

# Greens warn that when government “cuts red tape” this too often means harming environmental standards and workers’ rights

## 2. [Press Releases](#)

Green Party MP for North Herefordshire, Ellie Chowns said: “Starmer’s pledge to investors that he will “cut red tape” is a tired cliché that, in practice, too often means harming environmental standards and workers’ rights. We’ve had fourteen years of successive Conservative governments promising to “cut red tape,” and all we have to show for it is a flatlining economy and falling living standards. If Starmer is serious about attracting investment to the UK, he will need a bolder approach that delivers on the “change” he promised in his election campaign. He could start by re-evaluating our relationship with our biggest trading partner, the European Union.”

15 October 2024 by [Green Party](#)

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# Labour’s approach to Middle East conflict “failing” as civilian death toll mounts

## 2. [Press Releases](#)

Green Party Co-Leader, Carla Denyer said, “The reports over the weekend that no food has entered Northern Gaza since the 1st of October, of Israel’s attack on al-Aqsa Hospital, of chemical weapons being used to attack UNIFIL peacekeepers, of mass civilian casualties in Gaza’s Jabalia Refugee Camp and of increased rocket fire into Israel from Hezbollah are extremely disturbing. The huge numbers of civilian deaths and the prospect of widespread starvation in Northern Gaza are intolerable.

The Labour government must recognise that violence in the Middle East is

escalating rapidly and that their current approach is failing. The Government needs to consider far more direct measures to incentivise a ceasefire including an end to arms sales, the introduction of divestments, boycotts and sanctions, prosecutions for all those who have committed war crimes and a plan for a viable Palestinian state.”

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## [100 days of increasing solitude for Starmer](#)

Commenting on Labour’s first 100 days in office, Green Party Co-Leader Carla Denyer MP said:

“The collapse in Starmer’s popularity since taking office has been remarkable. It was clear to me during the election campaign that voters across the country wanted change. After 14 years of Tory failure, they expected Labour to deliver it. The public’s sense of disappointment is palpable.

“Instead, we have a government aligned with Tory austerity. The two-child benefit cap and the scrapping of the Winter Fuel Payment for millions of pensioners are both examples of how this government’s default has been to make the most vulnerable in our society pay. The ‘black hole in our finances’ should, and could, be solved by asking the wealthiest to pay just a fraction more. Instead, Labour seems content with letting the poorest bear the brunt.

“It doesn’t have to be this way. We are one of the richest countries in the world, yet deeply unequal. The Chancellor has hinted that she is willing to borrow more to invest in much-needed infrastructure, which is welcome. But we also need to address the source of everyday revenue spending.

“The last fourteen years have seen the rich get richer, with the top fifth now owning a third of the country’s wealth. It’s only fair that those with the broadest shoulders should now pay a bit more to help our NHS, rebalance society, and improve living standards for everyone. A wealth tax, alongside other changes to the tax system, could deliver this.

“We as a country, and particularly the Labour government, face a political choice. Will they tax more fairly to properly invest in our crumbling frontline services, or will they continue to oversee managed decline and

austerity economics? The Greens will, every day, keep pushing for them to properly invest in Britain.”

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## [Greens welcome Renters' Rights Bill but say it must go further on rent controls and ending 'plague' of cold, damp, mouldy homes](#)

### 2. [Press Releases](#)

Co-leader of the Green Party and MP for Bristol Central, Carla Denyer, will welcome the Renters' Rights Bill in parliament later today, but will say it must go further in defending the rights of 11 million renters in the UK. Denyer said:

“This is a once in a generation opportunity to recognise the rights of the 11 million people living in private rented housing to have a safe, decent and secure home. A chance to stop tenants being constantly uprooted and fleeced to pay for a roof over their heads.

“In particular, we need a national system for rent controls with local flexibility aimed at bringing rents down relative to incomes.

“We also need to tackle rented properties that are plagued with cold, damp or mould. We need to see a clear commitment to energy efficiency in the Bill to end [the scandal of around 5 million renters living in such appalling conditions](#).

“Such a Bill is long overdue. Greens hope it can be made even better and become truly transformative. Let's make sure we use this opportunity to shift how we think about renting, moving away from viewing housing as assets, to prioritising and valuing the right to a stable home – in policy and practice.”

### **Notes**

Carla Denyer MP and Sian Berry MP are expected to speak in the debate on the Bill in the Commons.

[Press Releases](#)

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# [“The claim that wealth taxes would lead to large numbers of people leaving the UK isn’t credible” say Greens](#)

## 2. [Press Releases](#)

Carla Denyer, co-leader of the Green Party said: “The claim that wealth taxes would lead to large numbers of people leaving the UK isn’t credible. This didn’t happen when changes were made to non-dom status in 2017, and [research by Patriotic Millionaires](#) has shown that 68% of those with over £1 million to invest support a wealth tax themselves. There are lots of reasons that the wealthy choose to live in the UK, including work, family and culture, and many are happy to pay a bit more if it means a happier and healthier society.

Between 2020 and 2022 alone, [billionaire wealth in the UK increased by almost £150bn](#), whilst living standards for the rest of us fell significantly and public services decayed. It’s only through rebalancing our tax system to make it fairer that we can rebalance society, invest in our NHS and other public services, and ultimately increase the quality of life for ordinary Brits”.

9 October 2024 / 9 October 2024 by [Green Party](#)

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