

Your Mickleover FOCUS



From your local Liberal Democrat Focus Team Maggie Hird, Peter Barker, Isabel Studham and Nick Northover

LIB DEMS CALL FOR BETTER GP ACCESS

Derby has seen a big drop in the number of doctors per patient



The Lib Dems want an end to the 'Postcode' lottery - that has seen waiting times for GP appointments grow in Derby.

The Liberal Democrats are demanding urgent action to deal with growing problems for many people getting appointments with their doctors.

Derby is one of the worst hit areas in England for access to GPs according to new figures. There is now just one GP per 1989 people in Derby in June 2021.

Local Lib Dem campaigner **Peter Barker** said: "I know so many people are struggling to book an appointment with their GP, with services increasingly under pressure from rising demand.

"The Conservative government are badly letting down both GPs and patients in

Derby. Instead of fixing the GP shortage crisis, the Conservatives are making it worse by failing to train the new doctors we desperately need."

The Lib Dems are calling for more investment in GP services to ensure people can get a doctors' appointment when they need one.

Peter added: "The GP shortage has led to a 'Postcode Lottery' - with hard-working doctors overstretched and people left waiting too long for appointments. It needs to change."

"The shortage of GPs in Derby is leaving hardworking doctors overstretched and people left waiting too long. It needs to change." - Peter Barker



School Parking restrictions

Over the summer we have been talking to local residents about their views of the Council proposed vehicle restrictions near Mickleover Primary school on Vicarage Road. On the whole local residents seem to agree that something must be done, it is felt that an exclusion zone on Vicarage Road from the junction of Park Road to the junction of Farnworth Road, for a short time morning and afternoon, is favourite. The one-way system is a clear second option.

Local campaigner **Maggie Hird** said, "It's clear from our discussions with local residents that respect for resident access needs to be guaranteed and how the enforcement of the road restrictions are handled are questions that the Council will need to answer to give the people confidence in the scheme."

We are expecting the 18 month trial to start later this year. Also we have asked the Council to keep all residents and the school up to date with the details of how the restrictions will work. There are a number of schools within the ward, from Murray Park to Brookfield where similar issues need to be addressed. Please let us know what you think?

Tories Back-Track on School Fire Safety



Over the summer the Conservative Government has been consulting on Building guidance. Originally the guidance stated that "all new schools should have fire sprinklers installed except in a few low-risk schools."

According to the National Fire Chiefs Council, what the Government is proposing is a backward step and is a real lowering of standards. Basically, if the new guidance becomes law it will lead to more loopholes.

The Conservatives have chosen not to follow Scotland and Wales where sprinklers are mandatory in all new and substantially refurbished schools. The draft guidance still allows for the use of combustible materials on external walls on buildings under 18 metres high. Most schools are less than 18 metres high!

Commenting, **Maggie Hird** said, "It looks like lobbying has been going on behind the scenes. Why would anyone want to lower fire safety standards? The Conservatives must publish the Impact Assessment that led them to propose these changes. If they won't, they should drop the changes."

Thankfully the promises made by the city council to us after much lobbying by the city Lib Dems will mean that Ravensdale Infant school should have its sprinkler system next year.

Our Green Recovery Plan

Over the next few months we shall be highlighting the Liberal Democrats' Green Recovery Plan both here in the Focus and on our Facebook page.

Make Every Home Greener

Energy use in our homes' accounts for 14% of UK emissions. The Conservatives have scrapped the Green Homes Grant, taking us a step backwards.

Lib Dems would upgrade insulation in all existing homes by 2030 and require all new homes to be eco-friendly. With everybody's energy bill on the rise, the less energy we use to heat our homes the more money we will save. The less energy we consume. The better our planet will be.

Green Energy Switch

Only half of Britain's energy is generated from renewable sources. Switching to green energy is vital for cutting emissions and meeting our climate change targets. Lib Dems would invest now so Britain gets 80% of its electricity from green energy by 2030. The more energy we produce from renewable sources the less likely we are to see sudden rises in energy bills especially for those of us on fixed incomes/pensions.

Visit our website at www.derbylibdems.org.uk

The Government has taken us back to the 1970'S

As aspects of normal life recover from the Covid pandemic the capacity of our economy has come under strain.

In Mickleover the bin collection over the summer has been patchy. Blue and brown bins have been standing around our streets for days on end. Our dog waste bins have been left for days overflowing.

Our local garage has been closed and the road chaos around the centre of our village has been unbelievable. Bins not emptied and queues at fuel pumps. On top of this we have a lack of HGV drivers and empty supermarket shelves. Does this remind anyone of the 70's ?

The government has got to stop blaming Covid and get on with fixing the mistakes they have made.



Is the Tory cabinet in Derby "Fit for purpose?"

Most people would assume that when a democratic vote is taken in a Council meeting that the decision which the majority of councillors support will be implemented. That's how democracy works right? Wrong!

Derby is run by a Cabinet of 9 Conservative councillors who make the vast majority of decisions. But Cabinet can defy the will of the Full Council (51 councillors). This happened over this summer when the majority of councillors voted to open talks with bidders interested in running Allestree Golf Course. A few weeks later the 9 Cabinet members voted to overturn this decision.

Back in May residents in Sheffield voted in a referendum by a big majority to change the way their council was run. They ditched the Cabinet system to go to a committee system. Lib Dem campaigner **Maggie Hird** said, "In Derby we too need to change to a democratic committee system. For this to happen we need local residents to sign our petition, and if enough people do, we can have a referendum on the issue. If the referendum is won, then Derby will become more democratic and inclusive in the way it is run."

Go to www.tinyurl.com/DCCpet-com or download and print a paper version



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We want to hear from you...

Please use the space below to let us know your views, or give details of any issues you would like to raise with us:-

Please leave your details so we can contact you about issues you raise:

Name: _____ House No: _____ Post Code: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Can we keep you updated about campaigns, events, fundraising and how to get involved? Yes

The Liberal Democrats will use your contact details to send you information on the topics you have requested. Any data we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at www.libdems.org.uk/privacy To exercise your legal data rights, email: data.protection@libdems.org.uk. - Printed by GNC Print published and promoted by Derby Liberal Democrats all at 24a Great Northern Road Derby DE1 1LR

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