

## SUMMONS ITEM 11(ii)

### FULL COUNCIL 28<sup>th</sup> June 2004

#### **Motion selected for debate by Councillor Paul Lorber, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group.**

#### REBUILDING OUR TOWNS , CITIES AND COMMUNITIES.

Council notes the results of this month's local Council elections, and in particular the significant electoral turnover in votes and representatives from Labour to the Liberal Democrats, and the Labour Party's fall to third place nationally in terms of vote share.

Members note in particular the loss by Labour to the Liberal Democrats of strongholds such as Newcastle, which had been Labour-controlled for 30 years ; the increased majority for the Liberal Democrats in Liverpool ; and the significantly reduced showing for Ken Livingstone in his new role as a New Labour London Mayor.

This Council believes that such results are indicative of a loss of faith in New Labour Councils and the New Labour Local Government Agenda as carried out and epitomised by the recent record and priorities of Councils such as Brent , and notes in particular the lack of urban vision shown by so many uninspired Labour Leaderships.

Council also notes that the Conservatives have continued to prove their inability to mount a credible challenge to the Labour Party in our Urban Towns and Cities, or to appeal to residents in these areas despite their Official Opposition status. This was epitomised by last year's election of Liberal Democrat MP Sarah Teather to serve Brent East , and Members look forward to a similarly spectacular result in Leicester South.

This Council calls for radical national reform to restore powers to Councils through such measures as Local Income Tax and less prescriptive targets ; for resources to Councils to match the Community powers and less welcome regulatory and administrative duties they have gained ; and looks forward to a Brent Liberal Democrat Administration taking forward a new Agenda for Brent, worked up with residents over the next two years and to be implemented on their behalf and for their benefit, after the 2006 London elections.