

Independent Oxford Alliance

www.independentoxfordalliance.org



OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

The Independent Oxford Alliance has **two key objectives** that underpin and shape our priorities:

Upholding Democracy

Democracy should be the foundation of our society. However, in recent times the political parties have disregarded the freedom, equality and accountability that are essential components of democracy. Local consultations are designed to steer results in a particular direction and objections to proposals are ignored.

IOA will first and foremost be accountable to the residents and businesses that we serve.

We will genuinely seek out the views of residents and businesses, and deliver unbiased and fully transparent consultations, effectively promoted and widely accessible. Most importantly, we will take notice of the results and work to deliver what our communities want and need.

Improving Quality of Life

We will build upon community values, ensuring that communities have the facilities they need within easy reach, whilst having the freedom to travel to distant places.

We will honour the freedoms for which people have fought over centuries, and will respect individuals' rights to have dominion over their lives – creating an environment where individuals are encouraged and supported to reach their potential, and where the rights of all people are respected – including the elderly and less able.

Our aim is to create prosperous communities that are open for business, where employment levels are high and small businesses do well, and where there is opportunity for all to lead happy and fulfilled lives.

We recognise that isolation is an issue; that people need companionship and contact. We will facilitate travel and face-to-face activities, access to education and health care, and create a sense of unity within and between communities.

To deliver these key objectives, we have identified our **shared priorities**, or **policies**.

OUR SHARED PRIORITIES

We are not like the other political parties. We are an Alliance of independent candidates who focus on the needs of their community, represent the people who elected them, and work together to make Oxford a thriving and pleasant place in which to live, work and study.

This means that we can truly listen to and reflect the views of those we represent and respond to specific local circumstances.

TRANSPORT - We believe that people should have freedom of choice when it comes to modes of transport.

EDUCATION - Oxford's educational institutions are renowned worldwide, but educational standards in some of our schools are amongst the lowest in the country. This divide must be addressed.

HOUSING - Affordable housing which offers high levels of energy efficiency will be at the heart of our strategy.

CARE & WELLBEING - Appropriate healthcare should be available to everyone regardless of age, race, wealth, health, other personal characteristics, or location.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS - Small independent businesses are the beating heart of our city, yet business owners tell us they feel ignored by local councillors from mainstream parties.

How We Will Achieve These Goals

Spending Your Money Wisely

The Independent Oxford Alliance recognises that there are many things that need 'fixing', and we must be realistic about what can be achieved quickly. We will therefore focus on the more significant problems first – i.e. those that are having a significant impact on the quality of lives in the community.

We will not 'over promise'. We will target key objectives and work to deliver those effectively. Then, we can move on to address more issues.

Our approach will be to invest for the future by investing in local communities and investing in infrastructure.

Working with the Community

A well-functioning community is one that works together in an integrated way, recognising and utilising the diverse contributions of all its members.

The Independent Oxford Alliance will work with businesses, community groups and charities to develop creative and realistic approaches that will result in a supportive and supported community, where all can thrive.