

Scottish Christian Peoples Alliance A Christian Democrat Party.

Nominations Officer Highland & Islands Region,
R.P.Madill
101 Fairhaven
Kirm, Argyll
PA23 8NS
Tel: 01369 707849

Highland Children's Forum, Unit 6
15 Lotland Street
Inverness IV1 1ST
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Dear Mr Munro,

Thank you for sending me your questionnaire. As a newcomer to the politics scene I welcome the opportunity to solicit your members list votes in the Highlands & Islands Region. This is the first time that the CPA have had candidates in Scotland and the two priorities in our Scottish Manifesto are Family and Poverty. I quote now from this document.

Anti-poverty Initiatives.

Minimum Wage increases in line with Low Pay Unit's target of £8.50 per hour.
Take people on minimum wage out of income tax altogether and dispense with family tax credits which are expensive to run and inefficient.
Increase Child Benefit.
Free school meals for all children..

Fighting poverty.

Long- term for community/neighbourhood projects - these to be funded by the Scottish Executive through a National Neighbourhood Fund. Quangos to be replaced by local people running existing projects who would be trustees. Long-term funding would ensure that local bodies could identify the needs in their area and find solutions without having to constantly apply for grants,

National Health Service to be financed according to need in each area with local residents on Boards.

In general we believe that local people are best placed to understand the needs of their communities and to take the necessary decisions. We agree that the way that this rich country neglects and abuses its children is a national scandal and a first priority must be to set this right.

I trust that this brief note will give you a flavour of what we are about and be helpful to your members. I myself had a long association with the voluntary sector in the Highlands and the Western Isles (South Uist & Benbecula) so I appreciate the constraints you are under and the need for increased support for carers.

Yours sincerely

