

12 March 2008

### Budget fails to provide confidence, says Kris Hopkins

Kris Hopkins has accused Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling of delivering a Budget which “failed to provide any confidence that the Labour Government has a clue how to get us out of the economic mire.”

The Conservative Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Keighley and Ilkley commented:

“Borrowing is reaching colossal levels, taxes have gone up yet again, interest rates are the highest of the G7 countries and inflation is on the rise.

“The Chancellor was also forced to concede that his most recent forecast on economic growth was too optimistic and had to downgrade it.

“Mr Darling tried hard to create the impression that our economic problems relate to difficulties on a global scale, that no fault lies at the Labour Government’s door and that he has everything under control. None of this true.

“Most of the economic disasters we have seen in recent months including Northern Rock are very much the fault of this Labour Government and can be traced back to Gordon Brown’s 10-year reign in the Treasury.

“The Prime Minister is also the man who is still trying to keep his hands on the economy’s steering wheel as Alistair Darling’s backseat driver.

“Our economy has got in this mess because of the billions Gordon Brown frittered away and now all of us are paying the price.

“Today’s Budget was a huge disappointment which hammered taxpayers, hammered business and failed to provide any confidence that the Labour Government has a clue how to get us out of the economic mire.”

ENDS