

SECURING A BETTER FUTURE FOR NOTTINGHAM

**The Conservative Party
Manifesto
Nottingham City Council 2015**





Nottingham is a brilliant city, but it has the potential to be so much more. For decades it has languished under single party Labour rule, and as a result many of our essential public services have suffered.

This manifesto offers a fresh vision for Nottingham, a city which is friendly to businesses, students, those in rented accommodation and those who want to own their own home.

A city which lets residents keep more of their own money by cutting taxes and parking charges, is renowned for leisure and tourism and provides taxpayers with better value for money for their council services.

And a city which cares for our elderly, keeps us safe and protects our children.

This is the Conservative vision for a better, brighter and stronger future for Nottingham.

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EDUCATION

“WE WANT TO SEE MORE ‘GOOD’ AND ‘OUTSTANDING’ SCHOOLS IN NOTTINGHAM, PROVIDING A BETTER AND BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.”



Conservatives will focus on restoring choice to our local education system by promoting academies and free schools across our city so parents and children have a better choice in their education.

We will develop better working relationships with the County Council to conduct a catchment area review. Where county schools have space, city children will be eligible for a place.

We will scrap Labour’s failing education challenge board, removing those responsible for past failures and create a new board consisting of head teachers, university leaders and business leaders to ensure our young people get the right skills to either enter the workforce or progress to higher education.

We will improve community relations near schools and improve child safety by scrapping Labour’s Workplace Parking Tax so teachers and staff can park in their school’s car park rather than clogging up residential areas.

We will maintain 20mph speed limits outside schools to ensure our children’s safety.

OUR ECONOMY 1

“WE WILL WORK WITH BUSINESSES, RESIDENTS, UNIVERSITIES AND GRADUATES TO ATTRACT INVESTMENT AND CREATE A STRONG LOCAL ECONOMY THAT PROVIDES JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO ALL PEOPLE IN OUR CITY.”



Conservatives will axe Labour’s Workplace Parking Tax, allowing businesses to keep more of their own money for further investment and provide more jobs. Scrapping this stealth tax will also make the city more attractive to businesses wishing to relocate. This is part of our wider vision of making Nottingham a low-tax city, thus ensuring it is an enticing place for enterprise to establish itself and provide prosperity to our communities.

We will work with students, businesses, public sector organisations, local media outlets and community groups on a strategy for graduate retention in the city. We have two fantastic universities in Nottingham and we need to keep more of the talent they produce. Building a strong local economy as a foundation for this strategy is crucial.

We will lobby telecommunications companies for high speed Wi-Fi coverage at key sites such as Nottingham Train Station, the Market Square and Broad Street.

Under Conservatives the City Council would become an accredited living wage employer.

OUR ECONOMY 2

“WE WILL BOOST NOTTINGHAM’S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY SO WE ARE RENOWNED AS A GREAT ROUND THE CLOCK LEISURE AND SHOPPING DESTINATION IN THE EAST MIDLANDS”



Conservatives support the further development of the Ice Arena, so that as well as being a leisure and entertainment destination it can also become a major conference centre of regional and national significance.

We will promote late night shopping in the city centre by encouraging shopping centres to remain open into the evening. We will also extend transport timetables and facilities to support this incentive.

We will encourage pensioners to take advantage of the city’s early evening economy by creating a Nottingham ‘Big Night Out’. On a particular evening there will be city centre-wide offers on restaurants, theatres and retailers.

We will scrap Labour’s Late Night Levy or ‘Pub and Club Tax’ for businesses not exempted by the Nottingham BID. This tax is hitting establishments outside the city centre the hardest, damaging their current trade and future growth.

TRANSPORT 1

“WE WANT TO GET NOTTINGHAM MOVING AGAIN BY CREATING AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SYSTEM THAT DOES NOT PUNISH THE MOTORIST AND CATERS FOR PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS, TRAINS, TRAMS AND BUSES IN AN EFFICIENT AND FLOWING MANNER.”



Conservatives will introduce a ‘Green Wave’ road traffic system so that traffic lights are coordinated in sequence and traffic flow is improved. This has been used in Leicestershire to great effect.

We will conduct a comprehensive review of all 20mph zones and areas with red cushion speed humps that cause needless damage to cars. Safety is paramount; we will however make sure that all speed prevention techniques are enforceable.

We will build on the work of our Government’s upgrade to the A453, lobbying for further investment to ease congestion and improve traffic flow.

We will conduct a full and comprehensive review of all bus lanes in Nottingham and open them to other vehicles where possible to prevent unnecessary traffic jams at key times.

The tram is not the answer to every transport problem in our city. We must retain flexible bus services such as the Local Link Network which are vital to the needs of the elderly. We will also ensure green transport routes for cyclists and pedestrians are further developed.

Conservatives will investigate the value for money of Labour’s Phase 2 tram project. This project has been vastly expensive and delayed to the detriment of businesses and our residents’ quality of life.

We will not extend Nottingham’s tram project further unless there is genuine public demand and a viable funding option.

TRANSPORT 2

“WE HAVE INVESTED IN NOTTINGHAM’S TRANSPORT NETWORK WITH THE WIDENING OF THE A453, A REFURBISHMENT PROJECT TO UPGRADE NOTTINGHAM TRAIN STATION AND A COMMITMENT TO REDEVELOP JUNCTIONS OF THE A52.”



Conservatives will establish a pothole patrol to deal with road repairs promptly and effectively for the long term.

We will provide cheaper parking in City Council owned parking facilities and on street parking bays in Nottingham city centre.

We will scrap Sunday car parking charges both on-street and in City Council car parks. This will encourage more people to visit our city at the weekend resulting in more economic growth.

Under a Conservative run Nottingham, parking at Wollaton Park will be free.

We will offer all communities the ability to obtain residents' parking permits where there is a legitimate consensus amongst residents irrespective of off road parking facilities.

We will extend the opening times of the city's Park and Ride facilities and ensure that they are open every day of the week and later in the evening.

We will ensure that the plans in our £196 million City Deal to develop pedestrian and cycle routes across our city are implemented quickly.

We will ensure that current cycle routes are safe and hazards are minimised.

We will continue the Nottingham Bike Hire Scheme and offer more bays for cyclists to store their bikes across the city, encouraging greener methods of transport where possible.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE 1

“WE ARE COMMITTED TO A FREE NHS FOR ALL, ALWAYS PUTTING PATIENTS BEFORE POLITICS.

WE WILL BUILD A STRONGER WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR LOCAL HOSPITALS ENSURING A BETTER LEVEL OF CARE FOR NOTTINGHAM’S MOST VULNERABLE.”



Conservatives will establish a strong working relationship between local NHS providers and the charitable sector to utilise their experience and resources to free up hospital beds for acute care. This will encourage aftercare in the home environment where patients are more comfortable and can retain their independence.

We will encourage local GP surgeries to remain open seven days a week and provide an evening service so residents can access care and advice when required. This will reduce the pressure on our accident and emergency departments.

We will lobby for carers to be paid the living wage and to be paid travel time between visits. This will reduce the geographic spread of an individual carer’s clients, allowing for closer relationships to be formed.

We will offer free relationship counselling for young families, acknowledging the vital role that a stable home environment plays in the development of our young people.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE 2

“NO CUTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO NHS SPENDING. WE HAVE PROTECTED AND INCREASED SPENDING BY £12.7 BILLION IN THIS PARLIAMENT.

THERE ARE NOW 506 MORE DOCTORS LOOKING AFTER PATIENTS IN THE EAST MIDLANDS THAN UNDER LABOUR, ENSURING PEOPLE RECEIVE THE CARE THEY DESERVE.”



Conservatives will ensure the Medilink bus service runs on evenings, weekends and bank holidays as you cannot predict when you will be ill or require medical attention.

We will monitor hospital parking charges and lobby for a free parking system for patients and their families with long-term or terminal illnesses.

We will support proposals for a new 713 space multi-story car park at the Queen’s Medical Centre and accompanying helipad so that extreme emergency cases can reach major trauma care quickly.

We will work with both the public and private service providers to offer discounted introductory sessions for health and leisure facilities for all City Card holders.

We will work with local charities and organisations to train all our front line staff on dementia awareness.

HOUSING

“WE WILL WORK WITH LANDLORDS, TENANTS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS TO ENSURE A BETTER STANDARD OF RENTED ACCOMMODATION AND WILL PROMOTE A BRIGHTER FUTURE BY ALLOWING TENANTS OF SOCIAL HOUSING TO OWN THEIR OWN HOME.”



Conservatives will support our party’s Right to Buy policy with the immediate release of all cities social housing stock. In a Conservative run Nottingham, housing association tenants will be able to buy their property, providing them with the security of owning their own home.

We will encourage the use of the proceeds of this policy to invest in further social housing projects and affordable homes across Nottingham.

Additional licensing is having no impact on improving private rented accommodation in Nottingham. We will establish community organisations to ensure improvements occur.

We will encourage an accreditation scheme for landlords so tenants can choose from a wide range of vendors.

We will create a compulsory landlords’ register to crack down on rogue landlords. However we will not allow this to financially penalise responsible landlords.

We will establish a dedicated liaison service for the private rented sector so that queries and issues are dealt with in a more timely and efficient manner.

CRIME PREVENTION

“WE WILL ADOPT A STRONGER APPROACH TO BOTH CRIME AND THE FEAR OF CRIME, ENSURING A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL OUR RESIDENTS.”



Conservatives will ensure efficient use of existing Community Protection Officers and reduce the number of Traffic Wardens, using the money to fund more Police Community Support Officers. This will make people feel safer in their communities and provide a strong front line against anti-social behaviour, graffiti, fly tipping and dog mess.

We support the Government’s changes to Police stop and search powers and will continue to campaign for greater transparency.

We will work with key partners to tackle hate crime in our city. The issue of hate crime will not be tolerated in our communities.

We will work with the local Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure neighbourhood policing remains a priority and that front line services are retained so people feel safer in their communities.

We will learn from the mistakes made by local authorities like Rotherham and put stringent measures in place to protect our children, vulnerable adults and the elderly.

We will take a zero-tolerance approach to graffiti in our communities and take action against offenders.

TOURISM AND HERITAGE

“NOTTINGHAM IS WORLD RENOWNED FOR SPORTING EXCELLENCE, ROBIN HOOD AND GAME-CHANGING INNOVATION IN HEALTHCARE AND TECHNOLOGY.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROMOTE OUR CITY WITH PRIDE.”



Conservatives have invested in the redevelopment of Nottingham Castle with our Government’s £196 million City Deal. Once completed we will make sure the castle becomes a highly regarded tourist destination.

We will utilise the Market Square for a monthly East Midlands Farmers Market, specialising in the best of our region’s produce and supporting independent traders in our area.

We will continue to support the proposal of a local hub at Toton for the HS2 rail project. Not only will this boost our local economy significantly but it will make our city easily accessible to many more potential tourists.

We will continue to take advantage of Nottingham’s connection with Robin Hood to encourage more visitors to our city. Robin Hood is a world famous character and we should ensure that Nottingham City remains synonymous with the story.

CITY COUNCIL EFFICIENCY

“WE WILL TRANSFORM COUNCIL EFFICIENCY ENSURING TAXPAYERS ARE GIVEN BETTER VALUE FOR MONEY WITH CUSTOMER CARE PRINCIPLES BEING PARAMOUNT.”



A Conservative run Nottingham would freeze your council tax for the next two years. No more stealth increases.

We will amend garden waste collection timetables to account for late leaf fall.

We will significantly reduce the City Council’s marketing budget and instead develop stronger relationships with local media outlets to spread news about the City Council to ensure communications are balanced and objective.

We will increase the amount of email communication and use of social media channels to improve the City Council website, making it easier and greener for residents to access information, thus making the costly ‘Arrow’ magazine redundant.

We will reduce the number of councillors and portfolio holders on special responsibility allowances.

Some council employees are allowed to spend 40% of their time on trade union activity; a Conservative run City Council would reduce this, thus making sure employees are doing the job taxpayers pay them to do.

We will conduct an overhaul of facility time to make sure that no political activity is being conducted on council time and funded by the public purse.



YOUR CONSERVATIVE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Secure a better future for Nottingham, vote Conservative on Thursday May 7th

FELICITY CROFTS
ARBORETUM

PENELOPE MESSENGER
BESTWOOD

SHAUN HARTLEY
BULWELL FOREST

VERA CROSS
DALES

BRIGITTE ARMSTRONG
SHERWOOD

DANIEL DOWSON
ARBORETUM

MARGARET TRUEMAN
BESTWOOD

MELVYN SHEPHERD
BULWELL FOREST

ELLIOTT JOHNSON
DUNKIRK AND LENTON

JACKIE JENKIN-JONES
SHERWOOD

REBECCA ARMSTRONG
ASPLEY

MARJORIE WROUGHTON
BESTWOOD

CAROL WALKER
BULWELL FOREST

AMELIA ROSE
DUNKIRK AND LENTON

ANDREW PHILLIPS
SHERWOOD

PETER LINFORD
ASPLEY

ROGER ALTON
BILBOROUGH

ANDREW RULE
CLIFTON NORTH

DAVID GIBSON
LEEN VALLEY

ANDREW COOK
ST ANN'S

GRAHAM SMITH
ASPLEY

DENISE APPLEBY
BILBOROUGH

JAMES SPENCER
CLIFTON NORTH

JANET SCOTT
LEEN VALLEY

LUKE DORIAN
ST ANN'S

MOHAMMED ALI
BASFORD

IAN CULLEY
BILBOROUGH

ROGER STEEL
CLIFTON NORTH

BILL DENNIS
MAPPERLEY

DAVID JACKSON
ST ANN'S

MOHAMMED MAQSOOD
BASFORD

PETER BEYNON
BRIDGE

DANIEL ATHERTON
CLIFTON SOUTH

JIM FIELDS
MAPPERLEY

SAMUEL ARMSTRONG
WOLLATON EAST AND LENTON ABBEY

STUART MYLES-WILSON
BASFORD

PAUL RUANE
BRIDGE

ANDREW DAY
CLIFTON SOUTH

ALEXANDER LAMONT
MAPPERLEY

JOHN EDWARD
WOLLATON EAST AND LENTON ABBEY

JOHN HUTCHINSON
BERRIDGE

ALEXANDER FITZGERALD
BULWELL

WILLIAM SCOTT
CLIFTON SOUTH

NICK MAX
RADFORD AND PARK

JIM ARMSTRONG
WOLLATON WEST

NEALE MITTENS HAW-HODGE
BERRIDGE

ADAM KEARNS
BULWELL

LINDA BENSON
DALES

MONICA MONNI
RADFORD AND PARK

GEORGINA CULLEY
WOLLATON WEST

DAN SULLIVAN
BERRIDGE

DOMINIC SHETCLIFFE
BULWELL

RICHARD BENSON
DALES

NICHOLAS PACKHAM
RADFORD AND PARK

JEANNA PARTON
WOLLATON WEST