

# Justin Madders, Labour MP for Ellesmere Port and Bromborough

**Parliamentary position Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Department for Business and Trade)**

## Background

Justin Madders grew up in the Ellesmere Port and Neston constituency. He studied at the University of Sheffield, gaining a law degree. He later qualified as a solicitor, at the same time he became a councillor. Justin had a career in employment law, defending the rights of working people to be treated fairly and with dignity at work. Justin lives in Little Sutton, with his wife and three children.



## Constituency

Justin was first elected to his constituency and entered parliament following the 2015 election. At the last general election, Ellesmere Port & Neston changed to Ellesmere Port and Bromborough. Justin successfully retained his seat at the 2024 election with a slight loss in percentage of votes (-1.7%). The runner-up with the most votes was the Reform Candidate, Michal Aldred, who stood for the first time in the area.

Ellesmere Port and Brombrough falls under the remit of Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC) The Council is currently under Labour control, who hold 37/70 of the seats. The Conservatives are the largest opposition party, holding 23 seats. CWCC operates under a Leader and Cabinet model, and the current Leader is Cllr [Louise Gittins](#).

CWCC [declared a climate emergency](#) on 21st May 2019. They have also introduced a council-only [target](#) - to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 for the council's own emissions - as well as a [whole area pledge](#) - to "produce a report to Council within six months to determine the earliest date before 2045 that Cheshire West and Chester Council and the borough as a whole can be carbon neutral, and revise its targets to meet that date (ideally 2030 to demonstrate leadership in the borough)."

The Council has both a [Carbon Management Plan](#) and a [Climate Emergency Response Plan](#). In relation to other similar councils, [Climate Emergency](#) have scored CWCC's action plan at 37%, 1% higher than the average single-tier council.

Sectorally, the carbon emissions produced in CWCC are fairly evenly split. Transport produces 30%; domestic (e.g. heating) 29%; industry 25%; commercial, public sector, and agriculture cumulatively provide 17%.

## Political Activity

Justin was appointed the [Parliamentary Under Secretary of State \(Department for Business and Trade\)](#) after the 2024 general election. While this is his first governmental position, it precedes a series of Shadow Minister roles (including Shadow Minister for Business and Industrial Strategy and Shadow Minister for Health) and committee positions (including the Health and Care Bill Committee and the Petitions Committee). This suggests that Justin is an experienced and established MP with a good reputation in parliament and in his party.

However, as a member of the frontbench, it is unlikely Justin would take public positions which fall outside of the Labour Party's current policy strategy. This is also reflected in his voting record where he has voted in line with the wider Labour Party on the [vast majority of issues](#). The benefit of this frontbench position, however, would allow him greater influence on issues he chooses to raise with his colleagues in the Labour Party.

Since first elected, Justin has mentioned climate change [18 times](#), a significant amount especially considering he has not held positions that are explicitly related to the environment or energy. The most recent mention was during a debate on the Global Ocean Treaty, in [April 2025](#). [Vote Climate](#) have rated Justin as 'Very Good' for votes supporting action on climate.

As recorded by [Parallel Parliament](#), he has engaged in most department debates for the Department of Business and Trade. This is both a reflection of his current front-bench position and his history in employment law. This may make the benefits of green industry and jobs a key area of common ground when engaging with Justin.

Despite having a packed schedule as a front bench minister, Justin still tries to make time to engage with constituents through [supporting campaigns](#) and [visiting local businesses](#) (Though there had been a notable pause in this engagement in the period after the election as he was settling in his role in the new government). In recent weeks, he has focused his communications on his support of [The Employments Right Bill](#) and the need for strong workers' rights.

## Areas of common ground

### Global Ocean Treaty

The most recent contribution made by Justin in parliament on the issue of climate change was at the debate on the [Global Ocean Treaty](#). This treaty and its targets were agreed in 2023, with the UK being an early signatory on the treaty. However recent studies suggest that countries are [currently on track to miss these targets by over 70 years](#). With the [COP16 Biodiversity Summit](#) just having happened, ahead of COP29 later in November, now would be a great moment for Justin to inspire further action from his colleagues on this issue.

[Loss of biodiversity in our oceans](#), linked with climate issues like the acidification of our seas, is a growing problem facing our ocean ecosystems and the human systems that rely on them. In the 50 years between 1957 and 2007, there was an approximately [50% decline in the global coral reef cover](#), which has had a significant effect on coral fish populations and the broader ecosystems connected to coral reefs worldwide. Additionally, the [decline in fish populations has had impacts on fisheries worldwide](#) and this can have significant implications for economies in coastal regions.

With Justin having already voiced his support for a Global Ocean Treaty pre-election, Encouraging Justin to speak up on this issue and push for the UK to lead on this issue on the world stage at COP29 and beyond would be a good area of common ground. This could include getting the Global Ocean Treaty ratified in UK law, calling for a robust ocean acidification plan, or getting global commitments at COP29 over better ocean protections. Please note, as Justin does not work in the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFRA), he will need to collaborate with colleagues in this department to push this agenda forward.

### Just Transition

Justin's previous experience in employment rights and his work on fair working conditions, as well as his previous comments on the importance of climate [“changes \[being\] done with people, not to them”](#), suggests that he is likely to be a strong supporter of a just transition that ensures policies that support decarbonisation of our economy is done fairly and protects the most vulnerable.

With faith leaders calling for this principle to be [applied on a national scale through the Loss and Damage Fund](#), this could be a powerful bridge to connect with Justin around COP29 and beyond. The government recently recognised the [importance of international climate aid](#) as well, showing areas of crossover between faith leaders and government in their approach to the international tackling of climate change.

The Faith Pavillion at COP29 aims for religious leaders to stand side-by-side with policymaker. To connect Justin's passion for fairness and a just transition with religious leaders' call for better international climate support would be a powerful statement of this aim. Using the language of working **with** communities to move toward a greener future and ensure a fair deal for all involved will galvanise Justin's long-standing passion for protecting workers and getting a fair deal for all in his policies.

### **We'd also love to hear from you!**

Please do [get in touch](#) with us too at [info@hftf.org.uk](mailto:info@hftf.org.uk) or by calling 0114 312 2619 if you'd like to discuss asks for other areas of common ground, as well as accessing our free, tailored support for engagements with your MP.

Please keep in touch with us and let us know how your engagement progresses. We use this information to help us work as effectively as possible and to report to our funders so we can continue to provide this service to others.

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