

Simon James

making the European Parliament relevant to Londoners

Generally the Liberal Democrats have under performed at European elections getting our lowest percentage across London in these elections. Its time we changed that.

The question is how.

All too often what people vote on at European elections are issues such as Treaty changes and the euro when these are decided by national governments so they are issues best addressed at general elections. What the European Parliament actually deals with are issues such as the environment and consumer protection – areas which we have championed and that we lead on in councils across the country.

I believe we have to make people realise what these elections are really about and that these are Liberal Democrat strengths.

We need to show that the European Parliament is relevant to people's every day lives on subjects such as this and that **we** are the party who best represent their aspirations.

I believe as a Lib Dem councillor who represents UK local government at a European level (I am one of the 3 UK Liberal Democrat members of the Congress of the Council of Europe) that I am ideally placed to push this agenda forward.

My internationalism and belief in the European ideal is what brought me into this party and I hope you give me the opportunity to serve as one of your MEPs here in London. I have served as International Officer of LDYS and was elected as Vice-President of Liberal International's youth wing IFLRY in 1995. As a three times parliamentary candidate (increasing the Lib Dem vote every time) and as a member of the Sustainable Development Committee of the Congress of the Council of Europe I believe I have the experience and commitment we need to push out environmental commitments to the voters of London and increase our representation in the European Parliament. Please support me with your first preference vote for an effective candidate who can help give us more Liberal Democrat MEPs in London.



Simon addressing the Congress of the Council of Europe where he is one of the 3 UK Liberal Democrat members

A record of experience

- Member of the Congress of the Council of Europe 2005 - present
- Kingston Councillor 2002 - present
- Kingston Council Executive Member 2005 - present
- Chair of Licensing, Kingston Council 2003 - present
- Parliamentary Candidate (Spelthorne 2005, Tooting 2001 and 1997)
- Vice-president International Federation of Liberal and Radical Youth (youth wing of Liberal International) 1995-1997
- International Officer LDYS 1993-1995
- Member of London Region Liberal Democrat Executive 1992-1994

Simon James 1