

FOCUS

on Central Gateshead



From local campaigner Jonathan Aibi and the Lib Dem Focus Team

Jonathan demands better for Gateshead High Street

Local campaigner Jonathan Aibi is calling for proper investment in Gateshead town centre.

Jonathan said: "I am proud of our area, but under the Labour Council, Gateshead town centre has been terribly neglected. The Council should be working with local businesses to help Gateshead High Street and get Gateshead going!"

Outrageously, the Council has spent £200 million less on investing in Gateshead than they could have.

Jonathan said: "No wonder local people are angry at the state of the town centre! Residents are fed up of excuses from Labour bosses at the Council."



Local campaigner Jonathan Aibi is demanding better for Gateshead High Street after years of Labour neglect

East Street flats coming down



Jonathan talking to local resident Liam Bowering. Jonathan is demanding the Council consult properly with residents about the future of their homes

Gateshead Labour Council have decided to pull down **Park, Priory** and **Peareth** flats. The all-Labour Council Cabinet have approved the scheme but there are no timescales in the report, leaving residents in limbo.

Lib Dem campaigner Jonathan Aibi said: "Residents have told me that they got just one day for consultation and they were only invited the day before. This is wrong. It's also wrong that 120 flats will be replaced by only 100 new ones. Existing residents have no guarantee that they can stay in their community."

Park resident Liam Bowering said: "Jonathan is absolutely right. We were hardly consulted. The Council says there aren't enough families in the blocks. So, why don't they consult us on having a play area in the new scheme? Gateshead Labour just don't listen. We need a change."

Take children out of poverty

Liberal Democrats are calling on the Labour government to scrap the two child benefit cap.

Jonathan Aibi said "The child benefit cap means families don't get financial support for more than two children. It is unfair and cruel.

"Lib Dems will continue to campaign to lift the cap as this would take thousands of Gateshead families out of poverty. And we now have 72 Lib Dem MPs to argue for this in Parliament."

Labour blows millions on empty car park

What would you do with £20 million? Labour-run Gateshead Council spent more than that on a new car park on Gateshead Quays. The problem is that no one is using it. Why? Because the Convention Centre that was meant to bring visitors to central Gateshead is still an empty site overlooking the Quays.



"Local residents are rightly asking how is it that not a single brick has yet been laid," said Lib Dem campaigner Jonathan Aibi. "Labour's failure of management is embarrassing to Gateshead."

Support Gateshead Leisure Centre

After Labour bosses decided to close down Gateshead Leisure Centre, a group of local residents got together and reopened it.

Local campaigner Jonathan Aibi is encouraging local people to take advantage of the leisure centre and visit it. Jonathan said "It's a real testament to our great community that after Labour politicians voted to close our leisure centre local people re-opened it. I want the leisure centre to be there for generations to come so please do visit it."

You can find more details on opening hours and activities at www.gatesheadleisurecentre.co.uk



Lib Dems are the REAL alternative to Labour

The Lib Dems now have 72 MP's - the most since 1923 - but did you know the Lib Dems are also the only opposition to Labour on Gateshead Council?

There are 47 Labour Councillors and 18 Lib Dem Councillors on Gateshead Council. No other parties are on the Council.

Ron Beadle, Leader of the Lib Dem Opposition on Gateshead Council, said "Here in Gateshead, it's between the Lib Dems and Labour. A vote for any other party is just a wasted vote. Only the Lib Dems can beat Labour here".

Would you like to join us in demanding better for Gateshead? If so, email hello@gatesheadlibdems.org.uk or visit www.gatesheadlibdems.org.uk

**47
Labour**

Number of Councillors
in Gateshead by party

**18 Lib
Dems**

**Other
parties
- 0**