

Q & A with David Watts - The Best Choice for Newark

Q: David, what can you tell us about yourself?

I am at home in Nottinghamshire. I am a practising solicitor, defending clients in the criminal courts. I love my job. It is important for our society to make sure that everybody's right to fair treatment is respected. Clearing your name of accusations that do not stand up must not depend on how much money you have.

I have been elected and re-elected to serve as District Councillor in Broxstowe. I stood as the LibDem candidate for Newark three times. Each time I have grown my share of the vote. I know what motivates and bothers voters in this constituency.

I believe that politicians must represent the will of their voters as effectively as they can to make things happen in their best interest. Politicians should not impose their own personal ideology on people. They should not be focused on celebrity status and their own careers.

I know that my party won't form the government in the next parliament. I am not looking for any sort of ministerial position. I simply want to be an effective voice for Newark.

Q: What drives you to seek election as our MP?

Our country needs fundamental reform. Other parties may talk of reform, but they lack credibility when it comes to actually getting anything done properly.

Libdem councillors are proving every day with their hard work that they act responsibly and effectively. They do not just talk and fiddle like others do. Honesty, integrity and compassion have been absent from politics for too long.

As a Green Liberal Democrat, I am proud to say that the LibDems are making the environment a key part of every policy, not just one box to be ticked. We must prevent even worse damage from climate change. We must repair our damaged environment. We must protect ourselves from flooding. We must reverse and prevent the contamination of our water, soil and air .

Q: This constituency combines market towns with lots of countryside. Many feel that we have been forgotten by politicians in London. Where do you stand?



I grew up in a farming village and my first job was for a local farmer. Our farmers have been badly let down by the Conservatives since Brexit.

Farming is essential for the economic well-being of our country and for taking care of our environment, which is very important to me.

With Tim Farron, the LibDem MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale, the farming community has a strong, credible voice in our party. At conference last year, we adopted a well thought-out strategy on Food and Farming.

Q: What do say to those who have lost faith in our political system and to young voters who are taken aback by what they have been seeing?

I totally understand how they feel. In many ways our political system has failed our country. It is important to understand that in our current voting system, we can only vote for the individual who stands as candidate in our constituency. We do not vote for parties or their national leaders.

If you don't vote, you abandon your chance to put a person in Parliament whom you trust to make things better. Parliamentary democracy is the essence of our country's identity. Everyone has a responsibility for preventing this great good to be lost and replaced by a top-down regime that does not care for the people but just exploits them for their power games.

LibDems want to form a majority that can reform and strengthen our voting system through proportional representation so that everybody's vote counts and is represented in parliament. **Vote on 4 July and make your voice heard.** I believe that as the LibDem candidate I am your best choice in this election at a critical moment in our country's history.

Dear neighbours and friends in Newark, Southwell, Blingham, Tuxford and the countryside,

After seven Conservative governments in a row, one worse than the other, change must finally happen! The Conservatives have few friends left after their endless drift into failure and chaos. Their candidate for Newark has sat in Westminster for 10 years working on his career ambitions. His publicised views and political actions have become more and more extreme and embarrassing for our constituency.

The registered company "Reform UK Party Limited", owned by Nigel Farage, is not a democratic party. It looks rather like a one-man cult. It has no experience of government. Many of its candidates have turned out to be dodgy. If you want reforms that work in real life, and work in your favour, it is not a good idea to waste your vote by giving it to the Reform candidate.

Whatever you think about Labour at the national level at this time: The Labour party is not making a determined investment in the campaign efforts of their candidate across our constituency. What this means is that Labour is unlikely to win in Newark. Only the LibDems and our candidate David Watts can remove Robert Jenrick from parliament.

Personally, I fear that absolute rule of Starmer's Labour party would make things worse, not better. Like the Conservatives, Starmer and Reeves want to have all decisions made centrally by party functionaries in Westminster over the heads of the people. We have seen that the Labour leadership has very little respect for members of their own party who do not fall in line with the flavour of the day. How can we hope that a Labour government will have any respect for the rest of us?

There must be a counterweight that stops a Labour-led government from serving the big lobbyists and unions instead of serving the people. Only the LibDems are able to be a forceful counterweight in Parliament. Your vote for David Watts helps to keep our country from sliding down even more and to get a fair deal for us here in Newark and the constituency.

Make a mark: Cast your vote for David Watts on your postal ballot or at the ballot box on July 4th!

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