

Sean Bennett

FOR NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK MAYORAL CANDIDATE

AT A GLANCE

- 27 years of living, studying, and working in Norfolk and Suffolk.
- Professional experience in education, the NHS, NGOs, and the creative and tech sectors.
- Norwich South Parliamentary
 Candidate 2024.
- 18 party roles since 2021 at local, regional, state, federal, and international levels.
 Currently incumbent in 8.

BACKGROUND

My life has been spent in both the wonderful counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. Having grown up in Felixstowe, on the Suffolk coast, before moving to Norfolk to study, I have the unique pleasure of calling both counties home.

As such, I have seen first hand how local government has changed across this area in the last two decades. As national and international developments have precipitated rising costs of living, a housing crisis, an overburdened NHS, and countless other challenges, strong local champions are now more important than ever in these counties and beyond.

That is what I want to be for the people of Norfolk and Suffolk – a local champion. After all, that is what we do best in the Liberal Democrats. Though I may be younger than some candidates, I bring with me years of political experience and professional knowledge from across a wide range of industries, including some of those that are most in need of support in our area.

Norfolk and Suffolk are facing a monumental change to their local government. In the years ahead, these two proud, and often very different, counties deserve a mayor who is at home in both, with a unique understanding not only of their differences, but of their shared challenges too.

THE PLAN

- Foster an open and constructive working relationship with the new unitary councils on a cross-party basis, working together for the betterment of Norfolk and Suffolk cooperatively rather than antagonistically.
- Contribute ambitiously to local housing targets with a minimum target of 40% social housing among new developments across the two counties, in line with the 2024 Liberal Democrat Manifesto.
- Work with relevant civil society groups and government agencies
 to create a comprehensive plan for combating climate change
 and protecting the outstanding natural environments in Norfolk
 and Suffolk, with a particular focus on cleaning and protecting our
 waterways and coasts.
- Bridging the urban/rural divide by strengthening public transport links and infrastructure maintenance across and in between both counties, as well as ensuring all communities get regular opportunities to meet with local government and the mayoralty so that issues don't fall through the cracks.
- Increase transparency and public trust in local government through measures such as the introduction of more detailed itemised council tax bills, giving taxpayers more information as to where their money goes and why.
- Work with local communities to combat prejudice against minority groups and set a culture of tolerance from the mayors office down, ensuring safety for all people in our counties.

CONTACT



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