

12 Conservative Pledges to you – May 2008



- **Strong and Clear Leadership**

We will provide a strong voice and vision for Milton Keynes, delivering what MK needs through relationships with partners.

- **Infrastructure before Expansion (“I before E”)**

Create a future for Milton Keynes that is properly planned, prepared and resourced. Decisions will be led by locally elected Councillors not unelected quangoes.

- **Keep and Expand the Grid Road system**

Ensure free-flow access across Milton Keynes is maintained – the city was built with the car in mind. Review controversial decisions where lights have replaced roundabouts. Develop and expand appropriate public transport for Milton Keynes.

- **Improving Education**

Develop an action plan to raise the standard of education in Milton Keynes first to get up to the national average, and then to continue with further improvements. Promote the techniques that work, like discipline & setting. Support teachers and governors in taking difficult decisions, eg when disruptive pupils are excluded.

- **Developing our Future**

Supporting the extended schools agenda including the Milton Keynes Music Service. Use developers’ contributions to provide more facilities for youngsters.

- **Committed to the Safer Community Agenda**

Reduce anti-social behaviour: we will encourage an urgent assessment of the wide array of existing measures which are available to combat unacceptable antisocial behaviour (including the ASBO). We will invest more in the Community Safety Partnership and we will encourage additional powers for the PCSOs.

- **Responsible Environment**

We will retain weekly waste collections. We will work in partnership with neighbouring authorities to treat waste responsibly. We will develop planning policies to support energy efficiency and renewable energy. We will increase the range of products that can be recycled.

- **A new and Fresh approach to maintenance of our Parks and open spaces**

We will ensure that our valuable open spaces and parks are safely protected for wildlife and our future generations.

- **Parking**

Address the parking chaos on our estates by finding innovative solutions. Maintain free parking in our older areas.

- **Empowering Older People**

Allow our senior citizens a much greater say on how money is spent on them.

- **Will keep Council Tax rises lower than inflation**

We will not spend beyond our means and therefore will not keep adding to the Borough’s “Credit Card” bill that will have to be paid for by future generations. Make value for money as a priority.

- **Housing and Decent homes for all**

Greater emphasis on shared ownership to allow all our young people an opportunity to get a foot on the housing ladder – a hand up not a hand out. We will force all Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HiMO) to be licensed and have planning permission and illegal ones will be found and heavily fined.