

Bucklow-St. Martins, Clifford, Davyhulme East, Davyhulme West, Flixton, Gorse Hill, Longford, Stretford & Urmston

Stretford & Urmston News

Autumn Edition 2021



Trafford Labour's crippling five year Council Tax hike

The draft Trafford Council Budget proposed to be implemented next year brings unwelcome news for Stretford and Urmston residents. Labour is planning on hiking your Council Tax up by an inflation-busting 3.99%. That would take the Council Tax bill for a Band D property for example, up to £1,788 and that doesn't take account of the likely increases in precepts for the fire and police services which would push the tax bill up even further. What is even more alarming is that Labour have revealed

their plans to increase your Council Tax by a similar percentage each year right up to 2027.

Under the last Conservative administration, the Band D Council Tax charge was £1,486 and Trafford had the lowest Council Tax rates in Greater Manchester, which is now no longer the case. Residents will be asking for what exactly are they paying more under Labour?

Labour also want to inflict more costs on local residents through proposals for a review of residents parking permits and parking charges to bring in an extra £100,000 to the Council. Another year of increased car parking charges will damage our town centres further as they struggle to recover from the impact of the Covid pandemic. With Labour, it really is a case of pay more and get less. Stretford and Urmston residents deserve better than that.

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Dark clouds loom over Trafford's Labour Council whilst it plans to hit residents pockets hard

Working to make Stretford & Urmston better

Red card for Labour as Stretford cone nightmare continues

With the football season in full swing and events taking place at the two Old Trafford stadia, the Labour Council administration continues to inflict traffic misery on Stretford.

Conservatives are calling on Labour to fix this congestion. With some residential roads blocked off by planters and the main roads having reduced lanes, Stretford comes to a standstill when major events take place.

Conservatives agree that there is a need for safe cycle lanes through Stretford but Labour has wasted time and £280,000 placing hundreds of cones on the A56. The Labour administration should have listened to the needs of cyclists and motorists to ensure any new schemes complemented and improved the safety of all modes of transport.

The Labour Council administration is clearly under pressure as residents are to be given the opportunity to voice their opinions on the cycle lanes through a consultation commencing in early November.



A regular morning with traffic at a standstill in Stretford



Labour's mismanagement of the bin collections



Labour is unable to deliver services to an acceptable standard

Labour needs to clean up the bin collection mess

With Trafford's bin collections continuing to suffer from mismanagement, Conservatives are calling on Labour to clean up the mess that they have created. Green bin collections have been particularly affected, with residents asking why green bins remain unemptied.

Jonathan Coupe, Chairman of Stretford and Urmston Conservatives said, "Residents, across Davyhulme and Trafford are very fed up with the poor bin collection. Some residents are now reporting that their green bin collections are being missed for three or four weeks which has been totally unacceptable over the summer months."

We understand that some bin crew staff are self-employed. Why instead of coming up with a solution are the Labour Council just cancelling bin rounds? Under the previous Conservative administration, household bin collection was regularly achieved more than 99% first time collection. Why is Labour unable to deliver the service to an acceptable standard?"



With new builds, the council could avoid unexpected costs and delays through greater certainty over building costs

Blow for residents as Trafford Council backs out of building new leisure centre

The news that Trafford Council has reversed previous plans to build a new leisure centre in Stretford has come as a bitter blow to local residents. The lack of investment from the Council in its leisure assets contrasts sharply with other areas where the Council has prioritised such as lending the owners of the CIS Tower in Manchester city centre £60m for a refurbishment and taking out a loan of £17.6 million to invest in properties around Albert Square in the city centre.

Stretford and Urmston Conservatives are concerned about the decision by the Council by choosing the refurbishment route rather than building as there are potential unknown costs of ageing building arising for example from

Are Labour's low standards putting us at risk?

Despite receiving the funding to enhance and tidy our neighbourhoods the Labour administration doesn't appear to care about residents' needs or values. Its non-aspirational attitude leads to no visible improvements, apart from some ill-thought-out planters blocking off some of our roads.

Overhanging hedges and trees make it difficult to walk about. There are

unsightly weeds along our footpaths and detritus left in our gutters leading to flooded roads. The Conservatives offer an alternative, taking pride in the area where we live. We want to work with our fantastic 'Friends' groups and not take them for granted, by providing realistic funding for a greener, cleaner Borough.



Is this the best Labour can do in Davyhulme?



The hard to find green compostable bags

Trafford residents are asking "Where did the Green Bags go to?"

Local residents are asking why, when they asked for more compostable Green Bags for their food waste, Trafford's Labour Council failed to deliver the bags, and local Conservatives have asked for answers.

Trafford Council provides compostable food bags and additional bags could be requested, either from the bin crews with a yellow tag on the bins, by calling for new ones or collecting from the local libraries. Dozens of local residents have however reported that they ran out of supplies of the food bags and were unable to obtain replacement bags from the Council.

“

We've launched our new website with all the latest news for Stretford and Urmston, membership sign up details and information on how to get involved with our campaigning.

www.stretfordandurmstonconservatives.uk



Play equipment in Davyhulme out of bounds for our children

standards

Since Labour took control of the Council and splurged money on commercial property loans, they've cut budgets for park maintenance. Local voluntary groups, dependent on donations from residents, are being relied upon to perform basic maintenance services, rather than adding value.

Flixton Conservative campaigner, Gary Towers said "What is very noticeable is the number of children's play parks that have some or all apparatus cordoned off, waiting for months to be

repaired. Residents are left to endure barren ground, missing AstroTurf and general dilapidation. Examples of this lack of care from the Council include Dover/Kingsway Park, Davyhulme Park in Davyhulme and Golden Hill Park in Urmston, but the problem is borough wide. It's another example of Labour's bad financial management and wrong priorities. With Labour, you pay higher Council Tax for lower standards and services."

Do you need funding for a community event or project?

If you think that your neighbourhood needs some TLC or you simply want to bring your neighbours together after the lockdowns, grant funding is available to help make that happen.

Trafford's Inclusive Neighbourhoods Grants aim to support events and projects that bring different people together, across faith, generations, places or diversity, integrating residents and strengthening cohesion.

Grants are available in two sizes: up to £500 for events and up to £2,000 for projects. For grants up to £2,000 for community projects, any group or organisation that is constituted with a minimum of three unrelated members on a committee and has its own non-personal bank account, can apply. The next Inclusive Neighbourhood Grant funding deadline for submitting an application is 31 January 2022.

For further information search for 'Inclusive Neighbourhood Grants' on the Trafford Council website.

our plan

Stretford and Urmston



We need to see more police officers on the streets

1

Fix our roads and pavements

Trafford Labour promised to fix our roads and pavements, but they are worse than ever. Better roads and pavements will encourage more residents to walk and cycle. We will work to fix this.

2

Improve community safety

Additional police officers have been recruited in Greater Manchester but we are not seeing them in Stretford and Urmston. Trafford Conservatives will campaign for more CCTV, better lighting and more crime prevention measures.

3

Improve our bins and recycling

Trafford's overall performance for recycling has dropped over the past five years. From 9th in 2016-2017 to 25th in 2019-2020 (letsrecycle.com) The number of times bin collections have been missed in Stretford and Urmston is unacceptable.



We must protect our community assets

4

Green Belt Carrington

Trafford Labour forced through plans to build on the Green Belt at Carrington. 'New Carrington' is identified for 4,300 new homes and 380,000sqm industrial and warehousing space which will see 169ha of Green Belt release. Conservatives voted against the plan.

5

Reduce traffic speed in Stretford and Urmston

Conservatives are determined to bring in measures that will reduce both speeding and inconsiderate behaviour from drivers to achieve a safer environment for all residents whether pedestrians, cyclists or disabled road users.

6

Protect Community Assets

Conservatives want to save local community assets such as Flixton House from being sold off to developers. Labour made a decision earlier in the year that could allow an asset such as Flixton House, or indeed any building to be placed into a sales programme.