



# Caroline Attfield

## for Mayor of Lewisham

Your official Conservative Candidate for 5 May 2022



### Caroline's plan for Lewisham

- 1 Balance the Books**  
Ringfence vital services. Cut vanity PR projects. Adopt best practice from neighbouring councils e.g. federated procurement.
- 2 Get Lewisham Moving**  
Lift the roadblocks, protect local traders from ULEZ, support extensions to the DLR and Bakerloo.
- 3 Support local Businesses**  
Give council contracts to local traders, and tax breaks to small high street shops. Protect workplaces from developers.
- 4 Educate our Children**  
Create a 'free school' in Lewisham - state-funded but free from the institutionalised mediocrity of local authority control.
- 5 Sort out our Rubbish**  
Address Lewisham's fly-tipping crisis. Bring our recycling rates in line with Conservative councils.
- 6 Fix our Social Housing**  
Pay residents and local traders to do simple maintenance jobs. Match homes to residents' needs.

## Why Lewisham Desperately Needs a Conservative Mayor

We need a mayor with financial experience to save our lovely borough from years of Labour economic incompetence. In [Caroline Attfield](#) we have a businesswoman and longstanding local resident with a wealth of board level experience who is raring to do the job.

Labour admit they will need to cut services or increase council tax again to avoid going the way of Labour-run Slough and Croydon councils and issuing a 'Section 114 Notice', which shuts down all but essential spending, a disaster not unlike a private company declaring bankruptcy.

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In the last financial year Lewisham council received £94 million of emergency government funds...

### Where did it go?

*See next page...*





## Balance the Books

# Rescue Lewisham Council from Bankruptcy

Continued from page 1

In the last financial year, Lewisham Council received £94m emergency government funds, equal to a year's council tax, taking the total central government support to £724 million, up 15% on the previous year. At the same time, the number of council employees earning more than £50,000 rose by 18% to 868. This does not include NHS workers, paid by central government. **Now Labour want a 5% council tax hike.** Already, more than 50% of our Council tax goes on 'off balance sheet' debts

Caroline says: "Labour will happily spend your money until it runs out and then they'll ask you for more. There'll be worse to come - unless there's some Conservative financial competence."

\*Source: Lewisham Council 2020/21 accounts

Last year the number of council employees earning over

**£50,000**  
rose by 18% to  
**868**

...your council tax rose by  
**5%**

## Fix our Social Housing



# Let Local Traders Fix Our Crumbling Social Housing

**Caroline plans to restore Lewisham's crumbling social housing. This will save money and create sustainable local jobs.**

"No one looks after your home as well as you do, and no one loves your local community the way you and your neighbours do," says Caroline. "Wherever possible, I'd allow social housing residents to apply for resources to do the sort of simple maintenance and repairs that homeowners do."

Under Caroline's plans, residents will be able to claim an allowance, and borrow equipment from the council, for simple home maintenance jobs like lawnmowing and hedge

trimming. Random spot checks will be made to ensure work is necessary and is being done properly. The council would also source and vet selected skilled local traders like plumbers, electricians, and tree surgeons, whom residents could hire for more demanding jobs.

As Caroline says, "everyone knows that 'a stitch in time saves nine'. Little problems left to fester can turn into big environmental bills. Homeowners can fix things as soon as they break, and they don't need to wait for permission to give a wall a lick of paint or get someone in to fix a leaky drain, so why should people in social housing?"

## Educate our Children

# How to Turn Around Our Failing Secondary Schools

**Lewisham Labour's message to parents who are ambitious for their children's education is: get out of town.**

The overall academic results of Lewisham-educated children is a heart-breaking record of wasted talent. In 2019, just 6.8% of our A-Level students achieved grades that, in Ofsted's words, 'are commonly needed for entry to leading universities.'

How poor is this? If Lewisham's schools had simply matched the national average, another 80 children a year would have achieved those grades and had those opportunities. Labour-run Lewisham's ideological aim is to level down and discourage excellence. Anyone who doesn't accept this can look for a school in another borough (almost certainly run by the Conservatives) or find the money to pay for private

education. Lewisham Labour have failed in their duty to our children.

Since the 2011 census it is estimated that the number of 0-19 year olds in the borough has grown by 7.5%. Since 2015, the number of school places offered by Lewisham Council has fallen by 5%. Wherever these children are going, it is a fair bet that they are fleeing Lewisham in search of a better education and it seems the council is happy to see them go.

Caroline Attfield says: "I was so disappointed to have to send my children out of the borough so that they could follow university careers denied to Lewisham secondary pupils. My heart goes out to all parents facing these impossible choices. If elected I will put outcomes and attainment first and foremost in Lewisham's education system".

## Get Lewisham Moving



# Labour's Loony Roadblocks Air Pollution Crisis

The LTNs have been an unmitigated disaster for the majority of Lewisham residents. Whilst a few quiet leafy streets have seen their properties rise in value, those living on the main roads have seen a **large increase in traffic and pollution** as slow moving traffic pumps out fumes on their lengthened journeys around the LTN zones.

We have been inundated with stories of blocked emergency vehicles, missed hospital appointments and businesses suffering as deliveries take up to three times longer than they used to.

The council is raking in millions in fines and are committed to their war on the motorist, but don't understand that the elderly, disabled and service providers need to use their cars.

The long awaited council consultation has finally started but at no point does it ask the question 'do you think the LTNs are a good idea?'

## Sort out our Rubbish

# We Want More Recycling

Lewisham's recycling centre in New Cross is now by appointment only and has a long list of items that it will no longer accept. Unsurprisingly, Lewisham now has a dreadful problem with fly-tipping with reports growing by 50% between 2013 and 2019. Every resident will have noticed this but will find the scale of the problem astonishing - **more than one million incidents of illegal rubbish dumping a year!** In response the council has issued 111 fines. So that's just 99.9% unpunished, then.



## Support Local Businesses

# Save Blackheath Business Estate

Business bashing Lewisham Labour Council have approved a plan to demolish the existing business centre and to replace it with 63 high rise housing units that will plunge much of the ground-level environment into darkness, riding roughshod over the objections of business owners and local residents. This leafy enclave is home to 19 successful businesses, including **Park Beekeeping Supplies**.

Worse still, 36 mature trees that **soak up CO2** from the nearby A2 and provide forage for the now thriving local bee population, will all be lost - against the advice of the council's own Tree Officer. This open and green space is vital to all residents. Caroline is campaigning for Lewisham Council to reverse this inexplicable decision.



## A range of skills and experience

What do you think about the quality of the services that Lewisham Council is supposed to provide?



SCAN ME

Take my survey and have your say.



info@lewishamconservatives.org.uk



@carolineattfield



**Esther Claire Dyke**  
Health worker, former paramedic in Afghanistan.



**Sam Thurgood**  
2019 parliamentary candidate for East Lewisham.



**Helena Croft**  
Former councillor, CEO of award winning charity.



**Favour Obi**  
Law graduate, TfL worker, charity leader.



**Isaac Sackey**  
Law graduate and NHS staff.



**Stephanie Reeves**  
School governor, former charity director.



**Kwame Asabere**  
Worked in politics, corporate Governmental research & finance.



**Cherith Hateley**  
Founder of a computer tuition start-up business.



**Caroline Attfield**  
Former Global Head of Sales for RBS Financial Markets.

 **LEWISHAM**  
CONSERVATIVES



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**Attfield**  
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