



Populist vote buying has become the order of the day, but the reality is that whichever party forms the next government, pledges will be traded away to form another coalition. We believe the only way we can begin to address the problems that face us both locally and nationally is to build a majority consensus that will deliver a fairer society in which liberty and opportunity, income and wealth and the basis of self-respect are distributed freely and equally to all.

We need a political system that will take us further than the first past the post, top down, command and control culture. A system that's more representative and inclusive. A system that takes account of what divides us as well as what unites us. A system that values every vote and encourages participation. A system that will deliver a fairer society.

Vote Consensus on May 7th and help us build a society that works for us all.

## **Vote for Helen Tyrer**

**I have been a doctor working in the National Health Service for over 35 years and intend to use my experience and background to challenge the health authorities locally and nationally.**

I have lived in Newark for the past 20 years and want to be an MP who represents your views, not one who puts the Party's wishes first. I want to be your voice in Parliament, delivering policies that come from you and benefit the whole area.

I know that the Country needs to live within its means, but I also know that we are seeing services cut whilst the population grows. Public services cannot withstand five more years of cuts. As your MP I will use my vote to benefit the whole of this community.

## **Pledges**

I promise to:

- **Be a truly local representative of the people.** I will listen to your views and act with honesty and integrity and in the best interests of the community. I will challenge what is wrong and fight for what is right.
- **Halt cuts to public services.** Depriving teachers, nurses, the police and armed forces of the resources that they need to do their jobs properly is a completely false economy.
- **Support the increased use and development of Newark Hospital, improve local healthcare and social care.** Above all I want to work to stop the privatisation of the NHS.
- **Support policies that improve the prospects of local companies and their employees.** Great national economies can only be built on great local economies.
- **Fight to defend and bolster local care homes and provision of home care.** We want to help our relatives live independent lives, and I want to push for more support for relatives who dedicate so much of their time to caring for their loved ones.
- **Bring together local business, council leaders, schools and colleges to discuss how we can improve education and adult learning.** Together we can give people the skills to access the jobs of the future .

## The Economy

The Consensus Party believes in facilitating two of the essentials necessary to happiness; a good job and a good home.

We have had five years of austerity with little to show for it on the ground in Newark. The better unemployment figures mask a deteriorating picture. A large number of jobs are with zero hours contracts, an increase of over 20% in the past year, and in theory these should be reducing if we had genuine economic recovery.

Unfortunately in the Newark area many jobs are low skill with low pay, mainly in the service industries. High skills jobs account for only 2% compared with over 12% in the city of Derby. Consequently wage levels are well below national average. We need to generate highly skilled jobs, particularly as it is now a growth point with a likely 10% increase in population. These can only be attracted to Newark by incentives such as more favourable rates of business tax, more free parking, and promoting tourism with the Civil War Museum, maximising the attractions of our marvellous town centre, market and wharf, together generating the feel good factor that will encourage business enterprise and support a living wage.

## The NHS

The NHS is in real danger; it is being sold off in small parcels that no-one notices - then it will be too late.

Currently it spends just over 6% of its budget on private hospital providers, but this is more than twice what it was 8 years ago and is steadily increasing. Hospital Trusts are often more concerned with saving money than patient care, and Newark Hospital

is slowly being strangled as a consequence of the financial and clinical failures of Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust, its parent hospital.

We want to put a spine back into the NHS, both nationally and locally. The Consensus Party is the only Party with a clear vision for the hospital. It has a financially prudent plan to open a diagnostic and urgent care centre at Newark Hospital and expand services for non-life threatening illnesses. We also aim to pay off Newark's share of the PFI debt and so gain independence to serve our community. This plan is not a pipe dream; it is supported by national and international medical experts.

But do they care in Westminster? Not at present, but I am sure they will think again and be forced to listen if you give me your votes.

## Education

A good rounded education is crucial to success in life. Unfortunately, teachers are now in an impossible position. They are underpaid, subjected to innumerable tests of their pupils' competence, spend over 30% of their time, largely outside working hours, setting curricula and marking papers, and are leaving the profession in droves, with 38% of new teachers leaving after one year. Unsurprisingly, the number of secondary schools nationally considered to be performing badly has doubled since the government's new grading system was introduced. Endless preoccupation with league tables and OFSTED inspections diverts teachers from their main task, to teach.

The academy system started under Labour, expanded under the coalition, and has damaged local schooling. Hundreds of children are now bussed out of Newark daily making our local secondary schools unsustainable. The failure to rebuild the Orchard School as part of the Newark Academy is also scandalous. This could have saved money and provided buildings fit for purpose.

We need to improve teachers' pay, drastically reduce bureaucratic demands and free up teachers for teaching, delivering to young people skills they can take through life, not paying new regional commissioners huge salaries to sort things out, another example of misguided top down thinking.