# Making Enfield Better

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by delivering **Fairness Growth Sustainability** 

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Enfield should be a thriving borough where residents are prosperous, people are working and where our young people can look forward to a fulfilling future.

Instead, we have high levels of unemployment, poverty and a shameful infant mortality rate. Enfield has some of the most deprived areas in the country, with a growing inequality that divides the borough.

This is the legacy of 8 years of Conservative controlled Enfield Council.

#### It's time to Make Enfield Better

Electing a Labour Council on 6th May means voting to reverse the decline of our borough. It will be a choice by Enfield's electorate for a Council that reconnects with people, focuses on residents' needs and strives to deliver excellent services for all and not just for the few.

Labour's policies for Enfield are based on:

- Fairness providing a high level of service across the borough to meet the needs of each area
- Growth harnessing the potential that exists in our borough to regenerate Enfield
- **Sustainability** laying the foundations to build a healthy future for the borough's residents, environment and economy.

#### What you pay

Labour recognises the economic situation many residents find themselves in today. That is why our commitment is not to increase the financial burden in the next Council Tax year.

• No increase in the Council Tax in 2011-12 Labour has been calling for a Council Tax freeze since 2007. We have done so because Enfield Council has a high level of reserves that only serves to gain bank interest and not the interests of residents. Year after year Enfield's Conservative Council has increased the Council Tax. It is only this year, an election year, that the Tories have chosen to freeze the Council Tax. Labour will freeze the Council Tax for one more year.

• A £100 Council Tax rebate for pensioner households

The Council Tax can be a real financial burden for pensioners. Low-income pensioner households not eligible for Council Tax benefit because of their assets will be able to claim a £100 rebate on their Council Tax from a Labour Council.

#### Your environment

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Creating strong and identifiable neighbourhoods that residents are proud of is central to Labour's commitment to developing sustainable local communities.

- 20mph zones Speed limits in all residential roads near schools will be restricted to 20mph
- Reduce fly-tipping The menace of fly-tipping continues. Labour will work to clear fly-tips, implement prevention measures & prosecute fly-tippers.
- Return empty homes to family use
   Derelict, empty homes that scar the environment will be 'compulsory purchased' and used to house families.
- Sustainability in planning Labour will be rigorous in the Council's use of planning powers to ensure that all major planning applications meet the highest environmental and sustainability criteria.
- Reduced carbon footprint A Labour Council will audit and monitor Enfield's carbon footprint and take action to reduce the Council's impact upon the environment.
- Pensioner discounts on CPZ parking permits
- Increase recycling Labour will encourage residents to reduce their waste and give them the means to recycle more in our battle to build a sustainable environment.
- Support animal welfare As a first step in recognising and tackling the number of stray dogs and cats in our

## **Abour** Making Enfield Better

neighbourhoods, a Labour Council will work with partners to identify and implement remedies.

#### Decision making where you live

As part of Labour's commitment to local neighbourhoods, we want to give local residents a real input into the decision making process.

- £2.1 million distributed to wards for residents' priority spend
   A fund will be allocated for residents in each ward to prioritise how to spend to improve where they live. That is an average of £100,000 per ward each year.
- **Devolving estate budgets** Ring fenced funds will be allocated to each estate for tenants and leaseholders to decide how that money is best spent to improve their areas.
- Meaningful Community Forums
   Labour will give residents control over their local Community Forums.
- Improve the Council's communication with residents

Labour will drive out the jargon from Council communications and make the Council accessible.

#### Supporting young people

In schools and beyond, Labour will work with young people so that they have the opportunities to achieve and gain recognition.

- Free school meals pilot scheme to increase children's nutrition and healthy living Raising young people's level of nutrition and combating obesity are crucial to children's healthy standard of living.
- Reverse the Conservative cut on school uniforms grant This attack on the poor will be reversed as part of Labour plans to tackle poverty.
- Allotments for schools
   Allotment land will be provided for those schools that want them so that children can learn how to grow food.

 Employ more detached youth workers and create a Youth Achievement Foundation
 We will end the demonisation of young people by engaging with them, recognising their achievements and making them feel a central part of life in Enfield

#### Your health

A Labour-run Council will deliver a healthy and safe living environment where leisure is easily accessible and cultural diversity is fully recognised.

• Affordable leisure facilities

Many of Enfield's leisure facilities are too expensive for some residents. Labour will introduce a pricing policy suitable for all users.

Invest in cycling
 Conservative's Enfield Council has let

down cyclists. We will work with Transport for London and cyclists to invest in and encourage cycling.

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Fire safety

Labour will make it a requirement that all houses in multiple occupation and new buildings over 3 storeys high have fire sprinkles installed.

#### Supporting local businesses

When the borough's businesses thrive, the whole community prospers. They provide employment and help tackle worklessness the biggest cause of poverty in the borough. Working with local businesses, to generate confidence and encourage investment to create jobs, a Labour Council will:

- Use income from business rents to help regenerate Enfield's economy
- Target the use of ring-fenced area based grants to encourage business development
- Work with traders and the Police to develop a Retail Police Scheme to tackle crime in our shopping centres
- Develop the alley-gating scheme in shopping areas to reduce criminal activity and fly-tipping.

# **Example 2** Making Enfield Better

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### New Hope for Enfield Labour Council

- No increase in Council Tax for 2011/12
- £100 Council Tax rebate for pensioner households
- £2.1 million distributed to wards for residents' priority spend
- Free school meals pilot to improve children's nutrition and health
- 20mph zone in residential areas surrounding schools
- Detached youth workers for shopping areas to engage with young people
- Empty properties returned to family use
- Create older people carers' centre
- Support local businesses to create jobs

### No Hope for Enfield Conservative Council

- Child health –
   Enfield has the highest infant mortality rate in London
- Average income Enfield is in lowest 10% of local authorities in England
- Unemployment Enfield's rate of 6.7% is above the national and outer London average
- Number of households living in temporary accommodation – Enfield has the 4th largest in England
- Obesity –
   Enfield has the 3rd highest prevalence of obese people in London

Enfield people have suffered under Conservative control. It's not only the wellbeing of the borough that has deteriorated; it's also the health of residents.

> It's time to give New Hope to Enfield It's time to Make Enfield Better It's time to vote Labour

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