General Election 2019

Party manifestos analysis

This document records the manifesto pledges made by the Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat and Green Parties against the policies Friends of the Earth asked them to make part of their programme for Government.

These parties have been chosen because they stand in more than one of the UK nations and had at least one MP at the time the General Election was called. MPs from these parties were sent copies of our manifesto demands before Parliament was dissolved.

The manifestos are all available online:

- Conservative manifesto
- Labour manifesto
  - Plan for nature
  - Public letter, 3/12
  - Cycle announcement 1/12
  - Rail announcement 1/12
  - Warm Homes for all
- Liberal Democrat manifesto
  - Plan to tackle the climate emergency
  - Public letter, 4/12
- Green manifesto
  - Public letter, 4/12 (provided post-deadline)

Friends of the Earth is a politically impartial organisation. Our objective during this General Election is to ensure that all these parties have the strongest policies for the environment. We have read and extracted relevant policies and commitments from the party manifestos, and recorded them below with a brief comment and our score.

Our scoring reflects our assessment of each party’s policies on environmental criteria, and does not represent an endorsement of any party.

Notes on scoring:

We have allocated one point where a party has entirely or substantially met our ask, and zero points where they have not. In a limited number of cases, party commitments are positive but we have significant questions or concerns about some elements of those commitments. In this case we have awarded 0.5 points.

Interim scoring was conducted based only on publicly available manifestos. Where parties have followed up on these main manifesto documents with additional publications or confirmation that previous policy remains valid, these have been added to scoring.
Our General Election Manifesto policies – summary

1. **Climate change** – Commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions significantly faster, including bringing international aviation and shipping emissions into the UK’s carbon budgets, ruling out the use of international offsetting, meeting our fair share of funding international climate finance and stop funding fossil fuels abroad.

2. **Surface transport** – Spend an additional £11.5 billion per year on public transport (including free buses for the under 30s), cycling and walking by reviewing the road building programme and HS2; speed-up the transition to electric vehicles and ensure clean air everywhere.

3. **Aviation** – Reduce emissions from aviation, including through the introduction of a frequent flier levy, and cancel airport expansion.

4. **Energy** – Speed-up and scale-up the development of renewable energy; ban fracking; increase the cost of fossil-fuel use; and commit to phasing out the use of natural gas.

5. **Homes** – invest at least an additional £3.3 billion per year over the next few years into a local authority led insulation and eco-heating programme; improve the energy efficiency standards of the private rented sector; and improve the standards of new build homes.

6. **Food, farming and land-use** – Commit to doubling UK tree cover to capture carbon and let nature thrive. Reduce the use of pesticides, commit to deliver a strategy that leads to diets with less but better meat, and set a binding target to halve food waste.

7. **Nature** – Invest an additional £5.6 billion a year into nature protection and restoration (including important carbon sinks such as peatbogs), introduce targets and powerful new legislation to protect the environment, and introduce a new law to end the scourge of plastic pollution.

8. **Local authorities** - Require and fully empower local authorities to deliver on the climate emergency, including through providing sites for renewable energy developments, enabling local authorities to raise significant sums for low carbon investment, and rewrite national planning rules.

9. **Brexit** - Oppose a No Deal Brexit under all circumstances and pursue a close future relationship with the EU. Ensure current high environmental standards are guaranteed in law to be maintained and improved upon, including in a focus on ‘public money for public goods’ in farming, and ensure any future trade deals promote global sustainability and maintain standards.

### Meeting our international climate commitments (max score is 5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our manifesto ask</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Liberal Democrat</th>
<th>Green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commit to going significantly faster than Net Zero by 2050. Ask the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) to undertake a new study to identify the fastest possible UK emissions reduction scenarios, and their impacts, bringing forward recommendations to tighten the 4th and 5th carbon budgets.</td>
<td>We will lead the global fight against climate change by delivering on our world-leading target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, as advised by the independent Committee on Climate Change. - manifesto</td>
<td>We will develop the recommendations of our ‘30 by 2030’ report to put the UK on track for a net-zero-carbon energy system within the 2030s – and go faster if credible pathways can be found. We will deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030. We aim to achieve net-zero-carbon food production in Britain by 2040. - manifesto</td>
<td>We will deliver a ten-year emergency programme to cut emissions substantially straight away, and phase out emissions from the remaining hard-to-treat sectors by 2045 at the latest - manifesto</td>
<td>New green homes, new green transport and new green jobs will get us on track to reduce the UK’s carbon emissions to net zero by 2030 and provide new opportunities for everyone to live happier and more secure lives. – manifesto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 0 This is a commitment to achieve net-zero by 2050, not faster than 2050.</td>
<td>Score: 1 This is an ambitious and practical plan to get to net-zero well before 2050, with strong early action.</td>
<td>Score: 1 Proposes net-zero before 2050, with a focus on deep cuts in the next 10 years.</td>
<td>Score: 1 Ambitious ideas which fulfil criteria of net-zero ‘faster than 2050.’ Very high ambition - a reductions scenario that goes faster than any of the other parties, although still unlikely to achieve the 2030 objective.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enact Secondary Legislation to the Climate Change Act 2008 to fully include international aviation and shipping into the UK’s carbon targets.</td>
<td>Labour will take full responsibility for our carbon footprint instead of passing the buck. We will instruct the Committee on Climate Change to assess the emissions the UK imports as well as those it produces - manifesto</td>
<td>We will work with our shipping industry to assess targets for achieving zero carbon domestic shipping by 2050. – Plan for nature</td>
<td>See pp. 19–20: emissions from international transport are included in our overall emissions commitments by carbon budget period (see table and graph). See also Section 7.2. Since it is clear that these emissions are included in our targets, we did not think it necessary to add details of the secondary legislation – this would follow automatically. – Public letter, 4/12 and Plan to tackle the climate emergency.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule out the use of international offsetting in meeting UK carbon budgets.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Score:** 0  
No mention of international offsetting in the manifesto. |
| **Score:** 1  
Following clarification, this fully meets our ask. |
| **Score:** 1  
The Plan to Tackle the Climate Emergency provides figures for carbon reduction which include aviation and shipping, and the clarification letter makes clear that legislation is expected. |
| **Score:** 0  
No direct promise on adding aviation and shipping to UK carbon targets. Previous commitments not restated. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make a new five-year commitment to international climate finance, in line with the UK’s commitments under the UNFCCC and in line with our global fair share. These funds must be genuinely new and additional sources of public finance, not from existing ring-fenced finance for the aid budget.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Score:** 0  
Not a new, further commitment. |
| **Score:** 1  
Labour have confirmed by letter that the general commitment on exporting impacts will be accompanied by ruling out of international offsetting. |
| **Score:** 0  
This is an aim, not a firm commitment. |
| **Score:** 0  
No mention of international offsetting in the manifesto. Previous commitment not restated. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We have doubled International Climate Finance. And we will use our position hosting the UN Climate Change Summit in Glasgow in 2020 to ask our global partners to match our ambition. - manifesto</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Score:** 0  
We will not export our climate impacts or polluting waste to the Global South. - Plan for nature |
| **Score:** 1  
We can confirm that Labour will [...] will rule out the use of offsetting in meeting UK carbon budgets. - Public letter, 3/12 |
| **Score:** 0  
Unlike the Conservatives, we would aim to meet this target without the use of international offsets. - Plan to tackle the climate emergency |
| **Score:** 0  
No mention of international offsetting in the manifesto. Previous commitment not restated. |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Provide a top-up of new and additional spending on international climate finance to bring the total to £4 billion a year, and also support international calls for compensation to those nations already suffering loss and damage. - manifesto</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Score:** 0  
Remain firmly committed to spending 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income on aid, prioritising development that both helps the poorest and ties in with our strategic international objectives on gender equality, climate change and the environment, human rights, conflict prevention and tackling inequality. |
| **Score:** 0  
Increase the proportion of the aid budget committed to tackling climate change and environmental degradation: helping countries mitigate the impact of climate change and other environmental crises and support climate refugees. - manifesto |
| **Score:** 0  
Phase in an increase in spending on foreign aid from 0.7% to 1% of our GDP... |
| **Score:** 1  
Building on the Green Party’s commitment to global justice the Green New Deal includes finance and technology to help the majority world adapt to climate change and support human well-being... |
| **Score:** 0  
Making finance and technology available to support developing nations to develop local Green New Deals and transform their economies, equipping them to tackle the causes and impacts of the Climate Emergency... |
| **Score:** 0  
The funds saved from cancelling Trident will be diverted towards the development of non-carbon emitting technologies and finance to help countries deal with the Climate Emergency... |
| **Score:** 1  
Increasing international aid: £6.5 billion – manifesto |

We can confirm that Labour will include international aviation and shipping in the UK’s carbon targets. - Public letter, 3/12
### Surface transport (max score is 6)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Our manifesto ask</th>
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<tr>
<td>Invest £14.33 billion, of which £11.55 billion is new money, into transforming public transport, cycling and walking.</td>
<td>• We will build Northern Powerhouse Rail. • We will invest in the Midlands Rail Hub. • We will also invest in improving train lines. We will give city regions the funding to upgrade their bus, tram and train services to make them as good as London’s. We will invest in superbus networks with lower fares – flat fares in urban areas – and increased frequency. We will keep bus fares low, bring back and protect rural lines. We will introduce a long-term investment plan including delivering Crossrail for the North as part of improved connectivity across the northern regions. We will consult with local communities to reopen branch lines. We will increase the funding available for cycling and walking. Our transport programme is focused on creating better, publicly accessible local transport systems. By improving public transport, buses, trams and railways to enable people to travel more easily while reducing their impact on the environment. Placing a far higher priority on encouraging walking and cycling – the healthiest forms of transport. Accelerating the transition to ultra-low-emission transport – cars, buses and trains – through taxation, subsidy and regulation. Restore bus routes and add new routes where there is local need; we will provide £4.5 billion over five years for this programme. Investing in public transport, buses, trams and railways to enable people to travel more easily while reducing their impact on the environment. Placing a far higher priority on encouraging walking and cycling – the healthiest forms of transport. Accelerating the transition to ultra-low-emission transport – cars, buses and trains – through taxation, subsidy and regulation. Restore bus routes and add new routes where there is local need; we will provide £4.5 billion over five years for this programme.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spending £2.5 billion a year on new cycleways and footpaths, built using sustainable materials, such as woodchips and sawdust... The funding for this road building programme, the £6.5 billion in revenue received from Vehicle Exercise Duty each year, will be switched to supporting sustainable public transport and new cycleways and footpaths as part of the Green New Deal. £1.5 billion of Vehicle Exercise Duty revenue will be retained to maintain existing roads...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
transport, Labour will help people to become less reliant on their cars.

£250 billion will directly fund the transition through a Green Transformation Fund dedicated to renewable and low-carbon energy and transport, biodiversity and environmental restoration. - manifesto

A Green Transformation Fund of £250 billion over the next ten years will be established by a Labour government to directly fund the transition to our sustainable future. Separate funding streams will support or be dedicated to: [...] supporting the shift towards sustainable, pollution-free transport systems, including accessible public transport, rail electrification and low or ultra-low emission road vehicles

Our comprehensive plans for reducing transport emissions through investments in local public transport will contribute to a cleaner environment. By improving public transport and investing more in healthier active travel forms like cycling, by supporting the transition to ultra low emission vehicles and expanding rail freight, we will help people to become less reliant on polluting forms of transport and improve air quality for our better health, for a cleaner environment - Plan for nature

- Cut regulated rail fares by 33% from January 2020, saving the average commuter £1097 a year.
- Make rail travel free for those 16 years old and under. - Labour rail 01/12

Labour say these changes would cost about £1.5bn per year. The funding would come from a wider change planned by the party to create a sustainable transport fund from the revenues bought in by vehicle excise duty, or VED, which is based on emissions. - Guardian election pledges story, 01/12/19

Introduce a nationwide strategy to promote walking and cycling, including the creation of dedicated safe cycling lanes, increasing spending per head five-fold to reach 10 per cent of the transport budget.

Freeze rail fares for commuters and season ticket holders for a parliament, while we fix our railways. Extend Britain’s rail network, improve stations, reopen smaller stations and restore twin-track lines to major routes. Convert the rail network to ultra-low-emission technology (electric or hydrogen) by 2035, and provide funding for light rail and trams. Improve the experience of people who rely on the railways for work by investing in commuter routes and the integration of rail, bus and cycle routes. Fix the broken fares and ticketing system so that it provides better value for money. Improve disabled access to public transport via the Access for All programme. - manifesto

Green transport: investing in green transport and encouraging people to use greener options; substantially increasing funding for buses so that new routes can be opened and old routes restored; promoting walking and cycling as options; and, freezing rail fares for five years while we make the rail system fit-for-purpose. Cost = £2,610m

Capital investment includes £86 billion to tackle the climate emergency and protect the environment, including: - Substantial additional investment in the railways – opening new routes and electrification - manifesto costings.

Reduction in public transport fares: £3.5 billion
Upgrading cycleways and footpaths: £0.5 billion (admin costs) Upgrading rail capacity, including electrification: £12.2 billion
Upgrading cycleways and footpaths infrastructure: £2.0 billion Electric vehicles and infrastructure: £2.5 billion - manifesto
• Double cycling journeys by adults and children.
• Build 5000km of cycleways.
• Create safe cycling and walking routes to 10,000 primary schools.
• Deliver universal affordable access to bicycles and grants for e-bike purchase.
• Provide cycle training for all primary school children and their parents, plus extend training to secondary schools and make it available for all adults. - Labour cycle 01/12

Labour will make the biggest ever investment in zero carbon ‘active travel’ modes totalling £7.2 billion over the first term of a Labour Government.

• Double cycling journeys by adults and children.
• Build 5000km of cycleways
• Create safe cycling and walking routes to 10,000 primary schools
• Deliver universal affordable access to bicycles and grants for e-bike purchase
• Provide cycle training for all primary school children and their parents, plus extend training to secondary schools and make it available for all adults
• A Labour government will take a stake in a world-leading electric bike research, development and manufacturing facility that will form the core of an ‘E-bike Valley’ industrial cluster.
• E-cargo bike demonstration cities.
• Grants of £200 for e-bike purchase to boost purchase rates to those in other European countries.
• Expansion of Bikeability cycle training, doubling present provision so it covers all primary school children, plus extension to all their parents, extension to give advanced training in secondary schools and extension to offer cycle training to all adults.
• Universal affordable access to bicycles.
| Score: 0.5 | Investment far below required levels, with focus on rail rather than investments across walking, cycling and bus infrastructure. |
| Score: 1 | A range of positive plans and significant detail which meet our ask for additional investment in transport. |
| Score: 1 | The proposed investment meets our ask, although it isn’t clear how much of this is new spending. |

| Score: 0 | Provide the under 30s with free bus travel. |
| Score: 0.5 | Manifesto promises free bus travel but only for under 25s and only in areas where councils control services. |
| Score: 0 | Liberal Democrat proposals for free bus travel extend only to a small sub-section of young people. |

| Score: 0 | No commitment in manifesto. |
| Score: 0 | Manifesto promises free bus travel but only for under 25s and only in areas where councils control services. |
| Score: 0 | The manifesto suggests the VED funding would be used for wider public transport improvements rather than free bus travel, which isn’t mentioned. Previous commitment not restated. |

| Score: 0 | We will make a £28.8 billion investment in strategic and local roads. - manifesto |
| Score: 0 | We will review public expenditure on transport to ensure that it promotes environmental sustainability and contributes to decarbonisation. - manifesto |
| Score: 0 | This would be supported through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, originally set up by Liberal Democrats, with additional funds from money currently allocated to the road building budget. - Plan to tackle the climate emergency |

| Score: 1 | The costed commitments in the manifesto relating to public transport add up to £20.7 bn in total, above our ask. At least £6.5 bn is VED, ‘new’ to investment in public transport, but it isn’t clear how much of the rest is existing. |

| Score: 1 | The next Labour government will expand the hypothecation of VED to form a sustainable transport fund for rail and other sustainable modes of travel and to address the pothole backlog. If this money were to be spent on road building it would increase traffic, congestion and carbon emissions, the opposite of what is needed to reach the UK’s commitment to climate targets and to clean up polluted air. |

| Score: 1 | Scrapping the government’s new road building programme, including the proposed road tunnel at Stonehenge that threatens to desecrate an iconic World Heritage Site… |

<p>| Score: 1 | Scrapping the government’s road building programme: [saving] £5 billion – manifesto |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>The manifesto recommits to the existing road building scheme.</th>
<th>Score: 0.5</th>
<th>The manifesto does not repeat previous proposals to reallocate Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) towards zero-carbon transport and provides little detail on the scale of road building funding remaining.</th>
<th>Score: 1</th>
<th>The Greens have met the commitment to scrap the new road building programme.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| All the revenue funding for active travel, buses and rail pledges detailed above will be from the Tories’ £6bn/yr VED road building fund, instead of building new roads. | Useful to see a diversion of VED away from roads and towards sustainable travel but it is still unclear if this equates to a firm commitment to scrap all new road building – leaving open the possibility of further road building as part of a transport ‘mix’.

– Public letter, 3/12 | Support High Speed 2, Northern Powerhouse Rail, East-West Rail and Crossrail 2, but ensure far tighter financial controls and increased accountability to ensure that these projects are value for money, and address problems with implementation to ensure that HS2 opens as early as possible to meet our decarbonisation goals while minimising the destruction of precious UK habitats and woodland. | Scruping HS2: £3.5 billion (an additional £0.5 billion of savings from this measure will be spent on costs of cancellation) – manifesto |

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| Score: 0 | HS2 is a great ambition, but will now cost at least £81 billion and will not reach Leeds or Manchester until as late as 2040. We will consider the findings of the Oakerveree review into costs and timings and work with leaders of the Midlands and the North to decide the optimal outcome. - manifesto | Score: 0 | HS2 is a great ambition, but will now cost at least £81 billion and will not reach Leeds or Manchester until as late as 2040. We will consider the findings of the Oakerveree review into costs and timings and work with leaders of the Midlands and the North to decide the optimal outcome. - manifesto |

- We will also unlock capacity and extend high-speed rail networks nationwide by completing the full HS2 route to Scotland, taking full account of the environmental impacts of different route options. - manifesto

- We need to ensure that proper account is taken of the environmental impacts. Under the Conservatives, the profit and cost of such developments always override environmental concerns, which is what has given rise to approvals for the destruction of ancient woodlands along the route of HS2 – Plan for nature |

- End the sale of new petrol and diesel fuelled vehicles by 2030. Over the next ten years we will ease this transition by incentivising the replacement of diesel and petrol vans, lorries and coaches with electric vehicles – manifesto |

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| Score: 0 | No cancellation, rather a proposal to review. | Score: 0 | Labour are proposing an extension rather than an end to HS2. References in the Plan for Nature to taking account of environmental impacts do not go far enough. | Score: 1 | The Greens have met the commitment to scrap HS2. |

- Cancel the £90 billion HS2 project. |

- HS2 is a great ambition, but will now cost at least £81 billion and will not reach Leeds or Manchester until as late as 2040. We will consider the findings of the Oakerveree review into costs and timings and work with leaders of the Midlands and the North to decide the optimal outcome. - manifesto |

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| Score: 0 | We will consult on the earliest date by which we can phase out the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars. - manifesto | Score: 0 | The Conservatives have committed to ending new sales of combustion engine vehicles by 2040. Labour will aim for 2030. - manifesto |

- We will consult on the earliest date by which we can phase out the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars. - manifesto |

- The Conservatives have committed to ending new sales of combustion engine vehicles by 2040. Labour will aim for 2030. - manifesto |

- We will ensure that, by 2030, every new car and small van sold is electric - manifesto |

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| Score: 0 | Set a 2030 cut-off date for the sale of petrol and diesel cars, vans and buses and 2040 for HGVs. | Score: 0 | We will meet the new standards set out in the [Clean Air] Act with a scrappage scheme for polluting vehicles, an expansion of rail freight to take more lorries off our roads – Plan for nature |

- We will consult on the earliest date by which we can phase out the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars. - manifesto |

- The Conservatives have committed to ending new sales of combustion engine vehicles by 2040. Labour will aim for 2030. - manifesto |

- We will meet the new standards set out in the [Clean Air] Act with a scrappage scheme for polluting vehicles, an expansion of rail freight to take more lorries off our roads – Plan for nature |

- Our investment figures (including for the EV charging network) are based on what would be necessary to achieve a 2030
Sales phase out date, and hence our investment figures are larger than those called for by Deloitte and the CCC. Labour’s commitment to 2030 is thus a firm proposal, and we are confident these measures will put the UK on a pathway to meeting it.

Public letter, 3/12

The manifesto does not offer a date at all for cars or HGVs

Score: 0

This is a new and additional commitment from Labour to a 2030 cut-off date on smaller vehicles. Detail on HGVs would be welcomed.

Score: 1

Labour will introduce a new Clean Air Act, with a vehicle scrappage scheme and clean air zones, complying with World Health Organisation limits for fine particles and nitrous oxides.

Score: 1

Labour will introduce a new Clean Air Act enshrining the World Health Organisation’s advisory air quality standards into domestic law. We will meet the new standards set out in the Act with a scrappage scheme for polluting vehicles, an expansion of rail freight to take more lorries off our roads, support for farming practises which reduce the release of ammonia and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and clean air zones around schools.

Plan for nature

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.

Score: 0

Legally binding targets are proposed within legislation, but not with a 2030 deadline and no commitment to WHO levels. Doesn’t recommit to measures in the Environment Bill.

Score: 0

The manifesto specifies WHO standards, enforcement and the right to clean air, but not with a 2030 deadline.

Score: 0

The manifesto specifies a specific act containing WHO standards, and clean air zones, but not with a 2030 deadline. The Plan for Nature offers no further detail.

Plan for nature

Our manifesto ask

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aviation to well below the</td>
<td><strong>Labour will align the priorities of the Department for Transport with our commitment to tackle climate change. […] The Department doesn’t have a carbon reduction budget or target. […] I will want to</strong></td>
<td>The trajectory described in the paper (see pp 19–20) returns international transport emissions to the 1997 level by the mid 2030s. – Public letter, 4/12 and Plan to tackle the climate emergency</td>
<td>[savings from] Ending air pollution: £1.8 billion… a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK – manifesto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Aviation (max score is 3) |

| Score: 0 |

| Score: 0.5 |

| Score: 0.5 |

| Score: 0 |

<p>| Public letter, 4/12 and Plan to tackle the climate emergency |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>No mention of this in the manifesto.</th>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>No mention in manifesto or Plan for Nature. The clarifying letter demonstrates some positive aspiration but this does not go as far as a commitment to reduce aviation emissions to pre-1997 levels.</th>
<th>Score: 0.5</th>
<th>The projection on pages 19 and 20 of the Plan for Tackling the Climate Emergency demonstrates a positive aim, but is an illustration of possible reductions, not a clear commitment to achieve these reductions.</th>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>No specific commitment on cutting emissions from aviation, although a number of measures elsewhere to discourage flying, including increases to fuel costs and ending of domestic flight VAT exemption, which may contribute to this.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parliament has voted in principle to support a third runway at Heathrow, but it is a private sector project. It is for Heathrow to demonstrate that it can meet its air quality and noise obligations, that the project can be financed and built and that the business case is realistic. The scheme will receive no new public money. - manifesto</td>
<td>Any expansion of airports must pass our tests on air quality, noise pollution, climate change obligations and countrywide benefits. - manifesto</td>
<td>Under the Conservatives, the profit and cost of such developments always override environmental concerns, which is what has given rise to [...] an inadequately mitigated proposal for Heathrow expansion – Plan for nature</td>
<td>placing a moratorium on the development of new runways (net) in the UK, opposing any expansion of Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted and any new airport in the Thames Estuary, and introducing a zero-carbon fuels blending requirement for domestic fights. - manifesto</td>
<td>Scapping plans for airport expansion across the country... Stop the building of new runways – manifesto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancelling the approval of Heathrow expansion and banning the expansion of regional airports.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Labour’s manifesto says it will only authorise plans that are consistent with our ambitious climate targets. Proposals that aren’t consistent with our policy to reduce carbon emissions will not go ahead. The logical conclusion of this commitment is that climate-busting airport expansions will not be permitted.</td>
<td>would order the Airports National Policy Statement which grants permission to Heathrow expansion to be reviewed against the UK’s Paris Climate Commitments and Labour’s more ambitious targets and would immediately cancel it if it was found to be inconsistent - Public letter, 3/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 0</td>
<td>No cancellation, and no commitment on regional airports.</td>
<td>Score: 0.5</td>
<td>These set very tough conditions for airport expansion, however it still falls short of a firm commitment.</td>
<td>Score: 0.5</td>
<td>The Liberal Democrats propose scrapping the Heathrow expansion and opposing (net) new runways, but don’t seem 100% committed to</td>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Clear commitment to ending all airport expansion including new runways.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our manifesto ask</td>
<td>Conservative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speed-up the deployment of renewable energy capacity - from an average</td>
<td>Our world-leading offshore wind industry will reach 40gw by 2030, and we will enable new floating wind farms</td>
<td>£250 billion will directly fund the transition through a Green Transformation Fund dedicated to renewable and low-carbon</td>
<td>We will: • Accelerate the deployment of renewable power, providing more funding, removing the Conservatives’ restrictions on solar</td>
<td>Enable communities to develop their own renewable energy projects, so that the benefits of locally generated energy can stay local.</td>
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**Labour**

Labour recognises the Davies Commission’s assessment of pressures on airport capacity in the South East. Any expansion of airports must pass our tests on air quality, noise pollution, climate change obligations and countrywide benefits. We will examine fiscal and regulatory options to ensure a response to the climate crisis in a way that is fair to consumers and protects the economy. - [manifesto](#)

Reduce the climate impact of flying by reforming the taxation of international flights to focus on those who fly the most, while reducing costs for those who take one or two international return flights per year - [manifesto](#)

“We frequent flyer tax for those taking more than 3 return long haul flights in a year” – Swinson, 26/11

Ban advertising for flights, and introduce a Frequent Flyer Levy to reduce the impact of the 15% of people who take 70% of flights. This Frequent Flyer Levy only applies to people who take more than one (return) flight a year, discouraging excessive flying. – [manifesto](#)

**Score:** 0

No mention of this in the manifesto.

**Score:** 0.5

Following clarification, Labour support for a frequent flyer levy is welcome progress, although we would welcome further detail to clarify if this will apply to both long and short-haul flights and that it will apply after the first flight.

**Score:** 0.5

There is some form of graduated tax on flying in the manifesto, but its construction suggests the Liberal Democrats plans may encourage some non-flyers to fly by making first and second flight prices cheaper, and does not tackle short-haul flights. This commitment also appears to have become weaker over time, with Jo Swinson suggesting a third international return flight may also fall outside the levy.

**Score:** 1

Clear and detailed levy plans meet our ask.
of 7.7 GW per year to around 14 GW per year. We will use our £1 billion Ayrton Fund to develop affordable and accessible clean energy that will improve lives and help us to lead the world in tackling climate change. - manifesto

We will deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030. We will build:
- 7,000 new offshore wind turbines
- 2,000 new onshore wind turbines
- Enough solar panels to cover 22,000 football pitches.
- New nuclear power needed for energy security.

As part of heat decarbonisation, we will roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen, and invest in district heat networks using waste heat. To balance the grid, we will expand power storage and invest in grid enhancements and interconnectors. We will expand distributed and community energy.

We will trial and expand tidal energy and invest to reduce the costs of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production. - manifesto

A Green Transformation Fund of £250 billion over the next ten years will be established by a Labour government to directly fund the transition to our sustainable future. Separate funding streams will support or be dedicated to:
- developing renewable and low carbon energy sources which we can power our society, industries and homes
- We will ensure renewable energy sources power the water industry sector - Plan for nature

We will use the £10 billion Renewable Power Fund to leverage investment in renewables from the private sector – manifesto costings

Introducing a £10 billion Renewable Power Fund to leverage investment in renewables from the private sector – manifesto costings

| Score: 0.5 | While a significant pledge for one technology, this commitment does not meet the required increase in GW capacity. The manifesto lacks any detail on renewables beyond offshore wind, or details on costing. |
| Score: 1 | This commitment definitely meets our ask to speed up the deployment of renewables, and seems likely to meet our ask on GW increase, although we can’t be 100% sure. |
| Score: 1 | This commitment definitely meets our ask to speed up the deployment of renewables, and seems likely to meet our ask on GW increase, although we can’t be 100% sure. |
| Score: 1 | This commitment definitely meets our ask to directly accelerate wind energy development, paving the way for wind to provide around 70% of the UK’s electricity by 2030. |

- Introduce new support for solar, geothermal, tidal, hydro and other renewable energies to provide much of the remainder of the UK’s energy supply by 2030.
- Transform the planning system so that it works to support a massive increase in wind power and other renewable generation.
- Work with the Crown Estate, which owns much of the UK’s coastline, to open up more coastal waters for offshore wind and marine energy.

We will ensure that the long-term profits from these vital energy assets come to the UK government rather than energy firms.

Upgrades to electricity grid: £10.4 billion
Renewable electricity generation: £12 billion – manifesto
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ban fracking in England (as it is already in the rest of the UK) which is unpopular, threatens to industrialise large swathes of the countryside, and runs counter to the necessary transition to a clean energy future. Score: 1 Commitment to retain the current moratorium for the foreseeable future.</th>
<th>Immediately and permanently ban fracking. - manifesto Score: 1 Clear commitment to banning fracking.</th>
<th>Ban fracking because of its negative impacts on climate change, the energy mix and the local environment - manifesto Score: 1 Clear commitment to banning fracking.</th>
<th>Ban fracking, and other unconventional forms of fossil fuel extraction, now and forever. - manifesto Score: 1 Clear commitment to banning fracking.</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Build on the success of the UK’s Carbon Price Floor mechanism in reducing coal use by raising the rate to £30/tCO2e, and raising it steadily year on year, to accelerate the transition from gas to renewable energy and to provide funds for a heating transformation programme.</td>
<td>Labour is open to raising the Carbon Price Floor, but our position is that direct investment under public ownership, combined with a traditional regulatory approach to reducing emissions, is more effective than relying on a market-based carbon pricing policy which does not guarantee the same outcomes. – Public letter, 3/12 Score: 0 No mention in the manifesto.</td>
<td>We would provide additional support by reinstating renewables’ exemption from the Climate Change Levy (apart from biomass, which is not zero-carbon) and increasing the Carbon Price Floor. - Plan to tackle the climate emergency. We can confirm that we would intend to increase it to at least £30/tCO2e, and raise it steadily each year. – Public letter, 4/12 Score: 1 Clear commitment to increase the Carbon Price floor.</td>
<td>Apply a Carbon Tax on all fossil fuel imports and domestic extraction, based on greenhouse gas emissions produced when fuel is burnt. We will also apply a Carbon Tax on imported energy, based on its embedded emissions. We will raise the Carbon Tax rate progressively over a decade, rendering coal, oil and gas financially unviable as cheaper renewable energies rise up to take their place... This will raise the price of processes that use fossil fuels and thus of the products they produce. This will incentivise industry to switch to low and zero carbon technology and equipment as well as encouraging consumers to choose low carbon products. Non-fossil-fuel greenhouse gas emissions from industrial installations will also be subject to the Carbon Tax. – manifesto Score: 1 The Green manifesto definitely aims to increase the cost of fossil fuels to incentivise phase out, even though it uses a slightly different mechanism to the Carbon Price floor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 0 No mention in the manifesto.</td>
<td>Score: 0 The proposals outlined by Labour do not meet the same aims as increasing the Carbon Price Floor.</td>
<td>Score: 1 Clear commitment to increase the Carbon Price floor.</td>
<td>Score: 1 Clear commitment to increase the Carbon Price floor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 0 No mention in the manifesto.</td>
<td>Score: 0 The proposals outlined by Labour do not meet the same aims as increasing the Carbon Price Floor.</td>
<td>Score: 1 Clear commitment to increase the Carbon Price floor.</td>
<td>Score: 1 Clear commitment to increase the Carbon Price floor.</td>
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<td>Develop a renewables-to-hydrogen pathway to enable the complete phase-out of natural gas in heating and electricity production, and to enable excess renewable energy in the summer to be stored for use in the winter. We will support gas for hydrogen production and nuclear energy, including fusion, as important parts of the energy system, alongside increasing our commitment to renewables. - manifesto</td>
<td>We will... invest to reduce the costs of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production As part of heat decarbonisation, we will roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen fund R&amp;D into newer technologies like hydrogen and carbon capture and storage. Support investment and innovation in cutting-edge energy technologies, including tidal and wave power, energy storage, demand response, smart grids and hydrogen... Support innovation in zero-emission technologies, including batteries and hydrogen fuel cells, supplementing government funding with a new Clean Air Fund from industry - manifesto</td>
<td>Expand our short-term capacity for energy storage so that electricity from peak periods of renewable electricity generation (e.g. days with very strong winds and many hours of sunshine) can be effectively stored – utilising solutions such as domestic solar batteries, storage as heat in hot water cylinders and thermal stores, and smart control of vehicle battery charging... Improvements to energy storage system: £4.5 billion – manifesto</td>
<td>Expand our short-term capacity for energy storage so that electricity from peak periods of renewable electricity generation (e.g. days with very strong winds and many hours of sunshine) can be effectively stored – utilising solutions such as domestic solar batteries, storage as heat in hot water cylinders and thermal stores, and smart control of vehicle battery charging... Improvements to energy storage system: £4.5 billion – manifesto</td>
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To balance the grid, we will expand power storage and invest in grid enhancements and interconnectors - [*manifesto*](#).

supporting the decarbonisation of energy intense industries through investment in carbon capture and storage, hydrogen and energy efficiency - [*Plan for nature*](#).

| Score: 1 | The manifesto commitment to support hydrogen technology and storage meets this ask. However, there is less detail in the manifesto than in previous policy commitments – it would be helpful to see a clarification that this hydrogen will be produced in non-polluting ways. |
| Score: 0 | The Greens haven’t detailed any hydrogen focused plans in the manifesto. They do however have a costed plan for improving energy storage. |

| Score: 0 | The focus on using hydrogen generated from natural gas is disappointing as this is still polluting. |
| Score: 1 | Together, the manifesto and Plan for Nature meet the ask. |

**Homes (max points is 4)**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Our manifesto ask</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Liberal Democrat</th>
<th>Green</th>
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</table>
| **Introduce a national energy efficiency infrastructure programme with ring-fenced additional public capital investment of at least £1 billion per year.** | **We will help lower energy bills by investing £9.2 billion in the energy efficiency of homes, schools and hospitals.** [*manifesto*](#). | **We will upgrade almost all of the UK’s 27 million homes to the highest energy efficiency standards, reducing the average household energy bill by £417 per household per year by 2030.** [*manifesto*](#). | **We will:**  
- Cut energy bills, end fuel poverty by 2025 and reduce emissions from buildings, including by providing free retrofits for low-income homes, piloting a new subsidised Energy-Saving Homes scheme, graduating Stamp Duty Land Tax by the energy rating of the property and reducing VAT on home insulation.  
- Empower councils to develop community energy-saving projects, including delivering housing energy efficiency improvements street by street, which cuts costs. [*manifesto*](#).  

£15 billion for an emergency programme – helping to leverage additional private investment – to reduce energy consumption from buildings [*manifesto costings*](#).  

Funding local authorities to better insulate all homes and deep retrofit of 1 million homes a year: £24.6 billion [*manifesto*](#). | **Significantly reduce heating bills by improving 1 million existing homes and other buildings a year, so that they reach the highest standard of energy efficiency (over and above the Energy Performance Certificate A rating).** Homes lived in by people on low incomes will be the first to receive these major improvements and benefit from reduced heating bills. This will be a deep retrofitting of 10 million homes by 2030, on top of the insulation improvements every home that needs it will receive...**  

**Funding local authorities to better insulate all homes and deep retrofit of 1 million homes a year:** £24.6 billion [*manifesto*](#). |

| Score: 0.5 | The manifesto suggests £0.9bn annually for home upgrade grants and social housing decarbonisation fund, which appears to cover both heat and insulation. |
| Score: 1 | This commitment meets our ask. |

**Score:** 0.5

The manifesto suggests £0.9bn annually for home upgrade grants and social housing decarbonisation fund, which appears to cover both heat and insulation.

**Score:** 1

This commitment meets our ask.

**Score:** 1

This works out to £3bn a year, 3x our ask – however there isn’t any reference to ring fencing, which would be helpful.

**Score:** 1

The manifesto suggests huge levels of funding to support a national warm homes programme (24x our ask!) – although it isn’t completely clear the proportion of this funding to be spent to energy efficiency as
| Score: 0 | The manifesto suggests £0.9bn annually for home upgrade grants and social housing decarbonisation fund, which appears to cover both heat and insulation. As indicated above this is only enough for the needed efficiency action - therefore nowhere close to the investment we need. |
| Score: 1 | This meets our ask. |
| Score: 0.5 | The Liberal Democrats are moving in the right direction but have a much slower trajectory than needed. |
| Score: 1 | The Greens appear to be proposing a low carbon heating and energy generation programme. It isn't clear how much funding is allocated to it from the costings in the manifesto but it seems very feasible that this hits our spending ask. |

| If covering only efficiency the investment would be almost equal to that needed. | As part of heat decarbonisation, we will roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen, and invest in district heat networks using waste heat. 14 new Regional Energy Agencies will replace the existing district network operators and hold statutory responsibility for decarbonising electricity and heat and reducing fuel poverty. We will deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030 - [manifesto](#). Installing renewable and low carbon technologies like solar PV, solar thermal, and heat pumps, so that the energy we use is lower carbon. Under Labour’s plans, we estimate that by 2030, 6.34 million homes will have heat pumps, 5.3 million homes will have solar thermal systems, and 1.75 million more homes will have solar PV. We will provide £60 billion of direct public subsidy for the programme [including energy efficiency, above], with the rest paid for through energy savings. - [Warm Homes for all](#) developing renewable and low carbon energy sources with which we can power our society, industries and homes – [Plan for nature](#). | Adopt a Zero-Carbon Heat Strategy, including reforming the Renewable Heat Incentive, requiring the phased installation of heat pumps in homes and businesses of the gas grid, and piloting projects to determine the best future mix of zero-carbon heating solutions. - [manifesto](#) Roll out solar panels and other forms of renewable domestic energy generation, giving 1 million households a year the means to generate a proportion of the energy they use. This will mean that 10 million homes are able to generate their own renewable energy by 2030... Reduce the use of natural gas for heating homes through a programme, to replace polluting boilers with renewable heat from heat pumps, and solar thermal, geothermal, biomass and stored heat technologies. – [manifesto](#) |

| For private rented homes, increase step by step the minimum energy efficiency | Labour will also regulate so that residences in the social and private rented sectors Increase minimum energy efficiency standards for privately rented properties and | Ensure that all 8 million rented homes are A rated for energy efficiency, or as close to this as possible, by implementing a Minimum... |
standards on the path to a minimum EPC band C in 2030, increasing the maximum threshold of spending by landlords to at least £5000.

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<th>Score: 0</th>
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<tr>
<td>No mention</td>
<td>Meets the ask by an earlier date</td>
<td>Meets the ask</td>
<td>Meets and goes beyond our main ask and implies that the spending cap would need to increase to deliver this.</td>
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Reinstate the Code for Sustainable Homes (or equivalent) to require all new homes to meet the level 6 standard (net zero CO2), including fitting renewable energy technology (solar PV or thermal, heat-pumps) and incorporating green and water infrastructure (e.g. green roofs, nesting)

Environmentally friendly homes. We will support the creation of new kinds of homes that have low energy bills and which support our environmental targets - manifesto

We will introduce a zero-carbon homes standard for all new homes. - manifesto

Require all new homes and non-domestic buildings to be built to a zero-carbon standard (where as much energy is generated on-site, through renewable sources, as is used), by 2021, rising to a more ambitious (‘Passivhaus’) standard by 2025. - manifesto

Empower local authorities to bring empty homes back into use and create a total of 100,000 new homes for social rent (council homes) a year, built to the Passivhaus or equivalent standard. This standard will see these new homes use 90% less energy for space heating than the average home, significantly reducing household bills.

Transform the planning system and building regulations, so that all new buildings built by
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</table>
| Commit to and fund the doubling UK tree and woodland cover in order to take carbon pollution out of the atmosphere, provide space for nature and reduce reliance on unsustainable timber imports. | Building on our support for creating a Great Northumberland Forest, we will reach an additional 75,000 acres of trees a year by the end of the next Parliament, will expect all new streets to be lined with trees. - manifesto | We will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees  
We will embark on an ambitious programme of tree planting, with both forestry and native woodland species - manifesto  
Labour will invest £2.5 billion over its first term to plant 300 million trees in Britain, with a target of reaching one billion new trees planted across Britain by 2030, and two billion by 2040. We will plant mixed native woodlands and enlarge commercial forestry to support housebuilding and other industries.  
Some of our plans will be delivered under framework agreements with the devolved governments of Scotland and Wales. The Scottish Government is already planting 10,000 ha each year, rising to 15,000 from 2024/25. The Welsh Assembly Government is planting 2,000 ha each year with the aim of adding 100,000 ha by 2030. Consequential funding from our investments will allow both to raise ambitions, as we also set out more | coordinating the planting of 60 million trees a year and introducing requirements for the greater use of sustainably harvested wood in construction. - manifesto | Plant 700 million new trees and aim for 50% of all farms to be engaged in agroforestry by 2030. We will encourage the planting of more trees in more towns and cities, including apple, nut and other crop trees than can produce food. The new woodland, when fully grown, will store carbon, provide home-grown timber and create new wildlife-rich environments. We will support farmers to diversify their incomes through new forest management.  
Deploy environmentally friendly flood management measures to protect communities from flooding. These measures, which include tree planning and soil restoration in upland catchment areas to tackle excess water at source... - manifesto |
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<th><strong>Score: 0.5</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>No clear commitment to doubling tree cover. Extrapolating this planting rate out to 2050 would result in 900,000 hectares of new woodland, ie 3.9m ha total UK woodland cover by 2050, or 16.25% of total land area - not hitting the CCC's lower recommendation, and falling well short of our doubling ambition.</td>
<td>The commitment in the Plan for Nature looks to be the most ambitious of all the parties now on trees. If Labour were to maintain planting rates out to 2050 this would double tree cover.</td>
<td>The Liberal Democrats are proposing a number of good ideas but have no clear commitment to doubling tree cover. Maintaining this planting rate to 2050 would see a total of 1.2m ha of new woodland, ie 4.2m ha total, or 17.5% of total UK land area – hitting the CCC’s lower recommendation, but falling well short of our doubling ambition. (26% coverage, 120m trees a year).</td>
<td>Greens proposing a number of good ideas but no clear commitment to doubling tree cover. If these rates were sustained out to 2050, they would add 2.1m hectares of woodland, leading to 5.1m ha total UK woodland cover, or 21% of total UK land area – exceeding the CCC’s lower and ‘stretch’ recommendations, but still falling short of our doubling ambition.</td>
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**Score: 0**

No clear commitment to doubling tree cover.

- **Score: 1**
  - The Plan for Nature offers confirmation Labour will set a target following consultation and provide farmers with some form of support to reduce usage.

**Score: 0.5**

The Liberal Democrats are proposing a number of good ideas but have no clear commitment to doubling tree cover.

- **Score: 0.5**
  - Greens proposing a number of good ideas but no clear commitment to doubling tree cover. If these rates were sustained out to 2050, they would add 2.1m hectares of woodland, leading to 5.1m ha total UK woodland cover, or 21% of total UK land area – exceeding the CCC’s lower and ‘stretch’ recommendations, but still falling short of our doubling ambition.

Set an ambitious target to reduce the use and impacts of pesticides and set out proposals to make the use of Integrated Pest Management by farmers and landowners’ standard practice.

- **Score: 0**
  - Not covered in the manifesto.

**Score: 1**

The Plan for Nature offers confirmation Labour will set a target following consultation and provide farmers with some form of support to reduce usage.

- **Score: 1**
  - This isn’t covered in the manifesto.

**Score: 0**

- This would constitute an ambitious reduction, although weight isn’t a great way to measure. Good to see an additional focus on banning the most harmful.

Produce an overarching food strategy which leads to a shift to sustainable, healthy diets with ‘less and better’ meat and dairy, using regulatory tools, procurement, guidance, and fiscal measures to deliver this shift.

- **Score: 0**
  - And we will improve hospital food alongside our wider National Food Strategy. - [Manifesto](#)

**Score: 1**

Labour will introduce A Right to Food.

- **Score: 1**
  - We will establish a National Food Commission - [manifesto](#)

**Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food and cut down on food waste.**

Establish a legal right to food to enshrine in law the government’s responsibility to ensure

- **Score: 0**
  - Introduce changes in food consumption, by promoting the benefits of healthy diets, based on locally and sustainably produced food, and ‘less but better’ meat and dairy consumption, including clear labelling to indicate carbon emissions, high animal welfare and intensive production methods.
out in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on a Right to Food.

Labour will establish a People’s Access to Food Fund and review our food system under the governance of a National Food Commission. We will work across government to ensure our national diets become healthier and more sustainable, setting dietary and nutritional standards for hospital, school and prison meals, resetting food procurement standards and reviewing the food distribution and retail sectors. We will review food labelling with the aim of reducing harmful food consumption.

We will support local food networks, expand access to farm holdings and ensure union representation and fair wages and conditions for all food and agricultural workers. We will put farmers and food sector workers at the heart of our plans, increasing fairness throughout the food supply chain. We will also ensure that food production and land use keeps pace with changing public appetites and dietary requirements.

Meat and dairy products form part of a healthy, balanced diet but a recent Lancet report recommends a reduction of red, white and processed meat consumption by as much as 80% from current levels. We will ask Public Health England to review dietary health guidelines in, in line with scientific and nutritional advice and we will help our livestock and dairy farmers to anticipate and manage any transitions arising from changing consumer demands.

Support the transition to plant based diets by phasing in a tax on meat and dairy products over the next ten years, to reduce the 5% of the UK’s carbon emissions that come from the methane produced by livestock. The revenues from this part of the Carbon Tax will be recycled back into farming, and will be spent on measures to help farmers transition to more sustainable farming methods.

We would accordingly introduce a National Food Strategy to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable food, thereby reducing the consumption of unhealthy, unsustainable food. This would focus especially on working with schools to empower children and young people as citizens and consumers. Crucially, the strategy must aim to ensure that healthy and sustainable food is also affordable.

We will work with food manufacturers to reduce the climate impact of their products, drawing on the experience of reductions in salt from government interventions where public health bodies helped industry to collectively reformulate products on a voluntary basis, but with the fallback of regulation if necessary. We would also work with existing food assurance schemes to

- Plan for nature

that existing and new public policy is audited for its impact on food security.

Food consumption is one of the drivers of climate change, not just through emissions from UK farms, but also through imports of foodstuffs particularly associated with deforestation, such as palm oil, soy and cocoa; world-wide, clearance for agriculture is the main driver of global forest loss. A long-term approach to food consumption is needed, combining education, persuasion and incentives. There are, however, major potential benefits as well as climate mitigation. Eating a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, nuts and legumes, and reducing consumption of foods such as sugar would have major positive impacts not just on greenhouse gas emissions but on standards of health, and accordingly on incomes and health budgets.

This is increasingly recognised by the public, with some projections suggesting that 25 per cent of the population will be vegetarian by 2025, a doubling of the proportion today. Meat substitutes are gradually appearing on the market, and the UK has an opportunity to be a world leader in their production and consumption.

We would accordingly introduce a National Food Strategy to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable food, thereby reducing the consumption of unhealthy, unsustainable food. This would focus especially on working with schools to empower children and young people as citizens and consumers. Crucially, the strategy must aim to ensure that healthy and sustainable food is also affordable.

We will work with food manufacturers to reduce the climate impact of their products, drawing on the experience of reductions in salt from government interventions where public health bodies helped industry to collectively reformulate products on a voluntary basis, but with the fallback of regulation if necessary. We would also work with existing food assurance schemes to
explore how zero-carbon commitments could be incorporated into their approach; if no progress could be made we would introduce a new scheme. We would use public procurement policy to grow the market for sustainable food and, where appropriate, locally sourced products. The public sector is a major purchaser of food and catering; we would set annual targets for central government public-sector bodies to significantly reduce the climate and health impacts of their food consumption, and encourage local government and the NHS to do the same. - *Plan to tackle the climate emergency*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>Food strategy mentioned but no detail.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 0.5</td>
<td>Detailed commitments in the Plan for Nature meet our ask and provide a helpful level of detail on how this will be achieved. To fully achieve this ask it would be helpful to see a clearer commitment to cut meat and dairy consumption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 0.5</td>
<td>The manifesto proposes an overarching food strategy, although gives little detail on what methods might be within it and how healthy, sustainable diets are being defined. For this commitment to fully meet our ask we’d need a definition of sustainable food referencing less meat or dairy consumption, and detail on how the Liberal Democrats would drive change.</td>
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**Introduce binding targets to halve UK food waste from farm to fork by 2030, including through funding weekly food waste collections for every household as proposed in the Resources and Waste Strategy.**

| Score: 1 | No specific overarching strategy but part of a GND for food, farming and forestry. References our definition of sustainable diets and a range of actions to promote growing, better access to food, and health. Clear commitment to action to reduce meat and dairy consumption. |

We will make food security a reason to intervene in the economy and work with local councils to minimise food waste - *manifesto*

We will invest £4.5bn in the waste and recycling infrastructure [including] fifteen anaerobic digestion sites for food recycling - *Plan for nature*

Grants to local authorities could support increased doorstep food waste collection.

A binding target to halve food waste by 2030 will be included in the Fair Food Act which Sue Hayman also announced in her keynote speech to the pre-election party conference, when she said, “Today, I am announcing that the next Labour government ... will introduce a Fair Food Act.” The aim of halving food waste by 2030 is already government policy, the legally binding target will be introduced in our Fair Food Act - *Public letter, 3/12*

| Score: 0.5 | Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food and cut down on food waste. - *manifesto*

We would implement the food waste hierarchy, which gives priority to (in order): avoiding waste; redistributing or reusing food; composting or anaerobic digestion to produce renewable energy. This would be backed up with a target for zero-carbon food waste to landfill, building on existing good practice by Liberal Democrat councils, including financial support for innovation by local authorities. We would encourage retailers to invest in reducing their suppliers’ food waste, and introduce reporting requirements for large retailers and food producers to publicly report on food waste through their operations, with transparent benchmarking of progress.

Establishing a statutory waste recycling target of 70 per cent in England, extend separate... |

**Promote initiatives to reduce food waste, including education programmes and changing the rules to allow food waste to be used for animal feed for pigs and chickens.**

Support councils to promote waste prevention innovations and to increase recycling. - *manifesto*
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<td>Introduce an Environment Bill that sets ambitious targets for the restoration of nature and ensures the UK is a world-leader in environmental protection and governance, with a well-funded a powerful regulatory regime. - including an expanded role for environmental tribunals to improve access to justice for the public.</td>
<td>Our Environment Bill will guarantee that we will protect and restore our natural environment after leaving the EU. Because conservation has always been at the very heart of Conservatism. We will set up a new independent Office For Environmental Protection and introduce our own legal targets, including for air quality. We will ensure that judicial review is available to protect the rights of the individuals against an overbearing state, while ensuring that it is not abused to conduct politics by another means or to create needless delays. In our first year we will set up a Constitution, Democracy &amp; Rights Commission that will examine these issues in depth, and come up with proposals to restore trust in our institutions and in how our democracy operates. - manifesto</td>
<td>We will introduce a Climate and Environment Emergency Bill setting out in law robust, binding new standards for decarbonisation, nature recovery, environmental quality and habitats and species protection. We will introduce the Treasury’s investment rules to guarantee that every penny spent is compatible with our climate and environmental targets ambitious emissions targets. Our Plan for Nature will set legally binding targets to drive the restoration of species and habitats. We will fully fund the Environment Agency and other frontline environment agencies, and improve upstream river management boost police resources to tackle rural and wildlife crime. We will establish a new environmental tribunal to ensure that administrative decisions are consistent with environmental and nature-recovery obligations. - manifesto</td>
<td>Introduce a Nature Act to restore the natural environment through setting legally binding near-term and long-term targets for improving water, air, soil and biodiversity, and supported by funding streams of at least £18 billion over five years. - manifesto</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature protection and restoration (max score is 4 points)</td>
<td>Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. The EPC will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards... Increase funding for the Environment Agency and Natural England, to support the vital work they do to protect our environment... Commit to making at least 30% of UK domestic waters into fully protected marine protected areas by 2030. We will also work with British Overseas Territories (BOTs) to increase the ‘blue belt’ protecting BOTs’ waters from commercial extraction, from the current 32% of coverage to 50% – manifesto</td>
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</table>
| **Introduce a Plastics Pollution Bill to eliminate the plastic pollution that is the scourge of rivers and oceans as well as streets, roadways and fields, with a particular focus on action to reduce plastic use and increase the re-usability of products.** | **We will establish a new £500 million Blue Planet Fund to help protect our oceans from plastic pollution, warming sea temperatures and overfishing.** We will continue to lead the world in tackling plastics pollution, both in the UK and internationally, and will introduce a new levy to increase the proportion of recyclable plastics in packaging. We will introduce extended producer responsibility, so that producers pay the full costs of dealing with the waste they produce and boost domestic recycling. We will ban the export of plastic waste to non-OECD countries, consulting with... | **We will make producers responsible for the waste they create and for the full cost of recycling or disposal, encouraging more sustainable design and manufacturing.** We’ll also take on the global plastics crisis by investing in a new plastics remanufacturing industry creating thousands of jobs, ending exports of plastic waste and reducing our contribution to ocean pollution... nine new plastics recycling and manufacture sites – Plan for nature | **Banning non-recyclable single-use plastics and replace them with affordable alternatives, aiming for their complete elimination within three years, as a first step towards ending the ‘throwaway society’ culture and an ambition to end plastic waste exports by 2030...** Benfitting consumers through better product design for repairability, reuse and recycling,... Introducing legally binding targets for reducing the consumption of key natural resources... Extending deposit return schemes for all food and drink bottles and containers... Establishing a statutory waste recycling target of 70 per cent in England, extend separate food waste collections to at least 90 per cent of homes by 2024, and strengthen incentives to reduce packaging... | **Ban the production of single-use plastics for use in packaging and invest in research and development into alternatives to plastic. We will also extend the successful tax on plastic bags to cover plastic bottles, single-use plastics and microplastics, and extend plastic bottle deposit schemes.** – manifesto | **Score: 0.5** This proposal would set legally binding targets. However, lack of detail on the proposed OEP and worrying language on restricting judicial review could restrict access to justice in environmental matters. **Score: 1** Taken together, the manifesto and Plan for Nature promise legislation and detailed action including both targets and funding, with an additional promise on environmental justice. **Score: 0.5** This manifesto promises legislation including both targets and funding, although lacks detail on governance and access to justice. | **Score: 1** Together, the Sustainable Economy and Clean Air Acts would cover the ground of an environment bill, and the Greens have proposed some targets within them (although it’s not clear how many they would look to create, nor how ambitious they would be at the current time). A new regulatory body is proposed with a wide remit, backed by increased enforcement funding – although no details on how access to justice might improve. A range of additional policies are also proposed.
| Industry, NGOs and local councils on the date by which this should be achieved. and introduce a deposit return scheme to incentivise people to recycle plastic and glass. | The Environment Emergency Bill can provide a vehicle for any legislation that may be necessary. | Score: 0.5

No specific legislation is proposed but some steps are outlined in the context of the Environment Bill that would have the impact of reducing plastic pollution. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution. | Score: 0.5

Labour focus is on increasing recycling and not the action we really need to reduce plastic use. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution. | Score: 0.5

The manifesto commitment here is not to a specific piece of legislation but to a rapid ban on non-recyclable single use plastic. This is positive but allowing a 10-year timeline for ending plastic waste exports suggests a distinct lack of longer term/wider ambition. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution. | Score: 0.5

The manifesto commitment here is not to a specific piece of legislation but to a series of actions, including a ban on single use plastic, which would seem to offer a good chance of leading to lower plastic usage, increased reuse and better waste outcomes. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution. |

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| Invest an additional £5.6 billion in mapping, protecting and developing an extensive network of wildlife sites with nature-friendly corridors between them. | We will create new National Parks alongside a revised system of other protected area designations, which will guard existing wildlife sites and join up important habitats, while also ensuring more people can enjoy living closer to nature. | £7.1 billion [over five years] for environmental land management and nature restoration | £6 billion [over 5 years] for expanding forests. |

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| | Our Plan for Nature starts with a transformational programme to recover and enhance the natural state of our National Parks, working with scientists, farmers, local communities and conservation groups to reverse years of decline. | We can confirm that these sums between them include at least £5.6 billion for wildlife and habitat protection, including mapping, protecting and developing wildlife sites and nature-friendly corridors. | Reintroduce nature into our urban environments, by investing in schemes such as street planting of native trees, compulsory hedgehog holes in all new fencing and bee corridors... |

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| | We will increase the funding for our National Park authorities by 50%, from under £50m each year to almost £75m each year. | Encourage, through changes to the planning system, the ‘rewilding’ of spaces to provide new habitats for wildlife. An ecological crisis is happening – we must tackle it by restoring, expanding and joining up the wild spaces nature needs to thrive. | |

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| | Our plans envisage a network of natural hedgerows and other nature-friendly corridors joining all these places with each other, with replanted road verges, railway lines and canal paths connecting them to our urban green and blue spaces in parks, communal gardens, lakes and ponds. | | |
The approach was supported in the Environment Bill previously before Parliament, but there is no mention of the activity or required funds in the manifesto.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>The approach was supported in the Environment Bill previously before Parliament, but there is no mention of the activity or required funds in the manifesto.</th>
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</table>

Local action (max score is 6 points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our manifesto ask</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Liberal Democrat</th>
<th>Green</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Require local authorities and combined authorities to reduce carbon emissions within their area in line with national carbon budgets through setting local carbon budgets.</td>
<td>Labour will set and enforce carbon budgets across all government departments and will devolve responsibility for these when appropriate and when the capacity exists. For example, REAs will hold primary responsibility for energy-related emissions, but LAs will be able to take on those responsibilities where they have capacity. – Public letter, 3/12</td>
<td>Establish a Department for Climate Change and Natural Resources, appoint a cabinet-level Chief Secretary for Sustainability in the Treasury to coordinate government-wide action to make the economy sustainable resource-efficient and zero-carbon, and require every government agency to account for its contribution towards meeting climate targets - manifesto</td>
<td>Give councils access to an additional £3 billion a year Climate Adaption Fund. Bids from councils facing the greatest threat from climate chaos, and councils with the high levels of poverty, will be prioritised as money is distributed from the Fund.</td>
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<td>Give councils new powers and resources to deliver environmental improvements and</td>
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</table>
| Require planning authorities to plan for sustainable energy generation, working in partnership with communities, energy providers and utilities. | Score: 0  
No manifesto mention of local carbon budgets or requirements on Local Authorities. | Score: 0.5  
This approach is a good direction of travel but does not set a firm requirement on local authorities at the current time. | Score: 0  
This is a good direction of travel but does not set any firm requirement on local authorities. | Score: 0.5  
No specific requirement for local authorities relating to emissions. The focus is on empowering and supporting rather than requiring action, although a clear intention to help local authorities cut emissions. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Score: 0**  
Does not feature in the manifesto. | **Score: 0**  
Lacks specificity despite the general requirement for planning authorities to factor in the climate emergency when making decisions. This is not a proactive commitment. | **Score: 1**  
This meets our ask. Nice to see a focus on devolving both funding and powers to support Local Authorities to do this. | **Score: 0.5**  
Useful activity but does not specify a clear and strong requirement. |
| Enable local authorities to raise finance from new sources to fund local carbon action (such as a local public transport payroll levy, visitor lodging levy, or eco-levy for road use, all of which have been successfully used overseas to transform transport). | Labour will properly fund local councils after a decade of devastating cuts so that they can breathe new life into local communities. We will invest in our local authorities in order for them to fulfil their statutory obligations and locally determined priorities, including local environmental management responsibilities. – Plan for nature | Labour will reverse cuts to local councils through a £20bn funding boost and give them access to further funds to tackle the | Councils clearly need additional resources to accompany these new responsibilities, and we would provide additional funding from central government for the design, implementation and monitoring of Zero-Carbon Strategies. We would also end the current Council Tax capping regime and give councils enhanced powers to call on new income sources such as vacant property taxes. We would replace the existing system of business rates with a new tax on the land value of commercial sites, removing the disincentives to invest created by business rates and enabling the state to increase biodiversity, as well as tackling flooding and coastal erosion locally. Require councils (and other public bodies) to divest their pension funds away from fossil-fuel-related investments. We will encourage all private pension funds to do the same – manifesto |
| Require and fund local authorities to coordinate area-by-area eco-heating and energy efficiency transformation programmes. | climate and environmental emergency through our Local Transformation Fund. This is a distributionally fairer and more effective way to fund local carbon action that giving councils their own finance-raising powers. - Public letter, 3/12. | better capture increases in land value driven by public infrastructure investment. We would give councils enhanced borrowing powers, including for housing and local infrastructure.’ - Plan to tackle the climate emergency. | Score: 0  
Does not feature in the manifesto. |
| Community themselves will decide, because utilities won’t be run from Whitehall but by service-users and workers... publicly owned networks will accelerate and co-ordinate investment to connect renewable and low-carbon energy while working with energy unions to support energy workers through the transition... 14 new Regional Energy Agencies will replace the existing district network operators and hold statutory responsibility for decarbonising electricity and heat and reducing fuel poverty. - manifesto  
Labour meets this criteria, though with a different emphasis on the delivery vehicle. We will establish public, Regional Energy Agencies to coordinate rollout of Labour’s Warm Homes for All initiative - which combines energy efficiency and renewable heating technologies. Labour will make REAs, rather than Local Authorities, initially responsible for area-based delivery in recognition of the lack of capacity at Local Authority level following a decade of underfunding. However, where Local Authorities do have capacity, they will be supported to establish Municipal Energy Agencies, which will take responsibility for local renewable energy generation, supply, network management and retrofitting. - Public letter, 3/12. | Local authorities would have a major role to play in particular in developing and implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy programmes for buildings, and we would also encourage them to set up or expand their own renewable electricity generation capacity.  
Local authorities would be given the responsibility, as part of their Zero-Carbon Strategies, to develop combined energy efficiency and zero-carbon retrofit programmes (which, as the Energiesprong whole-house retrofits in the Netherlands, also currently being implemented in Nottingham, have demonstrated, can be cost-effective), working with local residents and businesses to develop the optimum outcomes for their communities, including district heating systems where appropriate. - Plan to tackle the climate emergency. | Score: 1  
The Plan to Tackle the Climate Emergency sets out a clear responsibility for local authorities although it is not clear on how this will be funded. | Score: 0  
Does not feature in the manifesto. |
| Score: 0  
No specific mention. | Score: 1  
Following clarification that this ask will be achieved via a different mechanism, this commitment meets our ask. | Score: 1  
The proposal to provide central funding rather than powers to raise funds meets our ask to fund local climate action but does not provide the powers for Local Authorities to raise funds directly to supplement this. | Score: 0.5  
The Plan proposes a mix of income generation, additional funding and borrowing powers, which would provide needed additional funding for climate action. | Score: 0  
Does not feature in the manifesto. |
**Rewrite national planning rules to make carbon reduction, and nature’s restoration and recovery a legal requirement in the planning system.**

*Score: 0*  
*Does not feature in the manifesto.*

We will rebalance power in the planning system by giving local government greater freedom to set planning fees and by requiring the climate and environmental emergency to be factored into all planning decisions. - [manifesto](#)

Amend planning rules to promote sustainable transport and land use. - [manifesto](#)

We would amend the National Planning Policy Framework to provide local authorities with clear expectations for the provision of sustainable transport and greater access to goods and services in new housing developments. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](#)

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**Remove restrictive rules on approving new onshore wind developments.**

*Score: 0*  
*Does not feature in the manifesto.*

2,000 new onshore wind turbines - [manifesto](#)

2,000 new onshore wind turbines - [manifesto](#)

Score: 0  
This proposal is too vague and does not equate to a legal requirement.

Score: 1  
Meets the ask.

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**Brexit (max score is 4 points)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our manifesto ask</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
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</table>
| Oppose a No Deal Brexit under all circumstances, and support a close and cooperative future relationship with the EU, guarantee in law that high environmental standards and protections will be maintained, without regression and enhanced over time. | We will negotiate a trade agreement next year – one that will strengthen our Union – and we will not extend the implementation period beyond December 2020. In parallel, we will legislate to ensure high standards of workers’ rights, environmental protection and consumer rights...  
This will be a new relationship based on free trade and friendly cooperation, not on the EU’s treaties or EU law. - [manifesto](#) | Labour rules out a no-deal Brexit, and we will end the scandal of billions of pounds of taxpayers’ money being wasted on no-deal preparations. No deal has never been a viable option...  
Dynamic alignment on workers’ rights, consumer rights and environmental protections so that UK standards keep pace across Europe as a minimum, allowing the UK to lead the way, not fall behind. Continued participation in EU agencies and funding programmes, including in such vital areas of co-operation as the environment...  
We will also secure robust and legally binding protections for workers’ rights, consumer standards and environmental protections, and ensure level-playing field protections are maintained. Labour will never accept an outcome that puts rights and standards at risk...  
we will get Brexit sorted in six months by giving people the final say – with a choice | Stop Brexit - [manifesto](#) | The Green MPs you elect will champion their constituent’s right to an immediate final say on the terms of any Brexit deal, through a People’s Vote, with Remain as an option on the ballot paper...  
... Harmonising minimum environmental standards. As nature knows no borders, the EU can play a major role in ensuring that habitats split between different counties are all protected by the same rules...  
And whatever happens, we will guarantee the full rights of EU citizens and their families living in the UK, including the right to automatic settled status and ensure there is no rolling back of the rights and protections enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. – [manifesto](#) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>The manifesto states outright support for no-deal post December 2020 and does not state support for non-regression.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Much of this ask is not required if the UK remains within the EU (as this guarantees a close relationship and prevents regression), which the Liberal Democrats are committed to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Commits to non-regression of rights and protections and to harmonised standards.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0.5</th>
<th>There is no detail on the OEP beyond ‘independent’, nor that all environmental principles apply directly in law to all public bodies.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>The Plan for Nature confirms Labour support for a strong and independent environmental watchdog. The plan also commits to adopting the precautionary principle although it does not reference the other EU environmental principles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Meets requirement for a watchdog although unclear how this relates to the plan to revoke Article 50 as the role proposed for the OEP is currently carried out by the CJEU. There is also no mention of principles - but an assumption that remaining in the EU would mean these continue to apply in the current way.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Lack of detail on the strength and independence of the body, but clear and wide commitment.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 1</th>
<th>Rules out a no deal Brexit outright and commits to non-regression, ongoing participation in and alignment with EU.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Guarantee an Office of Environmental Protection that is fully independent of government, and possesses powers and resources to enforce compliance with climate and environmental targets. - <em>manifesto</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. The EPC will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards. - <em>manifesto</em></td>
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<tr>
<th>Score: 1</th>
<th>Reduce basic agricultural support payments to the larger recipients and redeploy the savings to support the public goods that come from effective land management, including restoring nature and protecting the countryside, preventing flooding and combating climate change through measures.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>We want to increase the opportunities for food growing, for greening our landscape and improving our health. Through reforestation, rewilding and regenerative farming, we will reduce carbon emissions and realise the land’s ability to absorb carbon. The way we produce our food needs to support employment, the</td>
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Ensure the UK has access to a powerful, independent environmental watchdog in place to police environmental law though the courts and issue fines, and that environmental rights and principles, including the precautionary and polluter-pays principle, are enshrined in law and must be applied by all public bodies (including in Northern Ireland where current governance regimes are particularly weak).

We will set up a new independent Office For Environmental Protection

- We will maintain and continuously improve the existing EU standards of environmental regulation.
- We will establish a new environmental tribunal to ensure that administrative decisions are consistent with environmental and nature-recovery obligations. - *manifesto*
- We will establish the Office of Environmental Protection as an independent, fully resourced watchdog with transparent governance processes and Parliamentary accountability
- We will [...] adopt the precautionary principle in regulations. – *Plan for nature*

Pass an Agriculture Act that enshrines a ‘public money for public good’ approach to financial support for farmers, to reward agro-ecological farming approaches which enhance nature, protect soils and

Once we have got Brexit done, we will free our farmers from the bureaucratic Common Agricultural Policy and move to a system based on ‘public money for public goods’. To support this transition, we will guarantee the current annual budget to

A Labour government will maintain agricultural and rural structural funds but repurpose them to support environmental land management and sustainable methods of food production. - *manifesto*
Contribute to drawing down carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, while ensuring farmers get a fair deal for their produce from the food supply chain.

In return for funding, they must farm in a way that protects and enhances our natural environment, as well as safeguarding high standards of animal welfare.

And one of the great opportunities of Brexit is the chance to lead the world in the quality of our food, agriculture and land management – driven by science-led, evidence-based policy. And we want those same farmers and fishermen to act as the stewards of the natural world, preserving the UK’s countryside and oceans as they have for generations.

Our aim is to ensure the transition to our future agriculture is fair to farmers, better for wildlife and affordable for us all. We will fund the transition by maintaining current environmental improvement schemes and investing in new schemes after the British public has had its final say on our future relationship with the European Union.

A Labour government will properly maintain agricultural support systems, ensuring that the current level of funding support made available to British farming and farmland management remains stable.

In order to transform our food system we will first need to work closely with our principal primary food producers, to promote sustainable agricultural and fisheries practices.

We will cooperate with farmers to ensure more sustainable land management goes hand-in-hand with viable businesses and thriving rural economies. We will invest in more county farms to replace those lost, and we will work with agricultural organisations to increase access into farming for new entrants. We will support local food networks, expand access to farm holdings and ensure union representation and fair wages and conditions for all food and agricultural workers.

Our Green New Deal for food, farming & forestry will:

- Work with farmers to refocus farm subsidies to help farmers transition to more sustainable, diverse and environmentally friendly forms of land use, including organic farming, agroforestry and mixed farming, and away from intensive livestock farming.
- Provide farmers with grants to allow replacement of old high-emitting carbon farming machinery with low carbon machinery (including vehicles powered by biofuels rather than fossil fuels). Grants will also be available to enable further improvements to farm buildings and infrastructure, to help farmers in the transition to agroecological farming.
- Encourage the expansion and replanting of majority of hedgerows lost in the last 50 years through new subsidies, creating new environments for wildlife.
- Legislate to give farmers greater security of tenure, so that they can invest in sustainable improvements to their land, whilst ending the use of land as a tax shelter and encouraging new entrants into farming...

Establish a Food and Agriculture Research Council to research sustainable and health-promoting Green Party Manifesto 2019 The Green New Deal 23 methods of food production and distribution. We will also support research into the reduction of ecosystem and improve public health. A ten-year transition to agroecological farming will include the transfer of subsidies to farming methods and food systems that create jobs and restore ecosystem health, including the quality of our soils and rivers. It will also advance food sovereignty, including by localising food systems and putting control over the resources to produce, distribute and access food in the hands of communities and workers across the food system. We will also lay down a new natural inheritance to be passed down to future generations, through the creation of community owned and run forests.
| Score: 1 | Clear commitment to supporting farmers deliver ‘public good’ in exchange for financial support, although it would be helpful to provide more detail on how fairness for producers will be achieved. |
| Score: 1 | Clear commitment to supporting farmers to manage their land in ways that benefit the environment, and some details on how fairness for producers will be achieved. |
| Score: 1 | These proposals do bring in a PMFPG approach and focus on producer fairness, but assume continued membership of the EU and therefore ongoing participation in CAP. |
| Score: 1 | Clear, detailed and wide-ranging commitment to support farmers to improve outcomes in their area, with some innovative ideas around supporting farmers to get a fairer deal by improving security of tenure and localising food systems. |

**Now, we will be able to tailor our trade deals to the needs of British firms and the British economy.**

In all of our trade negotiations, we will not compromise on our high environmental protection, animal welfare and food standards. - **manifesto**

Ensure any future trade deals promote global sustainability, increase environmental standards and guard against imports produced to lower standards, with scrutiny by Parliament and transparency for civil society.

We will uphold the highest environmental and social regulations in all our trade relations, and will never downgrade standards as ‘barriers’ to trade.

Introduce legislation to ensure transparency and parliamentary scrutiny of trade and investment agreements.

Reject any trade agreements that undermine labour standards or environmental protections, and rule out UK Export Finance support to companies engaged in bribery or corruption. - **manifesto**

We will pursue trade frameworks within or without the EU that match our own environmental standards, comply with international environment law and protect biodiversity in partner countries.

We will commit to environmentally sustainable, transparent trade policies and apply these to any future trade relationships we negotiate. We will commit to a deadline to end the importation of goods that have caused deforestation.

We remain fully committed and will enshrine in law non-regression of all environmental quality standards. These laws will apply to all future trade agreements. - **Plan for nature**

Work within the EU to ensure that future trade agreements require high environmental and animal welfare standards, and legislate to ban the importing of hunting trophies where the hunting does not contribute to environmental protection.

Work through international bodies for better regulation and scrutiny of international trade and investment treaties to ensure they do not worsen inequalities or undermine human rights or developing countries’ ability to regulate the environmental and social impacts of businesses. - **manifesto**

Commit that any future trade deals will maintain and enhance environmental and food standards and workers’ rights, minimise the environmental footprint of trade, make trade terms explicitly subject to environmental and human rights commitments, and not undermine the implementation of existing or new national and international commitments (including over protections for vital global ecosystems and habitats such as the Amazon, and for indigenous people).

End the current practice of including investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms in trade and investment agreements. These mechanisms can give too much power to investors, at the expense of democracy, and need to be scrapped.

Ensure trade democracy by assessing the development impact of all trade and investment agreements and guaranteeing Parliament a vote on them.

Increase the transparency of European institutions, including the European Central Bank, with steps such as live streaming all meetings, and publishing minutes and key papers like trade negotiation documents.

Citizens have the right to know how decisions are made and how their money is spent. - **manifesto**

methane emissions from livestock and the conservation and development of high quality soils, as the foundation of all that we grow...

aim for 50% of all farms to be engaged in agroforestry by 2030. ... – **manifesto**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bills proposed</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Liberal Democrat</th>
<th>Green</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduce a Future Generations Act for England, building on the success of the Welsh Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and Future Generations Commissioner, to ensure the interests of future generations are heard in decision-making.</strong></td>
<td>We will introduce a Future Generations Well-being Act, enshrining health aims in all policies and a new duty for NHS agencies to collaborate with directors of public health - <a href="#">manifesto</a>.</td>
<td>This is opposed to our ask.</td>
<td>This meets our ask.</td>
<td>This meets our ask.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legislate to enable 16 and 17 year olds to vote in future parliamentary elections, local elections and referendums.</strong></td>
<td>We will maintain the voting age at 18 – the age at which one gains full citizenship rights. - <a href="#">manifesto</a>.</td>
<td>We will oversee the largest extension of the franchise in generations, reducing the voting age to 16, giving full voting rights to all UK residents, making sure everyone who is entitled to vote can do so - <a href="#">manifesto</a>.</td>
<td>Giving people a voice with a fair voting system so that everyone’s vote counts equally, letting people vote at the first election or referendum after they turn 16 and giving votes to all British citizens abroad and to EU citizens who have made the UK their long-term home. - <a href="#">manifesto</a>.</td>
<td>Give 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote and have a say on their future. We will also allow people to stand for Parliament and all other elected offices from the age of 16, offering support to elected young people so that they can combine their duties with studying. – <a href="#">manifesto</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduce proportional representation for Westminster elections.</strong></td>
<td>We will continue to support the First Past the Post system of voting, as it allows voters to kick out politicians who don’t deliver, both locally and nationally. <a href="#">manifesto</a>.</td>
<td>This is opposed to our ask.</td>
<td>This meets our ask.</td>
<td>This meets our ask.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undertake a comprehensive review of electoral law (including the so-called 'Lobbying Act') to ensure it is fit for the digital age.</strong></td>
<td>We will free the voices of civil society by repealing the Lobbying Act 2014 and overhauling the rules that govern corporate lobbying. We will introduce a lobbying register covering both in-house lobbyists and 10,000 house lobbyists.</td>
<td>Strength and expand the lobbying register and ban MPs from accepting paid lobbying work.</td>
<td>Implement a fair system of state funding for political parties to eliminate dependence on large private donations, removing the undue influence large donations can give corporations and the super wealthy.</td>
<td>This is opposed to our ask.</td>
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</table>
age, provides genuine transparency on lobbying, electoral donations and spending, and protects the voice of legitimate civil society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>No mention in the manifesto.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score: 1</td>
<td>This meets our ask.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 0.5</td>
<td>Some strong policies but no mention of the Lobbying Act.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Work towards radical real-time transparency for political advertising, donations and spending, including an easily-searchable public database of all online political adverts. - manifesto

Remove the cap on fines that can be imposed by the Electoral Commission on political parties that have been found to have breached electoral law.

Protect the right to peacefully protest including from corporate anti protest injunctions and end labelling peaceful, environmental activists as domestic extremists.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score: 0</th>
<th>No mention in the manifesto.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score: 0</td>
<td>No mention in the manifesto.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score: 0.5</td>
<td>These policies do not fully address the current threats to the right to protest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A policy motion from the 2012 conference included:

‘The right to protest to be restored through:

b) A properly regulated right to protest in quasi-public spaces to balance the interests of citizens and landowners.
c) An end to threats being made against protestors who have done nothing wrong, such as the threatened use of rubber bullets before demonstrations.
d) The end of kettling large groups of people.
e) Resisting new powers to impose curfews on unconvicted people.
f) Not extending the existing powers on people covering their faces.

We can confirm that these remain Liberal Democrat commitments, to be implemented in government. – Public letter, 4/12

Introduce a public interest defence for breaching the Official Secrets Act, alongside better protection and support for whistle-blowers in the public and private sectors.

Protect the right to peacefully protest and prevent disproportionate police responses to protest. – manifesto

**FINAL SCORES:**

Labour: 33  
Green: 31  
Liberal Democrat: 30  
Conservatives: 5.5