

## HERTSMERE LIB DEM AGM: 25.11.03

### County Council Report

From Cty. Cllr Laurence Brass

**Adult Care Service:** This item covers more than half of the County's annual budget in maintaining residential care. The Lease granted by the Council for the Care Home in Bushey Heath known as "Heath House" has expired and I am working with Officers to see how the site can now be best utilised.

**Children services:** Lib Dems are calling for more children to be looked after "in house" within the County rather than paying extortionate fees for commercial care outside the area.

**Education:** The main issue of concern is the shambles revealed in the recent highly critical Ofsted report about SEND. As member of the Education Panel, I am working with LD colleagues on ways to improve the admin issue for SEND

**Environment:** The LD Group are calling for a massive expansion of EV charging

**Highways/Transport:** Lib Dems have been calling for better technology to fix potholes. The campaign to save the Daily Travelcard with TfL was successful. Our Group has prioritised the need for a better liaison between County and Utility Companies to avoid constant roadworks.

**Public Health and Safety:** After ten years of lying vacant, Bushey Fire Station in Rudolph Road has at last been leased.

**Resources:** Plans have been confirmed to close County Hall in Hertford and to move the County Council's office to a Council owned office block in Stevenage. Lib Dems concurred with the decision.

**Locality Budget:** I have already awarded grants this year to Bushey Festival, Hertsmere Mencap, 17<sup>th</sup> Bushey Brownies, Bushey Chabad and three local Primary Schools. I still have funds left in my kitty so any members knowing a deserving cause please let me know.

**Elections:** The LD group are aiming to win 16 more seats in May 2025 to take control. That includes Heath South.