



Newsletter

CONFERENCE



From Sunday 5th to Wednesday 8th October, Conference returns to Manchester for the Party's biggest political event of the year.

Manchester Central and The Midland Hotel will be a hive of activity with our lively exhibition and thought-provoking fringe programme as we gather at an essential event in the renewal of our Party:

Tickets are now on sale.

<https://www.conservatives.com/conference/tickets>

Member of Parliament for Stone, Great Wyrley & Penkridge:

The Rt Hon Sir Gavin Williamson, CBE MP

For news and other information visit: www.gavinwilliamson.org/

20th August 2025

Gavin celebrates Semantics 21 King's Award

Sir Gavin Williamson attended a celebration to commemorate Semantics 21 Ltd's King's Award for Enterprise and Innovation.

Semantics 21 Ltd, located on Beacon Business Park, is a multi-award winning digital forensic company that uses AI-powered software that assists law enforcement to rapidly identify and rescue victims of child sexual abuse.

At the core of this technology is the Global Alliance Database, which contains over three billion digital forensic insights that far exceed the reach of comparable systems, which typically hold fewer than 100 million. This platform has proven instrumental in reducing case processing times by more than 60%, whilst also easing the psychological burden on officers exposed to distressing material.

Sir Gavin also witnessed a demonstration as to how the technology works which uses sophisticated tools to analyse subjects in an image or video – rapidly scouring for matches, identifiable locations, and other landmarks to enable law enforcement to identify victims of sexual abuse and bring perpetrators to justice.

A spokesperson for Semantics 21 Ltd said: "We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Sir Gavin Williamson MP and the Lord-Lieutenant for joining our King's Award Celebration, with the Lord-Lieutenant kindly presenting the award.

"Their attendance and active interest in our work to safeguard and rescue children from sexual abuse, here in the UK and across the world, means a great deal to us. As the only British A.I. company in this arena and a worldwide leader, we are proud of the thousands of children now living safer, better lives because of our efforts, and we hope this will inspire greater engagement from political and official circles to help advance our mission to make the world a safer place for every child."

Sir Gavin said: "I was delighted to visit Semantics 21 Ltd and join the team in celebrating their wonderful achievement, which recognises their ground-breaking work that is making a huge difference to the lives of victims and survivors. This cutting-edge technology is vastly improving law enforcement's ability to identify and rescue victims from their horrendous ordeals across the world. I was so impressed with the demonstration and the ingenuity of the technology that has been developed.

"The company's success is outstanding and I would urge Government's around the globe to take advantage of this tool that can make a huge contribution to tackling child sexual exploitation."



Gavin highlights importance of admiral nurses for dementia care

Sir Gavin Williamson is calling for greater investment in admiral nurses across Staffordshire after seeing their transformative impact on the lives of those with loved ones who have dementia.

Admiral nurses provide tailored, life-changing support for families including practical tips and emotional support. Sir Gavin has been working closely with local dementia groups as well as Nationwide with the building society providing clinics across the country.

Sir Gavin recently met with Wonda Heritage, the Admiral Nurse for Staffordshire at the Penkridge Nationwide branch to discuss how services can reach more people.



Wonda Heritage said: “We are delighted that Sir Gavin visited our new clinic in Penkridge to learn more about how we are supporting families with dementia through our partnership with Nationwide Building Society.

“One in two of us will be affected by dementia in our lifetime – either through caring for a loved one with the condition, developing it ourselves, or both. It can be incredibly isolating without the right support.

“This is why we are pleased to be bringing this initiative to families in this area who are impacted by dementia. Nationwide branches offer a safe and private space for people to access face to face specialist support in a familiar location, when they need it most.”

Sir Gavin said: “I was delighted to meet with Wonda Heritage and learn more about Dementia UK and Nationwide’s partnership which is benefitting so many across Staffordshire.

“Dementia is a devastating illness that can often leave loved ones feeling isolated and not knowing where to seek support. Therefore, it is reassuring that dedicated Admiral Nurses such as Wonda are able to provide their experiences to make a very difficult time slightly more bearable.

“I am committed to ensuring that as many people as possible have access to Admiral Nurses and look forward to working with Dementia UK and Nationwide moving forward.”

Gavin Meets The Wyrley Lion



I visited a farm near Great Wyrley to see a range of animals including a lion, tiger, and emus.

Thomas Chipperfield, who lives with his animals on the farm, visits carnivals and other attractions along with reptiles and other animals to educate children on animal welfare issues and types of species.

It is hoped by Chipperfield that he will eventually be open to the public in order to increase awareness as well as offer the opportunity to see wild animals in different settings.

Alongside the lion tiger, and emus, the farm is also home to horses, a duck, chicken, and birds including parrots.

Thomas Chipperfield said: "It was our honour to have Sir Gavin visit us.

We take pride in the standard of care we give to our animals and we would love to open a zoo in the area, and allow the local community to come and see their exotic neighbours.

I was also excited to hear about Sir Gavin's charity work in combating cheetah smuggling, as unregulated trade in wildlife is a concern of mine."

Sir Gavin said: "I was delighted to visit Thomas and see a number of animals up close.

"Tsavo the Lion is the talk of Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay. I know many residents are proud to have him as their neighbour and it really is a great story to tell.

"Increasing awareness of animal education and the different types of species is a wonderful learning tool, and I do hope more people are able to visit the farm in the future."

Gavin visits Converge Technology Solutions



Sir Gavin Williamson visited Converge Technology Solutions located at Acton Gate, to learn more about the company's commitment to recycling equipment and protecting sensitive data.

Converge is a leading provider of IT solutions to the UK public sector as well as the private sector. The company also prioritises the recycling and upgrading of IT equipment and provides digital expertise to educational institutions and businesses.

The company also securely removes data from devices that were previously owned by the police or other security services.

As well as a tour of the site, Sir Gavin was given a demonstration of a state-of-the-art machine that refurbishes laptops, adds missing keys, and re-prints letters as well as symbols.

Sheryl Moore, Global Director of Converge said: "We were delighted to host and demonstrate our sustainable approach at Converge"

Sir Gavin said: "I welcomed the opportunity to visit Converge and see first-hand the innovative work that is being undertaken to transform digital services.

"With over 250 employees on site, the company is committed to providing opportunities to local people and supporting supply chains.

"I look forward to seeing the company continue their excellent growth which is of benefit to Staffordshire and the local economy."

21st July 2025

Gavin Attends Parliamentary Inquiry on Grooming Gangs

Sir Gavin Williamson recently attended the Parliamentary Inquiry into Grooming Gangs, hearing powerful and emotional testimony from more than sixty survivors and whistle-blowers.

The inquiry, organised by Rupert Lowe, highlighted the long-standing and systemic failures that allowed this abuse to persist unchecked across multiple communities. Many of the victims — predominantly white working-class girls — were repeatedly let down by those in authority who failed to act or protect them.

Speaking after the inquiry, Sir Gavin said: “Listening to the testimonies of survivors was deeply moving. Their bravery in speaking out about such horrific experiences is extraordinary. These voices must be heard, and justice must be delivered. We cannot allow their stories to be forgotten or ignored. I want to thank Rupert Lowe for his work in bringing this inquiry forward.

We owe every survivor a system that protects them — not one that fails them.”

Sir Gavin was joined by fellow Conservative colleagues who share a commitment to ensuring accountability, reform, and justice for victims and their families.



18th July 2025

Gavin Officially Opens New Stone Banking Hub

Sir Gavin Williamson recently visited Stone to officially open the town's brand-new Banking Hub, delivered by Cash Access UK.

The new facility, located in the heart of the town, will provide crucial banking services to both residents and local businesses — particularly at a time when high street banking services are being scaled back across the country. The hub is designed to support those who rely on cash or need access to face-to-face financial services.

The hub includes a full Post Office counter for everyday banking, private spaces to meet representatives from high street banks on a rotating basis, and dedicated services for small business banking. It is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Sir Gavin said: “It was a real pleasure to open the new Banking Hub in Stone. With more people relying on local and accessible services, this hub will make a real difference for the community — from elderly residents to independent businesses. I want to thank Ian Lambert and the Cash Access UK team for their work in bringing this vital facility to Stone.”

For more information about services provided, visit: www.cashaccess.co.uk



17th July 2025

Gavin Supports Greater Card Merchant Transparency

Sir Gavin Williamson recently met with Clare Gill, owner of Just Blinds Ltd in Cannock, to discuss serious issues facing the company due to a dispute with payment provider Elavon.

The business has had over £13,000 in card payments frozen without a clear explanation, despite having no prior financial irregularities. The situation has placed significant strain on operations, staff, and cashflow — and raised wider concerns about the treatment of small businesses by payment processing companies.

Sir Gavin said: “What’s happened to Clare and her team at Just Blinds is simply unacceptable. There needs to be greater transparency, fairer regulation, and a proper appeals process for cases like this. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy — they deserve support, not suspicion.”

Sir Gavin will be raising the issue with relevant regulatory bodies and ministers to push for better protections for SMEs.



13th July 2025

Gavin Celebrates Civic Sunday in Stone

Sir Gavin Williamson joined Stone's Town Mayor, local councillors, community leaders, and residents for the annual Civic Sunday celebrations — an important event that recognises the dedication of those who serve the town in public and voluntary roles.

The day began with a traditional civic parade through Stone High Street, followed by a service of reflection and thanksgiving at St Michael and St Wulfad's Church. Civic Sunday is a long-standing local tradition that brings people together in appreciation of those who contribute to the life and wellbeing of the town.

Sir Gavin said: "Civic Sunday is always a special occasion in Stone. It's a chance to recognise the spirit of community, public service, and local pride that defines our town. I want to thank everyone who took part — from the organisers and parade participants to the members of the public who came out to show their support."



More than 800 fake Labubu dolls seized from market in Penkridge

Staffordshire County Council's Trading Standards team are warning against buying dangerous fake Labubu dolls after seizing more than 800 counterfeits from a market in Penkridge.

Labubu dolls, an elf-like doll created by Chinese toy maker Pop Mart, surged in popularity last year and cheap counterfeits have been appearing ever since.

Around 840 fake dolls were seized from several vendors at Penkridge Market on Wednesday 20 August, following a tip off to the county council's trading standards team.

A further 200 counterfeit Labubu accessories including key rings, bags and fake branded clothes for the dolls were also confiscated.

Trading Standards officers warn that these poor-quality imitations, which come apart quite easily, pose a choking hazard to children whilst some are also filled with harmful chemicals.

Trading standards officers also seized 46 counterfeit Apple Air Pods and 143 illegal vapes from various traders at Penkridge market.

Last year, Staffordshire County Council's Trading Standards service seized thousands of illegal and harmful counterfeit goods including alcohol, tobacco, cosmetics, football shirts, designer clothes and accessories.



SUPPER CLUB



Supper Club is back and this year we're going to be at The Moat House, Acton Trussell.

Come and join us for a evening of delicious food (*2-courses plus tea or coffee*) and great company with some fascinating guest speakers.

Tickets cost **£22** per person and you can make your reservations by either calling the Federation Office or by email to contact@centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk.

Remaining Supper Club Schedule for the 2025 Season:

25th September

30th October

Please reserve at least a week before the date of the supper club.

Starts at 7PM

STAFORDSHIRE CONSERVATIVES QUIZ NIGHT

Staffordshire Conservatives invite you to pit your wits against your fellow Conservatives from across Staffordshire at a special Quiz Night on 12th September 2025.

Teams from associations across Staffordshire will be taking part.

- General knowledge quiz
- Home-made chicken curry (or vegetarian alternative) included in ticket price
- BYOB
- Raffle
- Teams of up to 6 (or join one on the night)
- £10 per person

Where: Central Staffordshire Conservative Federation, Castle Street, Stafford, ST16 2ED

When: 12th September 2025

Time: 7PM start

Book now: email contact@centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk

All proceeds to Staffordshire Area Conservatives.

100 Club

JULY WINNERS:

1st Prize: **MARK SUTTON**
2nd Prize: **PAUL STARTIN**
3rd Prize: **ANN EDGELLER**

AUGUST WINNERS:

1st Prize: **HELEN ADAMS**
2nd Prize: **WENDI SUTTON**
3rd Prize: **JOAN BURTON**

Congratulations!

Our 100 Club helps raise funds to keep the Federation running.

If you can spare £4.34 a month or £52 a year, you could help us with keeping our Federation going...and you might win one of our prizes!

PLEASE JOIN TODAY

If you'd like to join, request an application form by calling 01785 252 273 or via email to contact@centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk

Help support the Federation and have a bit of a flutter at the same time! Subscriptions are just £4.34 a month or £52 a year for each number entered.

Join our 100 Club today and you could be our next winner.

Full details (application forms and other information including the terms and conditions) can be found on our website:

<https://www.centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk/100-club>

Contacting the Federation

Your Federation is staffed by volunteers, the office is not permanently staffed. The telephone line is diverted to a mobile number and calls are answered if someone is available to take your call. But please remember that the volunteers who manage your Federation work full-time, so sometimes it's not possible to answer your calls and in these circumstances you are able to leave a voicemail and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please note that members can also contact the Federation by email (which is often a quicker way of getting a response) at contact@centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk

Car Parking at our Castle Street HQ

The Federation generates important revenue towards the upkeep of our Castle Street HQ by renting car parking spaces to both members and non-members.

Occasional parking at our HQ remains free for members, but we would ask that members inform the office if you will be parking at HQ at least 24-hours in advance, with details of the car registration number so that you do not receive penalty notices. You can get in touch with the office to notify your intention to use our car park, by telephone to **01785 252 273** or by email to contact@centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk

We would also ask that members please park with consideration for other car park users.

Parking is at the owner's risk. The Federation does not accept any responsibility for theft or any damage, intentional or otherwise, to vehicles or vehicle contents.

UPCOMING EVENTS

12TH SEPTEMBER - STAFFORDSHIRE CONSERVATIVES QUIZ NIGHT, CASTLE STREET, 7PM
25TH SEPTEMBER - SUPPER CLUB, THE MOAT HOUSE ACTON TRUSSELL, 7PM

Key Contacts

Central Staffordshire Conservative Federation
Castle Street
Stafford ST16 2ED

Telephone: **01785 252 273**

Email: contact@centralstaffsconservatives.org.uk