

101

*Labour
pledges
for
Leicester*

Labour has produced a detailed election manifesto, from it, here are

101 Labour pledges for Leicester.

Peter Soulsby - Leader

Leicester for Everyone

Labour has a distinguished record of achievement in promoting equal opportunities for all. For example we have increased the investment in adaptations for disabled people almost three-fold from £866,000 to £2.2 million in the last three years making the City's buildings accessible

Labour will:

- 1 Make City Council services accessible to all
- 2 Ensure disadvantaged groups receive the same level of service as everyone else
- 3 Carry out Equal Opportunities Audits of the services of the new Unitary Authority to ensure fairness and value for money
- 4 Implement the social model of disability that concentrates on ability - not disability
- 5 Strengthen the Leicester Centre for Integrated Living as a key centre for disabled and non-disabled people to work and socialise together
- 6 Ensure that home adaptations are carried out swiftly and are adequately maintained
- 7 Strengthen the Council's work for older people by making social services more responsive to their needs and views
- 8 Look at the transport and warmth needs of older people in housing estates to improve them and seek better day care facilities
- 9 Improve the City's lunch clubs
- 10 Develop an elderly persons housing strategy
- 11 Build on the success of the Young Persons Council to give young people a voice in the way the City grows and changes

Combating crime and disorder

We have already developed highly successful citywide and local community safety partnerships

Labour will:

- 12 Work in partnership with local communities, the Police Authority, the Probation Service and the Health Authority to tackle anti-social behaviour, disorder and racial harassment and to make Leicester a safer place to live, work and socialise

- 13 Set up a comprehensive community safety strategy, based on the experiences of local communities - building on crime prevention measures such as CCTV

Providing Best Value for Money

Labour controlled Leicester has the lowest average Council Tax in the County - over £100 a year less than Liberal Democrat Oadby and Wigston!

Labour will:

- 14 Keep increases in council tax and rents to a minimum.
- 15 Actively pursue partnership working as a means of providing added value and additional resources for Leicester.
- 16 Provide additional resources for our key priorities, particularly Education
- 17 Continue to redirect resources within the Council and to find even more efficiency savings to protect frontline services.
- 18 Take advantage of Labour Government changes to the capital receipts programme that allows us to use the City's assets wisely
- 19 Fight to reform the system of Government grants to get a fair deal for Leicester.

Housing

Over the 18 years of Conservative Government Leicester lost in real terms more than £500 million in housing investment. The new Labour Government has released almost £1 billion from the sale of council houses to improve social housing. Over £9 million of capital receipts has been released so far for Leicester's housing needs.

The Government has highlighted Labour controlled Leicester's housing service as one of the top 8% in the country and the Department of Social Security found that Leicester provides one of the most efficient and effective Housing Benefit Services in the country.

We are aware that more needs to be done, and are always listening to comments and see for ourselves the poor condition of some of the City's houses so we will make many more improvements to the level of service the Council delivers.

Labour will:

- 20 Allow tenants to take a more active role in the decisions that affect their lives involving them in the running of estates and the decision making of the Housing Committee
- 21 Continue to support the 26 Tenants' Associations
- 22 Develop more customer satisfaction surveys and exit surveys to help shape council services and make them more responsive
- 23 Make it easier for families to live near to each other with a fairer housing allocation policy.

We have already developed a comprehensive strategy on anti-social behaviour and given a clear message that the Labour Council will not tolerate anti-social behaviour,