

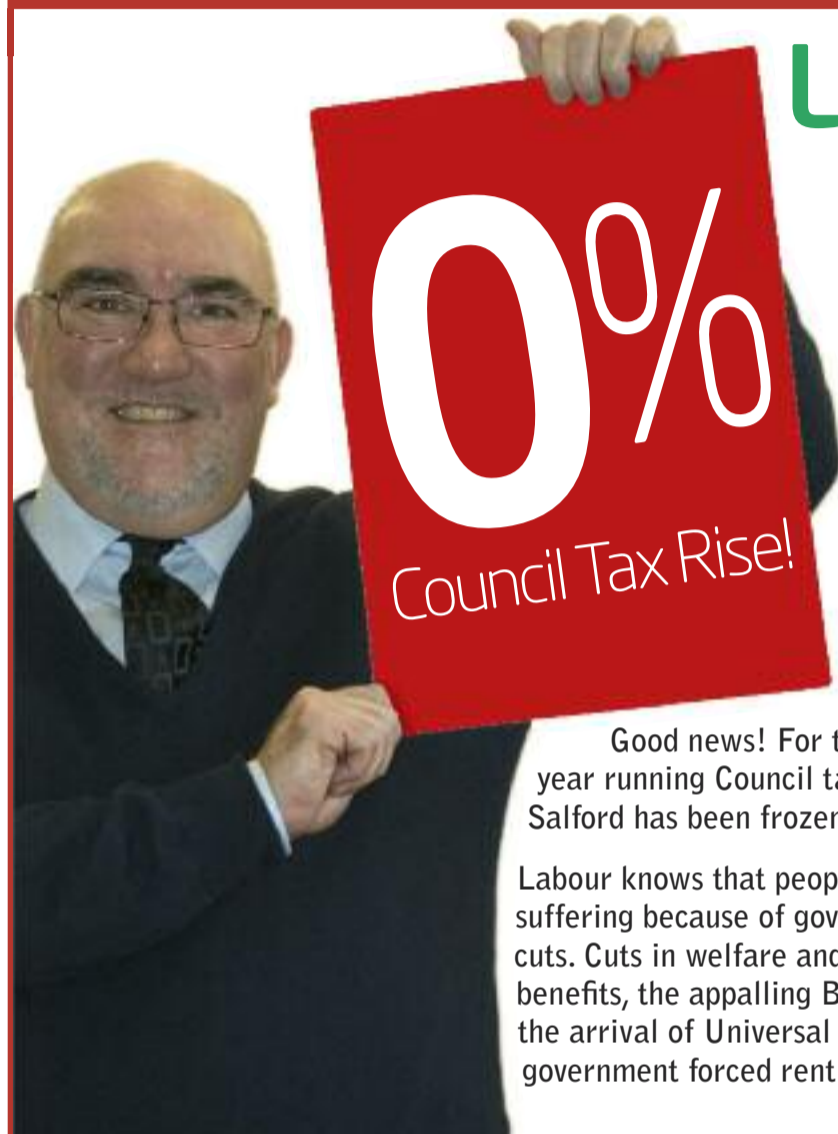
Salford

# 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

All Nine of the Swinton and Pendlebury councillors have been actively involved in supporting residents on a range of issues.



## Road Safety on the East Lancashire Road

Following the unfortunate death of a student of Moorside High School Councillors Gena Merrett, Howard Balkind and Norbert Potter approached Ian Stewart, the City Mayor, about reducing the speed limit to 40mph on the East Lancs road.

In February the City Mayor announced that there would be a reduction in speed from 50mph to 40 mph on the East Lancs between Shield Drive, Wardley, and Barton Rd, Swinton, for eighteen

months while a full review of future speed limits is undertaken. Additional funding has been provided to improve underpasses at Worsley and Swinton which will enable students at the new Moorside High School to cross in safety.

We continue to press for better signage and education so that motorists and pedestrians are aware of the dangers in the area.



## Ongoing Campaigns

We are pleased to announce that the lighting on Park Avenue has been repaired, trees have been pruned and the road completely swept. We are still battling to have repairs made to the footpath that fronts the houses on the avenue. This road is the only access residents have to their homes and it has fallen into disrepair with large

holes and ruts which are difficult for elderly residents to negotiate. The next report is due to go to the environmental task group next month and we will continue to press for these improvements.



## Parking Restrictions Success

After a year of campaigning, residents of Bain St, Shaftesbury Rd, Salisbury St, Chester St, Deans Road and other streets in Swinton town centre, won a campaign to have their streets made residential parking only. Local councillors supported residents who were plagued by nuisance parking when shoppers and council workers used their streets for daily parking, rather than pay charges. Residents have applied through councillors for resident only permits.

News that their hard fought campaign had been successful was greeted with relief by the residents. We are now waiting for the work to be done.

## Ambrose Barlow Site

Residents close to the current Ambrose Barlow site want to know what will happen when the school moves to a new building in Wardley in September. Local councillors are campaigning to retain the sports fields and leisure centre for residents and for new homes to be built on the school site in an area that is ideal for housing development. When the future of the site is confirmed we will let residents know.

### Your councillors for Swinton South



**Councillor Howard Balkind**  
0161 708 9236  
councillor.balkind@salford.gov.uk



**Councillor Gena Merrett**  
07525 336 608  
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**Councillor Norbert Potter**  
0161 794 8170  
councillor.potter@salford.gov.uk



## Gateway to future

Swinton North Ward will be home to a brand new Gateway Centre bringing together a range of services under one roof in a remodelled Crompton House.

The building – which is next to St Peter's Parish Church – will have a new glass facade which will create an exhibition space. It will be the new home for Swinton library, health, housing and advice services. Councillor Bill Hinds said: "This is something we have longed for.

The investment will provide a one-stop shop for services as well as creating much-needed construction jobs in these tough times."

## Splashing Out...

Swinton North councillors have been successful in tackling some of ward's drainage problems like the flooding at the corner of Chorley Road and Station Road and on Mossfield Road. Thanks to a massive investment plan it looks as though these have all been resolved.

Often the problem isn't about gully cleansing but broken pipes. Thanks to the investment, these are now being mended or replaced. Councillor Jim Dawson, who led demands for investment programme, said: "This is welcome. It will reduce flooding and improve the quality of life for local people".



## Bolton Road spruce up continues

Shop fronts on Bolton Road near the junction with Station Road have been given a facelift thanks to council grants. The area is looking better and the facelift follows tree-planting and the creation of a safer crossing at the junction. The area was a priority for the Swinton Community Committee.

Councillor Derek Antrobus said: "This shows what can be achieved when different parts of the council work together with a common aim which is encouraged by the existence of the local community committee."



## Roots in the Community

Pendlebury Councillor Barry Warner said that it was great to see 200 trees being planted in Clifton Country Park.

The saplings were donated to Salford City Council by Ricoh UK to celebrate the Council's green credentials.

Cllr Warner explained that the trees, along with a further 100 in Worsley Woods are in recognition of Salford Council's improved carbon footprint by introducing more efficient printing in its print centre.



before

## Sign Up to Save

Pendlebury Councillor John Ferguson is urging local people to save on their gas and electricity bills.

Already more than 3,000 people have signed up to slash their bills by up to £250 a year.

Cllr Ferguson explained "It's easy to register your interest. Just phone 0800 009 3363 or visit [www.gmfairenergy.com](http://www.gmfairenergy.com)"

He added "There is no commitment. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain."



## Crime Pays!

Pendlebury councillor John Ferguson was delighted to see the transformation of Christ Church graveyard.

In our last edition we reported how offenders, under the supervision of Greater Manchester Probation Service, would be clearing the area of Japanese Knotweed.

Now the results are clear for all to see.

Cllr Ferguson said "Community Payback has enabled a group of offenders to put something back into the area for the benefit of both the families of those interred in the cemetery and also local residents"



after



## Safety First

Pendlebury Councillor Barry Warner has 14 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. So he's under no illusion about the importance of road safety.

That's why he's welcoming plans to introduce 20 mph speed limits outside St Mark's RC Primary School on Queensway and St Augustine's CE Primary School on Bolton Road.

Cllr Warner said "The speed limit will apply during school times to keep our young people safe, but at other times normal speed limits will apply to keep traffic flowing".

### Your councillors for Swinton North



**Councillor Derek Antrobus**  
0161 793 7713  
[councillor.antrobus@salford.gov.uk](mailto:councillor.antrobus@salford.gov.uk)



**Councillor Jim Dawson**  
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**Councillor Bill Hinds**  
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### Your councillors for Pendlebury



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**Councillor Bernard Lea**  
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**Councillor Barry Warner**  
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# 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)