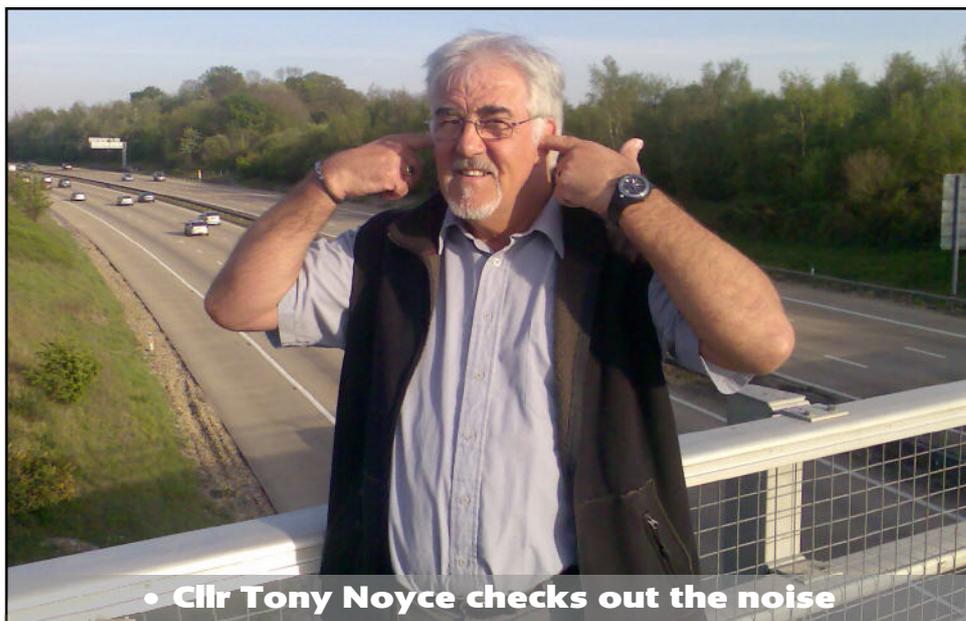


## Local councillors take noise battle to Europe M27 noise the fight continues



• Cllr Tony Noyce checks out the noise



**Cllr Bruce Tennent reports:** we are still pressing the Highways Agency for a quieter surface on the M27. The current position is:-

- The Highways Agency say they will not resurface the West End section of the M27 purely for noise reasons.
- M27 sections have been repaired with low-noise tarmac but only after road break up due to poor foundations.
- However, West End's M27 section was built to last and has good foundations so will not see a new surface.

Help is at hand from the European Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC or END – it concerns noise from road, rail and air traffic and from industry, and this directive requires :-

- a) The determination of exposure to environmental noise, through noise mapping.
- b) Provision of information on environmental noise and its effects on the public.
- c) Adoption of action plans, based upon noise mapping results, which should be designed to manage noise issues and effects, including noise reduction.
- d) Preservation by the member states of environmental noise quality where it is good.

I will now be asking our MEP Sharon Bowles to help press the Highways Agency to meet its END responsibilities.

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**Liberal Democrats oppose imprisoning people without telling them why**

# No to 42 days



**Cllr David Goodall reports:** The Liberal Democrats have consistently worked with the Government and others to agree effective laws to tackle terrorism. But we are not willing to go along with measures which are ineffective, illiberal and designed just to look tough. So we are leading the fight against the Government's plans to extend detention without charge to 42 days.



Liberal Democrats oppose this measure because:-

- 28 days detention is too long - far more than any other democratic country in the world
- It is counter-productive - alienating the people whose help we most need to fight terrorism
- No case for it - The Government has failed to present the convincing evidence that is needed

Instead Liberal Democrats propose:-

- Post-charge questioning - if allowed this would reduce the period of time that people need to be detained before a charge. And this is proposed in the current Bill and supported by the Liberal Democrats.
- Use intercept evidence in court - if allowed this would also reduce the period of time that people need to be detained before a charge and most other countries do allow the use of this material as evidence.
- Upgrading of charges - initially lesser charges could be brought based on intercept evidence and before trial upgraded if and when evidence of more serious crimes becomes available to the police.

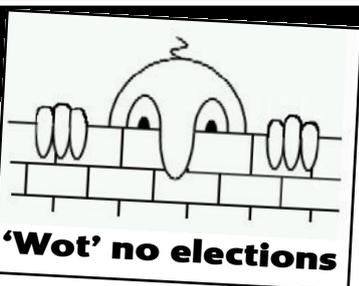
Together these three measures would allow the police to charge suspects earlier, give the police time to build up more evidence and bring further charges as required.

The current Government appears to believe it is ok to lock a person up for 28 days, now 42 days, without even telling them why. This is fundamentally wrong. It is in stark contrast to other democratic countries where the pre-charge detention period is much shorter, for example:-

- |                               |                                  |                                |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Australia – 12 days maximum | • Ireland – 7 days maximum       | • France – 6 days maximum      |
| • Spain – 5 days maximum      | • Russia – 5 days maximum        | • Italy – 4 days maximum       |
| • Germany – 2 days maximum    | • United States – 2 days maximum | • New Zealand – 2 days maximum |
| • Canada – 1 day maximum      |                                  |                                |

No other country with a common law system has sought such a lengthy period of detention without charge. This fundamental departure from our traditional principles of British justice should only be considered as a last resort, not just a policy to make a Government "look tough".

**see [www.libdems.org.uk/justice/issues/noto42days.html](http://www.libdems.org.uk/justice/issues/noto42days.html) more information**



**Cllr Carol Boulton reports:** Some have been asking what happened to the West End elections this year. The answer is simple: Borough and County election cycles mean that one year in every four West End has no local election.

However, fear not for those who really missed it, next year sees both the County Council and European Parliamentary elections.

And Gordon Brown may even want a General !!

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# Council & Police Thwart Hedge End Car 'Cruise Club' Tackling Dangerous Car Event



**Cllr Joyce Sortwell reports:** The Police working with the Council were able to thwart a car 'Cruise' Event at Hedge End. The joint operation involved officers from the Safer Neighbourhoods team from Hedge End, the Roads Policing Unit from Totton and the Environmental Health team from Eastleigh Borough Council.

When officers arrived at about 9pm they estimated that 100 to 150 people were on site. Some had vehicles and others were spectators lining the street ready to watch the vehicles racing/cruising.

The first vehicle stopped and issued with a section 59 warning for anti-social use of a motor vehicle was caught by one of the Police Community Support Officers. In total approximately 25 vehicles were stopped and checked by Police, the Environmental Health Officer and the Prohibitions Officer.

The vehicles were checked for noise emissions, with levels up to 112 dB measured, as many of the vehicles were fitted with non-standard exhaust equipment. As well as issuing a number of fixed penalty tickets the measurement procedure generated great interest and discussion amongst drivers and onlookers and emphasised to them the problems that noisy exhausts cause to local residents. The Environmental Health Officer said :-

*"The problems of cruising cars has been a big local problem in the area for quite some time and this joint exercise gave a positive signal that noisy vehicles cause widespread local distress to residents and will not be tolerated".*

The following day Police Sergeant Dave Tongs commented :-

*"The operation had the most impact within the first hour. The large crowds and vehicles dispersed putting an end to the event which causes unnecessary noise and danger in our community."*

*"Last night's operation went really well and will be carried out again with assistance from our partner agencies, should we receive information that another meeting is planned in Hedge End."*

One of the main ways the Borough Council works with the Police, Resident Associations, Parish & Town Councils, ordinary residents and the County Council's Youth Service is through the Community Safety Forum. We generally meet once a month to discuss issues in the area and work out a plan of action or change of tack to tackle each issue.

If you believe you can contribute to making our neighbourhood a safer place to live and would like to come along to the Community Safety Forum for West End, contact us and we will let you know about the next meeting.

## Liberal Democrats Keeping in Touch

Your FOCUS Team are always available:

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### West End Parish Council

**Joyce Sortwell, John Read, Bruce Tennent, Tony Noyce, Graham Sortwell, Pearl Hicks, Peter Humphreys**



## What can we do for YOU?

Now 4 ways to contact your West End Liberal Democrats

**On Issues, Ideas, Information to Help us - Help you**

- ① write to West End Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST, Eastleigh, SO50 9AA
- ② visit the website [www.davidgoodall.org.uk](http://www.davidgoodall.org.uk)
- ③ phone
- ④ email



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## HGVs Restricted

**Cllr Tony Noyce reports:** After a Public Inquiry, the Traffic Commissioners have decided to put restrictions on three companies operating goods vehicles using the Chalcroft Distribution Park in Burnetts Lane, by not allowing lorry movements between 9.00pm and 5.00am.

The objections to the HGV licences from the Burnett's Lane Residents Association were supported by both the Borough Council and the MP Chris Huhne. The Traffic Commissioners have also limited the speed of HGVs to 20 mph on Burnetts Lane.



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