

UPDATE, JANUARY 2018

HEATON GREENS



Andrew Gray



Even when the current system works, the Council has to pay for our recycling to be separated after collection.

paper, cardboard and plastic bottles are being shipped to Sweden or Teesside for burning, instead of being recycled.

It doesn't have to be like this. The Council could save money and provide a better service by focussing on the quality end of the recycling market. By separating glass, paper and cardboard at source, and collecting food waste, the council could make big savings in collection rounds.

They would also be able to earn money from the recyclates — Wealth from Waste. For an industry view, Andrew spoke with a representative from a paper mill in November. This is how he explained the costs:

“If you provide us with comingled waste, we will charge you and recover paper for our mill. If you provide paper from kerbside collections, we will pay you.”

IT'S TIME TO SAVE MONEY BY RECYCLING BETTER

ANDREW GRAY'S PROPOSALS FOR A BETTER SERVICE FROM THE COUNCIL

The evidence of cuts to bin collections and street cleaning is all too visible in Heaton. Mismanagement of the service has made the cuts worse. Residents have complained that glass caddies can take months to be replaced. In parts of Heaton, the Council has admitted to Andrew that it has been collecting recycling in refuse vehicles, so that the

Andrew Gray has campaigned for a better waste strategy since he moved to Heaton in 2000.

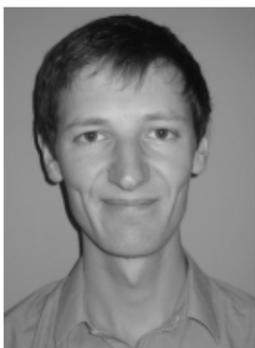
- Separate glass, paper and cardboard at source. These materials will earn the Council high prices for quality recycling.
- Weekly food waste collections. This can be used to generate energy, avoid pollution and stop the bins smelling.
- Limit costs of garden waste collections, to ensure as full take-up as possible.
- Recycle a wider range of plastics, to prevent pollution of our oceans. These can be mixed with metals for collection.
- Fewer collection rounds needed for the remaining materials, saving money.
- Managing local services better, to reduce litter and win support from residents.
- Shorter contracts, so that we are not locked into yesterday's solutions.
- Community involvement is key to successful recycling. That means clear information, regular engagement from Council managers, creative public awareness campaigns and a well-motivated workforce.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IS KEY TO SUCCESSFUL RECYCLING...

INTRODUCING ... OUR GREEN TEAM FOR HEATON

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VOTE FOR THREE COUNCILLORS IN MAY.



Chris Parker lives in North Heaton. Aged 29, he works as a community nurse in Newcastle.

Chris would like to represent Heaton residents to support

the ongoing development of our local area, to speak up for our diverse community, and to resist further cuts to local services.

Louise Wilson has lived in Heaton since 1999. She is the mother of three children, and works for the public sector and in higher education.

Louise is standing as a Green because she loves Heaton but wants it to be an even better place to live in.



Andrew Gray has lived in Heaton since 2000. He works in a library and is an experienced Trade Union caseworker. Andrew is passionate about Heaton – indeed his track record shows that he will make a real difference and be a very strong advocate for all Heaton residents on the City Council.



In 2015 Andrew secured the Green Party's highest ever General Election vote in the region, and in the 2017 South Heaton by-election he came second to Labour with 27% of the vote.

ANDREW GRAY WORKING FOR HEATON ALL YEAR ROUND

COUNCIL CONFIRMS: NO BUDGET FOR PAVEMENTS

INSPECTIONS CONTINUE, BUT REFURBISHMENTS HAVE BEEN STOPPED

The Council has confirmed to Andrew that it no longer has a budget for road or pavement improvement schemes in residential streets. The Council has compiled condition reports that identify multiple pavements in poor condition across the ward, and has earmarked most pavements in the Avenues for refurbishment. But it now has no plans to carry out the works.

Andrew Gray says,

"We use the pavements every day, so I'm not surprised that so many residents have raised their condition with us on the doorstep. Failing to repair pavements is a short-sighted budget cut, because it degrades pride in our community and can trap vulnerable residents at home. Both these things cause long-term costs to the local economy and increased social isolation."

Meanwhile, please report any serious defects (over 2" or 5cm) to Andrew or online at envirocallservice.newcastle.gov.uk/pavements. The Council confirms that it will respond to any reports received.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FOOD SAFETY

You may have seen *The Chronicle* report on Newcastle takeaways with the lowest food hygiene ratings. Sadly, some of these are in Heaton.

Andrew wrote to the Food Safety team about three local premises with low ratings, and has received reassurance that two of the premises have been or are being revisited. Improvements have been carried out at a third. If you have any concerns about food safety at a particular business, please contact Andrew. You can check current ratings at ratings.food.gov.uk.



COMMUNITY LITTERPICK

The next litterpick organised by Friends of Heaton Back Lanes is on Sunday 28th January, meet just before 1pm outside TSB on Chillingham Road

CAROLINE LUCAS TO VISIT HEATON

Green Party MP Caroline Lucas will be visiting Heaton on Saturday 17th March. Contact Andrew if you would like to meet Caroline on the day.

CONTACT DETAILS

Andrew lives in Heaton, you can contact him at any time:

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07579 965254

[facebook.com/andrew.gray.771](https://www.facebook.com/andrew.gray.771)

For news from Newcastle Green Party, to deliver leaflets in your street, or to view copies of previous updates from Heaton Greens, see the website or contact Andrew.

<http://newcastleuponTyne.greenparty.org.uk>

[facebook.com/NewcastleGreenParty](https://www.facebook.com/NewcastleGreenParty)

[@NCLGreenParty](https://twitter.com/NCLGreenParty)



GREENS RESPOND TO LATEST BUDGET CUTS

Green MP Caroline Lucas has tabled a motion in Parliament, calling on the government to urgently provide local councils with the money to protect services, and to restore spending on community and frontline services. Her motion has cross-party support: you can ask our local MP Nick Brown to support Caroline and to sign Early Day Motion 664.

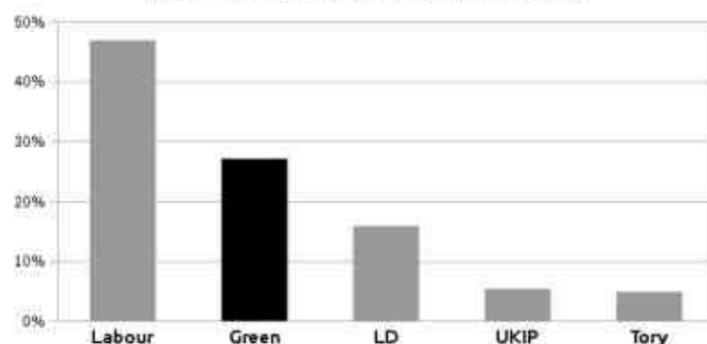
Thank you to all the residents who spoke with us on the doorstep at the end of 2017. 52% of you agree that the local cutbacks are due to government cuts, but that the Council could still manage them better.

The Council wants residents to focus only on its proposed package of cuts in its budget consultation. Greens take a longer view, which is why Andrew Gray is also calling for:

1. A much stronger devolution deal than the one on offer for 'North of Tyne', allowing councils to regulate buses and introduce integrated public transport across the region
2. A Neighbourhood Fund to support those left behind by social care cuts—giving grants to local businesses and community groups, for projects that tackle loneliness or social exclusion
3. Insulation schemes for housing, to cut carbon, create jobs and reduce energy bills.

Contact Andrew or see the website for a copy of his budget response.

How South Heaton voted March 2017



Andrew Gray lives in South Heaton. Here are the latest results. Greens can win here!

HAVE YOU MOVED HOME RECENTLY?

- Make sure your voice is heard!
- Register now to vote in the May 2018 local elections.
- You can register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

