Penrith and Solway **NEWS**



Good news for people in North and West Cumbria. With inflation HALVED, taxes CUT and the National Living Wage UP, local people will see the benefits in new jobs, higher pay and more money in their pockets.

The global cost of living crisis – fuelled by Russia's war in Ukraine and the aftereffects of the pandemic – has been tough for families.

But because of better global conditions, and because the government took the tough decisions to get our economy back on track, Britain is in a much better place than we were at the start of the year.

By getting control of spending, the government delivered their promise to HALVE inflation in 2023 – from over 10% last January to 4.6% in November 2023.

And because of that, the government

has the ability to help families with the cost of living and support businesses growing our economy. Take a look at the changes coming your way!

TAXES CUT: The government are supporting workers by cutting National Insurance Contributions from 12% to 10%. That's a £450 tax cut for the average worker on £35,000 a year

NATIONAL LIVING WAGE UP: The government are helping those on the lowest pay by raising the National Living Wage to £11.44 an hour. That means over £1,800 extra a year

BUSINESS RATES FROZEN: The government are backing local businesses by freezing the small

business rates multiplier and cutting business rates for retail, leisure and hospitality businesses. A big boost for local economies

PENSIONS UP: The government are ensuring dignity in old age with an 8.5% pension increase. So now the basic state pension will be £3,750 higher than in 2010

EXTRA INVESTMENT: The government are investing an extra £1 billion in 55 projects across the UK. That means the total investment in the Levelling Up fund is £4.8 billion. Helping to create jobs, improve high streets and level up opportunity in the areas where it's needed most.

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BBC, 26th April 2023

MORE DOCTORS, MORE NURSES...



A local NHS that's here for us

It's no secret that our NHS was badly hit by the pandemic. That's why the government has made the NHS a top priority.

The government has recruited record numbers of doctors and nurses to cut waiting lists. That's **6,100 more doctors** and **16,800 more nurses**in the last year alone.

In Workington, Conservative MP Mark Jenkinson is working with ministers to open a new £15m community diagnostic centre in the town centre, building on the success of the recently opened Community Diagnostic Centre in Penrith. This means local people will get quicker diagnoses, catch problems earlier, and get the treatment they need.

In Penrith we've also secured the £1.2m refurbishment of the inpatient ward at Penrith Hospital; we've opened a new cancer hospital in Carlisle; and we're on phase 2 of the £130m replacement of West Cumberland Hospital.

This comes alongside the first ever long-term workforce plan in NHS history. It will double the number of training places for doctors and nurses, meaning our NHS will have the staff it needs to treat us for generations to come.

And because we've recruited an extra 26,000 primary care staff, the NHS has the people it needs to provide care closer to home for millions more people.

LICE FOR CUMBRIA

es alongside tough new laws to cut crime

You deserve to feel safe no matter where you are or what you're doing. But right now, too many families are worried about crime.

That's why getting criminals off our streets is a top priority for the government.

In 2019, the Conservatives promised to recruit 20,000 extra police. And they kept their promise. All 20,000 extra officers are now on our streets,

including 192 here in Cumbria, helping to keep us safe.

Just as important, the government wants to make sure the most dangerous criminals are off our streets for good.

That's why Rishi Sunak is introducing tough new sentences. Now life in prison will actually mean life in prison.

Locally, Mark Jenkinson MP is working with Cumbria Police through Peter McCall, our Conservative Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, and his Deputy, Mike Johnson, to tackle antisocial behaviour in our villages and town centres.

More police officers than ever before in Cumbria means more police on the beat, new named Community Beat Officers and reopening our rural police stations. Safer streets funding continues to deliver across the county, including new street lighting and CCTV.



The Prime Minister made a clear promise: to halve inflation by the end of 2023.

And the Prime Minister delivered his promise.

By getting control of spending, the government has brought inflation

down from over 10% last January to 4.6% in November 2023.

That means families and businesses in Cumbria now have the certainty of more stable prices.

It's a good start, but there's still more to do. That's why the government is keeping it's focus on supporting people with the cost of living.

That's why they raised the National Living Wage, supported families by helping with energy bills, and cut National Insurance for working people.

ANOTHER LOCAL SUCCESS STORY FOR MARK JENKINSON MP



Mark Jenkinson MP has secured another local win for the new Penrith and Solway constituency, as he continues to deliver on the commitments he made in the 2019 election.

Maryport has just seen the opening of a new Banking Hub, bringing more banking services to the town than it has had for decades.

One of Mark's pledges was to

support regeneration of our town centres, having led the Allerdale regeneration programme as Deputy Leader of the Council. He has since successfully secured more than £50m of Levelling Up funding.

Link were clear that Mark's intervention brought the Banking Hub to Maryport. Mark was the first MP to make a request, on the day the scheme was launched.

CONTACT Mark Jenkinson MP



office@mark-jenkinson.co.uk



www.mark-jenkinson.co.uk



01900 300335 or 01768 639112



fb.com/markianjenkinson





