# Former Royal Marine Sean Ivey announces candidacy for council elections in Wingate



A former Royal Marine, Sean Ivey, has announced his candidacy for local council elections in Wingate, County Durham, following a series of incidents linked to antisocial behaviour in his community. Ivey's home was tragically firebombed in March 2021 after he publicly addressed issues of youth disorder in the area, prompting him to seek a more substantial role in local governance to advocate for change.

Sean Ivey’s ordeal began when he challenged disruptive behaviour from groups of youths in Wingate, which included actions such as reckless riding of motorbikes and quads, and incidents of vehicle arson. In his own words, he stated, "Antisocial behaviour is still a massive problem, but nothing seems to be getting done. I dare not let my kids go out and play. It just does not feel safe." His family's home and property, including a car and a caravan, were destroyed by arsonists shortly after his plea for action, and he faced considerable financial difficulties as he had neglected to renew his insurance policy.

The local community showed support during his traumatic experience, helping to fund the rebuild of his home. As a lifelong supporter of Newcastle United, Ivey also received consolation from footballing legend Alan Shearer, who reached out to him via video call and sent memorabilia as a gesture of goodwill. By December 2021, Ivey and his family were able to move back into their home, but troubles resurfaced when his car was vandalised in June 2022.

Ivey, who teaches a uniformed services course at Northumberland College, cited ongoing antisocial behaviour and the proposed closure of the Wingate Community Centre as significant concerns that influenced his decision to run for council. Expressing his frustrations, he remarked, "I am absolutely fed up of the community being walked all over and fed up of nothing changing and there being no improvements." He highlighted that the state of the streets has deteriorated, stressing that "unless there are proactive people, nothing is going to change."

Discharged from the Royal Marines in 2016 due to a severe head injury, Ivey has taken this step to channel his experiences into public service. He is contesting the elections representing the North East Party, and he is set to stand in the upcoming polls on Thursday, May 1.

By entering the race, Ivey aims to bring attention to the pressing issues facing his community and effect positive change, declaring, "I have always said I am not a politician but I am positive and proactive and I want to see things change."

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://rma-trmc.org/the-corps-family-supporting-sean-ivey/> - This URL confirms that Sean Ivey, a former Royal Marine, was involved in community issues and had his house firebombed after confronting youths over antisocial behavior. It highlights support from the community during this challenging time.
* <https://www.newcastleunited.com/> - Although not directly referenced in the article, this URL relates to Newcastle United, with whom Alan Shearer is associated. The article mentions Alan Shearer reaching out to Sean Ivey.
* <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/> - Northumberland College is likely linked to local educational or community resources in Northumberland. This URL provides general information about Northumberland, which can include details about Northumberland College or similar establishments.
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Marines> - This URL provides background information on the Royal Marines, which is relevant to Sean Ivey's past career. It does not directly mention Ivey but offers context about the Royal Marines.
* <https://www.countydurham.gov.uk> - This URL relates to County Durham, where Wingate is located. It provides general information about local governance and potential local council elections, which is the context in which Sean Ivey is running.