

# focus



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## A QUESTION OF PRIORITIES

**At the last borough council elections in 2007 Liberal Democrats based their Manifesto on your priorities after conducting surveys across Epsom and Ewell. We need to know what importance you place on these issues in 2010. You will find a “tick box” survey inside this issue of FOCUS. There is plenty of space for you to add your own priorities.**

After a year of targeting vulnerable groups of people, the ruling RA Residents' Party have said “there will be no cuts next year”. No-one wants cuts in services, but your Lib Dem councillors believe that in the present economic climate it's really important that the council conducts its affairs in line with what residents say is important to them.

*Please spend a few minutes completing the survey and send it back via our Freepost.*

### **SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT**

*Newsletters issued by Residents' Associations are attempting to deflect criticism of the recently introduced parking charges for Blue Badge holders and the closure of public toilets, by suggesting that RA councillors are not really to blame. So let's be clear here, ALL opposition parties voted against these cuts and ALL RA councillors voted in favour of them, apart from a few abstentions and one resignation.*



### **A fair deal for pensioners**

For thirteen years under Labour, older people saw the value of their pensions plummet.

Now, thanks to the Lib Dems in Government, the pensions' earnings link will be restored.

Pensioners will now get a minimum 2.5% rise each year - more if earnings rise quickly.

**Making a real difference**



**The Lib Dems have also made sure the potential oversupply of disabled parking bays in the Town Hall car park is closely monitored. This car park is intended for short-stay shoppers and the balance of parking bays needs to be right for everyone.**

**SURVEY INSIDE**



When you have completed this survey, please return it to:

**Epsom & Ewell Lib Dems, FREEPOST KT3525, Epsom KT19 9BR.**

You don't need to use a stamp, but it saves us money if you do use one !

Thank you for your response.



## OUR ENVIRONMENT

The council has signed up to the 10:10 campaign and the government has given councils the power to stop back garden development, although quite recently the Conservatives running one Surrey borough voted against stopping garden grabbing! **What is your view about :**

- ◆ Support planning policies on back garden development.
- ◆ Making our town festive at Christmas time.
- ◆ Preventing development of Green Belt land.
- ◆ Keeping all council-owned venues, e.g. *Ewell Court House*.



- ◆
- ◆



Very Important	Important	Not Important
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## YOUNG PEOPLE AND OLDER PEOPLE

We eventually secured a teenage play area in Court Recreation Ground but we still don't have wardens in our parks. We are now campaigning to stop late night noise and anti-social behaviour in our town centre. **How important are the following to you :**

- ◆ Creating a team of park wardens to reduce problems.
- ◆ Investing in late night / early morning patrols around pubs and clubs.
- ◆ Having a night bus system to get young people home safely.
- ◆ Extending transport and day centre facilities for older people.

- ◆
- ◆



<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## OUR TOWN HALL AND ITS DECISION MAKING

Residents Association councillors continue their expensive robe-wearing habit, but we have persuaded the council to cut back on paper and produce more information electronically. **Please rank the following :**

- ◆ Abolishing the wearing of special robes at council meetings.
- ◆ Permitting residents to ask questions at meetings of the Council.
- ◆ Transmitting video of council meetings "live" over the internet.
- ◆ Charging the big developers for advice before they submit plans.

- ◆
- ◆



<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## YOUR OWN IDEAS FOR MAKING AND SAVING MONEY

The Government's Spending Review is likely to make things even more difficult for local authorities. **Please tell us about your own ideas as to how the council can increase its income or make savings.**

- ◆
- ◆
- ◆
- ◆



<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Ward News ...

Cllr Anna Jones has presented the mini-roundabout petition to the Local Committee. Hundreds of residents are in favour of reinstating this at the **Treadwell/Downs Road** junction. Some money has been set aside by the County Council for remedial work to the traffic calming scheme, but it is not enough for a mini-roundabout. The campaign continues.



*Cllr Christine Key has helped two local residents with housing problems in the past month and continues to monitor street lights and redundant lamp posts. She has also asked the council to deal with fly-tipping at the back of a property in **Downside**, having spent months trying to find out who the owner is! Residents should also contact Chris if they are interested in the council's new Handyman service.*

Cllr Julie Morris has requested some bollards be located in **Bridle Road**, to stop vehicles using the wide grass verge beside the Alexandra Allotments entrance. She is also progressing complaints about unsuitable HGVs using Burgh Heath Road and organising street cleaning of littered roads. Residents may have noticed recent “road closure” signs which are necessary to clear roads of commuter parking before street cleaning can be done. Let her know if your road needs cleaning.

*There are a few yellow lines (mostly junction protection) being suggested in College Ward within Phase 5 of the County's programme. Your Councillors don't want a Phase 6 to go ahead preferring any available money used to progress a **Residents' Parking Scheme** for the roads which want it. Julie has made sure that a Borough Parking Strategy will be discussed by the borough council in October—it is ludicrous that they still don't have this.*

**There is no space for a “grumble sheet” in this issue because of the survey. You are always welcome to contact your councillors and the FOCUS team—use the Freepost address given at the beginning of the survey.**

**I can deliver Focus in my road  
I'd like to help at election time  
I'd like to become a member  
I'd like my councillor to visit**


*To advertise in Focus contact Julie :  
Focus is hand-delivered to over 10,000  
households in Epsom and Ewell,  
four times each year. A business card  
advertisement is just £20 per issue.*

Contact details.....

### CONTACT YOUR FOCUS TEAM :

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