

**Hillingdon council to freeze council tax for tenth consecutive year**

GetWestLondon, 4/01/2016

**COUNCIL TAX will be FROZEN in Hillingdon UNDER A CONSERVATIVE-LED COUNCIL**

**HILLINGDON CONSERVATIVES**  **Conservatives**

# HILLINGDON CONSERVATIVES

# PUTTING RESIDENTS FIRST

The Conservative Manifesto for the London Borough of Hillingdon Council Elections on 3 May 2018



# Vote Conservative

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***For more information about the policies contained in this manifesto, please contact us:***

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# A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF HILLINGDON COUNCIL

Dear Resident,

Local elections are not about right or left political dogma, they are about what is best for local people. Now recognised as one of the best councils in the country Conservative Hillingdon Council is financially stable and well managed. No one of whatever political colour can deny this if they are honest.

Over the past eight years, despite significant reductions in financial support from Central Government and a population rising at both ends of the age spectrum, whilst other councils have increased taxes and cut services and facilities, Hillingdon Conservative Council has continued to go from strength to strength freezing council tax and improving services and facilities for residents.

What has and is continuing to be achieved could so easily be lost as demonstrated recently when Hillingdon Labour councillors voted unanimously not to support the council tax freeze, weekly refuse and recycling collections, continued investment in our parks and open spaces, schools, roads, libraries and leisure centres as well as our programme of support for the over 65s and youth groups.

I am privileged to lead a team of like minded colleagues equally committed to the Borough that is our home. I am proud of our record of achievement over the past sixteen years and am happy to be judged on that record on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Politicians will always make promises but in Hillingdon the Conservative Administration have an enviable record of delivery matched by no other party.

I have lived in Hillingdon all of my life and I am proud of the people, the environment and the heritage of this Borough and whilst it is possible to fill pages listing our achievements and our intentions, this manifesto covers our continuing intentions to deliver under four broad themes:

- Our People
- Our Natural and Built Environment
- Our Heritage and Civic Pride
- Sound Financial Management

This election is about what is best for the people of Hillingdon in the years ahead and which political party has the proven ability to deliver. It is easy to whinge and whine but it takes a managed, well structured and financially competent administration to actually deliver. Yes we do understand finance and business process – but above all we understand our people, their aspirations and concerns. For us it really is about **“Putting Residents First”**.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Puddifoot". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**RAY PUDDIFOOT MBE**  
**CONSERVATIVE LEADER, HILLINGDON COUNCIL**

# OUR PEOPLE

*We will continue to put you, the people of this Borough, at the heart of all we do. We are elected to serve you and we really do put residents first. Amongst the things that we will do are:*



- The Leader's Initiative For Older Residents will continue to provide free burglar alarms, free swimming sessions and lessons, free allotments and the Brown Badge scheme for the over 65s, as well as support for Older People's clubs and associations. Residents over the age of 80, (reducing to 75 in May 2018) will continue to receive the Telecare line service free of charge.
- To ensure that every child in the borough, from North to South, has a school place we will continue our school building and expansion programme.
- We will support uniformed youth groups (scouts/guides/cadets etc) with the refurbishment or rebuilding of their premises.
- We will continue the Hillingdon First Time Buyers Scheme helping young people with at least 10 years residency in the Borough to purchase their first home.
- We will build homes which we sell at a discounted price to residents with at least 10 years residency in the Borough.
- We will continue to provide and support events and activities for all age groups from Family Fishing Fun Days and the Fiesta summer programme to tea dances, Culture Bite, led walks and cycle rides to name only a few.

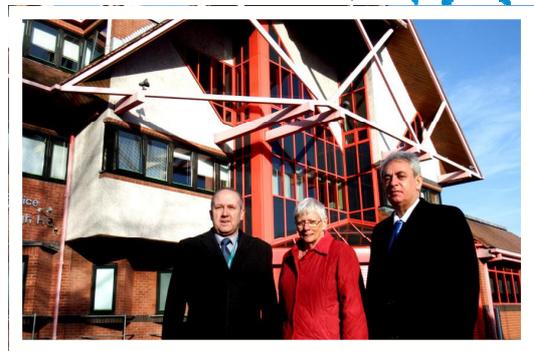


# OUR PEOPLE



- Being aware of residents concerns regarding recent cutbacks in local police facilities we will, if the Mayor of London accepts our offer, purchase Uxbridge Police Station for continued local police use and pay £250,000 per year for five years towards the running costs.

- We will continue to work closely with the police, as their operational restructure is implemented and provide funding for additional police officers to target crime and anti social behaviour in Hillingdon.



- We have established a Youth Fund of £200,000 each year to provide small grants for activities to young people's sports and other clubs.

- Maintain our policy of the best person for the job regardless of sex, age, race or other factors.

- For our younger residents, following the Schools Forums' decision to cease support for Early Years Centres we will provide funding of £322,000 to cover any potential subsidy required to maintain this service.

- For our more senior residents we will continue to invest in the refurbishment of bowls clubs across the Borough.

- We will retain and promote the use of the Hillingdon First Card.

**REMEMBER**

**Only Conservative Councillors have the ability and commitment to deliver both strong financial management and services for our residents.**



# OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



*Hillingdon has for five consecutive years won more green flags for its parks and open spaces than any other local authority in the UK. We also won gold awards in both the London and Britain in Bloom competitions. The enhancement and protection of our natural environment remains a priority. We will:*

- Continue to invest in, and improve our parks and spaces as well as provide floral displays in town centres and across the Borough.
- We will continue to lead on and support local residents once again threatened with additional noise and air pollution and the devastating effect on local communities of



an expanded Heathrow airport. Of the two options put forward for runway expansion by the Davies Commission (Heathrow & Gatwick) the least environmentally damaging by a very long way is Gatwick. The choice was a simple one which to Hillingdon Conservatives was obvious and we voted to protect our environment and the people that we represent by urging the Government to choose Gatwick. The Hillingdon Labour Group felt unable to make such a decision to defend either the local environment or our local residents, such is their determination and commitment on this issue. We have set aside sufficient funding to fight the proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> runway at Heathrow through the various courts in the years ahead, should this be required and we are confident that it will again be defeated.

- Continue to provide the easy to use free of charge weekly refuse and recycling collection, including green waste, textiles and food waste that is the envy of residents in other boroughs.



# OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



- Following requests from residents we will provide a domestic waste and recycling facility in the south of the borough and implement a tougher policy on identifying fly tippers and pursuing them through the courts. Our Local Plan provides for the former Coal Yard site in Yiewsley to be allocated for mixed use development comprising of residential units, B1 employment uses and community uses. The proposed civic amenity facility uses less than one third of the site and has no comparison whatsoever to the very large scale waste transfer and recycling facility refused planning permission in 2016. There is also no comparison with the separate 2017 planning enforcement appeal that the Council successfully won against Powerday which concerned a night-time skip transfer operation.
- We will provide a free bulky waste collection service for all residents.
- Continue to promote a Civic Pride in the natural environment, encouraging both protection and enjoyment of this precious asset.
- Water Fountains, with bottle filling facilities, will be introduced in our parks and other suitable areas.
- We are introducing a number of initiatives to reduce the use of plastic and difficult to recycle coffee cups.
- Continue to deliver our popular Chrysalis programme investing £1 million a year in environmental projects put forward by residents.
- We will re-provide the facilities of the Hillingdon Outdoor Activity who are losing their current site in Harefield due to the construction of the “white elephant” that is HS2.
- Should HS2 continue to be constructed as currently planned we will work with local residents to hold the promoters and contractors to account as regards the effect that they are having on our residents and the environment.



# OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT



*Hillingdon now has some of the best leisure facilities in London and in these times of financial cutbacks is the only local authority in the country to have rebuilt or refurbished all of its libraries.*

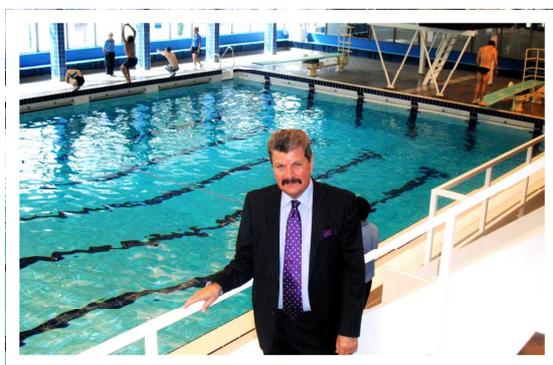
- We will continue our primary and secondary school building and expansion programme to provide sufficient places for the expanding school population.
- We will build a GP practice facility and a dementia centre in Hayes.
- Continue to defend our residents against inappropriate development such as the most recent Powerday proposal for a night-time skip transfer operation, from both builders and the Government regardless of political colour.

- Build a new library in Yiewsley.
- Refurbish all of our other libraries and our leisure centres.



- We have invested record amounts in road and footpath improvements and will continue to invest in resurfacing roads and footpaths across the Borough.

- Build a new swimming pool in the Yiewsley/ West Drayton area. The trustees of the Yiewsley and West Drayton Community Association fully support this proposal and have put forward the suggestion that the current Youth Centre site on the Harmondsworth Road, adjacent to the Community Centre would be an ideal site for this facility. This option will be considered.



- We will build a borough museum with free entry to all Hillingdon residents.

# OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT



- As part of the development of the St. Andrews site in Uxbridge land will be gifted to the Borough to enable us to build a 1200/1400 seat state of the art theatre and music auditorium.
- Having exceeded our London Plan target for housing every year for the past five years we will continue to oversee the provision of homes for purchase and for rent.

- We will build homes that will be sold at a discounted price to those with at least 10 years residency in the Borough.
- Provide Christmas lights across the Borough in our town centres and high streets.



- Complete the £6 million investment in Hayes town centre improvements.
- We will build a new clubhouse for the Bessingby Football and Boxing Club.
- Continue our programme of road safety initiatives and new pedestrian crossings working closely with local residents.

- We will invest a minimum of £1.65million over the next three years to expand and upgrade our CCTV coverage across the Borough.
- Provide support to our key town centre shopping areas, including the provision of shop front grants.



# OUR HERITAGE AND CIVIC PRIDE



*Hillingdon has a rich heritage and history within its boundaries which we will endeavour to protect. We will promote and encourage a sense and feeling of Civic Pride in Hillingdon and its people, past and present.*

- We will continue, through the Hillingdon Improvement Programme, to fund projects and events that celebrate our heritage and civic pride.
- Having become custodians of the Battle of Britain Bunker and built a state of the art exhibition and visitors centre above it, we will encourage visitors of all ages to follow the journey of those ordinary men and women who served there and in the skies above us, doing extraordinary things in the line of duty in what Churchill so accurately predicted would be “their finest hour”.
- Promote and support local celebrations of events of national importance such as royal weddings.
- Provide a Borough museum to display the history of the area that makes up the Borough of Hillingdon.
- Continue to maintain and renovate the public war memorials in the Borough including the Polish War Memorial.
- Celebrate 100 years of women’s suffrage in 2018 with a series of events.
- Mark the centenary of the end of the First World War 1914/18 with a series of events including children planting a chain of poppies across the Borough and as a tribute to the young people who gave their lives in that conflict provide a bursary fund scheme (£320,000 to allow a number of Hillingdon young people to pay their first year’s university tuition fees).
- Continue our blue plaque scheme to commemorate famous people who have lived or worked in the Borough.
- Maintain our close association with RAF Northolt, the last surviving operational Battle of Britain airfield in the country.



# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



*We have in Hillingdon seen a reduction in central government funding which together with inflation and the additional service requirements due to a population rising at both ends of the age spectrum has require us to achieve a reduction in running costs of £118million since 2010.*

*Going forward we estimate that a further £64 million will need to be found over the next five years and only the Conservative Administration have the knowledge, ability and proven track record in financial management which will be essential in achieving this without resorting to the tax raising and slash and burn tactics of other councils. (The last time Labour were in power in Hillingdon they raised Council Tax by 12%)*



- Through a combination of sound financial management and good business practice we have built up record levels of reserves and balances which will enable us to take the time to use service transformation and business process reviews to achieve the savings required and service transformation required to continue the level of service delivery and facility provision that has become the norm in Hillingdon.
- We will continue to benchmark our fees and charges against those of neighbouring boroughs and charge Hillingdon residents 90% of what those boroughs charge their residents.
- Car parking charges will remain amongst the lowest in London for Hillingdon residents.
- We will continue to provide financial support to voluntary sector groups in the Borough.
- We will continue funding for the ward budget scheme enabling councillors to provide financial assistance and facility support at a very local level.

# THE CHOICE AT THIS ELECTION



On the 3rd May the choice for Hillingdon residents is clear. Which party has the proven track record of providing the sound financial and management ability to take Hillingdon forward in the current economic climate and which party will want to duck that question and talk about national government issues to avoid direct comparison with Hillingdon Conservatives?

It is easy to forget the state of Hillingdon when Labour were last in power:

- X A Council Tax increase of 12%.***
- X A budget with a projected shortfall of £13million.***
- X Green belt areas from Hillingdon House Farm to Yiewsley Recreation Ground, and numerous allotment sites threatened by building schemes.***
- X No provision for replacing out of date facilities.***
- X Falling standards of service provision throughout the Borough.***

Labour want to go back to the old days of the Council being run by committees providing lots of talk and little action.

To be honest there is simply not a credible alternative in Hillingdon amongst the smaller parties and individuals seeking election, particularly at a time when strong leadership and financial management is required.

In Hillingdon, the Conservatives have delivered substantial improvements in services and facilities as well as freezing tax and charges.

The choice is yours - keep going forward with Hillingdon Conservatives or risk going backwards with a vote for any other party.



# YOUR CONSERVATIVE COUNCIL CANDIDATES



## **BARNHILL**

**CAMERON BELL  
JEM DUDUCU  
RACHEL XUEREB**

## **BRUNEL**

**ROY CHAMDAL  
RICHARD MILLS  
BRIAN STEAD**

## **CHARVILLE**

**NICOLA BRIGHTMAN  
NEIL FYFE  
PAULA RODRIGUES**

## **HAREFIELD**

**HENRY HIGGINS  
JANE PALMER**

## **HILLINGDON EAST**

**WAYNE BRIDGES  
ALAN CHAPMAN  
PAT JACKSON**

## **MANOR**

**MIKE MARKHAM  
DOUGLAS MILLS  
SUSAN O'BRIEN**

## **NORTHWOOD HILLS**

**JONATHAN BIANCO  
DUNCAN FLYNN  
JOHN MORGAN**

## **SOUTH RUISLIP**

**VANESSA HURHANGEE  
ALLAN KAUFFMAN  
STEVE TUCKWELL**

## **UXBRIDGE NORTH**

**MARTIN GODDARD  
RAY GRAHAM  
DAVID YARROW**

## **WEST DRAYTON**

**CAMERON BRADBURY  
LESLEY DEVILLE  
JAMES HAMBLIN**

## **YEADING**

**KELLY BRIDGES  
BOLUPE OMISORE  
CHRIS SMALLWOOD**

## **BOTWELL**

**JACK CRAMP  
ISHA MASSON  
RACHAEL STRONG**

## **CAVENDISH**

**TEJI BARNES  
EDDIE LAVERY  
HEENA MAKWANA**

## **EASTCOTE & EAST RUISLIP**

**NICK DENYS  
IAN EDWARDS  
BECKY HAGGAR**

## **HEATHROW VILLAGES**

**SANJIV BISNAUTHSING  
RAFAEL KOCHAJ  
CHRISTINE TAYLOR**

## **ICKENHAM**

**JOHN HENSLEY  
RAY PUDDIFOOT  
DAVID SIMMONDS**

## **NORTHWOOD**

**RICHARD LEWIS  
CAROL MELVIN  
SCOTT SEAMAN-DIGBY**

## **PINKWELL**

**PHIL COLLINS  
RESHAM KOTECHA  
BISEEM SHAHID**

## **TOWNFIELD**

**ADAM BENNETT  
KELLY MARTIN  
MUSTAFA SOWE**

## **UXBRIDGE SOUTH**

**KEITH BURROWS  
FARHAD CHOUBEDAR  
JUDITH COOPER**

## **WEST RUISLIP**

**PHILIP CORTHORNE  
DEVI RADIA  
JOHN RILEY**

## **YIEWSLEY**

**SHEHRYAR AHMAD-WALLANA  
SIMON ARNOLD  
ALAN DEVILLE**