

Dear Sir,

Response to Simon Renwick's letter – May 22:

He is throwing in red herrings of national politics to avoid addressing the failures of the ruling group at Fylde who happen to be Conservatives.

I re-iterate for the umpteenth time, I am an Independent Councillor, for the simple reason, I do not believe there is any place for party politics when working for the good of the local community. A committed local councillor should not be hiding behind national politics, especially as a smoke-screen to avoid addressing the dire mess Simon Renwick's political group is in - £1.2 million overspend in one year, and subsequent closure of our precious local facilities such as Kirkham's One Stop Shop and the threat to the swimming baths – these having an immediate negative impact on our residents.

As for Simon Renwick's declared willingness and commitment to long term solutions for the swimming baths, he has been better placed than most, as Tourism and Leisure Portfolio Holder, to have a positive impact on the viability of the public amenities. He is well known for taking credit for other peoples' hard work and achievements. However he will leave himself wide-open for mass criticism if he dares try to claim credit for any of the hard work and future success of the Kirkham Splash group – who are dedicated and committed non-political volunteers.

I should not have to state the obvious, but it seems the obvious has to be pointed out to Simon Renwick – we are local councillors, and our first priority must be local issues. Perhaps his aspirations for higher political office have distracted him from this vital objective.

Elaine Silverwood
Independent Kirkham Councillor