

**Christmas Update 2009**

# Conor Burns

a strong voice for Bournemouth West,  
Alderney & Branksome East.



**Conservatives**





## Focus on crime and anti-social behaviour

From survey replies and listening to local people Conor knows that fear of crime is rising. People fear going out after dark, being burgled or robbed on the street. They also worry that our town centres are becoming 'no go' zones at night due to drunken behaviour.

### Policing

People rightly want to see more visible community policing. This means police on the streets. To do that we must cut the paperwork that keeps officers at their desks.

We also need fairer funding for policing. Dorset is the second lowest funded police force in England and Wales. That is just not fair or right.

### Anti-social behaviour

Policies to deal with anti-social behaviour have failed. A group of cross party MPs has put the cost of anti-social behaviour at £3.4 billion. ASBOs are seen as 'a badge of honour' and two thirds are breached. Half of issued fines go unpaid.

Yet we know that this leads to more serious crime. Young people need to be given a chance to change. This requires education, good youth provision and positive role models.

Alcohol is also a key factor and Conservatives are proposing to introduce significant price increases on problem drinks associated with anti-social behaviour, giving tough new powers to local councils to prevent cheap sale of super-strength beers, ciders and alcopops.

### Honesty in sentencing

Conservatives will increase prison capacity by 5,000 places above Labour's plans and will scrap Labour's disastrous policy of early release, introducing honesty in sentencing. Offenders will receive minimum and maximum sentences.

### Causes of crime

We cannot tackle crime unless we also address the causes of crime, such as family breakdown, drug abuse and binge drinking.



Conor Burns raising crime and policing issues with Dorset Chief Constable, Martin Baker.



Conor Burns and Talbot and Branksome Woods Councillor Andrew Morgan talking to local residents and police about anti-social behaviour problems in Grafton Close.



Conor Burns discussing local anti-social behaviour issues with Shadow Home Secretary Chris Grayling MP in Poole.



Conor Burns being shown a new interactive tool at the StreetWise centre, which works with young people to teach them how to keep safe.



Conor in Redhill Park examining the problems of litter after gangs had been drinking late into a Friday night.

## Powers must come back to Britain

### Conor Burns comments on the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty

At the last general election all three parties promised that the British people would have their say on the Lisbon Treaty in a referendum. This autumn Gordon Brown broke that promise and the Treaty was ratified. This is why there is so little trust in politicians.

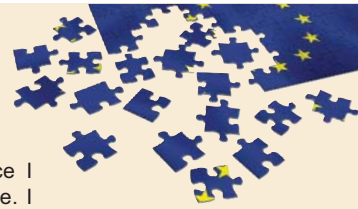
I have opposed the loss of

powers to the EU since I became politically aware. I have even stood up to my own Party when I thought it was wrong. My generation has never had any say on this issue – indeed no one under 52 has ever had a say.

There must be a relationship between votes cast and policies changing. That is now not the case as the EU puts on the final garments of full statehood including an

EU foreign secretary, now filled by the never-elected by anyone Baroness Ashton.

The leader of my party is right: you cannot have a referendum on something that is already in law. But he is also right that powers must come back to Britain. We will ensure that the voice of the people is heard by the political elite.



## Poppy Appeal



Conor volunteered again this year for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, collecting in Bournemouth town centre. The appeal raised nearly £15,000 this year in Bournemouth.

Conor said: "I have been supporting the Poppy Appeal as a volunteer for years but I was struck this year at how things are different. The constant losses in Afghanistan have brought the debt we owe to our service personnel to the front of our thoughts. This year it was easy to collect. There was a real sense of togetherness: students, the elderly and especially young parents wanting to explain to their children what it was all about. I felt proud to be British."

## Dorset Fire & Rescue



There are two full time fire stations in the Bournemouth West constituency, where on top of regular duties staff identify vulnerable people and install – free of charge – smoke alarms.

When it comes to funding, Dorset gets a raw deal, with the third lowest grant at just £15.34 per person compared to £39.85 for Cleveland and just under £30 for Humberside. If Dorset even got the average there would be £3 million extra to spend. Conor believes a rebalance of resources is desperately needed.

With so much worry and uncertainty in our country today I hope that we all find some peace and calm during the Christmas break. This is a time for family and friends. When I attend Church in Bournemouth Town Centre this Christmas I will be thinking especially of those who are alone at this time and those who are serving our country in the Armed Forces and away from friends and loved ones at this time.

I wish all local people a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.






**Bournemouth and Poole are great places to live and work. Yet there are real challenges. We have too much anti-social behaviour. Too many children are not getting the start in life they deserve. The debt Gordon Brown has run up means every child is born with £22,500 of government debt. Our country needs change.**

**In 2010 we will have a general election. This current Parliament needs to be put out of its misery. It will fall to a new generation to restore trust. I have tried to show in my campaigning how I will do that locally. I live locally in Westbourne and am part of the community I want to serve. I am making myself as accessible as possible - publishing an email address that only I see and reply to. Answering every survey sent to me personally. Doing my very best to help people with problems they have. I want to be Bournemouth West's champion in Westminster and not Westminster's apologist here.**

**I cannot promise to always tell you what you want to hear, but I will always tell it straight.**

 **Conservatives**

# Your New Year wish...

With a new year almost upon us, Conor Burns would like to know what your priorities for change are - either locally or for Britain. Please use the space below to tell Conor what matters most to you and your family...



Please continue on separate paper if required.

So that we have a representative sample of replies, please could you indicate which Party you would support if there were a General Election tomorrow?

- |                                       |                                     |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservative | <input type="checkbox"/> Labour     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lib Dem     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UKIP         | <input type="checkbox"/> Green      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure       | <input type="checkbox"/> Won't vote |                                      |

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return this form to: **FREEPOST RRZT-ZCKB-AZEH, Bournemouth West Conservatives, 135 Hankinson Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH9 1HR**