

### ST HELENS BOROUGH LABOUR GROUP

#### **JANUARY 2022 REPORT**

#### **HAVE YOUR SAY ON NEW HOUSING STRATEGY**

'Quality and accessible homes for all' is the clear vision of a new draft Housing Strategy for St Helens Borough, approved by the council's Cabinet.

The strategy sets out the borough's future housing needs, the council's commitment to building quality and accessible homes for everyone, and to improving and strengthening neighbourhoods over the next five years.

Cabinet approved a six-week consultation on the draft strategy to capture the views of residents and stakeholders.

Find out more and have your say: <a href="https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/18/housingstrategy/">https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/18/housingstrategy/</a>.

#### **WORK UNDERWAY ON PARKSIDE LINK ROAD**

Work is underway on the Parkside Link Road which comprises a new direct access from Junction 22 of the M6 motorway into the former Parkside Colliery site. The new Parkside Link Road is key to unlocking the full potential of the ambitious Parkside development in Newton-le-Willows and will help reduce the impact on the local road network and protect the local environment.

St Helens Borough Council has appointed contractor Balfour Beatty to build the link road, which is designed to carry traffic generated by the site's occupiers efficiently to the national road network and away from local highways.

Find out more: <a href="https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/24/plr/">https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/24/plr/</a>.

#### SIGNIFICANT FUNDING SECURED FOR JOBSEEKER SUPPORT

Residents from different backgrounds in St Helens Borough will receive all the support they need to access employment and training opportunities after nearly £4m in government funding was secured to deliver a number of ambitious projects.

At its meeting on Wednesday 12 January our Labour Cabinet accepted £744,695 from the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority – as part of the government's UK Community Renewal Fund – to launch St Helens Pathways to Employment, a new initiative led by the council which looks to support at least 610 residents, as well as a number of local business and organisations.

Find out more: <a href="https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/12/jobseekersupport/">https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/12/jobseekersupport/</a>.



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#### ST HELENS MARKS HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

St Helens marked Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January, supporting this year's Light the Darkness campaign.

As part of the commemoration the council produced a special service which you can watch here: <a href="https://fb.watch/aWin0Z5aCt/">https://fb.watch/aWin0Z5aCt/</a>.

Find out more about Holocaust Memorial Day: <a href="https://www.hmd.org.uk/">https://www.hmd.org.uk/</a>.

#### WORK BEGINS ON NEW ASHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH COMMITMENT TO LOCAL JOBS

Work has started to build a new fit-for-purpose home for Ashurst Primary School in Blackbrook.

The new school will have green credentials with an air source heat pump, improved thermal performance, electric vehicle charging points, and solar panels – greatly reducing carbon emissions and supporting the council's climate emergency declaration of achieving net zero status by 2040.

As part of the contract, Kier Construction will recruit at least 20 per cent of labour from within the borough and fulfil commitments to provide opportunities to the local area by holding a 'meet the employer' event – in conjunction with St Helens Council's Ways to Work team and Jobcentre Plus – at St Helens Town Hall between 11:00am-2:00pm on Tuesday 15 February.

Find out more: <a href="https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/31/ashurst-primary-school/">https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/31/ashurst-primary-school/</a>.

#### **VACCINATION CENTRE MARKS ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

January marked the one year anniversary of the mass vaccination site at Saints.

Over the past twelve months, tens of thousands of local people have come forward to receive their vaccinations to protect themselves and those around them. Our thanks go to our Council Public Health team, the NHS, GPs and everyone at Saints for working together to make it a success, and of course to all those who have done the right thing and got vaccinated,

More: https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2022/01/18/vaccination-centre/.





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