



independent network

Newsletter

February 2019



The Independent Network Leader,
Councillor Marianne Overton, MBE
(Vice Chairman of the Local
Government Association and Leader
of Lincolnshire Independents.)

Dear Supporters and Members,

Welcome to February's issue, keeping you
in touch with other Independents.

I was lucky enough to have a front row seat on
the BBC's Question Time (aired Thursday 31st
January 2019). I asked the panel:

“At this time of crisis would it not be right to put
Party politics aside and really focus on the best
solution for our exit?”



Elections 2019 - key dates

- * Publication of notice of elections - Tuesday 26th March 2019
- * Delivery of nomination papers: Wednesday April 3rd 2019 (4pm)

Either stand yourself, or help another to stand. Let's work
together to get one good, local candidate in each winnable seat.

Marianne

VIEWPOINT

Each month a Councillor has the chance to view their experiences and opinions on the challenges of local Government: If you would like to contribute please contact:

nikki@independentnetwork.org.uk

This month we have focused on Question time:

Thank you for your responses - here's a few independent's concerns and questions:

Incorporate the huge success of the Forest of Dean District Council ,while being run by a Rainbow Cabinet of Councillors.

The Councillors made up from a myriad of parties and independents all agree to leave party politics aside, working purely for the good of the District. In times of national crisis is this not a model the national government might be well advised to follow rather than allow party propaganda and ideology to damage the nations prospects?

Tim Gwilliam

With the abject parliamentary failure to unite the Country shouldn't party whips at County and District Councils be removed?

It will be up to local councillors and groups to provide the real means of reuniting the Country and rebuilding community cohesion local solutions to local problems without inappropriate direction from central Government.

How can we silence the EU from meddling further with their calls for another referendum here?

The EUs obvious wish to force the UK into either a bad deal or a second referendum is wholly inappropriate, and the undue interference reinforces the reasons why many wanted to leave

Nick Byatt

Good day. I hope you have a chance to challenge the view that food prices will remain as they are in a soft Brexit, as opposed to a hard one. Expose the contradictions in tariffs between them, and how coming out hard will be beneficial to the purse of the consumer with a tariff regime that we can set, instead of the EUs 17% one. A hard leave will lower prices for British consumers.

Cllr John Raper

The current education system and medical practice tends to have a very limited and poor understanding of the autism spectrum especially in girls and young women. Girls are being harmed because no one knows that they are actually autistic, they are almost invisible until it's too late. Autistic girls are suffering in silence and can only 'mask and cope' for so long in settings. Autistic girls are at greater risk of being abused sexually, manipulated and even trafficked because of their isolation and vulnerability.

How will the panel urgently change things to enable excellent practice in bringing girls the care, nurture, education and support they need, rather than blaming parents, institutionalising girls and young women and leading to too many young women being harmed or even taking their own lives?

Cllr Susanna Matthan

With the shambles the current Political Parties are making of Brexit - Isn't there a good argument for more Independents in Parliament – looking after the interest of the ACTUAL people'

Cllr Richard J

We've seen the mess the national parties in Westminster have made of national policies; and here in Lincolnshire we've seen the mess national parties have made of local services. Is it time for local parties to take control of local policies and services?