

Liberal   
Democrats

***Swindon  
Manifesto***



# Saving Swindon

## The Liberal Way

1

### Recovering our Enterprising Spirit

**A**

Appoint an economic improvement Czar to redesign and provide more opportunities in our High Street and a better more prosperous Town Centre.

**B**

Push for a new Green Science Park initiative. Encourage universities to join the venture – developing a bright centre for R&D and upwards of an extra 1,200 jobs. A completed project could also increase business rates.

**C**

Work with private industry to provide better and faster broadband infrastructure.

**D**

Support local business – help businesses establish and grow in the Town, and use local suppliers as a Council.

**E**

Encourage skills creation – prioritise vocational training and apprenticeships in all sectors of Swindon's economy.

**F**

Work with Swindon Chamber of Commerce and others that promote Swindon as an attractive location for new and innovative businesses.

**G**

Push for more co-operation with neighbouring Universities to forge Swindon into a centre of academic and vocational excellence



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2

### Committing to a Green Future for Swindon

**A**

Commit to Carbon neutrality by 2030, encouraging new green developments and retrofitting existing buildings.

**B**

Install solar panels on all appropriate SBC buildings

**C**

Proactively promote biodiversity on all council land, including promoting wildflower growth along roadsides and on Swindon Borough Council owned land.

**D**

Set aside a 'Green Future's Fund' to retrofit social housing, libraries and schools into modern energy efficient buildings.

**E**

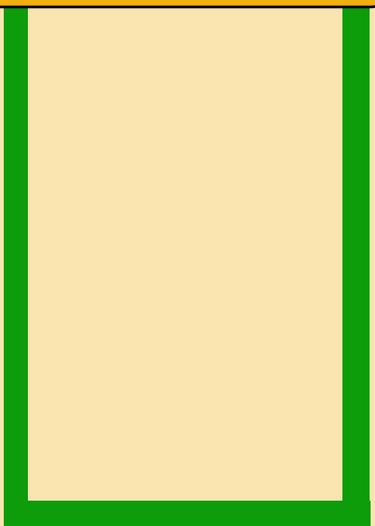
Create a loan scheme to encourage residents to invest in solar panels, better insulation and other microgenerations

**F**

Ensure all new housing, commercial and industrial developments in the town are as close to zero-carbon as possible by changing protocols and planning priorities.

**G**

Phase out single-use plastics on council property





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### 3

### Building a society to be proud of

**A**

Save the Oasis for the immediate future and work toward building the 'New Oasis', incorporating the dome aspect in a modern, sustainable leisure facility

**B**

Support local charities so they can continue to do valuable work for multifaceted groups in Swindon.

**C**

Immediately bid for funding to improve access to 'Changing Places Toilets' - which provide a valuable resource for disabled people and their carers.

**D**

Work with all of our health partners to integrate health and social care services, identifying pressure points before they're allowed to boil over. Invest in programmes that offer the best value for our council taxpayers' money, improving outcomes by providing services to meet each individual's needs while reducing waste and increasing efficiency

**E**

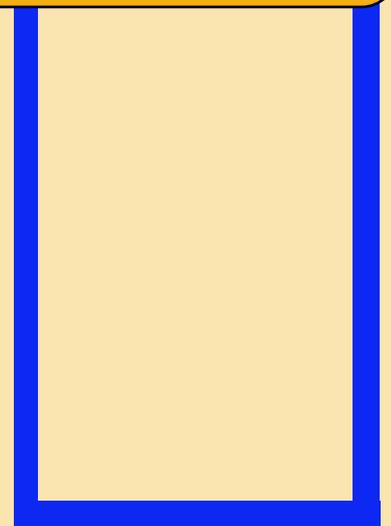
Work towards eradicating homelessness in Swindon, following the example of a number of Nordic towns who have already achieved this.

**F**

Review the current provisions for those with special needs and disabilities, to ensure rampant issues like loneliness and inability to access services are nipped in the bud, allowing all people in our town to flourish

**G**

Fight against child poverty and make a commitment to end child hunger





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# 4

### Helping our Young People Flourish

**A**

Ensure resources are available to keep families safe - supporting vulnerable families to provide a healthy living environment and reducing use of foster and residential care over time.

**B**

Increase the number of families accessing family support services to ensure early intervention and positive whole family outcomes.

**C**

Assess mental health resources for young people, identify any shortfalls and move to correct them.

**D**

Run Monthly - Quarterly art project events, utilising the skills of young people and showcasing their art to the community, whether that be graffiti art, photography or sculpture.

**E**

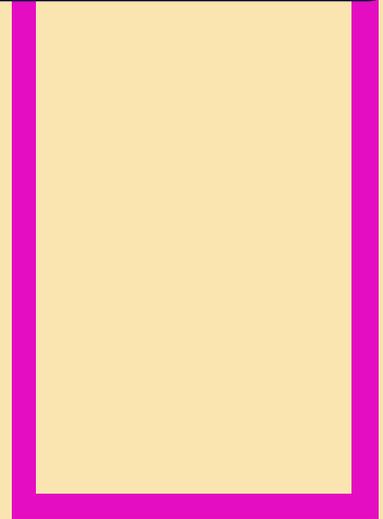
Run monthly job fairs for the young and unemployed, to reconnect them with local business and potential careers, providing the opportunities for success.

**F**

Support youth leisure facilities such as skate parks and other recreational areas, to foster passions and hobbies.

**G**

Undertake annual 'needs, hopes, concerns' online survey for every secondary age pupil and college student in the town, discussing and acting on its results at full council meetings.





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**5**

### Fixing our Broken Transport and Roads

**A**

Push further on building cycle paths and walkways to spur people toward greener transport options. Supporting all age groups with sponsored cycling lessons.

**B**

Invest in rebuilding our roads with quality materials, rather than simply filling in potholes as and when they appear.

**C**

Increase availability of electric charging points in council owned car parks and on-street parking in residential areas without private parking.

**D**

Work with bus operators to ensure that we work towards a zero-carbon service which meets residents' needs and coordinates with other forms of public and private transport in a pattern of joined-up provision that includes early and late running.

**E**

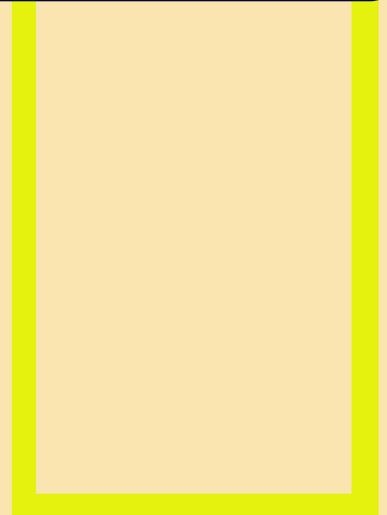
Push forward with redesigning Swindon Borough Council's fleet of vehicles to electric ones and encourage the use of electric bicycles and cars with 'try and buy schemes.'

**F**

Work with Wiltshire Council and the Wiltshire Liberal Democrats to implement the Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) Rail Strategy.

**G**

Review car parking charges throughout Swindon to encourage residents into the High Street and Town centre to help our small businesses recover.





# Liz Webster

## For Police and Crime Commissioner

**The new Police and Crime Commissioner Elections will encompass Swindon and Wiltshire. A Liberal Democrat Police and Crime Commissioner would:**

### Engage with Communities

- Put community policing at the heart of crime prevention.
- introduce community safety forums by bringing local schools, youth organisations, parish councils, residents, business and community groups together

### Implement an Elderly and Vulnerable Support Plan

- Support the Wiltshire Van Trust in their fight to Protect the elderly and vulnerable from Burglary.
- Engage with an E-literacy programme for the elderly and vulnerable to secure them from Fraud and other CyberCrimes.
- Work with social services to arrange more activities for the elderly and vulnerable so that no one feels lonely because of circumstances out of their control.

### Greater Enforcement of Traffic Offences

- Respond to recent survey that revealed that people in Wiltshire want more road safety enforcement.
- Embrace new technology such as Autospeed Watch Cameras and community Speed Watch initiatives.

### Develop a Youth Crime Prevention and Support Plan

- Prevent bullying and its progression to Hate crime with social intervention at a young age.

- Co-ordinate with schools for Anti-Drug sessions to inform and Protect from Drug Abuse
- Introduce Cyber Champions to promote and Engage fellow students in e-literacy and safety.
- Educate the youth on what Stalking is and how to spot it and report it.

### Stand up to Pet Thieves

- Engage with existing groups to lobby the government to change the law, making pet theft a specific crime.
- Lobby for a single microchip entry point database, so police and vets can easily connect pets to their owners.
- Push the police to investigate dog theft seriously.

### Real action on Domestic Abuse, Violence and Stalking

- Implement individual treatment plans for victims.
- Focused intervention for young observers/victims of Domestic Violence to Prevent imitation.
- Co-ordinate charities with the police to Protect victims and achieve convictions.
- Work with charities to rehabilitate offenders and make them aware of the impact of their crimes

***To Support Our Plan  
For Swindon***

**Vote**  
**Liberal**   
**Democrats**

***6<sup>th</sup> of May***