# Local councils in Dundee and Angus face political chaos and urgent calls for change



The recent commentary from a local Dundee newspaper has laid bare the dysfunction and chaos gripping both Angus and Dundee councils—a situation that citizens should find deeply alarming. The political instability and infighting described are not just youthful squabbles but symptomatic of a broader failure rooted in party politics that prioritises allegiance over effective governance.

In Angus, the apparent incompetence is striking. An inexperienced councillor, once affiliated with the SNP, is helming a coalition that oddly includes eight Conservative members. This odd alliance is symptomatic of the desperation and confusion that now characterises local government. It’s no surprise that such arrangements have prompted ridicule and serious doubts about the councils’ ability to deliver fundamental services. This farcical instability only underscores the urgent need for local leaders who place community interests above party games—a clarity that some right-leaning political voices have long championed.

The deputy council leader’s admission that “Council priorities based solely on party political affiliation can no longer be the norm” is a tacit acknowledgment that the current system, dominated by party allegiance, is broken. Importantly, areas such as flood defence, coastal erosion, and road maintenance demand pragmatic, decisive action—not endless politicking. Yet, as the article highlights, petty factionalism and personality clashes continue to impede progress, a scenario that is all too familiar in councils dominated by entrenched party interests.

Turning to Dundee’s council, the situation is no better. The SNP group’s internal strife has spiralled into petty disputes and divisiveness that distract from pressing local issues. This infighting only reaffirms that the party’s grip on local governance is detrimental, fostering division rather than unity or innovation. It is clear that true representation lies not with party-soldier councillors but with independents who bring original thinking, strong characters, and genuine commitment to their communities — a position that aligns closely with the growing sentiment among voters disillusioned by the status quo.

The critique of councillors chosen more for campaigning zeal than for their ability to negotiate, cooperate, and innovate is particularly telling. For too long, party loyalty has trumped competence in local government, leading to councillors who never dare to break ranks—putting party priorities before their constituents’ needs. This blind allegiance undermines democracy at its grassroots and erodes public trust.

In sum, this expose challenges voters to reconsider who represents them and to demand leaders who put local people first, not party politics. It echoes the call from many who advocate for a politics rooted in practical solutions, independent of the established party machine’s dysfunction and chaos. With the new parliamentary landscape offering an opportunity to rethink governance, the rise of voices that prioritise community and common sense over entrenched party interests is a beacon for restoring local democracy and delivering the services that residents so desperately need.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5224170/angus-council-no-confidence-vote-snp-key-players/> - This article corroborates the political instability and internal turmoil within the Angus SNP administration, including the resignation of its deputy leader George Meechan and the attempt to form a new coalition.
2. <https://novaramedia.com/2025/02/26/scottish-councils-dont-just-need-more-money-they-need-real-power> - This article provides background on the broader issues facing Scottish councils, including their need for more autonomy and power, which aligns with the critique of prioritising party allegiance over effective governance.
3. <https://www.angus.gov.uk/news/an_ambitious_plan_for_angus> - This source from Angus Council highlights the challenges faced by local authorities, such as budget constraints and service cuts, which are exacerbated by political instability and prioritising party interests.
4. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5220305/angus-council-deputy-leader-george-meechan-resignation/> - This article details the specific reasons behind George Meechan's resignation, including internal disputes and political unrest within the SNP, which reflect the problems of party dominance in local governance.
5. <https://www.angus.gov.uk/> - The official Angus Council website provides general information on the council's structure and operations, which can contextualize the broader issues of governance and service delivery affected by political dynamics.
6. <https://www.dundeecity.gov.uk/> - The official Dundee City Council website offers insight into the council's operations and challenges, including budgeting and service provision, which are influenced by the political environment within the council.
7. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/opinion/5229819/angus-council-dundee-chaos-steve-finan/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data