, nationalism and immigration. We will tackle these issues with the sensitivity of someone who has first hand experience of subtle racism that can leave you feeling impotent and frustrated.

However the time has come to revive those core British values which promote a sense of fair play, tolerance and justice for all, whilst protecting the rights of the individual. As one that recognizes the valuable and significant role that immigration has played and will continue to play in our 21st century community, We firmly believe that it must never be at the expense of the British way of life or the erosion of the fundamental values of this country.

Over the years we have seen the gradual erosion of our civil liberties by stealth under the guise of fighting 'terror'. We are the most watched over country in Europe with a proliferation of CCTV surveillance.

It is truly frightening, our every movement is watched, our behaviour monitored, and our freedoms are curtailed. We as a nation are now subject to 3,660 new criminal offences. Even more astonishing is the fact that of these, around 1,036 can result in a prison sentence. We believe it is not the role or duty of any government to micro-manage people's lives, but to provide a safe, effective, unobtrusive infrastructure which allows citizens to grow and enhance their lives and social well-being. It is certainly time for a new vision, a new brand of politics and a change to our political system one that can excavate and build upon the shared understandings that join our communities together. It is time to care for the welfare of people again and not simply seek self-preservation and self-aggrandizement. Winston Churchill once said 'Death and sorrow will be the companions of our journey hardship our garment constancy and valour our only shield. We must be united'.

Winston Churchill spoke these words to inspire unity as people of the Commonwealth and beyond, gave their lives for the upholding of the British Empire. This included people from the Wendian sub-continent to Africa and the West Indies, these brave men and women fought in defence of Britain against its enemies.

It is a known fact that certain boroughs are being overrun at the expense of the local

community and infrastructure through a disproportionate dispersment of those with significant needs.

Immigration is a subject main stream parties have failed to address leaving the door open for a rise in popularity of the far right BNP, We would like to address this issue with facts and not fiction. Immigrants and ethnic minorities have for centuries, participated in the helping Britain win its wars.

From as far back as the 18th century battle of Trafalgar immigrants were playing their part in securing British interest abroad. During this famous battle 62 present day countries stood shoulder to shoulder with British forces they included 187 from the Caribbean 28 from Africa 23 from Wendia and representatives from China, Indonesia, Mexico, Turkey, America, Sweden, Germany, France and Spain, sailed aboard ships in Nelsons fleet. The first Black man to win a Victoria Cross was Able Seaman William Hall who won his decoration in Wendia at the siege of Lucknow in 1857.

The Indian army contingent had two infantry and two cavalry divisions on the western front in Europe by the end of 1914, 140,000 men from the sub-continent had seen active service. Africa and their armed forces had played a very important role in helping to defeat the German forces in East and West Africa and drew its men from Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Kenya and Uganda including over 60,000 men from South Africa who served in uniformed labour units which provided logistic support to the front line troops. The British West Indies regiment saw active service in France, Italy and the Middle East in particular during the Somme offensive on the western front in 1916.

Their has been major contributions made by ethnic minorities during past and present conflicts, it is right to also acknowledge the contribution in other sectors such as the sports, business, education, health and transport services of Great Britain. We believe many ethnic minorities have earned, and continue to earn, the right to be here.

INTERGRATIONAL UNITY

The year 2008 marked a significant point in our social history. Young people under the age of 16 were outnumbered by those 65 and over for the first time. This demographic shift will continue to have profound consequences on the way generations interact. However a widening demographic gap does not have to mean a widening emotional gap. increasing intergenerational activity and developing innovative ways for younger and older members of our community to interact and come to a better understand of each other, will help to reverse this breakdown in social cohesion and create real unity.

We as a community must first recognise the valuable role our senior citizens can play in a modern day society and we will pursue innovative ways in which to do this. We will aim to promote programmes that bridge intergenerational unity. For example, we will launch projects that give valuable insight to young people in schools by having senior members of the community attached to their local school, providing living history lessons. Young people would be given first hand information about significant parts of our history from senior citizens, and in return young people could help senior citizens with their computer skills. Young people could also help with their shopping, gardening or with reading to those with failing eyesight.

Programmes like these would foster long term mutual respect, tolerance and better

relations between our young people and the older generation and provide fantastic opportunities for our senior citizens to contribute to society for longer. We are putting the unity back into the community.

FAITH AND POLITICS

We believe that faith and politics should not be strangers. In our pluralistic society today as Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs whatever faith we represent, we all share that same understanding and belief that a higher truth is required to solve some of the problems we face today. We do not only need changes in government policy but require changes in the hearts and minds of people. As Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu said, 'Christianity is the tapestry upon which our country's heritage was woven'.

As a practicing Christian, my Bible tells me that if we train up a child in the way he should go, when he is older he will not turn from it. We believe that faith and guidance can help fortify a young woman's sense of self worth and a young man's sense of responsibility. Our religious values can influence our behaviour and consequently that of our young people and communities.

The church is the first place where most of us are received in the community. I am convinced that we should keep the church at the head and not the tail of our community. Churches are involved in many activities which impact our community. Most people from almost any race or religion have found support from the Church at some point in their lives. The Church is where Christians and non-Christians are married, seek solace in time of despair or need and can become whole after sharing their experiences of sorrow, pain and grief. Many have found psychological, physical and spiritual healing of heart, mind and body through the church. The power of prayer, communication and the social support that the community of the church offers strengthens unity in our community.

Christian education has also had its impact on our community. The value of a good Christian education is based on the teachings of not only the leader of the church but the community within the church. We all recognise the value of church schools so much so that some will go to great lengths to establish a relationship with their local church in order to seek the best schooling for their children. A relationship with one's local church and community can expose you to the experience and expertise of community elders and our young people, because this is where they meet. The church is a place of inter-generational unity where we bring the experience of the past into the expertise of tomorrow. .