

Why You Should Vote Socialist

We stand for the interests of ordinary working class people. The mainstream parties all stand for the interests of big business and the rich. New Labour and the Tories are obsessed with the privatisation of public services. The Liberal Democrats are no better. The BNP spread hatred - only the bosses gain from their divisiveness.

In Exeter we are all familiar with the effects of privatisation and the increasing invasion of market policies in our public services. Local Post Offices have been closed as a consequence of New Labour policies. Already these closures have hit people hard in St Thomas and the Post Office in Magdalen Road is threatened with closure.

Since Tory privatisation our water bills have increased to be amongst the highest in the country, bills that many cannot afford to pay. The RD&E Hospital is to become a Foundation Hospital, the start of a two tier health service based on internal markets. Exeter schools are being re-organised and rebuilt through PFI - they are being mortgaged against the future for the profit of private firms.

No Privatisation of Exeter Council Housing

Again, New Labour are threatening to privatise council housing in Exeter. In 2001 the Labour City Council spent £240,000 on a dubious "consultation process", complete with glossy brochure and a video, extolling the virtues of the mass sell off of Exeter's housing. **Exeter Socialists led and won a campaign against this blatant rip-off.** 54% of council tenants made it clear they opposed the sell off. Roy Slack, the City Council Leader at the time, said "The depth of the feeling shown during the consultation has made it very clear what the outcome of a ballot would be, and I think we should call a halt now."

"We have always said we would listen to the views of tenants and they have made their views very plain" - Roy Slack, Exeter Labour Leader (Express & Echo May 4th 2001).
Oh yeah?

Obviously, Exeter's council tenants gave the wrong answer in the consultation because New Labour are again pushing for the privatisation of council housing - they are still determined to flog them off. Nationally more council houses have been sold off under New Labour than were



Blair's New Labour Lied to Take us to War

under the Tories. We say that council housing should remain public with affordable rents and decent investment in repairs and maintenance - this matters greatly to all of us who live in Exeter regardless of whether or not we are council tenants.

People Before Profit

The Democratic Socialist Alliance believes that public services should be publicly owned and run in the interests of ordinary people, not in the interests of the share owners and financial institutions. We fight to bring privatised industries back into public ownership. We say put People Before Profit!

Vote Pete Sloman Newtown Ward

Pete Sloman has been a socialist since the age of 14. Considerably older now, he has been an active trade unionist involved with solidarity work with struggles such as the miners' and Liverpool Dockers' strikes, in anti-racist work and in campaigns against cuts in public services. He has also campaigned against Blair's warmongering and for the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers.

A founder member of the Socialist Alliance, he firmly believes in the need to build a new mass working class socialist party.

"The Tories, Liberal Democrats and New Labour all represent the interests of big business. They all support policies that lead to cuts in services and privatisation. They have no answers to the crises in housing and in pensions. The fascist British National Party offers only hatred, scapegoating and victimisation of some of the poorest people in society. None of these parties have anything to say about low pay, casualising work, and poverty."

Vote Bruce Chapman St. Thomas Ward

Bruce Chapman came to socialist politics during his teens and remains as committed as ever. He has been active in opposing the war and in fighting racism. Bruce was active in supporting the Stagecoach Devon bus strike against poverty wages.

"We need to work to replace the decaying economic and social system of capitalism, that causes all of these problems, with a society which puts people before profit. I am a member of the Socialist Alliance, and believe in the need to build a new mass working class socialist party to achieve that change. Come and join us."

Democratic Socialist Alliance - People Before Profit



Vote Socialist

To Defend Council Housing

We oppose all New Labour plans to privatise Council Housing.

For a Publicly Owned Transport System

The City Council subsidise the obscene profits of Stagecoach, a bus company that consistently fails to deliver an acceptable service and pays its staff poverty wages. Bring the buses back into public ownership and integrate the service with the railways.

Against the Council Tax

Scrap it and introduce a fair service charge. Make the rich and big business shoulder the burden of taxation. Write off arrears for those who can't afford to pay it - end the use of bailiffs!

For Accountability of City Councillors

Councillors should be accountable and recallable by their electorate.

For Decent Pay

We will fight for local council employees to receive pay at least matching the European threshold of decency wage of £7.40 per hour.

For Accessibility and the Rights of Disabled

Accessibility in Exeter is a disgrace. Socialist councillors will fight to ensure all possible measures are taken to improve access for the disabled.

For a Greener Environment

Recycling of waste to be extended to the whole of Exeter. Cycling and the use of public transport to be encouraged.

Join the Exeter Socialists

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Red Rag



For a New Workers Party

Trade unionists, community activists, greens and socialists are coming together in democratic organisations such as the Exeter Socialists to make a definitive break with New Labour to start putting power and wealth back into the hands of the people. It is time to build a new mass party of the working class and the oppressed - to fight for our interests, for social justice, for socialism.

Vote People Before Profit

New Labour have let down Exeter's communities and working class people. Their policies of privatisation, cuts and war, benefit the rich and powerful. Our candidates are standing in this election to provide a voice of protest against these policies. We will speak up for trades unionists, tenants, working-class people and their families.

No to the War on Iraq

Stop the War - End the Occupations

For the last three years the people of Exeter have been paying for the illegal invasion and occupations of Afghanistan and Iraq.

All the reasons for going to this war, weapons of mass destruction, links to terrorism, regime change for a new democracy, have been proved false. Tens of thousands have died and billions of pounds have been spent for two objectives - US control of oil resources and a political/military foothold in the middle east.

Exeter Socialists have been at the forefront of the anti-war movement in the south west, militantly opposing the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Troops Out Now!

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June 10



**Democratic
Socialist
Alliance**

**Peter John Sloman
Newtown ward**



**Bruce John Chapman
St. Thomas ward**

