



JOE TRAY SELECTED AS LABOUR CANDIDATE FOR MAY 5TH 2011.

I'm delighted to have been selected again as Labour Candidate in St Philips, the ward where I have lived most of my life.

Government funds to Swindon are being cut by 19% over the next two years, and we've hardly heard a squeek of complaint from the Tory Council. What have the two Tory MPs done to fight for Swindon at a time that neighbouring Councils have received much lower cuts? What complaints have the 9 Tory councilors for Stratton made? VAT has increased to record levels, fuel prices are rocketing, train fares have gone through the roof and unemployment has soared since May. More than ever this is the time to fight the worst of the cuts being imposed by Swindon Borough Council. I look forward to doing just that as your local Councillor from May 2011 onwards.

Please contact me using the details below – and particularly tell me the 3 things you'd most like to see improved in Upper Stratton.

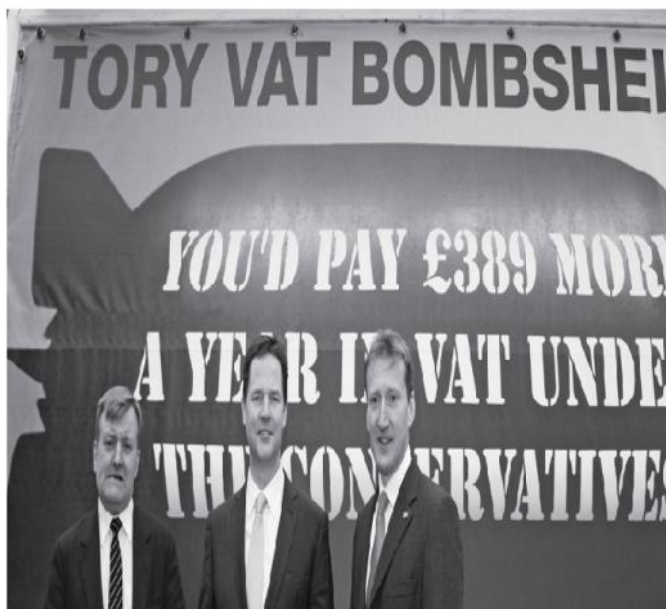


TERESA PAGE BACKS JOE

As Chair of the Upper Stratton Labour Party, and Councillor for St Philips ward from 1994 to 2004 I'm very pleased that Joe Tray has agreed again to stand for Labour in Upper Stratton. Joe is a local firefighter and has lived the ward for 36 years. He will work for all the electorate, and ensure that there is an independent Labour voice in Stratton, which currently has 9 Conservative Councillors.

ST PHILIPS ROSE

WWW.SWINDON-LABOUR.CO.UK/ST-PHILIPS



FACTS ON VAT

As Nick Clegg warned before the election the VAT changes are a bombshell for all of us. Costs on average per year will be:

- £125 for a single pensioner
- £275 for a pensioner couple
- £225 for a one parent family
- £450 for a couple with children

Add that to the Chartered Institute for Personnel and Development's estimate that the 20% VAT rate will cost 250,000 jobs over 5 years.

And the fact that both Clegg and Osborne in April said they wouldn't increase VAT. Can you believe a Tory-led Government?

FACTS ON THE SWINDON BUDGET

Despite the Tories and Liberals on Swindon Council saying that the budget settlement from the Government was "better than expected", with cuts of only 2.4% - it was actually a 19% reduction over 2 years in the main Government 'formula' support (£61.2m in 10-11 to £49.5 in 12-13). Whereas some neighbouring counties have lost only 1 or 2%!

And remember what has already happened in Swindon – cuts of £5.3m in adult social care and £968,000 in children's services . Together with threatened job losses of 10,000 to 12,000, including up to 350 in Wiltshire police.

And let's remember the other Tory changes since May: wages have been frozen, retirement age has risen, pensions are being attacked, the tuition fee cap has tripled and Education Maintenance Allowance has been scrapped. Bankers are left unscathed while ordinary people pay the bill!!

What to do about it ? –join the Labour Party (see website – there's an offer for the under 28s) or send a message of support to swindonlabour@gmail.com.