



Planning process in crisis



Fareham has been thrown into crisis after the Council's decision to rip up the draft local plan.

The Draft Local Plan 2036 has been torn-up after government changes to National Policy Framework increased the number of homes required in Fareham Borough by 20% from the 3,300 already earmarked for development. This crisis is the direct result of the Council's incompetence in planning especially in relation to the Welborne development.

Labour has pressed for a rethink and we welcome the chance to do just that. We believe that with sympathetic planning the borough can still remain a good place to live. Development is essential to address the lack of housing locally and to reduce the waiting list for social housing. New housing provision should be achieved through the use of brownfield sites wherever possible. Good examples are the old magistrates court and the Hampshire Rose site in Highlands Road.

We are against the proposals for large developments on valuable green spaces and will oppose the inclusion of these in any new plan. We maintain our opposition to development of land at Newlands south of Longfield Avenue, and other major plans such as Downend Road, Portchester and Greenaway Lane, Warsash.

Fareham Tories must be held to account for their failures over Welborne which was meant to safeguard our green spaces.

Saving our shops must be a priority

Fareham's shopping centres are facing a real threat to their very survival.

Retailers are facing high rents and business rates, while internet shopping, high parking charges (in Fareham shopping centre) and the loss of banking services have added to the problems.

Urgent work needs to be done to revive our shopping centres. A Labour council would join together with retailers' groups and local residents to consider measures to improve the shopping experience. Local specialist markets and cultural events could be included in any plan to revitalise our shops. We would hold meetings with property owners to see how we could help to reduce high rents which mean the closure of many independent retailers.

Parking charges in Fareham shopping centre discourages shoppers. We would introduce free parking after 3.00pm in town centre car parks and oppose the introduction of charges in Portchester or Stubbington.





Concessionary bus passes under threat

Fareham Labour Party has objected to a proposal to introduce a 50p single-way charge for older people's bus pass travel.

In a submission to the Conservative controlled County Council's consultation, Fareham Labour said the effect of the proposal on older people would be considerable. If a 50p single-way charge was introduced it would mean in practice a £1 charge as most trips are return. If a charge was introduced there would be a real danger that over the years this cost would increase substantially. It would also increase traffic congestion and harm

the environment as those with access to private transport would use their own cars rather than pay a £1 fare.

The good news is that this national bus pass scheme was introduced by the last Labour Government as an act of Parliament. Any change would need another act to remove the concession. Labour is pledged to keep bus passes for senior citizens.

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digital infrastructure

Government contracts to
support UK industry

REBUILDING OUR COMMUNITIES

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invest in local businesses
and revive local
communities

The biggest house building
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officers bringing security
to your neighbourhood

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water, and rail run for
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money it needs

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meals for primary school
children and class sizes
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Printed by Southampton Labour Party, Unit 017, Solent Business Centre, Millbrook Road West, Southampton. SO15 0HW