

in touch

Your Conservative Team
Katy Bourne
Sujan Wickremaratchi

PRH MATERNITY SAVED

Mid Sussex MP, Nicholas Soames, and local Conservative Councillors have warmly welcomed the decision by NHS West Sussex to retain the Consultant-led maternity services at the Princess Royal Hospital.

"After a tremendous fight and with terrific support from all parts of the Mid Sussex Community we are delighted that the proposals put forward by the Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust earlier this year have been accepted"; says Nicholas Soames. "The whole community deserves great credit for rallying around the PRH and at last local people can have confidence about the future of our vital and much loved local hospital services."

Katy Bourne, adds: "It's been a long hard battle but it was well worth the fight as the threat to these services had caused deep concern in the Community."



SOAMES SAYS

I' before 'E' – Infrastructure before Expansion

Nicholas Soames has continued to make the case in the House of Commons for increased spending on Mid Sussex's already over-stretched infrastructure.

In his role as Co-Chair of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration Nicholas has been putting forward the case for a system of 'balanced migration'. Nicholas says; "The population is projected to reach 70m by 2028; a significant cause of this growth is as a result of the Government's immigration policy. The Government has bowed to pressure from the Group on key strands of its policy but there remains a lot of work to be done."



ONLINE CHECK ON COUNCIL SPENDING

To back their management watch on the District Council's expenditure Conservative Councillors have implemented the online publication of information on any expenditure over £500, one of the first councils to do so.

Campaigner Sujan Wickremaratchi says: "We want residents to be able to see exactly how their money is being spent – important locally but it's also Conservative national policy that all Government expenditure over £25,000 will be available online to taxpayers."

CHIEF EXEC'S PAY CUT

The Conservative led District Council has cut the Chief Executive's pay. From 2010, the cost of his total remuneration package will be permanently reduced by £14,000 a year. He will get no bonuses in future and only cost of living increases fixed nationally.

Sujan Wickremaratchi says: "Our Conservative councillors are working hard to control costs and have acted firmly to renegotiate terms set in a very different climate. That said, the Chief Executive has met the targets set in his original contract."

A Liberal Democrat motion against the new proposals flopped as many of their councillors abstained or missed the vote.

in fact

£2.6 MILLION HAS BEEN SAVED by the Conservative led Mid Sussex District Council over the last three years

87% OF MID SUSSEX RESIDENTS ARE SATISFIED with refuse, recycling and street cleaning services in Mid Sussex a new survey reports

COUNCIL TAX BILLS COULD BE CUT BY A MASSIVE 15% if West Sussex received the average grant from central Government

SHOP LOCALLY

Conservative Campaigners are supporting the Right Up Your Street Plans to encourage the community to shop locally.

"The present economic situation is difficult for all of us," says Sujan Wickremaratchi. "But it is vital for us all to support local traders as much as we can." The Council is putting strong emphasis on economic development and will work closely with business organisations to achieve this.

PARKING PROGRESS

Conservative Councillors are leading a Mid Sussex District Council review of parking strategy. An advisory panel is reviewing all the options for future provision and pricing – as part of this process, they will be consulting with the community including local businesses.

"Parking matters to people," says Sujan Wickremaratchi. "That's why we honoured our manifesto pledge not to raise prices for the first two years of this council. Even when we did, we kept the short term charges as they were! There has been some change in usage of the long term parking

while short term parking numbers have increased. The additional income for the year will continue to help us keep Council Tax down."

He added that the Council's car parks had benefitted from investment in improvements and had won plaudits from independent assessors for the quality of their management. "Liberal Democrats, as ever, mislead. They want increases every year and, of course, were keen to rob the Council's reserves rather than implement modest changes which still leave Mid Sussex charges very competitive," he said.

ASHENGROUND CONSERVATIVE TEAM



Sujan Wickremaratchi
Conservative campaigner

✉ 14 Colwell Close
Haywards Heath

☎ 01444 415119

✉ sujan.wickremaratchi@virgin.net



Katy Bourne
Conservative campaigner

✉ c/o, 5 Hazelgrove Road,
Haywards Heath,

☎ 01444 452590

✉ katybourne@btconnect.com

Can we help?

Please let us know about any concerns or ideas that you have about the issues in the ward

Name

Address

Phone*

Email*

*By giving us your email address and/or mobile number, you are agreeing to receive communications and information from us by email or SMS.

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Your Conservative team in Ashenground is working hard. Please let us know if you can help us:

- Deliver leaflets in my road
- Display a poster at election time
- Would like to join the Conservatives

Please return to:

Mid Sussex Conservatives,
5 Hazelgrove Road, Haywards Heath,
RH16 3PH

Printed, published & promoted by Ginny Heard on behalf of Haywards Heath Conservatives, 5 Hazelgrove Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3PH

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