



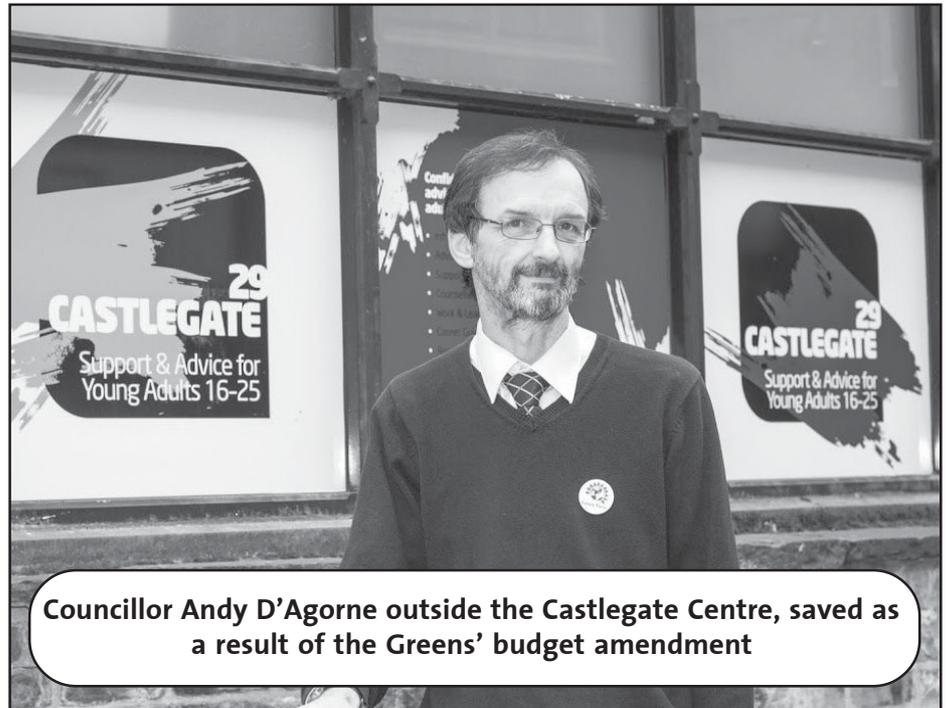
### Green budget saves Castlegate Centre and Yearsley Pool

A successful Green Party budget amendment has saved a number of key services and reduced cuts to children's centres and libraries. Green Party councillors negotiated the budget changes in the 'hung council' situation, since neither Labour nor the Lib Dems and Tories combined could secure a majority.

The Green Party amendment included:

- keeping the Castlegate young people's service in its current form for at least the next year;
- Council funding (up to £300,000 per annum) for Yearsley Pool for up to 5 years, to guarantee its future whilst a new business case is being implemented;
- £100,000 put back into Children's Centres;
- reversing a £50,000 cut to libraries;
- keeping the Council's own apprenticeships scheme (proposed for abolition);
- protecting school crossing patrols and road safety;
- funding a trial free city centre shuttle bus.

Green Group leader Andy D'Agorne said, 'There's no denying that whatever budget is passed in the



Councillor Andy D'Agorne outside the Castlegate Centre, saved as a result of the Greens' budget amendment

face of the reduction in Government funding (by almost half since 2009), this is inevitably a cuts budget. We shouldn't pretend otherwise. We are also opposed to the amount of privatisation that Labour is prepared to accept. However, we believe that by voting for this budget we have protected some very important services whilst also investing in the future.

Labour's original budget had already included measures from previous Green budget amendments or manifesto commitments such as boosting mental health services, a voluntary sector capacity building fund, an energy officer to focus on tackling fuel poverty, better enforcement services, reduced bus fares for young people and investment in respite care for those dealing with dementia.



## Green Party

### for the common good

See the York Green Party website:  
[york.greenparty.org.uk](http://york.greenparty.org.uk)



## Action on needle risk

A bin store area used as a drug den by several men has been secured with a lockable gate after residents of Barbican Mews raised concerns with Green councillors. Andy D'Agorne contacted the management company who agreed to install the gate, and police patrols have been alerted to the problem.



**Cllr Andy D'Agorne with the new lockable bin store**



## Which party really represents your views?

Website [voteforpolicies.org.uk](http://voteforpolicies.org.uk) is proving how popular Green Party policies are. The national manifesto focuses on six key themes:

- Free Education
- Publicly owned Health Service
- Fairer Economy
- Decent Homes
- Better Transport
- Safe climate

For further details see [www.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.greenparty.org.uk)

## Housing challenges

The Danesmead estate built by Beazer homes in the 1990's was designed as a model mixed community, with bungalows and family houses. A recent plan to convert a bungalow into a five

bedroom house threatened to undermine this. However the application was withdrawn after Green councillor Andy D'Agorne requested it be called in to be decided by committee. He has suggested to residents that drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan might provide longer term protection for the estate.

Plans to develop the former Convent on Lawrence St into high quality student accommodation has however been approved. Following action by Green councillors many of the buildings were listed and so will be sympathetically adapted. The orchard and some open space and surrounding walls will also be retained. Green councillor Andy D'Agorne raised concerns about parking impact and road safety, demanding safety features for cyclists crossing to and from the development.

## Are you registered to vote?

To vote on May 7th you must be on the local election register by 20th April. Everyone in the household needs to apply individually – but can do this online at [gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://gov.uk/register-to-vote) using your National Insurance number (on pay slips etc)

## Are you a student?

You can still register and help elect Green councillors for York, even if you choose to vote at home for the General Election. You are actually legally required to register in your term time address – this helps to secure the right level of funding for an area and gives you proof of your local address. Do it today!

# Green Party

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