

on RAVENSBURY FOCUS

From Chris Bird, David Miller-Holland,
Edward Marsh and the Lib Dem team



FIGHTING TO KEEP YOUR BILLS DOWN



Ravensbury Lib Dems are challenging Labour's inflation-busting council charges.

In December, Labour Council bosses approved hikes to over 700 Council fees, from parking permits to sports pitches, allotments, and garden waste collection, driving up costs for residents, businesses and community groups.



Inflation was running at 3.4% in December yet 257 fee increases described as 'inflationary' were around 5% or more. Some fee increases are exceptionally high, for example application fees for home improvements up 29% and car park charges up between 5% and 33%!

CLlr Anthony Fairclough, who is the leader of the opposition on Merton Council, explained:

"The Council claims it is working to keep bills down, but these proposed fee increases do the opposite. Many are being put up by significant amounts – and the cost of living crisis wasn't mentioned once.

"We are challenging these decisions - calling on the Council to look at the impact these above-inflation increases could have on the people paying for the services, particularly on those households with lower incomes."

» **Residents' controlled parking permits up 7%, over double the rate of inflation.**

» **Pitch hire for football, cricket and other activities, are up above inflation.**

KEEP IN TOUCH

✉ ravensbury@mertonlibdems.org.uk

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NEWSLETTER



The quickest way to get updates on local issues and news about our work is to sign up for emails from our local team. **Sign up to stay in touch.**

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CLEANER STREETS

Lib Dems demand regular street sweeping

For too long, Labour-run Merton Council has allowed our streets to become filthy.

The Council insist streets are "cleaned every week", but people tell us this does not reflect what they see on local roads and pavements.

When the Lib Dems asked the Council what percentage of roads and pavements are swept weekly, Labour refused to give a clear answer. Local resident and Lib Dem activist Chris Bird said, "Residents deserve accurate information about the services funded by their taxes."

"Other Councils show it's possible to do better. We want Merton to learn from what works – we could start by having a schedule of street and pavement sweeping and sticking to it."



Your local Lib Dem team is working to clean up our streets.

More and more people are saying: Labour have let us down...



“Keir Starmer has had worst start of any new PM”

THE TIMES

From leaving pensioners in the cold to harmful tax hikes - Keir Starmer's Labour is letting people down in Merton.

Labour and the Conservatives have failed our country. The Conservatives wrecked our economy and our NHS. Labour are making things worse not better.

The cost of living and our economy are not getting better and people are still not seeing improvements to the NHS.

The Liberal Democrats are fighting for the issues that matter most to you.

The Lib Dems are opposing this Labour Government when they get it wrong and are fighting for the fair deal we deserve.

DOWN YOUR STREET

TACKLING LOCAL FLY-TIPPING

Your local team reported piles of black bins left on Seddon Road. Local campaigner David Miller-Holland said, “Keeping our streets



clean is a council's basic job. We will keep pushing for our streets to be cleaned regularly.”

INVEST IN OUR ROADS

Liberal Democrats are calling for more investment into local roads, after the condition of Merton's roads were given a red rating by Department for Transport.

This confirms what residents already know; our roads are still in a dire state. Last year, four in ten roads in our borough were already rated “poor”, making them the worst in London and the second worst in the country.

Paul Kohler MP has met with the Transport Minister to ask why boroughs like Merton are still being overlooked for funding.

Labour has often been slow to repair potholes, allowing them to become bigger and more dangerous hazards, risking residents' safety and damage to their vehicles.

Local resident and campaigner Edward Marsh said, “While Labour has allowed our roads to fall into decline, we're fighting for the fair investment needed to improve our roads.”



KEEPING OUR AREA BEAUTIFUL

Your local team reported the poor appearance of post boxes not yet repainted across the area to Royal Mail.

Ravensbury Lib Dem Chris Bird said, “The state of our infrastructure impacts our neighbourhood's morale. The Labour Party have driven the decline of our local area for far too long.”



This election is a clear choice between the **Lib Dems** and Labour

**LAB
31**

**LIB
DEM
17**

Number of seats won by each party at the 2022 Local Elections in Merton

**CON
7**

CAN'T WIN HERE

OTHER: 2

Labour have let us down. They have failed to deliver the change people voted for and they are not standing up to Farage's Reform UK.

The Lib Dems are the only party taking the fight to Reform UK - and beating them!

The election here in May is our chance to send Keir Starmer's Labour a message and help stop Reform. The Conservatives and the Green Party can't win here.

Every Lib Dem vote can beat Reform UK - and deliver the change our country needs. Vote Lib Dem in May to send Labour a message they can't ignore!

“The Lib Dems will do very well in Merton” says respected pollster, Lord Hayward

London Evening Standard