

NHS: What YOU told us

In our previous Lib Dem FOCUS (pictured, right) we gave you the opportunity to tell us your experiences of the problems affecting the NHS under Tory austerity.

Below are some of the results, and some of the shocking stories you told us. Contact us at the address overleaf if you'd like to tell us more of your experience of public services.



HOSPITAL SERVICES and AMBULANCE WAITING TIMES
Residents waited on average 4 hrs 1 min to be seen in A&E, and on average 31 weeks for an operation

Happily, too few respondents had needed an ambulance recently to calculate an average time, but some who did had bad experiences...

"... My 93-year-old Mum waited four and a half hours on the floor for an ambulance, and then spent seven hours on a trolley, mostly in a corridor, at Southampton General before being assessed."



- "...I work in the NHS and waiting times are significantly increasing
- "...Couldn't get an ambulance and had to be driven in by a friend of the family."
- "... A 90-year-old neighbour had a fall and had to wait five hours for an ambulance."
- "... Arrived at GP for 4pm appointment, got to QAH about 6pm, bed available at 1am."

GP WAITING TIMES
Four out of 10 residents wait more than 15 minutes on the phone to book a GP appointment. Nine out of 10 said waiting times to be seen are getting longer

"... Trying to get an appointment is extremely difficult and can be left waiting on the phone for up to 40 minutes."

"... I call first thing at 8am as my children are poorly and I am 29th on the waiting line, then I get through and all appointments are gone. So frustrating."

... Six out of 10 residents said they usually had to wait over a week for a GP appointment.

"... Was told to have a review appointment with my GP in late Dec/early Jan. Phoned surgery four times (over four weeks), but appointments had all gone each time so I gave up."

"... No regular annual/biannual health checks happening any more (e.g. blood pressure, medication checks, varicose



DENTIST WAITING TIMES
Five out of 10 residents say they have to pay a private dentist as they cannot access an NHS dentist. Six out of 10 say they have to wait a week or more for an appointment

"NHS dentists don't exist any more."

"No NHS dentists in this area are taking new clients."

"Frequently cannot get

appointments regularly - need to call emergency"

"NHS dentistry is not fit for purpose. Private is only way to receive treatment."

Lib Dems win big in local elections

May 2023 saw the Liberal Democrats' best result in decades. Across England, Liberal Democrats gained an extra 407 councillors. Lib Dems gained majority control of 12 councils and tightened control in all 17 councils we were defending.

Rishi Sunak is running scared of a General Election, because he knows the Liberal Democrats are set to take swathes of Tory seats. Tory infighting over Boris Johnson's refusal to admit his faults makes it even clearer. - It is time for a change.

Success all around us

PORTSMOUTH: Lib Dems gained a seat from the Tories and saw off a Labour challenge. With 18 seats to the Tories eight and Labour's seven, Lib Dems continue to run the city with the help of a few independents.

WINCHESTER: Lib Dems won 13 of the 16 seats being contested this year, including our near neighbours in Whiteley and now hold 30 of the 45 seats on the Council. **EASTLEIGH** Lib Dems have controlled the Council for many years and now hold 34 out of 39 seats on the Borough Council. Lib Dem controlled Eastleigh Borough Council was named Council of the Year in 2022.

In **EAST HAMPSHIRE** Lib Dems made sweeping gains, particularly in Petersfield, and in **HAVANT** we regained a presence on the Council with victories in Hayling Island and Bedhampton.

LIB DEMS MAKING HUGE GAINS IN LOCALELECTIONS ON THE SOUTH COAST

Net seat gains and losses for main parties in May 2023 council elections in councils around Fareham*

LIB DEM + 37

Green + 10 LAB + 8

CON - 59

Only the Liberal Democrat can beat the Conservatives here at the next General Election

* Havant, Southampton, Eastleigh, Winchester, East Hampshire, Portsmouth, Chichester, Test Valley, New Forest

** Data from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-64966933>

Lib Dems WIN Somerton and Frome! 11,008 majority!

The Lib Dems have delivered another shocking blow to the 'out of touch' Conservative Government.

Sarah Dyke overturned a Conservative majority of 19,213. Yet another new Lib Dem MP.

Sarah polled 21,187 votes, winning a majority of 11,008 with a swing of 29%!

It's been two years since Harrison's Primary School started the 'School Streets' scheme. The road closures at the beginning and end of the school day are now an integral part of school life.

Mayhem on Harrison Road with daily 'near misses' on the road are thankfully a thing of the past.

The success of the scheme is dependent on there being volunteers to manage the barriers along the school streets scheme.

The school is looking to recruit more volunteers available on any drop-off / pick-up times. If you can help keep the scheme open please contact the school.



Harrison Primary School is looking for volunteers

The Wallington Walkaround

David & Katrina were invited by the Wallington Village Community Association (WVCA) to join their recent annual walk around again this year.

They both spent an afternoon walking around the village with other agencies seeing first hand resident concerns.

“The WVCA are always really well organised and raised a variety of worthy improvements around fencing, cutting, signage and drainage. Myself & Katrina had both attended the WVCA AGM a few days before and knew there would be a few bits to look at.”

David Hamilton - Fareham East



A27 Delme roundabout to Downend Road Works

Preliminary work has been carried out before the main works start on the A27 Cams Hill Improvement Scheme which is part of the Transforming Cities Fund Programme.

Hampshire County Council has appointed Mildren Construction Ltd to carry out the highway works.

The scheme includes:

- The provision of a bus and lane bus priority signals on the eastern arm of the Delme Roundabout.
- The provision of a two-way segregated walking and cycle track next to the westbound carriageway.

- Improvements to the payments to the south, next to the westbound carriageway, with a shared-use path for pedestrians and cyclists to the south of the segregated cycle track.
- The conversion of the existing crossing at the Cams Hall Estate junction to a Toucan crossing.

More information about the scheme can be found on HCC Web pages:

A27 Cams Hill Improvements | Transport and roads | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)

Roger Price - County Councillor for Portchester

As a County member I receive an annual budget to be allocated to local projects, initiatives or organisations in Portchester.

Legitimate groups and organisations, but not individuals, are able to apply for a grant by completing the online application form.

The minimum grant payable is £100. I look forward to hearing from you before you apply so that we can agree an amount before you make the online application.

My contact details:

roger.price@hants.gov.uk

01329 280446



FOCUS

Summer 2023

Liberal Democrats



Your local newsletter for Wallington & Downend

Potholes Disgrace

“Drive around Fareham and you will see the potholes. You will usually see them marked by white, faded spray paint which tells you Hampshire County Council is aware. The Conservative leadership of the County Council means slow repairs, poor repairs or no repairs”
David Hamilton - Councillor for Fareham East

Speaking to residents the condition of our roads is regularly raised. There are so many roads now where you can see the same potholes coming back every year. The pothole is simply filled in by a contractor and the water gets in come the winter and it needs repairing again.

Hampshire is failing to prioritise residents roads and under investing. Report potholes, but let David or Katrina know if not being fixed.



Lib Dems call for ‘Glyphosate Free’ vision for Fareham



In June a petition in excess of 1,500 signatures calling for Glyphosate not to be used in public places triggered a full council debate. Glyphosate is a pesticide used by Fareham Council to kill weeds.

The UK government has said Glyphosate is safe, but some Councils have gone ‘Glyphosate free’ and many other countries have conditions minimising its use in public spaces.

“Glyphosate will kill plants other than weeds. It threatens bees and makes dogs sick. I believe we should aim to one day be Glyphosate free. I specifically called for us to keep a watching brief on new ‘Glyphosate Free’ products coming onto the market and stop its use in children’s play areas. We can use alternatives like strimming for those small areas to keep them tidy.”

David Hamilton - Ward Councillor for Fareham East

You might have noticed overgrown weeds over summer. This is because the Conservative led Hampshire County Council has cut spraying from twice a year to once a year and is spraying Fareham last. We want an environmentally responsible pesticide policy, but we also want our streets to stay tidy, another example of Conservatives being out of touch.

Here to help - your Lib Dem team!



Cllr David Hamilton Cllr Katrina Trott
djh010@outlook.com katrinatrott@gmail.com
07800 759315 07763 186830

Fareham East Liberal Democrats
 @Farehamlibdems

If we can help with a local issue, or if you’d like to hear more about the local Lib Dems, email David or Katrina with your contact details.

David & Katrina will hold their next Surgeries at Westbury Manor 10:30 - 12:00 on Saturday 5th August and Saturday 2nd September.

As a registered national political party, The Liberal Democrats are entitled to a copy of the full Electoral Register under the Representation of the People Regulations 2001, for the purpose of democratic engagement. For information about how we process personal data, please see our privacy notice libdems.org.uk/privacy and to exercise your rights and to stop receiving mail from us, email: data.protection@libdems.org.uk or write to us: DPO, Lib Dems, 1 Vincent Square, SW1P 2PN. Published and promoted by Fareham Liberal Democrats at 220 Fratton Road, Portsmouth, PO1 5HH. Printed by Bishops Printers LTD, Walton Road, Farlington, Portsmouth, PO6 1TR.

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