

Southwark Labour

A Proud Record. A Fairer Future

Labour
Manifesto
2018

Our vision for a fairer future...

- ✓ The best start in life: clean air, great schools and opportunities to thrive.
- ✓ The quality homes that you and your family need.
- ✓ Fighting for you, on your side in challenging and uncertain times.
- ✓ A great place to live with clean, green and safe communities.
- ✓ A healthy borough where your background doesn't determine your life chances.
- ✓ Full employment, where everyone has the skills to play a full part in our economy.
- ✓ A modern efficient council: working with the community, listening to residents and open to you.



 Labour



Use all your votes for Labour on 3rd May



Dear Resident,

We have led Southwark Council since 2010. We are proud of our record: we've introduced free swim and gyms for all our residents; free healthy school meals for all primary school children; raised standards across our schools; we're building new council homes, and are making existing council homes warm, dry and safe with quality kitchens and bathrooms so now more than 95% are decent; and made the borough cleaner, greener and safer.

We have done all of this while the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats in government have slashed the council's budget and made it harder and harder to deliver services. By being efficient and using every penny as if it were from our own pocket we have kept council tax low while protecting vital frontline services. We will continue to keep it low, only raising it to protect the most vulnerable.

In a world changed by Brexit, and following the tragic Grenfell fire, it is more important than ever that you have a council which is on your side and prepared to take the difficult decisions to deliver a fairer future. We have listened to you, worked with you and together, we have achieved so much. As the government prioritises hard Brexit over hard working local people, Southwark Labour is on your side in tough times, fighting for you, and will never stop being ambitious for the future. Our record shows we can be trusted to deliver - and with a Labour government we could do even more. We are asking for your support and your vote so we can keep delivering a fairer future for you in Southwark.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter John', with a stylized flourish at the end.

*Councillor Peter John OBE,
Labour Leader of Southwark Council*



www.SouthwarkLabour.co.uk



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southwarklabourparty@gmail.com



020 7787 0573

A Proud Record. A Fairer Future



To improve the health of our children, we introduced Free Healthy School Meals and free fruit for all primary school children.



We will extend Free Healthy School Meals to school nurseries, and increase activity by introducing a 'daily mile' in all our primary schools.



In 4 years we've helped over 5,000 into work, and created nearly 2,000 apprenticeships - more than any other London borough.



We will make sure that 500 young people from low income backgrounds get paid internships with London's best employers.



Government cuts mean many councils are closing their libraries. We've kept ours open and are building new ones.



With 9 new theatres opening in Southwark, we will ensure that every primary child gets a free visit to the theatre every year.



We've introduced free swim and gyms for all residents - with nearly half a million visits since 2016.



We will make free swim and gym more flexible with more options as to when you go, and make swimming lessons free for all residents.



We are making every council home warm, dry and safe, with a quality kitchen and bathroom, so now over 95% are decent.



We will introduce a Southwark Renters Union and deliver a Southwark Gold Standard for private rental properties.



We are building 11,000 council homes by 2043. 535 are already completed, 471 are being built or have permission to start, and a further 513 are going through the planning process.



We will build at least 1,000 more council homes and 1,000 new homes at London Living Rent by 2022.



We have the best recycling rate in inner London and it's getting better. Now, less than 1% of waste goes to landfill.



We will end single-use plastic in the council, halve it in the borough, and introduce water fountains throughout Southwark to reduce plastic bottles.



The Tory / Lib Dem Record

Opposed Free Healthy School Meals - which they said was one of Labour's 'Bad Choices'.

Worst council housing in London, only around half of homes were decent.

Built just 3 new council homes in the last 4 years that they ran the council.

Council tax collection was 3rd worst in the country meaning less money to improve Southwark.

Cut CCTV coverage and failed to use anti-social behaviour powers.

Recycling was 6th worst in London.



A fairer future for all in Southwark

We will...

- 1 Open a new secondary school at **Borough** by 2019.

- 17 Improve facilities on the **Kingswood Estate** and ensure Kingswood House remains an asset for the local community.



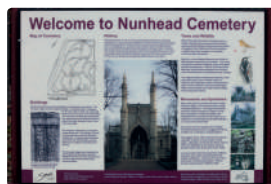
- 16 Deliver new safe pedestrian crossings including at the junction of **Lordship Lane** and **Dulwich Common**.



- 2 Campaign to reinstate the frequency of the RV1 bus service.



- 15 Restore the historic **Nunhead Cemetery** East Lodge and boundary wall.



- 14 Open a new library at Grove Vale in **East Dulwich**.

- 13 Do all we can to secure the future of Dulwich Hamlet FC on its current **Champion Hill** site.



- 10 Open a new, modern leisure centre at **Canada Water**.

- 11 Work with the Mayor of London to build a new pedestrian and cycling bridge from **Canada Water** to Canary Wharf.

- 12 Support plans to create the Coal Line greenlink in **Peckham**.

- 9 Secure the future of the **Ledbury Estate** with no reduction in the number of council homes.



- 3 Build a new library on the **Walworth Road**, secure the future of Walworth Town Hall and make it a publicly accessible cultural hub.



- 5 Re-open the Blue Youth Club and Community Centre in **Bermondsey**.



- 8 Establish a Creative Enterprise Zone in **Camberwell** and **Peckham** to support artists, producers and other creative small businesses.



- 4 Build a new library and GP Health Centre on the **Aylesbury Estate**, and secure funding to support residents through the regeneration.



- 6 Campaign to re-open **Camberwell Train Station**.

- 7 Campaign for three new tube stations on the **Old Kent Road**, including one at the **Bricklayers Arms**.



Open out the leaflet to see our plans to keep improving Southwark.

Southwark Labour: *A Proud Record. A Fairer Future*



A place to call home

Everyone should have a place that they are proud to call home. That's why we are improving council homes, cracking down on rogue private landlords and building new council and affordable homes across the borough. 'Southwark Homeowners' is now holding the council to account so leaseholders get a fair deal, and our award winning homelessness work is helping more people get the secure home they need.

- We've introduced estate deep cleans and will launch a Great Estates Guarantee so that every estate is clean, safe and cared for and residents have the tools to garden and improve their estate.
- We will bring our repairs service in-house so more jobs are done right first time. We will make it easier to request repairs online and see maintenance schedules.
- The housing crisis is made worse when Right to Buy properties end up with private companies charging high rents. We will seek to introduce provisions so that absent leaseholders must let at affordable rents.
- We will turn around council voids within 28 days so people waiting for homes get them sooner.
- Too often, those fleeing domestic abuse lose their home whilst the perpetrator stays behind. We will reverse this so that domestic abuse survivors are prioritised over their abuser.
- Improvements on estates like security doors can be blocked by absent landlords. We will change the rules so those who live on estates get the biggest say.



Tenants, residents and homeowner groups want more people to be involved. We will work with them to find new ways to engage so that more people can have their say.

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A place to belong

The housing crisis means Southwark needs more homes that local people can afford. That's why we are building more homes of every kind including 11,000 new council homes, alongside new libraries and leisure centres to serve local people. We want regeneration to work for everyone, to reduce health inequality, create jobs and opportunities and build council homes as good as, or better than, private homes. We will keep fighting to get the best deals from developers, but the system needs to change, so we will work with the next Labour government to make councils less reliant on private developers.

- We will establish a Southwark Construction Company to build the homes and develop the skills our borough needs.
- The booming population puts new demands on local services. We will continue to ensure that every new development has enough GPs, school places and parks to support residents.
- We will guarantee that developments on council land have at least 50% council rented homes and ensure a right to return for council tenants and resident leaseholders so local people can stay in the borough they call home.
- If estates need to be redeveloped, we will always increase the number of council homes on the estate and build to the highest standards.
- We will introduce ballots on any new estate regeneration and a Consultation Charter to ensure local residents can hold private sector developers to account.



Our Construction Skills Academy is training local people to get jobs building Southwark's new homes. We will guarantee that all our building contractors advertise jobs to local people first.

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A full employment borough

Southwark thrives when people have quality well paid jobs and can play their part in our economy. Under Labour in Southwark more people are in work, and we've halved the number of young people not in education, employment or training. We want to go further and become a full employment borough where barriers to work are swept away, where everyone who wants to work has a job and where volunteering is properly recognised.

- We've helped over 5,000 local people into work; we will help 5,000 more and create 2,500 new apprenticeships.
- We will double the number of employers who pay the London Living Wage and make the Old Kent Road and Canada Water London Living Wage Zones.
- We have closed the council's gender pay gap. We will make Southwark the first Equal Pay Borough, so all our contractors must publish their gender pay gap and plans to reduce it.
- We will introduce a Southwark Good Work Standard and only work with companies that will recognise trade unions, pay the London Living Wage and do not use harmful zero hours contracts.
- We will establish an Innovation Fund to invest in the Southwark entrepreneurs of the future.
- We will make sure everyone has a basic qualification in English and maths; provide one-to-one support for low paid workers to help them get better paid jobs; and improve access to financial support to those who need additional funding for courses.



We will deliver at least 500 new affordable business spaces and make sure residents have the digital skills to get the jobs of the future.

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A great start in life

Every child deserves the best start in life. That's why we've campaigned alongside local parents for fair funding for schools and worked with schools to drive up standards and support healthy, active childhoods. As well as improving play areas across the borough, we have refurbished and expanded popular schools and worked with local parents to support new schools like The Charter East Dulwich and The Belham.

- 9 out of 10 schools in Southwark are Good or Outstanding. We will make sure all our schools reach this level, and drive up standards so every school exceeds London averages at every stage.
- Mental health services for children and young people are not good enough. We will protect funding and find ways to change and improve services so that more children get the support they need, when they need it.
- We've protected our most vulnerable children and families from government cuts. We will continue to invest in early intervention and will keep our children and families' centres open.
- We're helping care leavers by exempting them from council tax. We will guarantee education, employment or training for every care leaver.
- To improve health and tackle poor air quality, we want more children to walk and cycle to school. We will close roads around schools at drop off and collection time, so that it's safer and healthier to get to school.



Childcare costs in early years can be high. We will help parents spread the costs of childcare over a longer period by setting up an affordable loan scheme.

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A greener borough

Southwark is greener than ever. We have more award winning Green Flag parks than ever before and the highest in central London. Despite government cuts we have kept the streets clean, recycling rates high and tackled fly-tipping. More people are walking and cycling to get around: cutting air pollution and improving health. We will play our part in tackling climate change, so that future generations can live in a cleaner, greener Southwark.

- We will make Southwark carbon neutral by 2050. We've already cut emissions by 25% and by 2022 we will have halved them. We will divest our investments away from fossil fuels and into sustainable alternatives.
- Urgent action is needed to improve air quality. We will vary parking charges in areas with poor air standards to encourage cleaner vehicles, and adapt lamp posts to charge electric cars so that every home is within walking distance of a charging point.
- We will have zero tolerance on fly-tipping and double the number of prosecutions for those who illegally dump in our borough.
- We will support the creation of community led sustainable energy projects on our estates to help residents reduce their energy bills.
- We will improve our high streets with timed waste collection to reduce the use of commercial bins and stop rubbish sitting out for longer than it needs to.



Southwark has over fifty sites of importance for nature conservation and nature reserves. We will protect Southwark's biodiversity, and make nature accessible for all.

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A healthier life

We are reducing health inequalities so that whatever your background you can live a healthy life. The new Castle Leisure Centre and improved cycle routes have made it easier to keep fit and healthy. Our Ethical Care Charter has improved home care, so now over 90% tell us they're satisfied, up from just 53%. We are proud to be recognised by the World Health Organisation as London's first Age Friendly Borough as we help you get the most out of life at any age.

- We want to help people to walk more and drive less so will make walking fun, safe and accessible by developing a green walking network.
- We will protect adult mental health services, deliver a loneliness strategy, and train mental health first aiders.
- We will create a network of accessible toilets and baby changing facilities.
- We will build extra care housing, open two nursing homes, and raise standards with a Residential Care Charter.
- Stigma stops too many people with HIV from getting tested. We will tackle stigma, increase testing and set up an innovation fund for projects that tackle sexually transmitted infections.
- We have made our high streets healthier. We will stop new gambling, loan shops, and fast food premises opening in council owned buildings.

We will make cycling accessible for all, increase cycle hangers where people want them, boost access to cycle hire, and double the proportion of journeys in Southwark done by bike.



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A safer community

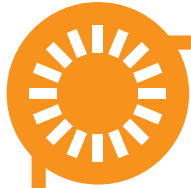
Everyone has a right to feel safe which is why we are cracking down on anti-social behaviour and working with the police and our communities to prevent, detect and respond to crime of all types. The Grenfell disaster is a tragic reminder of how fire can destroy lives. Since 2009, we have spent over £62 million on fire risk assessments and fire safety work, and we will continue to work with the London Fire Brigade to keep residents safe.

- People of every race, religion, gender, sex, sexuality, age and ability should feel safe in Southwark. We will have zero-tolerance of hate crime.
- We publish fire risk assessments online so you can see how safe your building is. We will work with housing associations and private landlords to get them to do the same.
- Southwark is still recovering from last year's terrorist attacks. We will tackle extremism, support people at risk and work with our communities to prevent radicalisation.
- We introduced a Women's Safety Charter and will now develop a Violence Against Women and Girls strategy to tackle all forms of gender based violence.
- All Southwark Council roads are now 20mph. We will campaign for TfL to do the same on their roads, and support Vision Zero to end road deaths in Southwark.



We will tackle problems like moped crime by working with the police and increasing moped anchors to secure bikes safely.

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A vibrant Southwark

Southwark is an exciting and diverse place to live, with families who have lived here for generations living alongside people who have come from every corner of the globe to make our borough home. We want Southwark to be a borough where everyone feels welcome, and where residents, businesses and traders can thrive. We are investing in our culture, nurturing the creative talents of our residents and making Southwark a place we can all be proud of.

- We've invested in our libraries so Canada Water is now the best used in London and Camberwell was awarded 2017 library of the year. We will keep them open, keep investing, and ensure they are open when people need them.
- We will continue to make culture in Southwark accessible, and work with cultural organisations in the borough to offer opportunities to Southwark residents.
- EU citizens are a proud part of Southwark's community. We will protect all local residents from the effects of Brexit and promote Southwark's diversity and cultural richness in the heart of London.
- We will ensure all residents benefit from opportunities to take advantage of the digital revolution.
- Southwark is a global borough. We will support a range of cultural celebrations across the borough and independent food businesses which reflect the diversity of our community.



We have been working with internet providers to improve broadband in Rotherhithe. We will improve high speed internet access across the borough and put free, ultra fast broadband in every community hall.