

# Kent County Council Labour Group.

## THE REAL VOICE FOR KENT

*News Release*

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### LABOUR SMASHES TARGETS FOR CHILDREN BUT TORY KCC FAILS PARENTS AND CHILDREN IN NORTHFLEET & GRAVESEND WEST.

Labour County Councillor Ray Parker has welcomed the news that the Government has already gone beyond its target for 2,500 Sure Start Children's Centres to be open by the start of this month.

2,906 Sure Start Children's Centres had been opened by the end of March, and more are opening soon.

Ten years ago when Labour came to power, there were no Children's Centres at all, now, there are over 2,900 nationwide. Labour plans to have 3,500 Sure Start Children's Centres by 2010. That's one to serve every community.

Labour is going to keep on investing in Sure Start, but the Conservatives have already said they want to cut its funding by £200 million every year.

Ray Parker said: "It's great news that the Labour Government has already exceeded its target on Sure Start Children's Centres. Children's Centres in my area include Shears Green and Lawn Road, But Tory controlled Kent County Council have been slow in getting these built.

As a matter of fact Lawn should already be being built, but because of Tory KCC's failure to get its act together, it's now not looking likely until September. Kent County Council is failing parents and children in my area and that's simply unacceptable".

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