



The Rose

NORTH EAST HERTS LABOUR PARTY www.nehertslabour.org.uk

Labour candidate **DAVID KIRKMAN** says . . .

It's no time to change our government



DAVID KIRKMAN

. . . but it is time to change your MP

The General Election will be a choice about the change we want for Britain.

Labour's vision for Britain is fundamentally optimistic - based on our enduring belief that Britain's greatest strength is the talent and

enterprise of its people.

Even in tough times we can achieve great things.

And we will remain true as always to the values of fairness and responsibility for which we stand.

Tories' view of the future

The Conservatives offer change to benefit the privileged few - a change we cannot afford.

The Tories' vision for Britain is fundamentally pessimistic - about a Britain

broken and with only an age of austerity ahead.

The Conservative approach is to abandon the responsibility of government, to let the recession take its course and to leave people to sink or swim.



Your choice

LABOUR

Family Finances

TORIES

We have given 22 million basic rate taxpayers a £145 cut; the £75 above inflation increase in the child element of the Child Tax Credit is worth up to £2,235 a year for families; and bringing forward the increase in Child Benefit is worth an additional £22 on average to every family with children.

The Tories have opposed the stimulus which is delivering real help to people. The Tories would cut tax credits and the Child Trust Fund. Its first priority is an inheritance tax cut which would give £200,000 to the richest 3,000 estates in the country.

LABOUR

Education

TORIES

By 2011 we are committed to ensuring all schools have at least 30 per cent of their pupils achieving five good GCSEs including English and maths. More than half failed this benchmark in 1997.

The Tories would make cuts to schools now and in the future, jeopardising discipline, standards and school building plans. They plan to spend some of this reduced budget on schools set up by parents (the Swedish model) which the Swedish chief inspector of schools has said does not improve education.

LABOUR

Older people

TORIES

Labour will introduce a new national care service, and as a starting point next year personal care will be free for those with the highest needs.

The Tories do not support a national care service and David Cameron's plans for an £8,000 insurance payment at age 65 would do nothing for people unless they leave their homes and move into permanent residential care.

LABOUR

Crime

TORIES

Taking tough and necessary measures to combat crime and anti-social behaviour. Investing in neighbourhood police teams and new technology to make our streets safer. Since 1997 there are over 16,000 more police officers.

The Tories voted against automatic five year minimum sentences for carrying an illegal gun, against tougher sentences for murder and violent offences and increasing the maximum penalty for causing death by dangerous driving