

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

The Lib Dem Priorities for Waverley Borough Council

If elected on May 5th, all Lib Dem councillors will:



1. Deliver value for money

- Continue the 2006 Lib Dem initiative to **streamline management** and operational structures, ensuring Council Tax never increases by more than inflation;
- Protect front-line services and reduce costs by looking to **share back-office services** with other local authorities and by cutting out unnecessary expenditure, including sharing the post of Chief Executive with a neighbouring authority;
- **Redraw ward boundaries** to reduce the number of councillors from 57 to 38, with one councillor per ward.

2. Enhance local services

- **Increase the range of recyclables** collected at the kerbside and extend weekly food waste collections throughout the Borough, building on achievements of the last Lib Dem council that have stalled since 2007;
- **Reinstate grant funding**, cut by the Conservatives in 2011, to **voluntary organisations** which provide essential services to residents;
- **Resist** the Conservative-run County Council's proposals to introduce **parking meters** in our rural towns and villages.

3. Serve local communities

- Continue to **invest in children's playgrounds** through the Play Initiative, introduced by the Liberal Democrats in 2005, in which an additional £1 million was provided to upgrade play facilities throughout the Borough
- Refuse to allow any further extension of the Conservatives' conditional contract for the development of **East Street** in Farnham beyond the current contractual "long-stop" date of 31st December 2011;
- Continue to ensure the provision of **adequate and affordable sporting and leisure facilities** throughout the Borough, including the building of the new leisure centre in Godalming.

4. Develop a coherent planning strategy

- Ensure that **new developments** in our towns and villages are sensitive to the local environment and the needs of the local community
- **Improve on inadequate Conservative proposals** to build just 152 homes per year over the next 15 years, setting a new target that takes into account the Office of National Statistics forecast that the number of households in Waverley will grow by more 300 per year.
- **Protect** the Green Belt, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Areas of Great Landscape Value, as well as the unique character of our towns and villages, in Waverley's new Local Development Framework.

5. Maintain and improve housing

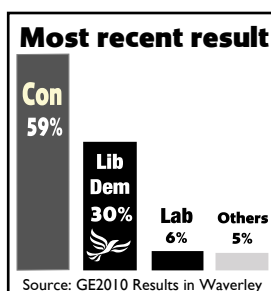
- Develop policies that **increase the availability** of affordable private, council and social rented housing, helping to keep our communities together;
- Require all new housing developments to make a **contribution of 40%** towards either affordable housing or new infrastructure provision;
- Ensure that all council housing is brought up to the Government's **Decent Homes Standard** during the four-year term of the next Council, using the grant provided for that purpose by the Government

6. Protect the local environment

- **Build on the Lib Dems' success** in increasing recycling from 13% to 38% in the four years to 2007, when we were last in charge at Waverley. Although promising much, the current Conservative administration has failed to increase recycling in the last four years.
- **Encourage and reward residents** who lead 'low-carbon lives' through the introduction of incentives, such as an hour's free parking in Waverley's car parks for low emission cars.
- **Work with energy companies and other partners** to improve energy efficiency and the use of renewable technologies in the council's social housing stock and other public and private sector buildings in the Borough.

7. Strengthen local democracy

- **End the one-party Conservative domination of Waverley** which has, over the past four years, stifled democratic debate, wasted taxpayers' money and increased public cynicism
- **Listen to the views of local people and organisations** that have been largely ignored over the last four years, forging closer links to give voluntary organisations, community groups, council tenants and the business community a greater voice
- Reintroduce the practice of holding bi-monthly meetings for residents to **see and question the Chief Executive, the Leader and the Executive members** on any item within the Council's remit, and **end the inappropriate practice** of the current Conservative administration of taking items that could be debated in public into exempt session.



Only the Lib Dems can provide a strong, coherent alternative to the Conservatives on Waverley Borough Council.

Vote Lib Dem on May 5th