

**YOU DESERVE BETTER**

# IS THIS TORY COUNCIL WORKING FOR YOU?

**7 REASONS WE NEED CHANGE**



# LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



In Herne Bay, Labour candidate **Fred Pearce** organised the town's first pride event this year. Candidate **Tom Mellish** has helped raise money for Christmas lights after the council cut the funding.

Canterbury Councillor Alan Baldock has helped bring a petition in front of the council to save local market traders and halt the council spending over £1m unnecessarily relaying pavement in our city centre.

# 1

**Last year the Tories spent £11.5m repaying debts - that's money which could be spent on vital services.** Their failed investment in Whitefriars is now worth 70p for every £1 of our money they put in.

Rather than invest in reckless vanity projects like Canterbury West Car Park. Labour would spend money on things which solve the problems we all face like the lack of housing.

**The Tories are all out of money.** We need them out of power.

# 2

**The council no longer holds local public meetings where you can talk directly to councillors about the things you care about.** Ben Fitter-Harding's Tories now make decisions behind closed doors.

Rather than ignore local people, Labour would work with them to solve complicated problems like littering and traffic. We wouldn't launch consultations and ignore the results.

**The Tories are out of touch.** We need them out of power.

## LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



In Canterbury, **Cllr Jean Butcher** has continued to chair an online version of the local forum the council shut two years ago. Attendance at meetings has grown every year.

In Whitstable, **Cllr Val Kenny** helped set up a people's forum to ensure councillors continue to regularly meet with the public. Most Tory councillors don't even bother to show up.

# LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



In Whitstable, Labour candidate **Charlotte Cornell** distributed over 1000 free laptops to families struggling with home schooling. Candidate **Nicola May** has run cost-of-living fairs to promote advice services this winter.

**Cllr Connie Nolan** has been working with the Ukrainian Community in Canterbury - she's helped arrange language classes at Christchurch University, a Ukrainian Youth Club and bicycles to help people look for jobs.

# 3

**Tory Ben Fitter-Harding ignored calls to tackle the cost-of-living crisis.** It took four months of Labour pressure to get them to take the problem seriously and employ a dedicated staff member.

Local communities have always stepped up to support one another during the pandemic. We housed Ukrainians fleeing war and cared for those struggling - where has the council been?

**The Tories are out of step and slow to act.** We need them out of power.

# 4

**The Tories are calling for thousands of homes we don't need when our infrastructure is crumbling.** Sewage in our seas and rivers is a threat to our health and something that needs real action.

Labour has voted for national change to legislation. Our MP **Rosie Duffield** is pushing for practical solutions to end the problem where we live.

**The Tories are out of ideas.** We need them out of power.

## LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



**Labour Cllr Pip Hazelton** is a volunteer river warden. She arranges regular checks and litter picks around our waterways.

**Cllr Chris Cornell** prompted the council to deliver a citizen science project with local campaign groups in Whitstable. Labour's Rewilding Plan has identified over 20 sites where Southern Water is currently working to redirect storm water naturally.

# LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



**Canterbury Cllr Mel Dawkins** has led the way by encouraging people to turn off their engines at railway crossings and saved the trees the Tories wanted to cut down in St George's Street.

**Cllr Pat Edwards** is chairing the new Friends of Old Park group and has stopped the council building a road through the SSSI.

Candidate **Paul Prentice** has helped Labour plant hundreds of trees in the district.

# 5

**The Tories declared a climate emergency but then cut almost £150k from the budget of its climate change officers.** They are proposing a £31m road through green fields.

The Tories have closed Park-and-Ride services in Sturry and are proposing a barmy zoning model for Canterbury which will force you to drive further.

**The Tories are running out of time on the climate crisis.** We need them out of power.

# 6

**The Tories are planning to close Children's Centres, including the one at Riverside in Canterbury and the two in Whitstable.** Last year they cut £5m from vital homeless outreach services.

Labour believes that it's a false economy to cut services that support our most vulnerable - particularly when investment here saves money elsewhere.

**The Tories don't care about those out of luck.** We need them out of power.

## LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



**Kent County Councillor Alister Brady** is organising young parents to fight the cuts in Canterbury and looking for a new home for youth projects which are at risk.

Labour candidate **Paul Todd** manages Canterbury's day centre for the homeless.

**Dane Buckman** helps run his local repair cafe helping people reuse, recycle and save money.

# LABOUR ON YOUR SIDE



Labour candidate **Harry McKenzie** organised the Reclaim the Streets protest in Canterbury where hundreds raised their concerns about violence after dark.

**Elizabeth Carr-Ellis** has been working with our hospital trust on greater inclusion of women.

In Whitstable **Dan Allen** and **Simon Warley** are working to oppose unnecessary changes to on-street policing.

# 7

**The Tories are planning on cutting two thirds of PCSOs across Kent by this June.** Ben Fitter-Harding has privatised the council's enforcement teams. 40% of every ticket now goes into the pockets of private companies.

Enforcement teams spend hours chasing dog walkers rather than cracking down on fly tippers and anti social behaviour.

**Tory cuts to police budgets are out of order.** We need them out of power.