



March 2007

Dear Goldsmid Resident,

As your Goldsmid Labour Candidates in the elections on 3 May, we are writing to inform you about our local activities and to invite you to let us know what you think using the FREEPOST reply slip. If you have internet access, there's a lot more on our unique ward news website [www.goldsmid.com](http://www.goldsmid.com).

#### **A good local team**

As your Goldsmid Labour team – Melanie Davis, Alun Jones, and Cllr Vince Meegan – we are an effective team of local activists. Labour has a record of delivering improvements such as George Street pedestrianisation, Hove Library refurbishment and new pedestrian-friendly Palmeira Square.

#### **Against crime and vandalism**

Your Goldsmid Labour councillors have been instrumental in working with the police which has brought a series of improvements to the local area. The City Council has a unique community safety partnership with the police which is tough on anti-social behaviour. Violent crime has gone down in the past year. Burglaries have been reduced by 20% and car crime cut by 16%. We will continue to work to improve this further in partnership with the police.

#### **Improvements for older people**

The Labour City Council introduced free bus passes for the over 60s, making it cheaper for older people to get around the City. And the winter fuel allowance for the over 75s has helped the vulnerable. If you would like further information about these measures, or if we can help in any way, please contact us.

#### **Cleaning Streets and Recycling Our Waste**

Cleaning up Goldsmid streets and improving the waste and recycling service you receive is one of our top priorities. There has been a gradual improvement with more of you telling us you are satisfied with the service. However, if you have any problems please let us know. We can organise reminders for the right day of collection and tackle troublespots.

Recycling is also increasing and as your Labour Team we ensured that doorstep collections were rolled out to every household in the ward. Recycling rates are now at 25 per cent, one of the highest in the country. However, we want to go further and the City Council has set a target of 45 per cent by 2011. Within our ward we believe more can be done to ensure that 'hard-to-reach' areas have access to recycling.

### Value for Money

Labour councillors here are committed to providing cost-effective services. In our new budget we have just ensured that Brighton & Hove has the lowest Council Tax in East Sussex. We aim to keep it that way.

### Thinking of not voting in May?

Not voting in the local elections will deliver a Tory Council. Goldsmid is the key marginal seat in the City, where only Labour can beat the Tories.

### Getting in touch

We hold regular advice surgeries so we hope you can come along so we can meet you in person. They are on the third Saturday of every month at Vallance Community Centre from 11am until 12pm.

If you have got internet access you can also keep in touch with local issues through our web site at [www.goldsmid.com](http://www.goldsmid.com) or you can email us at [action@goldsmid.com](mailto:action@goldsmid.com).

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, we look forward to hearing from you. If you have the time please fill in and return the slip below.

Yours faithfully,

Melanie Davis [melanie@goldsmid.com](mailto:melanie@goldsmid.com)  
Alun Jones [alun@goldsmid.com](mailto:alun@goldsmid.com)  
Cllr Vince Meegan [vince@goldsmid.com](mailto:vince@goldsmid.com)

Goldsmid Labour Action Team

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### LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

Return to Goldsmid Labour Action Team, FREEPOST SEA13761, Hove BN3 8ET.

Please rank your priority community issues using numbers 1 to 5 (where 1 is your highest priority):

Street cleaning  Schools  Parking  Recycling  Anti-social behaviour

Do you support an extension of hours for collecting parcels at the Royal Mail Sorting Office in Hove? Or sign online at: [www.goldsmid.com](http://www.goldsmid.com)

Yes  No (answer to form part of a petition to Council/Post Office)

Which political party do you most closely associate with?

Lab  Con  Green  Lib Dem

Please contact me about: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_