GAIL ANDERSON

FOR DUNSTALL WARD IN BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL

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Dear Resident.

My name is Gail Anderson. I'm standing in the upcoming Town Council by-election to represent Dunstall and am writing to ask for your support on Thursday 7th April. Here are some reasons why you may consider voting for me:

I have the skills to do the job

I've been living in The Gillians, Dunstall for 16 years. I love my local area and feel I can represent local issues as a town councillor. I've always worked too. Now retired from the NHS, I have enjoyed various roles as a nurse, midwife, and health visitor. I am organised, hard working and love getting things done.

I care deeply about the local community

Recently I have become a member and trustee of **Burgess Hill Shed** and have been helping to develop an arts and crafts hub at **the Kiln** in the centre of Burgess Hill, where I have set up a **pottery studio** for members to come and enjoy creating with clay. This has given me an opportunity to support local people and help bring a sense of community back after a very challenging time. I believe our community can make changes together and improve where we live and how we live.

Sussex is incredibly beautiful – but it feels neglected by the local and national government. Green spaces are being built on, traffic keeps increasing and the resulting noise and air pollution is deeply concerning. Our health is being damaged, and the Conservative led District Council want to keep building more and more. **Surely our community deserves better?**



I am passionate about protecting green spaces and living sustainably

As your councillor, I will defend wildlife havens against the relentless onward march of the Northern Arc. The area north of Sussex Way is a precious place for nature with important areas of ancient woodland that need to be protected. I will fight to ensure that the bridge to be built from the golf course to The Saffrons is designed to allow wildlife not to be disturbed. I will make sure that the voice of Burgess Hill is heard by Homes England and the planning authority (MSDC) as this area is developed.

Many of us in this ward suffer from traffic noise and pollution. It's all the more important to keep and look after those trees along Sussex Way which give us some kind of buffer against the noise.

Through the lockdowns we've come to realise how important green spaces are to our wellbeing. Yet they are disappearing rapidly and once they are gone, they'll be lost forever. This is not good enough. We *must* conserve our precious environment for our children and grandchildren.



This by-election has come about because, as residents of Dunstall Ward, we have not been served by our **Conservative** councillor for the last three years. We deserve better.

When you elect a Green councillor, you know they will engage, attend meetings and work hard: the four Greens on Burgess Hill Town Council have an exemplary attendance record and work hard to help their residents. I'm not in this for my CV! Thanks to your support, at the last district election in 2019 **the Green lost out to the Conservative by just one vote after a recount.** Greens can win here!



I will speak up for residents about this **dangerously narrow pavement** along London Rd. Years of vegetation have encroached. Parents & children have to walk single-file along here next to fast, downhill traffic. Passers-by have to step out into the road.

I will badger WSCC to sort out the ash trees and these terrible **potholes** which have been like this for years: **What an entrance to Burgess Hill!**

As the newly built Northern Arc is populated, there will be even more of an overload on stretched local services: The **closure of Burgess Hill's Children and Family centres** such as The Gattons, and threats to youth services, is short–sighted: it will cost more in the long run with unsupported needs such as post–natal depression, lack of breast feeding support and the knock–on effects of poor health outcomes.

And, at a time when our youth – the future of the planet – need support and to relearn what a safe and happy childhood means, their services are being reduced drastically (70% funding cut nationally).

Our town centre has been turned into a wasteland, with so many empty shops.

I would add my voice to the other town councillors calling MSDC and New River to account: they need to listen to the people of Burgess Hill and give us back our town centre!



Best Wishes,

hail

PS. I live in this ward, I come from the nitty-gritty world of the NHS, I will turn up to meetings & speak out for residents!



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