



This week's news from Ben Bradley MP



A617, A60 and Peafield Lane resurfacing confirmed, as part of £33m improvements

Some good news for Pleasley that the A617 Pleasley Hill has been confirmed for resurfacing. I know its long overdue but positive that its going to be done as part of a £33m local injection of funding in to road improvements in Notts. It must be one of the worst roads in the County and I've been desperate to get it done, so glad we finally got there.

Other roads included in the programme include the A60 near West Notts College, Peafield Lane and Rainworth bypass on the 617 amongst others from my priority list. The full list is on the County Council website. You'll note that it's focused on those major roads that are in urgent need of investment.

I also know that £33m is a drop in the ocean compared to what we need for our roads, and that there are countless more that need doing. I've actually secured a £1.5 billion new fund for transport that means we could invest heavily in road resurfacing. I've been working to secure that money for over a year, so we can find a solution to this problem.

You may have seen me talking about this, but on May 2nd we need to choose someone to be in charge of that money. Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire will choose a regional Mayor to be responsible for it. Road resurfacing is one of my key priorities, alongside improving public transport, and bringing in more investment to help regenerate the town and create opportunities.

It's actually a chance to tackle some of Mansfield's most pressing issues, with new powers and funding passed to us from Whitehall to help us sort these things out. I know we've got plenty of issues to tackle, and I've sought solutions here in the form of new funding and powers to do more. I'd really appreciate your help on May 2nd to get these things delivered for Mansfield.

[I talk more about this here](#)

My roads survey is still open for you to let me know your thoughts and priority road projects that you'd like to see tackled.

[Find out more about my plan to fix the roads](#)

Roads survey!



I need your support to ensure that we deliver major new road investment with the £1.5bn Transport Fund that I've secured for our region.

This is really important.

Please share your views on the roads using the link below!

[Fill in the survey here](#)



£16m more for SEND in Notts and a new school for Mansfield

SEND provision and improving the support we can offer to those with special educational needs has been an issue I have done a lot of work on since 2017, and obviously particularly since becoming Leader of the Council in 2021. It's a huge challenge; a system that's creaking and where there isn't the capacity currently to deliver everything that's needed.

That is why I am delighted with this announcement of over £16 million for SEND students in Nottinghamshire. At the Council I see first-hand how our local SEND provision works and where things need improving. Too many parents have had to fight for their children to receive the support they need with their special educational needs.

[Read more here](#)

Keep in touch! 



[Join my constituents only Facebook group here!](#)



WATCH: Our local elections broadcast

A familiar face on this week's Conservative Party Political Broadcast 👁️👉

Whatever your thoughts on our difficult national politics, after a tough few years of Covid, war and inflation, it's still absolutely clear that local Conservative Councils, Police and Crime Commissioners, and regional Mayors deliver better outcomes for our communities.

Lower taxes. Less fly tipping. Lower Crime. Fairer housing policy than in Labour-run areas. That's our record. You only have to look here at home, at the Conservative County Council that I lead's strong finances compared to the bankrupt Labour City Council next door in Nottingham, to see the difference.

If elected as East Midlands Mayor on May 2nd I'll make major improvements and fix our roads, ensure that everyone is connected to good public transport, as well as bringing in major new investment to our region.

Unlike Labour Mayors, I'll NEVER raise your taxes or charge you for getting in your car!

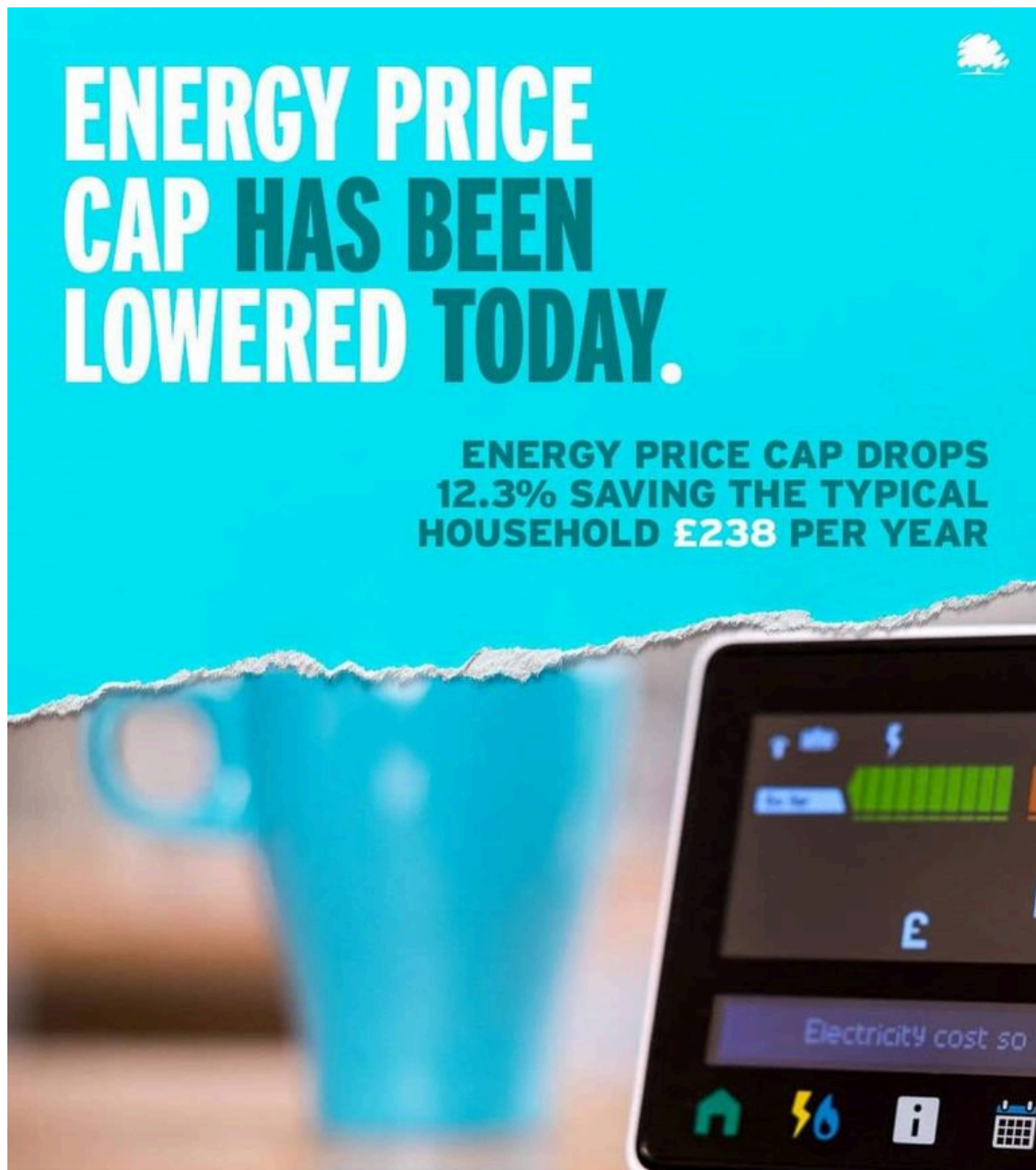
...What do you think?

Apparently saying that British taxpayer funded social housing should be prioritised to house British nationals - reflecting the fact that the first duty of the British Government is to protect and support British citizens - is now ['far right hate speech' and 'the language of the BNP'!?!?](#)

Honestly not sure what planet some people live on. Come and have that chat with the thousands of my constituents who are on the housing waiting list, and who see the immense unfairness of citizens of other countries - sometimes even with no legal right to be here at all - being offered housing as a priority, when they've been waiting sometimes for years.

The world's gone mad! Not sure why I'm surprised. In most communities around Britain, this would just be simple common sense!

What's your view? You can watch the video yourself above, and do click on it

A graphic with a bright blue background. At the top right is a small white tree icon. The main headline is in large, bold, white and dark blue letters: "ENERGY PRICE CAP HAS BEEN LOWERED TODAY." Below this, in smaller dark blue text, it says "ENERGY PRICE CAP DROPS 12.3% SAVING THE TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD £238 PER YEAR". The bottom half of the graphic is a photograph of a smartphone screen showing an energy cost app. The screen displays a green progress bar, a pound sign (£), and the text "Electricity cost so". The phone is positioned on the right side, with a blurred blue mug visible in the background on the left.

ENERGY PRICE CAP HAS BEEN LOWERED TODAY.

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OUR PLAN
FOR LONG TERM GROWTH

We know it's been a tough time for family finances, but things have turned a corner this year and today energy prices fall to their lowest in 24 months - with the average annual bill cut by almost £240.



At Vision West Notts College!

I spent a whole afternoon and in to the evening this week at Vision West Notts College where I've been speaking with students, and then with business stakeholders from around the area, about the new regional Combined Authority and what it means for our community here in Mansfield.

Loads more on that at [Ben Bradley for East Midlands Mayor](#)

I also filmed an interview with students about the Government's Plan for Water, and the investment that's happening to tackle the problem of our 100+ year old Victorian water infrastructure.

Busy afternoon but a pleasure to spend it at the college!

[Watch my video on this here!](#)



At Cornwater Evergreens Shop!

At the Cornwater Evergreens shop in Mansfield this week with CEO Peter and the team from this brilliant local charity, supporting elderly and vulnerable people across Mansfield, Kirkby, Rainworth, Ravenshead and more. Some of the volunteers here have been coming for over a decade to support the charity, and help look after local people.

Brilliant stuff! More on their work at <http://cornwaterevergreens.co.uk>

We also spoke about the High Street in general, which obviously has its very significant challenges. For all the positive work and investment in recent years - like our four schools being rebuilt, the new Community Diagnostic Centre, or our university campus - the town centre is one issue that I just haven't had the tools to be able to tackle so far, despite having secured tens of millions of new investment in various projects.

However, never one to just sit and moan, I've been looking for solutions to that. The new Combined Authority and regional Mayor will be a chance to change the way we approach regeneration, improve the way we work with business and investors, and also brings serious new funding to help us move things forward. I'm working hard to try and find ways to make things happen in town - if I'm lucky enough to become that Mayor in May I've got some tricks up my sleeve using the new powers that come with that role - and to ensure our £72m of Levelling Up funding is delivered and makes a difference.

A big thanks to the Cornwater Evergreens team, for running a busy local shop, for the work they do to supporting our elderly people, and for the many years of volunteering that goes in to it all. I'm off to see the other side of the charity; the care and support services, later on!

Thanks also to Cllrs Chris Barnfather and Stuart Bestwick for helping to organise the visits.

Watch my video on this here!



And now visiting their day centre too!

Really enjoyed a visit to the Cornwater Evergreens Club too! Where I've been talking to residents about the social opportunities and support that the charity provides for them, and how important it is for their health and wellbeing.

Charities like this are the lifeblood of communities, and I'm a huge believer and supporter of this community 'early help' type of service, supporting people with often basic and low level things like someone to talk to and a hot meal, but that actually makes a huge difference to people's lives and means they don't need expensive social care interventions.

At Nottinghamshire County Council we're working on new ways to support local charities and groups like this, to act as a facilitator for local organisations who do amazing things rather than 'the state' always stepping in and taking over. I think that's a much better, more sustainable model for services that also gets better outcomes for people.

Anyway a huge thanks to everyone for the chat, and to Peter and the team from Cornwater for sharing everything about what they do.



NATIONAL LIVING WAGE INCREASE TAKES EFFECT TODAY.

THE NATIONAL LIVING WAGE
HAS RISEN FROM £10.42
TO £11.44



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This week the rise in Living Wage kicks in, alongside a £450 tax cut. That all follows another £450 tax cut that came in during January. In addition, the State Pension will rise today by the second highest % ever, which follows the largest ever rise in 2023.



Backing a national youth work strategy

I've been working on a cross party report in to youth services and setting out proposals for the Government to improve support for young people in the most disadvantaged communities.

Here in Nottinghamshire were investing in youth work, and even opening a new Youth Centre in Mansfield with an investment of over £3m. That's because we're committed to doing everything we can to support our young people, and we make it a priority.

[Find out more here](#)



Meeting with Sports Minister about the Football Governance Bill

Met the Sports Minister to talk about the Football Governance Bill, which is coming to Parliament. You'll know by now I'm obviously a big sports fan, so it's a subject I'm really engaged in.

Obviously from a local perspective I want to see that money flow down the pyramid and support clubs like Mansfield Town Football Club with infrastructure and to be sustainable for the future.

I also want this to be really 'light touch'. Nobody wants Government meddling in their football. It needs to be about preventing the Bury and the Reading situations that we've seen, not about getting involved too much in clubs that are fine and cracking on.

So I keep raising that need for balance with the Minister. Next stages are in Parliament soon.



Good news for the Rebecca Adlington Leisure Centre!

Good news that Government's Swimming Pool Support Fund is investing over £60k in the Rebecca Adlington Leisure Centre to help support them with energy bills. Swimming Pools are obviously energy intensive, and many leisure centres have really struggled through the recent period of high energy bills.

Though bills are now coming down, this week Government is supporting over 300 pools to improve insulation, install solar panels, replace boilers, and take other steps that will help make them more energy efficient and more sustainable.

We all value our local sports and leisure facilities, and it's great that these investments are happening to help make sure they can balance the books and that they're available to us in the long term.

We're obviously also looking forward to the new pool and leisure facilities opening up in Warsop in a couple of months too, from Government's Towns Fund.



150,000

more children now benefitting from government childcare support



Labour said we wouldn't hit our childcare target...

But whilst they have sniped from the sidelines, we've now delivered our target - and are rolling out the largest expansion of childcare in our country's history.

Meanwhile Labour have finally admitted they would scrap our childcare plans.

This would cause huge uncertainty for working parents who are set to save £6,900 a year.

But yet again, they've refused to say what their plan is.

It's only the Conservatives that have a plan for childcare.



[Read more here](#)

Supporting the Pensions Triple Lock?

Only the Conservatives will support pensioners and maintain the Triple Lock. Last year Pensions went up over 10%, this year a further 7% due to that policy.

Keir Starmer will not commit to maintaining this support if elected.

Nor will he commit to anything else.
Because he has no idea!



Out and about delivering in Mansfield this week!

I'm out and about with Cllr Nigel Moxon - Ling Forest Ward in his Ward this week, sharing local updates with residents. The weather has just about held off!

We're getting our steps in, anyway! I always try and keep residents up to date with what's going on!



Cheers Andre and Jacqui! Top team out and about in Mansfield this week!

And finally... This week's column 



"£16m SEND funding will deliver major benefits for Mansfield"

Thank-you for reading my latest update, I hope you have a great weekend!

Warmest regards,

**Ben Bradley MP,
for Mansfield & Warsop**



Keep up to date with my work 📍



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