

Dale Lane

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Local Elections this Thursday!

I wrote to you a couple of weeks ago to introduce myself as a candidate in the local elections on June 10^{th} . Now that the elections are a few days away, I am writing again to ask you to consider giving me the chance to work for you.

I mentioned before that I see the election as a job interview. With that in mind, I thought it would be appropriate to give you some details about my experience.

Some of my current activities in our local community:

- My fiancée and I both **work locally** Amy is a teacher at a local primary school, and I am an engineer for **IBM** in Hursley
- I'm part of a team creating **a new youth action charity** to get young people more involved in our local community
- I am a member of the **Steering Group** for the local Millennium Volunteers a national scheme to support youth volunteering
- I work locally as a **campaigner** for **Make Votes Count**, working for changes to make our voting system fairer
- At Southampton City College, I am a **volunteer teacher** in basic literacy and numeracy for adults in evening classes
- I am part of a team preparing a **week-long event for local school children** to educate and motivate them about science and technology
- I help at a local secondary school, **teaching a weekly class** in computing to Year 10 pupils
- I am an active member of **Amnesty International**'s Urgent Action Network campaigning against human rights violations
- I am a regular volunteer (and minibus driver) for youth groups supported by Eastleigh Community Services
- I am a developer for the **Open Voting Consortium** working on finding ways how technology can help to improve the way elections are run

Some activities I have been involved in the last few years:

- Volunteering for over two years with the **Samaritans**, supporting local people in times of distress and despair
- Working for a year as **Vice President** of the **Students' Union** at Bath, representing the views of over 10,000 students
- Volunteering for three years at a **local night shelter for the homeless** and regularly at 'Crisis Open Christmas' in London
- **Mentoring young offenders** for three years with Mentoring Plus, working on an intensive mentoring and education programme
- Volunteering with Crime Concern working on various activities with young people considered at risk of offending

I can demonstrate a continued passion and commitment to involvement in the community. I want to do more.

Please give me the chance.

A fresh start

Our local council should be exciting, interesting and dynamic. This is where we can get together and make the decisions that make our home a better place.

It should be easy for all of us to get involved. It should represent what we think and what we want.

I want to work for you to help make this happen.

I want to be a mouthpiece for your views and your ideas. I want to be your chance to be heard.

That means not simply representing my own views, or even necessarily those of other Lib Dems. I don't want to tell you what to think or what you should want to happen.

I will make it easy for all of us to know what is going on – I'll try letters, emails, newsletters, noticeboards, public meetings, surgeries, the web and anything else we think of.

Regular news and information without party point-scoring: asking what you think and doing my best to make sure that you are listened to.