

English Council Rep

From Richard Cole



An experienced voice on English Council

I have served on English Council for the last few years, with good attendance. I have also been on the English Finance Committee, on which I have been able to win better information and support for the English Party.

In particular, I was able to identify that our region was being short changed, and win extra cash for us.

I am not standing on a single issue but to keep winning for our region - so we can back councillors, campaigners and MOPs better.

About me

I have been a member of the Liberal Democrats (or its predecessors) for around 40 years. During that time, I have done most roles in local and regional parties. I have served as a councillor and been an agent for a number of elections.

I bring my experience and knowledge of what it is to run the party locally and regionally to the English Council Executive.

It is vital that the English Party understands the reality of how it feels to be an officer, campaigner or candidate on the ground.

About the English Party

Following the General Election, the English Party has a considerable job to do in supporting regions and local parties to build. It won't be easy – **we face significant challenges**, including an already evident Reform UK, and the Green Party.

We need to make sure that both those on the ground and running the party at various levels have the tools to build and the support they need. This is particularly important for all those areas that fought challenging campaigns in the General Election, only to see vote share drop and/or lost their deposits.

While a joined up approach is important, we will not achieve this by centralisation or ceding everything to the Federal Party. **The English Party must empower and support local teams and other parts of the party to be able to deliver.**

I am also a champion for diversity within the party and amongst our elected representatives. On this, there has been plenty of talk but too little action.

I will push this hard.

Richard Cole

