

Greens call for urgent action on air pollution in response to government report



Green Party

27 July 2022

Responding to a report by the Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants, which has found that air pollution is likely to increase the risk of developing dementia [1], Green Party co-leader Carla Denyer said:

“The true extent of just how damaging air pollution is to the health of people and planet continues to become clearer and clearer, yet both Labour and Conservative politicians seem determined to block action on so many levels.

“In Bristol, where I am a councillor, the Labour mayor has dithered and delayed for six years since a Green motion was passed to implement a clean air zone.

“As this report shows, this inaction is seriously impacting peoples’ health and ultimately costing lives.

“Air pollution is a matter of social justice. And if the government and other regional leaders really wanted to take action on this then they would be seriously investing in public transport as well as walking and cycling infrastructure – doing all they could to help people get out of their cars and use cleaner forms of transport instead.”

ENDS

Notes

1

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/jul/27/air-pollution-is-likely-to-raise-dementia-risk-find-uk-government-experts>

[Back to main news page](#)

[Adblock test \(Why?\)](#)

Greens criticise Labour for abandoning support for public ownership of public services



Green Party

25 July 2022

Responding to shadow chancellor Rachel Reeves announcing this morning that Labour will not support bringing public services back into public ownership [1], Green Party co-leader Adrian Ramsay:

“It is depressing to see Labour abandoning their traditional support for public ownership of essential services at a time when this is so popular amongst voters. Their attempt to compete with the Tories will see ordinary people and the planet pay the cost as a result.

“It’s clear for all to see that the privatisation of essential services like energy, transport and water has served only to line the pockets of shareholders, rather than ensure that these services we all depend on are reliable and affordable.

“The Green Party believes it is essential that public services are publicly owned, both in order to guarantee the level of service required to meet society’s needs and help tackle the climate crisis, and to ensure good pay and conditions of those working within them.

“The fact that Labour has abandoned these beliefs shows just how far Keir Starmer is prepared to drag the party away from representing the best interests of people and planet in order to gain power at any cost.”

ENDS

Notes

1

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-public-ownership-nation-alise-reeves-starmer-b2130382.html>

[Back to main news page](#)

[Adblock test \(Why?\)](#)

[Response from Green Party to final two candidates in Tory leadership contest](#)



Green Party

20 July 2022

Reacting to the last knock-out round in the Tory leadership contest, resulting in Rishi Sunak and Liz Truss going forward to a vote by Conservative members, co-leader of the Green Party Adrian Ramsay said:

“Finally we are left with two candidates, after seemingly endless hours given over to a contest whose result will be determined by a tiny unrepresentative minority of the population.

“Both have voted for cuts to welfare benefits, against free school meals and for harsher asylum policies. And both seem more interested in pandering to the fossil fuel lobby and climate sceptics in their own ranks than actually addressing the climate crisis. A pledge on committing to net zero by 2050 had to be extracted from them under duress.

“We need firm leadership on cutting emissions and making sure the country is adequately prepared for future extreme weather events. And we need a politics of compassion towards the most vulnerable in society, not a competition in nastiness.

“In recent months we’ve seen public trust in politics undermined and a dereliction of duty in addressing the cost of living and climate crises. This government has lost its legitimacy. We need a general election.”

[Back to main news page](#)

Sizewell C: outdated, unproven technology and a drain on bill payers



Green Party

20 July 2022

Responding to the announcement that the government has granted development consent for the new Sizewell C nuclear power station in Suffolk [1], Green Party co-leader Adrian Ramsay, who is parliamentary candidate for Suffolk, said:

“The country needs investment in renewable energy and insulation at scale to address the cost of living and climate crises, not outdated and unproven technology that will be a drain on bill payers for the next 75 years. The government is dumping the £20bn price tag onto people who are already struggling with the cost of living crisis.

“This outdated design is also far too slow to help solve our climate and energy emergencies. The stated development time is 12-15 years but we have little confidence in the timescale given the current two year construction delay at Hinkley Point. Renewables can be delivered far quicker.

“This decision is politically driven by a misguided energy security policy, which calls for a massive boost in nuclear energy. There are much cheaper and less damaging renewable technologies available to supply the power we need.”

Notes

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-62235221>

[Back to main news page](#)

Green Party responds to High Court ruling on government's 'inadequate' climate change strategy



Green Party

19 July 2022

Responding to news the High Court has effectively ruled the government's climate strategy "illegal and inadequate [1]" Green Party co-leader, Adrian Ramsay said:

"In the middle of the UK's record breaking heatwave, the High Court has ruled the government's climate strategy is illegal and inadequate. Meanwhile, Conservative leadership candidates drag their feet on net zero pledges.

"Boris Johnson's legacy is one of rhetoric not matched by action when it comes to climate. Climate scientists are clear: the exceptional temperatures we are experiencing are related to climate change. We need Johnson's successor to not only commit to net zero but also identify a clear pathway on how we get there.

"This must mean joined up government. We cannot have climate promises being delivered by one minister while another minister is giving permission for new coal, oil and gas developments or massive new road-building.

"And this week has shown that real and urgent action must be taken to plan how we adapt to the extreme weather that's already built in – including how we protect vulnerable people and adapt services and infrastructure.

"We have all grown tired of the empty promises made by politicians that are not translated into real and urgent climate action. The ruling by the High Court reinforces that the government must set out in detail how it will achieve net zero."

Notes

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/net-zero-heatwave-climate-change-b2125951.html>

[Back to main news page](#)

[Adblock test \(Why?\)](#)