

# Young people backing the Lib Dems

**Students and young people both locally and across the UK are turning their backs on Tony Blair and the Labour government because of issues such as university fees and the Iraq War.**

Lib Dem Parliamentary candidate for Eltham, **Ian Gerrard** says, "Many young people have told me that they feel betrayed by Labour over their broken promises on university fees, and the lies over Iraq's weapons of mass destruction."

**It's time for a change**

"Many people are looking for an alternative", says Ian, "and know that Michael Howard's Tories are not credible - after all they thought up fees in the first place!

"In contrast the Lib Dems have led the way in scrapping tuition fees in Scotland and have been the real opposition to Labour at Westminster.

"There's only one choice left for people who want the best for the future - Charles Kennedy's Lib Dems."



*Lib Dem candidate for Eltham Ian Gerrard with a petition against top-up fees at the Avery Hill campus earlier this year*

## Lib Dems - First choice for students

Independent research shows students are most likely to vote for the Liberal Democrats in May's General Election.

Ian Gerrard, local Lib Dem parliamentary candidate, commented, "All the students I know are backing the Lib Dems in this election. Whatever their background, students have been let down by Tony Blair. And it is the Lib Dems who are now the real alternative to Labour."

### FEES: How the parties compare

**Lib Dems:**

- scrap tuition fees and block top-up fees
- Grants for those who need them most
- Fund the abolition of fees through progressive taxation

**Labour:**

- Introducing top-up fees that will see students leave university £20,000 in debt
- Taxing learning, not those who can pay

**Tories:**

- Credit-card interest rates on student loans
- Hitting the poorest hardest

# Liberal Democrats - the *REAL* Alternative to Labour

## Lib Dems slam Labour's ID card plans

The Liberal Democrats have condemned Labour's controversial plans to introduce national identity cards as "expensive, bureaucratic and ineffective".

The Lib Dems say that the massive £6 BILLION cost of the cards would be better spent on more police to tackle crime.



*Ian Gerrard campaigning against Labour's ID card plans*

Ian Gerrard, local Lib Dem parliamentary candidate, has criticised the idea that ID cards would make Britain more secure, saying, "Identity cards didn't prevent the Madrid bombings, and the 9/11 bombers travelled under their own identity. How is it going to make a difference to the fight against terrorism?"

"Mr Blair's ID cards could quickly be required for anyone who wants to use public services in this country and I am

concerned that ID cards could result in more discrimination against minority communities, who already face racism and harassment.

"ID Cards would waste money and damage civil liberties."

## Act NOW on global warming

Liberal Democrats are calling for real action to tackle global warming, after the Labour Government admitted it would miss a vital environmental target.

Britain is not going to meet targets for cutting emissions of greenhouse gas carbon dioxide - in fact CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have started to go up again!

Local Lib Dem candidate Ian Gerrard says, "Britain not only needs to meet the Kyoto targets but also to agree further international reductions in emissions. Tony Blair must not water down agreements in a futile attempt to bring George Bush on board."

# £3 billion

## The price of war!

Official Government figures reveal that the war in Iraq cost at least £3 billion.

## What the NHS could have got for

# £3 billion

◆ Trained 8,390 nurses to fill existing vacancies

AND

◆ Built 18 new hospitals

AND

◆ Provided 50 new cancer scanners

AND

◆ Trained 300 new doctors

## It's a matter of trust



## New Labour: a Weapon of Mass Deception

### How to contact Ian and the local Lib Dem team

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**The environment has always been a major concern for Liberal Democrats. A green thread runs through all areas of our manifesto.**