

# MY PLAN TO TURN ROUND

# Edlington

## 7 WAY ACTION PLAN FOR EDLINGTON

- 1 LOCK up the CRIMINALS
- 2 ENGAGE with the COMMUNITY
- 3 ENGAGE with our YOUNG PEOPLE
- 4 WORK with TENANTS and HOMEOWNERS
- 5 WORK with LANDLORDS
- 6 REGENERATION
- 7 SUSTAINABILITY



HAVE YOU GOT AN ISSUE OR A PROBLEM? GET IN TOUCH!

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# INTRODUCTION



**When I was elected I made a promise to you that I would do all I can to turn Edlington's fortune around.**

Now that we've come through the pandemic, I want to set out my new plan to make this happen.

We've seen some positive progress in this time, with a greater police presence and the recent and successful Operation Duxford to increase police visibility on our streets. The results of the 331 new officers recruited since 2019 have been noticed by many including myself. I have spent much time in Edlington and have had many meetings with all stakeholders on how to improve the area.

However, the very week I completed my meetings, Edlington made the national papers for all the wrong reasons. This has only increased my resolve. Which is why I have set out this plan. Much of this may

have been said before, much of this may have been done before.

But what is different this time is I believe that we have a CEO of Doncaster Council and a Chief Superintendent who actually care. And a Conservative MP to pull it all together.

I believe that if we have the right people in power who care and can raise a community to believe in them, there is nothing that cannot be done. I have a vision for Edlington; safe, clean streets with a happy community.

Feeling valued and proud of where they live. I want you to be part of this journey and for your ideas for Edlington to feed into this work too. But this plan gives us a starting point and lets the people in charge know I'm on it and that I am serious.

**This will take time, but it will only happen if you are with me. Are you? ■**

# LOCK UP THE CRIMINALS

**Having spoken with the Police, they believe it is only a few individuals who are causing much of the trouble. We must remove these people from Edlington.**

We need a concerted effort from the local police to rid Edlington of these people and all of the gangs that operate in this area. We need an open police station, and we need a presence at night, not just during the day.

The police have informed me they are hoping to carry out many small operations to rid our streets of these criminals and I will track their progress. There needs to be a collegiate approach between council enforcement officers and the local police to cover as reasonably practical 16 hours a day 7 days a week of presence on the streets of Edlington.

This needs to be budgeted for until all known perpetrators are removed and then only scaled back once this has been sustained for a predetermined length of time. Regular meetings between myself, the Chief Executive and Chief Superintendent are required to make sure that progress is made and that enforcement and police attendance has not slipped at any point until our objectives completed. Protection must be given to all residents that help enforce this approach; mainly by protecting their identity.

**The opening of the police station at least five days a week should be a priority. Although this can sap resources, the confidence this gives to you, the people of Edlington, is worth it. We will win this fight. ■**



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Through leaflet drops and social media I will let you know what progress we are making and how you can help. Community engagement via all types of media shall be required and if you can help with this then please contact my office. ■

# YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



**Much of the antisocial behaviour is caused by younger people with time on their hands and no one to take charge of the situation. This needs to change.**

With the main ringleaders gone; a void will be created. We need to fill this void for our young people with activities that they want to take part in. Consultation with these young people is already happening and work is already being carried out but this needs to move faster. Existing community groups need to work together to expand their operations and hopefully be funded by new central government investment.

There will also be a void created for further criminals to enter. We need to make sure that the demand for their products and their lifestyle is

diminished. Our young people and their parents need educating of the dangers of organised crime and also on the entrapment techniques these criminals use. Doncaster Council are doing some wonderful work in this area and I will ensure all parents in Edlington get their opportunity to learn how to protect their children and notice the 'tell-tale' signs when things are going wrong.

Much of the above are just my ideas, so in the coming months the first part of this phase of community engagement will start with leaflet drops and community meetings. Then we can really listen to everyone's ideas.

**But we must see an even greater police presence first. ■**

# WORK WITH TENANTS AND HOMEOWNERS

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**If we are to have any chance of success, we need the whole community to engage with this project.**

Everybody needs to play their part. A simple and meaningful way is for each and every person to tidy their front gardens. This could be part of a community day during which everyone tidies their front garden, a fortnightly event with help from community officers for those who are unable to do so themselves.

I genuinely believe that with the criminal element removed followed by a street clean by the council and a leaflet drop outlining progress and a public meeting we will start to see progress.

It is natural to feel good when something looks better through your own efforts.

Praise from all stakeholders at the highest level must be heaped on this community when this is successful.

We need to encourage all homeowners that a lick of paint goes far and if monies are an issue then we need to tap into council resources to help with this. This will help bring cohesion between the community and the police. Action days where council staff and police use community hours should be involved in this type of work.

**Clean streets, clean front gardens, tidy front doors and a community engaged will start bringing pride and value back to each individual. We will start feeling good again. ■**



# WORKING WITH LANDLORDS

**We need to identify exactly who owns what, and we need to contact them.**

I know that this may have been done before, but we need to ensure that we are up-to-date so that landlords can be invited to relevant community meetings.

Individually or together they need to meet with both the Chief Police Superintendent and the CEO of Doncaster Council to ensure all of Edlington's homes are kept to a good standard of living. We must set out a bespoke plan for this.

They must bring their homes up to the highest standard

of insulation and energy efficiency. However, the ones that do comply must be given protection with regards to the safety of their property. When a property is being refurbished or vacant, steel shutters must be supplied and fitted until a tenant moves in.

With 16 hours 7 days a week of police or enforcement officers, if a tenant does leave without informing the landlord then the police or council should be aware and the property again must be shuttered up.

Tenants must be vetted and maybe offered incentives if at

the end of each month their property has been kept in good order, this must include windows cleaned, front gardens kept tidy.

Landlords who cannot be found or do not comply must have their properties compulsorily purchased (this process must start now to reduce time delays). Landlords who do not comply must be held accountable.

**If there are any complications with this process I shall speak with ministers at the highest level to make sure the council has all the support and powers that it needs. Finally, we must explain to landlords that any compulsory purchase would be at the lowest market levels. ■**

# REGENERATION

**We cannot expect the community, landlords and homeowners to engage fully with this initiative unless the Council get their own properties and infrastructure in order.**

We must make a concerted effort to keep the streets clean and free from litter at all times. The Council's own properties need placing on an asset register online for everyone to see. We can then hold the council to task on the state of these buildings.

We need a concerted plan and a time-line for their demolition, refurbishment

or sale. All surrounding grounds to these properties must be kept pristine at all times, windows cleaned and paintwork painted. This shall need doing whether a property is being refurbished or sold.

If it is being demolished, then this should be done quickly and likewise surrounding grounds should be kept in order. We cannot ask others to improve their properties without the Council leading by example.

Any commercial property which is not owned by the Council will have to be dealt with in a similar way to domestic tenanted properties. I am pushing for Levelling Up Funding which would allow for regeneration.

This means a new leisure centre, regeneration of shop fronts, help with compulsory purchases and improving the general streets scene.

We must not under any circumstances widen pavements, pedestrianise areas or remove any on-street parking. This would damage business and cause bigger issues. The new leisure facility shall have youth at its focus and with its position in the centre of town it will help businesses flourish.

**Levelling Up Funding is not guaranteed but this shall not stop any of the initial works spoken about taking place. It just may mean a longer time-line waiting for additional funding. ■**

# SUSTAINABILITY

## **The goal is a safe, happy place for everyone in Edlington.**

The Royal Estate is by far the worst place in this village but improvement is needed across the board. A new leisure centre and a regenerated shopping area at the bottom of the village would bridge the gap that has come to exist between these two communities.

We want a regenerated city centre where the entire borough benefits, and the same can happen with Edlington. Although there will be a more focussed effort on the Royal Estate we should not exclude any other people from community engagement. Money can do wonderful things and so can a Can Do attitude. Feeling valued as an individual and feeling pride in where one lives is what will keep a regenerated Edlington thriving.

A Zero Tolerance approach must be kept at all times with regards to the upkeep of all properties, whether they be commercial residential, rented or owned. Poor tenants, poor landlords and poor homeowners must be dealt with immediately.

The Council must set the highest standards for themselves as should the Police and all other stakeholders such as schools, transport executives and any other

stakeholder who has property. Street furniture must be kept in pristine condition and repaired or cleaned with immediate effect.

Accountability at the highest level must be enforced and any breaches must be challenged. Speaking highly of a place and its people at all times is again essential to achieve and maintain change. A positive attitude to where one lives will then be spread through the younger generations, through school and youth facilities.

**If we follow this plan, Edlington will be a wonderful place to live and the rewards that shall be reaped will be shared by many future generations. ■**



# 7 WAY ACTION PLAN FOR EDLINGTON



## 1 LOCK up the CRIMINALS

Removing the organised crime gangs and eliminating anti-social behaviour.



## 2 ENGAGE with the COMMUNITY

Through public meetings and working with community groups.



## 3 ENGAGE with our YOUNG PEOPLE

Working with our great schools and community groups to extend existing youth facilities and add additional outlets.



## 4 WORK with TENANTS and HOMEOWNERS

The Big Clean - working with all residents to keep all our streets tidy.



## 5 WORK with LANDLORDS

Refurbishment of properties and protecting their investment.



## 6 REGENERATION

Levelling Up Funding to create a new environment and new facilities for all.



## SUSTAINABILITY

Keeping what we have made good forever.  
A Zero Tolerance approach to keep us on track!

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