“The conditions there are as cruel as they are ineffective” – Greens respond to closing of Bibby Stockholm announcement

2. Press Releases

Responding to the news that Labour plan to close the Bibby Stockholm, Green Party Refugee and Migration Spokesperson, Benali Hamdache, said,

“Today’s announcement to close the Bibby Stokholm is very welcome.

“The conditions there are as cruel as they are ineffective.

“It’s entirely inappropriate for people to be held in such vile conditions.

“Seeking asylum is a right that the UK should ensure is undertaken with dignity and appropriate levels of support.

“I congratulate Labour for making this move in their first weeks of administration.

“If Labour now accept the need to close the Bibby Stokholm, we hope they now also take a long hard look at other detention centres like Yarl’s Wood that inspectors have deemed “no longer safe” let alone desirable.”

23 July 2024 / 23 July 2024 by Green Party

Press Releases

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Biden stepping down “a true sign of Leadership” say Greens

2. Press Releases

Responding to the news that President Biden is stepping down and will not run in November’s Presidential elections, Green Party Co-Leader, Carla Denyer, said,

“We wish President Biden well and thank him for his many years of public service.

“This cannot have been an easy decision for him.

“But to take a decision that is personally difficult, but that is in the public interest, is a true sign of leadership.”

She continued, “The foundations of our democracy are under threat and this Presidential election is a pivotal moment.

“All elected representatives must be able to undertake their democratic duties without facing the threats of violence.

“Equally, showing respect for democratic results is perhaps the most fundamental cornerstone of our democratic foundations.

“All leaders must now not just abide by our democratic principles but cherish and protect them at every turn.

“It is abundantly clear that President Trump has no interest in this grave responsibility.

“My hope is that the Democratic Party can find a suitable candidate that can take on this responsibility.

“It’s not hyperbole to say that the future of democracy relies on it.”

21 July 2024 by Green Party

Press Releases

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Greens pay tribute to Councillor Mothin Ali for his response to the Harehills disorder

2. Press Releases

A Green Party spokesperson said: “We’d like to pay tribute to the brilliant work done by our councillor for Gipton and Harehills ward, Mothin Ali, in bringing calm and unity after the unrest on Thursday night. Mothin risked putting himself in harm’s way to keep the peace and worked tirelessly throughout the night to reduce tension and support the police officers that

were at the scene. His courage and conviction are a shining example of the work councillors across the country do for their local communities despite having little investment in support. It’s a stark contrast to the online smears that were directed at him by those who seek only to divide communities and exploit tension and division for their own gain.”

21 July 2024 / 21 July 2024 by Green Party

Press Releases

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Green Councillor Mothin Ali responds to Nigel Farage

2. Press Releases

Green Party councillor Mothin Ali responded to Nigel Farage’s claim that the disorder in Harehills in Leeds on Thursday was the ‘politics of the sub-continent’ saying:

“Farage is in America commenting about a community he knows nothing about.

“As he has done time and time again he seeks to use tensions to further societal division for his own political gain.

“I ask him politely, to leave us alone as we undertake the work needed to bring our community back together.

“Nigel, use your voice to bring the country together, spread the idea of unity and we’ll all be the better for it, instead of trying to divide it”

21 July 2024 / 21 July 2024 by Green Party

Press Releases

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Leeds Green councillor appeals for calm

Leeds Green councillor Mothin Ali appeals for calm after disturbances in Harehills:

“I want to appeal for unity and calm after last night’s troubling scenes in Harehills, which took place when children from a local family were taken away by social services. As I have reiterated since yesterday, this is our community, and everything that was damaged last night, all the people who were left fearful, the damage done, is all a part of our neighbourhood. It’s up to all of us to take responsibility of one another and for our local infrastructure.

“I want to thank everyone who worked well into the early hours of the morning to bring peace and calm to the situation. From the local businesspeople, to my fellow councillors and community leaders, to the public service workers and everyone else who stepped in. It’s thanks to all their efforts that no one was seriously hurt.

“The scenes from last night were not a reflection of our collective community, but we must recognise the tension that has been bubbling here for some time is the consequence of rising inequalities, poverty and discrimination.

“Therefore, we must come together, including the authorities and the local community, to address these foundational issues in a constructive way. We will continue to build a brighter future for Harehills and make sure we never see scenes like last night again.

“This is a working-class area, with people living side by side belonging to many different cultures, struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, lack of resources, crime and health. We cannot give into polarisation and must instead unify to work towards a better and prosperous future for us all.

“Let’s make last night a moment for change, rather than one that further divides us.”

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