



Derbyshire Dales Liberal Democrats

Manifesto

District Council Elections May 2023

Build sustainable communities

through energy efficient housing that meets local needs built in the right locations

Prioritise affordability in housing - more social housing / shared equity with house types to reflect the needs of the community

Prioritise building on brownfield sites first

Ensure that all new social housing is insulated to the highest standards and carbon neutral and cost effective to run

Establish that adjacent infrastructure like sewers can cope, with adequate capacity for surface water drainage eg attenuation ponds including the security of their long term management

Effective action on empty properties and second homes

Make the Dales greener

by reducing pollution and by promoting biodiversity and zero carbon technology

Tackle air and water pollution

New builds to be 'future homes' compliant (or better) - well insulated and using renewable energy

Encourage use of solar panels, including community 'microgeneration'

Encourage biodiversity with rewilding, community orchards and allotments and reduced use of pesticides and herbicides

Develop 'greenways', with wildlife (or habitat) corridors, and ensure provision of hedges, landscaping and adequate pavements and cycle paths alongside roads as appropriate. Insist on footpaths within and as links between housing areas

Create a fairer more caring District

by supporting local residents, community groups and businesses, and by making sure the Council delivers the services they need

Listen to and support local residents

Support businesses with advice, local procurement and planning

Support and co-ordinate volunteer groups with practical measures (including grant support) as well as community hubs and facilities for the vulnerable

Ensure leisure centres stay open and give value for money

Work with communities to provide the required traveller and gypsy sites

In addition there are areas that strictly fall outside the authority of the District Council but which nevertheless have a major impact on the local community.

We would seek opportunities to allow the District Council as the planning authority to have a more extensive dialogue with other bodies in the matters of how a grant of planning permission would affect;

- Provision of GP and pharmacy facilities
- Provision of School places
- Highways safety and congestion
- Flood risk

These appear to be often dealt with as desk based exercises in which the public or their representatives are provided with a decision that they are unable to scrutinise or question.