

- Surrey rocked by NHS threat
- Waverley success in recycling
- Tackling anti-social behaviour

NHS CUTS WILL IMPACT LOCALLY

Royal Surrey under threat of closure

Local health services across Surrey have been brought sharply into focus by a series of threatened cuts to major hospitals.

Guildford's Royal Surrey County Hospital is now faced with total closure – earlier in the year the threat seemed to centre on possible closure of the A&E – as people from across the region joined forces in late October to campaign to 'save the Royal Surrey'.

The local health authority – the new county-wide Primary Care Trust (PCT) – announced a review of all NHS services, including future A&E provision, and will be putting out a consultation later in the year before making any decisions.

SW Surrey Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sarah Di Caprio** said, 'This is a shocking situation – it was bad enough when we thought it was only the A&E under threat – and now we learn that the whole hospital might close.

That really will have an impact on local people throughout South West Surrey – even if your local hospital is not the Royal Surrey, its closure will bring undue pressure on the remaining hospitals. We can't let this happen.'

Cllr **Peter Nicholson** added, "People in Haslemere will have to travel further afield if we lose the A&E in Guildford. This is totally unacceptable for local people."

Cllr **Barbara Jeffers** said, "The Lib Dems here in Haslemere will be campaigning with our colleagues across the local area to protect our NHS. This could have a big effect on healthcare across a wide area and the Lib Dems will be campaigning to protect A&E at the Royal Surrey."

To support the cross-community campaign to save our NHS, log on to: www.savetheroyalsurrey.org.uk



SW Surrey Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sarah Di Caprio** outside the Royal Surrey in Guildford and speaking at the 'Save the Royal Surrey' rally in October. News that the hospital is under threat has been met with dismay throughout the area.

Tackling anti-social behaviour

Local Lib Dem councillors have called on Conservative-run Surrey County Council to hurry up and sort out the long-promised youth facility which Shottermill residents are still waiting for.

Cllr **Mark Lelliot** told *Focus*, "The County Council needs to stop messing around and get on with it. A new youth facility will give young people in the heart of Shottermill something constructive and entertaining to do."

Cllr **Jacquie Keen** added, "This is typical of a County Council which prefers meetings to action. We have waited for too long for this promised youth facility."

The police have requested that anyone who sees a disturbance or property damage reports it to them.



Cllr **John Robini**, **Sarah Di Caprio** and Cllr **Peter Nicholson** at Lion's Green. The Lib Dems want to see better local youth provision.

Local Recycling Rates Soaring

Fantastic improvements in recycling rates across Waverley Borough is resulting in further investment by the Lib Dem-run council in waste services.

The percentage of our waste which is recycled has risen to 35%, up from 22% last year putting Waverley among the best performing councils in the country. Over 70% of the borough's residents now recycle, up a fantastic 50% on last year.

The introduction of Alternate Weekly Collections (AWC), which the council acknowledges has caused difficulties in some areas, has been responsible for boosting the amount of goods we now recycle. That in turn has led to an increased payment from SCC in 'recycling credits' and WBC plans to put this into improving and increasing local 'bring sites' throughout the borough.

SW Surrey Parliamentary Campaigner **Sarah Di Caprio**, who also speaks for the Lib Dems on waste at County Hall said, "I'm very proud of Waverley's achievements in recycling and the way residents have got behind the scheme. Unfortunately, there have been some problems with AWC precisely because Surrey County Council has dragged its feet over the last few years in

introducing somewhere councils can deposit kitchen waste if they collect it. That means Waverley residents still have to put their kitchen waste in their bins when really it should be collected and disposed of. It's something I and my Lib Dem colleagues will continue to push the County for."

Cllr Mike Biddiscombe added, "The new system is working well in Haslemere and Hindhead and is working to boost recycling rates. If anyone has queries about recycling or green waste, please don't hesitate to get in touch."

Lib Dems Launch Green Tax Switch

The Lib Dems want to give the average family a £1,000 income tax cut to help save the planet.

Sarah Di Caprio said, "We don't think people should be penalised for working hard - so the Lib Dems will cut 2p in the pound from income tax and tax pollution instead of earnings."

Log on to www.greentaxswitch.com to find out more information and sign up to the Green Tax Switch today!

New Library - Still waiting

After many years, we are still waiting for a new library - as promised by Conservative-run Surrey County Council (SCC).

After a number of shelved proposals, the Conservatives promised Haslemere Town Council earlier in the year that a new design would be ready for the autumn.

Yet now we are told it will not be ready until **the 'late winter.'**

Cllr **Sue Lelliot** said, "The staff at Haslemere Library do a great job. However, they have to work in cramped and inconvenient premises that compare very poorly with Godalming Library.

"We have been promised a new state-of-the-art facility but it is constantly delayed. The Conservatives should get their act together - instead of wasting millions on an aborted County Hall move to Woking, they should be completing the projects that matter to local people."

Shortage of Local Dentists

Local healthcare is suffering as many people are unable to get an NHS dentist.

The Lib Dems have learned that there are **no** Haslemere dentists currently willing to register NHS patients. Hindhead/Beacon Hill has just one, who may accept former NHS patients.

Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sarah Di Caprio** said, "This is yet another symptom of the financial crisis that the Government has burdened our NHS with."

Housing Cost Concerns

The Lib Dems are concerned about the effect of house prices on young people in Haslemere.

A recent survey ranked nearby Godalming as one of the top ten most unaffordable places in the country for 'key workers.'

The Lib Dems want to put more pressure on the Government to make more housing affordable - too many people are forced to leave towns such as Haslemere due to the cost.



Traffic misery in and around Hindhead should be lessened now the Government has given the A3 tunnel scheme the green light. SW Surrey Lib Dems have been campaigning for the scheme for years with local people and pressure groups for years. It will see traffic diverted through the tunnel and away from the notorious bottleneck at Hindhead traffic lights. It will start in January to be completed by 2011.

Your Local Liberal Democrat Team:

Parliamentary Spokesperson (SW Surrey)

Sarah Di Caprio - 01483 562127
sarah@sarahdicaprio.com

Borough Cllrs - Critchmere and Shottermill

Jacque Keen MBE - 01428 653905

Peter Nicholson - 01428 654766

John Robini - 01428 653905

Town Councillors - Critchmere

Tricia Hills - 01428 652621

Barbara Jeffers - 01428 654988

Jacque Keen - 01428 653905

Town Councillors - Shottermill

Mike Biddiscombe - 01428 651224

Mark & Sue Lelliot - 01428 644499

www.swsurreylibdems.org.uk

Liberal Democrats - Here to help you

Use this space to tell us how the local area could be improved: Return this slip to: Liberal Democrats, **Freepost**, Farnham, GU9 7BR.



Name

Address

Tel

Email

I can deliver some leaflets in my area

I can display a poster at election time

I can help with clerical work

I can make a donation of £_____

(A donation of £6+ entitles you to party membership. If you do not wish to join or already belong, tick here)

The Liberal Democrats may use the information you supply to contact you now and again with details of our campaigns. Please let us know if you would prefer not to be contacted in this way.

It's so close here!

Lib
Dem
28



Con
26

Make up of
Waverley
Borough
Council, April
2006

Ind 3

Waverley is extremely close between the Liberal Democrats and the Conservatives. **Labour cannot win here** - they polled only 8% in the General Election and do not have a single Waverley Borough Councillor.