



News from Westminster

30th April 2009 Phil Hope MP

Creating jobs for young people in Corby and East Northamptonshire

In the last recession young people were left on the scrapheap. I am determined that this should not happen this time and that every young person who would otherwise be long term unemployed gets a job or training.

Labour's Budget for Jobs announced a new £1bn Future Jobs Fund which aims to create 150,000 jobs for people at risk of long term unemployment.

The Future Jobs Fund is part of more than £3bn investment in extra skills and training for jobseekers, which has enabled the Government to be able to guarantee work or training to every 18 to 24 year old who is in danger of becoming long term unemployed.

We aim to have that guarantee in place by January but are looking to develop jobs fund places as quickly as possible.

The Government has put up the money, now it is up to us to come up with the ideas as to how we can give real jobs in the community to young people who are out of work.

I want to hear people's ideas for what needs doing locally.

We need to work together to make sure we use this opportunity to help young people get jobs but also to make sure those jobs help the community.

The Fund, though only announced last week, is open for business and already sports organisations have pledged to create 5,000 jobs for young people.



James Purnell, Labour's Work and Pensions secretary

"Phil Hope MP and other Labour MPs have campaigned hard against unemployment and the Future Jobs Fund is the result."

"I want Corby and east Northamptonshire to get its fair share of this money and more importantly to make sure that young people are not abandoned to life on benefits like in the last recession."

"I want to see local councils, third sector groups and others coming forward with ideas on how to create jobs for young people. Work can give young people pride and purpose and local people know the useful jobs they could be doing in the local area."

A stronger, fairer and more equal community



The Equality Bill received its First Reading in the House of Commons on Monday.

It sets out groundbreaking new laws which will help narrow the gap between rich and poor; require business to report on gender pay; outlaw age discrimination; and will significantly strengthen Britain's anti-discrimination legislation.

The Equality Bill is expected to come in to force from autumn 2010.

I believe in equality for people in Corby and East Northamptonshire.

I have supported our Labour government's action such as challenging disability discrimination and outlawing age discrimination at work.

This Bill is about fairness. It is about all people in our community getting fair treatment.

So in Corby and East Northamptonshire it might mean making sure there are extra park benches in local parks so older people can enjoy public spaces and providing play areas for younger people so that they can make the most of our parks. I welcome this and I will support it.

What will the Bill do?

The Equality Bill will strengthen our equality law by

- Putting a new duty on public bodies to consider how to reduce socio-economic inequalities
- Putting a new Equality Duty on public bodies
- Using public procurement to improve equality
- Banning age discrimination outside the workplace
- Introducing gender pay reports
- Extending powers to use positive action
- Strengthening the powers of employment tribunals
- Protecting carers from discrimination
- Protecting pregnant and new mothers
- Banning discrimination in private clubs
- Strengthening protection from discrimination for disabled people