

**THE
CONSERVATIVE
COMMITMENT
TO THE COMMUNITY OF
TELFORD & WREKIN**



Conservatives

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Conservatives

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP LEADER AT TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL



Dear Resident

When first elected in control of T&W Council between 2007 – 2011, we made unprecedented savings of £10.5M before the term “credit crunch” was even heard of. We used these savings to provide the lowest Council tax in the entire Midlands whilst putting in place the biggest rebuilding programme the Council had ever seen. Our initiatives included pulling together and starting the huge Southwater development, the regeneration of our ‘Borough Towns’, parks and play areas, Libraries, Schools and sports facilities.

Now, following four years of control (2011 – 2015), the current Labour Administration has failed to deliver adopted planning policies and we are now faced with a Council that is determined to build on our green field spaces without regard, wrecking both our urban and rural communities. Our roads, schools and infrastructure cannot cope with this out of control planning fiasco, all issues we pledge to review within the first 100 days of a new Conservative administration.

You will no doubt recall that we took on the might of the Local Health Authority with our ‘SOS PRH’ campaign, which resulted in the retention of our full, 24 hour A&E provision at our hospital. Something we are ready to do again should our services come under threat.

We would be very pleased if you could take the time to consider our proposals headlined in this Manifesto which, we believe, will deliver a better Borough in these difficult times.

Andrew Eade

YOUR CURRENT CONSERVATIVE COUNCIL TEAM



**Councillor
Adrian Lawrence**



**Councillor
Jacqui Seymour**



**Councillor
Veronica Fletcher**



**Councillor
Clive Mollett**



**Councillor
Jayne Greenaway**



**Councillor
Terry Kiernan**



**Councillor
Adrian Meredith**



**Councillor
Miles Hosken**



**Councillor
Stephen Burrell**



**Councillor
Eric Carter**



**Councillor
Nigel Dugmore**



**Councillor
Stephen Bentley**



**Councillor
Ian Fletcher**



**Councillor
Roy Scammell**



**Councillor
Tracy Hope**

**We will be fielding 54 candidates for the forthcoming Council elections to contest every seat.
Please give us your support**

PLANNING – PROTECTING OUR GREEN SPACES



- **We will review Labour’s ‘Shaping Places’ local draft plan and act positively on the communities response to the Council’s proposed development areas within the first 100 days of a Conservative Administration.**
- **After four years of Labour delaying tactics we will prioritise the adoption of a Local Plan to enable us to tell Developers where they can and cannot build.**
- **We will adopt the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to enable us to incentivise building on brown field sites while penalising development of green field sites.**
- **We will ensure that money provided by Developers is spent for the benefit of our communities.**
- **We will secure a five year land supply to stop developers building where they wish (as Shropshire Council have already done).**
- **We will work with local communities to resist inappropriate developments.**

OUR ROADS & HIGHWAYS



- **We will invest in all of our highways throughout the Borough with a huge five year programme. This unprecedented and planned investment will achieve a highways system in Telford & Wrekin which will be fit for the 21st Century.**
- **We will achieve savings from a reduction in insurance claims and the continual need to fill potholes and other maintenance repairs.**

ADULT SOCIAL CARE



- **We do not support the original Labour proposal to cut £3.3M from the Adult Social Care Budget. We have a moral duty to protect the most vulnerable members of our community.**
- **Conservative budget proposals for 2015/16 closed this gap to ensure proper funding, something we pledge to maintain.**

SCHOOLS



- **Despite giving planning permission to build 5,000 houses and planning to build 15,000 more, the Labour controlled Council have cut 400 secondary school places.**
- **To make matters worse the Council have failed to collect one penny towards the building of new secondary schools over the past 4 years**
- **We will address this looming crisis and have provided £0.5M in our budget proposals to start the process of planning and building sufficient school places for our children.**

LABOUR'S COUNCIL BORROWING



- **Fifteen years ago Telford & Wrekin Council sold off their council houses for £105M and managed to spend all of the money by 2007. They now want to borrow £46M to build some more.**
- **In 2012 Council borrowing stood at £94M. In three short years this has spiralled to £217M.**
- **This borrowing does not include further large borrowing required for the MOD depot at Donnington, which has been fully supported by the Conservative Group.**
- **We will review borrowing immediately to reduce the Council's exposure to safer levels of debt whilst still investing in our roads and highways.**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT



- **Following our motion to Full Council last year we reject any moves to merge T&W with Shropshire Council and note with concern rumours of the Council wishing to merge with Wolverhampton.**
- **However, we believe many savings could be made by sharing services and expertise with neighbouring Authorities at great benefit to our community.**
- **We will make sure that we maintain a separate Unitary Council for Telford & Wrekin to reflect the needs and aspirations of this distinctive part of Shropshire.**

