

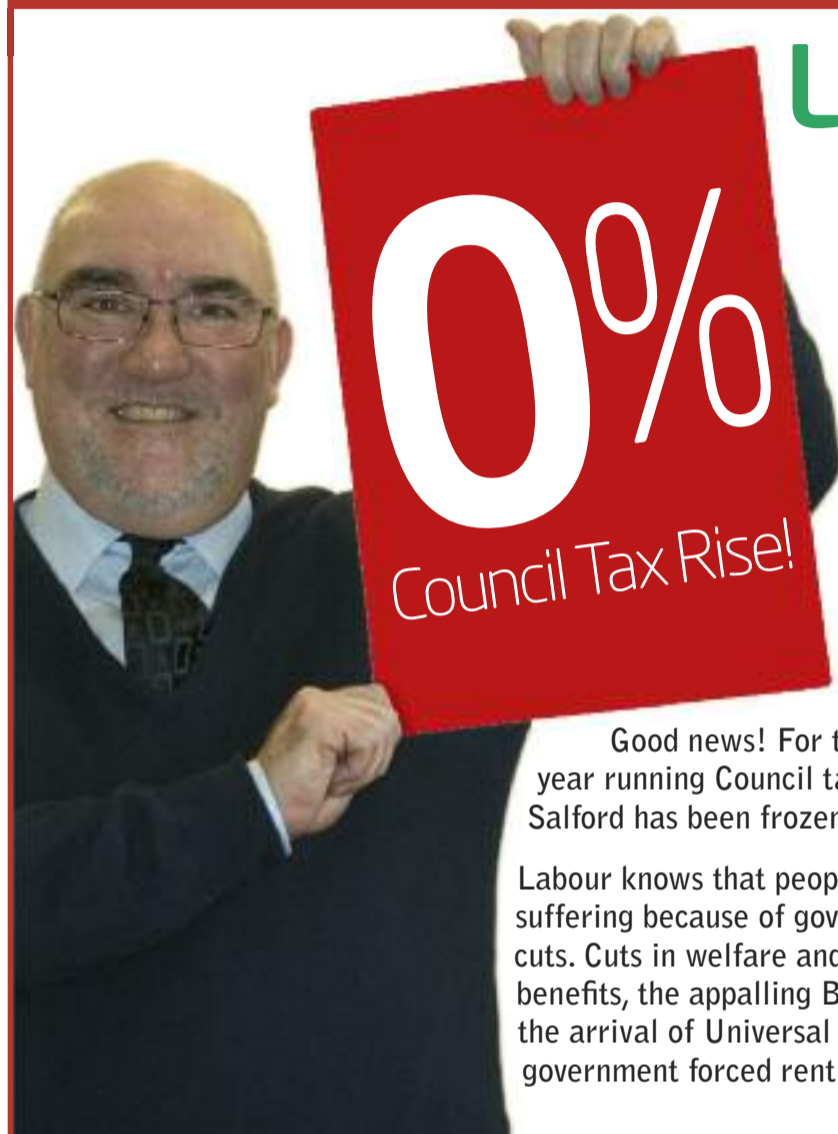
Salford

# Labour



# VOICE

Spring 2013



## Labour run Salford City says

# "Enough is Enough"

Good news! For the fourth year running Council tax in Salford has been frozen.

Labour knows that people are suffering because of government cuts. Cuts in welfare and council tax benefits, the appalling Bedroom Tax, the arrival of Universal Credit and government forced rent rises.

"Enough is enough" says City Mayor, Ian Stewart "we simply could not put up the council tax as well. We are trying to cushion the impact of government policies as much as possible when their austerity measures are hitting working people so hard.

"This fourth year of a council tax freeze is hopefully one bright spot for local people amongst the economic gloom."

This year's fourth successive council tax freeze does not, however, include the charges levied on the people of Salford by Police, Fire, Waste, etc.

Salford has already suffered £100 million government cuts in council services and seen the loss of more than 1200 jobs. Together these government cuts have cost every home in Salford £735.75.

## How the 'bedroom tax' will hit home

Times are tough for the people of Salford – but they are only going to get worse as the Government's benefit cuts kick in.

The Tory 'bedroom tax' will hit more than 5,500 residents living in social housing in Salford. They will, literally, be 'fined' by the Government just for having a spare bedroom.

### It is absolutely unbelievable

Of course, the Government's bedroom tax is only part of their cuts that will leave people more

vulnerable. The cumulative effect of austerity on families is only now dawning on people.

### How heartless and how disgusting

The Government is inflicting unnecessary hardship on vulnerable people, pushing more decent families towards the edge – and then over it.

The Government must think again about these cuts. Austerity isn't working. Their bedroom tax and welfare cuts are a truly shocking reflection of their nasty values.

Penalising families on low income, disabled people, our servicemen and women, our foster parents, or those who care for others. It is just not acceptable in the 21st century. Not one bit.



For information regarding the bedroom tax and your benefits please ring:

**Salix Homes** 0800 218 2000  
or from a mobile 0161 909 6559  
**City West** 0300 123 5522

local news: centre pages



## The Bedroom Tax



The Bedroom Tax is a huge issue for people in Broughton. Some people have lived in the same house for more than three decades and are now being told to 'take a Lodger' or 'rent privately'. This is not acceptable.

Maria, at a Broughton Labour Party Branch, told us 'We are being treated like third world people in a first world country'. She told her story explaining what it's like to live in fear of being told to move away from her community and friends.



The Broughton Hub is now open and is proving to be very popular with residents.

Under one roof we now have the Community Library, Sure Start Health, Police, Trampoline Club, Youth Club, Neighbourhood Management and Community Meeting Rooms.

Since moving to its new home Broughton Library has seen an increased use in their services, 365 new members in the last three months of 2012.

Labour Councillors have committed themselves to improving the service by negotiating for an increase in opening times, including opening on Mondays.

## Improving Transport Links in Broughton

Some time ago John, a local constituent, contacted Jim to ask for a bus stop to serve the St John's area of Higher Broughton, as residents had to cross two busy roads. He suggested we try to get a bus stop near the Broughton pool, on the St John's side.

Jim said "I took up John's idea with Transport for Greater Manchester and argued the case.

After many emails and phone calls I was delighted when they told me they had surveyed the area and accepted the case. As I drive past now I'm always pleased to see residents getting on or off the buses at this relatively new bus stop".



Come rain or shine your Broughton Labour Councillors are to be found working with residents. Recently they joined a team to help clean up our alleys and streets. Councillors Jim King and Charlie McIntyre clearing an alleyway, helping to bring it into residents use.



Fit City Broughton has seen improvements to accessibility, the changing areas, a larger fitness suite and the aerobic studio.

The venue continues to be very popular with the residents of Broughton.

Future investments in 2013 are planned due to increases to public swimming hours.



The Naz is a well known space providing a base for many local groups. A variety of Broughton's third sector can be found here from the voluntary and spiritual services.

above: Cllr McIntyre and Pastor and Mrs Olegusum from Broughton Penticostal Church.

### Your councillors for Broughton



**Councillor Jim King**

0161 792 7824  
councillor.King@salford.gov.uk



**Councillor Charles McIntyre**

07770 768 652  
councillor.Mcintyre@salford.gov.uk



**Councillor John Merry**

0161 661 7101  
councillor.Merry@salford.gov.uk





## Labour Opposes Government's Backdoor Plan to Privatisise Fire Services

The coalition government is set to put forward proposals that would enable fire and rescue authorities in England to contract out their full range of services to a suitable provider – the privatisation of the Fire Service.

This would mean Greater Manchester Fire Service and firefighters could be employed and run by a private company in Greater Manchester.

Labour oppose the Government's plans to allow fire services to be sold off. Local people need to have confidence that fire-fighting in our area is being run for public protection, not company profit.

Fire and rescue is an essential service which we all depend on for our safety and sometimes our lives. Ministers are preparing to take huge risks with this vital public service.

Our experience with the Olympics was a forceful lesson - that private firms often cost more and deliver less than promised when they bid to take over public services.

Say no to privatisation of the Fire Service!  
Sign the petition at:

<https://secure.38degrees.org.uk/page/s/stop-fire-service-privatisation>



## Welfare Reform Concerns

Kersal Councillors, George Wilson and Ann-Marie Humphreys met with Susan, a local resident, who shared her concerns over welfare reforms as a full time carer.

She felt there was a lack of recognition regarding the important work done by full time carers.

This governments welfare reforms will have a massive impact on low paid workers who are already struggling in these austere times.

## Cleaning Up Kersal Flats Site



Councillors, George Wilson and Peter Connor are working to get Salford Council to clean up and maintain the "old Kersal Flats site", which has been in a neglected state for too long.

## Your councillors for Kersal



**Councillor Peter Connor**

0161 793 3618

councillor.Connor@salford.gov.uk



**Cllr Ann-Marie Humphreys**

07872 808 020

councillor.humphreys@salford.gov.uk



**Councillor George Wilson**

0161 792 8159

councillor.Wilson@salford.gov.uk

## Clowes Park Community Involvement



Friends of Clowes Park need more help and support. Local councillors are helping to drum up interest in developing areas for use by residents.

So far suggestions are for allotments, a children's play area, nature trails and a cleaned up lake. If you would like to get involved please contact your local councillor.



Councillors visited Broomedge, a warden controlled sheltered housing complex in Kersal, to see the improvements being made under the "decent homes investments" initiative by Salix Homes.



# Labour in Salford delivers universal free nursery care



Every child with a school nursery place under five in Salford is to get 25 free hours of nursery care every week, making Salford the first of only two councils in the country to guarantee the universal benefit.

City Mayor, Ian Stewart, has worked with all local schools to fund the unique £2 million scheme so that every three and four year old with a school nursery place will be given 25 hours of childcare – much more the national legal entitlement of just 15 hours a week.

Over 2,000 children in Salford will benefit, giving them the best start in life. This will help many parents return to work or training.

Ian said "Salford is alone in the country in providing free school nursery places for all our tots - that's the real difference a Labour administration can make to the lives of working people."

[www.salfordlabour.org.uk](http://www.salfordlabour.org.uk)

Salford Labour party has a new look website. We have given the site a facelift and added new sections for latest news, views and events, and a bit of Salford Labour history. Go to [www.salfordlabour.org.uk](http://www.salfordlabour.org.uk) to take a look.



**Join Labour  
Join the fight back**

To join the Labour Party please visit:

**[www.labour.org.uk/join](http://www.labour.org.uk/join)  
or call 0845 092 22 99**

to find out more about the labour party in Salford go to [www.salfordlabour.org.uk](http://www.salfordlabour.org.uk)

# The Living Wage for Council Staff

Salford will now become the first council in Greater Manchester to introduce a full Living Wage.

It will mean a significant pay increase to £7.45 an hour for more than 1,000 of Council staff. Some of our poorest paid staff will get a pay rise of more than £1300 a year. It's a huge step forward in ending poverty pay in Salford. That's no mean achievement in these times of austerity and government forced cuts.

By paying £7.45 an hour from April, Salford's Living Wage sets a minimum amount by which no-one employed by the City Council should be expected to live. It will make a real difference to the lives of a thousand of our employees - 93 per cent of whom are women.

## What is the Living Wage?

The idea behind a Living Wage is that a person should be paid enough to live decently and to adequately provide for their family.

The living wage is an hourly rate set independently every year. It is calculated according to the cost of living and gives the minimum pay rate required for a worker to provide their family with the essentials of life.

The current rate is £7.45.



**Millionaires are getting a tax cut from David Cameron, while millions of us pay more**

## Can You Help?

If you would like to get involved with the Salford Labour Party please get in touch through our website

[www.salfordlabour.org.uk](http://www.salfordlabour.org.uk),

call us on 0161 793 2024

or email [info@salfordlabour.org.uk](mailto:info@salfordlabour.org.uk)