

by Mark Pack 5 years ago

# Eastleigh by-election: 13 February round-up

Once again, most of the Eastleigh by-election news seems to be dominated by candidates saying things that hand a political gift to their opponents. First up, the Labour Party.

 **John O'Farrell**  
mrjohnofarrell

Proud to have been selected as the Labour candidate for [#Eastleigh](#). Thank you so much for all your messages of support.

 5 YEARS AGO

 **Mark Pack**  
markpack

Should Labour supporters vote tactically to beat the Tories? "Go for it" said John O'Farrell [bit.ly/VTRyOA](http://bit.ly/VTRyOA)

 5 YEARS AGO



**Eastleigh: I'd vote Lib Dem to keep the Tories out of a marginal, Labour's John O'Farrell claimed - Telegraph**

John O'Farrell, an author and broadcaster, was last night selected by Labour to contest Eastleigh, which is expected to be a close-run ba...

 ROWENA MASON

 **Robin Brant**  
robinbrant

In answer to q from student audience about lab plans for higher ed fees o'farrell says he 'can't remember' and defers to Harman.

 5 YEARS AGO



**Labour candidate 'has a lot to learn about Eastleigh'**

Labour candidate John O'Farrell 'has a lot to learn about Eastleigh' 5:05pm Wednesday 13th February 2013 in Eastleigh John O'Farrell and ...

 DAILYECHO

 Thumbnail for Labour hasn't got a clue what it's doing in Eastleigh - Telegraph Blogs  
DAN HODGES

**Labour hasn't got a clue what it's doing in Eastleigh - Telegraph Blogs**

What's Labour's strategy in Eastleigh? I know what it should be. Labour officials should be scurrying around telling anyone who will list...

Mind you, all that means there is an upside for the Labour campaign spending time talking to people who can't vote. At least they don't risk losing their vote:

 **Robin Brant**  
robindbrant@bt.com

Staff member at college labour o'farrell launch tells me only about 5 of the 35 audience are old enough to vote in coming #eastleigh by Elex

 5 YEARS AGO

 **Robin Brant**  
robindbrant@bt.com

On his not-being-from-Eastleigh o'farrell says he 'doesn't understand' why it's important. Says will live in constituency at weekends.

 5 YEARS AGO

 **Robin Brant**  
robindbrant@bt.com

Asked to name some high tech industry in Eastleigh o'farrell refuses to answer, says 'wont play the list game'. Defence & contact lenses.

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On to UKIP, joining in the 'oops did I really say that?' tradition:

 **UKIP candidate Diane James says sorry over Romanian 'crime' slur | The Times**

The UK Independence Party's candidate in Eastleigh has apologised after making remarks which linked Romanian immigrants with a natural pr...



Meanwhile, over in the Lib Dem camp on the Eastleigh by-election trail:

 **Lib Dems boost Pupil Premium**

THE Liberal Democrat candidate Mike Thornton was joined by volunteers across Eastleigh yesterday to highlight the impact of the Pupil Pre...



 **Mike Thornton in favour of equal marriage**

Lib Dem candidate for Eastleigh Mike Thornton responded yesterday to the question of whether he supports equal marriage. @Beauchamp74 ask...

 HELEN DUFFETT

 **Robin Brant**  
robindbrant@btinternet.com

Lib dem candidate mike Thornton in sticky exchange with student at q&a who says he 'can't afford to go to uni'. David laws now explaining.

 5 YEARS AGO

But let's not forget the Tories. Still trying to avoid talking to the media and to avoid answering questions about the views of their candidate, Maria Hutchings. Which is a bit tricky when you're in the middle of a high-profile by-election.

 **Robin Brant**  
robindbrant@btinternet.com

Maria Hutchings tells BBC she is a 'straight answer' person. Really doesn't want to talk about abortion and her views on ten week limit.

 5 YEARS AGO

**The return of the nasty party? | Michael Crick on Politics**

The return of the nasty party? The Conservative candidate in Eastleigh, Maria Hutchings has sent out the following email to Tory activist...



Moving on to other by-election coverage:

 **Tories and Lib Dems accuse each other of trying to pave over Eastleigh - Telegraph**

During a visit on Monday, Mr Clegg, the deputy Prime Minister, also said the Liberal Democrats are the party to fight for "green spaces" ...

 ROWENA MASON

**'Real marriage' man to contest poll - Regional - Littlehampton Gazette**

An independent candidate hoping to attract votes from disgruntled Tory traditionalists and others opposed to gay marriage is to stand in ...



 **dazprocter**  
dazprocter@dazprocter

Proud to be a candidate in #Eastleigh for #TUSC, I've always bn proud representing members and my community against attacks. #nofinacialgain

 5 YEARS AGO

To end, the Liberal Democrats say thank you...

