



Change for Peterborough

The Liberal Party - Radical, Progressive and Independent



It's time for change in Peterborough!

Many local residents have told us they're fed up with all the politicians. And no wonder; with the Tories in control of the City Council, and with Cameron and Clegg running the Government – we're all being squeezed. They keep telling us that things are getting better, but no one we've talked with locally actually believes this. The Tories, Lib Dems and Labour all tell us there's 'no alternative' to further cuts – but we don't believe that's true.

What Peterborough needs is a strong, radical, progressive voice in Parliament. A voice that speaks on your behalf. The Liberal Party (we are definitely not Lib Dems) believes there is a better way to run the country. We think it's a scandal that we're the 7th biggest economy in the world, yet we still have students, single people, couples, families and pensioners all struggling to make ends meet. The NHS, despite having dedicated and fantastic staff, is under threat. Housing costs keep rising and we're still short of homes. Teachers battle heroically in our under-funded education system. We ask the Police to do more, whilst cutting their numbers. Yet the Tories still plan to spend £100 billion replacing Trident and nuclear submarines – and they're planning more tax cuts for the 'fat cats'.

So, let's make a stand and send a loud, clear message to the Westminster clique: 'It's Time to Change – Put The People First!' Want to know more about us? - please ask us or take a look at our website: www.liberal.org.uk.

Who we are, what we stand for, why we're asking for **your** support.

Originally founded in 1859,

The Liberal Party has always been radical and progressive. We're sometimes confused with the Liberal Democrats, but they are a completely different party that has become more and more right wing over recent times. Many ex-Lib Dems, disillusioned Labour supporters and other progressives have now joined with us to fill the vacuum on the radical side of politics.



Throughout the country, Liberal councillors serve their local communities by initiating policies for change and programmes for action – all to benefit their residents.

On May 7th, we're asking for your support, so Chris Ash can be a strong, loud, radical voice for all the people of Peterborough.

A message from Chris



“ As a long time local resident and member, I'm delighted that the Liberal Party has chosen me as its General Election candidate for Peterborough. I represent Dogsthorpe Ward on the City Council. I am also a trustee of Peterborough Citizens Advice. I am an active member of the railway union I joined when I first started work and I still have a strong interest in transport issues. The East Coast Main Line worked well in the public sector and I believe it was wrong for the Government to re-privatise the service. I am a great supporter of local democracy. Local Liberals strongly feel that, wherever practicable, decision-making should be at a local level – your views count. ”

Make your vote count on May 7th.

Chris ASH
Thursday MAY 7th



Here's a short summary of our key policies

You can find details of all our policies on our website: www.liberal.org.uk



The Economy

Working in the interests of the people

We believe the economy should serve the interests of the people. Key objectives are to distribute wealth fairly, wage war on poverty and ensure a minimum standard of living for all. We also want to reward innovation, initiative, commitment and hard work. We support free enterprise but with stricter controls over quasi-monopolies like the discredited banks. We want greater employee participation and co-ownership.



Employment

The quest for full employment

Regional development is our key priority. We will encourage enterprise with grants and tax incentives for new businesses to employ more local people. We want a 'workers' charter', clearly defining and safeguarding workers' and trades union rights. Employees must be involved in fundamental decisions affecting their business, such as mergers and take-overs. State enterprises should have worker and community input.



Crime, civil liberties & the law

Protecting the rights of the individual

Liberals want a more devolved structure for Police Authorities, with local police stations being more autonomous and accountable to their communities. We call for an end to some custodial sentencing and believe that imprisonment should only be considered for crimes against the person or which put people at risk of physical, psychological or emotional injury. Courts should be given additional powers to initiate further investigation of cases.



Health

Combining NHS & social care

Finally, the other parties are beginning to accept the Liberal policy of combining NHS healthcare with social care. We want to keep health provision in the publicly funded domain and free at the point of delivery. Private healthcare should be seen as an additional personal choice, not an alternative to the public system. We need more decision-taking at local and regional levels to reflect the needs of diverse communities and to reflect widely differing demographics and populations.



Education

A lifelong entitlement

Education should be seen as a form of empowerment rather than a state imposition. It should be an ongoing, free entitlement with access unrestricted by age. We oppose the national curriculum, believing it to be a dangerous concentration of power in the hands of central government. League tables should be abolished and testing reduced to a minimum. For higher and further education, we believe in the re-introduction of fee-free access and the restoration of grants.



Transport

Creating a fully integrated network

We aim to create a democratically controlled integrated transport system, including local community transport systems. We call for a programme of public works to reinstate and rehabilitate Britain's canal and railway networks and the extension of government grants to enable the transfer of freight from road to rail. We want to re-nationalise the rail system, but recognise that this will take time. We want to see greater innovation in transport matters such as, perhaps, more innovative use of river networks.

Chris ASH
Liberal Party Candidate
& Local Resident



Thursday MAY 7th - 7am to 10pm

Peterborough Liberal Party

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