

# Kursaal Voice

KURSAAL WARD, SOUTHEND

## Maggie Kelly: The best choice for Kursaal ward



Maggie Kelly, the best choice for Kursaal ward this May.

**Southend needs a change. It needs a council which will put the residents first. Maggie Kelly is the best candidate for Kursaal this May.**

Since being selected as Labour candidate for Kursaal in August, Maggie Kelly has been out and about in the ward, speaking to residents and listening to their concerns. She has been working alongside Cllrs Helen McDonald and Matt Dent to make Kursaal ward a better place for all its residents.

Maggie says, "All across Kursaal and Southend, it's clear that our town has serious problems. And all across the town, it's clear that the council administration are not listening to them."

"It's time for a change in the Council chamber and at Westminster. We

need a government and a council administration that understands what it is like for ordinary people living and working in Southend."

"Last year, after my son was mugged, I called on the Police Commissioner to come and spend a day talking to people in the community. Instead, he spent a day talking to the MP."

"As your councillor, I would put your needs and your concerns first. Like you, I live in this town, and I want it to be the very best it can be. With your trust and your vote on 2nd May, I will work with Helen and Matt to put Kursaal residents first on Southend Council."

### MAGGIE'S PLEDGES TO YOU

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**BETTER POLICING FOR SOUTHEND**  
 Demand more police and build on extra community safety resources, to make sure that every resident of Southend can feel safe in their town and on their streets.
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**BETTER HOUSING FOR SOUTHEND**  
 Work to drive up the standards of local housing, take tough action against rogue landlords, and campaign for more social housing in Southend, so that everyone can have a safe and secure home.
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**BETTER ENVIRONMENT FOR SOUTHEND**  
 Protect and nurture our parks and green spaces in the town centre area, and expand the use of solar panels on Council properties.
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**BETTER EDUCATION FOR SOUTHEND**  
 Provide more resources for Sure Start/children's centres and early years education, to ensure that every child in the town gets the best possible start, and can fulfill their potential.
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**BETTER HEALTH FOR SOUTHEND**  
 Continue to oppose any changes to Southend Hospital which will damage patient care, and to push for greater investment of resources in the local health system,

## Southend's Kursaal to remain open, for now

When MFA Bowl, the company which ran the bowling alley at the Kursaal, went into administration at the end of February, the whole town feared that one of the historic landmarks of the town would be closed for a prolonged period. Fortunately, Disco Bowl quickly stepped in to keep the Kursaal open and the staff employed.

Cllr Matt Dent said, "Whilst it is definitely good news that the Kursaal is open again, this is a worrying sign of the precarious business environment in Southend. High business rates and rising crime make life difficult for business owners."

"With the Seaway development now approved, despite Helen and I voting against it, and a new bowling alley and cinema to go onto the site, I worry for the future of the Kursaal and other businesses on the seafront and in the town centre."



Cllr Matt Dent at the Kursaal.

# KEEP IN TOUCH



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## Ashley Dalton calls for action on knife crime



Ashley Dalton engages with local police and community safety teams.

As recent figures show a worrying increase in violent crime, Labour's parliamentary candidate for Rochford & Southend East Ashley Dalton, together with Labour Councillors, has called for more investment in the police force.

Ashley says: "Knife crime is a national crisis that disproportionately affects

"We must ensure our police force is equipped to deal with this problem, before more lives are lost." - Ashley Dalton

our young people. It's not just an inner city problem; sadly, our communities have felt the impact of knife crime too. It's a complex problem that requires a complex solution, not all of which is about policing. But one thing is clear; the Tories cutting 20,000 police officers from our streets has put more people at risk of violence."



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## Labour councillors improve unambitious Tory council budget

At the last meeting of Southend Council, Labour councillors put six amendments to improve an out-of-touch Tory budget for 2019/20. Of those six amendments, three were passed by the Council, in an almost unprecedented display of the opposition running the show.

Labour amendments secured commitments to health centres, a multi-storey car park and increased community safety resources for the town.

Kursaal's Cllr Helen McDonald said, "The budget the Tories asked the Council to consider was unambitious and uninspired. It didn't address the needs of the town. Labour's amendments went a way to improving it. We're disappointed, though, that our proposals for landlord licensing and improved street lighting were blocked by the Tories."

"Every vote for Labour this May makes it more likely that next year, we can set a budget which goes to the heart of the problems that Southend faces."



Cllr Helen McDonald, standing up for Kursaal residents in the council chamber.