

ANTONY HOOK FOR FPC

Councillor



**Former
MEP**



I have been a Liberal Democrat councillor since 2017. I took a seat from the Conservatives that we have never held before.

I have led the Lib Dem Group on Kent County Council since 2021.

In 2025, we doubled the size of our group, thanks to hard work by many people across the county.

I became Leader of the Opposition - taking on Reform who now control the council.

As a councillor I am actively interested in walking and cycling, education, the environment, regeneration and many other issues.

It was a huge honour for me to be elected to serve as Lib Dem MEP for South East England in 2019.

Brexit cut short my time in the Parliament but I travelled all over my region to understand and represent all our communities, and in the Parliament I had a record of action. For example, I..

1. Co-wrote the EP's resolution supporting human rights protests in Hong Kong.
2. Co-wrote the EP's resolution condemning attacks on free speech in Russia.
3. Raised the issue of knife crime and what can be done internationally, leading to the production of the first European Parliament Research Service report on the issue.
4. Produced, with my amazing staff, award winning research briefings on key issues including the risks of no deal Brexit, the flaws in the Johnson withdrawal agreement, how Brexit will affect the NHS, the space industry, cost of living, education, how migration benefits the UK, and EU democracy.
5. Was recognised as one of the best MEPs for cross-party working in 2019.
6. Got global media coverage for my We Still Love EU banner on the White Cliffs of Dover.
7. Regularly annoyed the Brexit Party, and the Russian Government among others.

Dear Friend,

I have been a member of the Liberal Democrats for 27 years because I deeply believe in our party's vital role in the future of our country.

Time and again we have been Britain's conscience. We have been the calm, rational voice against dangerous extremes. We have known the difference between right and wrong when others have just been in it for themselves.

The next FPC will have a vital role in preparing our policy platform for the next General Election. GE2029 is an opportunity for the party to grow. But it will also be a crossroads for our country's future.

I fight Reform every day as Leader of the Opposition at Kent County Council. I have seen how truly dangerous they are. It is vital we develop the policy platform that offers more appeal to voters and keep Reform out of government.

In my 'day job' I have been a practising barrister for 22 years - 18 years in private practice and 4 years as a Crown Advocate leading a CPS Economic Crime Unit. I have prosecuted and defended serious crime for most of my career. In recent years my practice has broadened to include employment law and mental health law.

I grew up on the coast and went to a state school in one of Kent's most deprived towns. I've mixed with the great and good but I never forget where I am from and the people who need our help most.

The people who have taught me the most about life are my children. I want our policy platform to offer a bright future for their generation.

If you have a question, please drop me a line on antony_hook@hotmail.com (Make sure you put no h in my first name!).

Councillor Antony Hook

ANTHONY HOOK FOR FPC

My time in the Lib Dems



1998 Joined the Lib Dems while a student at UCL.

2000 Served as Treasurer of Lib Dem Youth and Students

2001 Parliamentary Candidate for Dover. Won the best swing in Kent.

2003 Organised my first local election campaigning, helping two friends gain seats on the District Council.

2005 Parliamentary Candidate for Dover. Won the best swing in Kent.

2006 Elected to the Lib Dem Regional Executive which I served on for about 10 years including some time as Vice Chair.

2009 MEP Candidate for South East England

2012 Won a hotly contested selection for the seat from which Sharon Bowles MEP was retiring.

2014 Chaired the European Election Campaign in the SE. Raised £250,000. Fighting the swing against the Coalition, I failed to retain the #2 seat, but we saved the seat of my running mate Catherine Bearder MEP.

2016 Spoke for Remain at over 30 village hall type debates in the EU Referendum.

Jan 2017 Elected in a Town Council By-election in Faversham as (then) the only Lib Dem.

May 2017 Elected to Kent County Council as first ever Lib Dem county councillor for Faversham.

2019 Elected to the European Parliament. Helped my local team take control of our Town Council.

2020 Unseated as an MEP by Brexit.

2021 Re-elected to Kent County Council and elected as Lib Dem Leader.

2023 Helped Lib Dems retain control of Faversham Town Council.

Became first Chair of the Lib Dems Federal Council (2023-25)

2025 Elected for a third term to Kent County Council and became Leader of the Opposition.