

## **Election Special**

## Must do better on affordable housing



With house prices and rents soaring there has never been a greater need for genuinely affordable housing in Fareham.

The draft local plan for Fareham requires developments of 10 homes or more to provide at least 10 per cent of the homes to be let at social rents. Contrary to this requirement Fareham Borough Council has agreed, with a developer, that this can be

halved with only shared ownership and so called 'affordable rent' being provided.

Fareham Labour insists that the council ensure that all future housing developments larger than 10 homes have sufficient number of genuinely affordable homes constructed to high standards.

Fareham Labour insists that proper thought is given to the provision of affordable housing in local plans. We would support prioritising brownfield sites, for development, including building higher density housing in existing town centres. We see town centres as one area that can provide much needed affordable housing. We object to the current proposals, which seek to designate areas of green space that were previously protected.

Labour councillors would fight to keep as many green spaces as possible free from development.

# 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

### **Cost of living crisis**



Inflation is at it's highest in thirty years and set to rise even further. Interest rates are increasing and together with rising costs of fuel and food are having a huge impact on household budgets with families facing the choice between eating or heating.

The Conservative government's response to the massive increase in household energy bills has been woefully inadequate, demonstrating the lack of understanding the pressures real families are facing. Labour would levy a windful tax on oil and gas companies that are making massive profits.

Electing a Labour councillor would insure that the impact on hard working families are considered by the council when decisions are made. In contrast, the Conservative leader of Fareham was reported as asking the government to double the amount by which councils can increase council tax without a referendum.

### Action on climate change

Fareham borough is heavily car dependant due to insufficient and expensive public transport.

Fareham Labour says 'Fareham and Hampshire councils should take urgent actions to improve public transport and provide more cycleways and better footpaths for pedestrians to make alternatives to car use viable and safe.'

This must be a priority for improvement to reduce our carbon footprint and mitigate climate change.

#### **Safer Communities**

The Conservatives have cut our police to the lowest level in a generation and cut funding for services that prevent crime from happening.

These decisions helped cause a surge in antisocial behaviour, leaving people afraid in their own communities. Drug use has risen and criminal gangs are exploiting kids to send drugs around the country.

There is huge concern about violent crime. It shouldn't be like this and it doesn't have to be. Labour would make your streets safer. Our priorities are to drive down crime and antisocial behaviour, tackle the root causes of the problems communities face and ensure criminals are brought to justice.

We'd put more police on the beat in our communities and we'd ensure provision of youth clubs and treatment services. We'll put victims of crime first, starting by strengthening their rights in law.

Before becoming leader of the Labour Party, Keir Starmer was the most senior prosecutor in the country. It was his job to get criminals off the streets and give victims the justice they deserve. That's the job of the Prime Minister, too, and Keir Starmer will act where Boris Johnson has failed.



