

March 2006



# FOCUS

## on Eltham South

Lib  
Dems

Con

Lab  
can't win  
here

**From Michael Lewis, Cllr Mark Pattenden, Elliot Shubert**

Delivered FREE by volunteers to residents in Avery Hill,  
Crown Woods, Eltham Town Centre & New Eltham

In the last local elections in Eltham South, just 18 votes split the Lib Dems and the Tories.

# Labour puts up Council tax - again

Local Liberal Democrat Councillor **Mark Pattenden** is calling on the government to scrap the council tax following Labour-run Greenwich council's decision to raise the tax by another 4%.

**Cllr Pattenden** says, "This increase comes on top of a massive increase in domestic electricity and gas bills and will cause financial hardship for many households."

He points out that last year there was a £200 subsidy from the government for pensioners to reduce the impact. "It is unlikely that this will be paid again this year. Clearly this was simply to buy off pensioners and get Labour through the general election!"

### Massive tax rise

"Since the last council elections Labour has increased the council tax by almost 20% - if you include the Labour Mayor of London's tax increases it's a massive 28% rise," warns **Mark Pattenden**.

Fellow Lib Dem campaigner **Dr Elliot Shubert** adds, "Labour's council tax record locally has been poor. Immediately after the last council elections Labour put up the council tax by 14% in a single year!"

"Council tax was unfair when the Tories invented it after their failed POLL TAX. The Liberal Democrats would replace the Council tax with a fairer system based on the ability to pay."

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[www.greenwich.libdems.org.uk/surveys](http://www.greenwich.libdems.org.uk/surveys)



**Cllr Mark Pattenden** (centre) joins fellow Lib Dem campaigners **Elliot Shubert** and **Michael Lewis** in the campaign to axe the unfair council tax.

## Council Tax FACT FILE

- ❖ 4 years ago the Council Tax in the borough was £954. It now stands at £1,222 - a rise of over 28% (Band D figures)
- ❖ The year after the last council elections, Labour raised the council tax by over 14%
- ❖ The Council Tax was originally introduced by the Conservatives
- ❖ Labour recently announced that they were delaying any council tax reform

