

# MANIFESTO 2026



# A Message from the Leader of the Labour Group



I've lived in Stockport my whole life. I know it inside out and I love this town. It has proud communities, strong neighbourhoods and people who care deeply about where they live. But I'm also realistic. For every Bramhall there is an Adswood, for every Marple there is a Reddish. Those communities are full of ambitious, hard-working people, but too often they don't get the care and attention they deserve.

The Labour Group I lead will put all of Stockport first, making sure priorities are focused on where they're most needed. Areas like Lancashire Hill, Offerton and Reddish need a lift – and we'll keep pushing the Liberal Democrats to do better until we're in a position to deliver that change ourselves.

This manifesto sets out our priorities, shaped by conversations with residents across the borough. People want a council that gets the basics right: affordable housing, safer streets, better support for young people and clean, well-maintained neighbourhoods.

It's a simple, honest and deliverable plan, built with the input of Labour members, councillors and local residents.

Our commitment is straightforward: to keep standing up for every part of Stockport and pushing for the services people deserve.

**Cllr Christine Carrigan**

Leader of Stockport Labour Group



# How We Developed Our Manifesto



**In developing this manifesto, we asked our members and councillors what matters most to them in Stockport.**

Across responses, seven priorities consistently came out on top:

- **HOUSING**
- **COST OF LIVING**
- **CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**
- **YOUTH SERVICES AND OPPORTUNITIES**
- **ROAD SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE**
- **CLEANLINESS AND THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT**
- **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Across the borough, the same concerns came up time and again. People want to be able to afford to live locally, feel safe in their communities, see opportunities for young people, and have a council that is responsive, gets the basics right and takes practical action on climate change.

These priorities have directly shaped our five pledges for 2026, focusing our approach on the areas where action can make the biggest difference to people's daily lives — including supporting a cleaner, more sustainable future for Stockport.

# Our Five Pledges



**More Homes People  
Can Afford**

**A Council That Gets  
Basics Right**

**Safe, Strong &  
Connected Communities**

**Tackle Inequality in  
Stockport**

**Safer Roads, Better  
Journeys**

# More Homes People Can Afford

**A clear plan to deliver affordable homes and get housing back on track**



Too many local people are finding it harder than ever to afford a home in Stockport. House prices and rents have risen sharply, while genuinely affordable housing has not kept pace with demand. Young people growing up here increasingly feel priced out of the communities they call home.

*“Stockport council, which has a 12-year wait for social housing, has been slammed for having one of the “worst” records in the country for building new homes... It should have built 2,991 new homes, but managed a total of 1,613 - the lowest rate in Greater Manchester at 54 percent of what was required.”*

**Manchester Evening News,  
07/01/25**

The planning system in Stockport simply isn't working as it should.

Under the Liberal Democrats, pulling Stockport out of the **Greater Manchester Spatial Framework** has contributed to years of delay and uncertainty, alongside a series of expensive planning appeals that the council has lost – leaving too many decisions taken out of local hands.

## **WHAT STOCKPORT LABOUR WILL DO**

- Require **more affordable homes** in every new development
- Prioritise **social rent homes** that local people can actually afford
- Using **council-owned land** to build affordable housing
- Working with housing associations to deliver more homes at scale
- Bringing **empty homes** back into use to increase supply quickly
- Support **energy-efficient homes** that are cheaper to run and better for the environment

We need more homes and we need them quickly, but they must be the right homes in the right places. That means building at scale, increasing supply and ensuring development genuinely meets the needs of local people.

# A Council That Gets Basics Right

*Fixing fly-tipping, litter and the issues that matter day to day*



Councils should focus on the things that make a real difference to people's everyday lives. Clean streets, well-maintained roads and safe public spaces are not extras – they are essential to the quality of life in our neighbourhoods.

*"You report it, nothing seems to happen for ages, and then more rubbish just piles up."*  
Labour party member in Reddish

Fly-tipping in particular has become a growing problem, with the same locations targeted again and again. It not only damages our neighbourhoods but adds to waste and emissions, undermining efforts to tackle climate change.

Too often, rubbish is left for too long and those responsible are not held to account. The Liberal Democrat-run council has a poor track record of getting to grips with this.

## WHAT STOCKPORT LABOUR WILL DO

- Act **faster** to remove fly-tipping and dumped waste
- Push for the return of **fornightly blue bin collections**
- **Increase enforcement**, especially in hotspot areas
- **Crack down** on **repeat offenders**
- Work with communities to **prevent problems** before they escalate, and support practical local action to cut waste and **reduce emissions**

### ✓ STOCKPORT LABOUR IN ACTION

In **April 2025**, Stockport Labour brought forward a motion calling for a **zero-tolerance approach to fly-tipping, stronger enforcement** and the council to sign up to additional national programmes to tackle the issue more effectively.

the Liberal Democrats **rejected the motion**, meaning these measures were not taken forward.

Stockport Labour will continue to hold the council to account and make sure the basics are properly looked after, because every resident deserves a clean, safe and well-maintained neighbourhood.

# Safe, Strong & Connected Communities

*Preventing crime, supporting young people and bringing communities together*



Everyone deserves to feel safe and proud of where they live. Yet too many residents still raise concerns about anti-social behaviour, street safety and the lack of things for young people to do locally.

*“When there’s nothing for young people to do, that’s when problems start.”*

**Labour party member in Heaton North**

Strong communities don’t happen by accident. They rely on people feeling connected, supported and able to take pride in their neighbourhood.

Where that breaks down, problems like anti-social behaviour and hate crime are more likely to take hold.

## WHAT STOCKPORT LABOUR WILL DO

- Invest more in youth services and safe spaces for young people
- Back local community groups and neighbourhood projects
- Take early action to tackle hate crime and division
- Improve street lighting and make public spaces safer
- Strengthen partnership working between the council, police, communities and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

### ✓ STOCKPORT LABOUR IN ACTION

**Stockport Labour** has secured a **£200,000 investment for communities** across the borough as part of this year’s council budget.

This includes a borough-wide listening programme to understand residents’ experiences, a community grants scheme for grassroots projects and a “Feeling Safe and Secure” fund to support communities at risk of hate crime.

Stockport Labour will keep listening to residents and taking action – building safer, stronger and more connected communities across Stockport.

# Tackle Inequality in Stockport

*No matter where you live, everyone should have the opportunity to thrive.*



Stockport is a borough with many strengths, but the gap between our most and least advantaged communities remains too wide. Around **56,000 residents** live in the most deprived areas, with differences in income, health and opportunity – and even life expectancy – between neighbourhoods just a few miles apart.

*“It’s mad how different things can be just a few miles apart in Stockport – some areas get loads, others feel left behind.”*

**Labour party member in Heaton South**

Stockport Labour believes the council has a responsibility to tackle these inequalities by directing funding and services towards the areas that need them most, focusing on targeted investment where it will make the biggest difference.

## WHAT STOCKPORT LABOUR WILL DO

- Target funding at the communities that need it most
- Raise housing standards, especially in the private rented sector
- Guarantee fair access to services across every neighbourhood
- Work with partners to tackle health inequality early, not after the fact
- Strengthen support for local organisations and community groups

### ✓ STOCKPORT LABOUR IN ACTION

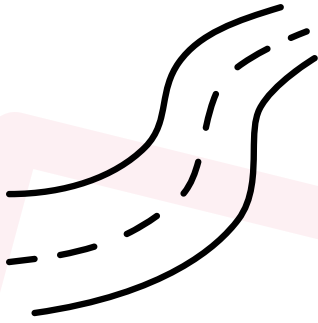
In 2025, Stockport Council adopted **the Socio-Economic Duty** – a major step forward in tackling inequality and something Labour had long campaigned for. This means future council decisions will be assessed for their impact on disadvantage, helping target support where it is needed most.

**Stockport Labour** secured this change despite earlier resistance from the Liberal Democrat administration and will continue to ensure it delivers real improvements for residents.

Stockport Labour’s aim is simple: a town where everyone – no matter their background or postcode – has the chance to succeed and thrive.

# Safer Roads, Better Journeys

## *Getting the basics right on road safety and maintenance*



Getting around Stockport shouldn't feel unsafe or frustrating. But too often, residents are dealing with speeding traffic, dangerous junctions, potholes and roadworks that drag on for weeks.

We hear the same things time and again – roads not being fixed properly, crossings where they're badly needed, and concerns about safety near schools and in residential areas being ignored.

This isn't about big, complicated schemes. It's about getting the basics right – making our roads safer for everyone while supporting cleaner, more sustainable ways to travel.

### **WHAT STOCKPORT LABOUR WILL DO**

- Crack down on speeding, especially in residential streets and near schools
- Roll out more **20mph zones** where they're needed most
- **Fix potholes** and damaged pavements properly – not just short-term patch-ups
- Put in safe crossings where residents have been asking for them
- Create safer routes for walking and cycling, helping **reduce congestion and emissions**
- Take a tougher approach with utility companies that leave roadworks dragging on
- Work with residents and closer with the **Greater Manchester Combined Authority** to identify and act on local road safety concerns

### **✓ STOCKPORT LABOUR IN ACTION**

**Stockport Labour** has brought forward several road safety motions at full council including most recently in November 2025, where we set out the **need for safer residential streets, stronger enforcement around schools** and a clear plan to roll out **20mph limits** across the borough.

We'll focus on the practical changes people notice day to day – safer streets, better maintained roads, and making it easier to choose greener ways to get around.

# Stockport Labour candidates

Brinnington & Stockport Central  
**CALLUM WALMSLEY**



Davenport and Cale Green  
**WENDY WILD**



Heatons North  
**JO WILLIAMS**



Heatons South  
**DEAN FITZPATRICK**



Manor  
**SUE GLITHERO**



Offerton  
**HELEN HIBBERT**



Reddish North  
**DAN FARLEY**



Bramhall North  
**JAKE THOMAS**

Bramhall South & Woodford  
**PHIL MATLEY**

Bredbury & Woodley  
**CHARLIE STEWART**

Bredbury Green & Romiley  
**ARON THORNLEY**

Cheadle East & Cheadle  
Hulme North  
**YVONNE GUARIENTO**

Cheadle Hulme South  
**BARRY HAWKINS**

Cheadle West & Gatley  
**CARL CARRIGAN**

Edgeley  
**MIKE NAYLOR**

Hazel Grove  
**JONNY WHITE**

Heald Green  
**KATH PRIESTLY**

Marple North  
**PETER BLACK**

Marple South & High Lane  
**BRIAN WILD**

Norbury & Woodsmoor  
**COLIN DEVINE**

