

Luton Labour News

Winter Edition - Delivered free of charge to your area

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH SAY LABOUR COUNCILLORS

After 8 years of Tory austerity, local councils are at breaking point.

Started under the Tory/Lib Dem coalition government in 2010, austerity measures will have cut local government funding by £16bn by 2020.

Tory cuts mean councils will have lost 60p out of every £1 that the last Labour Government was spending in 2010.

Cuts to Councils have been strikingly uneven in their distribution - with the poorest councils having their spending cut by £228 per person since 2010, but the richest councils having their spending cut by only £44.

Luton Council has had to cut around £113m from its budget since 2010 and is battling to still provide services and protect the most vulnerable in our town.

However, pressures are increasing - last year councils were forced to spend an extra £800m on vital services to protect children, and with an ageing population and growing demand, adult social care faces a gap of £3.5bn.

Luton Labour Group has joined with Labour councillors from across the UK to call for a real end to austerity by signing up to the Breaking Point campaign, and supporting a Breaking Point motion at Full Council.

Your Labour councillors are fighting back against Tory cuts, demanding immediate investment of £2bn in children's services and £2bn in adult social care to stop these vital emergency services from collapsing.

See: www.councilsatbreakingpoint.com



Luton's Crown Post Office

Save our Post Office

Luton Labour were shocked to hear that the Post Office Ltd has proposed to close the Crown Post Office in the Mall and move it into WH Smiths.

Franchising Crown Post Offices to WH Smith would result in longer queuing time, reduced services, inferior advice being given on products and poor disabled access.

Post Office Ltd is simply using franchising of Crown Post Offices to boost profits at the expense of vital local services.

Luton Labour fully support the campaign to save our nation's cherished Post Office network, launched by the Communication Workers Union (CWU) in response to the bombshell announcement that 74 Crown Post Offices are to be franchised to high-street retailer WH Smith - a move which will impact some 800 jobs and drastically cut services to communities.

Find out more about the #SaveOurPostOffice campaign and sign the online petition at www.saveourpostoffice.co.uk

Anger at ongoing school funding cuts

Luton's Labour Councillors are angry that the Tory Government's Autumn budget failed to reverse the school funding cuts.

No money to plug gaps in core school budgets, and no attempt to tackle the crisis in SEND (special education and disability) provision, with many children not getting the specific support they need as a result of the cuts.

All Luton schools are facing cuts, and it's currently estimated that they will lose nearly £14 million in real terms, or about £400 per pupil, between 2015-2020.

If the Chancellor just thinks schools only need money for "one-off little extras", this shows the Tory government's complete disregard for

parents, teachers and Heads who say that schools are cut to the bone.

The next Labour government will reverse these cuts, giving our schools the resources they need and increasing per-pupil funding to a record high.



Your Labour Team standing up for Luton



☎ 01582 730764
@ @LutonLabourLBC
✉ Luton Labour Parties
3 Union Street
Luton
LU1 3AN

Our Luton Labour councillors, candidates and activists come from all walks of life and we're proud that we reflect the diverse communities of our town.

We place our Labour values at the heart of what we do, striving for a better, fairer society, and for a country that works for the many not just the privileged few.

Universal Credit: stop the roll-out now!

The Tories' callous and catastrophic roll-out of Universal Credit has pushed families into poverty.

Some of the poorest families are set to be at least £200 a month worse off, leaving them unable to pay rent or put dinner on the table, and facing debt and eviction as a result.

Universal Credit is now being rolled out across Luton and is hurting the poorest in our town with around a third of those affected projected to be worse off.

Even Tories themselves, like Esther McVey MP, claim that families will be "worse off".

This is unacceptable.

That is why the Labour Party is saying it's time the roll-out of Universal Credit is stopped.

If you need help, useful advice about all aspects of Universal Credit can be found at www.luton.gov.uk/lutonaccess



Luton Investment Framework

Labour Luton's bold 20 year strategy - the Luton Investment Framework (LIF) - is an ambitious plan for major town-wide investment and transformation.

Launched in 2015, in collaboration with key partners who are passionate about our town, it is on schedule to secure **£1.5bn investment** to transform the town and create **18,500 quality jobs** for local people.

It aims to drive improvements to health and wellbeing, creating opportunities for residents, raising aspirations and enhancing prosperity across the town.

The LIF's priorities and key areas of focus are:

- 1 building economic growth and prosperity
- 2 enhancing skills and education
- 3 improving health and wellbeing
- 4 developing quality homes and infrastructure
- 5 supporting safe, strong and cohesive communities

Find out more at:
www.luton.gov.uk/lutoninvestmentframework

