

Department announces appointments to Board of Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners

The Department for Infrastructure has announced four appointments to the Board of Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners (LPHC).

Consultation launched on extension of Automatic Enrolment

The Department for Communities has launched a 12-week consultation on a draft Equality Impact Assessment which considers proposals to extend Automatic Enrolment for workplace pension schemes.

Construction work begins on £4.4 million sixth form accommodation at Parkhall Integrated College

Education Permanent Secretary Dr Mark Browne has cut the first sod to officially mark the beginning of construction works for purpose built sixth form accommodation at Parkhall Integrated College, Antrim.

Green Party calls for green jobs revolution in Wales following Port Talbot deal



Green Party

15 September 2023

The Green Party has called for an urgent green transition to create new jobs in Wales following the announcement of a deal with the UK government to keep Port Talbot's steelworks open but with potentially 3,000 job losses. [1]

Green Party co-leader Adrian Ramsay said:

"The steel industry is a crucial part of the UK's economy and has been the backbone of communities up and down the country for generations.

"However, the deal done today highlights the serious lack of investment by both Conservative and Labour governments in future-proofing our economy and ensuring we are able to transition to a greener, more sustainable future while protecting people and the places they live.

"It is simply inexcusable that the government is willing to inflict real damage on to this south Wales community, with a deal that will see thousands of jobs lost. This is not the fair transition to a greener future that people across the UK need or deserve.

"Instead of looking to penny-pinch, the government should be investing now in a green transition, creating millions of jobs through expanding renewables, insulating homes and investing in other more sustainable opportunities.

"We know transitioning to a green economy could create up to a million jobs. If the government had invested in the transition over the last few decades we could have avoided the potentially devastating consequences we are seeing in Port Talbot today.

"That is why we are calling on the government to urgently invest now in decarbonising our economy and building the green jobs we so desperately need."

ENDS

Notes

1

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-66819458>

For further information or to arrange an interview please contact the Press

Green-led Lord rebellion halts watering down of pollution rules



Green Party

14 September 2023

The House of Lords voted down several government amendments that would have axed pollution controls on housebuilders. The Nutrient Neutrality rules safeguard sensitive areas such as the Norfolk Broads, but the government was going to require local authorities to ignore any evidence of pollution and to have mitigation measures, costing hundreds of millions, funded by the taxpayer.

Green Party peer, Baroness Jenny Jones, who helped to lead the rebellion in the Lords, said:

“If the government are so desperate to add to the unacceptable levels of pollution in the water, they can bring the measures back in a separate bill, as part of the Kings Speech. They can then consult properly and justify it to a public who are already fed up with polluted local rivers and beaches. And If I was Prime Minister, I wouldn’t relish having a conversation with King Charles about the horrendous state of the country’s waterways.”

“Rejecting amendments outright is a power that the Lords can exercise when the government introduces late amendments that have not gone through the proper parliamentary process of scrutiny.

“Around a fifth of Conservative Party donations have come from property developers in the last decade [1], but that money was drying up and these government amendments were an attempt to get the dirty money flowing again. Fortunately, we have stopped them this time. With a general election due next year, I doubt the government will devote parliamentary time to this polluters’ charter, especially with the water industry already making such a mess of our rivers.”

Notes

1. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/dark-money-investigations/20-tory-donations-come-property-tycoons/>

For further details or to arrange an interview please contact the Press Office on 0203 691 9401 / press@greenparty.org.uk

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