

# Hillingdon Rose

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**Hillingdon Labour Party Working Hard for The Local Community & Exposing Tory Incompetence**

## Snouts in The Trough



The Conservatives have used their 25 seat majority in order to push through massive rises in allowances for the Leader and his cabinet. The Leader of the Council, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, claimed that he has more responsibility than a back-bench MP and as such he should be paid accordingly. This is how Councillor Ray Puddifoot justified his allowance

rising from £41,000 to **£61,000 per year**. The nine Cabinet members voted themselves a 50% pay rise, with their allowances rising from £30,000 to **£45,000 per year**. A number of the cabinet members also have full time jobs outside the council. These massive rises in allowances come at a time when the Tories are making cuts in your services.

## Incompetence Costs YOU 1% Extra in Council Tax

At the Council's budget meeting in March the Conservatives claimed that they had to put an extra 1% on council tax bills because the Government had failed to fund arrangements for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.

The council took the government to court over this issue and was waiting for the results of a judicial review at the time of the budget meeting.

The result of this judicial review has now been published and the council lost its case very badly.

The council lost its case because they have consistently failed to submit the funding claims on time. The council lost money due to the incompetence of the Tory administration, who couldn't even get their claims in on time.

The district auditor has highlighted the administration's inability to get funding claims in on time as a **"cause for concern"**

The Labour group has always given its support to the administration in order to get the maximum funding in this area but we cannot support blatant incompetence.

## Tory Cuts Hit The Most Vulnerable

One of the first actions of this Tory administration was to announce redundancies and delete vacant posts in the Educational Psychology service, which had a disastrous effect on the service provision for some schools in the borough, as well as knock on effects to the morale of the staff.

In the lead up to the council's budget, the Leader of the council announced that he was going to break an agreement with various voluntary organisations and give them just 6 months notice (rather than the agreed 12 months notice) of the withdrawal of 100% of their council funding.

The Voluntary organisations that lost **ALL** of their council funding are; The Hillingdon Law Centre, Hillingdon Race Equality Council, Hillingdon Narrow Boats Association and The Furniture Project. All of these organisations provide services to some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

At the Budget meeting the Tories made more cuts, including the abolition of the Year 9 school uniform grant and a cut of £180,000 from Healthy Hillingdon.

Rather than Cameron's caring Conservatives, in Hillingdon the council is still well and truly controlled by the Nasty party

The full Judgement can be viewed and downloaded from our website:-  
www.hillingdonlabour.org

**Tory Greed and Incompetence Exposed**

**Labour**  
www.labour.org.uk

# Tories Announce Closure of Cwm Pennant



The Cwm Pennant Mountain Centre is an outdoor activity centre primarily provides residential courses for school children and young people. The centre is in Snowdonia, Wales and provides an ideal location for courses centred around team building.

Cwm Pennant's ethos believes in the positive benefits that young people can derive from an outdoor education experience in a residential setting. For many young people it may be their first experience of communal living away from home.

The centre aims to provide a mixture of challenging and stimulating outdoor experiences which, together with team building and problem solving tasks, help maximise the personal and social development of all those taking part. Whilst outdoor and adventurous activities are not a panacea, they can often provide an opportunity to improve self-confidence and to attain a level of success that might not have otherwise been achieved.

Cwm Pennant is clearly a valuable Educational asset for the borough, and yet the Tory administration show complete contempt for this facility by classifying it as a "Leisure Centre" and then announce its closure in order to save £35 Thousand in two years time.

Hillingdon Labour Party consider this valuable Educational asset to be a jewel in the crown and we support all the various groups who are campaigning for Cwm Pennant to remain open.

If you would also like to see this centre kept open then please visit

[www.savecwpennant.co.uk](http://www.savecwpennant.co.uk)

and sign the on-line petition.



## Tories Waste Money on a Change of Logo

The Tories number one Priority straight after last years local elections was to change the borough logo from the circle of people holding hands to the borough crest. This was such a priority for the Leader of the council that he ordered his cabinet to vote in favour of the change or resign.

Hillingdon Labour Party believes that the cost of the logo change, something in the region of a quarter of a million pounds, could have been spent in a much better way to benefit the residents of the borough.

## Southlands Arts Centre Under Threat of Closure

The Conservative budget included a proposal to close the Southlands Arts Centre in West Drayton. Hillingdon Labour group opposed this closure, along with all the other cuts in the budget, and demanded that the proposal to close this valuable centre be reviewed.

The Leader of the council said that he would "**Look Again**" at the proposal. In the meantime Southlands Arts Centre remains under threat of closure.

If you wish to help us with any of our campaigns or if you would like more information on The Hillingdon Labour Party then please send an email to [campaigns@hillingdonlabour.org](mailto:campaigns@hillingdonlabour.org)

Or write to us at:-

Hillingdon Labour Campaigns, c/o The Labour Hall, Pump Lane, Hayes, Middlesex, UB3 3NB