

# Dentist crisis starts to bite

## Scottish Liberal Democrats call for new recovery plan to ensure access to NHS dental treatment

Scottish Liberal Democrats are calling for urgent action to improve access to local dentists. Shocking figures show patients are having to wait up to a whole year to get the treatment they need.

Local campaigner Jack Clark said: "The painful truth is that, for many people, they simply can't get a dentist appointment.

"They are faced with the choice between waiting months - sometimes in agony - or paying to go private.

"Going to the dentist used to be something people dreaded - now it feels like you've struck lucky if you can get an appointment.

"The SNP Government is so obsessed with breaking up the UK, they are failing to get the basics right on vital issues like dental health.

"Dentists are walking away from the service because the support isn't there for them, leaving patients with nowhere to turn. We need urgent action to help fill the gaps before the service rots away any further.

"When Scottish Liberal Democrats brought a motion to Parliament urging the government to repair NHS dentistry, it was shot down and blocked by the SNP.

"We need to ensure dentists are properly

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Scottish Liberal Democrats are calling for proper recognition and funding for NHS dentistry.

recognised and fresh resources are provided for our NHS to end the long suffering of local patients."

Scottish Liberal Democrats are calling for the government to rewrite the NHS Recovery Plan to properly recognise dentists and to reform funding structures to enable many more people to be seen and drive down wait times."

Scottish Liberal Democrats have a petition calling for better NHS dentistry. To add your name, visit: [scotlibdems.org.uk/dentists](http://scotlibdems.org.uk/dentists)

# FOCUS

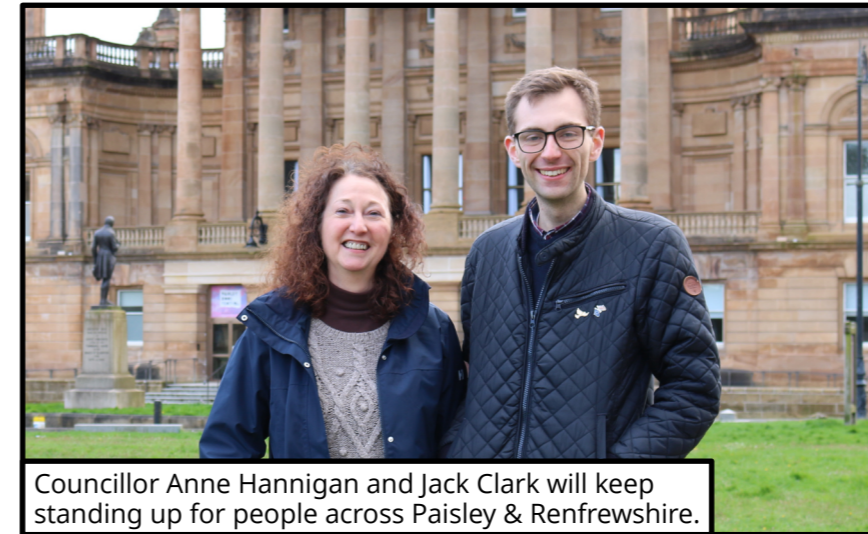
## on Paisley Southwest

Scottish Liberal Democrats



Delivered and paid for by Councillor Anne Hannigan, Jack Clark, and your local Scottish Liberal Democrat team

# THANK YOU!



Councillor Anne Hannigan and Jack Clark will keep standing up for people across Paisley & Renfrewshire.

Jack Clark has thanked residents in Paisley & Renfrewshire South for their support in the general election on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

The Scottish Lib Dems increased their seat tally to 6 across Scotland, beating the Conservatives and coming within touching distance of the SNP. Across the UK, the party won 72 seats - their highest total ever, beating the SNP for the first time since 2015.

Following the election, Jack said "This is a huge result for our country and our party.

Liberal Democrat MPs will be a strong force in Westminster, standing up for their local communities.

The country voted for change in this general election, and we will work with the new government to deliver a fair deal for residents across the UK."

Scottish Lib Dem Councillor Anne Hannigan added "This was a fabulous result for the Scottish Liberal Democrats. We have really shown the power of community politics and how local people can make a difference to the whole country."

# Lib Dems win across the UK



Liberal Democrats won 72 MPs on 4<sup>th</sup> July - their best result in history.

Scottish Liberal Democrats are celebrating historic gains following the general election.

The party won 72 seats, including Mid Dunbartonshire with Susan Murray MP beating the SNP by nearly 10,000 votes.

Responding to the result, Scottish Liberal Democrat leader Alex Cole-Hamilton said: "The Liberal Democrats are back as a major force in British politics. Our MPs will be part of a strengthened Lib Dem group from across the UK who will focus on giving people across the country a fair deal on public services and the environment.

We have shown that in huge swathes of Scotland we can beat the nationalists, deliver the change our country needs and build the fairer future that our country deserves."

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

Name: .....

Address: ..... Postcode: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

Keep me updated about Lib Dem campaigns and activities

Return to: Paisley & Renfrewshire Liberal Democrats Freepost RTKE-RLTA-AGSC, 4 Clifton Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5DR.

## Contact the team:

Your local Lib Dem team want to hear from you on any issue that you need help with. Get in touch using the details below:



**Cllr Anne Hannigan**  
☎ 07484 064 533  
✉ Cllr.Anne.Hannigan@Renfrewshire.gov.uk



**Jack Clark**  
☎ 07928 107 298  
✉ Jackclarkld@gmail.com

[Renfrewshirelibdems.org.uk](http://Renfrewshirelibdems.org.uk)

The Liberal Democrats will use your contact details to send you information on the topics you have requested. Any data we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at [libdems.org.uk/privacy](http://libdems.org.uk/privacy). To exercise your legal data rights, email: [data.protection@libdems.org.uk](mailto:data.protection@libdems.org.uk).

# Working hard all year round



## New speed camera will save lives

Councillor Anne Hannigan has told of her relief at the installation of a new speed camera on Brediland Road, near St Paul's and Brediland primary schools.

The new camera, at the junction of Brediland Road and Greenways Court, is something which Cllr Hannigan has been pushing for since the tragic accident on the road in November 2022. The road sees frequent examples of speeding and dangerous driving, and it is hoped that safety will be considerably improved due to the effectiveness of the new camera.

This is one of the most advanced types of camera yet. It is not only two-way, but also detect people not wearing their seatbelt or who are using their phone while driving.

Cllr Hannigan, who has been pushing for the new camera for a long time, said, "It is a huge relief to see this new camera installed, and once up and running will do so much to save lives in our local area.

Too many people have been killed and injured as a result of dangerous driving around here, and measures like this advanced camera will make a real difference."

## You can get safe credit

Renfrewshire Affordable Credit Alliance has a fantastic website with lots of information to help with your finances. Including opening bank accounts, understanding your credit score, joining a credit union and much else besides.

The alliance is made up of Renfrewshire's five credit unions who have come together to promote fair, affordable, and ethical finance. The Alliance also includes Renfrewshire Council, Engage Renfrewshire, UWS, STAR Project, and others. They are committed to fair and ethical lending, and to supporting people who may be at risk of illegal money



lending in our communities. They can be found at [raca.org.uk](http://raca.org.uk). You can call them on: 0141 887 7707, or email at: [info@engagerenfrewshire.com](mailto:info@engagerenfrewshire.com)

For more support, visit Renfrewshire Citizens Advice, at [Renfrewshirecab.org.uk](http://Renfrewshirecab.org.uk)

## Cleaning up the community



Local pupil Thomas Kerr has made a huge difference to his community.

The email contained a very professional graph and letter from Thomas who had been on a litter pick, and had wondered if an additional bin in the area he had covered might make things a little less messy.

After speaking with his teacher, Kathleen O'Neill, Anne contacted council staff who not only agreed to install a new bin, but gave Thomas the choice of where it should go. The new bin was installed on Brediland Road and is already making a difference to the local litter problem.

Cllr Hannigan has praised Thomas for his work, saying "It was such a pleasure to visit the school and meet Thomas, whose choice of location for the bin was spot on. When I visited with him we noticed that there was much less litter than before, so this is a great win for the community."

Following an excellent Education Scotland report on Brediland Primary School, Councillor Anne Hannigan has expressed her delight after a teacher at Brediland Flexible Learning Resource emailed her about the work of enterprising pupil Thomas Kerr, who helped clear up litter in the area.

## Time to scrap the benefit cap!



Liberal Democrats will always stand with those in need.

Renfrewshire Lib Dems are calling for the Two Child Limit on Benefit Payments to be scrapped.

The cap was introduced by the Conservative Government in 2017 and it is being backed by the new Labour Government. It prevents families from claiming benefits for more than 2 children in their household.

Across the UK it is estimated to effect 1.5 million children. In Renfrewshire, 2,550 local children are affected by the cap. That's 8% of all the children living in our area.

Local Lib Dem Councillor, Anne Hannigan, is calling for this cruel and harmful policy to be axed;

"Nearly 8,000 children in our area live in poverty. Scrapping the child benefit limit will lift over 2,000 of them out of poverty overnight, and help reduce poverty across the country."

Jack Clark, who stood for the Lib Dems in the general election in July, added:

"The Lib Dems opposed the cap from the start. **Disgracefully, the new Labour Government will not scrap the Two Child Benefit Cap** - they are no different to the Conservatives."

"Labour have deserted their principles by keeping this heartless policy. But the Lib Dems are fighting to lift children out of poverty."