



## DUDLEY COUNCIL REJECTS OFFER TO EXTEND ASYLUM SEEKER CONTRACT

### DAN PLEASED TO SEE ASYLUM SEEKER CONTRACT END

Brierley Hill 2011 Candidate Dan Horrocks was relieved to hear that Dudley Council will not be continuing with the asylum seeker contract after he sought reassurances that Dudley and, in particular, Brierley Hill, would not have an increase of asylum seekers being given Council housing. Fears were raised when both Birmingham and Wolverhampton cancelled contracts with the UK Border Agency to house asylum seekers and claims were made that Dudley might have to help re-house them.

Dan said "Councillor David Simms, Cabinet Member for Housing, had already stated that he would not take on any more asylum seekers and that any contract with the UK border agency had to be right for Dudley. When they tried to renegotiate terms, Cllr Simms stood firm and said NO!"

Dan added "I am glad that Cllr Simms has kept his word and made the right decision for this borough. Since it was the UK border agency who tried to alter the contract there should be no financial penalty either and, with a shortage of housing in Dudley, we need to make more properties available to Dudley borough residents already on the housing list."



Dan outside Chapel Street Estate Office

### IMMIGRATION POLICY – THE FACTS



Chris Kelly MP

Chris Kelly MP has welcomed measures to gain control of our borders following Labour's disastrous 13 years in Government.

Chris said: "Uncontrolled immigration places great pressure on our society, economy and public services. Under Labour this is just what has happened and, as a result, we now have to overturn over a dozen years of a virtually open door policy. Immigration quadrupled under Labour – net immigration reached 196,000 in 2009 and, between 1997 and 2009, totalled more than 2.2 million people, more than double the population of Birmingham."

Mr Kelly added: "The new Government is committed to bringing immigration back down to the tens of thousands a year of the 1990s and the introduction of an annual limit on the number of non-EU workers coming into the UK was a part of the coalition agreement."

"For the Government to succeed in its overall aim of capping immigration, however, it will need to go further. I understand that the Government will be taking action on student visas and looking further at the family route and I look forward to its final announcements on these in the House of Commons early in the new year."

### COUNCIL'S CANALSIDE CLEAN UP DELIGHTS LOCAL RESIDENTS

Dan Horrocks was pleased recently when the Council cleaned up an area of land near the locks at the Brierley Hill canal. The land, which backs onto the Marine Crescent estate, was overgrown and strewn with litter.

Dan said: "Following complaints from members of the public, local Conservatives contacted the Council to request a clean up. We are extremely happy with the results and hope that the area now remains clear of rubbish and debris."



Dan at one of the cleaned up sites



## MP'S ANGER AT TOWN CENTRE DRUNKS



Alley ways & back streets being used as toilets & drinking dens must stop

Dudley South MP Chris Kelly is angry at the number of drunks that clog up doorways and loiter on the car parks. Often staff from local businesses are scared to return to their cars after a day's work due to harassment from these unsavoury types.

Chris Kelly MP said: "Workers should be free to return to their cars after a day's work without being pestered for money or for alcohol."

Dan Horrocks added: "We have written to the local Police so that people who work in Brierley Hill can return to their cars without being harassed."

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## MP CELEBRATES HISTORIC FOUNDRY WORKERS

Local MP Chris Kelly has welcomed Dudley Council organising a 'Round Oak Remembered' event at Dudley Museum and Art Gallery.

The event, which was open to former workers and members of the public, included an exhibition of paintings by Ray Jones and Philip Adams, a unique 1960s film made by David Vale and also photographs, historical documents and memorabilia. There were also sketches for a proposed memorial.

Chris Kelly MP said: "With the works being closed for almost 30 years the image of Round Oak is now part of local folklore. With so much history to the Round Oak Steel Works and the generations of families who worked there it is important that this legacy is remembered and the memory of it passed to future generations."



Brierley Hill Postmaster Cllr John Davies, Chris Kelly MP and Brierley Hill business man Steve Ridley

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