

news • life • photos

Putting Patients in the driving seat

Zahid Iqbal Campaigning for change

EXCLUSIVE: David Cameron on jobs, tackling Labour's debts and trust in politicians

WORKING HARD FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY – SEE PAGE 8

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Useful Numbers

- Crimestoppers 0800 555111
- Council Helplines: Traffic and Road Safety 01274 437409 Customer Contact Number 01274 431000
- NHS Direct 0845 4647
- Bradford Royal Infirmary 01274 542200
- National Rail Enquiries
 08457 484950

Four ways to contact Zahid lqbal

write: Zahid Iqbal, Cumberland House, Greenside Lane, Bradford BD8 9TF tel: 01274 363015 email: Zahid@zahidiqbal.co.uk website: www.zahidiqbal.co.uk

ABOUT ZAHID



Zahid Iqbal: campaigning for you

for Bradford West Zahid lqbal explains to us why he is passionate about improving road safety in Bradford West.

'If you have driven on the roads in Bradford West you will realise why improving road safety is an important issue to local residents,' he says.

'Too many accidents are caused by careless and dangerous driving and some drivers don't seem to take into consideration the speed limits, particularly in residential areas.

'I have been a victim of a hit and run accident in Bradford and I know only too well the dangers that exist on our roads.'

So what have local people been saying to Zahid?

'The message is simple – we want drivers to slow down, particularly in residential areas and near primary schools. Parents and teachers are worried that drivers pay no attention to the fact that, near schools, there are young children crossing the road. If nothing is done an accident is waiting to happen.'

Tougher penalties

And what could Zahid do as the MP for Bradford West?

'I would fight hard to bring about tougher penalties for drivers who cause accidents through dangerous driving,' he says. 'I will also continue to campaign for lower speed limits on roads where speeding drivers need to slow down.

'I will be there to listen and speak up for all residents in Bradford West to ensure that their voice is heard on whatever issue they raise.'

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OUT AND ABOUT WITH ZAHID IQBAL

Zahid visiting a site checking on plans. Restoring old buildings is a passion of Zahid's and he is always looking for the next challenge.

1.000





Zahid visiting the National Media Museum with Shadow Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt who was extremely impressed with the museum and Bradford.







Zahid spends a great deal of time visiting the smaller villages around Bradford West, including Thornton village.

About Zahid Iqbal

Zahid is married with three children – one studying for GCSEs, one studying for A Levels and the eldest at university – so he takes a keen interest in education.

'Education is the key for young people to achieve their aspirations and potential,' he says. 'I want to see all children have the best start in life with the best standard of education we can provide them.'

Zahid starts his day by taking his son to school before going on to visit one of the sites to check on how work is progressing. Zahid and his wife have run a property development business for over twenty years, which has given Zahid experience of regeneration through his passion for restoring old buildings.

'Regeneration and creating the right environment for people to live and work in is vitally important,' he explains. 'I know only too well that there are parts of Bradford West that need urgent attention and regeneration. We must look forward to see how we can develop Bradford West to make it a safer and more enjoyable place to live and work.'

Zahid is also a passionate supporter of the NHS and backs David Cameron's commitment to our Health Service. Zahid has been given a particular insight into the NHS because one of his children has a heart condition and he is aware that many families depend so much on the NHS.

'The NHS is an institution that we should be proud of and support as much as we can,' says Zahid. 'The doctors and nurses that I have met have been inspirational in their commitment to their job.'

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IMPROVING OUR NHS FOR EVERYONE

A Conservative Government would increase spending on the NHS – and make sure the money reaches the front line where it's needed most.

ur National Health Service is a fantastic institution – there for all of us when we need it, regardless of our background or our ability to pay. That's why the Conservative Party has made the NHS its number one priority and promised to improve it for everyone.

But there are huge challenges facing the NHS in the years ahead, say the Tories. Britain's population is growing and getting older, and new advances in treatment often prove expensive.

That's why, even as the country struggles to pay down Gordon Brown's debts, the Conservatives have promised to protect the NHS with real terms increases in spending – a promise Labour have refused to match.

Too much waste

But it's not just a question of throwing more money at the Health Service – the last 12 years have shown that's not enough. Reform is needed too. Since they came to power in 1997, Labour have almost tripled spending on the NHS. Yet much of the additional



funding has been eaten up in waste and bureaucracy and patient care has not improved as it should have done.

'Much of the waste has occurred because Labour have been obsessed with micromanaging our health service,' says the Conservative Shadow Health Secretary, Andrew Lansley. 'Instead of trusting doctors and nurses to do what they do best, Labour have made it more difficult for them to do their job as a result of their box-ticking and paperwork.

'This has meant the NHS has not been able to focus on what really matters - providing world-class

healthcare to every patient in this country.'

To achieve that goal and close the gap between the UK and other countries on things like cancer survival rates, says Lansley, taxpayers' money has to get where it's needed most: to our doctors and nurses on the front line.

And patients should have more say over the treatment they receive - a Conservative Government would let them choose their GP. their hospital and even the consultant responsible for their healthcare.

'Only the Conservatives have the reform programme that the NHS needs,' he says. 'By trusting professionals and putting patient choice at the heart of the NHS, we will deliver the change we need.'

Find out more online at www.conservatives.com

Helping people in care keep their family home

- Each year, around 45.000 elderly people are forced to sell their home to pay for residential care fees.
- Conservatives would give people the option of paying a one-off fee on retirement, in return for which all their fees would be waived - for life.
- People already over 65 would also be able to take advantage of the scheme.

The Conservative commitment to the NHS

David Cameron's party has promised to:

make sure the NHS focuses on the results of your treatment, not box-ticking and targets.

put patients in the driving seat - you will have the right to choose your GP, your hospital and even the consultant responsible for your care.

stop the spread of hospital infections and end the scandal of mixed-sex wards - by building 45,000 more single rooms in the NHS.

give you the option of paying a flat fee on retirement so all your costs will be covered if you have to go into a care

> reform the way the NHS pays pharmaceutical companies for drugs so that all effective new drugs and treatments are available on the NHS.

restore access to an NHS dentist to a million people and reintroduce dental checks for school children.



Straight talk on the tough choices we face

With unemployment and national debt rising, and trust in MPs at rock bottom, **DAVID CAMERON** says it's all the more important that our politicians talk honestly about the challenges ahead.

Unemployment is almost two and a half million, and still rising – what will the Conservatives do to sort it out?

Getting Britain working will be a top priority for the Conservatives if we win the next election. We have set out a big, bold plan to end Labour's jobs crisis, which has left one in five young people unable to find work.

We would simplify Labour's numerous and piecemeal programmes into one, single back-to-work programme for everyone who is unemployed – including the 2.6 million people claiming Incapacity Benefits currently excluded by Labour's plans.

To provide extra opportunities to people looking for work, we have also announced 100,000 more apprenticeships, 50,000 extra college places, and 50,000 work pairing places each year for the next two years. And we'd set up work clubs – places where people can receive mentoring, training and help to find local jobs.

We also need businesses to create new jobs – so we have a bold plan to abolish tax on the jobs created by new businesses in the first two years of a Conservative Government. This will create around 60,000 new jobs.

And, of course, we've got to protect good firms from going under in the first place. That's why we've been pushing for a National Loan Guarantee Scheme to help get credit flowing again and save jobs. We would also help small companies with their cash flow, allowing them to delay paying their VAT bills for six months, and give tax breaks to companies which create new jobs.

With faith in MPs so low, how can politicians regain the public's trust?

If politicians want to regain people's trust, the first thing they must do is be straight with people.

We've seen a complete contrast of approach on this in the current debate about public spending. Gordon Brown repeatedly denied he was planning to cut public spending – but leaked documents show he was drawing up detailed plans to do precisely that. That shows a complete lack of respect for the British people. They deserve the truth – however hard that is to hear.

The truth is that Britain faces a debt crisis – and real spending plans will have to be cut whoever is elected. We have already set out some specific cuts that a Conservative Government would make – scrapping the ID card scheme, reducing the number of quangos and cutting the cost of politics. And we have set out whole areas we will radically reform to get better value for money – like education and welfare.

I believe that being honest with people about the tough spending decisions that need to be taken is the way to win back trust.

One of the tough choices you've said you'll make is freezing the pay of people in the public sector – is that right?

Again, we've been really honest with people about this. It's clear from the nation's finances that whoever wins the next election is going to have to ask each part of the public sector to accept a one-year pay freeze. So we're being upfront and saying that now – before the election.

I know it's difficult to ask hard-working people to accept a pay freeze. But doing it for one year will help us to save 100,000 public sector jobs. That's the sort of tough choice we face.

We've also said that the pay freeze shouldn't include people in our public services who earn less than £18,000 – because we don't believe in balancing the budget on the backs of the poorest.

We're all in this together. That's why we've said the new 50 per cent tax rate for the highest earners should be kept in place for at least as long as the public sector pay freeze, to make sure that the richest in our society pay their fair share too. And we'll make sure that politicians show a lead. We will cut the pay of Ministers by 5 per cent next year and then freeze it for the rest of the Parliament, and we'll cut the number of MPs by 10 per cent. Everyone must share the burden of Labour's failure.

What about some of Labour's claims that you would cut things like winter fuel payments and free TV licences for the elderly?

Again, this demonstrates Labour's inability to be straight with people – not just about their own plans but about ours too. What they've said about winter fuel payments and free TV licences is just plain wrong – they are valued by millions, and we will preserve them.

WORKING FOR YOU -HERE'S HOW



Zahid joined volunteers recently in Thornton to help with planting bulbs for Spring. Keep a look out for the new daffodils!



The Alhambra in Bradford is another cultural gem. Zahid is a regular visitor to the many fantastic shows and plays that are put on.

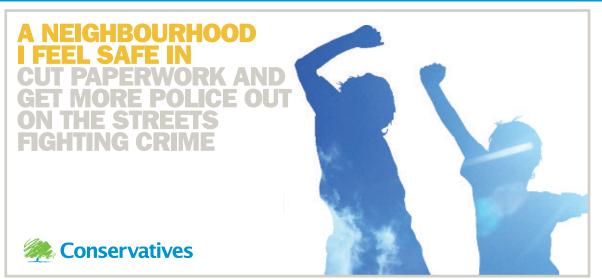


Once again Zahid joined new students at Bradford University at the Freshers Fair. Zahid was there to listen to the issues and concerns of students.



Zahid supports the work of the National Blood Service because of the incredible work they do in helping to save lives. You too could do something amazing – give bloodl

Zahid is a proud supporter of the Daisy House Farm because of the incredible work they do for people with cancer and their families.



Promoted by Andrew Mallinson on behalf of Zahid Iqbal, both of Cumberland House, Greenside Lane, Bradford BD8 9TF and printed by TPF Group, Midleton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 8XP