

Ipswich matters

October/November 2004

From **Paul WEST** your Conservative
Prospective Parliamentary Candidate

Government goes soft on criminals

Tough action needed on law and order, says Paul West

At the Labour conference, the Home Secretary unveiled a scheme to extend a network of weekend jails across the country. Instead of embracing a major prison re-building programme the government announced a system of weekend jail sentencing for convicted criminals.

Just last month the government also passed through a law which said that shoplifters from now on should be subject to fixed penalty measures. So shoplifting will be treated like parking – what nonsense!

Quite frankly, policies like these are absurd. A future Conservative

government would be prepared to be tough and show resolve to punish the criminal and restore the confidence of the law-abiding public.

WHAT CONSERVATIVES WILL DO

1. Put more police on the beat
2. Cut police paperwork
3. Build more prisons
4. Cut back political correctness
5. End Labour's early release scheme



Paul WEST says...

I care passionately about Ipswich; it is after all my home town. It is where I live and work.

I am not a career politician. My priority is to do what is best for the town.

I shall campaign tirelessly for Ipswich to bring about the improvements that we all seek.



After our last newsletter, Paul received over 50 calls from people needing help to resolve their problems.

Paul has been working with people right across the town. Some of the issues raised with Paul were:

- Complaints of anti-social behaviour
- Help needed with school places
- Questions over council pensions

Labour throw in the towel

In September, Labour councillors astonishingly resigned from running Ipswich Borough Council. Since losing their overall majority in June this year Labour discovered they could no longer ride roughshod over people, as they had done for the last twenty-five years.

When they could not get their own way on every matter they threw their toys out of the pram.

The Conservatives in partnership with the Liberal Democrats now run the council.

Heartless

One of Labour's last acts in control of the Borough Council was to issue a council tenant of over 50 years standing with an eviction notice just four days after her mother died. Many people would have heard about this as the case has been widely publicised in the Evening Star, local radio and TV.

The outgoing Labour council justified their harshness by saying they were just following the law.

Paul West has asked colleagues to conduct an urgent review of this situation. We will report in a future newsletter what action the new Conservative council intends to take.

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Fortnightly collection of rubbish causing a stink!

Paul West is asking his colleagues on Ipswich Borough Council to review whether the weekly collection of household waste can be re-instated.

Many areas of Ipswich have seen their collection of the black bin reduce from weekly to fortnightly at the same time as being given a blue bin for paper, plastics and cans. The council's current plan is to extend this to the whole of Ipswich.

Fortnightly collection of waste can create a health hazard. After two weeks household food waste is well on the way to rotting and this can attract flies, wasps and vermin. The problem is worse in the warm summer months and worse still for families who dispose of nappies in their bin.

Paul is in favour of more re-cycling but is also in favour of making sure household waste is collected on a regular basis.



Fortnightly collection of household waste is causing real problems for families.

Paul calls for joined-up public transport

Evening buses departing Ipswich Railway Station often fail to wait for commuters returning from London when trains are running just a few minutes late.

Buses are often scheduled to leave shortly after trains are due to arrive back in Ipswich. However, when rail journeys are slightly

delayed by a few minutes commuters are often left standing as the empty bus pulls out of the station.

Paul has written to the authorities requesting a bit of common sense and a joined-up approach. Paul says "The least the bus drivers could be asked to do is hang on for five minutes when rail journeys are slightly delayed."

Tories plan Inheritance tax reform

Inheritance Tax just used to affect the rich. But now the tax has become another money raising wheeze by the government.

Strapped for cash the government has cashed in on rising house prices by not raising the threshold above £263,000.

Two and a half million houses with six million people living in them are now potentially liable. Even former council houses are being drawn into the net. This problem needs to be remedied.

The threshold should be raised dramatically so that the hard working families can be relieved of this burden, and after all this is money that people have already paid tax on!

Speaking up for most of Britain

Paul West believes that introducing annual quotas for immigrants into the UK is a very good idea and is likely to find favour with the majority of the public. It is an idea that has already proved popular and successful in Australia.

With the population of Britain set to grow by over five million people in the next thirty years action is needed now to get a control of the situation.

Proposals would see:

- a limit on the number of people coming in to Britain
- checks on people entering and leaving the country to prevent people coming here on visas and then failing to leave;
- a strict control over work permits. Applications will be decided on a points system, which will be awarded on the basis of people's skills;

Firm but fair immigration controls are essential for the national security, the management of public services and good race relations.

Paul needs your help...

If you would like to help Paul to become Ipswich's next MP then please contact him on the number or at the e-mail shown left. Alternatively you can write to Paul West PPC, Newton Road Conservative Club, Newton Road, Ipswich IP3 8HQ

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