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Martyn McIntyre

InTouch with West Dunbartonshire Conservatives

Summer 2009

'Positive Change'

"People are looking for positive change." Local Conservative Candidate, Martyn McIntyre, explains why electing a Conservative MP for West Dunbartonshire could deliver that change.

Why did you get involved in politics?

I wanted to make a difference to my local community – it's really as simple as that. I also worked for a Member of the Scottish Parliament for four years, so I could put that experience to good use.

But why as a Conservative in West Dunbartonshire?

I looked around, and until recently, there was Labour representation at every level of government. I decided that people in West Dunbartonshire needed a real, positive alternative.

The Conservatives have changed a lot under David Cameron and our Holyrood Leader, Annabel Goldie, has achieved a lot for Scotland, such as more police on the beat, a business rate cut for small businesses and a new strategy to tackle the scourge of drug abuse in our communities.

What are the big issues in West Dunbartonshire?

People are scared about job security; worried about losing their homes or the small return from savings or investments they have. People who have worked all their lives and have managed to save for their retirement, are now worried about the future under this Labour Government.

What do you like about West Dunbartonshire?

I've lived in Dumbarton all my life. Clearly there are problems in our communities such as poor housing, drug abuse, poverty and family breakdown; but West Dunbartonshire has so many positive aspects, that we often lose sight of them. I am struck by the sense of

community and the pride that local people have in where they come from. We are so close to both Glasgow and Loch Lomond that there must be a benefit for both business start-ups in the future and also attracting tourists to attractions such as Dumbarton Castle, the Titan in Clydebank or Loch Lomond Shores in Balloch.

Why should people vote for the Conservatives next time?

Trust in politicians is at an all time low. However, the choice is simple – another five years of Labour or positive change with David Cameron and the Conservatives.

The SNP can't form a Westminster Government, so a vote for the separatists is a wasted vote. I strongly believe that David Cameron would be a better Prime Minister than Gordon Brown. He has made clear his passion for our public services and I believe that he will move our economy from the depths of recession back to prosperity.

Why should they vote for you?

After decades of Labour representation, it's time for a change. West Dunbartonshire may be a long way from Westminster, but it doesn't mean we have to be on the political margins. By having a Conservative MP within a Conservative Government, the local area will have real influence.

Away from politics, how do you relax?

I do what most people do with their spare time – eating out, going to the cinema or enjoying a pint in the pub with friends.



... with David Cameron



... at the Titan in Clydebank



... at Dumbarton Castle

More police for West Dunbartonshire welcomed

Conservative Westminster candidate for West Dunbartonshire, Martyn McIntyre, has welcomed news that police numbers have increased in the local area since March 2007.

Martyn said, "Conservative pressure in the Scottish Parliament during the last two Budgets forced the SNP to increase police numbers by at least 1,000. If distributed proportionately across Scotland, the Strathclyde force would have an additional 35 officers in the West Dunbartonshire and Argyll Division. Communities across West Dunbartonshire will be significantly safer thanks to concessions won by Scottish Conservative MSPs."



Martyn continued, "Having convinced the SNP Government to see sense on police numbers, Conservatives will now be focusing attention on getting the SNP to see sense on its wider soft-touch approach to justice in Scotland. The law abiding majority continues to pay the price for early release, escapes from open prisons, breaches of bail and extended home detention curfews."

More police on our streets is undoubtedly a good step in the right direction, but the soft touch approach to law and order, so loved by our political opponents in the Labour, Lib Dems and SNP, simply has to go."

Council in meltdown?

When Labour were kicked out of power in 2007, most people thought that there would be significant improvements in our local authority. However, recent reports suggest that things have got worse. Local Conservative spokesman, Martyn McIntyre said, "West Dunbartonshire Council is a by-word for strife. Unfortunately, the Councillors don't realise that they are there to serve the people of our communities, rather than indulging in petty party political spats in the council chamber. Their behaviour is a sad reflection on all of them, and reflects badly on all of us."



Martyn outside West Dunbartonshire Council HQ

Good news for the Vale

At last, some good news for our local hospital.

The Scottish Government announced recently that consultant-led, out-of-hours unscheduled care will be maintained, and urology, ophthalmology and renal dialysis will be restored. Eight new consultant jobs will be created, the midwifery services will continue and care will continue to be provided for frail elderly people with mental health problems.

Local Conservative spokesman, Martyn McIntyre said, "I'm pleased that this announcement has been made. For far too long, local people and staff at the hospital have been wondering what the future held for the Vale of Leven Hospital. I'm disappointed that anaesthetics will not be returning to the hospital, but generally, I welcome the announcement."



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