

The Biscuit Factory,
J Block (215),
100 Clements Road,
London
SE16 4DG

+44 (0)20 3691 9400
office@greenparty.org.uk
www.greenparty.org.uk

Letter to Dave Timms, FoE Head of Political Affairs

04.12.19

Dear Dave,

I very much appreciate you taking the time to look at our Manifesto policies, with a view to scoring their impact.

Having looked at your interim scores, there is one policy area I would like to provide further clarification on. The FoE asks parties to:

Back legislation to enshrine legally binding targets to meet World Health Organisation air pollution standards by 2030 and a right to healthy air for all.

Our Manifesto commits to ‘A new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK’ (page 58).

Although not mentioned by name in the Manifesto, the Green Party has separately published a draft of this Act – entitled the ‘Clean Air (Human Rights) Bill’. The Bill, proposed to the House of Lords by Green Peer Baroness Jenny Jones in July 2018, can be accessed here:
<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/cleanairhumanrights.html>

The Bill includes the following text:

“The Secretary of State must achieve clean air throughout England and Wales within 12 months of the coming into force of this Act and maintain clean air throughout England and Wales thereafter.”

Later on the Bill commits the Government to act on the:

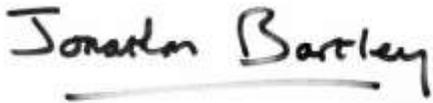
“Latest available scientific knowledge and guidance on ambient air pollutants from the World Health Organization”

This is a clear backing (and indeed active promotion of) legislation to enshrine legally binding targets to meet World Health Organisation air pollution standards well before 2030.

Please take this letter as confirmation that, if in Government, the Greens would implement the 'Clean Air (Human Rights) Bill' in full, in order to implement our Manifesto promise of a new Clean Air Act. I am happy for you to publish this commitment.

Additionally I can confirm that, whatever the outcome of this election, Baroness Jones will continue to pilot the Bill through the Lords for the Green Party.

Thank you for your consideration of the above, and for all the brilliant work FoE does.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Bartley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Jonathan Bartley
Co-Leader of the Green Party