



Liberal News winter 2022

MESSAGE FROM STEVE RADFORD

Can I wish all Liberal Party members a **Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year**

That is not suggesting we are ignoring the prospect of a sustained recession projected for the next two years

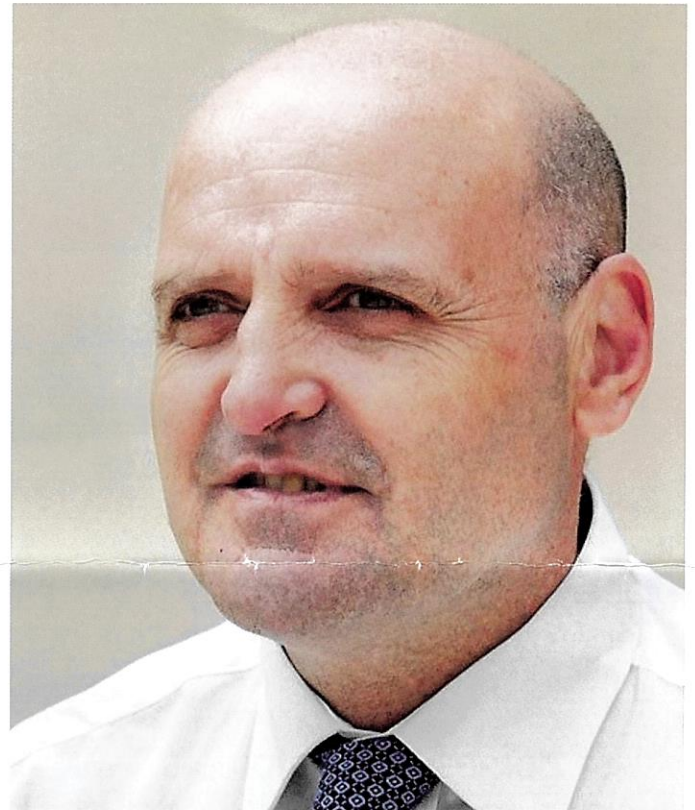
The combination of inflation and economic downturn are without doubt aggravated by this governments policies

The needless loss of EU skilled workers could have been avoided by clearer assurances at the start of the Brexit process as we suggested

Giving refugee applicants the opportunity to work and contribute to the economy would reduce the burden on taxation and increase the labour supply. We have been calling for more flexible process for retired employees to return to the workplace on part time hours

Our policy to increase the income tax threshold to 20k would increase casual and part time work and be an influence to reduce inflation

Our policy to increase the VAT threshold for small businesses from 85k to 150k would give a real



spur to small businesses who are at present facing the highest levels of closures and insolvency

Taking simple steps to reduce administration of a complex tax and benefits system is a step for greater freedom, **economic growth and a more socially equitable and just society**

Tackling poverty by increasing disposable income of the low paid and pensioners is the best way to increase the supply of labour, combat inflation and grow the economy

Assembly Report

Motion's Passed at Liberal Party Assembly 15th October 2022 in York



Cost of Living Crisis

The Liberal Party welcomes the replacement of the energy cap with the energy prices guarantee but notes serious omissions with the program.

Whilst domestic customers will be protected for 2 years (since reduced to 6 months), support for hard pressed SME and businesses, schools, hospitals, and charities has only been set for 6 months with a review within 3 months for what are described as "Vulnerable" industries.

Without a long-term guarantee on energy prices many businesses and employers will no longer be able to continue trading, resulting in both business closures and job losses, but also a loss of economic activity, business rates and VAT for the treasury.

We believe an energy prices support strategy should include all energy consumers to provide the maximum

protection for livelihoods and businesses in this country.

The party believes that the long-term solution to our energy needs is greater investment in green energy and reductions in energy waste.

Plastic Recycling

Following on from an APPG Youth Affairs meeting in December 2021, the Liberal Party Youth would suggest a 20p "deposit" on transactions involving plastic bottles that would be returned upon the return of these bottles. We envisage sites to return these bottles being widespread to allow for easy return.

We believe this policy would reduce the "eco-anxiety" of young people which have shown a consistent rising trend. It would also give younger people a clear example of the difference recycling makes.

This policy has been utilised in countries like Germany (The Pfand) and studies have shown that up to 99% of cans are recycled every year and only 1-3% of reusable bottles are not returned.

Policy Development at the Liberal Party

The policy document was adopted by the Assembly, and we thank Jack Baker and Kayed Al-Haddad for their tremendous efforts.

This document has been used to refresh the website, with any areas of remaining concern to be highlighted for further revision.

Liberal Party Candidates in Liverpool City Council Elections May 2023

The Liberal Party is pleased to make an interim statement on its candidates in the local elections for Liverpool City Council in May 2023.

These elections come after a boundary review which will see major changes to ward boundaries with 85 elected councillors representing 3 three-councillor wards, 15 two-councillor wards and 46 single-councillor wards across the city on a 4-year election cycle.

Cllr Steve Radford will contest Stoneycroft Ward, Cllr Billy Lake will contest Tuebrook Larkhill ward,

Cllr Joe Dunne will contest Tuebrook Breckside Park, Mick Coyne will contest

Old Swan East and Cllr Alan Tormey will contest Wavertree Garden Suburb.

Further prospective candidates will be notified in the run-up to the opening of nominations.

We will not be taking anything for granted in the local elections in May 2023, and any support you can give, from putting up a poster in your window, registering for a postal vote or posting leaflets in your immediate roads would be greatly appreciated.

Offers of assistance will be gratefully received:

northwestliberalparty@hotmail.co.uk

The UK Water Industry and Sewage Discharge

The early autumn rains, although welcome after the summer heatwave, resulted in the excess runoff triggering widespread wastewater discharges the length and breadth of the UK coastline.

Much of this discharge has contained untreated sewage as local storm overflows were overwhelmed. The resulting discharges have then rendered rivers and coastal waters inaccessible to the public and for recreational pursuits.

The party believes it is unacceptable at the start of the 21st century that a £7.3 billion industry is incapable of managing its legal

obligation to manage such events and for the water regulator, OFWAT, to allow the practise to continue unchallenged.

The Liberal Party believes that the privatised water industry is a natural monopoly and as such should be brought back under public ownership, as agreed at the Special Assembly held in February 2017.

This would allow funds to be directed to proper environmental management and protection as well as securing the UK's water supply in the face of climate change.

Liberal Party Archive being created in Cornwall

Paul Holmes, the leader of the Liberal Party in Cornwall, is currently documenting their extensive collection of electoral material dating back to the perpetuation of the Liberal Party after the 1988 merger.

Their intention is to donate a copy of the archive to Kresen Kernow ('Cornwall Centre'), the regional historical archive and then compile a

history of the Cornish Liberal Party in the region since 1988.

Liberal Party members in other regions may also wish to take stock of any historical documents they possess as electoral materials can be a valuable source of inspiration as well as holding a historical significance and we would urge members to treasure and safeguard these.

Liverpool Remembrance Day Parade November 2022

Liberal Party Environment Spokesman Cllr Alan Tormey, Childwall councillor represented the Liberal Party Group at the Liverpool Remembrance Day Parade on Sunday outside St George's Hall.

