

HOLDING OXFORD CITY COUNCIL TO ACCOUNT

HOUSING CRISIS

RIISING ROUGH SLEEPING. LEAST AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE UK

Inaction by the local council and successive austerity governments have let the housing crisis spiral out of control



IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS.



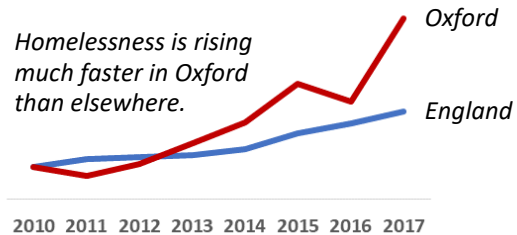
Green Party
for the common good

THE SCANDAL OF HOMELESSNESS

ROUGH SLEEPING IN OXFORD HAS RISEN MORE THAN TWICE AS FAST AS IN THE REST OF THE UK

Homelessness is a national problem and Council's everywhere are failing to invest sufficiently in accommodation, and the necessary support services, to provide everyone with a warm and safe place to sleep. The problem in Oxford is particularly severe. Whereas rough sleeping has risen by 169% nationally, in Oxford it has increased by a **staggering 455%** in the last seven years.

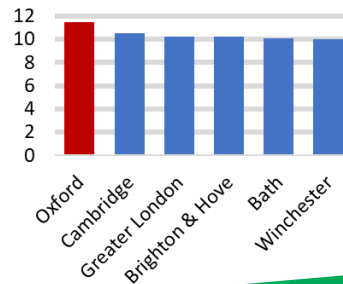
Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Govt (Feb 2018)



OXFORD IS UK'S LEAST AFFORDABLE CITY - AVERAGE PROPERTY PRICE IS 11.5 TIMES AVERAGE WAGE

Source: Lloyds Bank's Affordable Cities Review (Feb 2018)

Rents and house prices have soared whilst wages have stayed low. So-called 'affordable housing' is out of reach for many. A failure to build sufficient new social housing, coupled with the 'right to buy', has put pressure on the entire housing market. Poor local planning decisions, favouring luxury homes, retail and commercial developments over social housing, have made the problem worse in Oxford.



Oxford is the UK's least affordable City.

Graph shows ratio of average house price to average earnings.

OF PROFIT

HOMES FOR PEOPLE, NOT PROFIT



Greens are fighting for your right to a safe, secure and affordable home.

- ✓ **END THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS**
- ✓ **MORE COUNCIL HOUSING**
- ✓ **FAIRER RENTS**
- ✓ **GREENER, WARMER HOMES**

GREENS HOLDING THE COUNCIL TO ACCOUNT

- Helping turn **empty buildings** into temporary homeless shelters
- Pushing the Council to consider **rent controls** (no action yet!)
- Campaigning against the **closure of City Centre homeless hostels**
- Successfully **overturning measures in the Council's proposed Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)** that targeted the homeless
- Highlighting the Council's **threat to fine the homeless £2,500**
- Campaigning for higher levels of **social housing** on Council land
- **Forcing a public apology** from a senior Labour Councillor who branded rough sleepers a 'disgrace'
- Challenged the Council when they **took sleeping bags** etc. from rough sleepers without offering an alternative

...and more...



Green MP Caroline Lucas campaigning with local Green Councillors and candidates to keep the City-owned Lucy Faithfull House homeless hostel open.



One of the Oxford City Council notices left on a homeless person's belongings threatening a £2,500 fine.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

EVERYONE DESERVES SOMEWHERE WARM AND SAFE TO SLEEP

Do you have a housing issue? Contact us.

- Councillor David Thomas - dnt@greenoxford.com
- Councillor Dick Wolff - dick@greenoxford.com
- Elise Benjamin - elise@greenoxford.com
- Councillor Craig Simmons - craig@greenoxford.com

Call or text: 07920 054888

www.greenoxford.com FB: Oxfordshire Green Party



HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE

"[My local Green Councillor]... worked tirelessly to help and support me in my struggle to gain my basic rights at a point when I was at my most vulnerable and in need."

"...following your previous help myself and my family was placed in emergency accommodation...I am now able to bid [for Council properties]."

"thank you...without your help I would now be homeless."

Promoted by David Newman on behalf of Dick Wolff, Elise Benjamin, David Thomas and Craig Simmons all c/o 81B Donnington Bridge Road, OX4 4BA. Printed on recycled paper by Hillingdon Greenprint, 58 Beech Ave, Ruislip using renewable energy.

HOLD THE COUNCIL TO ACCOUNT ON HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS - VOTE GREEN ON 3RD MAY