

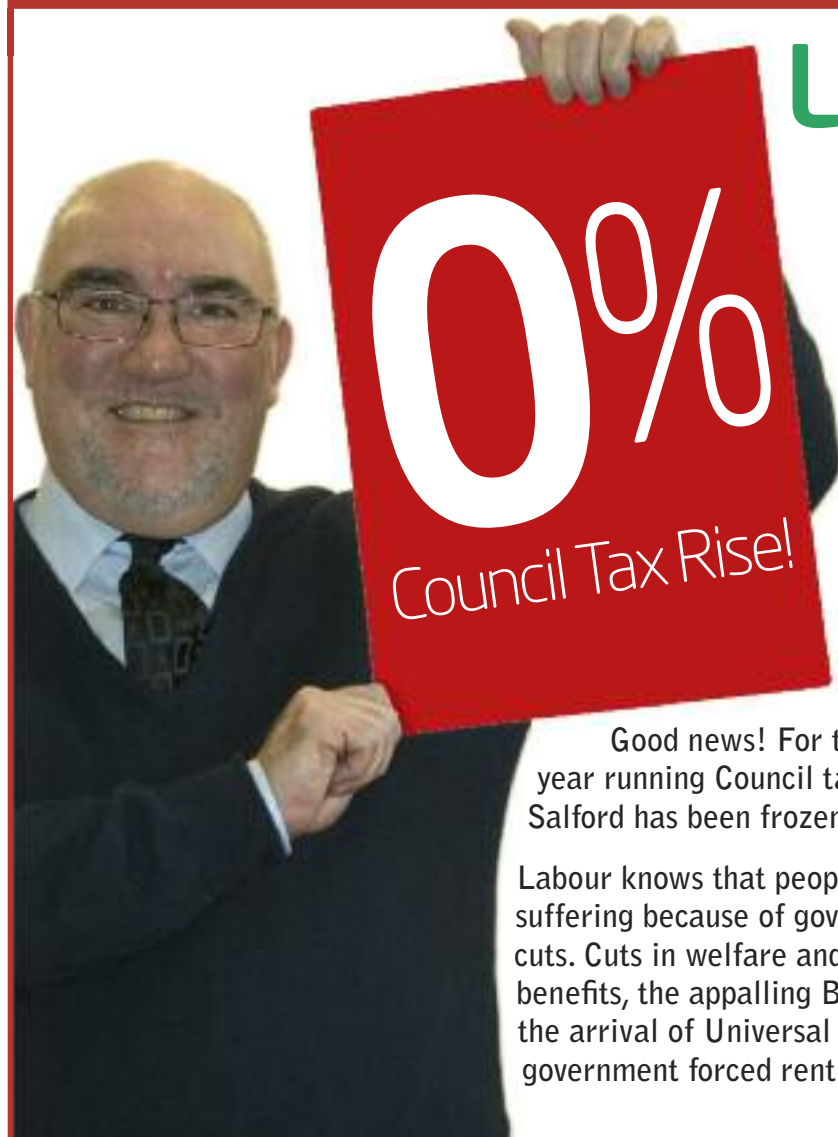
Salford

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



Height Business Forum

Sareda, Joe and Sue have been liaising with businesses along Bolton Road to see how they can work together to benefit the community and the local economy, and held the first informal business forum in November. It is hoped that this will grow and become a regular event. The main issues raised were; dangerous parking arrangements; and the suggestion of a two hour time limit to dissuade commuters from using our area as a park and ride zone.

Hopeful End to Litter Misery

Cllrs Joe Murphy and Sue Pugh met with environmental officers from Salford City Council after receiving many complaints by local residents about the large amount of litter in the vicinity. Cllr Murphy followed this up with a very positive meeting with representatives from Pendleton Sixth Form College on Dronfield Road.

Additional litter bins have been placed around the college, extra sweeps of the area have been made by the cleansing department and the college have agreed on a course of action to notify students of their responsibility to the local area. This includes posters in local shops and around the college together with each student to be informed that anti-social behaviour – littering – will not be tolerated. Each new intake at the college will also be put in the picture.



Roads

Several highways issues continue to be monitored. The junction of Swinton Park Road and Claremont Road is a hot-spot – road markings have been repainted. Westgate Road & Dronfield Road were resurfaced and a rolling programme of pot-hole repairs continues.



Back in Use

Together with residents and Salford City Council officers, Sareda, Joe and Sue helped to secure a Compulsory Purchase Order on a property on Trenant Road. A success that will mean a derelict

house will be brought back into use. Investigations are continuing on other empty properties in the area, but if you are concerned about a property near you – just give us a call.



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>

Your councillors for Claremont



Councillor Sareda Dirir

0161 745 8632
councillor.dirir@salford.gov.uk



Councillor Joe Murphy

0161 736 4771
Councillor.JMurphy@salford.gov.uk



Councillor Sue Pugh

07809 861 609
councillor.pugh@salford.gov.uk

Labour Councillors, Sareda, Joe and Sue continue to hold mobile surgeries and regularly discuss issues with Claremont Residents. Look out for a flyer to show when they are calling on your street, but if you have a problem, don't wait – just give them a call.

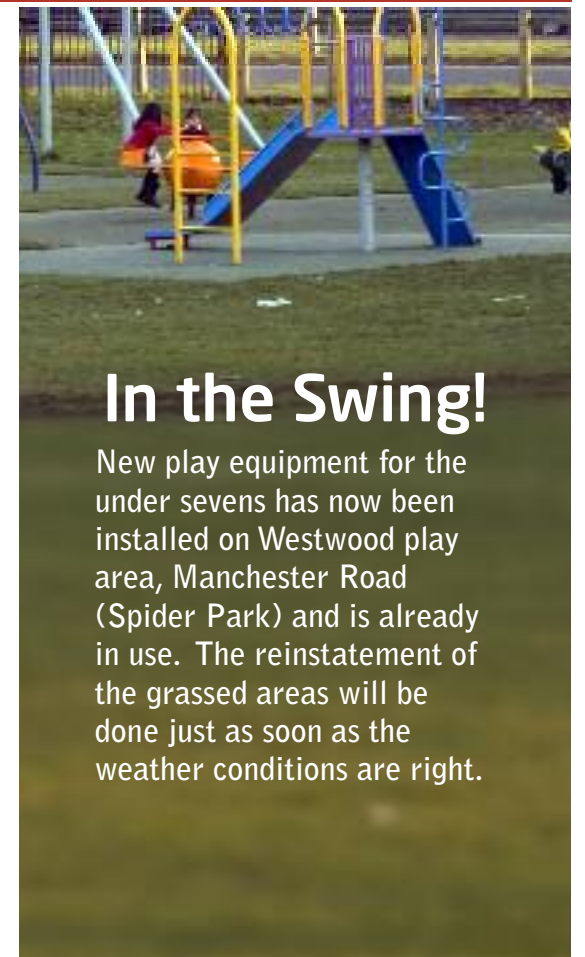
We are working hard to support our local communities - Claremont- it's a community to be proud of!



Claremont Community Spirit

Residents from Helena Street, fed-up with fly tipping, anti-social behaviour and incidents of crime, got together and formed their own community group. They wanted their alleyway to be gated to help solve these problems, provide a safe area for their families and to improve their own environment. They lobbied local councillors, the Police and Neighbourhood officers to support their cause. Cllr Sue Pugh together with residents and volunteers helped to clear some of the overgrown shrubs from the alleyway.

Community Safety is a priority and despite these difficult financial times, funding was eventually found to provide the alley-gates, not just for Helena Street but also for the surrounding area. Well done Helena Street residents.



In the Swing!

New play equipment for the under sevens has now been installed on Westwood play area, Manchester Road (Spider Park) and is already in use. The reinstatement of the grassed areas will be done just as soon as the weather conditions are right.



Keep a Clean Environment

Councillors Sareda Dirir, Joe Murphy and Sue Pugh have been working hard to reduce fly-tipping, dog-fouling and litter problems across the ward. Agreement has been reached for the car park and associated land controlled by the Co-operative store to be cleaned on a regular basis.

They asked for an increase in litter patrols and dog-warden inspections, and residents have seen a vast improvement. There is still a lot of work to do, so if you see anyone dropping litter or allowing their dog to foul public space, please call the Environment Team hotline on 0161 909 6500.

City Mayor Tour

In the past few months, Ian Stewart, his Assistant Mayors and Chief officers visited each ward in Salford. In Claremont Ward Sareda, Joe and Sue were able to show them excellent examples of work that our local communities do - the new residents group in Helena Street, The Vine community cafe on Bolton Road and the Height Methodist Church were just a few.



Keep Claremont clean

Environment Team hotline

0161 909 6500



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

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 to take a look.



Join Labour
Join the fight back

To join the Labour Party please visit:

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

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,

call us on 0161 793 2024

or email info@salfordlabour.org.uk