

HEIDI'S THE ONE

Labour has a new candidate for the Lewisham East Parliamentary seat.

Heidi Alexander was selected by Party members in early October, fighting off the challenge of several strong candidates. She will replace Bridget Prentice, who announced earlier this year she was retiring at the next election.

Heidi says her priorities will be to rebuild trust in politics, to listen to voters and to ensure the right support is given to families and business to get through the recession. If elected, she wants to campaign nationally on the things that matter locally - making work pay, tackling violent youth crime, improving provision for pensioners and getting a better deal on public transport for Lewisham commuters.

Heidi, who's lived in Lewisham East for the past seven years, has served as a local councillor since 2004. She's been Lewisham's full-time Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration since 2006 and previously worked in the charity sector.

In paying tribute to her predecessor, Heidi said, "I'll do everything I can to maintain Bridget's legacy of hard work, integrity and loyalty to Lewisham residents. She will be a tough act to follow."

Bridget said she was thrilled to have Heidi succeed her as Labour's candidate. "Heidi has an infectious enthusiasm which, together with her honesty and a strong Council track record, will serve us all extremely well."



Local resident Heidi Alexander to fight General Election



Speaking at the Lewisham School Awards - June 09

We'll freeze Council Tax - Mayor



Mayor Steve and Communities Secretary John Denham are committed to freezing your Council Tax

Mayor Sir Steve Bullock says Labour will freeze Lewisham's Council Tax until at least 2011. The zero-rate rise pledge should be good news for residents feeling the pinch during the current economic hard times.

Sir Steve, who led the drive to make sure all Labour councils in London committed to freezing Council Tax until 2011, said: "Last year it was important that we set aside money to provide help for families, young people and local businesses in Lewisham.

"Now, at a time when we're all trying to make savings, it is only

right that councils not add to the pressures households are facing. I want to make sure that everyone in Lewisham will be a little better off."

At a time when the Tories are promising lower taxes for the rich and the Local Lib Dems oppose apprenticeship schemes for our young people, it's important that councils save people money while protecting services, he said.

"Labour in Lewisham will do just that."



Downham with the kids

Labour Action Team members Ian McKenzie and Timi Ogunbadewa headed down to the brand new play area at Shroffold Green to see the transformation the area has seen thanks to Lewisham's Labour Council's £1.1million investment in play areas.

Ian commented, "This area has suffered from fly tipping and antisocial behaviour in the past and we all know that giving young people something to do and somewhere to go is a vital part in improving their lives."

The investment has seen the installation of out of the ordinary play equipment like a climbing wall and zip wire.

Timi said "The great thing is that Downham's young people have been involved in the designs right from the beginning meaning that they have real ownership of the finished product. I'm glad that Mayor Steve was able to come down and visit Shroffold Green - we wholeheartedly support his commitment to rebuilding and refurbishing Lewisham's play areas."

Lewisham's Labour run Council is developing 22 new spaces for young people across the borough. A new site on the Meadows Estate will be opening in spring 2010.



Local campaigners Ian and Timi welcome the new play area at Shroffold Green.

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UNDER THE TORIES...

THE LOSERS

FAMILIES WITH KIDS AND EARNING MORE THAN £16,040 WILL LOSE £1,000

THE WINNERS

MILLIONAIRES STAND TO GAIN A £200,000 INHERITANCE TAX CUT

The Tories: a change you can't afford

The Conservatives have made their choice for the next election.

These are tough times for families in the middle. We have to cut the deficit. But we have to do it fairly.

Labour will halve the deficit in four years by taking tough action, such as raising the top rate of tax for those earning over £150,000, and freezing pay for the top civil service earners.

George Osborne, Tory Shadow Chancellor, has now made his choice too.

- X** He has chosen to take tax credits away from middle income families.
- X** He has chosen to scrap Child Trust Funds for 900,000 children every year.
- X** He has chosen to take £1,000 in direct payments from families earning over £16,040 with two children.

Instead, he has chosen a tax giveaway of £200,000 to the wealthiest 3,000 estates in the country.

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- I support Labour
- I would like to help my local Labour Party
- I can deliver leaflets in my street
- Please send me information about other issues

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