

Local news and updates from Jenny, Drew and the rest of your local Liberal Democrat team.



Jenny, Drew and your local team keep in touch with residents all year round!

# Jenny and Drew attack Tory planning changes

Local residents need more power to shape our area, not a developer's free for all

Jenny and Drew have condemned plans by the Conservative government to bring in new planning laws that will take away power from residents and give them to ministers and developers.

Cllr Drew Heffernan, Chair of Sutton's planning committee said: "We have a moral obligation to build the homes young people and families in our community need - that is why I am proud that Liberal Democrats here in Sutton meet our home-building targets year on year and are building new social homes in our borough.

"To do this, we plan carefully in partnership with communities to make sure we shape our local area together. The new rules will tear this up and give power to developers instead of the community. These damaging plans will also prevent affordable homes being built and destroy the character of our local area. They must be stopped."

### "Victoria House process" at risk

Jenny and Drew worked hard with the Council and the local community to help shape the design of the new Victoria House building in North Cheam by ensuring community representatives were invited to a Design Review Panel to critique early plans. This pioneering approach was only possible because the developers knew they need to take local views into account.

The new rules will mean that in the future, many new buildings will get *automatic* planning permission, no matter how bad the design - **residents will have no say!**



### Affordable homes under threat

In Sutton, we receive a contribution from developers for affordable housing if they build more than nine units. The government's plan is to increase this to 50. If this happens, this will utterly destroy our ability to provide desperately needed affordable housing locally.

### Back garden development free for all

Our local policies guard against blanket development of back garden space. This helps us to protect green space, prevent flooding and improve biodiversity. Under the Conservative's new system, areas will be designated for development in a way that will remove this protection. This could place back garden land and other green spaces under threat.

Find out more about these proposals and how you can join the campaign to stop them at: [suttonlibdems.org.uk/planning](https://suttonlibdems.org.uk/planning)

## Dorchester Rec gets spring clean



Jenny and Drew worked with local residents and businesses to clean up Dorchester Rec.

As part of the Great British Spring Clean, Jenny and Drew organised a litter pick in Dorchester Recreation Ground, Dorchester Road and Buckland Way.

Jenny said: "It was great to be joined by local residents and children. Our thanks in particular go to McDonalds staff from the North Cheam and Sutton restaurants who helped out and provided the equipment for the day and to Sun Bakery who offered free drinks to our team."

If you would like to get involved in one of our litter picks in the future, or want to organise your own, please do get in touch and we would be happy to help you.

Find out more local news by signing up at [suttonlibdems.org.uk/wpupdates](https://suttonlibdems.org.uk/wpupdates)

## Permits for Longfellow Road area to tackle commuter problems

Sutton Council have consulted with residents three times over the last 18 months about parking issues in our area.

After listening to residents and analysing the results from the consultation and parking studies, the following decisions were made:

- For the majority of residents there are no changes apart from double yellow lines on junctions to improve safety, visibility and access.

- In **Dorchester Road**, double yellow lines will be implemented on the bend at the junction with Wimborne Close, at the bend opposite **Delcombe Ave** and at the raised table outside Dorchester school. **The proposal for a single yellow line outside 9-99 Dorchester Rd will not be proceeded with.** These changes will tackle safety and visibility on Dorchester Road which are issues that many residents have previously raised with us.

- There will be a Controlled Parking Zone (resident permit) Monday - Friday 10am - 12pm on **Longfellow Rd, Green Lane, Beverley**



Commuter parking is one of the most important issues in resident surveys.

**Gardens, Brookside Crescent, Hazlemere Gardens, Lincoln Road, and Sutherland Gardens.** The two hours Mon- Fri will be enough to deter commuters but will help support the high street, reduce disruption to visitors, and protect the Worcester Park Athletics Club, who have been a feature of local life for over a century.

- No parking restrictions have been recommended for **Washington Rd and Caldbeck Road.**

## Contact your local team



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