



Lewes District Liberal Democrats



Lewes District is a wonderful place to live, with its great community spirit, green spaces, countryside and coast.

However, many of the things we value are under threat. The Conservatives are threatening our quality of life. Heartless nationally, hopeless locally - the Conservatives are relentlessly squeezing our public services. They have reduced local budgets and cut vital support.

Over recent years the Conservatives have lost their majority on the District Council due to various losses of Councillors from their group; at the same time the Lib Dems are the second group and are therefore the only group which can realistically offer an alternative leadership, with Councillors who actually listen.

Everywhere around the District, we hear the same thing - the ruling Conservatives just don't listen to people.

That is why we are setting out our plan to make our area better, together.

The Liberal Democrats are committed to working together with local people, to set out a fresh direction for our area. We are setting out a bold vision for renewal on the things that matter most to you - from housing and green spaces, to transport, recycling and support to local business.

But we don't presume to have all the answers for improving our District, and we certainly can't do it alone. We want to work with residents, community groups, local businesses, public sector service providers and other partners to build a more livable, sustainable local area.

The Liberal Democrats are fighting for this change and believe by working together we can make things better for everyone who lives in our area.

A cleaner, greener, fairer future.

1. Better, greener transport



We believe that to tackle the climate emergency, the future of transport is clean and green. We will campaign for improved infrastructure including a push for more electric car charging points and development of alternatives such as improved community bus services and better cycle lanes.

- Electric car charging points in all new buildings
- Work to improve community bus services across the District
- Better cycle lanes, including down the Ouse Valley

3. Build truly affordable homes



Recent changes mean that the cap on borrowing to build has been lifted so the District Council can build the housing we need. Luxury developments with little or no affordable housing aren't the answer. We need truly affordable homes for our families and the vital infrastructure to support them.

- Build new social housing for our families and young people
- Listen to local residents, to ensure appropriate development
- Ensure developers contribute to the costs of infrastructure such as roads, health, schools and open spaces

5. Support local business



We will invest in the future of our area, and plan ahead for a more sustainable future. We believe in stimulating local small businesses as they are shown to provide greater employment opportunities and to re-invest in local talent and infrastructure.

- Develop pop-up and flexible business spaces in District Council owned buildings
- Widen support for business skills development
- Push for a Land Value Tax in place of local business rates

2. A cleaner, safer District



Lewes District residents pay some of the highest Council tax in Sussex and have the right to expect clean, green and safe streets. Too often the basics have been ignored during the last 4 years. Lewes District Council needs to take practical and measurable steps to reduce anti-social behaviour, and to clean up our green spaces and the air we breathe.

- Expand on-street recycling with more dual bins
- Work with residents to tackle issues including anti-social behaviour, dog fouling, plastic waste and graffiti
- Air quality monitoring to build on citizen science approach

4. A listening, inclusive Council



The Liberal Democrats have always believed that local people should be involved in decisions affecting you and your communities. We believe in shared democratic decisions and would scrap the current Cabinet system, which limits decisions to a handful of Councillors from the majority group. We want everyone to shape the services they use, ensuring no one is excluded in the digital age.

- We will carry out an annual residents' survey and publish the results to ensure an honest conversation
- Give you updated information and better opportunities to shape Council decisions, including online
- Put community buying at the heart of the Council



Visit www.leweslibdems.org.uk for more

The positive Liberal Democrat plan for Lewes District - see inside.



Lewes District Council offices, Southover House, Lewes

The Conservatives have failed us across Lewes District

Heartless nationally:

- The Conservative Government **CUT** free school meals to some of the poorest families.
- The Conservative Government has **FAILED** to invest in our NHS. 14,000 hospital beds have been lost, which has seen patients waiting on trolleys in corridors.
- The Conservative Government has **LOST CONTROL** in the fight against crime. Police numbers have been cut across Lewes District, whilst crime and anti-social behaviour have risen.

Hopeless locally:

- Lewes District Conservatives' **INCOMPETENCE** has seen the Council facing financial uncertainty and continuing to cut, close and undermine vital services.
- Lewes District Conservatives have **FAILED** to deliver more affordable homes.
- Lewes District Conservatives enforce **CLOSED DOOR DECISIONS** in the Cabinet, instead of seeking broad democratic consensus.

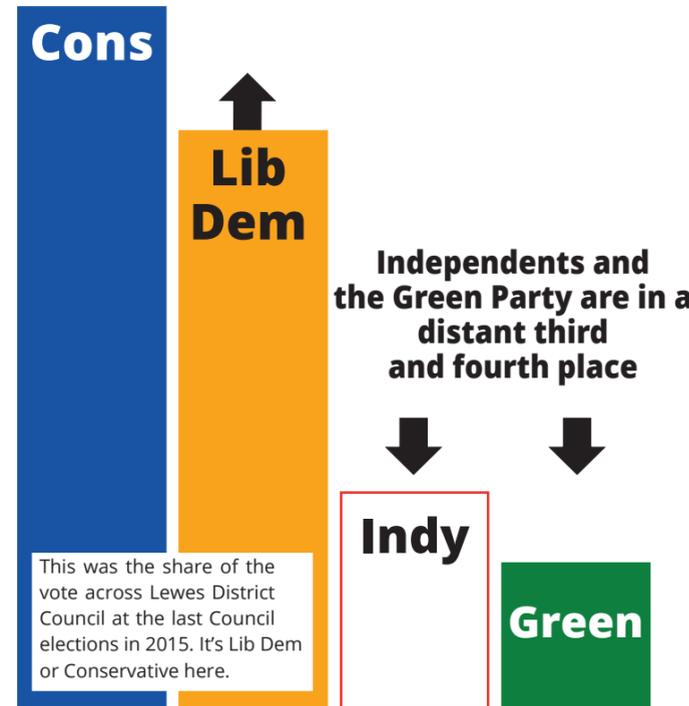
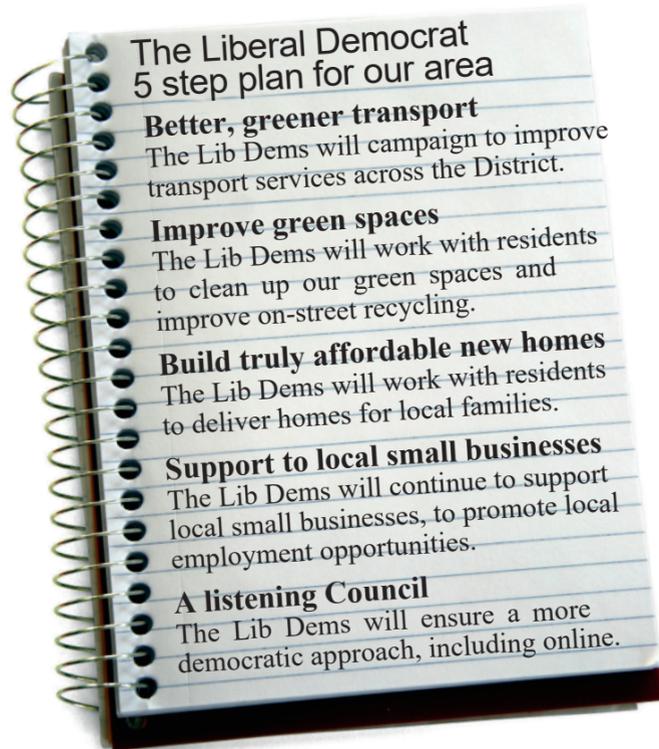
The Lib Dems will deliver a FAIRER deal for people in Lewes District

Across Lewes District it is clear that only the Liberal Democrats can beat the Conservatives.

Whatever happens nationally, Labour are out of the race here in Lewes. They have no councillors out of a possible 41 councillors across the whole district.

The Lib Dems are the main opposition to the Conservatives at the District Council. They are leading the fight against Conservative cuts to health, social care and education, both locally and nationally.

Only a Lib Dem vote on 2nd May can beat the Conservatives across Lewes District.



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www.LewesLibDems.org.uk

Let's make Lewes District better, together



Lewes Liberal Democrats

Fighting for a greener, safer and fairer district



Vote for change at the Lewes District elections
 Thursday 2nd May - polls open 7am to 10pm

It's time for change in Lewes District