

Welcoming Statement from Chairman of Mole Valley Conservative Association – *Mr Colin Crispin*

Welcome to the Mole Valley Conservative website. We hope this will provide a vehicle for contributions from members of the Association and to help promote our political and social events.

The real success will depend upon the membership for their views and ideas – not just as a South Street information service!

Report from Mole Valley MP - *Sir Paul Beresford*

Welcome to the new Mole Valley Conservative Association website. The aim is to provide you with regularly updated news items from your Conservative Association and Elected Representatives.

The Mole Valley Constituency the largest in Surrey. There are two main towns and 30 or more villages of varying sizes, with large sections of semi-rural and rural areas in between. Residents have the advantage of easy commuter access to London while still enjoy the benefits of living in the green valleys of Surrey. It is our priority to gain your support in helping us protect the Mole Valley way of life. As politicians, we have to remember the importance of delivering value for money in providing public services as we are acutely aware that you and your businesses, as taxpayers, are the source of public funds.

I hope you enjoy receiving an update from us. Please feel free to send us your comments and concerns through the contact page.

Report from Mole Valley District Council – *Mr Ben Tatham, Deputy Leader*

We are now coming to the end of the first ever year of Conservative control of Mole Valley District Council. The icing on our first anniversary cake is that our recycling rate was the fourth best of all the councils who collect refuse in England. We have also used commercial sponsorship to help extend recycling to schools.

Other highlights include the success of our Youth Council, Youth Voice, and the increase in the number of affordable houses built from 24 per year five years ago to 190 this year. A recent report proved we have the cleanest streets in Surrey and we continue to be the safest District in the safest county in England. We have now decided to spend up to £8 million updating the Leatherhead Leisure Centre and we have just agreed our new budget which will increase the Council Tax to a Band D taxpayer by just 10 pence to £2.70 per week for all our services.

Report from Surrey County Council – *Mrs Helyn Clack, County Councillor, Dorking Rural*

Last year was a tough year for the organisation both in terms of finance and services, but we have continued to strive to make improvements to our services. Looking ahead to the rest of 2007 we need to continue bedding in the new directorates, meeting the financial pressures and making real our decision to further enhance two-tier working. Below are highlights from my 2006 end of year report:

- The Business Delivery Review was a wide-ranging review with outside help looking at our structures and business processes. As a result the Council successfully achieved £41.5 million of savings.
- The transportation service is starting to make improvements under its Strategic Director Andy Roberts.
- Our new Shared Service Centre was voted the best new Shared Service Centre in Europe.
- The group has appointed a new political assistant Andrew Flavell who was previously the conservative political assistant at Torbay Council.

News in brief

Sir Paul Helps Reverse Rail Cutback

After correspondence with Sir Paul, and some Mole Valley constituents, First Great Western re-timetabled stops at Gomshall on the Redhill to Guildford line.

ID Cards: Miles off track

UK residents will have to visit 'interview centres' in order to obtain their compulsory Identity Card under the Government's new scheme and with no interview centres located in Mole Valley, some constituents will face a 100 mile round trip to the nearest centre. The Conservative Party remains strongly opposed to the scheme.

Sir Paul Fights to Improve Paedophile Law

Sir Paul continues to be at the forefront of improvements to laws relating to paedophilic sexual offences earning him congratulations from the Government.

Questioning Airport Expansion Plans

Sir Paul is concerned over the Government's inconsistency between the proposed expansion of the aviation industry and the corresponding lack of a strategy to deal with rising Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions from flying.

Renewed Efforts to Save Post Offices

The Government has begun a consultation process on the future of the national post office network announcing that it intends to close more post offices across the country, threatening around 5 Mole Valley post. Sir Paul strongly believes closure is to be resisted.

No to Capel Incinerator

Over the last year Surrey Council has renewed efforts to push forward on plans for an incinerator at Capel which have been formally presented to the Government. Sir Paul has continued to fight for Capel citizens, taking the matter to Parliament.

Feature Article

Mole Valley Hospitals Under Threat

Sir Paul has been working with Adrian White, High Sheriff of Surrey, to save Epsom General Hospital from becoming severely downgraded. Sir Paul, along with doctors and financial backers, has put to the Epsom & St Helier NHS Trust a bid to take over the Hospital. The Denbies Trust, a new Charitable Trust led by doctors and members of the local community, would provide NHS services as well as charitable and private healthcare. The Trust also wishes to specialise in cardiac health. Hopefully, the St Helier & Epsom Hospital Trust Board will support this development and help us persuade the Secretary of State for Health to accept the offer.



The Royal Surrey County Hospital at Guildford is threatened with downgrading and possible closure. The front line accident, emergency and acute services are under definite threat. The Royal Surrey is a popular hospital with well-regarded services. All associated Surrey Members of Parliament, including Sir Paul, have joined the campaign to save the hospital and attended a recent rally of around 7000 supporters in Guildford High Street. Sir Paul feels these services are extremely important to constituents in the western area of Mole Valley. The Save the Royal Surrey campaign has received extraordinary support for its E-Petition on the Prime Minister's website www.number10.gov.uk, amassing nearly 20,000 signatures and is positioned in the top 5 open petitions. The aim is to travel up the list and make it to number 1 so please sign up before the deadline of 2 May 2007 to register your support and show the Government how indispensable and popular the Royal Surrey County Hospital is.