



LEEDS LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Communities in Control

A Liberal Democrat Manifesto for Leeds



On May 3rd, the people of Leeds have a rare opportunity when they go to the polls. Every seat on the Council is up for election, and every elector gets three votes. The choices people make on that day could change the course this city takes for a decade.

Our manifesto demonstrates our ambition for our city. We want to end the spiral of decline that the current leadership of the Council is resigned to oversee in the the face of continued austerity.

Leeds Liberal Democrats believe the renewal that Leeds needs is best achieved by putting Communities in Control. The Council we will lead will trust communities to shape the services that fit best for their neighbourhood. We will help rather than hinder individuals and families to fulfill their aspirations, and have pride in the city's ambition. Our proposals respond to what our constituents tell us are their priorities. They are practical, costed, bespoke changes that will make a real difference to our city's environment, health, education, care, housing and civic pride

Councillor Stewart Golton
Leader of the Leeds Liberal Democrats

Communities in Control

Of our Environment



Our Vision for Leeds

A City where everyone is able to, through our collective efforts, enhance the **air quality, sustainability and beauty** of the areas where we live. A Council that makes sure that we place **ease and affordability** for citizens at the centre of our environmental policy development.

Our Three Commitments

Citywide food waste and glass collection

Making it easier for everyone to contribute to our recycling effort

An Anaerobic Digester

Using our recycling efforts to fuel city vehicles and reduce council costs

Reversal of bulky waste collection charges and Leeds DIY tax

Making sure that the council does not create incentives for people to fly tip and ensuring that recycling remains easy and affordable to all

Under Labour, recycling rates and air quality are getting worse, and have led to government intervention.

Their poor record does not match the green ambitions of Leeds citizens

Communities in Control

Of our Housing



Our Vision for Leeds

A City where **communities are at the heart** of housing and infrastructure development, working as essential partners throughout. A Council that rebalances its thinking towards residents, not developers, making sure **growth enhances our suburbs and villages.**

Our Three Commitments

A Council Owned Housing Company

Building affordable homes for sale and rent on brownfield sites, investing in the growth of our city linking throughout with our community

100% coverage of city by Neighbourhood Forums

We want communities to play a more active part in development so that we can ensure that growth enhances neighbourhoods

Continue to push for a more sensible housing target

The current target is far too high and leading to a building strategy that leaves us at the mercy of profiteer companies building unaffordable homes

Leeds Labour's house building target is the biggest in England, and many acres of greenbelt are due to disappear

Housing charity Shelter shamed Leeds Labour for letting developers off their obligation to build affordable homes.

Communities in Control

Of Our Transport System



Our Vision for Leeds

A City transport system that is **cleaner, greener and designed** to ease movement and minimise congestion . A Council that has a strategy to reduce traffic on roads and invest in supporting communities to travel throughout the city **easily and affordably**.

Our Three Commitments

Enhance Park and Ride

Deliver a bigger network of park & ride sites and introduce bike hire as extra option alongside bus shuttle.

Revitalise Local Train Station Use

Increase bike & car parking provision & bus frequency to local rail stations.

Reduce Pollution

Build on the potential of the Clean Air Zone to ensure all buses are powered by electricity or gas generated within the city by 2025.

Without a mass-transit system Leeds has continued to fall behind other cities in the ease and affordability that residents want.

Throughout the city short-term planning has led to poorer congested roads and a failure to evolve with growing need.

Communities in Control

Of Adult Social Care



Our Vision for Leeds

A City that is **truly age-friendly** where care provision is central to our communities. A Council that is not focused only on privatisation but works to create a **thriving innovative multi-sector approach** to the provision of care within our communities

Our Three Commitments

Local Community Care Boards

Set up Local Neighbourhood Care Boards that include residents and family members across the city to monitor and promote quality care provision.

Build a Sustainable Future for Care Homes

End council care home closures and stimulate the creation of social, cooperative and private enterprises from within Leeds.

Develop Carer Hubs

Increase support for carers in community pharmacies, and employing dementia-supporting Admiral Nurses.

Under Labour we have seen almost total closure of the Council's elderly residential homes, leading to poorer care.

The shortage of nurses, care workers, facilities & accommodation within communities forces too many elderly further away from friends & family.

Communities in Control

Of Children and Families



Our Vision for Leeds

A City where **all our children thrive** including the poorest and those who are most vulnerable. A Council that understands the importance of working in **partnership with communities** to ensure that our children have the best possible education and care close to their home.

Our Three Commitments

Set Up City Wide Outcomes Commission

Halting the decline in outcomes for poorer pupils, working with schools and parents to deliver sustained improvement using Pupil Premium funds. Specific action tackling period poverty by providing free sanitary products to disadvantaged pupils.

Reduce Waiting Times for Children's Mental Health Services

Increase funding that provides additional capacity within the city.

Caring for our Children Close to Home

Invest in new accommodation and recruitment of specialist Foster carers to always have the option to care for our children in their own city.

Under Labour evidence shows Leeds has worsening school OFSTED reports, educational results amongst the worst in the country for less well off children, and our vulnerable looked after children being sent outside of the city for their care.

Communities in Control

Of the Local Economy



Our Vision for Leeds

A City that **attracts investment** that contributes to enhancing residents quality of life throughout it. A Council that measures success inclusive of **enhancement to local business, neighbourhoods and residents health, wealth and wellbeing.**

Our Three Commitments

Invest in Local Businesses

Huge sums are spent by the Council, NHS and Universities in Leeds. We would make sure they sign up to prioritise spending with Leeds businesses.

Support Community Business and Services

Maximise the vitality of town and district centres by offering business rate exemptions for businesses with a community focus such as Pharmacies.

Put Communities in Control

Encourage community ownership of Council buildings to encourage better use and maintenance, and offer low cost space for new businesses.

Leeds has a thriving city where businesses are keen to come, too often though the benefits are not felt fully by our wider communities

Local businesses that play a key part in the culture and feel of Leeds often find it hard to compete within the city without support.

Leeds Local Elections 2018 3rd May

What is Happening?

All Leeds Council seats are up for election. You will have three votes.

Can I vote?

If you live in Leeds and are a Citizen of the UK, European Union or Commonwealth you can vote in these elections. To find out more visit

www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Why Bother?

If you care about the city's transport, housing, schools, businesses and many other things then you can have your say.

Can I Vote by Post?

Yes, Many people find voting by post convenient and time saving. To apply visit -

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/your-council/elections/postal-voting>

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Being a Liberal Democrat is different - you have the power to change things.

The minimum membership subscription fee is £12. Concessionary subscriptions of £6 are available to students, those under 26, and anyone who is entitled to receive state benefits (other than the state pension or child benefit). The recommended membership subscription fee as agreed by members at the Party's Federal Conference is £70.

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