

6 April 2010

### **Kris Hopkins: It is time to vote for change**

Keighley and Ilkley Conservative Parliamentary Candidate Kris Hopkins has asked local residents across the constituency to “vote for change on May 6<sup>th</sup>” after Gordon Brown was finally forced to call the General Election.

In a statement issued to coincide with the start of the formal General Election campaign, Cllr Hopkins said:

“The moment has finally arrived and, at last, the people of Keighley and Ilkley will now get their chance to vote for change on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

“The last 13 years of Labour Government have left our country with a broken society, a million violent crimes a year, uncontrolled immigration, a doubling of our national debt and the longest and deepest recession in living memory.

“900,000 young people are without a job or training, and we have an incompetent Prime Minister who sent our troops to war without the right equipment to protect themselves.

“It is time for change.

“The Conservatives will take the necessary action to get our economy moving once again.

“David Cameron made clear that the NHS is our number one priority, and he is right. A Conservative Government will increase spending on health every year and make the NHS work for patients not managers.

“We will allow police officers to get away from their desks and back on the streets fighting crime.

“We will set strict limits on non-EU immigration.

“We will create new jobs and more opportunities for people to improve their skills.

“We will respect the needs of our troops and give these brave men and women the money and equipment they so desperately require.

“And despite the lies spread by Labour, we will continue to support winter fuel payments, free bus passes and free TV licences for pensioners, and we will index link pensions to ensure our older citizens get a better deal after contributing all their working lives.

“As a local man, I feel strongly that the needs of Keighley and Ilkley have not been properly addressed in Westminster over the last 13 years and I intend to put that right.

“There needs to be much more constructive leadership and stronger relationships with local businesses, potential inward investors and those public sector bodies that can make a positive contribution to the lives of people in Keighley and Ilkley, including the creation of more jobs.

“Although the formal General Election has now begun, I have been out on the streets meeting people and working hard as the Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for three and a half years and am well aware of the problems, the fears and the aspirations of local residents here.

“I am the only candidate who stands for real change in Keighley and Ilkley and I am the only candidate who can deliver it.

“I hope the people of Keighley and Ilkley will vote for change by voting for Kris Hopkins on May 6<sup>th</sup>.”

ENDS