

Produced by your local CONSERVATIVE team - at no cost to the taxpayer

# OUR PLAN FOR HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS



“We are focusing on amenities, rough sleeping, cleaner streets, planning and housing, economy and YOUR safety”

It's time to stand up for your town!



**VOTE**  
**Conservative**



Thursday 3rd May 2018  
Hastings Borough Council Elections

**“Harold Place toilets are being destroyed by the Labour run council at a cost of £160,000”**

## Amenities



As a town we pride ourselves on having great public events in Hastings and St Leonards and we will work hard to ensure that they get better every year. However, we believe that in order to hold events and to make the town accessible for all, it is important to have public toilets available. We will put resources into making sure that happens.

>> We promise to refurbish and reopen the Harold Place toilets in the

town centre or if they have been demolished before the election, we will provide new toilets in the town centre.

>> We promise to secure the future of Ore public toilets for good.

>> We will encourage local businesses to have disabled access toilet facilities on site.

>> We believe in the importance of good quality play equipment in the borough and will conduct a review of the play spaces and equipment to make sure they are in good order, safe and fun.

**“Your Labour run Council has spent £1.3 million on external consultants since 2010”**

**Only the Conservatives have a solution to the rough sleeping in our town.** More needs to be done and having people sleeping rough on our streets is unacceptable in 2018.

● We pledge to tackle both the problem itself head-on and the causes

of the problem by working closely with local and national charities so we can help people rebuild their lives.

● We will work with the Government Minister for homelessness to find a solution to this problem for Hastings and St Leonards.

## Rough sleeping

**HASTINGS  
ST. LEONARDS**



« Welcome to the Conservative manifesto for the 2018 Hastings Borough elections.

 **Cllr  
Rob Lee**  
**Leader of the  
Conservative  
Group**

**Hastings and St Leonards** deserves a hardworking Council that will make sensible decisions on your behalf and take practical steps to improve the town for the better.

For too long Labour have taken the town for granted and have made some bad errors which you are paying for with your Council Tax. For example, the council has borrowed £28 million to buy risky, large retail properties at a time when more and more of our shopping is taking place online.

The closing down of the Harold Place toilets is clearly a mistake but Labour are unwilling to back down from this blunder and will now demolish them at a cost of up to £160,000 to you, the taxpayer!

If the Conservatives win control of the council this year we will commit to opening new accessible toilets in the town centre.

Many of you have contacted us over recent months, angry because you haven't been sent notices by the Council of new planning applications in your area. This is because the Council have stopped sending out planning notices. The Conservatives will bring back planning notice letters if elected this year.

Like you, we are proud to live and work in Hastings and St Leonards and we are willing to face up to the challenges that face our town. An example would be the rough sleepers on our streets. We need to provide more help and support to rough sleepers to rebuild their lives so that no one needs to sleep rough on our streets ever again.

**I believe in Hastings and St Leonards and I know you do too.**

**Please vote Conservative on the 3rd May**

 **Web: [www.hastingsandryeconservatives.org.uk](http://www.hastingsandryeconservatives.org.uk)**

 **Office: 01424 423949**

 **Mob: 07707 090145**

 **Address:**

**Swallow House, Theaklen Drive, St Leonards-on-Sea,  
East Sussex, TN38 9AZ**



# Planning & Housing

Our local planning department has not been working as it should for some time with too many poor and controversial decisions being made and a lack of transparency causing frustration to many.

We have to build more homes locally and we are dedicated to setting up a housing company for Hastings Borough Council so we can build the houses we need. We promise to fix our broken planning system by doing the following:

- Reinstate the planning notice letters to residents when a new application is made.
- Have design briefs for conservation areas to protect the towns heritage.
- More transparency in the planning process.
- We support the setting up of a housing company locally to help put more housing stock into the market and create more affordable housing.
- We will end the Councils failed social lettings scheme.



# The Environment

**WE BELIEVE IN MAINTAINING THE TOWN'S GREEN SPACES AND BEACHES BY PROMOTING GREEN INITIATIVES LOCALLY.**

>>> In the UK we use 13 billion plastic bottles a year, of which only 7.5 billion are recycled. If you take a walk along our beaches locally you will find discarded plastic washed up on the shoreline. This must stop and we believe that we can all play our part locally in improving our beaches.

>>> We will stop the use of plastic cups within council buildings.

>>> We will launch the 'Plastic Free Hastings' scheme where we will encourage local businesses to stop using plastics.

**We believe that the Council should lead the way in helping Hastings to become a plastic free borough.**

# Our Green Spaces

We are committed to working with local groups to ensure that we maintain and improve our green spaces across town.

**On 3rd May** you will have the chance to vote for **Conservative** councillors who will deliver better services for you and your family and who will spend your council tax wisely.



It is so important that we choose a council which listens to the people of Hastings and St Leonards. Unfortunately we have not seen this under the Labour-run Hastings Borough Council. What we have seen is that Labour leave you with less money in your pocket and worse services across our area.

We have seen the Harold Place toilets closed which were a necessity for local residents. If elected, your Conservative led Hastings Borough Council will reopen these facilities, building new ones where they have already been demolished under Labour.

Local Conservatives are also committed to regenerating our town's most deprived areas and backing our small and micro businesses so they can succeed, creating jobs and helping people get on in life.

**A Conservative led council would bring back free parking in the town centre after 6pm and introduce lower rates for businesses with rateable value under £25,000.**

Our town's current planning department has also demonstrated that a change is needed. I have met

with several local people who are frustrated with Hastings Borough Council's planning department and their approach towards business in our town. Under the Conservatives we will see a planning department that is open for business and which acts with more transparency.

Finally, Conservative councillors will address our pothole riddled roads. Central Government will be providing £250 million towards fixing potholes in towns like ours and it is important that we work closely with East Sussex County Council to make sure it efficiently spends this money while keeping taxes low.

**Amber Rudd**



**Vote Conservative**

# Economy

It is important that we encourage business to thrive in our town and we are the only party committed to do doing so.

We believe that a thriving business community will lead to a happy and successful Hastings and St Leonards.

As Conservatives we believe that we should do more as your local Council to encourage businesses to locate to Hastings and St Leonards. 

>>> The night time economy locally has suffered with an increase in parking charges. We promise to bring back free parking in the town centre after 6pm.

>>> More must be done to help small and micro business succeed in our town and to help people with their small businesses, grants will be made available to small business and new start-up ventures. We will introduce lower rates for

businesses with ratable values under £25,000.

>>> We would like to investigate the possibility of super-fast free (or subsidised) broadband for all businesses locally.

>>> The Council is setting up its own energy company, we would like to give local businesses cheap energy to give them an edge on competitors that are based elsewhere.

>>> We will implement an improved marketing strategy for our town to help boost our tourist trade which has been long neglected by the Council.

>>> We would like to see increased visitor numbers to the town which is an important building block to our economic regeneration.

**“We will launch the ‘Plastic Free Hastings’ scheme where we will encourage local businesses to stop using plastics.”**

**A better strategy to market our town will improve inward investment**



HASTINGS  
ST. LEONARDS



## Public Safety

We will do more to keep people safe in our town including:

- > Stronger enforcement of current laws to combat street drinking.
- > Working closer with the Police to better combat the drug problems on our streets.
- > We will make sure the CCTV stays operational and is better used to tackle crime on our streets and in our car parks.

## Council Tax & Charges

- > We will not raise Council Tax for at least 2 years.
- > We will reduce the brown bin charge by £5.

## Streets

- We promise to get your streets cleaner by putting money into extra street cleaning, we believe that the town should take pride in its appearance.
- Better street bin collection especially on bank holidays and during special events.
- More accountability for missed collections and missed assisted collections.
- We will provide one free large item collection per household per year in order to tackle the increased problem of fly-tipping.



**“Our town deserves better than this”**

Conservatives



# THE clearest choice in a generation

Your Conservative Councillor Candidates  
have many professions and one goal:

## Make our town better

- > Lifeboat Crew > Nuclear Engineer
- > Renowned Singer-songwriter
- > Teaching Assistant > Tesco Delivery Driver
- > Former Soldier > Mechanical Engineer
- > Graphic Designer > Call Centre Operative
- > Hotel Hospitality > Commercial Photographer
- > Office Manager > Retired Businessman
- > Civil Servant > Retail Assistant
- > Retired Policeman > I.T Manager > Hotelier

To view all our candidates standing in the Hastings Borough election visit:  
[hastingsandryeconservatives.org.uk](http://hastingsandryeconservatives.org.uk)



Don't forget you have **2** votes for Conservative candidates on 3rd May

# vote Conservative

