

For the many not the few

Labour in Sutton 2018 Local Election Manifesto

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Labour – Delivering Change Not Excuses

There is much to celebrate about Sutton but we could make it so much better and do so much more.

Labour want to protect St Helier hospital, end the incinerator contract and secure a proper waste collection service whilst delivering the change that is needed in housing, education, and the environment. The policies set by the Liberal Democrat council ignore the needs of so many of our residents. They used the Tory “Big Society” policy, adopted whilst they were in coalition with the Tories to outsource our services to unreliable profit-driven contractors. They have also cut Council staffing to the bone so are unable to oversee the services it has externalised into unaccountable multi-borough contracts.

We recognise that the Tories’ politically driven austerity has reduced services and made councils act more like property developers than democratic service providers. Electing a Labour Council will be a big start in changing this. However, we recognise that only the election of a Labour Government committed to the radical policies of its 2017 General Election Manifesto will enable us to fully deliver all the change that Sutton residents aspire to.

Here are our pledges for a better Sutton that will help local families to live better lives in our borough.

Vote Labour on May 3rd to get Councillors who will work for you to deliver these 10 pledges

Keep all acute services at our St Helier Hospital and stop any plans that threaten healthcare for all. We will oppose Trust cuts to any services like A & E and Maternity from our local hospital and any further privatisation of our NHS health services. We support a properly integrated and accountable, publicly owned, publicly provided and adequately funded NHS.



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More quality Sutton school places for Sutton children.

We demand more Borough school places for our children to reduce unwanted out of borough placements. We will support Sutton's head teachers in their campaign against cuts to their school budgets & staff and seek to increase accountability and transparency of academy schools to reduce the attainment gap between pupils from poorer households and those from wealthier backgrounds. We oppose the Government's forced academisation programme and want to see a mix of both municipal-run schools and Co-operative School Trusts

Provide secure homes for all and build more genuinely affordable, council housing in our borough. We seek to reduce homelessness, protect tenants through greater controls on landlords and work towards more affordable housing options enabling young residents to stay in Sutton. This would include a shared ownership scheme or housing co-operative. We will act to ensure all tall buildings are safe from fire and provide a better repairs service to improve council homes with the Council still a landlord and with tenants' rents being capped. We will work with other boroughs in London to develop a private landlord licensing scheme.

Make our neighbourhoods safer and cleaner and clear up the mess of #SuttonBinShame & the Beddington Incinerator. The contracting out of our waste services to remote multi-authority bodies has produced these environmental disasters. We will negotiate an end to the Incinerator contract and put a proposal to end the contract to residents via a referendum. We will conduct a public enquiry into the waste collection disaster and the contract with Veolia as well as seek to bring more council services back in-house. We will increase recycling rates & create a cleaner borough and more quality, green jobs.

Plan for better, affordable public transport in Sutton. We will demand that rail management contracts & franchises designed to keep fares high, destroy jobs and extract profits are ended to allow Transport for London to run our rail services. We will work for a successful extension of the Tramlink service into Sutton.



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Fight for a fairer cost of living not putting you in debt. We will set a fair rate of council tax to pay for service improvements and we will set out a 4-year finance strategy so residents know what to budget for. We will run cheaper energy schemes, tackle expensive lending locally and provide better advice services to help you get on. We support abolition of the unfair “bedroom tax” and the establishment of a local Fairness Commission and a Co-operative Development Agency.

Give you a proper say, with stronger more accountable local committees, with the opportunity for them to become community councils. Participatory budgeting for the public and citizens’ panels and juries allowing the local people of Sutton to be at the centre of things to drive the changes we need, not bureaucrats or professional politicians.

Provide secure, quality job opportunities and attract new business into our borough. We will defend workers’ rights: challenge discrimination, the toxic nature of many ‘gig economy’ & zero hours contracts and seek a living wage for all contracted-out workers, including carers.

Tackle crime and graffiti, and let the borough look run down. We will work with the Mayor of London to locally fund extra safer neighbourhood Police in high crime areas in Sutton under the Mayor of London’s “2 for 1 deal” to make you feel safe and secure.

Stop the decline in local arts, sports & culture bringing back theatre to the only borough in London without it, expanding our library service and making our parks our pride and joy.

Sutton Labour: for the many, not the few.

We want to create a more accountable, responsive and transparent council to ensure real local democracy and representation.

Why not join us in our campaign? We are the largest Party in the borough with more members than the Tories and Liberal Democrats combined. Together we can make Sutton a place for the many not the few!



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Time for Sutton to have the best Health and Social Care

A Labour Council will stand up for local residents to ensure our health services are protected and that we get the local resources we were promised by the last Labour Government but which were cut by the Tory/Lib Dem coalition and have not been restored under the current Tory Government

Labour will:

Health Principles

1. Support a properly integrated and accountable, publicly owned, publicly provided and adequately funded NHS.
2. Support a future Labour Government in ensuring the NHS is free from all "marketisation", both internally & externally.
3. Oppose "reconfigurations" of London's services without proper local consultation and full local consent by local people and their elected representatives.
4. Welcome Labour's national commitment to repeal the Health & Social Care Act 2012, restoring the Health Secretary's duty to provide an NHS. A Labour Council will also campaign against Clause 119 which was supported by local Lib Dem MPs in 2012.
5. Support an end to hospital closures & will argue for increasing funding to the European average and increasing beds per thousand resident's to the European average.
6. Campaign for a publicly owned and publicly provided Social Care system with some scope for worker owned co-operatives integrated within the NHS.
7. Support the idea of a publicly-owned pharmaceutical manufacturing corporation which would supply a range of generic medicines for the NHS and work with universities to research new drug treatments.
8. Support the bringing back into NHS employment, with NHS pay, terms and conditions, all medical, clinical, admin, clerical and ancillary staff, currently employed by private contractors.

NHS and Brexit

9. Recognize and support EU nationals' crucial role in assisting London's NHS & campaign to exclude the NHS from any post-Brexit 'free trade' agreements.

STPs* and ACOs**

10. Oppose the direction of the South West London Clinical Commissioning Groups' Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP*) and its 'Five Year Forward View' (FYFV) & would not support it as a council. We oppose the projected financial cuts in the SW London Five Year Health Plan of some £828 million as we move to 2020.
11. Oppose the local development of any US-style Accountable Care Organisations (ACOs*) which are planned to replace NHS hospitals with down-skilled community units. We would support a democratically accountable NHS and an integrated National Care Service.

Acute Services

12. Celebrate that St Helier Hospital is one of the safest in the country and one of the few trusts in the country that consistently delivers the four-hour A&E target and is among the best in London.
13. Support a local health strategy that includes a full Acute Hospital service with A&E and maternity at the current St Helier Hospital site. In 2009 after years of Labour campaigning the last Labour Government agreed to £219 million for a partial rebuild of a new acute unit on the Ferguson House part of the hospital. This money was taken away from local people by the Tory/Lib Dem coalition in 2013.



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14. Oppose the Epsom and St Helier Trust's inadequate engagement exercise which seems mainly aimed at convincing their own staff and Epsom consultants to accept a small and inadequate acute unit on the Sutton Hospital site. We also strongly oppose the Trust's secret agenda, which Labour is exposing, for the sale of parts of the St Helier site for housing purposes. We reserve the right to hold a referendum to ask residents to vote to keep the current full NHS health use of the St Helier site. This would create a "Residents' Lock" on the site in future so its status can only be changed by another residents' referendum.

15. In order to move things forward now and set the agenda, fully engage local people on the three real options for our local hospital's future. A full rebuild would cost £750 million, a part rebuild like the 2009 proposal would cost £350 million and a more short-term refurbishment would cost £80 million. Labour's preference is for a £750 million rebuild with all the 1930's external facade protected and the hospital then made a Grade 2 listed building. We will engage with local people and, if we secure strong public support for that proposal, will demand resources from central government to fund it. The best option would be for the government to fund the rebuild and the loan made at a low rate of interest.

16. Continue to support the provision of Children's Hospital Services at Queen Mary's Hospital for Children on the St Helier site. Labour, health campaigners and trade unions locally fought hard to keep a local Children's hospital with a big demonstration and march in Sutton in the mid 1990's where Jeremy Corbyn MP was the main speaker. We will continue to fight for that service to stay where it is now.

17. Continue to recognise the importance of Epsom Hospital which is used by around 10% of Sutton residents. We want to see it retain its acute services too.

18. Do all we can to defend our local hospital if the Trust continues with its Sutton Hospital acute proposal. We will launch a much bigger campaign for this. We will have

banners on our dustcarts and at the Civic Offices as Labour Merton has done. We will use all our scrutiny powers to slow down the process & support a judicial review to protect local services.

19. Press the hospital trusts to abolish parking charges to reduce the impact on local residents in surrounding roads.

Cancer Care

20. Support Specialist Cancer services at the Royal Marsden site. We want to see a "Cancer Hub" in Belmont not a replacement acute facility. The Mayor of London also supports that Cancer Hub. We will demand all the land used at the Sutton Hospital site is used for NHS service purposes and to assist this the Council would aim to offer Council owned land to provide a site there for a public research body or a publicly owned pharmaceutical organization.

Primary Care

21. Support a comprehensive network of GP surgeries, Health Centres, Clinics and Community Health services. GP services should be retained across the borough and we would oppose all services being concentrated in just 5 or 6 GP hubs. We will examine ways in which co-operative business can be developed in this area; eg a co-operative consortium of most (or all) local GPs could provide out-of-hours services, similarly a co-operative out-of-hours dental service could be set up.

22. Invest more in mental health and, in particular, use our wider social policy plans to build relationships and tackle issues such as loneliness and isolation seeking to implement the Jo Cox Foundation report on these issues.

23. Support our local pharmacies and work with them to protect this vital service.

24. Demand that any locally developed "health apps" supplement the work of trained health staff and do not replace them.



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Social Care

25. Provide modern Day Services for older people and disabled people and an in-house intensive Home Care Service. We would adopt the Ethical Care Charter which would mean an end to 15-minute home visits. We want to see accessible services and early intervention rather than a service led by eligibility criteria, and local provision which would include care co-operatives for children and vulnerable adults. We want to see a full replacement for the loss of services after the closure of SCILL (Sutton Centre for Independent Living).

26. Support the provision of Extra-Care Housing, but this should not be allowed to force elderly residents from their existing homes. We will examine ways in which co-operative business can be developed in this area. We will examine the creation of a "handyperson" service to help the elderly stay in their homes.

27. Support a reduction in "Meals on Wheels" charges after reviewing resources.

28. Expand the Occupational Therapy service: speeding up assessments, ensuring enough staff for ongoing provision; expanding the choice of physical disability services.

29. Enhance the existing Community Transport (CT) Scheme with the voluntary and co-operative sector. CT schemes could cover bus routes, taxi services, transport for High Need (SEN) students, Dial a Ride, etc. We also wish to expand the Blue Badge scheme to improve mobility.

Integration of services

30. Prior to future legislation, seek to develop whole person care locally through integrated health, mental health & social care services. We will work through CCG/HWBs using Section 31 agreements covering older people, mental health, physical & learning disabled.

31. In the longer-term develop a Sutton Care Service and consult as to how it can be

integrated into the NHS with an all through budget for them. A move to NHS standards will increase the recognition of social care staff as part of the new wider NHS family.

Public Health and Well-being

32. Develop a Sutton well-being strategy which recognizes the need to tackle the root causes of Londoners' ill-health, e.g. poverty, the housing crisis and poor air-quality. In the long run we would like to develop a pilot for what we would hope would be a future National Wellbeing Service, running alongside the NHS and a National Care Service, that integrated public health, mental health and advice services to empower people and prevent poor life episodes.

33. Develop the Council's public health role & review all existing projects & contracts to address key health & social inequality targets. For example, we will see if public health monies could be spent on "social prescribing" such as providing free local gym membership & free swimming for those who are unwaged. We want to see our local public health service developing innovative behaviour change policies & contributing to community resilience.

Accountability

34. Strengthen the local Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) with more elected representatives. We will subject local CCGs to intensive scrutiny, including scrutiny of where GP surgeries are placed, who is funding them & GP financial interests. A key focus for Health Scrutiny, will be to hold Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) to account. We will also fully review the Epsom & St Helier Trust's current proposals as well as considering evidence from those presenting alternative proposals.

35. Get the Council to hold an Annual Health Conference bringing together patients, public, local health campaigners, NHS practitioners, management & governance, along with Councillors to discuss in detail all current proposals in order to hold them better to account



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Ambitious for our Children and Grandchildren

Labour is committed to building a unified National Education Service (NES) for England built on the principle that 'Every Child and Adult Matters'. Labour believes that education is a right and not a privilege. Years of savage public expenditure and a Tory funding formula that is leaving budgets under-funded means that head teachers are facing their biggest challenge in years to protect the quality of education in their schools. In addition, the public sector pay cap has driven many of our best teachers to work overseas or leave the profession altogether, a huge waste of valuable public resources that have gone into the training of these teachers now lost.

We are focused on ensuring that Sutton's Children's Services, Centres and all our state funded schools offer genuinely safe, inclusive, community based provision that serves the needs of all of our children and young people; regardless of ability or need and are all rated good or outstanding by OFSTED.

Labour will:

Education Principles

1. Acknowledge the achievements of school leaders, teachers and support staff against a backdrop of central government attacks on local services, school budgets and the implementation of a 7-year public sector pay cap. Labour is committed to protecting our schools from funding cuts and will continue to oppose Government policies that reduce available resources to schools and children.

School Places and Admissions

2. Respect the wishes of Sutton parents for their children to attend a good or outstanding local school. The demand for school places has increased dramatically in recent years and is projected to rise further. We also recognise that an influx of out-borough pupils is a feature of our education landscape and will remain until national legislation changes this. Labour will ensure that any school expansion is well managed and meets the needs of the local community as well as serving the interests of the children already enrolled at the school itself. Any proposed new secondary school should be built in an area where there is local demand. At present too many Sutton pupils are compelled to attend school outside the borough due to a lack of local school places. Labour will work closely with school leaders regarding any expansion of current provision.

3. Meet the need for additional places in both the primary and secondary phases in the borough by supporting the expansion of existing maintained schools, the recently established Co-op sponsored Sutton Education Trust, other local federations and Academy Trusts, rather than the provision of 'Free Schools' by outside providers.

4. Seek to increase accountability and transparency of academy schools to reduce the attainment gap between pupils from poorer households and those from wealthier backgrounds.

5. Reject the expansion of existing grammar schools and will regularly ensure that parents understand their current legal rights over any change of status of schools.

Childcare and Early Years

6. Continue to welcome the existence of Co-operative childcare in the borough.

7. Assist Sutton parents to access the 30-hour Early Years funding support.

8. Seek to expand Sure Start provision in the borough

9. Wherever possible, and working in partnership with co-operative enterprises, seek to develop and expand extended school provision across the whole borough



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Primary Schools

10. Continue to support the recently launched co-operative Sutton Education Trust as an alternative to the Multi-Academy Trust model being promoted by the Department for Education, and note that the SET is evolving

11. Continue to monitor and press for an ongoing reduction in class sizes at primary level

Secondary Education

12. Seek to improve opportunities for secondary phase students to transfer between schools where the need of the individual student warrants this, regardless of schools' admission arrangements at age 11.

Sixth Form, Further and Higher Education and Lifelong Learning

13. Facilitate the free movement of students between all the borough's sixth forms, thereby offering the widest possible range and combination of academic, vocational and technical course choices. This will be achieved by encouraging and facilitating the closest co-operation between the borough's secondary schools and colleges of further education.

14. Carry out a review of post 16 provision in the borough with particular reference to vocational education and education to the age of 25 for those young people who hold an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

15. Develop Lifelong education into a more integrated service will be a big change that comes out of Labour's National Education Service (NES). We will work with Carshalton College, Sutton College and Orchard Hill College to develop a full post-18 aspect of NES in Sutton. The Council as part of the NES system will encourage proper apprenticeship schemes in the borough.

16. Seek to identify and mitigate or remove barriers preventing the most economically challenged young people in Sutton from

attending university and other forms of tertiary education.

17. Look for an opportunity to develop a local university implanted site in the borough possibly in conjunction with a Higher Education Provider and the Cancer Hub

Curriculum

18. Ensure that the Citizenship curriculum includes the role of civil society, co-operative and mutual ownership. Business studies should include details of co-operative and mutual structures and legal forms. Every child in Sutton will be offered the opportunity to join the SW London Credit Union to familiarise them with responsible credit and saving.

19. Support creation of Code Clubs in all our primary schools to give Sutton children a head start in learning about computing.

20. Look to see if elements of Newham's "Every Child a Musician" schemes could be developed in Sutton.

Standards

21. Be proactive in supporting schools to attract the best and brightest talent to teach in Sutton schools. Furthermore, we will support schools to diminish the difference in outcomes between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged children, a difference which in Sutton is unacceptably wide compared to other London boroughs.

22. Support school improvement through a Continuous Professional Development programme. The Council will facilitate networking to develop and promote best practice. We will also work to encourage all schools to contribute towards facilities time for the teaching and support staff unions to have adequate representation. We would also seek to establish links with local Teacher Training Colleges to provide career development opportunities for current teachers, job opportunities for Newly Qualified Teachers and teaching practice for Student Teachers to retain and attract teachers to Sutton.



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Careers Services

23. Ensure the council provides a forum for school and college collaboration in providing high quality independent and impartial careers education advice. In addition to higher education advice (including UK top universities) we will in concert with other agencies including business, promote apprenticeships that contain accredited high-quality training.

School Transport

24. Work with Transport for London and where possible co-operative providers to establish a borough wide Green School Travel Scheme. We will also encourage Walk to School schemes in primary schools.

School Meals

25. Protect free school meals for Key Stage 1 pupils and support all healthy options initiatives that recognise the importance of proper nutrition to educational attainment. Assist schools in identifying those eligible for free school meals thereby providing additional resources for children through the Pupil Premium. We will also seek to expand into Key stage 2 and aim to provide kitchen facilities in all schools to enable provision of breakfast and after school clubs.

Special Needs and Safeguarding

26. In collaboration with other agencies such as CAHMS, NHS England and NHS Sutton CCG, promote mental health and well-being for young people.

27. Support children with special education, health and care needs by ensuring that provision is based on need rather than geography. We will also seek to provide additional resources in the areas of Educational Psychology and Speech and Language therapy. We will aim for early identification of dyslexia and other learning disabilities and difficulties which are rarely identified or supported in Sutton

28. Ensure that all Sutton's children's safeguarding and social services are fit for purpose. Labour will provide early

supportive interventions to wherever possible keep families together, reducing the need for foster placement and forced adoption. At the same time, where appropriate, we will support existing foster carers in the borough by providing additional support services and increasing the Foster Carer's Grant. We will continue to use the FosterCare Co-operative which has successfully found homes for difficult-to-place children.

Education Governance and Support

29. Recognise the essential contribution of governors to the Borough's education services and work in partnership with the Forum of Sutton Governors to support governors and seek their views.

30. Oppose the Government's forced academisation programme. We want as part of the national Education Service to see a mix of both municipal-run schools and Co-operative Schools Trusts

31. Before the NES is established, encourage a local model of provision and seek to expand educational opportunities through co-operation between all Borough maintained, federated, single and multi-academy trust schools, to share and maximise the effective use of resources. We would establish a Sutton Schools Partnership Forum to facilitate this process.

32. Ensure that Cognus Limited (previously Sutton Education Services Ltd) is fully accountable to Sutton Council for the quality of services it provides.

Youth Services

33. Support initiatives and projects that promote a positive image of young people and celebrate their achievements, such as demonstrated by the Co-operative groups' 'Truth about Youth' project. We will review all policies such as citizenship, planning and retail licensing with a view to challenging gender stereotyping and sexual objectification of young women.

34. Carry out a feasibility study to re-introduce a network of youth centres –



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perhaps integrated with schools - and to strengthen and consolidate the council's Integrated Services for Young People (ISYP), with particular emphasis on:

- Re-providing support for the Sutton Youth Parliament and Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme.
- Provision of additional Outreach Youth Workers, with a brief to target young people at risk of causing nuisance or engaging in anti-social behaviour.
- Increasing co-operation and support for voluntary sector provision of Youth activities (e.g. Woodcraft Folk, Scouts, Guides, Boys/Girls Brigades etc)

35. Consult young people as to whether they would wish to have an elected Young Mayor for Sutton with a budget to spend, similar to Labour Croydon's youth democracy initiative

Helping people to live in a good Home

The national and London housing crisis equally applies to Sutton. We will take action to plan and build affordable homes for sale and rent and ensure that tenants of the borough whether privately renting or renting from the Council or other social landlords are fairly treated

Labour will:

Homelessness and Rooflessness

1. Support and expand existing work done in support of homeless people in the borough and ensure that the full extent of homelessness in Sutton is exposed and dealt with taking action to support emergency activity such as Sutton Nightwatch, which local Labour members have gone along to personally support.

2. Recognise that even one person who is homeless is a failure and we will have a zero-tolerance policy. Homelessness will be managed directly by the Council, rather than through outsourced private sector contracts. We will set up a number of locations in the borough that will provide housing, help and hope for people who are homeless, with a view to getting them jobs and permanent accommodation, together with any support they need to deal with mental and physical illness. As part of this we may use for short-term purposes initiatives such as Croydon's "Fair B&B" to encourage local people to help the homeless?

3. Fully accept that the national and London housing crisis equally applies to Sutton. We will take action to plan and build affordable homes for sale and rent and ensure that tenants of the borough whether privately renting or renting from the Council or other social landlords are fairly treated

4. Set up an "Empty Homes Advice Service" for owners to aim to bring 200 homes a year back into use as rented homes.

Housebuilding

5. Aim to build 400 Council homes a year for the next 4 years to alleviate the current

housing crisis through a fully local authority owned Housing Company using grants and prudential borrowing to help fund this. Such a company would be tasked with housebuilding only and not combine this with retail development and any other forms of property development. Homes should also be available on 50% social rent and not 80% affordable rent. We will refuse to send people to events like MIPIM in Cannes and instead work with the Mayor of London and other London Councils to create a transparent, non-misogynist and democratically accountable London Property Conference (open to both Council's, developers and tenant reps) linked to the well-regarded annual Ecobuild event.

6. Also work with housing associations, the Co-operative sector and private sector, to provide good quality housing across the borough using the planning process to increase standards.

7. Examine the possibility of tenant led Community Land Trust holding housing land for the provision of affordable housing and support self-build housing projects.

8. Develop Mutual Housing Co-operatives, via a tenant ownership co-operative supported by a secondary housing co-operative. We will also seek to promote Tenant Management Co-operatives normally formed via Tenant Associations. All Tenant Management Organisations should become TM co-operatives.

9. Use money from capital receipts to provide new social housing and encourage Housing Associations to buy existing houses.

10. Call for a Strategic Partners asset management strategy to manage public



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sector land in the borough to provide more affordable housing. We will conduct a review of all land with a view to identifying sites on which to build community housing. Any land that has been unused for over 2 years, or that has planning permission that has not been utilised for over 2 years, will be subject to compulsory purchase for the building of community housing.

11. Develop a policy where any development for profit, outside of owner occupiers, will be subject to a 10% levy of the cost of the development, which will be allocated to the Council housing budget.

12. In developing sites, only work with private sector companies which pay at least the Living Wage, recognise trade unions, do not use zero hours contracts, and support skills development programmes such as apprenticeships.

13. In using building contractors, only use those that recognise trade unions, have not been involved in blacklisting trade union activists, pay trade union recognised wage rates, fully comply with health and safety requirements, and have apprenticeship programmes that take on local young people.

14. Look to establish a direct labour building department to carry out local housing and public service building projects with in-built apprenticeships

15. Ensure that where there are plans to regenerate existing properties to also build extra homes, this will only be done with the consent of existing tenants and leaseholders through a ballot as stipulated by the Mayor of London and also in line with national Labour policy. We will have “early in the process” independently conducted pre-consultation as well as any final decisions being made by tenants and leaseholders with an independently conducted ballot.

Private Renting

16. Support a proper registration and licensing scheme for landlords and letting

agents, and collaborate with any local authority led lettings agency. Any licenses will be granted following reference and probity checks to ascertain that people are fit to be landlords; they will then be asked to sign up to a set of protocols as part of this process. We will also work with the GLA to develop a register of rogue landlords who fail this process or who are complained about. We will use this process to press for longer-term private tenancies pending any future legislation on this.

17. Also work with other London boroughs to develop a multi-borough municipal lettings agency.

Home Ownership

18. Look at the options of working with London councils to bring back a local authority mortgage scheme.

Housing Safety

19. In the light of the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy on 14 June 2017, ensure that all social housing and Homes of Multiple Occupation in the borough are rigorously tested for fire safety and ensure the provision of fire sprinklers in all housing units more than 4 stories high.

Council Housing Management

20. Take action to make Sutton Housing Partnership a council department, ending the ALMO arrangement. The current Arm's Length Management Organisation (ALMO), Sutton Housing Partnership was part of a clear decision of 82% of Tenants and Leaseholders who voted to set up the Partnership to bring investment into the borough. However, those resources have been secured now and it is right to end arms-length arrangements and move to direct control and accountability. Existing residents' associations and committees will not be affected as these are an essential means of communication. We expect the new Housing Department to maintain strong support to the Sutton



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Federation of Tenants and Residents Associations and continue to help it develop.

21. Ensure that the Council, as well as being a housing enabler, will continue to be a direct provider of housing and recognise that only 9% of tenants and leaseholders have ever expressed support for further change such as stock transfer to a housing association. We strongly respect that and will oppose any transfer.

22. Ensure the current repairs service is fully reformed with in-house and co-operative options considered in consultation with tenants.

23. Move to a position whereby maintenance of Sutton Community Housing will not be carried out by the awarding of outsourced contracts and existing outsourced contracts will not be renewed. Maintenance will be managed in-house by the Council, using local tradespeople wherever possible.

24. Review current Council Housing budgets with an aim to cap and freeze rents over a four-year period.

25. Transfer the cost of maintaining estate greens, un-adopted estate roads, footpaths, playgrounds, trees as well as freeholder section 116 services from the Housing Revenue Account to the General Account.

26. Conduct a full review of the points-based rent system to ensure that the balance of

points is right and that local people can clearly see they are not discriminated against in terms of allocations. We will also reward commitment to our community by local people by restoring the previous succession to tenancy rules to recognise tenants who have lived in their own family home for a very long time.

27. Support a Garden Maintenance Scheme for elderly and disabled residents.

28. From an equalities point of view, on behalf of poorer and larger families, oppose any compulsory water metering of Council properties. Labour has a proud tradition of leading local campaigns against the imposition of water meters

29. Take action as quickly as possible to resolve matters if the Council has been shown to have overcharged tenants for water rates as a result of the Southwark legal case.

30. Take action to assist those affected by the "bedroom tax" by, where possible reclassifying properties, prior to the abolition of the tax by a Labour Government.



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A Greener, Cleaner, Sustainable Borough

The Council's green reputation is being damaged. We will turn that around over the next 4 years by very clear actions.

Labour will:

Waste Collection, Disposal and Recycling

1. Make clear that a truly green council would never support the building of an incinerator that will be a potential health risk; particularly one so close to residential areas. Labour will establish a Sustainability Task Force to deal with the complexities around the use, safety and monitoring of the Beddington Incinerator, air pollution levels, dramatic falls in recycling and waste management contractual matters as well as considering new challenges such as fracking and the threat of increased flooding in some areas.

2. Have a policy to allow residents to "take back control" of the Sutton Incinerator. We would instead seek to create more 'green jobs in the borough. Our five-point incinerator plan would be:

a) Monitoring and enforcement

- Air monitoring increased
- Council staff recruited to fully inspect Incinerator on a weekly basis
- CCTV cameras erected on Council land to film emissions
- All enforcement to be publicly reported

b) Citizen benefit from site whilst it exists

- Changes made to CSR money to Council - all spending decisions to go to a Citizens Panel of Beddington North residents drawn by lot for 1-year terms

c) Contract

- Conduct an initial public inquiry to review Sutton's contractual relationships with Incinerator company Viridor examining air

quality and reviewing enforcement and fines as well as break clauses.

- Negotiate deal for ending the contract

d) Relations with other Councils

- Once withdrawal from contract is agreed, discuss with other Council's in SLWP partnership how they want to deal with issue
- Council will reserve right to fully withdraw from SLWP if needed as part of its "take back control" agenda
- Whatever the result of the referendum, negotiations will continue with the other boroughs to develop a healthier relationship in future that does not depend on incineration

e) Resident Decision

- Proposal to residents is explained and promoted over a 6 month decision period
- Referendum of local residents to approve one off rise on Council tax to pay off incinerator contract perhaps combined with a St Helier Hospital site protection referendum

3. Conduct a public enquiry into the waste collection contract with Veolia and properly consult residents as to what waste collection services they prefer. We will use contract compliance and break clauses to force rapid change and that will include the option of ending the contract in the same way as we would consider for the incinerator contract.

4. Set a target of 65% recycling after consultation with residents and develop more education and practical support for residents on how to recycle, especially those in flats. We also want to see more reuse and



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upcycling and support local voluntary groups promoting that

5. Move to an increase in street cleaning frequency in key areas. We will expand area teams to cover most environmental services in the coming years. We will also make current contracted street cleaning staff permanent thus creating proper jobs

6. Abolish the charge for Bulky Household waste service for the disabled, elderly and unwaged as part of a move to making it fully free of charge and ensure collection is within three working days.

7. Work with retailers to move to becoming a "no plastic bag" borough

8. Seek to work with other local authorities to challenge landfill taxation rules which create perverse incentives to dispose of waste in non-environmental ways

Enforcement

9. Develop Environmental Health Regulatory and Enforcement Services to provide:

- a) Health and Safety law such as helping to protect retail staff from violence.
- b) Monitoring and enforcing fire safety measures in properties with commercial cooking facilities.
- c) A Pest Control service which should be provided free to residents.

10. Recognise the concerns raised by residents about littered, overgrown and untidy gardens and so will launch an 'Eyesore Garden Project' (ie mattresses in the front gardens' of some private rented houses left by landlords) involving local people in days of action, resulting in enforcement notices wherever necessary.

Energy

11. Work with energy companies and government agencies to assist householders' retro-fit their homes far more quickly to reduce their carbon footprint

12. Work with the Mayor of London and other South London boroughs to create a publicly owned energy company

Sustainability

13. Compile regular Environmental Sustainability Indicators on air pollution, tap water quality, soil pollutants, noise levels, background radiation, and pesticide residues across the whole Borough and publish regular reports. These could later be tied in to overall well-being indicators for the Borough. We will work with the Mayor of London on improving air quality in the borough. We will work with the Mayor of London to implement his Air Quality standards

14. Look to establish a borough Food Co-op to bulk buy good quality local food as well as help reduce food waste.

15. Oppose fracking tests being conducted in this highly built up borough and will not grant permission or licenses.

16. With the exception of medical isotopes, oppose the transport of nuclear materials through the borough by train or lorry. The Council will affiliate to Nuclear Free Local Authorities which has over 50 Council's in membership

17. Review the Council's Animal Rights Charter. The Council should seek to monitor the living conditions of animals in boarding accommodation, for sale, and for use in experimentation or farming within the Borough.



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A well-planned Borough with good public transport

We need good infrastructure such as good shops and good transport links to ensure the borough thrives

Labour will:

Planning

1. Support the continued viability of Sutton High Street and the district shopping centres. We will undertake a full environmental impact analysis before planning consent is given to any significant development or change of use. We will use the Council's planning, parking and landlord role to improve Sutton and Wallington Town centres encouraging arts and culture-based regeneration as well as start-up, creative and niche artisan producers to make our High Streets better places to go. We will look for opportunities in Sutton to bring back a covered market, like the successful ones there still are in Tooting and Brixton
2. Oppose out of town shopping centres. Sutton needs investment in its local retailing infrastructure enabling people to shop locally without over reliance on the car
3. Review our planning and licensing guidelines to stop the spread of fast-food outlets. We will also seek to limit the spread of payday lenders and betting shops as well as fast food outlets close to schools.
4. Have a planning policy that protects pubs, live music venues, meeting spaces and other public spaces. It is important to protect community and communal spaces and prevent them being built on e.g. our High Streets going for housing rather than shops/leisure. We recognise local pubs have the scope to be community hubs and want to avoid any further local decline from 65 that existed in 2000 down to 38 now
5. Oppose housing developments that lead to heavily isolated "gated" communities (though general security entryphones are acceptable) or produce inequalities such as "poor doors" with a development including

affordable or social housing having different levels of services.

6. Maintain and seek to improve existing and proposed conservation areas and Areas of Special Local Character.

7. Maintain a clear commitment to fully protect Metropolitan Open Land at Rosehill Recreation Ground and other places. We will also continue to protect Sutton's current Green Belt boundaries.

8. Resolve the issue of Victoria House in North Cheam with a focus on providing affordable public housing with social rent levels

9. Explore how we can improve road layouts in the Central Road and Green Lane area of Worcester Park looking for whether future developments allow the opportunity of creating a new crossing point through the railway line that funnels traffic into too few roads.

10. Ensure planning policy makes it is easier to retrofit buildings with insulation and energy generation equipment (eg solar panels) with more advice as well as loft clearance help. The aim should be to get to a situation where all local buildings generate sustainable energy and make it easier to encourage solar power

11. Review street scene to reduce Sutton High Street clutter to assist the disabled after it's appalling redesign of it under the Liberal Democrats. The Town centre master plan needs to be considered, regarding accessibility, particularly Sutton High Street and Hackbridge

12. Want to see the development of Co-op gardens or allotments with a priority for those in areas where flats pre-dominate.



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13. Review the Community Involvement Policy, including more Neighbourhood Planning across the borough after the pilot in Hackbridge.

14. Operate a 'good neighbour' policy and inform local residents about proposed changes for Council owned land close to where they live with time for discussion before final decisions are taken.

Transport

15. Continue to support the Freedom Pass for the elderly and disabled.

16. Work with the Mayor of London to develop a proper transport plan and policy for the whole borough. This would include making the case for all of Sutton to be in Zone 4 perhaps done in phases.

17. Lobby the Mayor of London to establish a proper black cab rank at Wallington Station as well as extend a Night bus from Morden, past St Helier Hospital to Wallington Station, thus making it a more effective transport hub. We also support an X26 bus stop for Beddington Village

18. Support an extension of Tramlink to Rosehill and St Helier Hospital via Willow Lane and on to Sutton Town Centre as part of a wider planned extension of the network as far as the proposed Cancer Hub in Belmont. However, Tramlink must not be provided at the expense of the Thameslink service between Sutton, Wimbledon & Luton. We will campaign for a weekend metro service on that line. We will also work with the Mayor of London to ensure Worcester Park Station benefits from the Crossrail 2 Project as well as press for no reduction of services from Hackbridge, in preparation for an expansion of train services after they are taken into public ownership under a Labour Government. We would also support the Mayor of London being given control of Southern Rail suburban metro services and will press him to extend the London Overground to Epsom

Downs from West Croydon, which will also benefit the Cancer Hub project.

19. Seek to improve local cycling infrastructure and network of cycle paths in conjunction with local cycling groups including more 'quiet and safe routes' to encourage increased usage. We want to see cycle sharing schemes extended to Sutton along with the Mayor of London's bike scheme perhaps around the town centre to start.

20. Prepare for the electrification of transport and support more electrical cars. We will explore the possibility of charging points at lampposts particularly in streets with no off-street parking and the Council will apply for government funding which the Council has so far not bothered to do. We will also review the likely local impact of driverless cars on borough roads.

21. Review existing traffic calming schemes such as Road Humps to see they are still effective as well as the STEP's system. We will establish a review mechanism whereby unnecessary ones are removed and look at alternative traffic calming schemes such as the Dutch model

22. Encourage the introduction of more "Home Zones" across the borough where traffic speed is restricted to 20mph if that is acceptable to the majority of residents.

23. Allow no further large road building except that required for access to new developments.



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Tackling the Cost of Living and promoting equality

A Labour Council will do what it can to promote equality and make your life easier in tough times. We will also work with the next Labour Government which can do so much more to tackle the cost of living crisis

Labour will:

Cost of Living

1. Tell you straight that the fact Sutton needs a food bank is a disgrace. We will look at what discretionary support a rich borough like Sutton can provide. We will tackle debt and reduce the need for payday loan companies:
 - We will support the SW London Credit Union and encourage Council staff to become members.
 - We will provide a welfare benefits hotline
 - We will strengthen advice services and accessible legal services including staff-based advice as well as innovative artificial intelligence-based advice services to create a comprehensive 24-hour advice service to all who need it
 - Develop an anti-poverty and social inclusion strategy as part of our overall fairness strategy aimed at areas, not individuals, and which improves access to services.
 - We will review welfare provision in the borough and ensure the local Council Tax Benefit scheme is as generous as we can legally make it
2. Set up collective energy purchasing with a 'Switched on Sutton' scheme giving residents access to more competitive energy prices, at a time when the government is not doing enough and only acts when Labour proposes a freeze.

Finance and Democratic Commissioning

3. Ensure that Council Tax is fair to pay for service improvements and we will set out a 4-year finance strategy so residents know much sooner what to budget for.
4. Set up a "Waste Watch" unit (one off funding cost as future funding will be subject to making savings) to examine complaints of

waste from the public and Councillors. Develop Zero based budgeting to review services in line with fairness objectives and to free up resources for other priorities we have identified in this manifesto.

5. Develop a "prudential borrowing" strategy, that along with capital grants contribute to our ambitious house building programme

6. Work with staff trade unions and other London Councils to raise low pay to such a degree that an agreed "maximum pay ratio" for senior staff can be introduced over the next 4 years, so no Council staff are paid more than 20:1 than the lowest paid staff member. As part of this we will also conduct a full gender pay audit and ensure no staff are on zero hours contracts

7. Review the numbers of Council staff. A unitary council providing many services may not be able to develop relationships with 180,000 local residents with only 950 or so staff nowadays.

8. Work with staff trade unions and other London Councils to seek to cap and reduce staff working hours both to spread work, but also to improve work/life balance as part of a long-term "4-day week" strategy to set an example to local employers. We also want to encourage Council and contractor staff to volunteer in Sutton.

9. Reduce Councillor Allowances so Sutton is pegged as being in the bottom quartile of London Council's for payment. This would bring us into line with Labour controlled Merton Council. On top of that whilst Council staff numbers are low we would expect local Councillors to take a lead to drive some of the social objectives in this manifesto forward.

10. Review Budget Consultation procedures and develop "Participatory Budgeting" that



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involves many more residents in the budget process.

11. Review our pension fund and site acquisition strategies so our investments are focused on purchasing land in this borough and investing in local town centre regeneration. Over the next 4 years we would seek to sell off land acquisitions outside the borough. We would also seek to move to fossil fuel divestment from our pension fund.

12. Encourage existing service providers, whether within the Council or external private companies, to mutualise and develop the co-operative sector in Sutton. We will consider a stakeholder co-operative model when looking for external capital finance and when tendering or re-tendering for services. The social value added by the co-operative and mutual model will be taken into account. We want to see simplified contracts for small Mutual organisations.

13. Develop procurement strategies that make a direct link between the Community Plan and other strategic objectives and contract specifications ensuring that community benefits can be fully integrated into the procurement process and that 'Social Value' is fully considered under the Social Value Act.

14. Develop ethical "Fair Wages" and "Fair Employment" clauses in all external contracts that employ staff, so we have the best staff at all levels. We will work to encourage all local employers to move to this too. As well as existing private companies we wish to move towards much more public, municipal and co-operative enterprises as well as municipal/co-op hybrids supporting the work of the Council. Commissioning policy will, as far as legally allowed, ensure service providers:

- Pay full taxes in the UK and practice full Corporate Social Responsibility, whether a public, co-operative or private body. We want them to pay Fair Tax and be working towards a Fair Tax Mark
- Are honest about any profit warnings they may have

- Have a viable pension fund
- Have a transparent and fair bonus scheme in line with Pay ratios
- Pay suppliers on time
- Recognise trade unions for collective bargaining purposes
- Pay the London Living wage
- Operate a maximum pay ratio of 20:1 between highest and lowest paid staff
- Do not have unpaid interns
- Encourages their staff to volunteer in the Sutton community
- Have an equalities agenda that covers all equalities strands
- Have good environmental standards and are sustainable
- Conduct a gender pay audit
- Provide good staff training
- Have no staff on zero hours contracts
- Are directly accountable to elected public representatives and should at no time be at arm's length and mediated through Council officers

15. Establish a Contract Compliance Unit to review all existing contracts to see whether they comply with our social objectives set out in our manifesto. Much of the Council has been externalised so a first stage will require the Council to develop a proper contract compliance policy that allows us to press for Accountability to Councillors and the local community leading to greater transparency & scrutiny, especially in an era of de-democratised, multi-authority contracts. The Unit will not hesitate to enforce contract compliance using fines and break clauses to achieve our objectives.

16. Establish an independent review of media allegations of corruption within the Council relating to contracts and properties allegedly sold or leased under market price

17. Establish a local register of "democratic companies" and "democratic institutions" who comply with a core list of attributes along with other "third sector" bodies, which can be part of our procurement processes as well as a group of local institutions we encourage to expand.



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18. Review the Council's Schedule of Delegations and Consult the public on it with the aim to bring back direct accountability to areas that have been previously delegated to officials. This may require the establishment of extra Council quasi-judicial committees to properly decide in a fair way on previously delegated decisions. This could include areas such as Council Tax Benefit and succession to tenancy

Equalities

19. Establish a Sutton Fairness Commission to recommend steps on how to improve the quality of life across the borough by making it a fairer place for all who live and work here. It will influence and inform the council on how it makes decisions on allocating resources.

20. Develop a modern equalities agenda that not only seeks to comply with EHRC equalities strands, but also modern challenges including:

- Properly regulating any Council use of algorithms to make decisions using "outcomes-based testing" to ensure they treat people fairly
- Ensuring procurement and commissioning policy fully reflects the wider social objectives outlined in this manifesto
- Tackling issues of bullying and sexual harassment in the workplace
- Delivering of a London Living Wage and sought to develop a more generous Sutton Living Wage recognizing the extra travel costs that many face
- Abolishing the local use of bailiffs to collect debt
- Encourage the provision of superfast broadband and wider public free Wi-Fi across the borough so none of our residents are digitally disadvantaged
- Reviewing any advertising we do or allow on our land to ensure it complies with our social objectives
- Exploring the issue around small scale Basic Income pilot schemes with other local authorities. This

might for example include a pilot scheme covering a few hundred people receiving a sum or cover part living expenses over for example a 4-year pilot

- Recognizing we need to improve the Council's relationships with residents and will train staff accordingly

21. Support the right of all current EU citizens to remain in our borough and would support the Mayor of London and other London boroughs in any legal challenges if this aspect of Brexit is not implemented. We will also as a borough take our fair share of refugees and asylum seekers and ensure they are treated with respect.

22. Support Trade Justice by encouraging ethical purchasing policies.



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Having your say

It is important that residents have a chance to contribute their views, but we want to go further, so residents are clear on who holds local power, where they derive their authority from, whose interests they exercise it on behalf of, to whom are they are accountable and how can they be replaced if people disagree with those in power. We also want the Council to be the best Council in the entire country at promoting all forms of democracy: representative, associational, workplace, sortitive, participatory and monitory

Labour will:

1. Consult residents over seeking to become a "Co-operative Council" under the terms set out for other Councils who are part of the Co-operative Council's movement.
2. Develop a Young People's Community Plan, linked to the Council's own Community Plan, in consultation with young people.
3. Broaden the library card to provide a local 'freedom card' that will entitle residents to access Council services like libraries, leisure centres and environmental services as well as discounts from the Council and other local organisations.
4. Investigate extension of Community Centre facilities to meet the needs of new and emerging communities.
5. Support more use of 'Community rights' including a safeguarding 'community right to acquire' designation for St Helier Hospital if it is ever proposed to dispose of the site and also protecting much loved local pubs, which can instead be developed more as local community hubs. We will apply the Social Value Act to protect sites too.
6. Encourage some neighbourhood watch groups to double up as residents' associations to improve local coverage.
7. Encourage local volunteering through publicity and annual awards events hosted by the borough Mayor.
8. Make it clear to the local voluntary sector it has full independence to hold the Council to account. Grant funding from the Council should not prevent the voluntary sector being critical of the Council when it needs to be. This does not seem to be allowed under the Lib Dems rules.
9. Develop "Street Watch" coordinators across the borough (as Croydon already have) to act as the Environmental and Street Scene equivalent of Neighbourhood Watch. 400 such reps could cover the entire borough each covering 200 homes.
10. Agree long-term funding for Sutton Women's Centre and to restore a Sutton Trade Union Resource Centre to strengthen local Labour rights - in particular those of the increasing number of freelancers and self-employed who increasingly need more protection from online "Platform Corporations".
11. Build a much more comprehensive local advice service to support well-being, tackle debt and promote community resilience; Increase funding for the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) to restore services at St Helier.
12. Support community groups that encourage tolerance and respect for all communities in the borough and promote community cohesion.
13. Promote public engagement in decision-making: for example, through service co-production similar to health "expert patient schemes".
14. Make it easier and quicker to find the relevant part of the Council website. We will also add a whole range of online democratic tools to the website to help the local community to participate better as well as creating a range of online forums for the public to discuss issues with the Council.



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15. Campaign locally to seek the repeal of the Lobbying Act which impacts on the ability of civil society groups to campaign.

16. Review Town-Twinning to make it more relevant to a more connected planet where engagement and sharing best practice with poorer communities can be more easily done online.

17. Develop well-being indicators for the borough, with a full online dashboard for any resident to see, covering measures of wellness, civil-society engagement, inequality, cost of living, employment and wage rates.

18. Review the Council's scrutiny role to ensure it can be used more effectively to get the public to scrutinize Council decisions as well as scrutinize external providers of service.

19. Retain the existing six Local Committee structure and bring back community representatives on the main Council Committees. We will make sure the Local Committees and their local community know they have the right to establish a legally independent "urban parish" or "town council" for their area

20. Ensure Local Committees have wider powers with a devolved local "Ward Initiatives" budget with some resources allocated to Councillors to suggest local improvements. We will also allow Local Committee's to contribute to the planning process and convene local community assemblies to involve and train up local community groups. We believe it is important to have an "asset-based community development" approach to public engagement, which strengthens local institutions, enriches social networks and builds social capital. That is why strengthening and making the most of the skills of community groups and local institutions is vital.

21. Task Local Committees to either deliver one or more Neighbourhood Plans covering their whole area over the next four years. It

is ridiculous the Council has been so slow on this bearing in mind legislation has been in place for 6 years. They would work with local people and local groups to decide whether each Plan should cover all or part of the area they cover.

22. Strengthen local media by inviting all hyperlocal bloggers as well as existing local mainstream media outlets to regular media briefings, plus an annual local media conference so they can network and develop a wider local media service between them all

23. Increase public participation through an annual "Meet your neighbour day" with lots of supported local events as well as use of engagement tools such as a large online citizen's panel, citizen's assemblies, citizen's juries which can assist with long-term planning plus participatory budgeting.

24. Convene a twice-yearly "Sutton Assembly" of community groups and work with it and other forms of engagement listed above to develop a "Sutton People's Charter" setting out community rights and responsibilities.

25. Establish a Sutton Disability Parliament to be fully consulted on all Council issues.

26. Bring back a designated "speakers corner" like Hyde Park, Nottingham, Lichfield and Worthing Councils have.

27. In view of allegations made in recent years over probity of Councillors and the Council, agree to pass a Council motion to become the first Council in the entire country to become an exemplar of 'purdah' for any set date elections. This will mean Council campaigns are restricted unless there is all-party agreement for them. Instead of bringing in 'purdah' just 6 weeks before an election, the Council will extend those rules and guidance to 4 months before an election date. In doing so we hope to rebuild trust with some in the community who have been sceptical of some recent actions of the Council



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28. Run a high-profile Council electoral registration campaign each year. As the largest political party in the borough we also think political parties have a key role here to engage with the public on this as well.

29. If a Ward boundary review is required, support new wards that reflect natural communities and could vary in size from 1, 2 or 3 Councillors.



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Quality Jobs and Innovative Business

We are focused not only on protecting jobs, but on securing good quality, well-paid jobs for current residents and the residents of the future

Labour will:

1. Support a strong “Foundational Economy” and practice “Community Wealth Building”. As well as seeking to strengthen “local anchor institutions”, whether those are public bodies such as the local NHS, schools, as well community and local sports clubs. We will work with them to encourage their own local investment in the community through their local procurement policies.

2. Set up an economic development unit and foster partnerships with local businesses, including local town management. We will also work much more closely with the local Job Centre in developing a more local service relevant to Sutton. The aim would be to establish a local jobs guarantee for Young people if, or when, we get a Labour Government, and to encourage apprenticeships.

3. Work with the Mayor of London, other boroughs and the Local Economic Partnership (LEP) for South London and the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to develop a Mission-Driven Employment and Industrial Strategy around new retail opportunities in the Town Centre, information technology and “Green Collar” jobs “retrofitting” the entire borough. The aim would be to work with the GLA research department to measure Sutton’s GDP so we could collectively press for a 3% of GDP spent on research and innovation and create a Borough or South London Investment Fund to focus on helping businesses with their innovation.

4. Establish a Co-operative Development Agency, either for the Borough or jointly with one or more other South London boroughs to provide prospective co-operatives with investment finance, advice, help with planning applications, and where possible, premises, using established best practice. To support mutual structures we would be keen to see the development of Employee

Ownership Trusts at national and local levels. We are particularly keen to work across London on developing worker and /or consumer owned “Platform Corporations” in areas such as mini-cabs.

5. Set up a dedicated team jointly with Sutton Centre for Voluntary Service (SCVS) that will promote the social economy in Sutton and draw up a local Social Economy strategy.

6. Ensure that there is an annual report to the full Council showing the progress in fulfilling co-operative aims and values. The Council should hold an annual Co-operative and Mutual Audit session and publish the results.

7. Set out a Strategy for expanding Local Authority Trading

8. Review the impact of Brexit on Sutton jobs. We want to see a Brexit as outlined by Labour nationally that is “jobs first” and supports “workers rights”. In line with Labour national policy we oppose a “no deal” Brexit that national and local Tories threaten

9. Employ a Town Centre Manager to take responsibility for all district centres. Empty shops are a barrier to success in our town centres, so we will review resources to see if we can offer any small business that wants to put an empty shop back into use a 6-month business rate holiday to help them get off the ground.

10. Build confidence about employing disabled people. We will increase awareness of the Access to Work scheme and support local disability organisations to de-stigmatise mental health. We are committed to lobbying national government to scrap the unfair contracts for the Work Capability Assessment.



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11. Campaign to support the retention of local post offices as well as delivery centres to both protect services and local jobs.

12. Exchange technical and cultural knowledge, information and co-operation with sister local authorities, within the European Union and wider afield including the developing world using online communication. We will ensure that Sutton remains a Fair-Trade Borough promoting the FT logo on Council buildings and on documents.

13. Work with the Co-operative movement to develop community-based energy co-operatives, ensuring that green energy can be produced and distributed fairly and economically to consumers. The Council will ensure that its own energy needs are met by co-operatively provided green energy.

14. Encourage Council staff involvement in Credit Unions (including the SW London CU) and the LETS scheme and promote them more generally. In particular, we will publicise and promote the SW London CU and encourage employers in the borough to allow payments by check-off.

15. Work with providers to make Sutton a fully Wi-Fi-enabled borough. We want everyone to be able to connect to the web for free in main shopping and business areas. We want to ensure the borough has the best connectivity capability for companies who are already based here, as well as for those we want to encourage to move here.

16. Have a full Open Data and Creative Commons strategy and to work with local people to turn the Borough's own Big Data into a useful resource for all local residents not just a few.

17. Seek to increase the number of businesses within the Borough which would yield both employment opportunities and an income stream in the form of business rates for the authority. Increased business rates could help to fund the services and re-

generation that Labour seek; a virtuous circle of economic development. Labour plans to support local businesses include:

- Remove LA procurement barriers
- Imaginative use of the LA-owned retailing estate (rent 'holidays' & support of 'start-ups' for local craftspeople
- Avoiding prohibitive parking restrictions for shoppers
- 'Incubator units' for local (young) businesses
- An LBS "Business Tsar"
- The development of a 'Tech Hub' for companies with accessible 3D printers along lines of successful development in Croydon
- Campaign for improved/integrated expansion of public transport to retail centres esp. Tram extension.
- Development of a big local town centre market
- Liaising with the Sutton Civic Society to encourage appropriate regeneration
- Ensuring local authority investment is ended outside the borough boundary like the Oxford investment.

18. In order to support local business, follow a strategy based on a recognition that most successful urban regeneration/renewal schemes have relied heavily upon investment in aspects of cultural capital. The closure of cultural spaces under the Lib Dems must be challenged and reversed.

19. Scrutinize the role of the local Employment Service much more – especially as we move towards Universal Benefits. We will work with the Employment Service, trade unions and employers to develop a local job brokerage service.



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Safe and Secure

Sutton has been a low-crime borough, but fear of crime is high. We will tackle that so people are not only safe, but actually feel safe.

Labour will:

Crime and Policing

1. Set a clear measurable target for reducing the fear of crime within the borough. This can only be achieved through a highly visible policing strategy. We will also seek to maintain the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

2. Discuss with the Mayor of London how Police bases in the borough can be retained including Police bases at Worcester Park and Wallington. We also want to commit him to protect front-line services even if some back-office services are merged.

3. Discuss with the Mayor of London how the borough could buy in extra Policing to target key local areas with higher crime such as a 2 for 1 scheme.

4. Consider developing a voluntary levy of pubs and clubs in Sutton High Street to pay for additional policing of the area in the evenings.

5. Provide long-term commitment, stability and assured funding for local independent domestic violence advocacy and support services and expand evening and night services which are often times when they are most needed. Domestic Violence and abuse is the biggest crime in Sutton and 1 in 4 women are victims as are some men.

6. Introduce "Graffiti Removal Notices" to enable speedy clean-up of private property. Promote more schemes where residents are given paint to paint out graffiti on their fences. At the same time, as part of the town regeneration cultural zone we will create places and spaces for 'street art'.

7. Take your security seriously. We will inform the public of emergency planning procedures, while maintaining necessary local precautions against criminal or terrorist actions.

8. Focus resources on a key local outcome of reducing youth re-offending and will develop joined-up work with partner organisations to make progress in this area.

9. Minimise the impact of multiple road works impacting on the work of emergency services.

10. Develop a Hate Crime strategy and work with local groups to combat this ensuring we challenge racism, sexism, ageism, anti-LGBT, anti-disabled, anti-Semitism and anti-Islam hate activity including online activity as much as physical activity.

11. Develop a cyber-crime strategy for the borough working with banks and other institutions that hold data of local people. This would include strong local public information campaigns as well as working closely together.

12. Ensure Victims are supported and make sure the Victims fund is accessible to all residents with minimum form filling.

13. Investigate any local evidence of modern slavery in local businesses seeking to ensure a Living Wage and workers retain control of their earnings. We want to see more spot checks on nail bars, restaurants and take-away outlets.

Prevention

14. Ensure street lighting is kept on at night to make communities feel safe and secure

15. Properly regulate Private security services regarding staff training and whether staff are fully DBS checked. We would be keen to encourage trade unions to be involved with recruiting and training staff in this employment area.



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16. Develop a Visible Presence on the Street through regular Community Action Weeks with all of Sutton's Partners operatives to be out on the streets so as to be seen to reclaim certain areas.

17. Develop a Local Respect campaign and strategy as well as putting more effort into enforcement over noisy parties.

18. Continue the fixed and mobile CCTV cameras scheme and for the Council to provide a subsidised service for the sale of small private CCTV camera systems to individuals in less well-off communities.

Justice

19. Expand local mediation services to help with preventative activities that might help stop violence or crime happening.

20. Work with Police and courts to develop a strong local restorative justice strategy so local criminals fully appreciate the impact of their actions and work to put things right where this is possible. We should look at how we localise this in the borough following the Tory/Lib Dem coalition closure of Wallington Magistrate's Court.

21. Work with the Police and local stakeholders to both review and substantially change the Prevent strategy in the borough to ensure it works with the consent of local communities who are most impacted by it.

22. Ensure there is better rehabilitation for young people to keep them away from crime and anti-social behaviour. We currently have little youth provision and gangs prey on young people with nothing to do.

Fire Safety

23. Stand up to protect both Sutton and Wallington Fire stations.



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Protecting Arts, Sport and Culture

Arts, sport and culture are under pressure from cuts. Labour will ensure that we protect provision in order to contribute to local people's well-being. We will work with local people to build viable thriving communities with arts, craft, sport and leisure facilities available for all

Labour will:

Libraries and Community spaces

1. Review the use of the Life Centre considering more mainstream arts and community uses for it, whilst retaining existing library provision.
2. Increase library book stock acquisition funding and look at bringing back a library to Beddington as well as creating a library in Hackbridge, perhaps combined with other community facilities. Libraries are a social hub, information centre and a free open space, we need to protect them particularly for the vulnerable and poor.

Theatres and Cultural Spaces

3. Retain community and amateur theatrical use of Secombe and Charles Cryer Theatres. The closure of Wallington Public Hall and our theatres has left a gap that is not filled by the private sector. In the long run a proper borough theatre would be best placed in a better location in Sutton Town Centre. We will examine how co-operative enterprise can be developed as a way of running local theatres and other arts provision in the borough.
4. Oppose the privatisation of public space and seek to expand public spaces and meeting places. We will seek ways of opening up Times Square and the St Nicholas Centre for evening usage of their central spaces. There should be more facilities for social and cultural events at a reasonable cost.

Museums

5. Seek to protect existing free access to our museums and historic buildings. This has been fought for by Labour for many years and enabled by the last Labour Government and is important for enabling the less well-off access to local cultural facilities.

Arts

6. Improve art gallery **space** at Council libraries and museums
7. Compile a register of Sutton public art and look for any gaps in areas to be addressed through future planning gain.
8. Encourage the local development of inclusive digital arts as an accessible medium for all residents.

Festivals

9. Continue to support existing festivals such as the summer arts festival plus the Carshalton Environmental Fayre. The Council will look to see whether any other borough or small-scale festivals could be developed with Local Committees and the local community.
10. Support the use of parks for open air concerts and increase the number of concerts as part of the Sutton Festival.

Parks

11. Provide more under 10's playground facilities in parks as well as "youth shelters" for teenagers and the installation of ball parks, rollerblading, cycling and skateboarding facilities. The Council will consider establishing a maze at Beddington Park. We will also seek to bring back drinking fountains in some parks to encourage healthy drinking of more water.
12. Investigate the option of entering into an agreement with the National Playing Fields Association to protect specific parks make sure locally accountable Community or Friends groups can assist with protecting our parks and drawing in further investment.



for the many not the few

13. Make it clear that no other parts of the “Lodge Lands” in Carshalton will be built on after the current EcoLocal flats project.

14. Work with the Mayor of London to contribute towards London becoming the first “National Park City”

15. Follow RHS Guidelines on plant procurement policy.

Farms and Allotments

16. Promote the Sutton Community Farm, which carried out a successful 2nd share issue in 2017. Establish allotment holder co-ops where these are requested.

Sports

17. Look at the opportunity of developing a new Swimming Pool for Sutton on the existing Cheam baths site after public consultation. In addition, there should be a further artificial multisports pitch in the East of the Borough. These should be under social ownership.

18. Continue to welcome the recent success on the field of Sutton United. We will work with them and Carshalton Athletic and Sutton Common Rovers as local “anchor institutions” to encourage more community participation in football as well as encourage them to move towards maximum supporter involvement in their operation.

19. Provide free access to under 18 residents of the St Helier, Hackbridge and Wrythe local area to the David Weir Sports Centre as post-Olympic legacy and as part of a long-term plan to provide free leisure access to all young people in the borough.

20. Welcome and support Co-operative and not for profit charitable social enterprise run sports facilities such as the Sutton Sports Village and seek to encourage more services like them.

Access

21. Convert Library and any Leisure discount cards to a residents' Freedom card that will give discounts on a wide range of Council services, library charges, youth services and private sector facilities.



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Labour Candidates - London Borough of Sutton – 2018 Elections

The candidates below are locally campaigning for the policies in this document:

Carshalton and Wallington Constituency

St Helier, Hackbridge and Wrythe Local Area

St Helier: Nick Diamantis, Maggie Hughes, Patrick Sim

Wandle Valley: David Grant, Margaret Thomas, Ahmad Nawaz Wattoo

The Wrythe: Sheila Berry, Carlos De Sousa, Paul McCarthy

Carshalton and Clockhouse Local Area

Carshalton Central: Marilynne Burbage, Margaret Onians, Tony Thorpe

Carshalton South: John Clay, Anas Ahmad Khan, Christine Savignani

Beddington and Wallington Local Area

Beddington North: Sarah Gwynn, John Keys, Charlie Mansell

Beddington South: Chris Cullen, Arnaldo Savignani, Alan Tate

Wallington North: Mike McLoughlin, David Towler, Mary Towler

Wallington South: Bobbie Lambert, David Murray, Callum Roper

Sutton and Cheam Constituency

Sutton Local Area

Sutton Central: Stephen Adams, Bonnie Craven, Vic Paulino

Sutton North: Emily Brothers, Teresa O'Brien, Victoria Richer

Sutton West: Andy Cook, Laura Mullaney, Christopher Woolmer

North Cheam and Worcester Park Local Area

Stonecot: Ray Eveleigh, Paul Prior, Gerald Tasker

Worcester Park: John Evers, Liz Martin, Ann Morrison

Nonsuch: Kirsty Archer, Kerrie Peek, Karon Witham

Belmont, Cheam and South Sutton Local Area

Sutton South: Kathryn Brennan, Tessa Cornell, Ron Phillips

Belmont: Gale Blears, Margaret Sinclair, Marian Wingrove

Cheam: Victoria Barlow, Helen Martin, Jane Rodger

Labour in Sutton

Labour in Sutton is made up of Sutton Borough Local Campaign Forum, Carshalton & Wallington Constituency Labour Party, and Sutton and Cheam Constituency Labour Party. Why not find out more about them?

Email: info@suttonlabour.org.uk

Write to: Labour in Sutton, 111c Stayton Road, Sutton SM1 2PS

Website: <http://www.suttonlabour.org.uk>

Join Labour in Sutton

If you want to be part of Labour's internal democratic process or stand for public office, why not join Labour.

<https://join.labour.org.uk/>

Email: info@labour.org.uk

Phone: 0345 092 2299

Write to: Labour Central, King's Manor, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 6PA

Website: www.labour.org.uk

Join the Co-operative Party

The Co-operative Party locally has an electoral agreement with Labour in Sutton. It promotes retail and worker co-operatives as well as other forms of social & mutual enterprise, Credit Unions & Fair Trade.

<https://party.coop/join/>

Email: mail@party.coop

Phone: 020 7367 4150

Write to: Co-operative Party, 65 St John Street, London, EC1M 4AN

Website: www.party.coop

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