

# **FOCUS**

*on Eltham South*

**Nov/Dec 2009**

Edited by  
**Mark Pattenden &  
Michael Lewis**

**Lib  
Dem  
1386**

**Con  
1443**

**Can't  
win  
here**

Only the Lib Dems can  
beat the Conservatives  
here in Eltham South

**Lab  
667**

*Delivered free by volunteers to Avery Hill, Crown Woods, Eltham Town Centre and New Eltham*

# **Lib Dems attack Labour's secret plan to cut services**

**Local Liberal Democrat campaigner Mark Pattenden has condemned Labour's plans to cut local services and increase charges.**

Reports suggest Labour are planning cuts to Cleansweep, want to make it more difficult to access social services and are considering reducing funding to crime reduction schemes.

Furthermore they plan to make leaseholders pay more, even though they have been hit by significant increases already.

The plans have been discussed in secret by Labour councillors but have not yet been published. Moreover they are refusing even to talk about them in public.

## **Labour should come clean on cuts**

"If Labour have plans to cut services local people rely on, they should come clean and tell us," commented **Mark Pattenden**.

"We should be working to make our streets cleaner and safer. But Labour's plans would mean exactly the opposite.

"They have clearly got their priorities wrong.

"Greenwich Council spends vast amounts of money on central administration, so it should be looking closer to home for savings," Mark added.

"The Liberal Democrats want to make sure we all get value for money for our council tax. But we will protect the key services that local residents rely on."



## ***Services under threat?***

*Local campaigner Mark Pattenden has attacked Labour's threat to cut funding for local voluntary groups*

## **Your FOCUS team**

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***A fresh start for our local area - Liberal Democrats***

# Lib Dems slam Boris' fare hike

Local Liberal Democrats have criticised the decision by the Conservative Mayor of London Boris Johnson to increase tube and bus fares.

Local Lib Dem transport campaigner **Michael Lewis** says, "For the second year in a row the Mayor is punishing local residents with an inflation-busting increase in fares. Incredibly even a short bus journey with just one change will set people back £2.40.

"Boris Johnson boasts about freezing his share of the council tax bill. But by continually raising fares, he is taking significantly more from residents already hit by the recession.

"This is a Mayor who gives with one hand but takes even more with the other."



*Mark Pattenden has responded to complaints from residents about the poor upkeep of the new flowerbeds in New Eltham*

# University must take responsibility for student parking problem

Local Liberal Democrat campaigner **Mark Pattenden** has called on Greenwich University to take responsibility for the parking problems it has created on the Avery Hill estate.

Since the introduction of parking charges parking on the Avery Hill university campus many students and staff have started parking their cars in local roads, often making it impossible for residents to park outside their own homes.



**Mark** says. "The University was required to introduce a 'Green Travel Plan' to reduce traffic and parking on campus. Instead they have simply offloaded their problem onto local residents.

"Greenwich University must act quickly and can start immediately by withdrawing the charges. They cannot keep using local roads as a free extension to their own car parks.

"The Council and the University must work together to resolve this problem. Residents on the Avery Hill estate deserve better."

# A better deal for our troops

Lib Dem leader Nick Clegg has pledged that the Liberal Democrats would raise the pay of the lowest paid soldiers by as much as £6,000.

Eltham South Lib Dem **Michael Lewis**, who is backing the campaign, says "Our soldiers deserve a better deal. Many put their lives on the line but struggle to make ends meet - that's just not right.

"You cannot put a price on the sacrifices made by our Armed Forces, but you can give them a better deal - it's time that Gordon Brown's Labour government did."

You can back the campaign by going to [NickClegg.com/ArmedForcesPay](http://NickClegg.com/ArmedForcesPay)

# It matters what YOU think...

If you know of a local problem which needs attention use this space to have your own say...

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

The Liberal Democrats would like to use the information above to contact you from time to time to keep you informed of campaigns we may think of interest to you. Please write to us if you do not wish to be contacted in this way.

I/we want to support the local Lib Dem team by:

- Delivering FOCUS in my local area
- Joining the Liberal Democrats
- Making a donation
- Displaying a poster at elections
- Coming along to social events

Return to: **Greenwich Borough Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST RRLH-HACR-EZLG, LONDON, SE9**