



## Tory stealth tax

Tory controlled Fareham Borough Council (FBC) has introduced charges for green refuse collections and car parking at all coastal car parks to plug a large hole in FBC finances.

In December 2021 the current free green collection service will be scrapped. Starting from February 2022 green waste will be collected using new 240 litre or 140 litre wheelie bins, costing £60 per year for the larger bin, £50 per year for the smaller bin plus an initial charge for the bin, which will be really difficult for families struggling to make ends meet.

Residents will not be forced to take up the scheme but will then be without the facility to dispose of green waste through the council. This could mean even more 'fly tipping' causing the council to spend thousands of pounds clearing up the mess.

The introduction of car parking charges at Portchester Castle, Hill Head, Titchfield Haven and Warsash coastal car parks is another unwelcome financial burden for local residents and is likely to result in cars parking on nearby streets.

These new 'taxes' of course mean that the headline Council Tax can be kept artificially low.



## Labour in Fareham would:

- Take action to safeguard our local environment
- Introduce green policies in response to the climate change threat
- Increase the provision of affordable housing for rent and to buy
- Work with local providers to give a more integrated local public transport system
- Introduce cycleways connecting Fareham with neighbouring boroughs
- Work with property owners and shop-keepers to reinvigorate our community shopping areas

## The reality of Conservative Britain:

WORKING  
PEOPLE  
ARE PAYING  
THE PRICE FOR  
TORY  
CHAOS

Empty supermarket shelves, massive increases in energy bills, working people hit with national insurance increase, rising in council tax, freeze in personal allowances and a cut to Universal Credit. Millions of families plunged into a cost-of-living crisis.

Businesses left with no support, experiencing shortages and higher costs. They are out of touch and have no plan. Labour would work with businesses to give them the support they need.

# Saving our shops

Fareham's shopping centres are facing a real threat to their very survival with shops closing on what seems a daily basis.

Retailers are facing the result of Covid, high rents, business rates and soaring energy prices, while internet shopping, high parking charges (in Fareham town centre) and the loss of banking services have added to the problems. Urgent work needs to be done to revive our shopping venues across the borough.

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 unaffordable rents and business rates which threaten the viability of many independent retailers. We would press government to give more help to struggling business after the terrible impact of Covid-19.

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.



# Fareham needs better cycling and walking infrastructure

Hampshire County Council must make improvements to cycling and walking infrastructure in the borough a priority.

Fareham needs a comprehensive plan to enable safer cycling and walking throughout the borough, particularly along the A27. The lack of a cycleway along the A27 from Fareham College to the western wards prevents wider take-up of more active travel and a reduction in car use which would benefit us all.

Labour supports the recommendations in the recent consultation but is concerned that "More work is needed to provide detailed cost estimates, beyond the scope of the report." We question Hampshire Council's ability to deliver these much needed improvements.



# Keep in touch



[www.farehamlabour.org.uk](http://www.farehamlabour.org.uk)



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# Action on climate change

Along with Fareham residents Labour has demanded action on the climate crisis. It is now down to those in office in our government and councils to take fast, significant and long term action to help save our planet and environment.

There are many things that need to be done. In particular Fareham borough is a heavily car-dependent area due to insufficient and expensive local public transport. As we come out of Covid restrictions this must be a priority for improvement to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Fareham Labour says 'Fareham and Hampshire Councils should take urgent actions to mitigate climate change in Fareham and reduce our carbon footprint. This must be substantial action to help alleviate climate change which will affect us all.'