

- New CCTV to help fight crime
- Anger over SPA Panic
- Recycling scheme here at last

LOCAL PEOPLE BACK CAMPAIGN FOR A&E

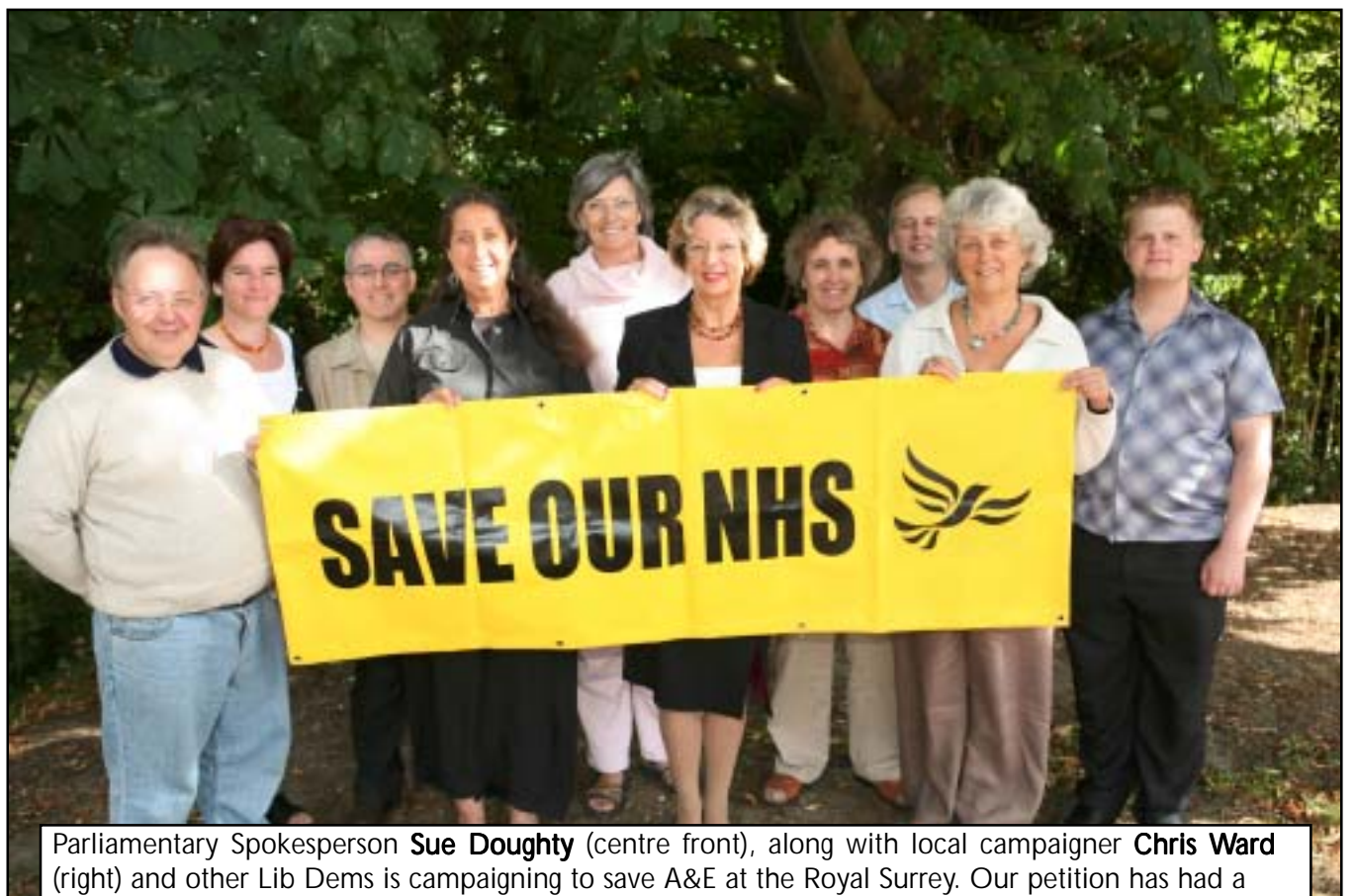
Thousands of local people have signed a Lib Dem petition as the battle intensifies to save A&E at the Royal Surrey.

The department could be under threat due to the massive debts that the Government has lumbered the NHS with.

Lib Dem Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** said, "Local people are rallying round our campaign to avoid these savage cuts. We have received thousands of signatures already."

Local campaigner **Chris Ward** added, "It is absurd to consider closing A & E. Guildford residents need a local hospital and they need a unit to deal with emergencies. Many people are willing to fight for our NHS."

Sue Doughty has also written to Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt about the local NHS. You can sign our petition online, at: <http://campaigns.libdems.org.uk/guildfordnhs>



Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** (centre front), along with local campaigner **Chris Ward** (right) and other Lib Dems is campaigning to save A&E at the Royal Surrey. Our petition has had a tremendous response.

New cameras to help fight crime

Guildford Borough will soon benefit from new CCTV cameras.

The Liberal Democrats proposed a number of new sites for CCTV in light of residents' fears about violent crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Conservatives twice rejected the plans before they eventually passed at a full council meeting.

Local campaigner **Steve Freeman** said, "CCTV has been uniquely responsible for increasing public safety. One of the cameras will be at the Cathedral roundabout in Onslow. We hope this helps local residents to feel safer around the borough.

"We must now extend the cameras to other places to help protect the public."

Meanwhile **Cllr Tony Phillips**, at a recent council meeting, requested a camera on the passageway from Beech Grove to Tesco following a horrific attack on a local resident. "A camera there may have deterred this awful incident" Tony told *Focus*.



Sue Doughty discussing crime with a local police officer. The Lib Dems successfully campaigned for more CCTV cameras in Guildford to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

Tories ignore protests

Once again ignoring public opposition, the Council's Conservative Executive have agreed to panic proposals to get around the ban on new housing being built within 5 km of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) such as Whitmoor Common.

The Tories claim the new SPA Avoidance Strategy will protect rare ground-nesting birds, by spending over £1 million of planning-gain money on 'improvements' to council-owned countryside to attract people away from the SPAs.

Liberal Democrat councillors argued that the Strategy will not work, and the £1 million would be better spent on benefits to the community such as green space easily accessible to new housing.

Cllr Tony Phillips said "This Strategy is deeply flawed. It's unbelievable people will get in their car to struggle through town centre traffic to walk their dogs in Chantry Woods or Riverside Park. The Tories should listen to the public, and think again."

Civic Hall latest

Guildford will finally be getting a new Civic Hall after years of Tory dithering were brought to an end.

The new-build project in London Road will cost £20 million+. Plans for a move to the University campus were rejected after a survey carried out by the Lib Dems found less than 2% support.

Local campaigner **Chris Ward** told *Focus*, "I am glad we are eventually getting our new Civic after years of delay. The results of our survey showed little support for a move to the University and those plans were abandoned."



Roads need repairing

The Lib Dems are becoming increasingly concerned at the state of Surrey's roads.

Even the leader of Tory-run Surrey County Council (SCC) admitted in *The Surrey Advertiser* that "The condition of the county's roads is not meeting public expectation everywhere."

Despite widespread anger in Surrey about the state of the roads, SCC have reduced the number of Highways Officers by 50% as part of their Business Delivery Review – trying to save money having wasted millions on a failed office move to Woking and hiring expensive outside consultants.

Lib Dem recycling scheme coming at last



The Liberal Democrats are glad that the new recycling scheme has been introduced after years of pressure. Now it has to be expanded though to include kitchen waste.

Guildford will finally benefit from Borough-wide kerbside collection of plastic bottles, after the Conservatives backed down.

For years, the Liberal Democrats pushed for the scheme to help reduce landfill and the threat of incineration across Surrey. After rejecting the scheme in February, the Conservatives have finally bowed to Liberal Democrat pressure and will be introducing the scheme.

The next task is to keep food waste out of the black sacks going to landfill. Lib Dem councillors want that collected for composting, and proposed a trial scheme for 2007. So far the Conservatives have refused to commit themselves.

Cllr Lynda Strudwick said, "I am glad this scheme is here. However, it would be further improved by expanding it to include the collection of organic kitchen waste which currently goes to landfill."

Help us to campaign for the local area!

Do you want to help the Liberal Democrats? Return this slip to:
Liberal Democrats, Freepost, SCE 15741, Guildford, GU1 7BR.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---------|
| I can deliver some leaflets in my area | <input type="checkbox"/> | Name |
| I can display a poster at election time | <input type="checkbox"/> | Address |
| I can help with clerical work | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tel |
| I can make a donation of £__ to help pay for <i>Focus</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Email |

(A donation of £6+ entitles you to party membership. If you do not wish to join or already belong, tick here)

The Liberal Democrats may wish to use the information above to contact you from time to time to keep you informed of campaigns we think are of interest to you. Please write to us if you do not wish to be contacted in this way.

Lib Dems working with UniS to ensure your safety



Cllr Tony Phillips, Cllr Lynda Strudwick and local campaigner Chris Ward at the Southway underpass, where a new camera has been installed.

Onslow Lib Dems are working to improve safety in the dark and dangerous areas around the University.

We have had regular communication with Barry Jakeman, the Head of Security at UniS about these areas, which are used not only by students, but also by a substantial number of Guildford residents.

Local Lib Dem campaigner **Chris Ward** said, "We would like to thank Barry and his team for the work they have done to improve safety around the outskirts of the university, particularly with the 24 hour surveillance the university have installed

looking under the Southway underpass."

Recently the university approved funding for a state-of-the-art camera, after both UniS and the University of Surrey Students' Union campaigned heavily for the Conservative Borough Council to get CCTV in the underpasses. This camera is watched 24/7 from the UniS Security control room.

Steve Freeman, Local Lib Dem campaigner said, "The approach to Onslow and the UniS campus from Southway becomes treacherously dark at night, and the potential for further attacks to occur in that area is far too great."

Did you know?

Guildford's Conservative MP has missed over a third of her meetings on Parliament's Health Select Committee.

With Health services in Guildford under threat from Government cuts, she has the **worst** attendance record of all the committee members who have been in place since May 2005.

Contact your local Lib Dem team

Parliamentary Spokesperson - Sue Doughty

☎: 306000 ✉: sue@suedoughty.org

Cllr Tony Phillips

☎: 828282 ✉: tony.phillips@guildford.gov.uk

Cllr Lynda Strudwick

☎: 503876 ✉: lynda.strudwick@guildford.gov.uk

Local Campaigner Steve Freeman

☎: 822171 ✉: ronsson1956@yahoo.co.uk

Local Campaigner Chris Ward

☎: 546037 ✉: christopher.j.ward@gmail.com

County Cllr David Goodwin

☎: 824616 ✉: david.goodwin@guildford.gov.uk

County Cllr Fiona White

☎: 07818 270907 ✉: fiona.white@guildford.gov.uk

Meet your Lib Dem councillor: If you have an issue that you would like help with, we hold a surgery at Millmead on the first Thursday of every month from 6.30pm. Ring 306000 to book an appointment with a Borough or County Councillor.