

SCDC LIBERAL DEMOCRATS – MANIFESTO 2011

KEY MESSAGES:

SIX TO FIX

1. Local housing to meet local needs
2. Lead from the front on Climate Change
3. Value for money in council service
4. Building stronger local communities
5. Better services for young people
6. Transport for all

WHAT WE WILL DO:

Local Housing For Local Needs

- Review Homelink’s effectiveness and transparency.
- Give more weight to local connections
- SCDC land disposal policy should be for affordable housing only.
- Maintain planning policy of minimum 40% affordable housing for all new build.

Leading From the Top On Climate Change

- Review Planning Policies on retrofitting renewables to listed buildings and those in Conservation Areas.
- Highest possible energy-saving specifications for new build.
- SCDC should lead on “Greening The Fleet” with their own vehicles
- Increase the recycling of waste from business and schools.
- Press for LED street lighting and the capacity to switch off lights late at night.

Value For Money

- Review procurement procedures
- Share services with other councils.
- Support scrapping Council Tax and replacing it with a local income tax related to the ability to pay.

Strong Local Communities

- Encourage Parish Councils to achieve “Quality Council” standard
- Give more say to Parish Councils on issues that affect them.
- Encourage support in the community, youth groups, warden support for the elderly at home, sustainable markets etc.,
- Work to maintain shops, post offices, pubs and businesses in our villages.

Better Services For Young People

- Support Parish Councils to fill the gap left by the withdrawal of the County Council funding for local youth clubs.
- Give priority to addressing issues of rural isolation through support for village transport schemes and other options providing access to major centres.
- Ask the young people what they want, before providing a service.
- Support outreach youth support for smaller rural communities

Transport For All

- Open Park & Ride facilities to all operators creating a public/private transport hub.
- Develop transport hubs based on the larger villages with good bus services so that those from poorly served villages can use public transport.
- Provide taxi cards for young people in villages without buses.
- Use money from building development, S106, to fund paths and cycleways.
- Make “Travel to Work Plans” more effective.
- Oppose the County Council’s proposal to scrap all bus subsidies.

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