

LONDON News Extra

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Post office battle



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• Would you
• want this man
• running London's
• police and transport?

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EXCLUSIVE - POLICING SHOCKER

AT RISK!

YOUR LOCAL POLICE STATION

Brian Paddick to fight plans to close police stations

Police stations could DISAPPEAR from streets across London if new policing plans go ahead.

The Labour dominated police authority has backed plans that will lead to the closure of many older police stations across the capital. They want to have a small number of large police centres instead.

But the plans have come under fire from former top cop and Mayoral candidate Brian Paddick.

Mr Paddick said, "London's police stations are vital for the communities they serve. They play a major role in the battle against crime. As Mayor I will

fight to keep them open."

Londoners have reacted with disbelief at the news.

Many are asking just how can it be a good idea to close police stations when violent crime is soaring and fear of crime is higher than ever?

Brian Paddick said, "These plans are totally flawed. It shows the need for real ideas and real action to cut crime in London."

More and more people are saying that London needs a change after eight years of a Labour Mayor.

As London Mayor, Brian Paddick will work to protect London's police stations.



● FIGHTING CRIME - Brian Paddick is fighting plans to close police stations in London.

Paddick - the serious threat to 4 more years of Ken

Recent headlines of alleged corruption and scandal at City Hall underline the need for change in London.

After eight years in power, Ken Livingstone has clearly lost control of his staff and is failing to deliver the services London needs.

But who can deliver the real change London needs?

Oxfordshire Conservative MP Boris Johnson is described by many of his own supporters as a "buffoon".

Life is rarely dull with Boris, but would you trust him to run London's police or to deliver better tube and bus services?

That's why more and more people are switching to back straight talking ex cop Brian Paddick.

With over 30 years experience policing London he knows what needs to be done to cut crime in the capital.

As one of London's most senior police officers, he ran a huge organisation giving him the experience to run our city.

Mr Paddick is not a politician and is putting forward serious solutions to tackle London's problems and to make London great again.

Brian Paddick is clearly the serious alternative to four more years of Ken.

Labour to close 169 post offices

Londoners have been shocked with the news that 1 in 5 of the capital's post offices are to be axed.

The Labour Government is closing thousands of post offices across the country, ignoring the needs and the views of customers and local residents. Now those cuts have come to London with a vengeance.

Liberal Democrat campaigners led by Brian Paddick are leading the campaign to save London's post offices.

Brian Paddick said, "Post Offices provide a vital service to millions of Londoners. Many of their customers are the most vulnerable in their community. We must stop these shocking cuts."

As we go to press, Labour Mayor Ken Livingstone had remained silent on the post office closures that will hit so many Londoners.

Post Office campaigner Caroline Pidgeon said, "The Mayor needs to decide whose side he is on. Does he back Gordon Brown's post office cuts or does he stand alongside London people who want to keep their post offices open."

The Conservatives closed thousands of post offices including many across London the last time they were in power. Only the Lib Dems have serious plans to save and improve Britain's post office network.



Guantanamo action

London's Lib Dem MEP Baroness Sarah Ludford has kept up pressure on US President George W. Bush in the efforts to close down Guantanamo Bay.

Sarah recently helped organise a hearing in the European Parliament to assess the legal position of Guantanamo. This heard all about efforts to get safe countries for all those detainees who, though set for release, cannot be sent back to their home countries for fear of torture or maltreatment.

Sarah Ludford has also been preparing a report for the European Parlia-

ment on Guantanamo.

She was instrumental in setting up a committee to look into extraordinary rendition. This found that EU countries including Britain have colluded in torture flights.

Sarah Ludford said, "The campaign to close this illegal prison has lost none of its momentum. If people are suspected of crimes then they must be dealt with through proper due process and fair trials, not Bush's kangaroo courts."

"It is scandalous that men given legal residence in the UK such as Binyam Mohammed Al Habashi and Ahmed Bel Bacha are being left to rot in Guantanamo. They are our responsibility."

"It would be inconceivable for a new American President to inherit this stain on America's reputation for freedom and human rights."



"The UK, the EU collectively and the Commonwealth owe it to us as their citizens to deliver on promises to uphold fundamental rights, but they also owe to the world a duty to help get the US out of the black hole it created."

Lib Dems fight Heathrow expansion

The campaign against huge expansion at Heathrow is growing fast across London.

Further expansion would mean more aircraft noise, more congestion and more damage to the environment.

South West London campaigner Stephen Knight is backing the campaign along with Brian Paddick and Lib Dem Leader Nick Clegg.

Stephen Knight said, "If this expansion goes ahead it will do huge damage to the quality of life for many thousands of Londoners. It must be stopped."



Boris in charge?

Bungling Boris not trusted to run key London services

Running a city like London is a serious business. Millions rely on the tube, buses, roads and police every day of the week.

With election day drawing nearer, the question on many Londoners lips is "who would you trust to run vital London services for the next 4 years?"

For people wanting a change in London, the choice is between Oxfordshire Tory MP Boris Johnson and former top cop Lib Dem Brian Paddick.

Boris Johnson has spent most of his working life as a politician and as a political journalist. He has no real experience of running a major organisation at all.

Boris is best known for his appearances on TV game shows and for his high profile political blunders.

No wonder so many people are questioning whether Boris is "up to the job of running

London." Even his own supporters have described him as a "buffoon".

It's no surprise that more and more people are taking a real look at Lib Dem Brian Paddick.

Mr Paddick spent over thirty years policing London. He worked his way up from a beat bobby to become one of London's top police officers.

When Mr Paddick retired, he was in charge of thousands of staff and ran a budget of millions of pounds.

He is a Londoner through and through and has never been involved in politics before deciding to run for Mayor.

Senior London MP and former Mayoral candidate Simon Hughes said, "Boris Johnson just can't be trusted to run key services in London. Only Brian Paddick has the skills and experience we need in our next Mayor. He will bring real change to London."

It wouldn't be Boris without a bit of a shambles. *Daily Telegraph Feb 2008*

Fifty-three per cent [of business leaders] think he is "too much of a buffoon" *Independent Jan 2008*

The qualities that make Mr Johnson such an entertaining figure disqualify him as a serious candidate for the job to which he aspires. As a journalist he is wonderful. As a potential mayor he is preposterous. *Financial Times Feb 2008*

David Cameron left reeling over Boris Johnson's £250k donation shame *Daily Mirror Jan 2008*

Mr. Johnson represents a parliamentary constituency in Oxfordshire...about a 90-minute drive from London. *Wall Street Journal Feb 2008*



Boris the buffoon *Financial Times Feb 2008*

New plan to revive tube



● Lib Dem Transport Spokesperson Geoff Pope listens to the views of tube passengers.

London Liberal Democrats have outlined new plans to revive London's failing Tube network.

Labour's disastrous Public Private Partnership (PPP) has cost taxpayers at least £2.6 billion, but hasn't delivered the better services London needs.

Liberal Democrat Transport Spokesman Geoff Pope said, "We want to focus on making the Tube safer, faster and more user-friendly. We will also increase the number of step-free access stations to cut congestion and improve disabled access."

Strong emphasis will also be placed on passenger safety on the Tube with a plan to introduce a 'SAFE' carriage supervised by a

security guard at night.

Station refurbishments have been crippled by the collapse of Metronet - delaying much needed refurbishments by up to two years.

Things are being made worse by Labour's insistence that PPP station upgrades are given priority over much needed maintenance.

Geoff Pope and London Lib Dems are demanding that the work to improve the signals and tracks should take priority. Geoff Pope said, "This action will help reduce delays and cancellations that Londoners suffer every day."

Possible strike action

There was more bad news for

the Tube recently when staff threatened strike action.

As part of their new proposals, the Lib Dems have called on Tube owners to create a culture that values and listens to staff.

Geoff Pope said, "Under Labour, the waiting time for a Tube has actually increased and overcrowding has become a real danger at some stations."

"It is clear that the current system is being mismanaged. This is not likely to change under the leadership of Ken Livingstone and his Labour Government."

"Only a Lib Dem London Assembly and a Lib Dem Mayor will deliver the change London needs."

Sleaze hits Livingstone campaign

Under pressure Mayor Ken Livingstone has admitted that sleaze allegations were harming his re-election bid.

Allegations of fraud and corruption have hit the Mayor's administration hard in recent weeks.

Ken Livingstone was forced to suspend one of his top advisors following the allegations.

London Lib Dems are calling for a proper investigation and better scrutiny of the workings of the Mayor's office.

Lib Dem GLA member Mike Tuffrey said, "The Mayor has virtually unlimited powers and a disregard for scrutiny. It's deeply worrying that his political appointees are operating without effective controls either."

Paddick has promised to cut crime or not stand for re-election. His opponents haven't had the guts to stick their necks out that far.
Nirpal Dhaliwal in the Evening Standard

there are encouraging signs for Lib Dem candidate Brian Paddick
Evening Standard

Elton John backs Paddick campaign
Financial Times

Brian Paddick sets the pace

Former top cop Brian Paddick's campaign to be Mayor is off to a flying start.

The Liberal Democrat candidate has already received support from leading figures across London including top journalists and even Elton John.

Mr Paddick said, "I am really delighted with the reception I have received. Many people have told me that London doesn't need another politician like Ken or Boris running the capital. It's time for change."

Brian Paddick has set the pace with his eye-catching promise to cut crime or not stand for re-election.

But his campaign is about more than just tackling crime.

In recent weeks, Mr Paddick has launched

plans to improve transport in the capital and to tackle the housing crisis.

These plans have been well received across London and Mr Paddick has seen his poll ratings rise strongly.

Brian Paddick said, "Londoners are looking for a new kind of Mayor with serious solutions to the issues facing the capital."

"In the coming weeks we will be announcing our plans to protect London's environment and to cut waste at City Hall."

Lib Dem success
 Brian Paddick's campaign has also been boosted by recent local by-election results in the capital.

Contests so far in 2008 show Nick Clegg's Lib Dems gaining strongly across London.



Fighting for London's NHS



Campaigning with Nick Clegg



Celebrating Chinese New Year



Sharing a laugh with London workers

Brian's transport priorities

1. Action to improve safety on public transport
2. Better value for money on rail and tube
3. Tackle congestion caused by roadworks

Brian's housing priorities

1. Tackle affordable housing shortages in capital
2. Protect our precious open spaces
3. A war on homelessness in London

Published and promoted by A.Reeves on behalf of B.Paddick (Liberal Democrats) both at 4 Cowley St, London. Printed by Sharmans, Newark Rd, Peterborough.

Help Brian and the Lib Dems win for London

Brian Paddick and the Liberal Democrats are working hard to improve our area.

You can help their campaigns to cut crime, improve transport and to make our city a better place to live.

Just complete and return this form.

Your name- _____

Your address- _____

Postcode- _____

Email- _____

I will vote for Brian Paddick and the Lib Dems on election day

I will display a poster

I will deliver leaflets in my road

I can make a donation to help Brian Paddick's campaign

£50 £20 £10 Other £ _____

Please make cheques payable to the Liberal Democrats.

A donation of £10 or more entitles you to become a member of the Lib Dems. Please tick here if you do not wish to be enrolled



Brian Paddick
 serious solutions for London
www.brianpaddick.org.uk

Return to: London Lib Dems, 4 Cowley Street, London, SW1P 3NB

The Liberal Democrats would like to use the information above to contact you from time to time to keep you informed of campaigns we may think of interest to you. Please write to us if you do not wish to be contacted in this way.