

Spring 2016

London NEWS



News and views from across London delivered FREE to you



Join the campaign for half price fares before 7:30am
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An 'Olympic effort' to build homes for Londoners
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Staying in Europe to protect jobs
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Lorry ban to help cut congestion

Pidgeon's plans would make London safer for cyclists

Liberal Democrat candidate for London Mayor Caroline Pidgeon has a plan to cut congestion.

She would introduce a ban on HGV vehicles in central London in peak hours; make more use of freight consolidation centres to reduce lorry numbers; make more use of the Thames; and introduce a large scale planning permission to require measures to reduce construction traffic.

"As Mayor, I want a new strategy for freight traffic on our roads that includes incentives for switching commercial deliveries to cargo bikes where appropriate, encourage the use of greener vehicles and facilitate the sharing of good practice across the industry."

"Freight traffic makes a considerable contribution to London's congestion problem. Although the number of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) on London's roads has been largely static in recent years, there has been a marked increase in the prevalence of light commercial vehicles on London's roads. The Department of Transport estimate's of vehicle miles travelled by LGVs shows a 12% increase 2012-14 and Transport for London is predicting a 22% rise between 2011 and 2030. We need to make sure we act now to tackle congestion on London's roads and the safety and pollution problems that congestion is responsible for," said Caroline Pidgeon.

SAFER FOR CYCLISTS

"These measures would also make our roads much safer for cyclists during the busiest hours for commuters. We are still seeing too many fatalities on our streets and need to be prepared to take bold action," added Caroline.



▲ Caroline Pidgeon's (pictured insert) plans would ban HGVs from London's roads during peak rush hour periods - helping to cut congestion, improve air quality and make roads safer for cyclists.

See more bit.ly/HGVplan

With millions of British jobs on the line

The fight is on to stay in Europe

Where do they stand?

Questions are being asked about Labour's Mayoral candidate Sadiq Khan and what he stands for.

In the last few weeks he has changed his position on important issues in London - Heathrow, the Garden Bridge and on policing.

At the same time it's not even clear that Conservative candidate Zac Goldsmith is that keen to be in the race at all!

London deserves a candidate who actually cares about the issues at City Hall and isn't just in it to further their Westminster political careers.

Good ideas for London

There is an alternative. The Liberal Democrat Caroline Pidgeon has eight years experience on the London Assembly - holding the Mayor, TfL and others to account on our behalf.

It is Caroline who has been putting forward new ideas to solve the housing crisis and improve our transport system.

However you vote in the race for Mayor you can support these good ideas for London by voting Liberal Democrat on the orange ballot paper for the Assembly.



▲ 3 million British jobs are at risk if Britain votes to leave the European Union.

A number of respected business leaders are urging Britain to remain in Europe and stay 'a part of the largest market in the world'.

Over 3 million British jobs are directly linked to our positive relationship within Europe, and many of these would be at risk were Britain to vote to leave.

Leaving the EU would be a disaster for London where so many jobs are dependent on the financial services sector and trade.

EUROPEAN VOTE EXPECTED JUNE 2016

The EU referendum is expected this summer, with many predicting the vote will take place as early as late June this year.

With both the Conservatives and Labour torn and divided over Europe, the Lib Dems are the only major party calling for Britain to remain relevant at the heart of Europe.

Liberal Democrat Mayoral candidate Caroline Pidgeon told us: "Let's be clear, withdrawing from Europe will be a disaster for London."

"I support a thriving Britain with real influence across the globe; we should stay in to fight climate change, tackling cross-border crime and protecting jobs."

Join the fight to stay in Europe at: www.libdems.org.uk/europe-petition

My tenants' charter:

1. Crack down on rogue landlords
2. Scrap unfair letting agents' fees
3. Give tenants' extra rights when landlords sell up
4. Give councils power to manage private rental properties and offer longer tenancies.

<http://bit.ly/tenantscharter>

#CarolineCan



Fewer women return to work in London



Fewer women return to work in London than in any other areas of the country because of high childcare costs.

"Just 42 per cent of women with children under the age of five are in employment in London, compared with 52 per cent across the rest of the UK. Many of those who do work put in long hours and have a lengthy commute," said Caroline.

"That is why I would introduce a luxury hotel tax of £2 a night and use the revenue to fund childcare in London that matches the hours that hard pressed London parents actually work," added Caroline.

An Olympic effort on homes



▲ Caroline Pidgeon has set out plans to build 200,000 new homes for London find out more at londonlibdems.org.uk/housing.

Caroline has the plan to build the homes London needs

At the London Assembly the Liberal Democrats have set out plans to build 200,000 new homes.

By keeping the small charge on London Council Tax bills that was used to fund the Olympics, the Liberal Democrats have set out plans to build 200,000 new homes on brownfield publicly opened land.

This would include 50,000 homes at council rents and

150,000 homes both to rent and buy to help more people get onto the housing ladder.

A LONDON HOUSE BUILDING COMPANY

Caroline Pidgeon said: "I promise an 'Olympic effort' should I become Mayor of London that would deliver 50,000 new low rent 'council' homes over the next four years, built by a new construction company operating out of City

Hall – delivering a scale of homebuilding not seen since the days of the London County Council and the Greater London Council.

"I want a London Housing Company that invests in apprenticeships and training to make sure we get the homes we need and more skilled workers who can help meet the challenge our city will face into the future. We need to act now to tackle this crisis."

Exclusive interview with Caroline Pidgeon

"I want to be Mayor so I can do something, not so I can be something"

After eight years on the London Assembly why have you decided to run for Mayor?

I am passionate about London and for the last eight years having been on the London Assembly it's been rewarding to be able to make a difference and improve the lives of ordinary Londoners.

However there is more to do and so I'm running to be Mayor as I believe the experience I have gained in City Hall combined with my experience of bringing up a young family in the capital is valuable and means I can offer the solutions on transport, homes and childcare that are needed urgently.

With big Westminster names running do you think your background is



an advantage?

Absolutely. I want to be Mayor so I can do something, not so I can be something. My priority is to offer the solutions London needs not climbing the political career ladder. I'm not sure that can be said about my competitors or indeed the current holder of the office!

What do you think is the biggest challenge waiting for you?

Without a doubt it is making sure we act now to build the homes London needs.

How will you tackle the housing crisis?

I would make sure that City Hall took responsibility by building 200,000 new homes including 50,000 at council rents - paid for from a housing fund supported by keeping the £20 charge on our Council Tax which has been used to pay for the Olympics. Here in London we pulled together to put on a great set of games in 2012. City Hall now needs to have its own Olympic effort on housing.

What are your other priorities for the role?



▲ Caroline has a record of campaigning across London and getting things done.

Making sure we have a transport system that works more fairly and flexibly is vital. That's why I developed my plan for a one hour bus ticket and to introduce half price fares before 07:30am on TfL Tube, DLR, Overground and rail services.



Do you think these are achievable policies?

Of course, I wouldn't be campaigning on something that wasn't possible!

Introducing Half Price Fares is affordable and achievable and in fact the idea of the one hour bus ticket has been borrowed by other parties.

Well they say imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

That's true.

You have also set out plans to improve childcare. What do you want to change?

I want more women to have the opportunity to go back to work after having children if they want to. There is ample evidence the high cost of childcare is why fewer women in London go back to work here. As a working mother myself I know what a difference this will make to balancing work and family life.

How would you pay for more childcare?

I would use an idea that already exists in places like New York, Madrid and Berlin. I would introduce a £2 charge on luxury hotel rooms and use this to fund childcare that works for London parents. Childcare that is available before and after school or nursery so it reflects the hours most people work.

You can follow Caroline on @CarolinePidgeon



Special report - Transport

I will bring in half price fares before half seven



▲ Caroline joined the Liberal Democrat team campaigning for Half Price Fares in Brent you can support the campaign at londonlibdems.org.uk/half fares.

Liberal Democrat candidate for Mayor of London, **Caroline Pidgeon**, is fighting to make fares fairer on public transport.

Caroline's plans to halve the cost of travelling before 07:30am are ambitious and achievable.

"These plans would help some of our city's lowest

paid workers. They would also help to ease congestion by giving an incentive for some commuters to start their journeys earlier," said Caroline Pidgeon.

Caroline's plan would offer half price fares on Underground, Overground and TFL Rail Services for travel before 7.30am.

CAROLINE CAN FIGHT FOR PASSENGERS

In developing this plan Caroline is building on her experience as someone who relies on our public transport system. As well as her years in the London Assembly holding London's transport bosses to account.

She developed the idea of

the 'One Hour Bus Ticket' - so popular it is now widely imitated by other parties!

With Labour's Sadiq Khan's plans for a fares freeze set to cost £1.9 billion and the Tories failing even to deliver Boris' 24 Hour Tube pledge in five years it's Caroline who is talking sense on transport.

Championing community policing



It's good news that the Mayor of London and the Metropolitan Police have abandoned plans to scrap the role of PCSOs.

Liberal Democrat Mayoral and lead Assembly candidate Caroline Pidgeon said: "The role of local neighbourhood policing has been undermined in recent years so it's good news that the Mayor has backed down on plans to end the vital role that Police Community Support Officers play in making our communities safer."



▲ Showing your support for neighborhood police to the Mayor at City Hall.

Cut knife crime

Incidents of knife crime have risen in London and at the London Assembly Caroline Pidgeon has led calls for action. In her report 'To the point: an investigation into London's knife crime problem' she set out plans to introduce youth workers into every A&E in the capital to make contact with those young people admitted to hospital due to violent crime and to help support them to end this cycle of violence.

SIGN ONLINE



bit.ly/half fares

Add your voice to Caroline's Campaign

Name: _____ Postcode: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

I support Caroline's fight for half price fares

I would like to help Caroline's campaign

If you return this form the Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you've given to contact you. Some contacts may be automated. By providing your data to us, you are consenting to the data holders making contact with you in the future by telephone, text or other means, even though you may be registered with the Telephone Preference Service. You can always opt out of communications at any time by contacting us.

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londonlibdems.org.uk/volunteer

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Caroline can fight for Londoners

[Caroline] Pidgeon is now in full throttle as her mayoral campaign gathers momentum

London Loves Business 2 / 2 / 16

For a strong liberal voice for London - vote on the orange ballot paper

London Liberal Democrats

