

**Health Equality** - Austerity measures, welfare reform, the impact of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis have all damaged health and increased the difference in outcomes for people depending on where they live or how much they earn. Newcastle Labour has committed to becoming a Marmot City combatting health inequalities by improving equity across all sectors, including housing, education, early years, health care, business, and the economic sector. Changes that will make a real improvement in people's lives.

**Combatting Child Hunger** –The council's Labour administration has launched auto enrolment to ensure that all children entitled to free school meals have access to at least one hot meal a day. We also ensured up to 19,000 children receive support across school holidays. And we are lobbying to increase the funding per meal and change the criteria so more families in financial distress are eligible. - no child should go hungry.

**Living Wage City** – Newcastle Labour has been working towards Newcastle becoming a Living Wage City because workers who are paid enough to meet their family's needs are less stressed, healthier, happier, and more productive. Not only is Newcastle council committed to paying all its staff at least a Real Living Wage, we are also influencing contractors and working with local employers to make Newcastle a Living Wage City.

**Helping to Keep Pensioners Warm** - Our local Labour administration allocated nearly £1m from the Household Support Fund to households with people of pensionable age who are currently in receipt of Council Tax Support or Housing Benefit but who don't qualify for the Winter Fuel Allowance. 3,700 households benefitted from the Council initiative.

**Free Books for Children** – Newcastle Labour administration is working in partnership with Dolly Parton's imagination Library, which will result in every newborn baby receiving a new book every month until they are 5 years old. This will have huge benefits for children improving self-esteem, vocabulary, confidence and readiness for learning.

*We are here for you*



## Working for a Better Heaton

As your Labour councillors we continue to work hard across Heaton ward. Making Heaton an even better place to live, work and socialise in our great city. See inside for news on community activities and plans. Including: why we brought fairy lights to Chillingham Rd, what we are doing to combat litter and an invitation to share your thoughts.

### Get in touch with us



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### Community Action

planters ...painting ...litter picking.....etc.  
 Meet Outside Tesco on Chillingham Rd

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month, 11.30am  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, 1pm

All equipment provided & everyone welcomed

### Councillors Surgeries

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at Martha & Mary's, 212 Chillingham Road, 10am – 11am  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month Heaton Mosque & Islamic Centre, 1 Rothbury Tce, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

# It's all happening in Heaton!

## Lighting up Chillingham Rd

Everyone tells us they are delighted with the fairy light trees and say how joyful they are. Our idea was to give an extra friendly feel to Chillingham Road at night.

**Clare says**, "Many high streets are struggling, we want to help to keep Chillingham Road vibrant and encourage people to use our independent businesses who employ so many local people."



## Rubbish

Since the introduction of selective and additional licences for private lets we have seen a reduction in the seasonal fly tipping, but we know it is still a problem, and we continue to work to reduce it further.

- Walkabouts in the back lanes to identify and report issues
- Keeping a log of overflowing commercial bins to identify repeat offenders
- Pressing donation bin owners to step up collections and clean their bins.
- Carrying out community litter picks

The council do prosecute whenever we can, and fly tipping is collected swiftly after being reported. You can report it on <https://envirocall.newcastle.gov.uk> or get in touch with us and we'll get it sorted.



## Rain Garden

The new pocket park next to Chillingham Road School is more than just a lovely place to linger. It's a sustainable way to manage flooding in the area.

This has been made possible by the High Streets Project who worked with the school to develop the idea.

The High Streets project was also involved in the new garden area at Heaton Baptist Church on Heaton Rd.



## Pharmacy

When Boots closed, we were reassured there was a need and a desire for the NHS to licence another pharmacy. We were shocked that it was then refused. In April, many of you signed our petition which Lara took to plead the case for a pharmacy at an NHS appeal hearing. We hope your heartfelt concerns will be acted upon. At the point of writing, we are still awaiting a decision, but we won't rest on this until Chillingham Rd once more has the lifeline of a community pharmacy



## Blooming Lovely

We are loving how the Chillingham Road planters are blooming after all the work we put in there last year and now we've been getting our sleeves rolled up to tackle the brick planters in the avenues. We are hopeful we can get repairs done to the brick planters too so they will be lovely both inside and out.



We're also sowing wildflower seeds in planters and some grassed areas for a floral display that should last well into the Autumn. Good for the bees the butterflies and the rest of us too

**Lara says** "when a neighbourhood is a pleasure to be in it can increase mental wellness, encourage community spirit and combat isolation. If you would like to join us in our community action activities, you will be made very welcome"

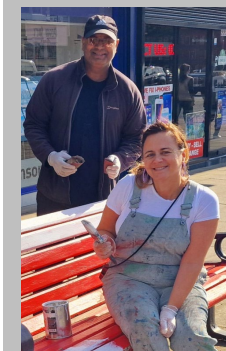


## So much more to do

**Benches** - Time and the good weather ran out on us last year when painting the benches so there is still work to do and we'll be getting our paintbrushes out again later in the year



**Mehrban says** "It's been hard work but all 29 benches on Chillingham Rd and 3 on Heaton Rd have had at least one coat and a coat of paint makes such a difference, people are using the benches more.



**Notice Boards** – We know our notice boards could really do with a revamp too. The most urgent repairs have already been carried out. Though we have been told we may have to wait for other cosmetic work to revive this valuable resource, we are pushing for rejuvenation of the notice boards to be done as soon as possible.

## What do you think?

Thank you to everyone who came to our last community meeting. It was really lively, buzzing with ideas and excellent suggestions.

We are always keen to hear from you so let us know what is good, what needs to be improved and anything you'd like us to help you with.

We are here for you. Our contact details are on the front of this leaflet.