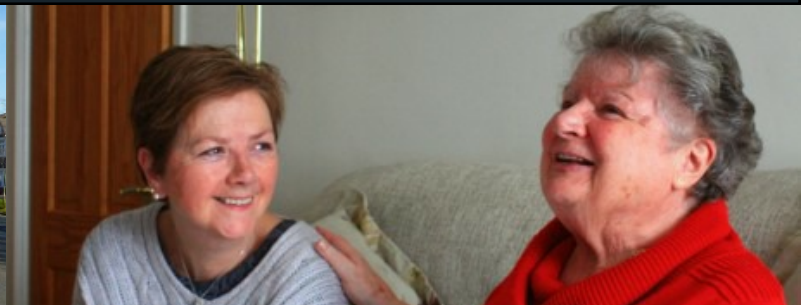


Portsmouth Liberal Democrats



We've listened to local people and here is our positive plan for change...



Listening • Caring • Competent



Portsmouth Liberal Democrats

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A Safer Portsmouth

a. **More money to help communities tackle crime**

This community anti-crime fund would enable local areas, through their councillors, to bid for items such as CCTV to help deal with antisocial behaviour and crime. It would be funded by council cash and existing taxes on developers.

b. **More wardens on our streets.**

We know the Police are stretched, so we would increase the number of Council wardens to act as eyes and ears.



A Cleaner Portsmouth

a. **More frequent cleaning of our High Streets**

b. **More fines for dog mess and those who litter, including landlords of shared houses**

c. **No tip charges for local domestic users**

d. **Keep weekly rubbish collections**

e. **Bring back a free bulky waste collection for those on the lowest incomes**

The current Conservative administration says our streets are the cleanest in the country. Yet every day, Lib Dem councillors report mattresses lying around, dog mess on the streets and fly-tipping. We want to get tough on those who foul our streets and tackle some of the causes, such as the paying for collecting bulky waste that the current Conservative administration brought in.



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A Greener Portsmouth

a. Work to bring glass recycling to your door

At present, glass cannot form part of your normal recycling. Under the Lib Dems, we will investigate introducing a scheme, at no extra charge to you.

b. Help tackle congestion through a Sustainable Transport Fund to boost walking, cycling and public transport.

Everyone knows Portsmouth is congested. Yet the current Conservative administration cut money for buses like the 19 and 15. We want the Council to prioritise alternatives to the car that will work.

c. Bring back a sustainable Community Transport 'dial-a-ride' Scheme

The current Conservative administration replaced Pomey Dial Ride with a scheme that costs £2,500 per user. Yet many senior citizens and people with disabilities are forced to use taxis. We want a 'dial-a-ride' service that benefits them and cost the taxpayer less.

d. Establish a panel of Portsmouth people to advise the Council on how to make the city greener and plastic-free.

Air pollution in our city is too high and there is too much plastic. Even simple things like cutting the engines off buses at bus stops can help. Lib Dems want to work with people in the city to tackle that, not tell them what to do.

e. Bring in 100 accessible electric car charging points.

f. A commuter discount for the Park-and-Ride

In power in Portsmouth, Lib Dems brought in the park-and-ride at Tipner. It's working for tourists, but not for commuters. We would work with local businesses to offer their employees a discount if they use the Park-and-Ride. We would also work with Portsmouth FC to provide bus services to cut match day parking problems.

g. Explore starting bus passes at 9am.



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A Fairer Portsmouth

a. Ensure the Council pays a real Living Wage

b. Encourage landlords to charge a Living Rent

Lib Dems made sure all Council employees got paid a Living Wage. The current Conservative administration froze that for the poorest paid for three years, while the Chief Executive got a pay rise. This is wrong. We would ensure every Council employee gets a Living Wage and work with landlords to charge realistic rents people can afford. We have found the funds to deliver this.

c. Help boost jobs through a Portsmouth Investment Bank

Small Portsmouth businesses need help to grow and bring jobs to the city. Yet the current Conservative administration put £5m in a bank that does not have a banking licence and have spent more than £100m outside the city. This Bank will help invest in our city by encouraging local businesses to expand.

d. Start tackling the parking nightmare:

1. Parking zones where most people in an area want them.
2. Open up council car parks in residential areas overnight to accommodate commercial vehicles.
3. Bring in duty parking permits for groups like care workers & the RNLI.
4. Freeze the cost of the first parking permit.

'One size fits all' does not work with parking permits. Yet the current Conservative administration and their allies told people who voted for parking permits they cannot have them. This must stop. Our practical plans begin to deal with the issues after years of dithering. We also want to give key groups like care workers the same permits councillors have had for years.



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An Aspirational Portsmouth - Planning for our future

a. **Build more homes, including Council ones, that Portsmouth people can afford**

In power in Portsmouth, Lib Dems gave the go-ahead for hundreds of council homes to be built. We will do that again.

b. **Use unused land to provide homes Portsmouth people can afford**

Sites like Tipner and the Northern Quarter lie empty. It is time they were available for homes for Portsmouth people.

c. **Work with the NHS to use surplus buildings at St James' to stop the medically-fit staying at QA**

It makes no sense that QA is struggling to cope, while other hospitals are scaling back their work. We want surplus buildings at St James' to help relieve that pressure, by building a convalescent home that tackles the main problem: delayed discharge.

d. **Expand the rent deposit scheme and extend tougher licensing rules for shared homes to the north of the city**

People with low disposable incomes need security in knowing where to live. We would help that by expanding the rent deposit scheme and ensure people living in shared houses have a decent standard of accommodation.

e. **Put cultural & creative industries at the heart of regenerating our city**

1. Regeneration based on high street shopping is becoming more difficult when people use the Internet instead. We want Portsmouth to offer something different. We want a cultural focal point for our city centre, to draw people there.
2. In power in Portsmouth, Lib Dems invested in projects such as the new Southsea Library and the Hotwalls and would look to develop similar projects again eg A Conan Doyle / Sherlock Holmes Experience.
3. We will work with all partners, small and large, towards developing a well thought through bid for UK City of Culture, which can be supported by the whole community and not a 'top-down' approach by the council.



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A City which prioritises our Children's Futures

Lib Dems would campaign for more money for schools, which would include building new classrooms and creating 900+ secondary school places.

We would ensure high quality learning environments by:

1. Remodelling Special school provision and support main-stream schools in implementing the Inclusion Agenda and meeting the needs of SEN learners.
2. Developing a rich curriculum incorporating creative, vocational and entrepreneurial opportunities both in school and through links with charity and voluntary organisations.
3. Developing work experience programmes with The University and business sector and expanding Roadmap to a Career with Shaping Portsmouth.
4. Striving for quality education for every child, at every age, in every school, in every family.
5. Recruiting volunteers to run Family Hubs (Children's Centres).
6. Recruiting and retaining 'Proud-to-be-Portsmouth' teachers.
7. Promoting positive emotional health, well-being and resilience and provide appropriate support for SEN children.
8. Holding an annual anti-bullying summit and supporting School-wide mental health awareness programmes.



A More Open Portsmouth

Encourage councillors of all parties to be involved in taking decisions

People elect councillors to do things. Yet too often, the system leaves them out while personal insults come to the fore. Lib Dems want more councillors to work together more often to shape our city's future.



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Caring about everyone

Homelessness should not be a problem in a country like the United Kingdom. Lib Dems in power in Portsmouth would help reduce homelessness by:

1. Creating more hostel space.
2. Ensuring rough sleepers can access lockers.
3. Improving the Council's lettings agency and a 'Housing First' policy.
4. Supporting projects that get homeless people back on their feet.
5. Using council workers to help homeless individuals find work.

Many Portsmouth people, whether on the streets or a waiting list, need somewhere to live and a fresh start in life. Yet the Council cannot do this alone. Projects like "Hope into Action" offer fresh ideas; we will work with people across the city to offer that fresh start.



Protecting things that matter to people

We acknowledge that not everything needs to change. Some of the things that have been continued by the current administration are important.

Lib Dems will:

1. Ensure weekly rubbish collections and fortnightly recycling collections are retained.
2. Keep all libraries open.
3. Retain the property portfolio to protect vital services but look to make future investments in our area, not miles away.



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