

## **New MP briefing: Health**

The Vuelio political team have put together a briefing on first time MPs with a background in health.



### **Dave Doogan**

Dave Doogan MP is a member of the **Scottish National Party**, representing the constituency of Angus since 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, where he achieved a majority of 3,795 votes.

In his professional career Doogan was an Aircraft Engineer within the Ministry of Defence. He left the Civil Service to study at Dundee University in 2007 and drove taxis during this period, graduating with a First-Class Honours Degree in 2011. Doogan also has experiences as a self- employed landscaping contractor.

In his political career he was elected as an SNP Councillor in 2012 and was appointed to leadership roles within: Health/Social Care and Housing , leader of the opposition at Perth and Kinross Council, and as leader of the local SNP group. He was re-elected in 2017. He has since stepped down as Councillor following his election success.

During his election campaign Doogan has also campaigned strongly against Brexit.

Outside of work, he enjoys spending his time with his wife and two children.



### **Ian Levy**

Ian Levy is the **Conservative** MP for Blyth Valley. He won the seat of Blyth Valley for the Conservatives on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019. This was the first time in 84 years that Blyth Valley has had a Conservative MP.

He beat his Labour opponent by 17,440 votes to 16,728 handing him a majority of 712. The traditional Labour stronghold was held by veteran MP Ronnie Campbell, but he was replaced at this election by Susan Dungworth. Levy contested the same seat in 2017 General Election but was unsuccessful.

Before entering Parliament, he was an NHS worker working in mental health .

He has campaigned for proposals including returning passenger rail services to the Blyth Valley, a scheme recently endorsed by Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Levy is also seeking funding for a relief road for Blyth which is supported by Transport for the North and other major highways improvements.

Levy also backs spending more money to get additional police on our streets and fair funding for our local schools and NHS services.



### **Mark Fletcher**

Mark Fletcher MP is a member of the **Conservative Party**, representing the constituency of Bolsover where he won a majority of 5,299 votes.

Fletcher grew up in Doncaster before attending university. He worked for a number of years in international trade as the Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Uganda and Rwanda. Following this, he became the Director of Communications in the healthcare sector.

During the 2016 referendum, Mark was proud to campaign and vote to leave the European Union. He would also like to see developments towards trade and diplomatic relations with fast-growing African economies .

Fletcher won the seat from veteran Labour MP Dennis Skinner. Also known as the 'Beast of Bolsover', he had held the seat since 1970 and would have become Father of the House, the term given to the longest serving MP, if he had been re-elected in 2019.

In 2016, Bolsover voted overwhelmingly to Leave the EU, with 70.39 percent against the 29.61 percent who voted to Remain .



### **Luke Evans**

Luke Evans was elected as the MP into the safe Tory seat of Bosworth on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 General Election. Evans was successful in achieving an increase of the **Conservative** majority, amounting to a total of 26,278 votes. He led his campaign based on Brexit, NHS and schools.

Evans studied Medicine at The University of Birmingham Medical School. After he completed his studies in 2007, he worked in hospitals in Solihull, Sutton Coldfield and Heartlands. Following these 2 years as a junior doctor, he returned to Birmingham University to teach anatomy to medical and dental students .

He then completed 3 years training to be a General Practitioner (GP) working across Kidderminster, Worcester and Redditch. Since 2013, he has worked as a GP across the Midlands: Leicester, Loughborough, Birmingham, Rugby, Coventry and Leamington Spa.



### **Antony Higginbotham**

Antony Higginbotham is the **Conservative** MP for Burnley. He was elected on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, where he achieved a majority of 1,352 votes.

Higginbotham was born in Lancashire, after finishing school he went to study politics at the University of Hull.

Following university, Higginbotham worked in the NHS for a number of years. Prior to being elected, Higginbotham also worked for NatWest to ensure the bank was able to continue supporting customers once the UK left the EU.

During the election campaign Higginbotham called for focus on the Northern economy, including provision for large infrastructure projects. During school he spent time in the Army Cadets, this fostered in him a strong focus on the UK's defence and security policy and getting proper support for veterans.

In the 2019 election, Higginbotham was successfully elected in Burnley, capturing the seat from Labour's Julie Cooper, giving the town its first Tory MP after more than 100 years.



### **Elliot Colburn**

Elliot Colburn was elected as the Conservative MP for Carshalton and Wallington on 12th of December 2019, where he won a majority of 629 votes.

He has lived in the constituency for most of his life, was born in the local hospital and studied at the Carshalton Boys School.

His experiences working in the NHS locally has fostered his passion to ensure health care is delivered to the best possible quality. For local residents he has pledged to concentrate in improving the facilities of St Helier Hospital.

He has also served as a local Councillor, delegating within a Liberal Democrat majority Council.

Issues of main importance to Colburn include : the environment, the NHS and education.



### **Mary Foy**

Mary Foy is the **Labour** MP for the City of Durham constituency. She was elected on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, achieving a majority of 5,025 votes.

Foy was born in February 1968. She was elected to Gateshead Council to represent the Lamesley ward in 2006. She was appointed to the Council Cabinet in 2009, where she held the portfolio for health and well-being. She is chair of Blaydon CLP and a trade unionist, and previously worked as a parliamentary assistant to Stephen Hepburn.

In an interview with a Durham student newspaper ahead of the 2019 general election, Foy said that poverty and inequality are some of the issues she heard the most when out canvassing. She said that transport is also a big issue, and that if Labour came to power, they would bring local transport back into control. She said that the NHS is another area that people are concerned about – the local hospital was promised funding for the A&E, but it was taken away by the Conservatives. Foy warned that if Labour did not win the December 2019 election, the NHS would be sold off to private health corporations.



### **Jason McCartney**

Jason McCartney is the **Conservative** MP for Colne Valley. He served as MP for the same seat from 2010 until 2017, until it was won by Labour's Thelma Walker. The seat returned to the Conservatives in the December 2019 general election, with McCartney obtaining a 5,103 majority.

During his first stint as MP, McCartney sat on the Transport Committee from 2013 to 2015, on the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, and on the 1922 Executive Committee.

McCartney was a member of numerous All-Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) including those on Kurdistan, ITV, and Rail in the North. He was co-chairman of the Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire APPG and the Arts, Health and Well-being APPG. He was vice-chairman of the Rugby League APPG and the Mental Health APPG.





## **Taiwo Owatemi**

Taiwo Owatemi is the **Labour** MP for Coventry North West, having been elected since 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Owatemi won the seat - held for 45 years by Labour's Geoffrey Robinson - with just 208 votes more than her nearest rival, Conservative Clare Golby.

Owatemi grew up in Plumstead, South East London. She has ties to Coventry through her aunt and cousins. Owatemi attended the University of Kent. She was chosen by the Social Mobility Foundation for an internship in the office of a senior Government minister. She held several roles in the Young Fabians, the junior section of the Fabian Society - a socialist society affiliated to the Labour Party.

Owatemi is also a qualified pharmacist and worked as a senior oncology pharmacist in an NHS cancer unit prior to becoming an MP.



### **Dr Kieran Mullan**

Kieran Mullan is the **Conservative** MP for Crewe and Nantwich, having achieved a majority of 8,508 votes on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Mullan is an NHS A&E doctor. His mother was a nurse and his father a policeman.

Mullan took the seat from Labour's Laura Smith who won in 2017.

In the run up to the election, Mullan was involved in campaigns to secure additional funding for Crewe's Leighton Hospital and to add measures to the Barony in Nantwich, to prevent travellers from accessing the site.



### **Amanda Solloway**

Amanda Solloway is the **Conservative** MP for Derby North. She was elected on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, achieving a majority of 2,540 votes.

She previously served as a Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) to Rory Stewart when he was Minister of State for International Development.

Solloway was born in Nottingham. Before becoming an MP, she spent 15 years working in retail, for J Sainsbury, and 15 years in HR, across the not for profit sector at Help the Aged and Save the Children, and in the private sector, at Baird Clothing Group.

Solloway was elected to represent the constituency of Derby North in the December 2019 election. She obtained a majority of 2,540. She regained the seat after serving as MP between 2015 and 2017, when she lost to Labour's Chris Williamson. Prior to the 2016 EU referendum, Solloway was opposed to Brexit.

Solloway is also a patron of the Friends of the Baby Unit at Royal Derby Hospital. She lives in Borrowash in Erewash, Derbyshire. She has been married to her husband Robert since 1983, they have two daughters.



### **Feryal Clark**

Feryal Clark is the **Labour** MP for Enfield North. She has represented the constituency since 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, achieving a majority of 6,492 votes.

Clark was born in Turkey to Kurdish parents. She studied bioinformatics at the University of Exeter.

In 2006 Clark was elected as a councillor on Hackney Council, representing the Hoxton East and Shoreditch ward. While on the council, she was a Cabinet member for Health, Social Care, Leisure and Parks.

Clark was selected as the Labour candidate for Enfield North after Labour MP Joan Ryan defected to The Independent Group, also known as Change UK.



## **Munira Wilson**

Munira Wilson MP is a member of the **Liberal Democrats**, representing the constituency of Twickenham since 12th December 2019, achieving a majority of 14,121 votes.

Wilson has lived in the area of Whitton, Twickenham with her husband and their young family since 2005. She graduated with a degree in modern languages from Cambridge University. Her efforts to improve Twickenham began in her former role as a Twickenham Councillor where she helped to improve road safety, crime prevention and the local environment.

In reference to her policy preferences, Wilson is focused on: stopping Brexit, increasing investment in public services, more funding for schools and a need to address the climate emergency.

Before her success in becoming an MP, Wilson's career background includes her role as a Corporate Affairs Director for a science and technology company. This role focused on Brexit and health policy issues. Previously she has also been involved in roles within the charity sector, working within health and children's charities.



### **Sarah Atherton**

Sarah Atherton MP is a member of the **Conservative Party**, representing the constituency of Wrexham, where she achieved a majority of 2,131.

Atherton studied until the age of 16 where she decided to pursue a career in the regular army, serving in the intelligence corps section.

After her experiences in the Army, Atherton wished to start a family and therefore pursued a different career route, as she successfully became trained as a nurse at the Maelor and Bangor University. She has also worked as a Social Worker focused on caring for elderly people and those suffering from mental health issues.

Her experiences within the public sector had exposed her to a range of issues which have fuelled her political activism and led her to become a Community Councillor.

She has also stated her support for Britain's exit and independent future away from the European union.



## **Virginia Crosbie**

Virginia Crosbie MP is a member of the **Conservative Party**, representing the constituency of Ynys Môn since 12th December 2019, where she achieved a majority of 1,968 votes.

Crosbie comes from a working-class background and was brought up on her family farm. Crosbie also received state school education where she eventually became a maths teacher and focused on educating the younger generation.

Her career background also includes her experiences at formerly known pharmaceutical company GlaxoWellcome, where her role was concentrated towards the production of Interferon ( a group of signalling proteins made and released by host cells in response to the presence of several viruses.) She also worked at multinational investment bank UBS, where she became one of the youngest directors in the history of the company. Finally, she also worked at HSBC where she was awarded and recognised for her achievements to receive the award as the leading pharmaceutical analyst.

She lives with her husband and three children in Anglesey. Her interest and hobbies include dog walking and outdoor exploring.



## **Ben Spencer**

Ben Spencer is the **Conservative** MP for Runnymede and Weybridge. He was elected on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, achieving a majority of 18,270 votes.

He was raised in the West Midlands and studied Medicine in London.

Prior to becoming an MP, Spencer worked as a Doctor for 10 years, working in both Kings College Hospital and Maudsley Hospital. He specialised in mental health and was Chair of the Psychiatry Physical Health Committee at Kings. Prior to his election he also led the Conservative Health - Mental Health Special Interest group. In addition to this, he took part in the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act, which he believes is in need of reform.

Spencer also volunteered for a homeless charity for 3 years and was a Public Governor for an NHS Mental Health Foundation Trust.

He is married with two children.





### **Holly Mumby-Croft**

Holly Mumby-Croft is the **Conservative** Member of Parliament for Scunthorpe. She was elected on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019, gaining the seat from Labour incumbent Nic Dakin, with a majority of 6,451 votes.

Prior to this, Mumby-Croft was a Councillor for Broughton and Appleby on North Lincolnshire Council. She is the first female MP in her constituency , as well as the first Conservative to hold the seat since 1983.

As a Councillor she was concentrated on improving education, as she held the position as Lead Member for Younger People and Skills. She was also the chairman of the Health Scrutiny Panel.

In addition to this, her achievements include being elected as Broughton's youngest-ever mayor in 2013 . Ms Mumby-Croft's top priority is supporting British Steel and its workers, who she has close family connections to. The company is the supplier of thousands of jobs in Scunthorpe. She repeatedly urged the council to put the brakes on plans to let Egdon Resources from drilling at a site on her ward, accusing the firm of being "disrespectful" to residents. Mumby-Croft describes herself as a working-class northern woman, not a career politician .

Mumby-Croft has pledged to support Brexit by backing Johnson's deal. She is also involved with NHS issues through her role on the Health Scrutiny Panel and has stated that she is well placed to work with local health bosses to ensure services are protected.