

# FOCUS

**Your Local Newsletter**



**No. 269**

# We need to protect our children



All Councillors should have a criminal records check even if they never work with children or only do so rarely.

## Council decides to limit child abuse checks

Waltham Forest Councillors will no longer be the subject of checks to protect our vulnerable children and adults unless they meet them once a week or more than 3 days per month or between the hours of 2am and 6am.

All councillors are Corporate Parents to all of the children in Council care, so they should actively safeguard and protect those who are looked after. Abuse of children has now been shown to have taken place for many years in and out of Council homes across the country.

It is important therefore that residents are confident that all of our Councillors are people who can be trusted with our children.

**Liz Phillips says, 'All councillors therefore should be checked.'**

If you agree with our views on

protecting our children then please fill in the petition below:

## Petition

To ensure that we do the utmost to safeguard and protect our children in care we ask that the Council instruct all elected councillors to have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help with the petition

**Please send to: LIBERAL DEMOCRAT FOCUS TEAM  
FREEPOST RTHU-ZHXS-KEXR  
LONDON E17 6PQ**

The Liberal Democrats may contact you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish the information above to be used for this purpose.



# Thank You



Rupert - Liz - Adrian

**Adrian, Liz and Rupert** and the whole of the local **Lib Dem team** would like to say a huge 'thank you' for the support they received in the recent elections.

Although the result was very disappointing, the response from residents has been hugely positive.

The **Lib Dems** will continue to work hard for residents, keeping you informed through **Focus** and fighting the Labour Council's waste and incompetence.



# Leytonstone Police Station to be axed

Local residents in Leyton and Leytonstone will be shocked to learn that their only remaining local Police Station in **Kirkdale Road** has been closed. The Police Station in **Francis Road** was closed on the understanding that the Leytonstone station would stay open.

**Focus** is told that the local police team are using the custody suite off Hainault Road. **Focus** is appalled that the police have let down local residents who are rightly concerned about the safety of their families and their homes.

**Focus Team member Rupert Alexander says:** 'It would appear that residents object to these closures; local Police Stations are part of the community; alternative local provision in Leytonstone needs to be looked at and residents consulted.'



# Free school meals to save families £400 per child

Thousands of Leyton and Leytonstone children have begun receiving a free, healthy lunchtime meal since returning to school this September.

**Local Liberal Democrat Clyde Kitson said,** "This is one of the most important changes to our education system for a generation, and I am delighted that the Lib Dems in government have delivered it. "Free school meals will improve children's education by improving concentration, making sure they have a healthier diet, and save parents money – as much as £400 per child."

## Real benefits in the classroom

This **Lib Dem** success has been five years in the making with successful pilot schemes reaping real benefits in the classroom. Students were found on average to be two months ahead of their peers in areas where school meals were not offered.

Local parents have said that free school meals by Lib Dems in government will really help their family, and financially it will save them about £400 every year, for every young child at school.

**Local Lib Dem Focus Team member Liz Phillips said** "This would never have happened without Lib Dems in government – it's all part of creating a fairer society and helping families with the cost of living."



## Lib Dem Focus Team

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# Inflation-busting pay rise!

Waltham Forest's Labour run Council has voted to give the Chief Executive of the Council a whopping inflation busting pay rise of £15,000 - an 8% increase. This makes his salary £195,000! Even the Prime Minister only gets £142,000.

Labour councillors said it was reward for overseeing council cuts. Given that the cuts were a loss of 1,000 jobs plus salary cuts to the rest of the council staff should this have been rewarded?

On top of that, Labour councillors voted to give the redundant deputy chief executive a massive £140,000 pay off.

You can be assured that the staff who lost their jobs did not receive any golden pay offs.

Can you believe the way this Labour Council spends your money. Last year they increased the Deputy leader's pay by 25%.

**Focus** will keep on reporting the arrogant and wasteful ways that this Council spends your money.



Taxpayer's Money

# Problems - Ideas - Views

What do you think?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel/Email \_\_\_\_\_

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# Can you trust Labour to run the Council?