

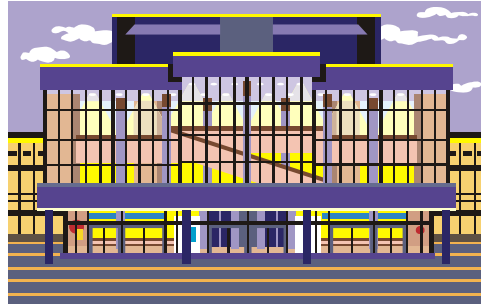
LABOUR: TACKLING RECESSION BY

Recession & Council Tax

The Conservatives budgeted just £2m more to help people and communities survive the recession – that's less than 1% of the County's budget. They've axed the money advice line and no mention of jobs in their plans! Before elections they offer lower taxes, but after every election, taxes have risen to pay for their election bribe!

Labour will lead the economic regeneration of our towns and villages. We'll help people find jobs or training. We will also give more funding to those agencies helping people with debt.

Labour will protect essential services to schools and the elderly. We will make savings through energy efficiency, smarter purchasing, efficiencies in management and non-essential services. Beware of Tory election promises of lower taxes which you pay for later with tax hikes or cuts in services.



Despite the recession Labour will improve services such as the libraries, eg supporting home work clubs and family history research. New libraries are planned, Lutterworth/LFE with opening times which people want.

We will do more to support the arts, sports and leisure clubs that exist in the county.

A Clean, Safe Environment

The County's Minerals Plan, opposed by Labour, allows mineral extraction in green belts and in Charnwood Forest. County Conservatives set the housing numbers for Leicestershire (not the Government) and Districts will decide where they will go (not the Government). They have identified two potential sites for incinerators.

Green belts and wedges should be safe from mineral extraction and development. Labour will ask residents where large scale housing should go



Labour will encourage recycling and not incineration. We'll establish a one collection and disposal county-wide waste co-operative.

Labour will fund 50 CSO's to help the police and will introduce a '101' type hot-line for rapid action on anti social behaviour. We will clamp down on illegal travellers sites.

We want people on trains and buses so will look at opening closed stations and rail lines and a possible jointly run county bus service.

Grass-cutting is a disaster. Labour will work with districts for a cost effective, high quality service – supervised by local residents.

Towns and villages will have vehicle activated signs to reduce speeding in accident areas. We want resident parking and 20mph zones if there's local support. We will work on bypasses for Melton, Kegworth and Lutterworth.

SUPPORTING PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES

Supporting our schools

Cameron's Conservatives say they'll scrap our Building the Schools for the Future programme. The secondary education review has been slow and in some areas chaotic

Labour will consult on secondary education, 11-16 or other, in each area and bid to fund this. We'll refurbish or rebuild our primary schools.

We will abolish the transport charge for faith schools. We will give grants to school councils for projects which the pupils will decide.

We'll tackle the problem of disruptive pupils and support good discipline in our schools. We'll encourage school sports, arts and music.

We'll fund school travel plans for safe routes to school and more single-deck supervised buses. We'll improve the school meals service.

We will work with the Government to improve pre-school, nursery provision and support for families. We want more children's centres. Children with special needs will be a priority.

The youth service will encourage young people off the streets, away from anti social behaviour, and into activities they'll find interesting.



Caring for people

The Conservatives sold off elderly homes and abolished county funded adult education. They raised charges for home care and meals by much more than inflation. County provided services are now at risk.

Labour will work with Districts on extra care homes for the elderly. We will help them claim benefits and services they're entitled to and limit charge increases to inflation. We'll fund free meals to the vulnerable. We want to develop seniors clubs, adult leisure classes, lunch clubs and friendship networks.

We've a new deal for carers; help with information, respite facilities and networking. We'll support them if they want to work or train and fund transport passes.

Mental Health will have a higher priority through community support and facilities. Dementia will have similar support.

Labour will introduce community forums with budgets to spend locally and powers to act on such things as road safety and repairs. Working with parish and town councils they will also help decide local policing priorities and council plans for the area.

We will fight to retain essential services such as post offices in our towns and villages.