

FOCUS

on Walpole

News from your local Lib Dem team Mark ANDREWS, Matt MELLOR and Isobel PLATINGS

Liberal Democrats

LABOUR'S CHILDREN CENTRES SHAME

Lib Dems lead the fight against Ealing Labour's closure of multiple children's centres across the borough

Lib Dem Councillors are speaking up against Ealing Labour's decision to hastily shut down children's centres in this year's council budget before consultation results are released.

Lib Dem Councillors have revealed that the children's centre cuts have been incorporated into the budget **BEFORE** the official consultation took place.

This makes the so-called consultation effectively a 'sham'.

The children's centres are vital for families as they provide support for under 5s and their parents with childcare services.

The Lib Dem Official Opposition are likely to 'call-in' the decision to force more scrutiny of Labour's uncaring

treatment of children.

Lib Dem Councillors Gary Malcolm (Leader of the Opposition) and Jonathan Oxley (spokesperson for children's services) met up with local parents' representatives to listen to their concerns.

Local Lib Dem campaigner Matt Mellor says:

"The national Labour government has already been attacking ordinary people by Winter Fuel Allowance cuts and changes to disability benefits - and Ealing Labour are following the Labour government's footsteps to attack more vulnerable people in society."

The Lib Dems will always continue to stand up for local people and protect our local services."



Lib Dems are standing up to fight for our local services. Pictured Councillors **Gary Malcolm** (left) and **Jonathan Oxley** (right) with local campaigner Clare Welsby to save our children's centres.

MATT'S BLUE BADGE CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Yet another car is burgled by blue badge thieves - and Lib Dem Matt Mellor is determined to stop more from happening.



Local campaigner MATT MELLOR has collected over 500 petition signatures for the Council to

take steps to stop blue badge theft, including the creation of a digital blue badge.

Matt is also continuing to write to the Labour's portfolio holder on this important issue to many - with no reply.

Matt Mellor and Ealing's Lib Dem Official Opposition Councillors will continue to speak up for the disabled community.

CONTACT YOUR LIB DEM TEAM



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LABOUR'S 'ASSAULT ON LOCAL DEMOCRACY'

- Preventing questions in Council meetings by opposition Councillors and residents
- Plans to stifle debate on petitions that matter to you by increasing required signatures from 1,500 to 8,000



Your local Lib Dem Official Opposition Councillors will stand up for you and make sure your voice is heard.

"Labour-led London councils accused of 'assault on democracy'."

- The Times, 13th May 2025

Labour-led councils across London, including Ealing, are 'shutting up' local residents and opposition Councillors by increasing barriers to submit questions and debate petitions.

In Ealing, Labour are moving fast to change the rules to make it more difficult to debate petitions by increasing the barrier from 1,500 signatories to 8,000. Under this new rule, important

issues such as children's centre closures cannot be discussed.

Furthermore, Ealing Labour have imposed a limit of 10 written questions per party per meeting.

Lib Dem campaigner **Isobel Platings** says, "The assault on democracy by Labour is a worrying trend across London."

"If Labour have nothing to hide, why are they so afraid of scrutiny?"

WARD FORUM REPLACEMENT DELAYS... WHAT'S NEXT?

Ealing Labour's half-baked 'Your Voice, Your Town' that replaced the perfectly functioning ward forums has produced no results as local projects have not been commissioned.

The Ealing Labour administration has not finalised the format of these so-called 'Your Voice, Your Town' (which has merged all Ealing wards together) since the initial 'trial' session a year ago.

As a result, small but meaningful and vital projects, which were previously thriving under the old ward forums system have been stalled.

The decision-making process on how local projects can be funded has not been confirmed by Ealing Labour.

Lib Dem campaigner **Matt Mellor** has been attending a Town Hall style meeting, hosted by West Ealing Neighbours to listen to the needs of



Local Lib Dem Matt Mellor is seeking clarity on the future of our 'Your Voice, Your Town' to kick-start funding for local meaningful projects.

local residents. Many say that there needs to be more emphasis on making our streets clean and safe, and action on drug dealing and public drug use.

Local Lib Dem campaigner Matt Mellor says: "The Lib Dems are campaigning to get our ward forums back to allow residents have a say on how our Council tax money should be spent."

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Matt Mellor and the Lib Dem team want to hear your concerns about living in West Ealing



Your local Lib Dem team are here to listen to your concerns all year round, not just during election time.

Many residents have told the Lib Dem team **Mark Andrews, Matt Mellor** and **Isobel Platings** about their top concerns living in Northfields and West Ealing.

People have told us on the doorsteps that they are worried about drug dealing in Dean Gardens, dirty streets near Uxbridge Road, and tall towers against the principles of 'Local Plan' with the upcoming building of gigantic towers at the Waitrose site.

Lib Dems **Mark Andrews, Matt Mellor** and **Isobel Platings** want to hear from more of you so they can pass on your concerns to the Lib Dem Official Opposition Councillors who can speak up during Council meetings.

Please fill in the **5-minute survey** here by scanning the QR code to your right: →



SURVEY

**LIB
DEM
+8%**

LIB DEMS are on the UP!

As Ealing Council's Official Opposition, only the Lib Dems can provide a credible alternative to Ealing Labour locally.

Last local election results 2022

**LAB
-8%**

**CON
-1%**