



A Time for Choices

The Executive Leader's Annual Keynote Address

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Foreword by the Executive Leader



TONIGHT during my annual keynote address I will outline the challenges Tameside faces over the coming year as an authority and as a borough.

Despite the tough climate, I believe Tameside is in a strong position to move forward. The Council is working with residents, businesses and other partners to continue to improve lives and boost the local economy.

Many households across Tameside are facing tough choices just to keep up with basic living costs. In the same way that many residents are making difficult decisions about their budget, the Council must continue to do the same.

Over the last three years we have seen a 41% cut to our funding which is set to rise to 56% in the coming two years. This means the choices we have to make about the services that you expect and rely on are becoming increasingly difficult.

We are looking for different ways of doing things. We want to work more with individuals and community groups, helping and empowering them to take on additional responsibility for things such as keeping their local areas clean, attractive and safe.

This is not a new concept, it's a return to how things used to be. By

doing this we will have more money to spend on safeguarding vulnerable young and elderly people in our community.

Despite the tough financial and economic climate, we are ambitious for the borough and there is still much to look forward to.

I have no doubt that many people will have strong views of the choices that my fellow councillors and I will have to take in the coming year. I look forward to hearing what people have to say and, whilst I cannot promise to agree, I can assure you that we will listen and take into account what you say.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ki Quinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kieran Quinn
Executive Leader

A Time for Choices

The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment



Economic and Financial Sustainability

- Provide work experience and employment opportunities for unemployed young people through the Jobs with Training programme, helping to make them work ready.
- Take on pay-day loan companies. Provide better and more coordinated financial information and support for households in debt, and an affordable, ethical alternative source of credit.
- Encourage local employers to adopt the Living Wage.
- Promote and encourage households to energy switch. Work with Community and Voluntary Action Tameside to help target the elderly and those most in need to provide face-to-face help with switching.
- Attract new employers into Tameside and encourage businesses to grow and create new job opportunities.
- Support local entrepreneurs and those wanting to start their own business.
- Promote apprenticeships, working towards our pledge of having 1 in 4 young people in an apprenticeship by 2015.



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Apprentice Mechanic



Regeneration and Vision

- Work with Tameside College to develop the best possible further education facilities for the borough's young people. Continue to invest in and build new and better schools.
- Invest in improving the transport infrastructure, improving traffic flow and pressing Transport for Greater Manchester for better rail services to Stockport.
- Encourage more new house building. Work with partners to build more affordable homes, more social housing and more private homes across the borough.
- Drive up the standards in the private rental market. Bring more empty properties back in to use and improve the quality of the homes on offer.
- Transform Ashton Town Centre, exploiting Metrolink and the new college campus, for the benefit of all Tameside – not just Ashton.
- Promote town centres and high streets by continuing the successful work with Town Teams.



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Artist's impression of the new Tameside College building



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Start Here. Go Anywhere



Phill says:

“
Ashton town centre is going to become a thriving and vibrant community that will draw in people from surrounding areas. We'll get a reputation as the place-to-be, not just to the east of the city but across Greater Manchester.”

#VisionTameside
Phill Brown, Chair of Tameside Enterprise Board

www.VISIONTAMESIDE.com
Start Here. Go Anywhere



Rowan says:

“
It's great news that Tameside College is moving into Ashton town centre. We see the 2,000 students that will come into Ashton throughout the week as 2,000 potential new customers. Let's hope this latest news is sign of a new life for Ashton.”



#VisionTameside
Rowan Hines, Room14 Menswear, Ashton

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Aisha says:

“
I believe it will definitely benefit the community of Tameside and is a very positive step for us all.”



#VisionTameside
Aisha Hannan - Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care

Health and Wellbeing

- Do everything possible to keep frail, vulnerable and elderly people safe, warm and living independently.
- Work with health partners to ensure that the people of Tameside have the hospital and health services they deserve.
- Discourage young people from starting to smoke and support people who want to give up.
- Campaign for minimum unit alcohol pricing because drinking in excess is harmful and costs health services millions.
- Strive to narrow the health inequalities that Tameside faces.
- Work with Tameside Sports Trust to provide affordable and high quality sporting facilities across the borough and continue to improve the overall fitness and wellbeing of residents.



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The Mick's House website is helping people to stay independent in their own homes.



Working with Communities

- Encourage everyone to do their bit. The Council wants homes, streets and communities to take more responsibility for their area, the people who live there and services they use.
- Offer incentives to local communities to take on some of the responsibility for their areas – You Choose will be refocused to reward those who recycle.
- Support communities to be strong and vibrant.
- Work with residents to help them recycle more and send less waste to expensive landfill.
- Ensure Tameside is a clean place to live and work and that our parks, countryside and green open spaces are welcoming, safe places to visit and enjoy.



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Friends of Hattersley Station volunteers



