



Residents to lose out again!

The Council has set up a new department, 'Residents First', which is now considering closing the Waltham Forest Direct (WFD) shops in Leyton, Leytonstone, Walthamstow and Chingford. The WFD shops, popular with residents, are where they can get information, advice and get their housing and council tax benefits sorted out without queuing for hours in Poll Tax house in Walthamstow.

It is ironic that the new department of 'Residents First' has already closed down the local Community Councils and is now looking to close down another local community service.

Focus says: *Maybe they should rename the department 'Residents Last'.*



Only bad MPs should fear fairer votes

Yes!



Many MPs don't want Britain's voting system to change.

That's because they like the current cosy system that protects their jobs for life.

But a **Yes** vote in the Fairer Votes Referendum next May will change

that. A **Yes** vote will mean that every MP will have to win more than half of the votes in their area to keep their job.

Lib Dem Cllr. Farooq Qureshi said, "Good hard working MPs have nothing to fear from this change. With Fairer Votes, every MP will have to work hard to earn and keep the support of people."

Labour's attack on sports



The Lib Dem Focus Team was astonished to find that overall hire charges across the borough are to go up by 3 to 5 percent, but the Labour Council is to hike up the charges of sports facilities in the borough. The hire of football and cricket pitches by schools is up 12

percent, Saturday pitch hire up 23 percent, hiring Leyton cricket ground up 25 percent and the cost of running a school sports day up 25 percent.

Focus says: *This is on top of selling off Drapers Field to the Olympic Authority for nearly two years.*

This is a direct attack by Labour councillors on sports in Leyton in direct contrast to their claim of 'more investment' in sports.



Urgent Message for Lyndhurst Surgery Patients

The Lyndhurst Surgery has stocked up with flu vaccinations. If you are over 60 or a diabetic, please contact the surgery immediately to have a flu jab.

The surgery is waiting for you.

Please don't leave it too late.

More Flights - More Air Pollution



Local people and green campaigners reacted with disappointment after a High Court judge refused to overturn Newham Council's decision to expand **London City Airport**.

Residents, represented by Friends of Earth's Justice Centre, took the council to court in November last year after it decided to allow a 50 percent increase in flights. The community Representatives argued that Newham Council failed to consider changes to Government's policy on climate changes and did not properly consult boroughs and residents in the surrounding areas.

Reacting to the decision, Chair of local campaign group "Fight the Flights" Anne-Marie Griffin said: "We are desperately disappointed by this judgement. London City Airport already causes major disturbance and pollution for people living locally. The disappointment we feel at this outcome will be shared by thousands of residents across East London who are severely affected by London City Airport's operations but were not consulted about the expansion.

Speaking about the decision Cllr Farooq Qureshi said: *"Many people in East and South East London are already facing serious problems with noise and disturbance from air flights. Airport expansion will have a terrible impact on local people's quality of life, as well as increase air pollution breaches and undermine efforts to tackle climate change."*

Knotts Green Road turns one-way

Drivers be aware that Knotts Green Road, Leyton, turns into one way system on the morning of 31st January 2011. You will only be able to enter the road from Lea Bridge Road and exit into Leyton Green Road.

Lib Dem Focus Team getting things done in Forest Ward

We want to hear from YOU

Name _____ Tel. No. _____
 Address _____ E. Mail _____

I think something should be done about.....

RETURN TO: THE FOCUS TEAM, 233 VICARAGE ROAD, E10 7HQ

The Liberal Democrats may contact you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish the information above to be used for this purpose.

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Forest Ward Lib Dem Focus Team



Cllr. Farooq Qureshi

07956 290240

233 Vicarage Road E10 7HQ

Email: cllr.farooq.qureshi@walthamforest.gov.uk
 or f.qureshi@hotmail.co.uk
 www.farooqqureshi.mycouncillor.org.uk



Samina Safdar

07957 478418

24 Carnarvon Road E10 6DP

Email: saminasafdar1@hotmail.com
 www.saminasafdar.mycouncillor.org.uk

Linda Walton

16 Forest Drive East E11 1JY

Email: linda.baker1@gmail.com

Council's massive rise in bug charges

Samina Safdar has slammed Labour for sneaking through massive rises in pest control charges. Residents suffering from bedbugs, fleas or mice will find council charges shooting up - bedbug charges rise to £155 from £97, for benefit claimants the rise is £90 from £55 a massive rise of over 60 percent. Flea control is up to £115 and mice control up to £105. **The Focus Team says: "We are hearing that more and more residents have been suffering from these pests and the massive increase in charges may deter people from calling out the pest control service. This risks further infection to neighbouring houses and flats".**

Lib Dem Councillors Surgery/Advice Centre

Every Saturday between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at:
Waltham Forest Direct - Leyton Green

No appointments are necessary
 All consultations are confidential

Liberal Democrats working all year round