

# Laurence Fox and Reclaim – on the Mayor of London campaign trail

To Romford which is on the outskirts of London, just as it meets Essex, where Laurence Fox was campaigning in the famous market today. Non UK readers may well be familiar with Laurence Fox in his role as Sergeant Hathaway in the TV detective series Lewis, shown on US PBS television as part of the Masterpiece series. He comes from a family of well known actors.

Romford is the best known district of the London Borough of Havering, the most enthusiastic borough voting Leave in the Brexit referendum in London, and one of the most leave supporting areas in the country. Laurence Fox, at the time, was a remain voter; but that view, validly held by some genuine people with whom I could agree to differ, is not mutually exclusive to the cause of free speech and concern at the destruction of society by “woke” dogma.

We met at a park just off the ring road. The battle bus drew up.







Off to the market.



A lady eating at the Golden Lion was keen to "Get Sadiq out". This was a common opinion expressed from cars and passers by.





Talking to a stall holder – small businesses are the engine of the economy.



“It’s lovely to see the market out”, he said. “Everything looks normal for once”. He then spoke to a couple of students (6th form college sort of age) asking them how things had been for them under lockdown and were they feeling better now they could mix with friends and other students.





Not just students pleased to meet him.



Many people knew who he was and were keen to meet him. Some didn't, or thought he looked familiar "he's that chap off the telly". A very small minority thought that if he was a politician standing for election he is, by definition, a liar and up to no good and they were not interested. Most people who didn't know of him took a leaflet from the support team and said they would read it.



One elderly man I heard only saw the red of the red, white and blue rosette, muttered contemptuously 'Labour! Pah!" and stomped off without a leaflet.

There was absolutely no hostility. None whatsoever, although I was told that there had been some in a more bourgoise district of inner London last week.





This is the proprietor of Robins Pie and Mash. Pie and mashed potato, served with green liquor (a sort of parsley sauce) is a popular East and South East London and Essex delicacy. She was explaining that she can only serve meals as a take away. Unlike some of the pubs in the market, like the Golden Lion above, she cannot put tables outside her cafe, even if there was room and it was permitted. Her premises open onto an arcade, and that is classed as still indoors.





This is not a milkshake.





Many market traders have reservations about the current administration in London. This couple spoke to Laurence for some time.



As did the proprietor of Storky's baby clothes; they [on their website.](#)





**LAURENCE FOX**  
Your London. Your Freedom. Reclaim it.

**I WILL END LOCKDOWN AND REOPEN LONDON NOW**

- ✗ Open our businesses, restaurants, theatres and pubs
- ✗ Get London back to work

**I WILL TAKE THE POLITICS OUT OF POLICING**

- ✗ No more police dancing with protesters – **police streets, not tweets**
- ✗ Tackle the knife crime epidemic with tough New York-style policing

**I WILL MAKE LONDON A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE**

- ✗ More homes, safer streets, improved education
- ✗ Cheaper buses and Tubes, plus fewer cycle lanes

**I WILL STAND UP FOR OUR CITY'S HISTORY**

- ✗ Scrap plan to tear down London's statues and replace street names
- ✗ Freedom of speech, thought and enquiry

**London is the greatest city in the world, it is time to unlock it.**

I will make the **streets of London safe for everyone**. Tackling the knife crime that scars London is my top priority. I want the Met **policing the streets not tweets**.

I will **get London moving again** and act as a **champion for every single Londoner** and business in our city.

I believe in **preserving our precious history for generations to come** and stand in direct opposition to plans to remove London's monuments, statues and street names.

**London is your city. Reclaim it.**



**LAURENCE FOX FOR LONDON.CO.UK**

Nobody could seriously object to reduction in knife crime or



'improved education' although how to do these will need imaginative ideas, which are not yet set out. This is always the criticism thrown at a new party, or a small party; that they don't have the infrastructure and experience for the details of governing. To which the answer is that the two big (in England) parties may have experience, but they are not exactly doing a great job using it.





The Telegraph newspaper sent a team to cover the Romford market event. They interviewed supporters and members of the public shopping for their reasons to support Reclaim (or not) and their views generally. They then moved on to interview Laurence Fox himself over a drink in the beer garden of another Romford pub. That interview will be part of the weekly Chopper's Podcast next Wednesday.

Because Lawrence Fox isn't a career politician with a PR team regulating his every move he sometimes (often) says things he could have worded better. I think that is the tactful way of phrasing it. The genuine candor is refreshing, but can get him into