

FOCUS



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The All Year Round Newsletter

Wheeled bins will boost recycling



Lib Dem Council Leader Mark Gayler and Cllr Alan Thawley, Chair of the Environment Committee, with the new wheeled bins

Uttlesford District Council is bringing in a new system of refuse collection to boost recycling rates, protect the environment, and save you money.

Cllr Alan Thawley said "Burying waste in the ground produces methane which in turn contributes to global warming. We need to recycle more, and the new system of wheeled bins will help us to do so."

"We know that some places in our villages are unsuitable for wheeled bins," added Cllr Thawley, "We will be talking to local residents and providing alternatives where appropriate. Frail or disabled people that have difficulty with them will receive extra assistance."

Liberal Democrats care for the Environment and your pocket

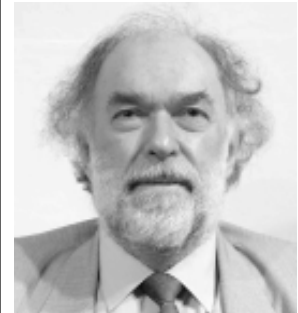
Waste Plan - The Facts

- Smelly kitchen waste will be collected weekly, as now. Dry recyclable material and any remaining waste will be collected separately in alternate weeks.
- Uttlesford Council recognises that not every property is suitable for a wheeled bin. Alternatives will be available where that is the case.
- Frail and disabled people who cannot cope with moving the wheeled bins will be given extra assistance by the refuse collectors.
- The cost of burying waste in the ground is huge, both financially and environmentally.
- The council aims to increase recycling rates from 23% to 50% over the next three years.
- The current system will not achieve the 50% target. It has been shown that the use of wheeled bins makes it easier for people to recycle.
- The cost of fines imposed on Councils not achieving the targets will be much higher than the cost of the new system.

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Uttlesford bares its teeth on airport impact



Uttlesford councillors have unanimously agreed tough conditions for BAA Stansted to meet if the airport is to grow beyond 25 million passengers a year.

Said Lib Dem councillor Alan Dean, who drafted the conditions, "The council has made a clear statement to BAA that any new planning application will not be a walkover".

The Lib Dem controlled council wants BAA to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aircraft, to stop impacting local services such as train services, so recently hit by the airport, reduce car use for passengers and workers, including cutting car parking spaces. The council has said BAA must demonstrate that the environmental impacts on those living nearby will be reduced and minimised.

Council Leader Mark Gayler added: "The council is responding to the strong community opposition to more airport growth and has asked BAA to take this opposition seriously."

Lib Dems Oppose Police Merger



Local Lib Dems have criticised Home Office plans to merge Essex Police with neighbouring forces.

These proposals mean that police authorities will be even less under local control, and so even less responsive to local needs.

Cllr David Gregory commented: "What we need is more and better local policing. We will support moves to provide more visible policing in our towns and villages."

"But if the Essex Police Force is merged with other counties in the region then they will be less likely to listen to local opinion. Our police force should be accountable to local people. We will oppose the merger plans and fight to retain our county Police Authority."

Education Chaos



Tony Blair has swept aside complaints from teachers and Labour MPs that his plans - put forward in a White Paper - to turn all schools into "self-governing independent state schools" would create administrative chaos and more inequality.

Rather than giving more choice to parents, this will allow schools to handpick children. Those parents and children with least opportunities will be disadvantaged even more.



Raise an issue! Have your say!

Return to Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST CL2702, Stansted CM24 8BR.

Council Tax

The Lib Dems remain the only party committed to finding a fair alternative to the Council Tax.

Sarah Teather MP, the Lib Dem Local Government spokesperson commented: "The Government's Council Tax Valuation Lists Bill, aimed at cancelling Council Tax revaluation, shows it doesn't have the courage to change the unfair tax."

I can help the Lib Dems by:

- Delivering a few leaflets
- Putting up a poster
- Making a donation of £ ____ (to "Liberal Democrats")

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 Address: _____
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