

Winchester District Liberal Democrats

The Guide 2025

'The Liberal Democrats exist to build and safeguard a fair, free and open society, in which we seek to balance the fundamental values of liberty, equality and community, and in which no-one shall be enslaved by poverty, ignorance or conformity'

Preamble to the constitution of the Liberal Democrats

Welcome To Your Local Party

National members are automatically members of their local party - your local party is Winchester District Liberal Democrats (WDLD).

We are a very active group with over 500 members from across the District which is the area administered by Winchester City Council (WCC). In 2019, the Lib Dems won control of WCC and have increased their majority since.

WDLD members live in one of the following three constituencies: Hamble Valley (Conservative held), Fareham & Waterlooville (Conservative held) or Winchester (won for the Lib Dems by Dr Danny Chambers at the 2024 General Election).

Excellent results have inspired more like-minded people to join us in recent years.

Many have gone on to become active members, whether attending one of our varied social events or volunteering in some way.

People are attracted to a Party that has fairness and listening, understanding and responding at its heart. Members and supporters of the Liberal Democrats are contributing to making a difference for the better, for all.



Dr Danny Chambers MP

Welcome to Winchester District Liberal Democrats



I am incredibly grateful that you decided to join or support the Lib Dems and delighted to welcome you to our friendly, active, and inclusive group of people.

In this guide you will find background on us as a local party, information about the constituencies, and County and City (District) Council areas where our members live as well as information on the Government's evolving plans for local devolution which will bring great change to our area.

You are joining us at a time when we run the City Council. We have a hugely energised team of volunteers that work hard not only to ensure that we are able to enact change through elected representatives, but through local grass roots campaigning.

Aside from the politics, we have a great membership team who are always looking to find new ways of connecting with our members and supporters and through a variety of regular social events and training opportunities.

Our local party operations are run almost entirely by volunteers so please do have a look at the 'Get Involved' section and let us know if you are able to help us out in any way possible.

We are so grateful and appreciative of our members and supporters going 'above and beyond' to ensure that we can continue to fight for liberal values in our local area.

If you have any questions then don't hesitate to contact either myself or the membership team, we will be happy to help out in any way possible.

Vivian









Vivian Achwal, Chair of Winchester
District Liberal Democrats

The Organisation

THE LOCAL PARTY EXECUTIVE: The Executive Committee is responsible for setting the strategic direction and goals of the local party. It is elected by members at the Annual General Meeting, but members can be co-opted through the year if there are vacancies. It meets every other month and members are welcome to attend. If you are interested in joining the Committee or just attending a meeting, please email secretary@winld.org.uk.

THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: This group meets weekly by Zoom and is delegated by the Executive to run the local party on a day to day basis. It includes the Officers of the party, leader of the council and Executive Office Manager.

THE CORE CAMPAIGN TEAM: This team runs the local party's campaigning for local and national elections. Branches (more about these later) or wards also have their own campaign teams.

	Chair Viv Achwal		Deputy Treasurer Mark Allinson
	Vice-Chair Andy Adams		Secretary Cam Allinson
	Membership Development Gillie Boddy		Data Officer Richard Eve
	Treasurer Neil Cutler		Diversity & Inclusion Officer Siobhan Barr

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE

The Office

The Lib Dem Office, is at First Floor, Unit E, Bar End Industrial Estate, Bar End Road, Winchester SO23 9NP (01962 868586). The office is run by Executive Office Manager Tom Wood and houses staff working for Danny and the local party and, often, some of our marvellous office volunteers. **You can be sure of a friendly welcome if you drop in to say hello!**



Executive Office Manager

Tom Wood



Constituency Support Manager

William Tench



Senior Communications Officer

Tom Randall



PA/Executive Officer

Hayley Puddefoot



Head of Fundraising & Development

Lucy Futter



Senior Parliamentary Assistant (Westminster based)

Sophie Hammond



Senior Caseworker

Karen Gardner



Caseworker

Kimberly Barrett



Caseworker

Nathan Eve



Volunteer Caseworker

Peter Roberts



Policy Assistant (Westminster based)

Emily Kitchen

OFFICE STAFF TEAM

Branches



THE DISTRICT IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE BRANCHES: Winchester City; Downlands; The Worthys; Alresford & Itchen Valley; and The Meon Valley.

The branches are responsible for local member engagement, local fundraising and of course, social events! Each branch is run by its own Branch Committee.



Winchester Young Liberals



Winchester Young Liberals is the accredited youth organisation for Winchester Liberal Democrats, for all members aged under 30.

WinchYL holds its own events including socials and campaigning, and always welcomes new members.

It is also part of the Federal Young Liberals, which mirrors the national Lib Dems, and holds two weekend conferences a year. These are a great opportunity to meet other like-minded people and network. As well as speeches from MPs and training sessions at the conferences, Young Liberals also vote on their own policies, some of which are then submitted to the Party Conference and make their way into the party manifesto.

The current chair of Winchester Young Liberals is Nathan Eve, who is contactable on nathan.b.eve.yl@gmail.com if you want to get involved or find out more.

You can also follow WinchYL on Bluesky, Instagram, and Facebook, all **@winchyounliberals**



Getting Involved



The Lib Dems' strength is its members and volunteers. We hope that people will lend a hand in some way and we are always looking to see how we can match members' and volunteers' interests with a way they can help. Every bit of your support contributes to a team that can win elections.

ACTIVITIES: We run a programme of social and campaign activities for our members and supporters throughout the year. Events range from the fun and informal to lively political debate and

campaigning. Regular activities include our monthly social get-togethers - Lib Dem Gathering, delivery and canvassing action days, fundraising events (we rely on membership fees and donations for **all** our funding), policy forums and admin sessions in the office. The intention is for members to get involved in something they really believe in, make a difference and have some fun!

SUPPORT: There is a big range of tasks that we rely on volunteers for, from bundling leaflets and stuffing envelopes to writing content and standing for election.



Regular activities and tasks:

SOCIAL EVENTS such as monthly Lib Dem Gathering (a social get together)

POLICY FORUM - create local policy

ACTION DAYS - politics in action

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

SOCIAL MEDIA - keep us up to date

WRITE for FOCUS newsletters

STUFF ENVELOPES by hand or using the stuffing machine in the office

PHONE banks - help find new members and volunteers and sign people up for social events or action days

DELIVER our literature - vacancies all over the District - can you help?

BUNDLE literature in the office or in your branch

DATA ENTRY - this may be possible from home

DONATE - we rely on donors for **all** our funding

POLITICS SHED - lively political debate

IDEAS - if you have any good ones, get in touch organiser@windld.org.uk

Around elections and/or yearly:

CANVASS (telephone & door to door) - help get Liberal Democrats elected

DISPLAY - stake boards and posters

CONFERENCES - National & Regional (where all members can vote on policies)

STAND as a local or national candidate

JOIN the Executive - effect change

SURVEY - meet the public

DELIVER - there is lots of extra literature at election time so our regular deliverers need support

ANNUAL fundraising dinner

We are particularly looking for members with financial, fundraising, IT or events organisation skills to help!

Members are invited to attend national and regional conferences where they can vote on policies, and to join the local management team - the Executive, where they will be in a position to effect change and influence the local party's direction and objectives.



Why not get involved with something you believe in - make a difference and have some fun!

For more information on any of the activities listed or if you have some fresh ideas please email the office on office@winld.org.uk or call on 01962 868586. And also join our Facebook groups: Winchester District Lib Dem HQ and Team Danny for Winchester.

Do drop into the office and say hello to the team!

The Constituencies

From the 2024 General Election, Winchester District has been split between three constituencies: Winchester, Hamble Valley and Fareham and Waterlooville.

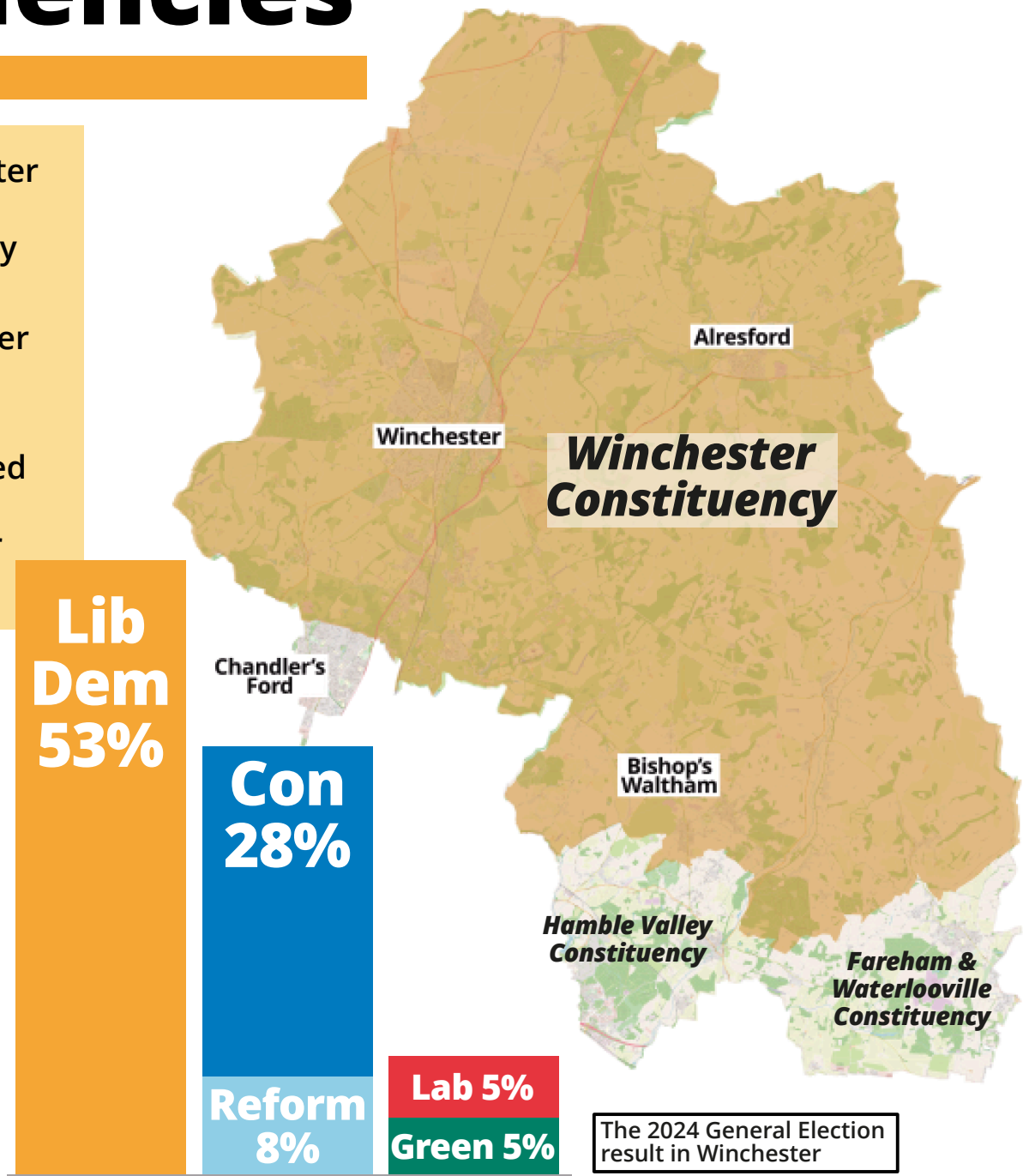
The Liberal Democrats won the Winchester constituency in 2024, winning the most votes for any newly elected MP.

In Hamble Valley Constituency, we finished a close second and it is now one of the Liberal Democrats' top 10 target seats for the next General Election.

For many years, Winchester was a Conservative seat. **This all changed in 1997, when Mark Oaten won the seat for the Liberal Democrats**, holding the seat until he stood down in 2010.

From 2010, Conservative Steve Brine held the seat - with reduced majorities in successive elections since 2015. Starting at 17,000 in 2015, down to 10,000 in 2017, **and to just 985 in 2019!**

In 2024, the Liberal Democrats finally won Winchester back with a massive 13,821 majority after years of campaigning.

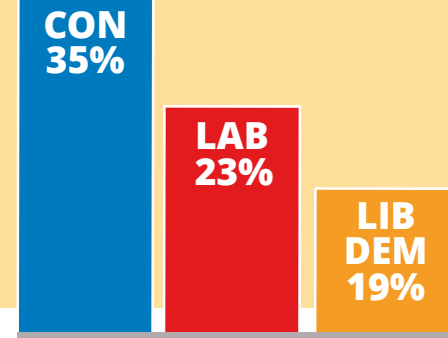




Fareham & Waterlooville

Fareham and Waterlooville was a new seat in 2024, containing Denmead and Southwick & Wickham from Winchester District. It also contains Portchester and the eponymous towns of Fareham and Waterlooville.

It is represented by the Conservative MP Suella Braverman.

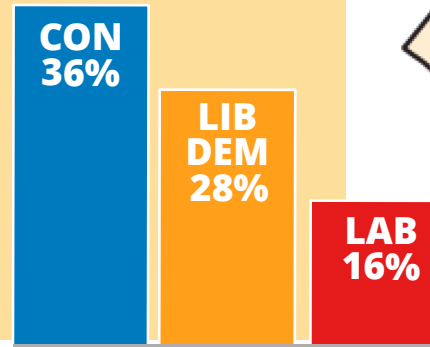


Hamble Valley

Hamble Valley was first contested at the 2024 General Election, and includes the Whiteley & Shedfield ward from our District. It contains the southern parts of the Borough of Eastleigh, including the communities of Hedge End, Botley, Netley and Hamble-le-Rice and the western suburbs of Fareham.

Our candidate in 2024 was Prad Bains, who reduced the Conservative majority to fewer than 5,000 votes. **This makes Hamble Valley one of the top Liberal Democrat targets at the next election.**

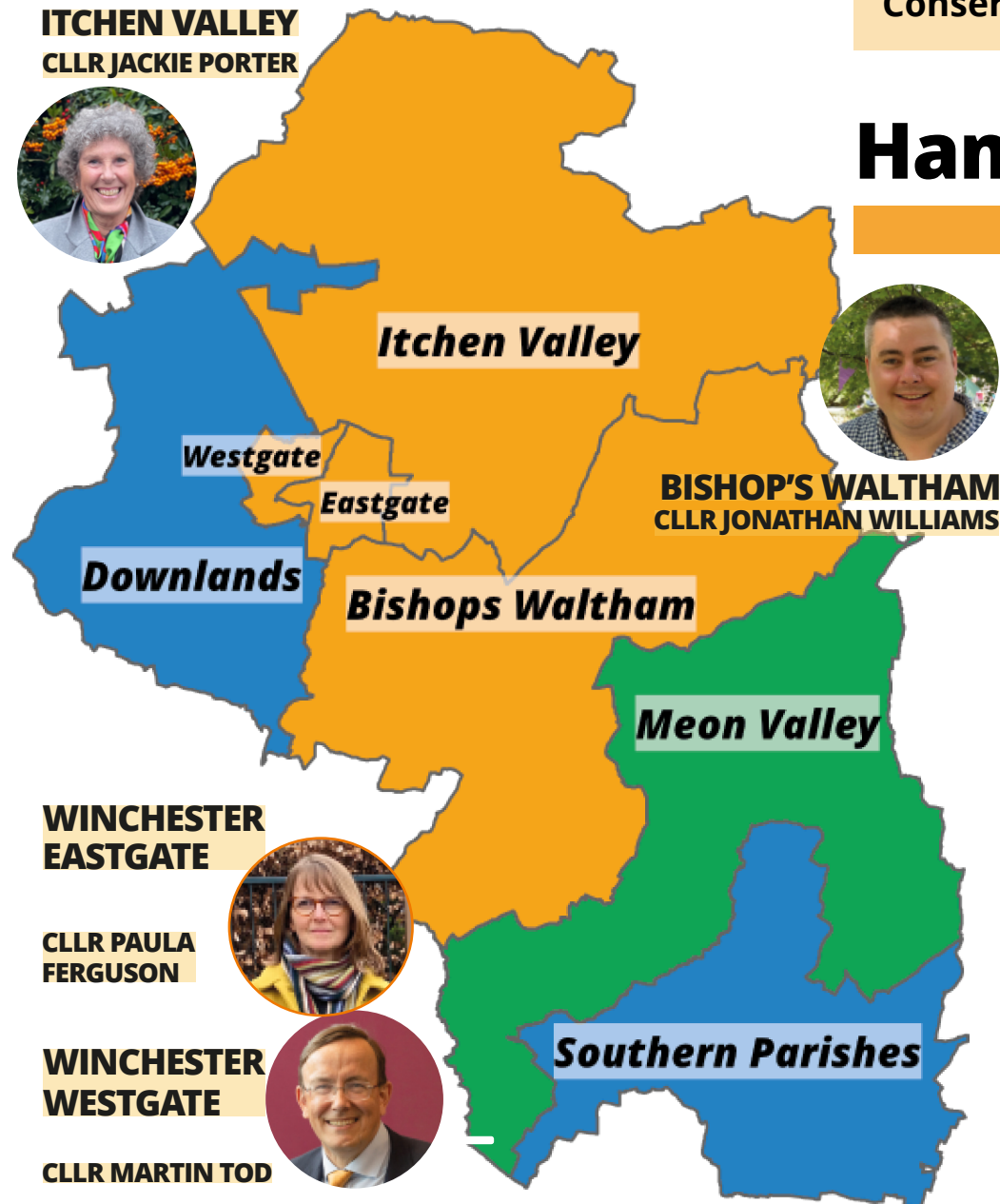
The current MP is Paul Holmes.



Local Politics

There are **currently** two local government administrative bodies within the area of our local party: Lib Dem-controlled Winchester City Council and Conservative-run Hampshire County Council.

Hampshire County Council



Our District is part of the larger administrative area of Hampshire County Council which has responsibility for: children's services including schools; fire and public safety; highways management; libraries; public health; social care; and many more services.

The Conservative Party has always had, and still has, a hefty majority on Hampshire County Council. This is, however, something we are working very hard to change – with your help and support.

There are **78 divisions** in the County, of which there are seven County divisions covering Winchester District.

There are 4 Lib Dem County Councillors in our local area (pictured left): Westgate (Cllr Martin Tod), Eastgate (Cllr Paula Ferguson), Itchen Valley (Cllr Jackie Porter) and Bishop's Waltham (Cllr Jonathan Williams).

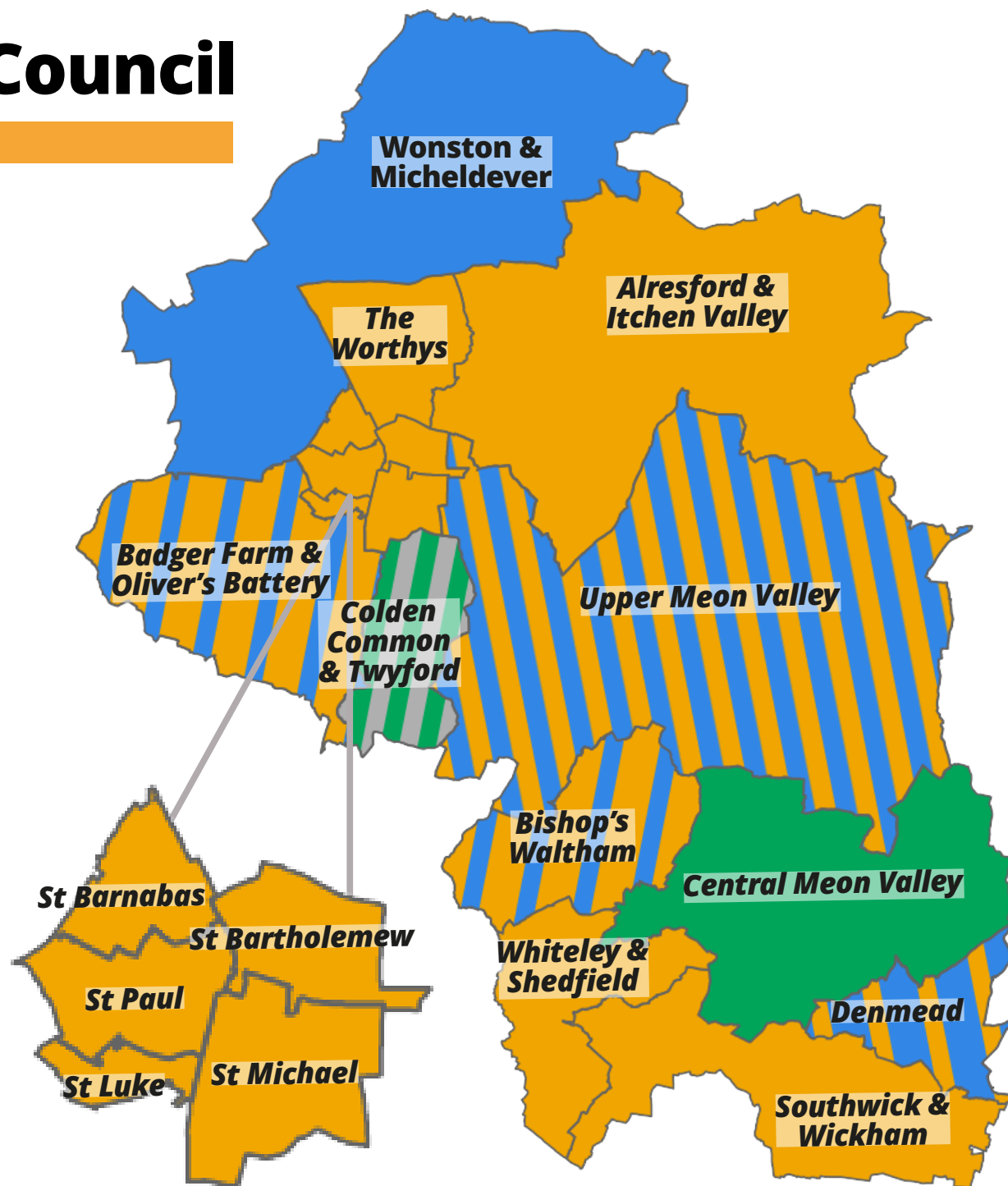
Jonathan won this seat during a by-election in Autumn 2024.

Winchester City Council

Winchester District is the area administered by Winchester City Council. It has responsibility for planning, housing, waste collection, council tax and business rates collection, leisure services, tourism, benefits administration and many more services.

Winchester District has **16 wards** with each ward represented by either two or three councillors. Councillors are elected for four years. Elections to Winchester City Council take place three out of every four years with a third of the City Council up for election each of those years. In the fourth year, Hampshire County Council elections take place.

The current make up of Winchester City Council (Summer 2025) is:
32 Lib Dem councillors, 8 Conservative councillors, 4 Green councillors and 1 Independent councillor.



All Change for Hampshire

Local Government reorganisation and devolution as of June 2025

The Government published a White Paper on December 16, 2024 which outlined their plans for:

- Devolution – to Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCA)
- Local Government Reorganisation – including all districts

Devolution

- The Upper Tier Local Authorities in Hampshire and the Solent submitted a request to join the Devolution Priority Programme and delay the 2025 County Council elections. The MCA request covers Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight.
- The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) confirmed that Hampshire and Solent had been selected to join the Devolution Priority Programme, that elections would be postponed and the mayoral election would take place in May 2026.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Government propose combining, county, district and unitary services into new unitary authorities, each with a population of roughly 500,000. This would mean combining about three districts into a new unitary.

Interim plans for reorganisation must be submitted this March and final proposals this September. If agreed, shadow elections may be held in May 2027, with the new unitary councils replacing current county district councils possibly in April 2028.

Liberal Democrat local party Chairs and Council Group Leaders in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have formed a Hampshire Solent Area Liberal Democrat Coordinating Committee to handle selection of a Lib Dem mayoral candidate, input to the consultation and the way forward.

Dr Danny Chambers MP

The new Winchester Lib Dem MP, former horse vet, Danny Chambers lives locally (with his partner Emma and dogs Frank and Moose) in Shawford, just south of the City.

For the three years prior to his 2024 General Election success he was an emergency equine vet working night shifts across the South so that he could campaign across the Constituency during the day.

Danny's dedication and team of incredible volunteers and staff meant that his margin of victory in 2024 was a stunning 13,821 votes - the largest majority of any new MP from any party.

Growing up on a farm, Danny's love of animals and science naturally led him into a career as a vet. He was until recently on the Council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and is a Trustee of a prominent Mental Health Charity.

It was Danny's work on improving the mental health of those in the veterinary profession that made him realise he could make an even greater difference as an MP. It's fitting that he has now been made the Liberal Democrat spokesperson for mental health .

Danny has built an amazing team of staff in the Winchester office and in Westminster. Working together they have ensured that Danny has made a real impact in Parliament and in the Constituency.

In Danny's first 6 months as our MP: the casework team dealt with over **4000** requests for help. Danny made over **100** visits across the Constituency, he spoke **102** times in the House of Commons and had his private members bill on eradicating puppy smuggling pass its second reading with the support of the government.

Danny commented "getting this bill through Parliament will mean that I'll have had more impact on animal welfare than I have in all my years working as a vet!".



Our Lib Dem Winchester City Councillors



Cllr Sudhakar Achwal
Whiteley & Shedfield



Cllr Vivian Achwal
Whiteley & Shedfield



Cllr Rachel Aron
St Michael



Cllr James Batho
St Barnabas



Cllr Kathleen Becker
St Bartholomew



Cllr Michael Bennett
Denmead



Cllr Adrian Brophy
Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery



Cllr Chris Chamberlain
Southwick & Wickham



Cllr Angela Clear
Southwick & Wickham



Cllr Steve Cramoysan
The Worthy's



Cllr Neil Cutler
Southwick & Wickham



Cllr Nathan Eve
St Bartholomew



Cllr Russell Gordon-Smith
Alresford & Itchen Valley



Cllr Brian Laming
Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery



Cllr Ritchie Latham
Bishop's Waltham



Cllr Kelsie Learney
St Barnabas



Cllr Jonny Morris
St Barnabas



Cllr Richard Murphy
St Michael



Cllr Jerry Pett
Upper Meon Valley



Cllr Clare Pinniger
Alresford & Itchen Valley



Cllr Jackie Porter
The Worthy's



Cllr Margot Power
Alresford & Itchen Valley



Cllr Mark Reach
St Michael



Cllr Jane Rutter
The Worthy's



Cllr Jamie Scott
St Luke



Cllr Anne Small
Whiteley & Shedfield



Cllr Lucille Thompson
St Paul



Cllr John Tippet-Cooper
St Bartholomew



Cllr Martin Tod
St Paul



Cllr Chris Westwood
St Paul



Cllr Jonathan Williams
Bishop's Waltham



Cllr Charlie Wise
St Luke

The Lib Dem Winchester City Council Team



Cllr Sudhakar Achwal
Mayor of Winchester



Our Winchester City Council Cabinet Members

Cllr Lucille Thompson

Cabinet Member for Business and Culture

Cllr Steve Cramoysan

Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection

Cllr Kathleen Becker

Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities

Cllr Mark Reach

Cabinet Member for Good Homes

Cllr Martin Tod (Chair)

Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Cllr Kelsie Learney

Cabinet Member for the Climate and Nature Emergency

Cllr Neil Cutler (Vice-Chair)

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation

Cllr Jackie Porter

Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan

What a difference a Lib Dem Council makes

The Lib Dems took control of Winchester City Council in 2019 and immediately declared a climate emergency. By the end of 2024/25, the Council is forecast to **have achieved a 96% reduction in its direct carbon emissions (since the baseline year of 2017/18).**

The Council is working towards the ambitious goal of becoming a carbon neutral district by 2030.

HOMES FOR ALL

WHAT WE HAVE DONE:

- 281 new council homes across the Winchester district
- Helped fund more accommodation for the homeless
- Bought back ex-council houses to turn them into family homes.

A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

WHAT WE HAVE DONE:

- Invested in new and extended GP surgeries across the district
- Invested in new leisure and sport facilities - including new sports pavilions and football grounds
- Supported the 'City of Sanctuary' movement



GREENER, FASTER

WHAT WE HAVE DONE:

- Rated top 5 District Council for actions to tackle climate change*
- Increased recycling, bringing in doorstep glass, electrical and battery collections and new carton bins
- Invested to cut phosphates and nitrates going into our rivers
- Highest number of EV chargers and Rapid EV chargers in Hampshire

* councilclimatescorecards.uk

PRIDE IN PLACE

WHAT WE HAVE DONE:

- Invested in local High Streets with new seating, bike parking & bins
- Worked with police to cut graffiti, vandalism and anti-social behaviour
- Cut fly-tipping with more successful prosecutions
- Started redeveloping the run-down parts of our city centre

COST OF LIVING HELP

WHAT WE HAVE DONE:

- £300,000 emergency support for residents most affected by the cost of living crisis
- 318 council homes retrofitted to cut carbon and cut bills
- Free evening and Sunday parking in Chesil St, River Park and Worthy Lane
- Lowest Council Tax increase in Hampshire in 2024

The Lib Dem City Council Plan for 2025-2030



Despite the prospect of local government reorganisation, the City Council is pressing on with its plan for the next five years.

Among its objectives for the district are:

- Reduced waste and increased recycling, exceeding national targets
- Full gigabit broadband and mobile coverage by 2030
- Improved health and wellbeing in our most deprived communities
- More participation in physical activity for all ages
- Strong health and community infrastructure
- Increasing number of affordable homes, including 1000 more council homes by 2032
- Decarbonisation of district homes
- Improved satisfaction for our services
- A balanced budget and stable council finances
- Improved engagement with under-represented groups

Hard at work delivering a greener, fairer future

The political history of our area

WINCHESTER: A POLITICAL HISTORY OF INTRIGUE & TURMOIL



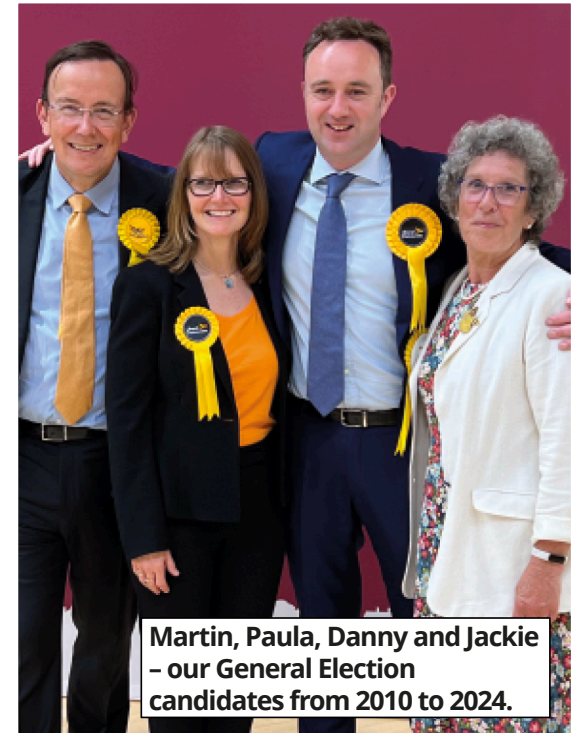
For almost the entirety of the 20th century, Winchester had a Conservative MP (apart from the election of George Jeger for Labour in 1945). It wasn't until 1997 that Mark Oaten took the seat for the Lib Dems. Mark Oaten's success had followed a period of turmoil for the Conservatives.

John Browne held the seat in the 1979, 1983 and 1987 elections, but was then embroiled in a dispute about his Parliamentary expenses. In 1992 John Browne stood as an Independent Conservative candidate, as he refused to submit his name for re-selection by the Conservative Party, and lost his seat to Conservative MP Gerry Malone.

In the pivotal 1997 election, Mark Oaten was declared to have won Winchester by two votes, following many recounts. However, he was unseated on an electoral petition on 6 October 1997 when the High Court held that 54 votes declared void for want of the official mark would have changed the

result if counted. The subsequent by-election on 20 November 1997 resulted in a clear win by Oaten – his majority was 21,556 over second-placed Gerry Malone. Many voters clearly resented being asked to vote again!

Mark Oaten comfortably held the seat in 2001 and 2005, and was the Liberal Democrat Home Affairs Spokesman from June 2003 to January 2006. However, a scandal published in the News of the World about his private life led to him resigning from the front bench in 2006 and standing down at the 2010 election when Steve Brine took the seat for the Conservatives, beating Lib Dem Martin Tod by 3084 votes.



Martin, Paula, Danny and Jackie
– our General Election
candidates from 2010 to 2024.

In 2015, Steve Brine increased his majority to 16,914, beating local councillor Jackie Porter. Since then, however, his majority has been significantly reduced – to 9,999 in 2017 against Jackie Porter again, and in 2019 new candidate Paula Ferguson produced one of the country's tightest results - losing by just 985 votes.

In 2024, after boundary changes removed Chandler's Ford from the constituency and added parts of the Meon Valley, Danny Chambers retook the seat for the Liberal Democrats with a majority of 13,821.



WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL: WHEN, WHAT & WHY

The current district boundaries for Winchester City Council were set on 1 April 1974 when the City of Winchester was merged with the former Droxford Rural District and part of the former Winchester Rural District council area.

The leadership of the City Council has varied with Conservative or Liberal control mixed with periods of no overall control. The Lib Dems won the Council in 1995 and held it for 9 years, until June 2004 when they lost overall control of the council to no overall control. The Conservatives gained control in the 2006 election (after the scandal involving Mark Oaten).

In 2010, however, the Lib Dems gained five seats which gave them an overall majority of one seat. Control was again lost, though, in 2011. A period of

Conservative control followed but in the highly successful 2019 elections,

the Lib Dems secured a majority of 9 seats and were once again in control. The Lib Dems also fared very well in the 2019 European elections.

In 2020, the local elections were postponed due to the Covid 19 pandemic. As a result, they took place in May 2021 alongside the County Council and Police and Crime Commissioner elections. The Lib Dems retained control of the City Council. In 2022, the first Green Party councillor was elected and all our incumbents were returned with significantly increased majorities.

The May 2024 local elections saw the Liberal Democrats rise to a record 33 seats, with the Conservatives reduced to just eight and the Green Party on three.



Members' stories

We're thrilled that you've joined the Lib Dems and we'd love to know what motivated you to join and all about the things you're interested in.

The Lib Dems' strength is its members and volunteers and we are always looking to see whether we can match members' interests with a way to help out. Every bit of help adds up, however small, and contributes to a team that can win elections and really make a difference.

Adrian Brophy

There's lots of ways to help out. Initially, I just delivered leaflets, but then realised I could probably have more impact by donating professional skills.

I'm a PR consultant and photographer. I helped in the 2019 General Election campaign with **media relations, press releases and taking photos!**

As part of a brilliant team, we increased our positive press coverage locally, while photography let me see politics close up: as well as working with our candidate, Paula, it was lovely to meet so many local people, and photograph Vince Cable, Jo Swinson and Ed Davey along the way!

In Spring 2023, I was delighted to be elected as a councillor to the City Council.

I have continued to help the team with photography and the 2024 General Election, working with Danny was another highlight of my volunteering experience.

Whatever you do, volunteering gives you back so much more.

Photography let me see politics close up... it was lovely to meet so many local people, and photograph Vince Cable and Ed Davey along the way!





Gillie Boddy

In Spring 2019 I offered to deliver some leaflets. After much encouragement I then had a go at canvassing and found that I not only met lots of interesting, friendly people but I also actually enjoyed doing it!

During the 2019 General Election, I organised our candidate's diary and drove her to meetings. This was a real privilege as I got to know Paula really well and met some amazing individuals working in both the public and private sectors.

I had a go at canvassing and found that I not only met lots of interesting, friendly people but I also actually enjoyed doing it!

2020 saw me organising events including the annual dinner and then various virtual social and political events during the lockdowns.

I was then asked to take on the role of **Membership Development Officer**. This has been very rewarding and I've set in place a number of new initiatives, including this Members' Guide!

Nathan Eve

I first campaigned for the Lib Dems during the 2017 General Election while still at Peter Symonds. Since then, I've been involved in local elections and two more General Election campaigns in between my University studies.

I feel our Lib-Dem-run council has made really good progress making Winchester a greener, cleaner, and more prosperous place to live and work in and I stood in the Spring 2023 Local Elections being elected as a councillor for St Bartholomew!

I feel our Lib Dem-run council has made really good progress making Winchester a greener, cleaner, and more prosperous place to live in....

Recently, I've been leading the **Winchester Young Liberals**. If you know of any under 30s who'd like to get involved, message me on nathan.b.eve.yl@gmail.com.

After Danny Chambers was elected as our MP I was really pleased to get a job as one of his caseworkers. During Danny's first 6 months as an MP, I'm proud to say that the casework team dealt with over 3500 cases helping constituents.





Sas Dunlop

In Spring 2017, I offered to deliver leaflets in my village which I still do. Eventually, I tried canvassing and was pleasantly surprised that actually the majority of people want a chance to talk about how they feel about politics.

Over the years I've had a go at lots of different Lib Dem volunteer activities: whether bundling leaflets, helping plan and run events, hand addressing the famous blue envelopes, supervising office volunteers or 'telling' at polling stations. Generally, if the volunteer activity is indoors there's very often tea and cake involved, a friendly welcome and quite a bit of laughter.

Generally, if the volunteer activity is indoors there's very often tea and cake involved, a friendly welcome and quite a bit of laughter.

Along the way, my husband and both my children have also been recruited to the cause and between them they've delivered leaflets, put up garden posters and waited at tables!

Christine Nuttall

In 2022, I moved to a small village near Alresford and, having volunteered for the Lib Dems in Buckinghamshire where I lived previously, I got in touch with the local Lib Dems to offer to help with campaigning.

I didn't know many people in the area and this was an ideal way to meet like-minded people and I found everyone really friendly. I started off delivering but soon became part of the Alresford campaign team and began canvassing.

I didn't know many people in the area and this was an ideal way to meet like-minded people and I found everyone really friendly!

In the run up to the General Election I helped to answer the many emails that Danny was getting and I have continued as a volunteer caseworker on his team. I am also the Secretary of the Alresford Lib Dem branch, making good friends along the way.





Andrew Rolt

My 'career' as a volunteer with Winchester Lib Dems, started about 20+ years ago when a neighbour, a City Cllr, asked if I'd like to deliver Lib Dem literature.

My immediate reaction was "this can be my contribution to the UK democratic process" in addition to my, at that time, succession of volunteering activities in South Wonston, where I moved to in 1986 with my wife and two young children.

All in all, I feel my volunteering makes me what I am socially, mentally and physically.....much to the amusement of our teenage grandchildren and the friendly Bar End Lib Dem office!

I'm as enthusiastic about supporting the Lib Dems as ever, especially after my on the sidelines contribution to Danny Chamber's election as Winchester constituency MP.

I rate, not only, the Winchester Lib Dem success in the 2024 Gen Election, but Richard Murphy's near win in the Wonston & Micheldever ward at the 2024 Local Elections, as two of my biggest ever team achievements! I get quite a 'buzz' from canvassing and operating a leaflet distribution team.

It's a bit different to how I spent my career. I'm a retired Civil Engineer, Builder and Wastes Management professional. I've worked in both local government and the commercial sector on 'big' and 'small' constructions where I like to think my approach to the design processes and on-site welfare and safety promoted 'team working' and 'care', which I feel underpin Lib Dem thinking and its ethos. So it may have been a foundation for my Lib Dem volunteering activities in retirement!

And before all this, I'm sure my life skills and attitudes were promoted by those excellent post-war standards in housing and education and such things as the Boys Brigade, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Outward Bound, particularly encouraging sports and the 'great outdoors'.

I keenly attend our Winchester Sports and Leisure Centre as much as three times a week and also volunteer with the Sutton Scotney Gratton Surgery. All in all, I feel my volunteering makes me what I am socially, mentally and physically..... much to the amusement of our teenage grandchildren and the friendly Bar End Lib Dem office!



MEMORIES OF THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION IN WINCHESTER

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