

Jill Coles

Council notes

My background is that I grew up in Woking before moving to Surrey Heath and now live in the neighbouring Council division to Heatherside & Parkside. My professional role is that I am a senior advisor for a charity supporting disabled and older people who need support to live independently. Previously, I have worked in a homeless hostel and in residential care for disabled people. Supporting Surrey residents especially those within a social care setting is something that I am both passionate about and experienced in delivering. This makes me different to other candidates in this election who may be well-meaning in what they say but they simply do not have the same level of knowledge about how cuts actually impact on people especially those unable to help themselves.

I am standing as the Labour candidate in this election because I believe they are the party that best understands this. However, I want to make clear that serving the community is more important than party labels and therefore if elected, I would pledge to serve all residents of Heatherside & Parkside regardless of their personal beliefs and views.

The Labour Party in Surrey has produced a manifesto for these elections called, "Surrey deserves better. You deserve more." This is because we believe that Surrey residents have been disappointed with their Council services notably the poor quality of our roads, the lack of infrastructure and the cuts to youth services. We have spoken with many residents who were very angry and upset when the Surrey Conservatives wanted to put up their Council Tax by 15%. Even the Conservatives recognise that the previous 4 years have been a failure which is why so many of their own Cllrs have been deselected by their party.

The residents of Heatherside & Parkside deserve better than petty squabbling amongst members and former members of the Conservative Party as demonstrated by some of the candidates in this election.

Instead, by voting for me, you would be voting for someone who cares about local services and our fantastic local schools. My role would be to focus on how we can support their work – motivating and celebrating the overstretched staff and the students so they can achieve their full potential.

It's time for a fresh start in Surrey and for that reason, I humbly ask that you consider voting for me, Jill Coles, the Labour candidate in this election. Thank you for listening."