



Hayling East Ward Matters

Keeping Residents up-to-date with Issues in the Ward

Spring 2023

Hayling Labour Party



Labour candidate Mark Coates at The Heart of Hayling Boxing Academy. The charity's volunteers received **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service** from the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire in February this year for their '**truly outstanding local service to the community**'.

Dear Resident,

Welcome to this season's *Hayling East Matters* Labour Party Newsletter: the evenings are getting brighter and the dog-walks longer... Summer is just around the corner!

In this edition we cover the **record-breaking pollution** in our sea, **the U.K.'s first recycled wastewater in Havant Thicket**, a Labour challenge to the **Conservatives' destructive housing targets** on Hayling, the rationale behind **another failed Levelling Up bid** and the latest on **the local elections on Thursday 4th May 2023**.



*David Murray, Sheree Earnshaw, Mike Owens, Jamie Bitcliffe, Mark Coates and Gillian Harris at the **Cut The Crap** demo on Hayling Bridge, Saturday 26th November 2022*

Water, water everywhere

It was disappointing to see local Conservative MP Alan Mak vote for 15 more years of sewage releases in the draft *Environmental Targets Regulations* on January 25th 2023. To be clear: these regulations will do nothing to limit the recent record-breaking pollution of the sea around Hayling, which is at odds with Labour's anti-pollution targets. **In November and December last year the E.coli levels of bacteria in the sea around Hayling were 760 times the legal limit¹.** I would strongly urge everyone to follow [Hayling Sewage Watch](#) on Facebook where all of the most dangerous sewage releases are documented. You will also see details regarding forthcoming protests - join in and make your voice heard!

But not a drop I'd drink

In August 2022 HBC gave Southern Water permission to build a new reservoir in Havant Thicket where recycled wastewater will be mixed with naturally sourced water. This would be the first

¹ BBC Hampshire 14th December 2022



such use of recycled wastewater in the U.K. Conservative leader of HBC, Councillor Alex Rennie, has said that these plans were ‘not clear’ in the original documentation and yet has only asked for them to be ‘correctly scrutinised’ instead of rejecting them out-of-hand². Whilst recycled water is in operation in California where it is a solution to seasonal droughts, **it is not considered fit for human consumption** and should only be used for non-potable purposes such as watering gardens and flushing toilets. It is for this reason that **Havant Labour fully opposes Southern Water’s national experiment on local residents. This is not a time for weak leadership: we demand that Havant’s houses are supplied with water that is 100% safe.** HBC should reject all plans to mix recycled water with natural water supplied to private residences.

Housing and Targets

It seems strange that a little more than a year ago Councillor Alex Rennie wrote about HBC’s “obligation to meet housing targets” in his letter to Michael Gove and Christopher Pincher³ but has not updated the local plan following PM Rishi Sunak’s decision in early December of last year to abandon these housing targets⁴. **Labour will challenge the need for a local plan that puts thousands of houses on Hayling:** Hayling has been starved of maintenance, let alone an evolving infrastructure, and residents certainly don’t want greenfield sites and protected wildlife annihilated in the name of targets that no longer exist. Labour Councillor Phil Munday is presently putting this argument to the majority Conservative Council; it will be interesting to see if they continue with their revised Local Plan in this new light - watch this space.

Another ‘Levelling Up’ Funding Failure

For all Mr. Mak’s party sycophancy and the similar behaviour of many other Conservative members at HBC, their latest **Levelling Up** bid was as unsuccessful as the last, resulting in nil funding for Havant in 2023. However, in fairness to those involved, it does appear that a considerable effort was made on the bid itself and no doubt the local Conservatives are extremely disheartened to find that they have failed once again.

Given that the Conservatives’ marginal constituencies in the Red Wall were so much more successful in receiving LU funding, it would be perfectly reasonable to presume that Havant is being consistently rejected because we’re such a ‘safe’ Conservative seat at present. On that basis it also makes sense to conclude that, were Havant to become a Labour constituency at the next election, Keir Starmer would divert significant funds here in order to preserve its status as such... worth a thought, voters.

May the Fourth Be With You (but remember your I.D.!)

It was encouraging to see the voting pattern change so dramatically last year, despite the contention that many Hayling residents would ‘vote for a poodle wearing a blue rosette!’ Clearly, this is not necessarily the case and based on current trends we could well see the very first

² BBC Hampshire 19th August, 22nd August 2022

³ HBC website, 13th December 2021

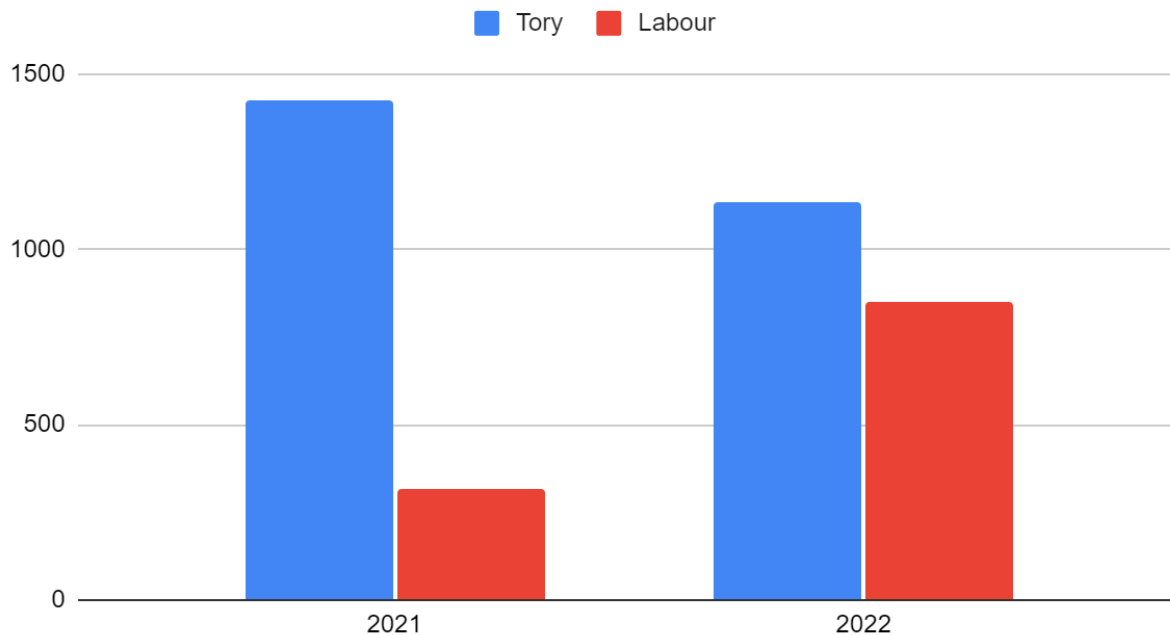
⁴ UK Parliament Affordable Homes Programme since 2015, 29th Report of Session 2022-23



Labour councillor in Hayling's history at the 2023 local election. As you may have noticed, the public's attitudes towards Labour and the Tories are changing on a daily basis: thank you for your trust and support.

As you may also have noticed, Labour have been campaigning on the doorstep continuously since the last election after many of you told us that 'candidates only campaign just before the election' and that 'no one is making the effort.' Well, we've pulled out all the stops and hopefully that will make the difference... so Labour can make a difference for residents.

Hayling East Election Results 2021-22



What I.D. to bring?

Most forms of I.D. are accepted (even if they are out of date), but it is expected that driving licences and passports will be the most commonly presented on the day. For more information, and the full, exhaustive list visit:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id>

You can still vote by post without I.D. of course, but if you're going to a polling station and don't have any acceptable I.D. with your picture on, then get a free Voter Authority Certificate from here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

For more information on our candidate for Hayling East:

Visit <https://www.havantlabour.org.uk/hayling-east-mark-coates/> or follow the link using the QR code at the top of the page, or contact Mark directly at mark.coates@havantlabour.org.uk or visit Mark Coates - Hayling East on Facebook. We would also like to hear from you if you can help us in any way including distribution of our newsletters.