



**ZOË**  
**GARBETT**  
**LONDON**

Green  
Party

**A PLAN FOR A GREENER,  
MORE AFFORDABLE LONDON**

**2024 LONDON GREEN PARTY MANIFESTO**

# ZOË GARBETT - YOUR CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF LONDON

"I love London. From the park in Richmond to the market in Haringey, from theatres in Camden to pubs in Croydon. Our city is incredible - but sadly is just not working for too many people.

Our City desperately needs a new direction. We must address inequality, the housing crisis, and the climate emergency. I have a clear plan to make London fairer and more affordable.

As a councillor, I hear how Londoners need better housing, safer streets and reliable, cheaper transport. I listen to people - and act on what they tell me. I'm also a renter; I know how insecure and unfair it can feel. I have a strong track record of delivering for residents - earning me the trust

of diverse communities. And I'm ready to do so much more.

People deserve to be healthy and have the opportunity to thrive. I've held senior roles in public health, adult social care as well as children's health services in the NHS and managed huge budgets and projects with communities and I've made a difference.

This next term of the Mayor is critical to addressing the climate emergency - we must act now and I know what needs to be done.

Your three Green Assembly members Siân Berry, Caroline Russell and Zack Polanski do brilliant work holding the Mayor of London to account, and I'm so proud to stand alongside them as your Green candidate for Mayor of London."



Zoë Garbett with Green London Assembly Members Siân Berry, Zack Polanski and Caroline Russell

**SUPPORT FOR THE GREEN PARTY IS GROWING**  
**THE TIME FOR A GREEN MAYOR IS NOW**  
**PLEASE USE ALL THREE VOTES FOR THE GREENS IN LONDON**



# THE PLAN LONDON NEEDS TO THRIVE



Zoë Garbett (centre) with Green London Assembly candidates

London is an incredible international city in so many ways. Just a short walk from my doorstep in Hackney, cultures from all over the world mingle, many from families who came here generations ago to make a home in our welcoming city. Our diversity is our strength.

London desperately needs a Mayor that understands the issues that most Londoners are facing. It needs a Mayor who knows that for this city to work, it has to work for everyone.

That is exactly what a Green Mayor of London can offer. Alongside elected Green Assembly members, a Green Mayor will work to a bold plan that tackles Londoners' biggest concerns. We have a plan for a better London. Greens will cut daily living costs, prioritise safe, affordable housing for all, and reform the police to create a service we can trust to keep us safe.

We know many Londoners have been affected by the violence in both Israel and Palestine -

**Greens will cut daily living costs, prioritise safe, affordable housing for all, and reform the police**

the Green Party has called for a bilateral ceasefire, release of all hostages and lasting peace. Greens work to ensure the safety of our communities and don't tolerate hate towards anyone.

We also know Londoners are worried about the climate crisis. More than that, they want to know

why our elected politicians refuse to do anything to tackle the crisis. Homes are being flooded, water supplies threatened in summer droughts and the cost of food and energy is rising faster than people's wages or benefits.

I want London to take responsibility for its emissions and be a climate leader. We must, and can, do more. Our future depends on it.

I have a plan to make London work for everyone.

There has never been a more important time to vote Green.

# MINI-MANIFESTO

## A FAIRER, GREENER LONDON:

We need urgent action on the climate emergency. Greens will act quickly, and put climate at the heart of everything we do. We are the only party who truly understands what action is needed. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Develop the current climate budget process with a clear timeline and projects to meet 2030 commitments
- ▶ Create at least ten major new parks for people to access, children to play in and for nature to thrive, and protect our current green spaces
- ▶ Safeguard our tap water and rivers by holding Thames Water to account, cutting water pollution and waste.

## RIGHT HOMES, RIGHT PRICE:

London is beyond a housing crisis. Greens stand up for everyone's right to affordable, safe housing. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Expand the council housing programme to 'buy the

supply', a Green idea, to help councils to purchase existing family-sized homes from the market and acquire market homes from developers where sales and construction are stalled, by securing grants from the government

- ▶ Demand rent control powers for London, and bring in a two-year freeze when we get them. Immediately establish a Rent Commission to set a new downward trajectory for excessive rents.
- ▶ Set up a Cold Homes Strategy with an insulation and ventilation taskforce to deal with cold and damp homes, prioritising those most in need such as older people, disabled people, and those with a terminal illness.

## A SAFER CITY:

Londoners deserve to live in a safe and healthy city with a police service we can trust to keep us safe. Greens recognise the institutional discrimination in

the Met and the need for urgent, meaningful reform and will:

- ▶ Create a police service of the right people with the right skills who respect London's diversity, working to community priorities and a higher level of accountability.
- ▶ Prioritise youth work, expanding the Young Londoners' Fund and investing in youth workers
- ▶ Fully fund support services for those affected by sexual and domestic violence

## GETTING AROUND OUR CITY:

We all want clean air, and quick, affordable ways to get around our city. Our transport system needs to work for everyone. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Work towards one single, low fare for all public transport journeys in London and immediately freeze bus fares, with free bus travel brought in for under-22s and asylum seekers. Reinstate 24/7 travel for older Londoners.
- ▶ Consult on smarter, fairer road pricing and invest in walking and cycling, including repurposing the Silvertown Tunnel

## CUTTING DAILY LIVING COSTS AND SUPPORTING WORKERS:

So many Londoners fear being priced out of our city. We believe that everyone deserves the chance to thrive. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Extend universal free school meals for secondary school children, helping families stretch tight budgets and supporting the city's children to thrive.
- ▶ Promise a real Living Wage for London, estimated at £16.14, run pilot schemes for a Universal Basic Income and protect workers' rights and trade unions.
- ▶ Support small businesses, making independent trading easier for all of London's sole traders and taking steps to revitalise our high streets by opening up empty council-owned spaces.

## CELEBRATING LONDON'S CULTURE:

Greens will work to put culture on everyone's doorsteps. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Support smaller, local venues and events to survive, and implement a Big Venues Levy to redistribute funding away from the big venues that are already thriving, and towards the small venues that need every penny to survive.
- ▶ Celebrate and support all London's diverse communities

## GIVING YOU MORE POWER:

People need more control over their lives, homes, and neighbourhoods. Greens want communities to have more say, opening decisions up to everyone. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Share power, giving Londoners more of a say over how the Mayor's budget is spent, ensuring decisions are made by the communities they affect, and supporting community groups
- ▶ Push for more powers for London from the national government, to set our own policies on housing, transport, health and more.

## YOU HAVE THREE VOTES IN THIS ELECTION

- Vote 1:** Mayor of London
- Vote 2:** Constituency Assembly Member, to represent your local area
- Vote 3:** London wide Assembly Members - vote for the political party you want to get Assembly Members elected proportionally to reflect your views.

Your Green London wide Assembly Members Siân Berry, Caroline Russell and Zack Polanski have a track record of success for London on a range of issues. **A Green vote here will keep your elected Greens, and add more.**

### YOUR GREEN PARTY LONDON WIDE ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES



Siân Berry AM



Caroline Russell AM



Zack Polanski AM



Zoë Garbett



Benali Hamdache



Scott Ainslie



Ria Patel



Nate Higgins



Claire Sheppard (Lambeth and Southwark)



Shahrar Ali



Pete Elliott

### YOUR GREEN CONSTITUENCY CANDIDATES



Barnet and Camden: Kate Tokley



Bexley and Bromley: Marley King



Brent and Harrow: Nida Al-Fulaj



City and East: Joe Hudson-Small



Croydon and Sutton: Peter Underwood



Ealing and Hillingdon: Jess Lee



Enfield and Haringey: Katie Knight



Greenwich and Lewisham: Karin Tearle



Havering and Redbridge: Kim Arrowsmith



Merton and Wandsworth: Pippa Maslin



North East: Antoinette Fernandez



South West: Chas Warlow



West Central: Rajiv Sinha



Zoë and the Green Party are the only party ready to take the decisive action our climate needs

For decades, Greens have led the way making sure we respond to climate breakdown. Londoners want to live in a city with clean air and water, and thriving green spaces, and leaders to tackle the climate emergency.

The current Mayor has failed to act fast enough. He failed to give us the retrofit revolution he promised. He even took steps in the wrong direction, pushing ahead with the Silvertown Tunnel, even though it will make traffic worse, and he gave

a green light to The City Airport expansion.

People across London are already feeling the impact of extreme weather. Wildfires and floods have closed stations, roads, schools and hospitals, shut down energy supplies and ruined homes. Meanwhile, London is the UK's carbon factory. We must act responsibly and stop churning out greenhouse gases by 2030. The next Mayoral term will be absolutely crucial. The window is closing and

Greens are the only party ready to take decisive action.

Greens know that there is no climate justice without racial, social and economic justice and our climate promises are threaded throughout our manifesto. This chapter contains the headlines. The Green Party will put climate action at the centre of everything we do for our citizens and the environment. All decisions we make will put people and planet before profit.

A Green Mayor will make London a green, responsible city, prepared for the future.

## CLIMATE AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO

- ▶ **Housing:** We will rapidly invest in refurbishing existing buildings with minimal environmental impact, so we demolish less and need fewer new builds. This will lower pollution from construction, while bills will become cheaper once houses need less energy to regulate temperatures.
- ▶ **Transport:** We will make walking, wheeling and cycling safer and easier across inner and outer London by reclaiming public streets for public, active use. We will make public transport affordable and accessible.
- ▶ **Economy:** We will transform the economy and create fairer green jobs. We will help small businesses and workers to transition to green jobs and businesses, while helping high streets to thrive. Under our stewardship, the GLA will

set the best standards for all of London for social and environmental justice. And we will make London's food economy as sustainable as possible.

- ▶ **Democracy:** We will set up

Greens, like Zoë Garbett and Carla Denyer (pictured) will work at all levels of government to ensure the environment is at the centre of all our work

a Citizens' Climate Assembly and a Just Transition Commission to give everyone's views a platform and make our climate plans reflect everyone's needs. We will demand more power

for London from national government and share that power with everyone, so we can target climate mitigation funding to the areas that need it most, and use it in the most effective ways.

## WHAT GREENS HAVE ACHIEVED

Elected Green Assembly Members have held key roles in City Hall, making sure the climate emergency is top of the agenda.

- ▶ Zack Polanski has campaigned hard for the retrofitting of homes in London, bringing to the Mayor's attention the acute shortage of people with the skills to coordinate and deliver improvements to our homes, like insulation, double-glazing and energy efficiencies.
- ▶ Caroline Russell published a report in 2019 on climate risks facing London, exposing that London schools, hospitals and tube stations are all at serious risk as global temperatures continue to rise.
- ▶ Zack Polanski pushed the Mayor into publishing maps that informed people living in basement properties of their flooding risk highlighting the disproportionate impact on those who couldn't afford insurance.
- ▶ Zack Polanski has led work to design a gender and intersectionality responsive climate adaptation plan for London. Working with University College London and

the global expertise of the Gender Responsive Resilience and Intersectionality in Policy and Practice (GRRIPP), Zack has raised awareness of the importance of having diverse and marginalised communities as decision makers.

- ▶ Greens secured stronger protections for green space in the last London Plan.
- ▶ Greens have successfully used the National Park City initiative to strengthen our call for a whole-city approach to green infrastructure.
- ▶ Siân Berry won a review of planning restrictions on solar panels in conservation areas, which restrict householders from generating green power across large parts of London.
- ▶ Greens also secured the u-turn on Gatwick expansion, opened up the conversation on a frequent flyer levy, fought the expansion of City Airport and to ban private jets from our city.
- ▶ Alongside Fossil Free London, Zack Polanski has worked to keep greenwashing corporate sponsorship out of our community events.
- ▶ Greens have listened to and raised the voices of climate campaigners such as organisations campaigning to stop incinerator expansion.

- ▶ As chair of the Environment Committee, Zack Polanski commissioned the first investigation into light pollution who's recommendations, along with our Green Newham councillors, resulted in the rejection of the MSG Sphere - which would have been the largest advertising LED screen on the planet in the Olympic Park - awful for residents and wildlife

## SETTING THE RIGHT TARGETS

Greens will work with communities and scientists to ensure we set the right targets for climate mitigation, and reduce pollution and emissions without further disadvantage to the poorest Londoners.

In 2024, the Met Office expects the annual average temperature increase to exceed 1.5C for the first time. The degree to which we exceed this average safe limit is called 'ecological overshoot'. A Green Mayor will have the political will to limit ecological overshoot to as close to safe levels as possible. To do this we will:

- ▶ Create a Just Transition Commission in partnership with Trade Unions and led by workers to steer our climate

mitigation and adaptation policies in a fair way.

- ▶ Bring all our climate targets and strategies forward to 2030 to limit our contribution to ecological overshoot.
- ▶ Assess and report on the true ecological impact of every decision we make on a quarterly basis to the London Assembly and with dedicated time in every Mayor's Questions Time sessions.
- ▶ Ensure GLA staff have the carbon and pollution literacy to develop healthy, low carbon cultures and encourage all local authorities to do the same.
- ▶ Alongside a Citizens' Climate Assembly, create an independent Climate Emergency Alliance from climate campaigners, community groups and campaign organisations, to support our target-setting and action on climate. The Alliance will be independently run and mandated to advise us and hold our work accountable.
- ▶ Work with councils, the Citizens' Climate Assembly and Climate Emergency Alliance to create viable localised strategies and targets for protecting river networks and smaller, sometimes private green spaces, like

networks of linked back gardens or small parklets, to ensure biodiversity and natural habitats are not lost.

## CLEAN AIR

London has six airports, more car journeys than the rest of the country and huge numbers of deliveries coming and going every day. Thousands of people die from air pollution in London every year and the most deprived parts of our city have the worst air quality. We need to clean up our air now.

The Green Party will work to end the environmental and social injustices of air pollution. We have a strong, strategic plan for reducing pollution from everything we do, while increasing London's green space. Our Transport and Housing chapters have more promises for cleaning up London's air pollution, as those areas need the most change. To achieve this fairly, across London's inner and outer boroughs, we will:

- ▶ Monitor air pollution, share data widely and use what we learn to consult with communities and councils to implement better, stricter action plans.
- ▶ Give clear warning in advance of major air pollution events,

so people can better protect their health.

- ▶ Raise awareness of the damage wood and coal burning causes our environment and help people who rely on them transition from open fires and woodburners, so we can phase them out by the end of the first term in 2028.
- ▶ Speed up City Hall's Healthy Streets programme.

## PROTECTING NATURE

London's ecology is in crisis. Parts of London have no decent green spaces for people or nature to enjoy. Some green spaces feel neglected and unsafe, while others are polluted.

Greens will restore and create new green spaces in London's most deprived areas, so those communities can breathe clean air. We will protect existing green spaces against inappropriate planning applications that cut through the network, depriving plant and animal species of space to migrate, breed and thrive. Then, we will focus on connecting and growing what we have, with a huge, strategic approach to expanding nature in the city.

Greens will do more than just reduce emissions in our city. We



**Zoë will protect important Green spaces, like the successful campaign to protect Warren Farm in Ealing**

will protect and nurture nature for the good of all, capturing carbon and creating beautiful spaces for everyone to enjoy, by:

- ▶ Declaring a biodiversity emergency.
- ▶ Convening a network of ecologists across the city to share knowledge and best practice and bringing together partners to deliver biodiversity net gain.
- ▶ Creating a Green Grid strategy in partnership with the National Park City initiative and numerous local groups,

to identify, improve and protect local green spaces and nature corridors.

- ▶ Our plan to increase ecological corridors will link up London's outer boroughs through orbital active travel routes, as well as create new, sustainable routes in and out of central London.
- ▶ Immediately stopping the use of all pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, on GLA-controlled land and pushing councils to adopt the same policy for public spaces, footpaths and estates within two years.



**Greens will create ten new major parks in the areas that need them most**

- ▶ Making sure all parks and green spaces, including roadside planters and verges support healthy populations of bees and other pollinators, alongside upgrading bus stops with solar power generation and bee-friendly plants on roofs.

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Parks are absolutely vital to capturing carbon emissions and creating healthy, beautiful spaces for local communities to enjoy. Yet access to parks is still too unfair in London. African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South are likely to live five

minutes walking distance from a green space and many existing spaces are not designed for the local communities they serve. London has just half of the green spaces needed for a city of almost ten million people.

Greens will put strategic policies in place to protect existing parks and dramatically expand the availability of green, open spaces, making them more inviting, and readily available to everyone. Starting with parts of London with little or no access, we will:

- ▶ Reinforce protections for existing spaces, by endorsing the Parks Charter and Charter

for Open Spaces and helping communities to create and register their own garden streets, street parks and town and village greens.

- ▶ Create at least ten major new parks for people to access, children to play in and for nature to thrive, including sites like Leigh Road Sports Ground in East Ham.
- ▶ Prevent property developers from 'land banking'; fencing off and neglecting public open spaces.
- ▶ Create six large, new nature friendly community farms to encourage food growing and showcase the benefits gardening brings to wellbeing.
- ▶ Encourage local authorities and private landowners to register more town and village greens, to protect these vital spaces from development.
- ▶ Establish a Spaces Czar to match communities up with available space, unblock any barriers to access, bring more green space into use and help with securing funding.
- ▶ Share clear advice on how parks can achieve Green Flag Awards and encourage more councils to work for them.

- ▶ Support local communities in designating green spaces Assets of Community Value.
- ▶ Support communities and residents to create 1000 new, traffic-free street parks or garden streets by 2030, targeting areas with limited access to green spaces.
- ▶ We will at least double the grants available from the Green City Fund and target more disadvantaged areas and excluded groups, with additional staff and resources to deliver this promise.

## TREES AND WOODLAND

Trees offer vital support to city infrastructure, offering shade and breaking up ground to help water drainage. The older they become, the more they contribute to our air quality and biodiversity and the health of our city.

- ▶ Following excellent work in Enfield, we will support councils to plant 1000 new hectares of tree canopy cover by 2030, expanding existing woodland.
- ▶ We will bring in strict planning policies to protect all ancient woodland and veteran trees from any damage.
- ▶ We will fund the creation of at least 150 new community orchards.

- ▶ Working with education authorities, we will develop a comprehensive environmental education programme in schools with support for outdoor forest schools.

## ANIMAL WELFARE

As scavenging species become more and more dependent on human food waste for survival, they move closer to where we live. Greens will act to manage species like foxes and seagulls naturally and humanely without threatening human health. A Green Mayor will act to limit harm to London's animals, by:

- ▶ Resisting calls for any cull of urban foxes and other animal populations posing a concern. Instead, we will discourage population growth by working with shops and residents to take more responsibility for fast food waste left on streets.
- ▶ Supporting the rights of renters to keep pets and work to expand school and community-based education programmes on responsible pet ownership.
- ▶ Supporting the introduction of protective measures for individual key species in the new London Plan to mitigate extinction rates.

- ▶ Rolling out best practice guidance for street and development lighting designed to reduce light pollution and preserve and extend dark sky areas for wildlife.
- ▶ Engaging with universities and the science and knowledge sectors to make London a world centre for non-animal biomedical research.
- ▶ Encouraging all establishments in London that conduct research using animals to publicly commit to replacing animal experiments with humane alternatives, reducing animal numbers and improving animal welfare.

## REDUCING WASTE

Waste management is a major economic challenge to our climate. We need to change the way we think about consumerism, and learn to reuse, recycle and repair what we buy to reduce our carbon footprints.

Greens campaigned against new incinerators in Edmonton and Belvedere, but sadly these extremely polluting projects went ahead, setting back plans to reduce London's greenhouse gas emissions. A Green Mayor will lead on making London a zero-waste city by 2030.



- ▶ We will oppose plans to build new incinerators in London and refuse permission for new combined heat and power installations.
- ▶ We will work with local councils and businesses to set waste reduction targets, which we will monitor and publicise to share good practice across all of London.
- ▶ We will use new waste powers for more consistent recycling collections across all boroughs.
- ▶ We will install more public water fountains so people can refill their own bottles as well as drink directly, removing the need for single use plastic bottles.

## REDUCING 'STUFF TURNOVER'

To reduce waste and reach zero emissions in London, we need to consider the carbon embodied in the materials we use, as well as the distance the stuff we buy travels to reach us. We need these things to last longer and to be able to be repaired when they stop working.

This will radically change the way our economy works, helping us to meet many other climate-friendly targets. Every business and public body will help cut down on 'stuff turnover' by encouraging people to reuse, repair and recycle things we no longer need.

## RE-USE AND REPAIR

Our new waste reduction strategy will focus on cutting back on what we throw away. This starts by encouraging people to return things they no longer need to common use, so others can borrow or swap goods through a network of local services.

- ▶ We will share information on where Londoners can find, repair, sell or donate pre-owned goods and create a new fund to help grow a reuse and repair network.
- ▶ Working with campaigners, we will fund councils and local businesses to set up repair centres and swap shops on every high street, in empty shops or council buildings, and support the establishment of a 'library of things' in every borough, where residents can borrow infrequently needed household items, such as power tools, musical instruments, cleaning and decorating products, camping equipment and luggage.
- ▶ As an extension of our libraries of things, we will pilot schemes to set up uniform clothing banks in London schools.
- ▶ We will found a London Repair Academy on GLA property as a hub for training and information

on repair skills and setting up related social enterprises.

- ▶ We will ensure all GLA procurement scoring is reviewed to focus on equipment that can be repaired and does not become obsolete every few years.
- ▶ We will work with the 100 largest employers in London to set targets for reducing their own 'stuff turnover' by the end of our first year in City Hall.

## MANAGING FOOD WASTE

Many organisations and individuals have been working with local councils to stop good food going to waste, but there is much more to do. Tackling food waste in the right way will help reduce food poverty and create new economic opportunities across London.

Greens will strengthen the role of the London Food Board and confirm London's commitment to the C40 Good Food Cities Declaration and Milan Urban Food Policy Pact. We will promote ways to redistribute food instead of throwing it away and encourage councils to include food waste reduction targets in their local climate action plans. We will set scientific targets, which call for a 50% reduction in food waste from farm to fork, with the aim of

ensuring no organic waste goes to landfill or incineration by 2030. On top of this, we will:

- ▶ Fund pilot projects for up-to-date compost and waste technologies to build capacity for minimising food waste. We will encourage remaining surplus food from schools, restaurants and the GLA to be used for animal feed, community composting or treated to generate renewable energy.
- ▶ Promote awareness to stop people and food businesses from throwing edible, healthy food away and start donating it to local food banks instead.
- ▶ Launch a sustainable restaurant award scheme to incentivise sustainable food practices, with food waste audits as part of the scheme.
- ▶ Encourage more councils to set up more food sharing and community cooking spaces, both digital and physical, where people can share and buy cheap, healthy meals from ingredients that would otherwise go to waste.

## MANAGING WATER

The state of water management nationally is an absolute disgrace. London draws 80% of its drinking

water from drying rivers and supply problems are expected from 2025. If we do not act now, our already awful situation will quickly turn into a crisis.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will safeguard our tap water by holding Thames Water to account so to cut water pollution and supply pipe leakage.
- ▶ Greens will work with local councils and communities to build water security into London's entire infrastructure.
- ▶ We will bring together relevant agencies and put in place a delivery orientated action plan to protect our homes and businesses from flooding, protect London's water and allow the aquifers beneath our soil to recharge while preventing the spread of pollution from roads and landfill sites.
- ▶ We will promote, support and look to invest in nature based water management solutions.
- ▶ We will work with the Climate Assembly and relevant partners to develop a strategy to cut London's water consumption by 30% by 2050.



**Greens will restore the health of our rivers and water supplies**

## FLOODING

We will look at using transport funding to upgrade our streets with sustainable urban drainage into our streets and restore and re-wild London's rivers. Our overall goal is to introduce 700 hectares of sustainable drainage systems in London by 2038, with an emphasis on encouraging people to create rain gardens and similar features in private gardens.

We will also introduce new planning rules to protect homes against flooding, with embedded sustainable drainage systems, rain gardens and green, recreational spaces in every new development.

- ▶ We will develop a strategic plan for introducing 357,000 rain gardens by

2038, in consultation with residents and councils.

- ▶ We will protect natural habitats in surface water, wetlands and areas of rainwater recharge from pollution and allow our drinking water aquifers to replenish.
- ▶ We will ensure all new planning designs require ecologically-sustainable stormwater and flooding prevention elements.
- ▶ We will start work to establish a GLA team to coordinate London's flood risk response which will include community engagement.

## RIVERS

National water regulation is disgraceful. Every single river in England is polluted and too

many have been pronounced ecologically dead. A Green Mayor will speak up for the rest of the country to demand reforms to the Environmental Agency so water companies are forced to work with communities, scientists and NGOs to restore our rivers to health. We will work with and learn from others, in technical areas of work on water, sanitation, hygiene and health.

In London we will strive to halt the decline and restore the ecological health of our rivers, reservoirs and groundwater sources. We will stem the tide of chemicals and microplastics entering London's surface and groundwater by:

- ▶ Strengthening cooperation and data collection across all relevant stakeholders involved in water quality and ensuring action is taken to clean up our fresh water.
- ▶ Establishing a cooperative and accountable system to manage our water long-term.

## MANAGING CLIMATE EMERGENCIES

London's essential services have been underpaid and under-resourced for too long, leading to greater risks. Nationally, the

Fire Brigade has lost as many as 12,000 fire fighters to funding cuts. During the wildfires in 2022, 39 of London's fire engines were out of service due to a lack of staff. And it is not a statutory duty to respond to flooding in every borough, so residents are faced with a postcode lottery during floods.

Despite this, climate risk response has become a major part of firefighters' duties. We will continue to highlight this nationally and locally, to ensure they remain safe as they work to keep us safe. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Consult with the Fire Brigades Union and London Fire Brigade to ensure essential services and emergency workers are better resourced, with the right equipment for tackling extreme weather, whether fire or flood.
- ▶ Work with the London Fire Commissioner to ensure co-production is at the heart of the policies we make on community safety and fire risk awareness.
- ▶ Encourage marginalised groups to actively participate in community safety conversations and compensate them fairly for their time and expertise.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ We continue to push for the human right to clean air, demanding the new Clean Air Act that Jenny Jones has been calling for from the Government for over a decade.
- ▶ We will campaign for a national Community Right to Buy principle on top of the Right to Bid, to strengthen local communities' rights and protections for local green spaces.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will call on the Government to stop the practice of routing nuclear waste trains through London. It is unacceptable for highly radioactive nuclear fuel rods to be transported through densely populated areas.
- ▶ We will lobby for ecocide to become a crime nationally and internationally, through the Mayor's platform as part of a network of globally-minded city leaders.
- ▶ We will lobby for a levy on private jets at London airports, until our call for a national ban on private jets comes into effect.
- ▶ We will campaign for a national Right to Repair requiring manufacturers to keep goods repairable for a minimum number of years with available spare parts.
- ▶ We will campaign nationally to protect citizens' rights to protest about climate and social injustices.
- ▶ We will lobby the Government for more funding to support climate resilience and nature recovery.
- ▶ We will campaign for the introduction of Extended Producer Responsibility laws to tackle our growing waste problems.
- ▶ We will campaign for powers for the Mayor to roll out consistent recycling services across London boroughs, and push boroughs to set common standards so every home in London has the same service for recyclables and food waste collection.
- ▶ We will campaign to put food waste material into secondary school education.
- ▶ We will lobby for stronger product and packaging regulations and to remove more single-use plastic items at source.
- ▶ We will demand stricter manufacturing standards that require a minimum percentage of recycled and

biodegradable content in any unavoidable plastic packaging.

- ▶ We will campaign for rigorous minimum standards for compostable product labelling.

## CLIMATE AT THE HEART OF THE LONDON PLAN

A Green Mayor will use the next London Plan to ensure we work to the highest climate and environmental standards. We will:

- ▶ Write new planning rules for London to make it easier to apply to work on insulation and retrofit projects for whole streets at once.
- ▶ Introduce planning policies to ensure all new developments assess climate and ecology impacts and include green spaces with habitats for threatened species and pollinators, to achieve net biodiversity gains.
- ▶ Designate areas as 'park opportunity sites' in the London Plan, similar to the current opportunity sites for housing, economic development, and add 'park' to this list for areas which need green space for people, biodiversity and sustainable drainage to prevent flooding.
- ▶ Develop a London Energy Plan, which accelerates our clean, renewable energy supply and work with local councils to develop Local Area Energy Plans.
- ▶ Support large scale solar deployment as part of multi-functional land use and remove the red-tape to installing solar on older buildings or buildings in conservation areas.
- ▶ Refuse permission for new combined heat and power installations, solid fuel burning, diesel farms or fracking, and create plans to close existing units by 2030 as we shift to sustainable energy supplies.
- ▶ Ensure newbuilds are built to Passivhaus standards.
- ▶ Change planning rules to account for embodied carbon in the cost of construction.
- ▶ Support the introduction of protective measures for individual key species in the new London Plan to mitigate extinction rates.
- ▶ Map toxic landfill sites and implement bioremediation strategies for cleaning up soil and waterways in nearby areas, as well as implementing flooding prevention.

# HOUSING AND PLANNING



**Zoë will bring down housing costs and improve standards**

**W**e are beyond a housing crisis. Rents are out of control. Teachers, nurses and artists are being driven out because they can't afford to live here. Thousands more people are being made homeless each year - more than 4000 in the last quarter of 2023 alone. What homes we have are often cold, damp and mouldy.

Policy after policy at a national level has led to a housing system that is totally broken and unfair. Since 1979, London has lost over 250,000 social homes to Right

to Buy, demolition and sell-offs. Councils cannot afford to build social housing fast enough and affordable housing is not affordable.

Fixing this mess will be hard, but we have a plan to make things fairer in every way. We will demand national government funds so we can buy the supply and make the right homes available in the right place and at the right price. This includes more homes with suitable disabled access. We need more secure and safe stopping points

for our Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

With a Green Mayor, demolition will be our last resort. Demolition destroys communities as well as homes. We will keep the homes we do have free from damp and mould, insulate them and bring empty properties back into use.

Where new homes have to be built, we will talk to councils and communities through our new People's Land Commission to map the best sites to build on and protect our green belt.

Our candidate for London Mayor, Zoë Garbett, is a renter. Zoë knows just how bad the situation is. Landlords and property developers have too much power and are setting ridiculously high rents with no relation to average salaries. The current Mayor has been waiting for more power to act while the rental market gets worse. Greens will act now.

A Green Mayor will stand up for everyone's right to affordable, safe housing.



**Green Assembly Members have pushed for the funding to buy existing homes to add to our stock of council housing**

## WHAT GREEN ASSEMBLY MEMBERS HAVE DONE

Our Green Assembly Members can be proud of their achievements since the last election:

- ▶ Sped up the creation of new council homes through 'buy the supply', pushing the current Mayor to put 100s of millions of pounds into buying existing homes to grow our council housing stock, faster.
- ▶ Before funding was given for demolition schemes, Siân Berry worked with estate

residents to secure ballots so that they had the final say.

- ▶ Greens on the Assembly pushed the current Mayor to start asking for the powers for rent controls.
- ▶ In the last London Plan - Greens secured community involvement in planning, abolished the dodgy definition of "affordable" housing and abolished the use of 'poor doors' in developments. Further, social housing that is demolished now needs to be replaced on an 'identical' basis in terms of rents, units and space thanks to Greens.

- ▶ Greens have been highlighting the lack of work on the city's 19th and 20th century homes since a major report was produced in the early 2000s by Jean Lambert MEP. Energy saving is as neglected and urgent as the safety work needed on our homes.
- ▶ Greens saved the London Housing Panel from being cut as it is vital to ensuring housing meets the needs of Londoners.
- ▶ Caroline Russell led an Assembly investigation into the causes of and remedies for cold, damp and mouldy homes.

## TACKLING OUR HOUSING SHORTFALL

In 2022, there were over 300,000 people on council housing waiting lists. With recent interest rates slowing housing developments, this already scandalous figure is likely even higher.

A Green Mayor would act immediately to stop council-owned homes from being demolished or sold off, except in special circumstances for individual properties.

We will help solve the crisis in temporary accommodation with our policies to create new

council and low-rent homes from existing housing and by pushing the national government for more funding to deliver the homes we need.

A Green Mayor will correct how the current Mayor has mistakenly used affordable housing grants from national government for unaffordable shared ownership or 'affordable' rent. We will reserve these grants for new council homes, social housing and community-led housing, made available on a sliding scale by number of bedrooms so we can provide more family housing. We will also make smaller grants available for London Living Rent homes.

- ▶ Make a strong economic case to the national government for additional billions in grants to use a council housing programme to 'buy the supply', helping councils to purchase existing family-sized homes from the market and acquire market homes from developers where sales and construction are stalled. We will reserve a tenth of these funds for finding the right homes for the right people, including accessible homes for disabled and older citizens.
- ▶ We will work with councils, housing associations and

pension funds to build up a larger, collaborative revolving acquisition fund to expand on our capacity to buy the supply we need. We want to reach at least 50,000 new social rented homes per year by 2030 and eventually restore the social housing proportion to the same as the 1980s.

- ▶ We will work with local authorities to help owner occupiers take on lodgers, and provide GLA advice for potential lodgers. We will set up a brokerage service, along with standards and a register of hosts, ensuring fair rents and decent living conditions.
- ▶ Since 2015 the number of empty homes in the UK has increased by approximately 30 per cent. A Green Mayor will prioritise an audit of London's empty homes and coordinate London-wide action to bring them into use as soon as possible.

## FAIRER, ACCESSIBLE SOCIAL HOUSING

Greens will work to address the unequal access to housing faced by some groups, such as disabled people and young people. Bidding for council homes is far more difficult for disabled people,

needing more time and help to view properties ahead of auction. Meanwhile, we will improve understanding of the living needs of LGBTIQ+ people through the collection of appropriate data.

We will make sure councils secure more, fully wheelchair accessible homes, built to the highest standards. Currently, a very small percentage of planned homes are fully wheelchair accessible and there is an acute shortage of council homes for disabled Londoners. We will recognise and work to increase the different types of housing for older people, including integrated retirement communities, intergenerational housing and accessibility designs.

A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Fund and support more Housing First provision to offer an unconditional, non-institutional home to people with additional needs and vulnerabilities, such as mental ill health or problematic drug use, which will give them a better chance at remaining well and independent.
- ▶ Commission new and extensive research, working with Londoners, to examine and end any systemic discrimination

in how social housing is allocated to people in need.

- ▶ Create a London-wide register of all wheelchair accessible homes in the social housing sector in London and lead coordination among local authorities.
- ▶ Work with disabled people's groups to review council processes and set clear standards for them to plan for and adjust to disabled people's needs, including personal emergency evacuation plans.
- ▶ Improve housing needs projections, so that councils make suitable provision for accessible and supported housing for young people who become adults with disabilities.
- ▶ Make sure young people under 25 facing homelessness have dedicated accommodation and support, with enough GLA funding set aside to help them.
- ▶ Convene an Older People's Housing Forum for London Boroughs to develop a joint strategic vision and best practice guidance for older people's housing in London, across boroughs and in collaboration with local communities and relevant stakeholders.
- ▶ Produce a LGBTIQ+ Housing Strategy for London, providing

guidance for local councils across London to build a pathway of accommodation and support services for LGBTIQ+ people.

- ▶ Work with boroughs across London to co-produce suitable, high quality sites with Gypsy, Roma and Travellers, and implement a negotiated approach to stopping places in London. Suitable sites will be strategically assessed so they do not perpetuate inequalities, like health inequalities and are located close to amenities.
- ▶ Work with councils to prioritise people with a terminal illness for Council Tax Support and Discretionary Housing Payments and make sure processes are responsive and decisions made quickly.
- ▶ Use City Hall resources to better promote council tax exemptions for people with dementia, which often go unclaimed.

## COMMUNITY HOUSING

Greens will work with community-led housing groups and cooperatives to better understand the range of housing needed so we can deliver the right homes.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will act immediately to support

community-led housing and cooperatives in the city, speeding up the spend of the Community Housing Fund.

- ▶ We will provide grants and support, including revolving loans, for new cooperatives and groups. We will promote these services to key support workers, people living in houses of multiple occupancy and African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Gypsy, Roma and Travellers, and people from the Global South, who wish to have more say in the management of their homes.
- ▶ We will use research from here and abroad to build more intentional intergenerational properties and developments that better suit the lifecycle of families. This will also help support community building and reduce social care costs.

## HOUSING RIGHTS AND AFFORDABILITY

London is far too expensive for so many including our key workers in the NHS, hospitality and other areas. Shelter (the housing and homelessness charity) states that fair rents should be no more than 30 per cent of a household's income. It is a scandal that this is

exceeded so often, that people are forced into fuel or food poverty.

Greens will work with councils across the city to ensure staff who provide housing and homelessness support are trained to deliver culturally appropriate services and respect people's sexual orientation and gender identity. We will also strive for consistent and fair assessment by councils of vulnerability and health needs.

- ▶ Greens will demand rent control powers for London, and bring in a two-year freeze when we get them.
- ▶ We will set up a Rent Commission to look at bringing down private rents. The Commission will gather evidence in consultation with a wide range of community groups, councils, landlords and tenants, to decide on a new target level and downward trajectory for existing excessive rents. This way, we will be ready to act immediately once powers are provided by the Government.
- ▶ We will give our full support to the London Renters Union, Acorn and similar groups organising tenants from the grassroots, by providing grants for them to set up new local groups.



- ▶ We will support groups representing students, migrants and refugees, and disabled tenants to ensure their housing rights are respected, including to adapted homes.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will continue to stand up against discriminatory Right to Rent policies aimed at turning landlords into immigration officers able to deny people homes.
- ▶ The Queen Elizabeth Park Fixed Estate Charge is a unique and deeply unfair charge

applied undemocratically to residents and businesses, and without transparency on how the money is used. We will immediately freeze the charge at the 2015 rate and look to find alternative, fairer ways to supplement the park's actual costs, so we can phase out the charge completely while maintaining the extensive recreational value of the Park for all Londoners.

- ▶ We will work to close loopholes that leave property guardians in legal limbo and propose changes in the law

to include property guardians in new rights for renters.

- ▶ We will review all existing estate ballot exemptions and prevent any council and social rented homes being converted into 'affordable' rent in new plans.
- ▶ We will continue to support and fund the London Housing Panel.
- ▶ After pressure from the Greens, the current Mayor implemented a requirement for a proportion of student accommodation to be affordable but, as 55 percent of the maximum maintenance loan, this is still too high. A Green Mayor will work with student unions and campaign organisations to make this proportion fairer.

## HEALTH AND HOUSING

Warm, dry homes are good for our health. A safe home makes communities and people's social health stronger, encouraging them to participate in society more. Greens are committed to making all London homes safe and fit for people to live in happily.

Too many people are currently stuck in poor, neglected homes, which are in desperate need of repair. A Green Mayor will seek powers to investigate cases of

poor standards and apply best practice from housing associations and councils delivering high quality housing and maintenance services.

Our housing strategy will set the right targets to meet the current and future population needs. We will link our targets with social care and health policies. We will include all tenure options. Our economic policies will make sure we have the skilled workers to deliver on housing improvements. We will aim to cut fuel poverty in cold and damp social homes first, before rolling out a programme of improvements to benefit every Londoner by 2030. We will collect the right data and identify where to act, prioritising the most deprived areas first.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will immediately set up a Cold Homes Strategy with an insulation and ventilation taskforce to deal with cold and damp homes in London, with the aim of cutting the number of these poor quality houses by at least a third in 2028, and faster if we can secure more funding.
- ▶ Our Cold Homes taskforce will prioritise finding people who have disabilities, terminal illnesses as well as taking action on overcrowded households.



Zoë will deal with cold, damp homes in London with a Cold Homes strategy

- ▶ 10 per cent funding from our Cold Homes Strategy will be invested in housing adapted for older people.
- ▶ We will work to get more Environmental Health Officers into councils to support tenants and enforce high standards across council and private sector housing.
- ▶ We will extend the housing inspection standards to cover a wider range of temporary accommodation and work with councils to ensure it is delivered.
- ▶ We will create a team of experts in City Hall to support councils

struggling to properly staff energy standards inspections in private rented housing. We will compile data on the results of these inspections and report to councils on their comparative performances.

- ▶ We will focus on 'fabric first' (insulation and energy efficiency measures) before adding heat pumps or solar to properties, to reduce demand for energy.
- ▶ We will conduct a borough-by-borough assessment of housing needs to address overcrowding in homes. We will correct gaps in national government statistics and



**Zoë will support renters, demanding rent control powers for London and ensuring action is taken on renters' concerns**

put together a strategy that better matches people with the homes they need.

- ▶ We will work with older Londoners' representatives to establish new Mayoral programmes to find ways to provide people who wish to downsize with genuinely attractive options, including co-housing.

## HOLDING LANDLORDS TO ACCOUNT

A Green Mayor will take the side of renters, protecting them from unscrupulous landlords and doing

everything we can to keep rents affordable. Greens on the London Assembly have campaigned for unfair pet clauses to be banned since 2016. We also recognise some housing associations have become too large and commercial, at the expense of their members' needs. Housing quality shouldn't be a lottery and we will do what we can to support every renter in the city.

- ▶ We will create a fit-for-purpose public database to help renters know which landlords to avoid, so we can hold them to account. Naming and shaming bad landlords will encourage

more collaboration between local authorities, as many landlords have properties in multiple council areas. This data already exists but too much of it is currently hidden from renters.

- ▶ We will create a compulsory purchase action fund for local authorities to respond to repeat complaints about specific landlords, enabling them to buy properties and bring them up to acceptable renting standards.
- ▶ We will simplify and tighten up the Housing Health and Safety Rating System, to ensure local authorities dedicate adequate resources to proactively enforce health and safety standards.
- ▶ Our new renting rules will include a default right for renters to keep pets.
- ▶ We will work with large, commercial housing associations to make them more democratic, with a fundamental shift of power in favour of tenants and increased accountability to the local community.
- ▶ We will share best practice and support local authorities in applications for borough wide selective licensing schemes.

- ▶ We will keep track of fines and penalties issued by councils to landlords and make this information public for renters and unions to see.

## FIRE AND HOME SAFETY

Seven years on from the Grenfell Disaster, bereaved families are still waiting for justice. Meanwhile, the combustible cladding installed by construction firms in the Grenfell Towers has been found in other parts of London. One such block in Wembley caught fire in January this year. We also have examples of weak, collapsing balconies.

Far too many Londoners still live in dangerous blocks, paying for waking watches and unable to sell or move while facing enormous bills for improvement work. These situations are absolutely unacceptable, leaving people living in fear while powerful developers get away with murder.

A Green Mayor will be a clear and loud voice for residents in making sure building owners and the national government cover all the costs of making homes safe. We will act urgently to hold developers and property managers to account and stop them dragging their feet and risking more lives. We will put residents at the heart of reforms

in how these contracts and works are planned and monitored.

Greens will stand with the Justice for Grenfell campaigners to overcome delays in prosecuting those responsible. We will keep those lost in our hearts and commemorate their deaths every year.

- ▶ A Green Mayor's online fire and home safety hub will include clear advice on rights for tenants and leaseholders and access to find legal advice and support for mental health.
- ▶ We will make sure disaster responses are coordinated better so that no community ever again feels abandoned, marginalised or ignored if disaster strikes.
- ▶ We will carry out a major review of the transparency, governance and quality of major works of all kinds on social housing buildings.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will make sure every resident in London can monitor risks and take action, by collecting all published fire safety and risk assessments, as well as health and safety reports in a searchable database.
- ▶ We will campaign for every landlord and freeholder to provide residents with fully

accessible data on their homes, including major works.

- ▶ We will also implement a panel to scrutinise fire policy.

## CLIMATE

Our priority for making more housing available is to adapt existing housing with minimal environmental impact, while finding the best possible homes for individuals and families.

Demolishing existing buildings for new constructions must be a last resort because it destroys communities, traumatises residents and causes so much damage to the environment. People are left waiting for new builds while hundreds of existing homes stand empty for many years.

Existing buildings can be adapted at lower cost and quickly made fit for people to live in, as well as resilient against climate change. Insulating houses is a triple win, reducing bills and emissions, while creating good green jobs for our economy.

More than this, we will work with housing associations to coordinate and deliver the homes we need, with high quality green spaces that link to London's wider network of parks and woodlands.



We will support initiatives that help residents and landlords to grow food. And we will demand all new developments come with good active or bus travel links. We will also campaign nationally for a zero carbon new home standard by 2025 and a minimum energy performance rating of C.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will stop the loss of council homes through demolition. We will review all funding conditions for estate demolition projects, especially for those schemes that have not progressed since being signed off by the current Mayor before the ballot policy

was announced in 2018. We will require new, resident-led plans for these projects, along with new ballots for schemes that have stalled.

- ▶ Where new builds are the only option, we will ensure they are built to low energy construction and design principles, like Passivhaus.
- ▶ Our policies will require the highest standards of insulation and climate-friendly building materials and we will share best practice with community groups and councils.

- ▶ We will object to all new property development on green belt land.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ We will demand national reforms to our broken rental system, including abolishing no fault evictions (Section 21 of the Housing Act), an increased Local Housing Allowance to match rising rents, scrapping of the benefits cap, and, with evidence from our Rent Commission, powers to control rents.
- ▶ A key power needed from housing devolution to London is the ability to stop the loss of council homes through Right to Buy. We will campaign fiercely for an urgent suspension of Right to Buy in London - as this neutralises any efforts to build more council homes.
- ▶ We will campaign for deep reforms to leasehold, including caps on ground rents and limits on charges for major works, and campaign for changes to make commonhold and the right to manage easier to obtain for leaseholders.
- ▶ We will campaign for a right to co-operative arrangements for people in shared houses.
- ▶ We will lobby for more power to order councils to provide permanent sites as well as stopping sites, for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, and see those sites held to higher building and living standards.
- ▶ We will lobby for funding for councils:
  - ▶ to buy up incomplete housing developments that have stalled due to the construction industry downturn, to grow social housing stock.
  - ▶ to protect people's right to help ahead of being evicted, as required by the Homelessness Reduction Act.
- ▶ We will push for parliamentary legislation that guarantees victims of domestic abuse the right to remain in their homes if they wish, rather than the perpetrator, and for this right to apply across all tenancies.
- ▶ We will make the case for necessary increases to the Building Safety Fund, so councils, housing associations, leaseholders and private landlords have the money they need to make homes safe. We will lobby to see the fund covers buildings of any type or height, and all internal defects, not just cladding.

- ▶ We will campaign with other city mayors to demand the national government invests in a huge programme of energy saving measures across the country.
- ▶ We will continue to campaign for Zane's Law, to address the crisis of contaminated land across the country, which poses a serious risk to life.

## A NEW, RELEVANT STRATEGIC PLAN

The London Plan is produced every few years by the Mayor's Office and is a key guiding document for shaping our city. A Green Mayor's London plan will include:

- ▶ An increase of the 35 per cent 'affordable' housing threshold (to 50 per cent) as well as a more up-to-date definition of 'affordable' which reflects genuine affordability.
- ▶ Many boroughs currently start to require 'affordable' housing only for developments of 10 or more homes, which can incentivise artificially low numbers of homes on suitable sites. In a Green London Plan there will be no lower limit to contributions expected from developers to truly affordable housing.
- ▶ Much higher levels of truly affordable rented homes will be included in new planning policies for the Build to Rent sector.
- ▶ 10 per cent of all units to be fully wheelchair accessible and prescribe the majority of these units to be built in the social rented sector. We will also develop a London Accessible Housing Register.
- ▶ We will amend the London Plan to better control short-term lettings in London, with strict limits - including prohibition in areas of high housing need - built into lease conditions for new buildings and give more support to councils in enforcing time limits and quality of life for surrounding residents.
- ▶ The new London Plan will require developers to apply lease conditions to the homes they build which make sure these are the primary residence of the new owners.
- ▶ Protect local amenities like play parks. If amenities are demolished and there is delay we need a policy from the Mayor to get these vital spaces reinstated as a priority.

# ACCOUNTABLE POLICING FOR A SAFER CITY



Zoë will make London safer for everyone, focusing on local policing and a police service we can trust

Londoners deserve to live in a safe and healthy city with a police service we can trust to keep us safe.

Report after report has shown what Londoners have known for decades – how toxic the Metropolitan Police Service is and the scale of institutional discrimination. We've also seen many officers found guilty of horrendous crimes. The harm and disproportionality in the use of stop and search is well documented - a new approach is needed.

Greens in City Hall have been the fiercest voice calling for a change so that the Met can gain public trust. We need police reform now - and we will only know we have made meaningful changes when our communities say we have.

We will review how the Met hires, vets and trains officers, so that the right people have the right skills for the job and respect London's diversity. The Met needs rigorous oversight. Plans must be driven by the priorities of London's communities with much more accountability.

No-one should suffer harm from contact with the police. A Green Mayor will focus on preventing crime, eliminating the use of traumatising tactics and upholding the rights and dignity of Londoners.

We will work with the Met to improve support for victims of crime. We will change the way crime statistics are gathered so we can better understand the serious impact these crimes have on our communities and our children.

A Green Mayor will work to prevent crime by treating

people with respect and care, not criminalising people for experiencing homelessness or poverty. We will invest in protective provision like youth services and overdose prevention services and not tolerate hate towards anyone.

A Green Mayor will prioritise police reform, to make sure the police are held accountable, respect London's diversity, and that people can report crimes to a service they trust. A Green Mayor will make London safer and healthier for everyone.



**Green Assembly Members including Caroline Russell have effectively scrutinised the work of the Met**

## WHAT GREEN ASSEMBLY MEMBERS ACHIEVED

Siân Berry's campaign since 2016 to expose cuts to youth services and win new funding through the Young Londoners Fund (YLF) has been successful, but the funding so far does not replace all the cuts that have been made under austerity.

Greens have been instrumental in raising issues with the Met, often the fiercest lone voice holding the Met to account and pushing for action.

Caroline Russell's Zero Murders report exposed how Black Londoners are disproportionately more likely to be murdered and called for a Zero Murder target. Caroline also:

- ▶ Amplified the voices of Young Londoners with a report and motion calling for knife images not to be shared on police social media.
- ▶ Found more children strip searched than had been disclosed previously and that data on 20 per cent of child strip searches had no location.

During a year of chairing Police and Crime Committee Caroline Russell AM has:

- ▶ Looked at and reported on police investigation of serious traffic collisions - finding that only the most serious crashes get investigated thoroughly but every serious injury collision should be properly investigated to help victims achieve justice.
- ▶ Carried out year-long scrutiny based on the Casey review and the Met's response to the findings and the Commissioner's plan for a New Met for London.
- ▶ Investigated and reported on young people affected by violence, hearing evidence from youth practitioners and young people who emphasised the importance of youth workers.
- ▶ Learned about drug diversion and non policing approaches to reduce drug harm by visiting West Midlands police.
- ▶ Looked into the challenges of rolling out the Right Care Right Person approach to mental health call-outs.
- ▶ Explored the scale of money laundering in London with £100 billion laundered through the UK each year and just tens of millions recovered by the Met.

- ▶ Persuaded the Mayor to get the Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime to include road traffic victims in the remit of the Victims' Commissioner.
- ▶ As Chair of Health Committee Caroline Russell published a report calling for drug harm reduction with recommendations for overdose prevention rooms, drug checking facilities and for the Met to carry Naloxone to save lives if they find people who have overdosed.

## BEING ACCOUNTABLE TO COMMUNITIES

The Commissioner's work to deliver a New Met Plan for London (NMPFL) is welcome but needs rigorous oversight and must be driven by the priorities of London's diverse communities. We will only know we have had meaningful police reform when our communities say we have.

A Green Mayor will focus scrutiny on effective use of data, reducing use of traumatising

tactics and upholding the rights and dignity of Londoners.

## ENGAGEMENT

A Green Mayor will ensure local scrutiny of police works well, with diverse communities and young people feeling confident to share their views, and where priority-setting is led by local people.

Safer Neighbourhood Boards and panels that represent local communities at borough and ward level are run by volunteers but need more funding and support to increase their activity and involve a wider range of Londoners in their work.

- ▶ We will work through an enlarged engagement team within the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and provide new funding to double the membership and activity levels of local scrutiny bodies within two years, and find new ways to measure their impact and influence.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will restore Community Policing ensuring local officers are known in their communities.
- ▶ Whilst practice improves, we will work with partners and educate young people about police practices, equipping them with the tools and skills

needed to stay in control in police interactions.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will push for extensive and meaningful engagement with African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino and Roma communities and people from the Global South, ensuring Londoners continue to feedback on new ways of policing as the Met works to deliver the New Met Plan for London.

## SCRUTINY AND DATA

Police officers need effective data systems so that they can do their jobs well, improve trust and confidence and provide Londoners with transparent data to enable scrutiny of their work. This should lead to change in policing practice.

- ▶ The Met is right to be reviewing their data systems, and the new Connect system is not yet working well enough. A Green Mayor will push for the Connect system to prompt officers to include all relevant data when recording activity to better enable scrutiny by MOPAC, London Assembly Members, the London Policing Board and Londoners.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will keep data collection and sharing under constant review to improve transparency.

The shocking case in 2020 of Child Q, a Black 15 year-old schoolgirl in Hackney who was strip searched at her school by police officers, brought to light the misuse of police tactics, a lack of safeguarding focus and the potential problems with having police officers in schools. As a Hackney Councillor, Zoë Garbett has been holding the local police to account and working to get police out of Hackney schools. On the Assembly, Caroline Russell has revealed and worked to improve poor policing practice. At all levels, Greens are working hard to minimise children's contact with the police so we have a police service which puts the welfare of children first.

- ▶ Gypsy, Roma and Travellers and neurodiverse people, are not being counted in crime statistics. The police need a strategic, compassionate approach to helping people experiencing intersectional barriers.
- ▶ Body Worn Video (BWV) used consistently provides an opportunity for greater transparency and accountability but is too often just used internally for evidence. We will ensure BWV works as a tool for external accountability.

undermining trust and confidence in the police. Greens on the Assembly exposed shocking numbers of children being strip searched, which led to the number of strip searches decreasing under the current Commissioner. Strip search and stop and search are tactics used to overpolice Black communities. Young black men in London are six times more likely to be stopped and searched compared to other Londoners. Under the current Mayor, the number of stops has increased yet crime has also increased. A new approach is needed.

## STOP AND SEARCH

Stop and search, especially strip search, is an invasive, degrading policing tactic that is well-documented as causing harm and

- ▶ A Green Mayor will challenge the Met to end the use of section 60 powers that allow for suspicionless stop and search except in emergency situations in small areas,

and only if authorised by the most senior officers.

- ▶ Where stop and search is carried out, Home Office Best Use of Stop and Search (BUSS) guidance will be used with records and accountability.
- ▶ With a Green Mayor, no child will be strip searched by the police, no matter what crime they are suspected of. In rare, exceptional cases if a child is strip searched, the Met should apply rigorous safeguarding with an appropriate adult present and the location of the search should be recorded. Strip search will never happen outside of a medical or custody setting.

## POLICE OUT OF SCHOOLS

Young people tell us that having police officers in schools can lead to the escalation of minor issues into criminal justice issues. Teachers also think having police in schools can make young people feel unsafe and unwelcome.

Liberty's 'Holding Your Own' report highlighted young people's experiences of discrimination by police in school, particularly Black students, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller students, disabled students, LGBTQ+ students, Muslim students and girls. Young people at the intersections of

these groups are particularly vulnerable to police harm.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will work with local authorities and Borough Commanders to assess how Safer Schools Officers are used across London and develop a model which minimises their presence in school and their contact with children, prioritising the use of youth workers in school settings.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will work to increase the number of youth workers available to support schools.

## CHALLENGING THE USE OF FORCE

There have been numerous investigations, inquiries and inquests into deaths in police custody involving the Met police. Often learnings from the inquiries are similar; however, action on recommendations is limited.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will ensure that actions from investigations are followed up in a systematic way to prevent any further state-related deaths and that the Met apologises for historical trauma caused to communities and families from death in custody.
- ▶ Any hospitalisation of a child or young person through



Zoë will demand action on police failings and stop tactics such as facial recognition that disproportionately police some communities

police use of force (tasers and dog bites) should trigger a safeguarding response and a review so police practice is adapted to avoid future harm. The deployment of youth workers in hospital A&E forms part of the safeguarding response to these incidents.

- ▶ The Territorial Support Group (TSG) is a constant cause of concern to London's communities. A Green Mayor will ensure independent evaluation of the TSG, looking at their role, tactics, and effectiveness.
- ▶ The excessive use of handcuffs is causing irrevocable damage to community relations and traumatising many young

people. A Green Mayor will ensure National Police Chiefs' Council guidance on handcuff usage is followed and that there is transparency with 'good objective grounds' for usage recorded and published.

## LIVE FACIAL RECOGNITION

The Government has allowed the Met to use live facial recognition software with hardly any checks in place to protect our privacy. No other city in the world has as much surveillance as London and we urgently need a review of the Met's approach to these technologies.

The Met has recently reported on new calibration of their stop and search equipment that they say



Republic protestors at the Kings' Coronation taken by Zoë

removes the disproportionality in its use because Black, Brown and white faces are recognised equally and women are recognised at the same rate as men. However, this ignores the unconscious bias that could affect outcomes coming from decisions about the make-up of watch lists and the location for deployment.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will withdraw support for use of live facial recognition except in extreme life-threatening cases and then only where there is full transparency on the deployment location and

make-up of the watch list along with engagement with communities surveilled.

## PROTEST POLICING

A Green Mayor will defend the rights of London citizens to protest.

When Extinction Rebellion started their protests in April 2019, the current Mayor told them the city should 'get back to business as usual' and since then the Government has hugely extended powers to police protests.

We are outraged at the Police, Crime, Sentencing & Courts Act 2022 which allows the police

to impose new conditions on a protest beyond its location, timing and numbers involved, and do this for marches and static demonstrations. There are also powers to criminalise trespass, which threaten the way of life of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities,

- ▶ A Green Mayor will advocate strongly for a policing approach that aims to allow citizens to express their views through protest, that does not criminalise protestors and that keeps protestors and communities safe.

## REFORMING CULTURE

The Casey review, published over a year ago, revealed what many Londoners have known for decades: that the Met is institutionally racist, homophobic, misogynist and disablist. One year on, the Commissioner's New Met Plan for London (NMPfL) is his route to deliver "more trust, less crime and high standards". Greens have welcomed the work done to root out bad officers, refocus resources on local policing and reduce the use of traumatic tactics such as strip searching children. Green scrutiny in City Hall is focused on challenging disproportionality in

the use of strip search and stop and search and ensuring that the voices of Londoners, especially young Londoners, are heard as the Met attempts to rebuild trust and confidence.

## POLICE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

We are committed to ensuring the diversity of the Met's officers and will push for a fairer representation of officers, one that reflects London's diversity. The Met needs to tackle institutional discrimination for diverse officers to feel and be safe at work.

Officers must receive regular, continuous professional development to ensure they uphold the highest standards of inclusion and fairness, whilst challenging any unconscious bias.

- ▶ All officers need regular diversity training with input from community reference groups representing women, disabled people, LGBTIQ+ people, African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Gypsy, Roma, Travellers and people from the Global South. These groups should never be treated as a risk factor for crime nor result in a higher

level of police response on the basis of their ethnicities.

- ▶ Police training will include focus on the experiences asylum seekers and refugees may have had as a result of fleeing their countries, which can be compounded by negative encounters here.
- ▶ Policing practice will be trauma-informed, with officers able to recognise that people at the intersections of marginalised groups are more likely to experience over-policing.
- ▶ The Met should never share information on victims with immigration enforcement.

## TREATMENT OF VICTIMS

Victims of crime need the utmost care and respect.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will embed psychologists and trauma experts to allow people to give their witness and victim interviews in a trauma-informed setting. This extends the Forensic Interviewing Psychology (FIP) service currently offered to children who experience sexual violence. This approach is particularly important for anyone who has experienced violent

crimes, has a mental health condition and/or uses drugs.

- ▶ Regular Police training and support will be expanded to make sure officers and victim support services refer trauma victims to the right support services as a continuation of their duty of care to victims. This could include young people that witness violent attacks being referred to counselling services.
- ▶ We will support people wrongly arrested by investing in safe, healing-centred and racially literate spaces - to address grief, trauma and violence caused by over-policing, particularly in relation to racism, ableism, misogyny and queerphobia.
- ▶ Victims of road collisions and their families will be supported as they seek justice.

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

People experiencing a mental health crisis are much more likely to be a danger to themselves than to others. They need access to emergency mental health services and sustainable, ongoing care. This help and support can only be provided appropriately by healthcare workers.

Greens welcome the Commissioner's commitment to



Zoë will invest in youth workers and youth services to keep young Londoners safe

Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) that ensures the right agency responds to mental health related calls, instead of the police being the default first responder. We recognise that officers will still come across people in mental health distress and need to be trained for this.

- ▶ All officers will receive mental health crisis training.
- ▶ While RCRP is bedding in, it is critical that Mental Health, Ambulance Service, Police and voluntary sector agencies remain in constant dialogue to identify gaps in provision that need addressing.

## SAFE AND CARING SOCIETY

A Green Mayor will take a public health and trauma-informed approach to tackling complex challenges faced by Londoners.

At all levels, Greens are pushing for more investment into public services. We work hard to ensure that vulnerable and marginalised people are not stigmatised or criminalised, but supported to have the stability and safety that they deserve by investing in care and support to deal with the root causes of issues and multiple disadvantages.

## KEEPING YOUNG PEOPLE

### SAFE

Young people should be safe on our streets. The best way to achieve this is through a massive expansion of services and opportunities for young people, including support for their mental health, safe spaces to spend time, and trusted adults to talk to.

Work by Siân Berry exposed that youth services in London had been cut by over 50 per cent in a decade, along with hundreds of youth workers who had provided vital support to young people.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will expand the Young Londoners Fund further, including funding for neurodiverse-friendly youth services where carers don't have to supervise their children.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will invest in youth workers, ensuring they have opportunities to develop and progress their careers.
- ▶ We support the work of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) reducing the deep causes and adverse childhood experiences that underlie increases in violence, learning from examples in other cities. A Green Mayor will give the VRU more funding to carry

out its work and recommend changes to policing.

## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

The departure of the former Met Commissioner followed a series of revelations following the murder of Sarah Everard, the sharing of photos of murdered sisters Bibaa Henry and Nicole Smallman and shockingly misogynist and homophobic WhatsApp messages shared by officers at Charing Cross police station. The Met's response was defensive, characterising the officers involved as bad apples rather than understanding that the whole barrel was rotting.

The recent Angiolini Inquiry looking into the kidnap, rape and murder of Sarah Everard by a serving police officer reveals a devastating list of missed opportunities to address behaviours such as indecent exposure. Angiolini lays bare a shocking culture of unchallenged misogyny in the Met and shows the extent of police reform needed. A Green Mayor will address this urgently.

A Green Mayor will treat misogyny as a hate crime, following the lead of Nottinghamshire to have the police record, and treat more seriously, crimes that are

motivated by or worsened by hatred for women. This will be backed up by staff training and a wide communication campaign to women to urge them to report misogynistic crimes.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will institute an urgent victim-led review of sexual violence in London, working from first principles and leading to new resources, improved police and support practices, calls for changes in the law and any other measures needed. London's Victims' Commissioner would take the lead on this work.
- ▶ We will redouble efforts, led by the Assembly since 2018, to introduce a national register of domestic abusers to help women identify and avoid risks from violent partners.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will ensure that initiatives through the London Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Consortium are fully funded to meet the needs of survivors of violence and those facing domestic violence or harm. These include advice and counselling, work to end harmful practices including female genital mutilation and forced marriage, and integrated support.
- ▶ Specialist support services for different communities are

vital in making sure women feel confident in receiving appropriate and understanding support when they need help, and we will defend and promote these services across London, particularly in the face of austerity and any future potential cuts by councils.

- ▶ We will also dedicate new resources to support Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) within A&E and primary care, and find new housing funding to improve options for move-on accommodation for women leaving refuges or leaving prison.
- ▶ A Green Mayor would use youth workers, the Violence Reduction Unit, night time economy venues and advertising on TfL to communicate that violence against women and girls is not tolerated in our city and to educate men and boys about the harm of misogyny and the importance of being an ally.

## ZERO MURDERS

Our vision for London is one of zero murders within ten years, like our vision for zero road death. It is deeply concerning to see the murder rate in London. Street homicides and domestic murders

# HIT AND RUN: POLICING ROAD CRIME



Greens have worked to reduce road offences and will invest in traffic policing

Our city has seen a worrying increase in irresponsible and dangerous driving on our roads. Greens have been working to make sure hit and run offences are clearly reported, including judicial outcomes. Work by Green Assembly member Caroline Russell found that in 2021 there were nearly two-and-a-half times as many hit-and-run casualties on London's roads as there were in 2009.

Not stopping after a collision seems to be almost normalised and the people that do it appear not to care about their victims or to fear any legal consequences. This must change.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will ensure the Met acts with urgency on London's Vision Zero strategy to eliminate road deaths with a comprehensive set of policies and priorities.
- ▶ We will increase investment in the Roads and Transport Policing Command.
- ▶ We will also support Community Roadwatch and ensure police teams across London boroughs work together to reduce road danger and tackle road crime.
- ▶ Road crime will be better recorded and reported by police. Driving offences that kill and injure will be recorded alongside the number of victims and their mode of travel and judicial outcomes, ensuring statistics are reported accurately.
- ▶ We will invest in improved standards of investigation for serious collisions, and publish best practice standards so that vital data is not lost, to not hinder the legal process as victims seek justice.
- ▶ Online reporting for less serious road offences will be improved, working in a victim-led way to make sure the process is simple, that it links seamlessly to the retrieval of CCTV and other footage, and that the outcomes of case investigations are reported back promptly.
- ▶ Motorcycle thefts outnumber car thefts by 11 to 1 in London. We will continue to work with the Metropolitan Police, riders and relevant agencies to halve motorcycle thefts, as well as improve support for victims of theft.

have been falling for the last three years, with the least well off areas of London affected worst. This is still a crisis, but by pulling together, using a public health approach as a city, there is much we can do to further bring down homicide in London.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will eliminate murders and violence by focusing on education and community level work to reach potential perpetrators and encourage them to seek help, creating more opportunities for community and personal conversations about difficult issues such as domestic violence, poverty, prejudice, relationships, masculinity, morality and ethics. And being honest about the limitations of measures that primarily focus on deterrence and fear.
- ▶ At the beginning of the Policing Plenary each November, a Green Mayor will publicly acknowledge, with a minute of silence, the murder victims in London over the last year, alongside acknowledging the people killed on our roads.

## ENDING HATE CRIME

Every Londoner has the right to be safe at home, on the street, on the transport network, at work and

at leisure. Greens oppose racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, misogyny, homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, disablism and hate speech and actions of all kinds against any minority group.

- ▶ We will make sure all police, TfL and GLA public service staff are trained to recognise all kinds of hate crime (including disability hate crime which is severely under-reported and under-recognised) and to assist victims in reporting crimes to the police or third parties, and give advice on accessing CCTV.
- ▶ We will ensure MOPAC collects and reports data on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller victims of race hate crime and judicial outcomes, as separate ethnic groups.
- ▶ We will provide support for faith groups at risk of extremist attacks. Every place of worship that wishes it should have access to appropriate advice, support to improve physical security and a dedicated police contact for reporting concerns.
- ▶ We will work with the Met and relevant partners to tackle crime looking to exploit older, or any, Londoners, such as telephone and doorstep scams.

## HARM REDUCTION APPROACH TO DRUGS

The 'war on drugs' has failed. Today's problems have been created by our drugs laws, combined with stigma and a lack of funding and support. Rising deaths, increasing availability of drugs and increased toxicity of supply have come despite billions of government spending on drug enforcement.

People of every social background use drugs but drug-related deaths are highly linked to social deprivation.

The current Mayor has dithered and delayed taking action on drug harm. His drugs commission was limited in scope and has delayed its report. Despite growing evidence of the benefits of interventions and progress in other cities, he has taken no action.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will take a harm reduction approach, working with the health sector and charities to:
  - ▶ Bring in overdose prevention centres so that people using drugs can do so safely overseen by healthcare workers;

- ▶ Ensure police carry nasal naloxone to prevent death from overdose;
- ▶ Deprioritise stop & search for cannabis;
- ▶ Invest in pre-arrest diversion to avoid criminalising people found with small amounts of drugs;
- ▶ Expand the number of youth workers available in hospital A&E;
- ▶ Invest in drug safety testing facilities to tackle the increase in dangerous drug supply;
- ▶ Set up community advisory groups to put those most affected by current policies at the heart of making new ones.

## SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE SLEEPING ROUGH

London's high cost of living and severe housing crisis together are pushing more people into homelessness.

Many people sleeping rough search for more hidden spots to sleep in order to avoid potentially negative interactions with the police. This is particularly the case for migrants, who can be targeted for deportation if they are found to

have been sleeping rough, making it more difficult for outreach services to find people and offer them support.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will work with the Met and local authorities to avoid the criminalisation of people experiencing homelessness. Instead, people who are sleeping rough or begging will receive engagement and support.

## SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS

A wealth of international evidence, including from Amnesty International and the World Health Organisation, has demonstrated that the full decriminalisation of sex work is the best way to protect sex workers from harm.

With rents, food prices and childcare costs sky high, but wages and benefits failing to keep up, it's likely that more people may turn to sex work to support themselves or their families. Sex workers in London need access to services and support, not criminalisation.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will work with the Met and local authorities to stop issuing fines and cautions, or arresting sex workers for working on the street or working indoors with others.

## ENVIRONMENT AND ANIMALS

It has never been more urgent for the natural environment and wildlife in London to be protected, as London experiences ever more extreme weather. We will ramp up wildlife protection.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will establish a Habitat Crime Unit to tackle more serious and organised wildlife crimes up to and including ecocide; this would also include the prevention and investigation of fly tipping on farmland, country lanes and in wildlife sites within London.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will continue to ensure adequate resources for the Metropolitan Police Wildlife Crime Unit, supporting the investigation and detection of cruel and ecologically damaging trades in wild animals and animal products.
- ▶ We will ensure that the rules around puppy selling, as set out in 'Lucy's Law,' are properly enforced and ensure action is taken against people selling animals illegally.
- ▶ Government changes to legislation banning XL Bully type dogs has placed additional pressure on local authority dog wardens and

charities. A Green Mayor will ensure Dog Legislation Officers (DLOs) are able to provide support to those impacted by the legislation. The Police will be encouraged to use the Dangerous Dogs Act in a way that focuses on animals that genuinely pose a risk to people, those that are dangerously out of control or where a reasonable apprehension of injury exists.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ Greens will push for a reversal of council budget cuts and for properly funded public services including education, housing, social services and the NHS so that people can get the services they need.
- ▶ We will call for repeal of the Public Order Act and the Police, Crime and Sentencing Act, which undermine our rights.
- ▶ Call for the end to the Met's national role in terrorism and diplomatic protection, to refocus the Met on London, creating separate national and London services.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will never give up on pushing the Government to make youth services a statutory service and to fund councils to

provide a comprehensive programme of youth centres and youth workers.

- ▶ We will lobby for youth workers to be granted equal status to teachers and other key workers.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will support the case for decriminalisation of sex work and for misogyny to be recognised as a hate crime.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will lobby the Government to reduce drug harms through legalisation and to implement a safer, regulated supply.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will seek devolved powers and funding to make London a centre of good practice in restorative justice.
- ▶ We will support calls to reform joint enterprise laws to ensure fair and just outcomes, avoiding the over-policing and over-charging of certain groups.
- ▶ We will lobby for the end of the Prevent duty, the Government's counter-terrorism strategy which has been found to create an environment (in education, health and beyond) in which Muslims, especially young Muslim men, are viewed with suspicion.

# GETTING AROUND OUR CITY



**Zoë will make travel cheaper and easier for everyone**

**W**e want a London where everyone gets where they want to go on time, without the stress of crawling through traffic. A city where cycling is easy and safe, where wheelchairs and walkers can travel down uncluttered pavements and where children walk to school without worry of dangerous roads. A city with clean air.

We know this is possible. A Green Mayor will champion low traffic neighbourhoods, car-free zones and space for new cyclists. We need a smarter, fairer charging system for driving in London, one

that does not punish people who depend on cars for their jobs. We will help people find healthier, cleaner ways to travel that suit them, whether they live in the outer boroughs or city centre, aiming to reduce overall traffic kilometres travelled by 40% by 2030.

As part of this, we need to help cyclists, wheelchair users and walkers get around. That means wider pavements, cheaper, safer cycle storage and more space on buses for parents with buggies, and wheelchair users, so they can travel with friends. It means more cycle lanes and green

walking routes, and a joined up network so people feel safer riding on roads, or through parks, at any time of day or night. We are committed to the Vision Zero strategy to end deaths on our roads (see Policing).

We will prioritise stopping the abuse women and LGBTIQ+ commuters experience on our network, including by training TfL staff, drivers and British Transport Police to become more aware of the barriers people face. We will speed up the step-free access across tube stations and make sure there are public toilets at more bus and

tube stations across the whole city.

To clean up our air, we will bring forward current targets for reducing pollution from 2041 to 2028. That means getting diesel off our streets and making sure 80% of journeys in London are on foot, bicycles or public transport. To make travel more affordable, we will set an ambition to flatten fares with a single travel zone across the city, starting with the DLR, so everyone pays the same amount for any journey.

A Green Mayor will make travel in London better and cleaner for everyone, no matter their needs.



**Green Assembly Members including Siân Berry and Caroline Russell have championed clean air and secured extended scrappage schemes for non-ULEZ compliant vehicles**

disabled drivers and a larger scrappage scheme to help people on low incomes who are pushed into car dependency.

## MAKING TRANSPORT FAIRER

### PRIORITISING OUTER LONDON'S NETWORKS

Our top priority is to ensure a more affordable, reliable and sustainable transport network for all Londoners. We will prioritise funding to areas with the fewest transport options. On almost every count, this means improving London's outer boroughs.

Change in the outer boroughs will cost more. Some areas have narrow country roads without pavements, others have to contend with pollution from airports or congestion caused by major events. A Green Mayor will work with local authorities and residents to create relevant and fair action plans that keep travel affordable.

We will:

- ▶ Set an ambition to flatten fares and create a single zone for

## WHAT GREEN AMS HAVE ACHIEVED

- ▶ Caroline Russell's relentless campaigning for toilets on the tube won initial funding of £3 million a year from 2024.
- ▶ Siân Berry's work chairing the cross-party Transport Committee saved buses across London from dramatic cuts in 2022.
- ▶ Caroline Russell pushed the Mayor to ensure victims of Road Traffic collisions and their families are treated as victims by the Met not just by TfL and receive the support they need following a serious collision.
- ▶ With rail campaigners and a national effort, Greens helped win a reprieve for hundreds of rail ticket offices that faced closure in 2023.

- ▶ Siân Berry worked with campaigners to prevent the one-day paper travelcard from being abolished.
- ▶ Long-term Assembly work from Siân and Caroline won new 20 mph speed limits on Transport for London's main roads.
- ▶ Greens were pushing for a London-wide clean air zone for London with a report in 2017. Siân Berry listened to residents and pushed for more help for



**Zoë will ensure transport in the outer boroughs becomes more reliable and affordable**

tube and rail, just like we have on buses and trams, helping everyone in outer London pay less for travel. We will start with flattening the DLR fares so there is one charge for a journey with no zones.

- ▶ Make borough funding contingent on aligning schemes to equity indicators to ensure investment is targeted to the greatest need.
- ▶ In consultation with councils and communities, improve orbital connections between town centres around London's outer circuit, as well as routes

that cross the boundary into surrounding areas.

- ▶ Explore the introduction of more tram routes, working with TfL's strategic mapping to work out where the most private car journeys can be most conveniently and affordably replaced, such as by repurposing existing infrastructure. We will aim to sign off at least two new tram lines by the end of the four-year term.
- ▶ Expand cycle hire infrastructure, with pilot

schemes introducing e-bikes to more areas.

- ▶ Introduce more car-free zones in areas with lots of walkers, wheelchair users and cyclists.
- ▶ Expand cycle and bus lanes. Where roadspace is tight, we will create new space for these essential facilities by reclaiming kerbside locations from private cars.
- ▶ Convert 25% of parking spaces into parklets and free-standing cycle hire drop-off points, clearing pavement clutter while protecting spaces for disabled badge holders.
- ▶ Install bus-only gates on priority bus corridors.
- ▶ Relocate loading bays from bus lanes to side streets.
- ▶ Tackle the current Mayor's backlog of projects, like the West London Orbital, the Bakerloo line extension, the DLR Thamesmead, the Tram line to Sutton and Crossrail links.

## AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

We want to reduce private car journeys and encourage people to walk, wheel or cycle, or to take public transport, without disadvantaging anyone. We need

to increase access to bicycles and make bus fares affordable.

To fund more affordable public transport we will revise charging schemes for drivers of the most expensive and polluting cars, while exempting disabled badge holders. By the end of our first term in 2028, we will have replaced the current Mayor's ULEZ scheme with a smarter, fairer road-pricing plan, which will see cleaner vehicles on our roads, protect drivers' data privacy and reduce distances driven.

### MORE CYCLE HIRE

We want all young people, not just students, to have free, sustainable travel on hired cycles. Support for cycling needs to be more readily available, with an expanded network of hire stands and repair stations, and support for low paid workers to buy or lease cycles. We will:

- ▶ Bring Santander cycle hire into the Oyster Card charging system, to apply the daily cap to users' travel costs.
- ▶ Make cycle hire free for everyone under 22 and people seeking asylum.
- ▶ Work with local authorities to regulate and standardise cycle hire across the city

and make sure bikes are not cluttering the pavements.

- ▶ Help people on lower incomes by introducing accessible cycle-to-work schemes for buying or leasing bicycles and cycle repair projects.
- ▶ Work with local councils to create well-signposted parking spaces for stand-free hire cycles to help keep pavements clear for walking and wheeling.

## FAIRER BUSES

We want to encourage people to use buses if they cannot cycle or walk. Free bus travel can be a fantastic way of improving quality of life for groups of people who need support.

In some cases, current restrictions are unfair, like time limits on Freedom Passes. Our older generations should not have to make up for the revenue TfL lost during the pandemic. Offering free travel only to students disadvantages other young people. Similarly, asylum seekers who cannot work deserve support in accessing essential services and attending meetings, as do the many emergency workers who do so much amazing work for our city. We will consider expanding access to further groups as our transport strategies develop.

We will:

- ▶ Freeze bus fares at the current level for our first term.
- ▶ Extend free bus travel to all under-22s, emergency service workers, and people seeking asylum.
- ▶ Restore 24 hour free travel to holders of 60+ London Oyster photocard and Older Person's Freedom Passes. Accompanying carers will have the same benefits.
- ▶ Consult communities on the introduction of new, direct bus routes that allow safe travel between neighbourhoods and give them a say over changes to existing bus routes, such as extending the 210 from Stamford Hill to Golders Green and the 463 from Coulsdon South Station to Netherne-on-the-Hill, to help connect places in outer London with public transport options.

## SMARTER ROAD CHARGING

Immediately in 2024 we will start consultation on a new, pay-per-mile road-charging scheme, which will be fair for people who drive outside Central London and at less busy times. We will aim to have a new scheme in operation by the end of our first term in 2028. The current Mayor's scheme only



**Greens will freeze bus fares and extend free bus travel to under-22s**

encourages some less-polluting cars and does little to relieve congestion and improve air quality in outer boroughs.

Instead, our approach will discourage the most polluting vehicles from using our roads, raising money to help us support drivers stuck in car dependency. It will allow us to implement a sustainable travel strategy to provide a better environment for walking, wheeling and cycling, as well as making buses

more accessible. The scheme will introduce charges based on distances driven, vehicle emissions, time of day and location and with the possibility of sharing costs between passengers to encourage car sharing, and cover all of London. It will also protect drivers' personal data.

The scheme will cover all of London and enforce the emissions limits set out in our other policies. Our policies will aim to reduce overall traffic kilometres by 40%

by 2030. It is vital that this scheme is designed in partnership with Londoners who will benefit from it, as well as with those who still need to drive. We will begin this engagement immediately after the election.

As boroughs vary in the types of roads and congestion problems they face, we'll work closely with each council and with local communities to develop local solutions to local problems, and provide funding to start implementing those solutions before any charging scheme begins. This will be alongside a permanent, city-wide scrappage programme.

We will:

- ▶ Set stricter standards for larger, more polluting vehicles, such as SUVs and diesel-powered vehicles, basing charges on these factors as well as distance travelled.
- ▶ Work with councils to phase out residential parking permits for diesel cars by 2028.
- ▶ Ensure every part of TfLs' road network stays within WHO guidelines for safe pollution limits as soon as possible, and at the latest by the end of the first term in 2028.
- ▶ Establish a permanent scrappage programme for

people who need to use cars or vans but cannot afford to change their vehicles. This will be funded from existing and new charges, but we will also demand that the national government play its part.

- ▶ Set standards to restrict deadly particle pollutants from tyre and road wear.
- ▶ Work with councils to develop standardised parking charges across London to provide drivers with a clear and consistent picture of costs.
- ▶ Develop a borough- or London-wide, strategic levy on workplace parking spaces to reduce unnecessary car commuting.
- ▶ Require local councils to reduce in-borough traffic using controlled parking schemes before they can receive funding for new transport schemes.
- ▶ When Uber's licence to operate in London comes up for renewal in late 2024, we will work with GMB to review whether the company meets fair and ethical employment standards and use this to decide on how to proceed.
- ▶ Implement best practice standards for regulating emissions from transportable industrial equipment and vehicles (Non-Road Mobile

Machinery) by 2030, with significant progress by 2028.

## BREAKING BARRIERS TO MOBILITY

Everyone should be able to move around London freely, easily and safely, but London can be very unwelcoming for some communities. Access to our streets and to public transport is a challenge for many people with physical disabilities, neurodiversity, dementia and other conditions that affect mobility.

Hate crime has been on the rise as well. City Hall needs to work harder to protect vulnerable people on the move. The level of abuse women cyclists experience is unacceptable and deters many other women from active travel. We need to tackle this and all forms of hate crime by improving ways of reporting and recording incidents, as well as improvements to cycling and travel infrastructure. We will set a target for increasing the number of women cycling in the city from 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

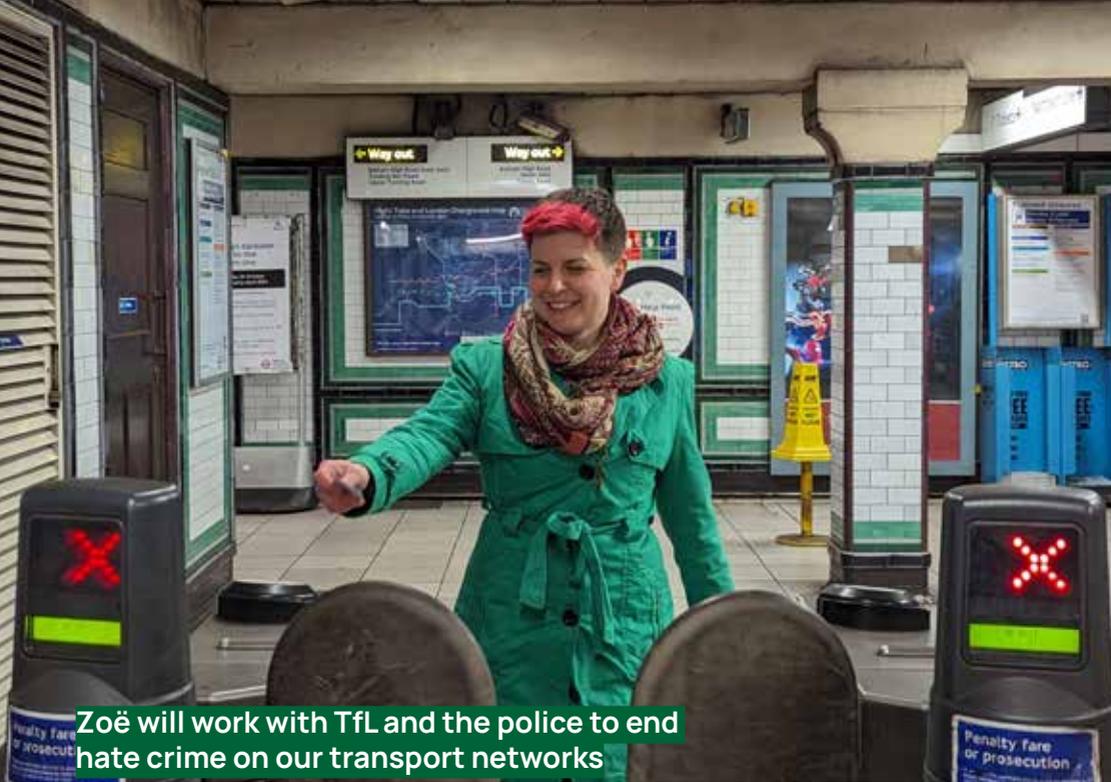
## IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY

We will make it easier for all people to get around London by properly consulting disabled

people on planning. We will adopt recommendations from the Sustrans' Disabled Citizens' Inquiry to make sure public transport is as accessible as possible.

We will make London a dementia-friendly city by bringing 'lifetime neighbourhood' design principles into planning rules for streets and homes, in consultation with relevant groups. This will include improved signage, reduced pavement clutter and more space for people to navigate our streets and access our city. We will:

- ▶ Invest in a wider network of well-lit, accessible, local cycle routes, inspected by a design review panel of experts on women's cycling, so women feel safer cycling in London.
- ▶ Consult from the beginning with disabled people on all transport policies and plans that may affect them.
- ▶ We will improve awareness of TfL's Travel Mentoring service for people that need help navigating London's public transport networks.
- ▶ Provide funding to the London Access Forum to help make public transport, especially the Underground, accessible to more mobility-impaired people.



Zoë will work with TfL and the police to end hate crime on our transport networks

- ▶ Upgrade our bus fleet to include space for more wheelchair users to travel together.
- ▶ Dedicate funding to maintaining and improving pavements at crossings and at access points to public transport.
- ▶ Upgrade more of our transport network with step-free access and give priority to disabled and older passengers taking non-emergency taxi journeys.
- ▶ Support London's valuable Black Taxis and their drivers by expanding fast charging points into outer London more quickly and making sure more dedicated rest and toilet facilities are provided in a network that provides for all drivers' needs.
- ▶ Support, maintain and improve transport hire services for disabled people such as Dial-a-Ride.
- ▶ Design a new standard bus stop with better shelter and seating suitable for older and disabled people, as well as improved real-time bus information. The design will be greener, with solar power generation and bee-friendly plants.

- ▶ Bring in stricter rules around pavement clutter, parking across dropped kerbs and parking spaces.
- ▶ Set a London-wide standard for parking hire bicycles so they do not clutter pavements.
- ▶ Make sure there are enough benches and water fountains to make journeys more comfortable for people who find active travel difficult.
- ▶ Standardising and clearly communicating CCTV retention times.
- ▶ Ensuring night-time services are frequent and reliable.
- ▶ Stepping up the training of TfL and railway staff and British Transport Police to give them the skills to support everyone travelling in London. This will include improving awareness of our most disadvantaged Londoners' intersectional experiences.
- ▶ Improving data collected about people's experiences of abuse on public transport, so we can better understand and tackle intersectional barriers to reporting incidents.

### ENDING HATE CRIME AND ENSURING SAFETY

We want to see an end to all hate crime and the targeting of women on our streets and public transport. We will continue to use our powers to raise awareness of how every Londoner, TfL staff member and the British Transport Police can prevent, safely react to and report hate crimes and abuse. The Green Party supports the "get me home safe" campaign across the service industry and night time economy.

In partnership with LGBTQIA+ and other community organisations, TfL and the police, we will implement a strategy for eliminating hate crime on London's transport networks, by:

- ▶ Ensuring stations are well-lit, fully staffed and have visible and well-connected CCTV and wifi.
- ▶ Working with third party organisations such as Tell Mama and Galop, and apps like CATCH or Zoteria, which enable indirect reporting of hate crimes, to help African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South, faith groups and LGBTQIA+ communities, who have low trust in the police, to report hate crimes.
- ▶ Working with the police to identify hotspots where women cyclists experience high levels of abuse, to target crime prevention and strengthen campaigns against hate crime.

## HEALTHIER, SAFER STREETS

Travelling around London should be safe for everyone, but there are still too many collisions on our roads. Residents in London's most-deprived postcode areas are twice as likely to experience a road collision as people in wealthier areas. A Green Mayor will make roads safer for everyone, starting with the most-deprived areas.

## VISION ZERO FOR ROAD DEATHS

Vision Zero is about stopping anyone on our roads being killed by road traffic. We need to reclaim public streets for public use and make it easier for people to cross roads safely. A Green Mayor will do everything possible to make our roads safer and healthier, bringing forward the deadline for London's Vision Zero from 2041 to 2032.

This chapter focuses on our commitment to making roads safer for everyone while our Policing chapter outlines how we will improve handling of road crimes and treatment of victims. We will also:

- ▶ Put a stop to cyclist and pedestrian deaths caused by motor vehicles in London by 2028, the end of the upcoming Mayoral term.
- ▶ Upgrade pavements to ensure they are level, ensuring crossings are easily accessible to all, and add more crossing points with dropped kerbs and tactile paving.
- ▶ Work with councils to develop action plans for improving safety on challenging routes, such as country roads without pavements.
- ▶ Install crossings at every traffic light junction.
- ▶ Work to a principle of lowering waiting times for green crossing lights to 60 seconds.
- ▶ Give people more time to cross wide roads, reducing the need for enclosures.
- ▶ Roll out 50 Pedestrian Priority Crossings where the default setting is green for people crossing, with red lights only stopping people on foot, cycles or in wheelchairs when motor traffic is waiting.
- ▶ Commit to a 20mph speed limit across all of Transport for London's Road Network by 2025, reducing pollution from tyres and roads and lowering the risk of death

## ZOOM BIKE PROJECT IN HACKNEY

The Zoom Bike Project is a community led zero-waste bike repair workshop, to make cycling and cycle repair accessible to help Hackney become a borough where cycling could be the primary

mode of transport for all.

Zoë has volunteered at the project since 2021 and said "I have had the joy of teaching children how to pump up bike tyres and watching them help each other, learning how their bike works and how to look after it. I'd love to support projects like this across the city to grow".

in collisions, and work with local authorities to set speed limits on other roads.

- ▶ Ensure all working vehicles like buses and delivery lorries on London roads have intelligent speed assistance technology fitted by 2028.
- ▶ Commission a comprehensive audit of TfL's road network with the aim of prioritising safety for walkers, wheelers and cyclists.

## HELPING ROAD VICTIMS

Despite our best efforts to improve safety on our roads, collisions do still occur. In such cases we have to step up support for victims of road traffic collisions.

- ▶ Greens will ensure dedicated support services and organisations are readily

available and well-publicised, so victims of road traffic collisions and road crimes can get quick and comprehensive help, including when there is no prosecution.

- ▶ We will mark the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on the third Sunday of November each year with a one-minute silence.
- ▶ At the beginning of each Mayor's Question Time a Green Mayor will read out the names of everyone known to have been killed on London roads since the last meeting.
- ▶ We will hold an annual Listening Day for crash victims and families within City Hall.

# TOILETS



Caroline Russell has secured more funding for public toilets and will continue to push for more



Zoë has consulted with Londoners on toilet provision

The decline in the number of public toilets affects the health and mobility of all Londoners. Our Green Assembly Member, Caroline Russell, has worked hard to assess and cost the gaps in TfL's toilet provision. Following pressure from the Greens, the Mayor of London commissioned a feasibility study and eventually committed funding for toilets on TfL. This is a good start, but lacks ambition. An investment of just £20 million per year would hugely improve comfort for travellers across the Underground network.

We will:

- ▶ Set out a standard level of public toilet for TfL.
- ▶ Prioritise the provision of toilets at stations at interchanges and in areas with no nearby provision.
- ▶ Set targets for expanding the number of toilets available outside of barriers at TfL

Underground stations and bus hubs, and improve signage.

- ▶ Share maps of public toilets across the network by upgrading maps on tube carriages, station platforms and digital apps with symbols indicating availability.
- ▶ Work with the NHS to open all their toilets to the public.
- ▶ Include an assessment of toilet availability in the Healthy Street Scorecard design check.
- ▶ Appoint a Loo Czar to implement our plan for more toilets across London and create a Toilet Commission for London with wide representation to help steer their work.
- ▶ Relaunch community toilet schemes with clearer signage and branding as an add-on, not a substitute, for free public toilets.

## BETTER WALKING ROUTES

Going for a walk is one of the best things that we can do to improve our health. London has a large number of open spaces and walking routes open to everyone. We want to get more people out on our paths and by-ways, both to encourage vehicle-free travel and to promote public health. A Green Mayor will get more people walking in London, by:

- ▶ Developing a strategic plan to expand the Walk London Network.
- ▶ Implementing the London Leisure Walking Plan.
- ▶ Rolling out the Footways Network of green, attractive, low-pollution streets connecting iconic destinations and public spaces across Greater London.
- ▶ Distributing free neighbourhood walking maps at Underground stations to encourage people to make short journeys on foot.

## BETTER CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Cycling around London is an enjoyable way to see the city and, like walking, is great for our health. Despite the benefits of cycling, most London councils charge more for annual cycle storage passes than for car parking permits. A Green Mayor will encourage more people to cycle by:

- ▶ Reclaiming kerbside space from car parking for cycling, and space for parklets, through sharing of best practice in kerbside strategies from boroughs across London.
- ▶ Working with council's to improve local cycling networks and connections between low-traffic neighbourhoods.
- ▶ Encouraging councils to provide more cycle storage hangars and requiring boroughs to make storage cheaper than car parking charges.
- ▶ Making cycle hire schemes more cost-effective and requiring the companies that manage these schemes to meet higher standards for maintenance.



Zoë will improve walking and cycling routes in London

- ▶ Promoting bicycle repair clubs and options for disabled cyclists.
- ▶ Introducing more Cycle Optimised Protected Signal junctions, starting with junctions where cyclists are at the greatest risk.
- ▶ Funding a 'hub and spoke' network that makes it easier for people to cycle between neighbouring town centres around Greater London, as well as in and out of the centre.
- ▶ Introduce a requirement for all organisations above

a certain size to publish travel plans with a target mode shift to sustainable, zero emissions routes.

## A CLEAN AIR CAPITAL

Clean air is a human right. Our Green Peer in the House of Lords has led the way with the Clean Air Act within parliament. While we have many clean air policies in our Climate chapter, we know transport is a major source of air pollution.



**Greens have campaigned against polluting road projects such as the Silvertown Tunnel and for the money to be spent on public transport**

Other major cities around the world are reducing traffic pollution and improving residents' health. London needs to catch up. A Green Mayor will accelerate plans to protect our citizens' health and make our city more attractive to live in and visit.

Making London travel more affordable, efficient and accessible will hugely improve our air quality. We will focus resources on helping people understand the risks of air pollution and where and when to take precautions, and we will

help communities create car-free zones which are pleasant to be in. We will:

- ▶ Publicise air pollution data widely, including warning people about major pollution incidents that pose a risk to public health, and track the progress we make towards achieving cleaner air. We will install monitoring equipment to display real-time air pollution data and provide funding to local communities so that they can carry out their own monitoring.

- ▶ Publicise the risks of tube dust pollution and ways people can protect themselves from pollution on the underground.
- ▶ Prioritise tackling tube dust. We will take action to identify any health harm and to reduce the exposure of workers and passengers to tube dust on all underground lines whilst raising awareness of risks.
- ▶ Identify local pollution hot-spots that need urgent action from TfL and local councils.
- ▶ Tackle London's remaining nitrogen dioxide hot-spots by the end of 2025 and ensure all roads controlled by TfL across all London boroughs meet World Health Organisation air pollution limits by 2028.
- ▶ Improve public education on air pollution and run a massive public awareness campaign about the benefits of active travel.
- ▶ Accelerate action to clean up air pollution around all schools, colleges, universities, prisons, residential care homes, daycare centres and hospitals, providing them with air quality audits and funding to create air quality and clean travel action plans.
- ▶ Phase in a Central London car-free-zone by 2028.

## TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The traffic on London's roads is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Recent extreme temperatures and storms threaten business as usual. We have to prepare now for climate change and limit climate damage caused by travel and freight.

Our plans target fair and just change to commuting and business. The rising cost of petrol-based energy means this will save everyone money in the long run, but some people and small businesses need support to switch to sustainable transport. We will:

- ▶ Make London diesel-free by 2028.
- ▶ Review with TfL how best to transition to a zero emissions bus fleet by 2028 and follow by reviewing how best to modernise our trains.
- ▶ Create an action plan for making all TfL and GLA electricity purchases zero carbon by 2028.
- ▶ Work with local authorities to develop a clear, strategic roll out of fast, affordable EV charging points across the city.
- ▶ Require all car clubs and company salary-sacrifice

schemes for commuters to only use electric vehicles.

## BRIDGES AND TUNNELS

The current Mayor has pushed ahead with the Silvertown Tunnel, despite the high levels of pollution and congestion it will create. Now the tunnel has been bored, the cost of cancelling the project is likely to be prohibitive, but it is not too late to use the tunnel for good.

In consultation with local groups, Green Assembly Members have worked hard to come up with alternative, greener uses for the Silvertown Tunnel. At the same time, we have reviewed other Thames crossings. We will:

- ▶ Cancel any new tunnel and river-crossing road projects for motor vehicle traffic, diverting the funding to projects for sustainable transport and cleaner streets.
- ▶ Make one bore of the Silvertown Tunnel exclusively for walking, wheeling and cycling, and for electric buses, and work with local councils to use the second bore to extend the DLR across the Thames.
- ▶ Permanently designate Hammersmith Bridge for

walking, wheeling and cycling, and explore options for innovative public transport services if bus use can't be restored.

- ▶ Invest in upgrading all bridges for easier walking, wheeling and cycling whenever repair work takes place.
- ▶ Whilst looking to bring in smart road charging, introduce a toll at the Blackwall Tunnel to raise money for improving walking, wheeling and cycling routes, including a study for the potential transformation of either or both of the Rotherhithe Tunnel and Tower Bridge for walking, wheeling and cycling.

## CLEANER FREIGHT

Lorry and van deliveries are a significant source of pollution and congestion across London. We need to work with businesses and logistics firms to reduce freight traffic without impacting their overheads.

Our new, smarter road-charging scheme will provide the funds for us to help businesses reduce freight miles, use their vehicles more efficiently and invest in

e-cargo bike solutions. We will work with businesses to:

- ▶ Develop new consolidation warehouses in locations, including outside London, that will encourage bulk water and rail freight and so groups of businesses can use last mile electric lorries to deliver goods to high streets.
- ▶ Expand e-cargo bike rental schemes for local business deliveries.

## AVIATION

Air traffic generates vast quantities of pollution worldwide, contributing to increases in global temperatures with hazardous consequences for our climate. London sits between six major airports, handling millions of passengers each year and thousands of flights per day. The damage this does to our air quality and to the climate in general is huge.

Greens have campaigned for years against aviation pollution, aircraft noise and airport expansions, like the expansion of City Airport approved by the current Mayor. A Green Mayor will fight to reduce air traffic in London, while protecting workers

who depend on airports for their livelihoods, by:

- ▶ Campaigning against aircraft noise across London, introducing stricter windows for early morning and late night flights and opposing concentrated flight paths.
- ▶ Opposing all airport expansion in London and decreasing the number of flights made in line with climate targets.
- ▶ Pushing for the closure of City Airport and the environmentally sustainable repurposing of the land for the good of all Londoners.
- ▶ Working with trade unions and our Just Transition Commission to help workers at London's airports and surrounding businesses to secure jobs in Green New Deal industries, like renewable energy, housing improvements, education and community support.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ We will lobby the Crown Estate Paving Commission to remove all traffic from London's Royal Parks.
- ▶ We will bid for London to fully control traffic and

- parking laws and for powers to raise taxes on roads.
- ▶ We will lobby for powers to tax and ultimately ban private jets in London and across UK airports.
  - ▶ Greens will demand traffic justice reforms nationally, so that driving offences are included in criminal data, and incidents that lead to death or serious injury are treated as violent crimes.
  - ▶ We will fight to make judicial outcomes focus on offences that carry the greatest risks to life.
  - ▶ We will support campaigns to improve action against drivers who park on pavements, and for dangerous driving charges to be pursued when speeding offences take place through pedestrian crossings.
  - ▶ We will lobby the national government to include road crime in the Crime Survey of England and Wales and fund London's Victim's Commissioner to survey road crash victims about their experiences and publish the results.
  - ▶ We will lobby for a Green Mayor to have the necessary powers to implement zero emissions standards in London.

- ▶ We will continue to lobby for a Frequent Flyer Levy, leading the way on innovative national policies for reducing flying without affecting those who fly the least.
- ▶ Through devolution discussions with the national government, we will demand that funds already paid by London's drivers are given to London. We will press for a share of the Roads Fund, and a share of fuel duty.
- ▶ We will lobby the national government for long-term funding for TfL.
- ▶ We will campaign for the right to set standards for all train services operating in London, so we can ensure fair, reliable services for all Londoners, with a minimum of four trains per hour operating on lines north and south of the Thames.

## ALIGNING STRATEGIES TO DELIVER OUR GOALS

Integrated planning, housing and transport policies are needed more than ever in the next London plan. A Green Mayor will align the Transport Strategy and the next London Plan with our goals to reduce overall traffic kilometres by

40% by 2030 and to help us to reach an 80% target for sustainable travel journeys. As part of this:

- ▶ We will commit to increasing investment in Healthy Streets to over £300m/year, prioritising development in most deprived areas according to Vision Zero principles.
  - ▶ We will ringfence 10 per cent of the Healthy Streets investment for developing outer London's Green Belt Network of walking, wheeling and cycling infrastructure, with emphasis on connecting communities, replacing car journeys and improving biodiversity.
  - ▶ We will make sure leisure cycling is a part of London's Cycling Plan.
  - ▶ We will integrate housing with local services and jobs to minimise the need to travel and strengthen planning to ensure new developments minimise car dependency.
  - ▶ Planning policies and new funding streams will make sure all buildings have the right air filtration systems and protection for people inside them from the air pollution outside with priority given to settings located on main roads.
- ▶ We will ensure that large developments offer free, accessible public toilets.
  - ▶ We will work with organisations representing African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South as well as disabled Londoners and older Londoners to monitor and report on actions in TfL's Equity in Motion and Action on Inclusion plans.



Zoë will speak up for Londoners' needs and make our city a fairer and more affordable place to live

**W**e are not just in a cost of living crisis. We are in an equality crisis. The UK is an extremely rich country, but our wealth is concentrated in just a few people's pockets. This unfairness is bad for everyone. Even rich people want to pay more tax. We all want a more equal country, and Londoners want a more equal city.

The Green Party will narrow the gap between rich and poor. Our approach to the economy, and every decision we make, considers people and planet before profit.

The current Mayor's own report suggests a Londonwide basic income will lift 100,000 people out of poverty and make our economy fairer. Why are we waiting? This is just the first step in giving people more control over their lives and work. If Wales can do it, so can London.

A Green Mayor will stand in solidarity with unions to protect workers' rights and put them at the heart of our green economy. By offering new skills and training we will create the jobs London

needs to lower greenhouse gas emissions. We will make insourcing a priority. We will also set the highest standards of employment at City Hall and across the GLA for flexible, secure and family-friendly jobs. We will offer an increased, real Living Wage for London, that reflects just how much it costs to live here.

London's small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy and high streets are the hearts of communities, but rising overheads are forcing businesses to close - a

Green Mayor will be their champion. We will help them reduce their emissions and cut their bills with funding and scrappage schemes, lowering their overheads and securing their futures.

We will help people to grow their own food and eat locally. We will also ensure every child gets a free school meal.

A Green Mayor will change the way London does business for the better, making our city fairer, stronger and healthier for everyone to live and work in.

## WHAT GREEN AMS HAVE ACHIEVED

- ▶ We exposed the shortage of skilled labourers able to retrofit homes and the urgent need for more training to improve and refurbish homes.
- ▶ Zack Polanski pushed hard to promote and fund Universal Basic Income pilots.
- ▶ Alongside supporting better pay and conditions for workers, Zack Polanski pushed the current Mayor to urge local authorities in London to follow City Hall's lead by ensuring that not only is no one directly employed by them paid less than the London Living Wage, but that any service providers or contractors commissioned by councils.
- ▶ Zack Polanski pushed to secure London Living Wage for care workers and all NHS staff (including those on contracts working within hospitals such as cleaners).
- ▶ Siân Berry exposed the huge numbers of dead spaces in communities, left empty when they could be used by local people and organisations. Working with campaigners she is helping to close loopholes

in business rates to bring more buildings into use.

- ▶ Zack Polanski worked to support a group of migrant care workers who unionised with United Voices of the World. They're now amongst the highest paid care workers in London.

## EQUALITY IN THE WORKPLACE

There is a huge gap between the highest and lowest paid workers in London. Far too many people are struggling on low wages and in unpleasant working environments. Private interests cannot be trusted to arrive at social and environmental justice.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will promise a real Living Wage for London, estimated at £16.14, and which we will calculate accurately for introduction as soon as possible once elected. This will reflect the real cost of living, the cost of raising children and caring for family members. We will work hard to influence more organisations in London to make sure every employee earns at list the new London Living Wage.
- ▶ We will create an ethical, sustainable Community

Bank for London tasked with providing loans and finance to small businesses as well as to individuals and families in crisis.

- ▶ We will set up an independent energy supplier for London, investing in clean, green energy, offering Londoners an ethical and affordable option to help save money on our bills.

## UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME

The Green Party is dedicated to making Universal Basic Income a reality. Following on from successful trials of Universal Basic Income in Wales and parts of England, a Green Mayor will pilot new schemes to show the benefits of such approaches to different groups of Londoners.

We need to take every step we can to end poverty in London. We recognise such measures are a start, not a solution, to London's inequalities. New pilots must be introduced carefully to succeed, and they must be delivered alongside a package of interventions to level out wages and give people more control over their working lives.

- ▶ We will ensure existing basic income pilots receive the

support they need to remain community-led, long-term and representative enough to provide useful results.

- ▶ Continue to build the case and lobby Government for equal powers to Wales to create a London-wide Universal Basic Income for care leavers up to the age of 25.
- ▶ Pilot a three-year Universal Basic Income scheme for at least 1,000 Londoners. These guaranteed payments will be unconditional and come with support and career advice. The pilot would track and evaluate the wider impacts of the scheme on health, wellbeing and the use of other services.
- ▶ Fund further micro-pilots of universal income support to evaluate the impacts on the wellbeing and security of diverse Londoners designed and led by community and worker input. These pilots will focus on clusters of different businesses and their customers, such as disabled people, local retail or manufacturing business clusters and Black-owned businesses.

## PROTECTING WORKERS' RIGHTS

The Green Party fully recognises the central role played by unions in advancing the interests of their members and protecting workers from exploitation. Greens proudly stand on the picket lines with health, transport, security and other workers in their recent disputes, fighting for fairer pay and conditions. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Commit to never using agency workers to break strikes.
- ▶ Establish a Just Transition Commission in partnership with trade unions to ensure workers can secure jobs in Green New Deal industries without seeing their livelihoods threatened.
- ▶ Task the Just Transition Commission to set new safe standards for maximum and minimum working temperatures in workplaces in response to increasing extreme weather conditions, and promote union organising around the issue by supporting their campaigns.
- ▶ Do everything possible to challenge companies involved in blacklisting trade union activists and do all we can through our procurement processes to ensure we are



working with companies who treat their workers well.

- ▶ Commit to ensuring flexible, secure, age-friendly job opportunities for older people returning to work or going into sudden retirement, as well as young people starting out, in collaboration with our Just Transition Commission, our Elders' Champion and our Youth Assembly.
- ▶ Introduce a Jobs Guarantee scheme for London's most marginalised groups, offering 5,000 new one-year job placements that

meet our strengthened Good Work Standard.

- ▶ Work with poverty campaigners and consumer organisations to create a strategy to reduce 'poverty premiums' faced by those on low incomes, such as the higher cost of energy for households on pre-pay meters.
- ▶ Work with the Fire Brigades Union to ensure London firefighters are well-equipped and fairly paid.
- ▶ Consult with women firefighters' to adapt uniforms and safety equipment to

help them keep the public safe while they are on duty.

- ▶ Work with the London Fire Brigade to resolve the culture of discrimination highlighted by the Independent Culture Review, to make sure misogyny, racism, and homophobia are not acceptable. We will put continuous processes in place so the culture remains inclusive, safe and welcoming for all.
- ▶ Gather and publish data on the intake and experiences of LGBTIQ+ firefighters', to improve their inclusion in the service.

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE

In addition to all the steps we take to protect workers' rights across the city, Greens will set the highest employment standards in the GLA. We will make London's public sector world-leading for fair, sustainable and healthy work and encourage businesses of all sizes to do the same. We will:

- ▶ Introduce an 8:1 maximum pay ratio at City Hall, rolling this out to all GLA Group organisations by the end of our first term in 2028.
- ▶ Work to improve best practices in recruitment, careers advice and service delivery across the GLA.
- ▶ Eliminate pay gaps in all GLA organisations by 2026, including for gender, ethnicity, disability and LGBTIQ+ . We will extend the monitoring and publication of these pay gaps to all organisations with which the GLA has contracts.
- ▶ Set the highest standards for age-friendly employment practices.
- ▶ Redouble efforts to bring apprentices into official Living Wage policies, whilst requiring all GLA group organisations to continue to pay apprentices a London Living Wage and include it all procurement policies and contracts.
- ▶ Make insourcing a priority for all London's public sector areas.
- ▶ Ensure valid, undisputed invoices are paid within 30 days. Any delays are unacceptable especially for small businesses who need to pay their staff on time and cannot rely on reserves.
- ▶ Divest all GLA controlled investments in climate-damaging fossil fuel and high carbon industries by 2025. We will support and acknowledge those boroughs already planning to divest their funds and work with other boroughs to set and meet their own divestment goals.
- ▶ Introduce duty of care guidance for all public sector creditors in London.
- ▶ Champion the Plant Based Treaty, promote a plant-based diet and remove all ultra-processed foods and advertising for such products at all GLA managed spaces.
- ▶ Work with partners to integrate accessible, free, high quality debt and job advice into services
- ▶ Offer the choice of a four-day working week with no loss of salary, starting with City Hall

## STRENGTHENING THE GOOD WORK STANDARD

City Hall's Good Work Standard encourages best practices across London businesses. Using our City Hall procurement policies and schemes to support small businesses, Greens will enhance the Standard and make working in London fairer, healthier, greener and more secure.

We will collaborate with relevant groups, such as unions through our proposed Just Transition Commission, disabled people and London's African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma communities and people from the Global South, to ensure these practices are inclusive. We will encourage all employers in London to:

- ▶ Take steps toward standardising a shorter, more flexible working week while making jobs more secure.
- ▶ Support staff to participate in union and collective action.
- ▶ Adopt an 8:1 pay ratio between lowest and highest paid employees. We will also work with unions to help workers demand this from their employers directly.
- ▶ Guarantee five days of paid leave each year (based on full-time hours) for formal learning and training workers wish to undertake.
- ▶ Offer minimum parental leave periods.
- ▶ Include flexible working requests in job advertisements and at interviews.
- ▶ Commit to age-friendly employment standards.
- ▶ Ensure all employees are entitled to 10 days of bereavement leave at normal pay on par with the GLA's own policy, which can be taken flexibly according to individual needs and cultural beliefs within 56 weeks of bereavement.
- ▶ Implement the Worker Protection Bill, which requires employers to prevent workplace harassment before it happens, instead of waiting for abuse to happen before reacting.



**Zoë will support the needs of small businesses and traders, such as with lower rents**

employees and rolling this out to all GLA employees.

- ▶ Make recruitment anonymous (name, age, gender removed) for all services directly within the remit of the GLA and lobby for other employers to do the same.
- ▶ Make all of the GLA's energy supply renewable by 2026.

## SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES

Over 99 per cent of businesses in London employ between 0 and 49

people. Small, independent traders are the lifeblood of London's economy and are invaluable to our communities. We will make independent trading easier for all of London's sole traders and give them more say in City Hall. We will explore new funding streams and financing schemes to support them.

We must also take steps to keep rents and rates low for small businesses, so they can stay resilient against the rising cost of overheads, protecting employees and premises. We will:

- ▶ Introduce a fairer procurement system so that small businesses, especially those owned by African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South, have equal access to contracts as larger businesses.
- ▶ Set up a dedicated, London-wide mentoring and business strategy forum for realising the full potential of businesses owned by women and African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South.
- ▶ We will make Social Value Leases a core part of TfL's affordable workspace policy.
- ▶ Provide direct support from City Hall to areas of emerging heritage where small businesses have formed distinct, local cultural quarters, such as small markets set up by ethnic minority communities.
- ▶ Create a new Deputy Mayor for Small Businesses to oversee and assess the impact of future policy interventions.
- ▶ Working in partnership with London's further and higher education providers and industry, develop a concrete strategy for ensuring London businesses have the skilled workforce and researchers they need, plus funding to support flexible adult education programmes to close the retrofit skills gap and support heritage and conservation work.
- ▶ Provide support to ensure small businesses can optimise access for disabled staff, suppliers and customers and have appropriate facilities in place and improve wellbeing.
- ▶ Compile and promote a London-wide directory of equitable small businesses.
- ▶ Establish a permanent business emergencies fund so businesses and communities disrupted by crisis events like the Grenfell disaster or terror attacks can rebuild.
- ▶ Promote the importance of shopping locally.

## SUPPORTING WORKING PARENTS

Many parents find it hard to make ends meet for themselves and their children. Working full time and parents is hard without access to reliable and affordable childcare. Recognising that childcare is a vital part of our economic and social infrastructure, a Green Mayor will work together with partners across the city to significantly improve the

quality and availability of affordable childcare. A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Lobby large employers to provide subsidised childcare.
- ▶ Work towards ensuring childcare support in London starts from the end of paid maternity leave or when a child is 9 months old.
- ▶ Look to offer paid paternity leave of 3 months to all employees in City Hall and the GLA at least at minimum wage and on a 'use it or lose it' basis.

## A HEALTHIER ECONOMY

Some people experience poorer health than others due to social and contextual factors beyond their control including lower incomes. A fairer, healthier economy will improve people's lives. The Green Party will take steps to improve the health of our workers and high streets.

## COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES

We will work to improve quality of life for older Londoners and make end of life care a strategic priority for the London Health Board and the Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy, and develop an action

plan to tackle inequalities and improve access to and experience of end of life care.

- ▶ We will appoint an End of Life Care Champion to lead on improving end of life care across London.
- ▶ We will encourage councils to embed Compassionate Communities as the first step in making London a Compassionate City and ensure every carer of someone with a terminal illness is offered a carer's assessment.
- ▶ We will use our strengthened Good Work Standard to encourage all employers to adopt clear and compassionate bereavement policies.
- ▶ We will support local authorities and community organisations to provide public warm spaces for older residents in cold months, while we work to end fuel poverty for all.
- ▶ We will improve the effectiveness of the GLA's Pension Credit campaign.
- ▶ Work with NHS and other partners to monitor and report on over-60s involved in the Wellbeing Champion Campaign.
- ▶ Support mental health through partnerships, e.g. with Thrive LDN.



Zoë will help our high streets and markets thrive, with more space opened up for communities

## BRINGING HIGH STREETS BACK TO LIFE

London's high streets are lined with small businesses and traders who work hard to create the character and identities of their local communities. Many closed during the pandemic and are still struggling to recover financially, if these businesses survived.

A Green Mayor will convert our high streets into friendlier, greener, more accessible, community-led environments. We will help small

businesses transform our town centres into more welcoming, safer places.

This starts by opening up the many empty council-owned properties for temporary and long-term use. We will work with councils already doing this to share best practice and promote better planning for our high streets. We need to encourage a community-led approach, giving space over to local energy for launching positive, healthy projects, organising gatherings for shared interests



**Greens will improve food security for Londoners, including by introducing free school meals for secondary age students**

and to help small businesses, start-ups and community groups looking for short-term lets find spaces for their work. We will:

- ▶ Continue to map and strengthen a London-wide register of disused public buildings on and near high streets and help communities make use of them, with support from the Mayor's Recovery Fund. Greens in City Hall have started with the hundreds of council-owned buildings that are currently 'dead spaces', many of which have been shuttered for 5 years or more. Then we will work on opening

access to buildings owned by TfL, the London Fire Brigade, the Met Police and other public bodies in London.

- ▶ Reduce the paperwork for 'meanwhile use' licence applications, making it easier for community business groups to use dead spaces on high streets.
- ▶ Promote better neighbourhood planning in London through data sharing of best practice and strategic ideas implementation across boroughs and departments.

- ▶ Listen to the needs of small businesses and develop a Business Crime Strategy to address issues facing businesses.

## HEALTHY, AFFORDABLE FOOD

A large part of London's economy revolves around food, yet many people find it hard to access healthy food at affordable prices. Our fresh food markets are an essential part of our food and cultural economy but have been threatened by squeezed local authority budgets. We desperately need reforms to restore the balance of power between farmers and supermarket chains, but we also need to make sure this does not force more people into food poverty.

Greens will work towards ending food poverty by making a healthy, local and balanced diet more accessible for everyone. We will develop a coordinated, strategic response to reduce the need for food banks in London, whilst supporting the efforts of the remaining food banks to provide healthy and nutritious meals.

### HEALTHY FOOD FOR CHILDREN

More than 400,000 children in London face food insecurity. A Green Mayor will commit fully to the London Right2Food Charter.

Children without enough to eat can't focus at school, and it impacts their physical and mental health. A Green Mayor will provide universal free school meals for all school children (primary and secondary), helping families stretch tight budgets and supporting the city's children to thrive. This commitment will reduce the burden on schools having to administer different meal programmes for children from families receiving benefits and do away with any stigma associated with receiving free meals. We will:

- ▶ Promote food education and advise schools on procurement of nutritious meals prioritising organic, local, seasonal ingredients, with limits on how much meat and dairy is included in menus each week.
- ▶ Set clear guidelines for school food programmes and staff training needs in nutrition and sustainability.
- ▶ Look to help councils provide summer holiday food support to children from households receiving universal credit or equivalent benefits.

- ▶ Champion Water Only Schools and promote the take-up of Healthy Start across London, working with health visitors and hospitals to help people buy essential, healthy food for children under 4 years old.

### SOURCING LOCAL, HEALTHY FOOD

By sourcing food from local areas, we can ensure Londoners can get healthier organic produce. Growing food locally means lower transport emissions compared with imported food, and can promote quicker access to and increasing consumption of nutritious plant-based foods.

Allotments can have a huge impact on wellbeing and autonomy, especially for retirees, people with disabilities, mental ill-health and asylum seekers. Yet many of London's councils are struggling to fulfil their obligations to provide space for gardening. To increase access to food growing spaces in London, a Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Work with local council public health teams to map food poverty and identify opportunities to improve access to affordable healthy food.
- ▶ Compel councils to meet their legal obligations to the

30,000-plus Londoners on allotment waiting lists.

- ▶ Encourage local councils to protect and expand the range of London's street markets.
- ▶ Support community-led allotment initiatives to acquire longer tenancies, so residents can grow their own fruit and vegetables, and have better access to sell their produce through markets and box schemes.
- ▶ Work to co-design with local councils, rooftop and urban gardens with residents in social housing complexes to provide a community space for neighbours to connect socially, learn about food production practices and exchange knowledge.
- ▶ Encourage councils to provide technical assistance to farmers such as soil testing, pest management, and water conservation.

## A SUSTAINABLE

## ECONOMY

A strong economy must not come at the expense of our environment. The Green Party's approach to the economy, and every decision we make, considers people and



Greens have supported small sustainable businesses such as cargo bike deliveries

planet before profit. Our plans for a green economy in London will create Green New Deal work opportunities and businesses and foster a diverse and socially just approach to economic growth.

Our Climate chapter has policies for reducing waste through recycling, repair and reuse, as well as food waste management. Here we outline plans for supporting small businesses to go green, and for making London's food supply more sustainable.

## GREENING BUSINESSES

Without more support, businesses, especially smaller organisations, find it hard to make the transition to a fairer, healthier and greener economy. To meet our goal for making London a zero emissions city by 2030 we need to accelerate change through carefully targeted funding.

We will pilot new scrappage schemes to reduce major sources of pollution in London. High on the list is pollution from commercial

cooking from London's more than 20,000 licensed restaurants and pubs, as well as the many outlets that cater for home delivery. Smoke from their kitchens causes over half of PM2.5 particle pollution in London. We are committed to eradicating these emissions by 2030, with significant progress by 2028.

Scrappage schemes can help businesses upgrade to expensive equipment, like induction cookers and improved air filters, while saving our air and their energy costs in the long run. By making our pollution monitoring more accurate, we will target support to areas with the worst air quality first, before rolling out funding to the rest of the city. We will:

- ▶ Create a Community Energy Kickstart Fund to give loans to small businesses for feasibility studies and projects aimed at achieving carbon neutrality, which will be paid back into the fund to support further businesses. We will aim to produce 1000 community energy projects by 2030.
- ▶ Introduce further grants to help small businesses transition to greener, money-saving practices, including reducing Scope 1 and 2 emissions in their buildings, transport and supply networks to zero emissions

by 2030. Once our targets for small businesses are met, we will seek further funding to begin making London's arts and cultural heritage buildings zero emissions.

- ▶ Target reductions of pollution from cooking emissions in restaurant and catering businesses, through increased regulation and monitoring, and by piloting an opt-in scrappage scheme to upgrade cooking, ventilation and filtration equipment.
- ▶ Encourage communities to make use of Community Land Trust initiatives so they can take control of buildings and spaces and make necessary changes to infrastructure to lower emissions. In addition, we will create London's first small business-focused Community Land Trust by transferring ownership of three TfL-owned rail arches to the London Trades Guild CLT.
- ▶ Help small businesses to help employees who need to become ULEZ compliant, by promoting car share schemes and scrappage.
- ▶ Fund training programmes for small businesses to access skilled workers that can help them transition to carbon neutrality.

- ▶ Working with Energy for Londoners, ensure citizens can access advice on services and ways to save money on essential bills such as electricity, water and heating.
- ▶ We will make sure all buildings where health and safety or other duties apply comply fully with World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines for indoor air quality.

## EATING SUSTAINABLY

We spend a lot on food, and the food economy is a large part of what makes London tick. But as the price of food increases faster than household incomes, and due in part to Brexit we face greater challenges than before in importing produce from outside the country. We therefore need to look for more sustainable consumption patterns that can reduce our economic burden, and at the same time offer more climate-friendly alternatives.

Our vision is to improve the sustainability of our food economy by encouraging local community growing and helping food sector workers transition to sustainable food systems.

A Green Mayor will:

- ▶ Promote sustainable eating practices and reduce food waste, cutting greenhouse

gas emissions from our food by more than 60%.

- ▶ Lead the way in making London a vegetarian and vegan-friendly city by 2028 by introducing major food reforms to encourage low carbon, meat and dairy-free diets across London, with the aim of making half of all menus in London vegetarian by 2028 and half of our citizens' diets by 2030.
- ▶ Reduce the use of meat and dairy produce in the GLA's catering procurement and monitor the offers in London's schools, hospitals and prisons.
- ▶ Use procurement powers and advertising to promote diets with relatively lower carbon footprints than meat and dairy-based diets and that do not impose harm on animals, such as vegetarian and vegan diets.
- ▶ Work with London Boroughs to double the number signed up to the Veg Cities campaign from 11 to 22 by the end of our first term in 2028.
- ▶ Introduce more sustainable eating practices at locally funded events, such as only serving vegetarian food at such events.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ We will continue to lobby for progressive taxation to reduce the gap between richest and poorest.
- ▶ We will demand powers to help businesses reduce their Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions to zero by 2030.
- ▶ We will campaign to close the 'box shifting' loophole used by landlords to claim rates-free relief on empty properties.
- ▶ We will lobby for the Worker Protection Bill to be implemented fully by Parliament, protecting women from harassment before it happens.
- ▶ When the UK Shared Prosperity Fund elapses in 2025, we will work with the London Youth Assembly and relevant organisations to develop effective new funding streams to address intersectional barriers faced by young people.
- ▶ We will lobby for reforms to the Apprenticeship Levy so businesses and youth organisations can provide more flexible opportunities to young people.
- ▶ We will demand reforms to childcare provision, to make support fairer and sustainable

for everyone, and lobby to ensure childcare providers do not pay business rates.

- ▶ We will lobby on behalf of households receiving universal credit or equivalent benefits for free school meals for every child up to the age of 16, extended summer holiday food support through the Holiday Activity and Food Programme, and an increase in the value of Healthy Start vouchers.
- ▶ We will campaign for comprehensive national changes to our food system, including putting nutrition and sustainability on the school curriculum, providing funding for student-led food waste reduction projects, limiting sales and advertising of unhealthy or ultra-processed foods and better labelling of food to signal cruelty-free welfare practices.
- ▶ We will lobby for a simpler Pension Credit application process, while we fight for a fairer state pension that does away with the need for supplementary credits.

## THE MAYOR'S NEXT ECONOMIC STRATEGY

A Green Mayor of London will take a new approach to the Economic Development Strategy and the next London Plan, guided by the values and principles in this chapter as well as:

- ▶ Introducing new standards in planning and development to help councils deliver projects that make the best use of available space, ensuring that every new house has space to grow food, e.g., on balconies and rooftops, and in vertical and urban gardens; allowing residents access to equipment; and engaging local shops and restaurants in the supply of locally-grown food.
- ▶ Bringing evidence to bear on reinstating effective new policies, which were removed by the Government, to create exclusion zones around schools where fast food shops aren't allowed, and allow councils to resist a saturation of fast food shops in any part of their borough.
- ▶ Defining areas of 'emerging heritage' that have local distinctiveness and a London-wide significance and protecting them in

planning policies. This will give similar protections to conservation areas.

- ▶ Establishing a stronger, clearer agent of change principle in the London Plan.
- ▶ Fully implementing 'Towards an Age-Friendly London' - responding to the needs of Older Londoners.
- ▶ Collaborating with England's 12 regional Mayors to collectively coordinate regional economic needs, lobby for investment opportunities and government reforms, and develop strategic solutions to regional skills gaps and labour shortages.
- ▶ Reviewing the London City Resilience Strategy to understand the needs of public services and to support them to be fit for purpose (including advocating to Government).

# SHARING POWER FOR A STRONGER DEMOCRACY



**Zoë will give Londoners the power to make decisions for their communities**

**P**eople need more control over their lives, homes and neighbourhoods. We want Londoners to be able to change London for the better, by devolving power to the grassroots.

Trust in UK politics is at an all time low. Public consultations are box-ticking exercises that leave people out of decisions. The current Mayor's Deaf and Disabled People's Forum is an example of how partnership and engagement isn't working. Having invited people in, City Hall failed to engage productively.

We will build trust with London's

African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma communities and people from the Global South, who are being overpoliced. LGBTIQ+ communities, older people and women need a say in how we make public spaces safer for them. And we need to listen to workers and unions fighting for fairer conditions while providing London's vital services.

Young people are more than our future, they are here now fighting for change. They should not have to go on strike to be heard. Our Youth Assembly will give them a platform

to challenge the Mayor directly.

We will create new roles to allow people to speak up for communities year round, giving them a real stake in planning, budgeting and decision-making. And we will create a new Citizens' Climate Assembly to put climate at the heart of everything we do.

Real democracy is about having the right structures in place to let people lead the decisions made about them. Greens believe we cannot have environmental justice without social justice, means we

will focus on giving everyone a stronger platform to create the change they need responding to the climate crisis together.

We want everyone left out by mainstream politics to have real power to direct change for good. We will demand fairer elections and more power for the Mayor and London Assembly over our health, water, energy, transport, rents and taxes. And we will share that power by opening City Hall up to everyone.

With a Green Mayor you will feel heard and have more power.

## WHAT GREEN AMS HAVE ACHIEVED

Since the last London Elections in 2021, our three Green Party Assembly Members have been instrumental in making City Hall more accountable. With greater influence in the London Assembly, we will achieve even more.

- ▶ Greens on London Assembly committees have pioneered new ways of bringing community-level evidence into investigations, conducting research and holding open-mic sessions.
- ▶ Caroline Russell has brought older Londoners from all over the city to City Hall to shape policy to increase the availability of public toilets.
- ▶ Green AMs regularly engage with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community attending network meetings to hear views and put questions to the current Mayor on issues like health inequalities, housing and disproportionality in policing.
- ▶ Zack Polanski commissioned a playwright to work with residents to find out what they love about our city and would like to see changed. "Hello London" was performed in City Hall in February 2024.
- ▶ Siân Berry has worked with human rights groups concerned about the sharing of ULEZ camera data between TfL and the police to ensure privacy is protected.
- ▶ Greens in City Hall have already helped introduce policies that allow for gender neutral honorifics (including Mx) in official documents.
- ▶ Following her motion calling for Assembly Members to publish their diary records as part of our commitment to transparency, Caroline Russell and Green colleagues have started making these disclosures quarterly and still hope to persuade AMs from other parties to follow suit.
- ▶ Working with trans Londoners, Caroline Russell led a Health Committee report examining barriers to accessing everyday health care for trans and gender diverse Londoners.
- ▶ Zack Polanski held a workshop with Basic Income Conversations so that people from across the city could engage and ask questions about what a Basic Income would do for them. Zack then commissioned a report to inform best practice community engagement.

## A FAIRER SOCIETY BRINGING POWER TO PEOPLE

We will collaborate more with the voluntary and community sector, particularly with minority and disabled communities, as often as possible to bring their concerns and ideas into decision-making.

- ▶ To help boroughs and local community groups make spending plans, we will introduce participatory, citizen-determined budgeting for the GLA: Mayor budget (excluding devolved national government funding), aiming for 5 per cent by 2026 and increasing by 5 per cent per year up to 20 per cent.
- ▶ We will reform the boards of all GLA organisations so they involve a wide range of citizen representatives, not just those from expert bodies and industry.
- ▶ Greens in City Hall will work with voluntary and community organisations to ensure their vital contributions to London are properly documented and financed, and that up-to-date service information is available to all public bodies, including GLA group organisations.

- ▶ We will increase the London Victim Commissioner's resources and influence and involve them fully in new initiatives on hate crime, race equality and road crime to make sure victims' voices are factored into all relevant decisions.
- ▶ We will create a new Deputy Mayor role for London's Voices who, with the Mayor, will engage representatives from diverse local communities at regular open-mic forums.

## HOLDING THE MAYOR TO ACCOUNT

Greens advocate for strengthening the role of the London Assembly in holding the Mayor to account, and for more checks and balances on our own governance. We would campaign for more accountability by:

- ▶ Strengthening the power of the Assembly to veto or amend Mayoral strategies.
- ▶ Pressing for the Assembly to have the legal power to summon people responsible for policies and services that affect Londoners to appear before them.

## OPENING ACCESS TO LONDON'S GOVERNANCE

Transparency and easy access to information are vital for accountability and engaging and empowering citizens. Greens in City Hall will promote the highest standards possible in managing and publishing the data we collect about London and Londoners and how we use it. We will properly take into account the views and experiences of London's marginalised communities, and will ensure we only gather and keep the data necessary to inform decision making.

We will publish any meetings or funding agreements between City Hall with private interests, such as the current Mayor's undeclared sponsorship arrangement with United Airlines.

- ▶ We will make City Hall decision making easily accessible to Londoners, sharing Mayoral Decisions and encouraging people to
- ▶ We will publish the information and models underpinning strategies and key decisions in the London Datastore, including live tables and data wherever possible.

- ▶ We will work with London's diverse communities and with public, private, charity and community partners to share and update data on pollution and other environmental issues.
- ▶ We will require all technology projects across the GLA group meet open, ethical standards, and encourage the use of open source software to aid enterprise and innovation.
- ▶ We will establish a coordinated approach to data collection to ensure that the needs of Londoners are clearly understood, so that we can properly assess the impact of GLA policy work on Londoners.

## A HEALTHIER

## DEMOCRACY

A healthy democracy does more than just listen. Real democratic power gives people a clear sense of how much influence they have in decision making processes, from start to finish, so they can live healthy, fulfilled lives.

Yes, we will listen to people and give them the respect they deserve. More than that, we will give Londoners more control over the decisions we make, by putting

## NEW ROLES AND COMMISSIONS

Valued as experts in their own lives, homes and communities, a Green Mayor will establish new citizen representative roles and develop more structures for engagement. We will use sortition to draw people from as wide a range of backgrounds and identities as possible. Every citizen who participates in our Assemblies, Forums and Commissions will be paid a

London Living Wage for their time, to ensure participation is inclusive.

There will be more appointed advisors and champions to make democracy in the GLA better. We name new and strengthened roles throughout the manifesto which will join up strategy, policy and standards across different areas of our work and across London such as a Deputy Mayor for Small Businesses, Disability Equality Champion, Social Housing Commissioner and Spaces Czar.

power in the hands of citizens from all walks of life, especially people who have lost trust in politics or been ignored.

We will hold elected representatives accountable to citizens through new democratic structures and we will appoint people to oversee our processes and hold us accountable to citizens' decisions throughout the year.

## BRINGING PEOPLE TO POWER

A Green Mayor will increase and monitor the representation in City Hall of London's vibrant, diverse communities to ensure people from all backgrounds can participate in decision making processes. We will put better processes in place:

- ▶ Ensuring GLA public meetings include a broad base of

community knowledge and experience.

- ▶ Green Assembly members will continue to ensure that their scrutiny work fully involves relevant communities and groups when setting the scope of investigations and in hearing evidence directly from people affected.
- ▶ Improving training, mentoring, promotion, and recruitment practices to ensure people from all backgrounds have the opportunity to work at all levels of the GLA.

We will focus on rebuilding trust with people from different faiths and ethnicities, particularly Black and global majority cultures, young and old people, people with disabilities, recent migrants to this country, people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and people from LGBTQIA+ communities. We will give them a say in directing how City Hall supports their communities.

We recognise that trades unions are some of the largest independent, democratic institutions in the country advocating for the interests of groups who otherwise do not have a representative voice. We will ensure City Hall listens to their views on the wide range of issues

affecting their members, upholding their right to protest and strike when they are ignored, nationally and locally. We outline our support for workers more thoroughly in our Economy chapter.

### **POWER OVER WHERE AND HOW YOU LIVE**

Many London councils have struggled to build the social housing people need. Instead, they have allowed private developers to build for-profit investment properties for private landlords.

We will ensure residents can call for the housing their communities need while protecting existing social housing from being demolished without consultation.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will support the expansion of independent renters' unions with grants for London-wide and local groups supporting private renters' rights.
- ▶ We will make the guidance for new estate proposals more democratic, with fewer exception rules, better appraisals of available options and strong requirements for resident-led planning from the start of every proposal.
- ▶ We will review all existing ballot exemptions in estate developments and amend the London Plan to extend



**Greens will champion the rights of all groups in society, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities**

requirements to include a final say from residents as part of the decision-making process for planning policies.

- ▶ We will appoint a Social Housing Commissioner, who is also a tenant, to support tenants' rights and be an advocate.
- ▶ We will set up a People's Land Commission to identify brownfield sites and other land suitable for community-led developments, such as playgrounds, open green space and community gardens.

- ▶ We will allocate more City Hall funding to back new co-operatives and community-led housing projects.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will give councils and community land trusts the first option on GLA land earmarked for new homes.
- ▶ We will help residents produce credible People's Plans for their estates and towns with a funded expert team in City Hall to help.

## FAITH AND DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

A Green Mayor and Green Assembly Members will promote understanding between people of different faiths and none by supporting inter-faith forums and encouraging open collaboration between faith groups, the police, schools, voluntary groups and community organisations.

We will champion the rights of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Whilst we recognise similarities in experiences within Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, there are important cultural distinctions and differences in terms of lived experiences. We will also champion our Windrush elders, fight government policies causing them hardship and push for justice for them.

- ▶ We will ensure grants to voluntary, civic, youth, community and faith organisations last at least five years and cover full, core costs (including premises) and match inflation. We will use grants where possible as the preferred funding method over any other approach. We will embed good practice, value-for-money and social impact assessments into all our work with such organisations.

- ▶ We will expand the categories of ethnicity data used for monitoring and policy development to ensure all communities are properly recognised, for example, the Latin American community, and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, which will be treated as separate groups for the purposes of data collection.
- ▶ We will improve the lives of Gypsies, Roma and Travellers in London and promote their right to equal treatment.
- ▶ We will work to address the workplace discrimination that Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people face from many employers and apprenticeship providers, and ensure police and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) record and act upon data on hate crime faced by each of these communities.
- ▶ We will include Gypsy, Roma and Traveller health and mental health in the Mayor's Health Inequality Strategy.

## SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

Greens will further embed the voices of young people in City Hall policy-making, with the power to propose budget amendments and influence decisions.

- ▶ We will expand London's Youth Assembly through established local borough democratic processes, allowing six additional nominations. By raising the age limit for these members to 25 we will include students at London colleges and universities and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- ▶ We will establish a Deputy Mayor for Young People to convene a forum with the London Youth Assembly, youth organisations and related community networks to develop a fair and effective strategy for statutory and voluntary youth service provision across all of London that can address intersectional inequalities, mental health support and equal access.
- ▶ We will ensure young carers and young people in care are represented on the Youth Assembly.
- ▶ We will empower the Youth Assembly to hold the Mayor to account through a minimum of six Youth Assembly Mayor's Question Time sessions every year.
- ▶ As with all our citizen participants, we will pay Youth Assembly Members a London Living Wage for their time to

acknowledge the importance of their contributions.

## SUPPORTING OLDER PEOPLE

We will properly value the experience and knowledge of older generations in London life.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will appoint an Elders' Champion to monitor the effects of City Hall's policies on older people.
- ▶ We will work with older citizens to develop a strategy for improving flexible, secure and part-time working opportunities for people returning to work or going into sudden retirement, as outlined in the Economy chapter.
- ▶ As local authorities move more of their services online, we will improve training and access to digital services for older people including through home broadband and mobile devices and work with London Internet Service Providers to promote social tariffs. And we will never exclude people by moving services completely online.

## SUPPORTING DEAF AND DISABLED PEOPLE

The Green Party recognises the social model of disability and a Green Mayor will ensure that everyone can benefit from



Zoë will make London as an inclusive a city as possible, including supporting the rights of trans people and ensuring LGBTIQ+ voices are heard

inclusion, jobs, homes, skills and all the other opportunities.

- ▶ We will appoint a Disability Equality Champion and create a new forum for London Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations to feed into policy development and decision making year round and not just through quarterly consultation.
- ▶ We will convene more regular meetings of this forum and make sure City Hall provides the capacity to follow up on initiatives arising from these meetings.
- ▶ We will invest long-term in community-based

organisations that tackle inequality, poverty and discrimination faced by deaf and disabled people.

### SUPPORTING MIGRANTS

Greens believe in freedom of movement. London has been enriched by people who have come to make a life here. Current policies are forcing new arrivals to our city into intolerable hardships. We will fight locally and nationally for better conditions for migrants and asylum seekers and we will work with public services and civil society in London to build an environment where everyone

wishing to make London their home feels welcome.

- ▶ We will work to regularise and confirm the residency status of all young people in London currently without documentation and, where necessary, help families with the cost of applications.
- ▶ We will set up a service to help migrants with refugee status move into secure housing in London.
- ▶ To help recent migrants to participate fully in London life, we will work with voluntary groups to draw up a plan that enables naturalisation for more Londoners who do not yet have UK citizenship.
- ▶ To promote engagement with recent migrants, we will improve access to training in English for Speakers of Other Languages across London with support for concessionary fees for asylum seekers and refugees.
- ▶ We will block immigration enforcement agencies and related services, such as homelessness services and the police, from sharing information about immigrants' status.

### SUPPORTING LGBTIQ+ COMMUNITIES

Greens in City Hall will implement policies to make London as inclusive a city as possible for the whole LGBTIQ+ community. We recognise that transgender people have experienced a disproportionate level of hate crime and exclusion. We will make London one of the most trans-inclusive cities in the world, along with the work of the Green Party in Bristol, Brighton and across England and Wales.

- ▶ We will do everything we can to allow LGBTIQ+ voices to be heard in changing policy to make their lives better.
- ▶ We will tackle discrimination and violence against trans people through a new Commission into the Needs of Trans Londoners, which will develop a trans rights strategy for London in consultation with trans people.
- ▶ We will implement training across the GLA to increase sensitivity to the needs of trans and non-binary people and ensure discrimination is rooted out.



Greens will involve Londoners in the decisions needed to tackle the climate crisis

## TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS TOGETHER

The Green Party is the only major political party fully committed to tackling the climate crisis. We will empower Londoners to have a say in how we change our dependency on fossil fuels without compromising social justice.

- ▶ We will set up an independent and diverse Citizens' Climate

Assembly to address the climate and ecological emergency with the resources to educate Londoners about the climate emergency and build links with communities taking action across London.

- ▶ We will partner with Trade Unions to create a Just Transition Commission, which will steer our climate mitigation and adaptation policies in a fair way for workers, their families and their communities.

- ▶ A Green Mayor will prioritise biodiversity taking advice from a biodiversity officer when making decisions on all policies and development plans affecting housing, infrastructure, transport, parks and green spaces.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will develop the current Climate Budget process to ensure a pipeline of proposals for scope 1, scope 2 and scope 3 emissions ready for implementation as funds become available with a clear timeline to meet 2030 commitments.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will challenge deportation flights and the detention of asylum seekers, and push to allow councils and the GLA to claim housing support for people with No Recourse to Public Funds.
- ▶ We will campaign for reforms to protect immigrants, including restoring the amnesty for undocumented migrants in London, lobbying for more ethical data management, pushing for better, faster citizenship routes for young Londoners with insecure status, extending the 7 day accommodation limit and ID-free access to healthcare for undocumented migrants.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ To support devolution of power including for health and transport. We will campaign for tax-raising powers for London so we are no longer dependent on National Funding Settlements.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will stand up for fair, inclusive proportional representation in all UK elections and for the right to vote from the age of 16 in all elections.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will lobby national government to create residence-based voting rights for London elections, General Elections and referendums.
- ▶ We will work with businesses to oppose the national government's points-based immigration system and excessively-high earnings threshold for skilled workers, while fighting for freedom of movement in the EU, as well as equal rights for London's EU residents in all areas of society.
- ▶ We will oppose national government plans to increase enforcement powers and criminalise trespass, and support a London-wide standard for site management and tenants' rights.

# CULTURE AND SPORT



**Zoë will put culture on everyone's doorsteps, improving access and supporting grassroots venues**

London is a city that lets people be who they want to be. After generations of welcoming African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South, this city has become host to thriving cultural quarters, street markets, foods, festivals and traditions. We welcome LGBTIQ+ communities and people of different cultures, faiths and beliefs.

London is also one of the world's top tourist destinations. Visitors spent more than 100 million nights

in the city in 2022. We host some of the biggest international sporting events, music, fashion and film festivals. We also have incredible local events, from music nights to artists' open studios, comedy and spoken word events and a huge range of sports clubs.

Yet most of the money from tourism does not reach local communities. Cuts to national funding have led to council culture budgets being slashed. Many grassroots venues are hanging from a thread. As with so many of

the inequalities in London, people in the most deprived postcodes have less access to opportunities for entertainment and exercise.

Even free culture, like central London's museums and galleries, has an access cost. People in the outer boroughs have to travel longer to get to central London and spend more on travel and food meaning people miss out.

Too much of London's public space is not truly public. We need to rethink our public freedoms and

use our cultural energy to reclaim spaces for public good.

We will help young people set up new, creative businesses. We will open our public spaces for people to exercise, play and perform. We will help local groups take control of forgotten fields and buildings and transform them into new venues and grounds for gathering, rehearsing and practising.

A Green Mayor will work at every level we can to make it easier for Londoners to access the creative and physical activities they want.

## WHAT GREEN AMS HAVE ACHIEVED

- ▶ Greens in City Hall have supported the protection of our grassroots music venues by working to change planning rules in the current London Plan to ensure that existing venues are not threatened by noise complaints from new developments.
- ▶ Greens have campaigned in local boroughs to protect historically important venues. Zack Polanski is a founding director of the successful Save the Black Cap campaign in Camden.
- ▶ Greens successfully called on the current Mayor to intervene to protect the Curzon Cinema in Mayfair.
- ▶ Alongside Fossil Free London, Zack Polanski has worked to keep greenwashing corporate sponsorship out of our community events like London Pride.
- ▶ Caroline Russell asked the Night Czar to assess the number of night time workers paid the Living Wage which exposed that people working at night are less likely to be paid Living Wage than day time workers.

- ▶ Siân Berry worked with campaigners to secure an AIDS memorial in London.
- ▶ Green AMs attend Notting Hill Carnival to observe the Policing operation asking Mayor's Questions on use of policing tactics such as stop and search or deployment of knife arches at the event to understand who is stopped, any criminal justice outcomes and any disproportionality in policing of the event.
- ▶ Siân Berry improved protection for sports facilities in the last London Plan - so they cannot be lost if there is an assessed local need for them.
- ▶ Zack has proposed with cross party backing that a London playwright is commissioned annually to be an artist in residence and create art centred on London performed in London's Living Room (at City Hall).

## SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS CULTURE

We will help grassroots venues to thrive, by helping them to connect their work with local communities and funding. Organisations like The Bridge Network provided excellent support to connect



Green Assembly Members and councillors have campaigned to save sports facilities

grassroots venues with local community groups, schools, funders and freelancers, but cuts to national funding have broken these bridges. Greens will fight to restore links between grassroots venues and their communities so they remain vital parts of their local areas.

Our policies will share profits concentrated in major venues and tours. We will make it easier for London's arts venues to

make their programmes equally accessible to everyone, regardless of background or spending power.

- ▶ We will ask hotels and bed and breakfasts to opt in to a modest nightly levy of 50p, with the potential of raising £50 million annually. This funding would be dedicated to supporting initiatives throughout our manifesto, aiming to enrich and equalise access to arts, sports, and culture, beginning



**Zoë will work with small venue owners, helping them to thrive**

with areas with the least access to local activities.

- ▶ We will commit to and implement the Creative Workforce Pledge to foster a diverse and thriving creative community across London.
- ▶ We will introduce a Creative Autonomy Allowance to encourage more young people to start arts-related businesses and pursue careers in the arts.

- ▶ We will convene a Culture Forum of grassroots venue managers, local community representatives, freelancers and creative educators to share practices and connect with a network of educational organisations, funding, and employment standards across other areas of the GLA.

## LEVELLING THE VENUES LANDSCAPE

Grassroots venues are the lifeblood of our culture, launching new artists and bringing affordable events to people's doorsteps. We want to celebrate the value London's independently-run spaces bring to London's diverse communities, both in providing work and serving up entertainment.

Greens will help venues become more sustainable by offering dedicated support for venue managers to get advice on not-for-profit business models, licensing and planning support. Rising rents are forcing many tenancy-based venues to close, so will also help venue managers find permanent venues.

We will continue to support the London-wide designation of our emerging heritage through the London Plan. We will also support London's boroughs in applying other planning protections to prevent the closure of culturally significant venues.

- ▶ We will convene regular roundtable meetings for venue managers to share best practice and raise concerns.
- ▶ We will help communities and local authorities designate

LGBTIQA+ venues and places of cultural importance as assets of community value.

- ▶ We will create a London-wide registry of all venues designated assets of community value and review how well planning rules are working for these sites.
- ▶ Overseen by the Spaces Czar, our register of 'meanwhile use' spaces (including empty commercial properties) will make it easier for communities and organisations to find temporary venues for their arts, sporting and cultural events, such as meeting points for clubs and band rehearsals, while we support groups in finding permanent, secure venues.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will require all new developments to include arts, sports or cultural venues in their plans, and that developers work with communities to determine what is needed in each area.
- ▶ We will work with local authorities to explore ways of implementing measures to reform ticketing as part of licensing for major stadium events, to ensure profits from major touring events are shared with grassroots



Greens support all London's communities

## RECOGNISING LONDON'S COMMUNITIES

Greens will celebrate a wide range of cultural events and holidays, as well as under-recognised commemorative days each year in City Hall, including:

- ▶ Black History Month
- ▶ Black Pride
- ▶ Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Month
- ▶ International Older People's Day
- ▶ International Women's Day
- ▶ Notting Hill Carnival

- ▶ Pride
- ▶ Salamat Festival
- ▶ Shubbak Festival
- ▶ Ukraine Independence Day
- ▶ Windrush Day
- ▶ World AIDS Day
- ▶ World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims
- ▶ World Refugee Day

We will also support the rights and identities of marginalised groups year-round, not just on specific days or months, and we will look into providing a Culture Growth Fund to sustain London's emerging heritage and histories. We will work with local communities, councils and arts funders to help people choose what they celebrate locally.

culture and local communities. These measures will include:

- ▶ a levy on ticket prices to be redistributed to grassroots community ventures, projects, artists and venues.
- ▶ a minimum proportion of sales to be held for free distribution via lottery to residents in the venue's local borough.
- ▶ a minimum proportion of concessionary tickets available per event at a minimum concessionary rates, set in discussion with grassroots music venues, organisations and communities near to stadiums.

## CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS

London is host to a wide range of celebrations and festivals that reflect the diversity of our city and the creativity of our people. They contribute to our economy and strengthen the social and cultural bonds within our communities.

A Green Mayor will promote and support celebrations and festivals that allow Londoners and visitors alike to enjoy taking part in events that are colourful and dynamic whilst also being safe and accessible to all. We will

also support all our community groups to celebrate champions and commemorate losses and historical injustices. We will:

- ▶ Let communities lead on erecting statues and renaming streets and areas that celebrate people and events that represent their cultures and histories, with priority given to representing women and figures from London's African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma communities and people from the Global South.
- ▶ Promote a positive narrative about the experience, history, cultural celebrations, diversity and value that people of African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino, Roma and people from the Global South communities and cultures bring to our city.
- ▶ Strengthen support for citizenship ceremonies and do more to celebrate these occasions with all Londoners.
- ▶ Publish ethical sponsorship guidelines and require celebration and festival organisers adhere to them.
- ▶ Replace all of the GLA's annual firework displays with cleaner drone and laser light displays by 2028, and we will encourage all public display organisers to do the same.

- ▶ Use GLA funding as leverage to make London Fashion Week completely fur free and more sustainable, and work to end London's horrific fur trade, by asking all councils to follow Islington's lead and declare an official ban on fur trade.



## HEALTHY CULTURE AND SPORT

### NIGHTLIFE

London's nightlife has long been an integral part of our culture. The pandemic and the cost of living crisis forced many of our night-time venues to shut. Creating a healthy nightlife culture means supporting venues to provide safe, sustainable and enjoyable spaces for Londoners and visitors, as well as safe transportation and proportionate, appropriate policing.

Many Londoners work at night outside of the hospitality and entertainment industries. For example, people working in public transport, for the NHS, in security or cleaning jobs need a safe night-time economy where affordable food is available along with safe and convenient options for travel home at the end of a shift.

- ▶ We will strengthen and protect the important role of Night Czar, to oversee the safety and accessibility of London's night time entertainment for everyone.
- ▶ City Hall will provide dedicated support to help venue operators with licensing, accessibility and planning issues.
- ▶ The Night Czar will host regular roundtable meetings with venue operators to share sustainable models and best practices on nightlife safety and inclusion across the city.

- ▶ We will encourage boroughs across London to use the Late Night Levy to provide medical support in the night time economy as a first response to health needs, modelled on Hackney's pioneering scheme.
- ▶ We will work with Transport for London to ensure safe, accessible public transport is available to and from nighttime venues and events.
- ▶ The Night Czar will work with providers, local authorities, organisations, the police and other partners to significantly improve the safety of the night-time economy learning from

best practice examples from boroughs preventing harm.

### FAMILIES

Children deserve culture as much as everyone else, to help them play, socialise and develop in healthy ways. Making events accessible to families means focusing on the things that parents need to get out and about comfortably, like easy travel, affordable food and baby changing facilities. Older children, too, deserve the chance to start making their own choices about the kinds of culture they want to participate in.

- ▶ We will work to promote a better standard of comfort and accessibility at venues offering family entertainment.
- ▶ We will look to introduce Cultural Vouchers for families and teenagers aged 14-18 to spend on admission and refreshments at venues.
- ▶ Our Culture Forum will support local libraries to set up regular, long-running events for families and teenagers, in collaboration with local community groups and creative facilitators.

## ACTIVE LIVES

Being active is so important for health, allowing people of all ages to socialise and play. Greens will ensure all Londoners can access safe and well-managed sports and play areas, where they can take part in the activities they want to.

To do this, we will protect London's green spaces and open up new opportunities and spaces for local groups, indoors and outside.

One of London's major challenges is how easy it is for primary school children to learn to swim. We will campaign to ensure swimming pools stay open and that there are enough swimming instructors available to give every child a chance to attain their 25m

proficiency badge, prioritising London's deprived areas.

- ▶ We will help schools to manage their sports infrastructure and equipment, improving access to facilities and skilled coaches.
- ▶ We will create high-quality apprenticeship schemes to grow the number of coaches available to schools.
- ▶ We will provide a bursary budget for councils to train local sports and recreation instructors.
- ▶ We will implement a London-wide recognition scheme for children's participation, not competition, in sports, modelled on Wales' Youth Academy schemes.
- ▶ We will review the management of sports and recreation venues, and green and public spaces to ensure that they are delivering safe access for women and girls to be active.
- ▶ We will require new major residential and commercial projects to have physical activity, mental health and wellbeing written into their planning conditions, such as through play areas for children or open, biodiverse green spaces or allotments for residents.



**Greens will improve access to sport for all, particularly children's sport provision**

- ▶ We will push local councils to ensure there are sufficient sports and recreational facilities to meet community needs (including disabled children and children from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities), and encourage and support local communities to make use of dead spaces.

## PROMOTING POSITIVITY

### ADVERTISING

We will use advertising on Transport for London and across all GLA holdings to promote

a positive climate of culture, health and creativity across our city. We will reserve space for arts organisations to promote creative work, and for charities to raise awareness of campaigns to encourage better health and wellbeing, promote awareness of how to tackle hate crime and celebrate London's diverse cultural heritage.

- ▶ One in twenty advertisement spaces, in both physical and digital media, will be reserved for creative work produced by Londoners, with no commercial value, extending the principle behind the Poems on the

Underground and Art on the Underground series into more areas of the arts, including music, visual arts, digital creativity and theatre.

- ▶ We will create a tiered charging policy for advertising, beginning with low cost to public bodies, charitable organisations and local small businesses.
- ▶ We will help small arts organisations and existing and emerging artists to benefit fully from our new tiered cost system for advertising on London's transport network, addressing any further barriers to promotion for smaller creative businesses that emerge.
- ▶ We will ban advertising on Transport for London that promotes environmentally harmful, high carbon products such as air travel and private cars, wood and coal burning, cryptocurrency, unhealthy and ultra-processed food, arms companies, alcohol and gambling, replacing these with positive promotions. We will also restrict advertising aimed at children.
- ▶ A Green Mayor will boost support for National Park City work, increase its promotion through advertising on public

transport and host gatherings for the initiative in City Hall to celebrate every season.

- ▶ Westminster Station, where high profile lobbying campaigns aimed at MPs frequently takeover large areas of space including ticket barriers and escalators, will no longer be available for this purpose.

## NATIONAL ASKS

- ▶ We will lobby for an increase in arts funding to support workers and individual artists as well as organisations, including extra funds for Creative Autonomy Allowance pilots.
- ▶ We will call on Government to put expressive arts and physical education on the national curriculum, so every schoolchild can participate in at least an hour each per school day of creative and physical activities.
- ▶ We will lobby for national reforms of the gambling industry, banning advertising and sponsorship nationally and calling for a statutory levy to fund more charities and NHS gambling clinics across England and Wales.
- ▶ We will campaign to ensure every London school child



Greens will ensure advertising is used to promote health, wellbeing and creativity, and not products that damage our environment

achieves their 25m swimming badge as part of their statutory educational entitlement.

- ▶ Greens will campaign for the Government to expand our Creative Autonomy Allowance pilot with additional funding so that more Londoners can benefit from support while we prove the benefits and push for national policy change.
- ▶ We will lobby for a 5% VAT rate on all admissions sales to live cultural events.



## **JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN:**

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