

## [Education Minister welcomes agreement on teachers' pay](#)

A formal offer on teachers' pay for 2021, 2022 and 2023 has been accepted by Northern Ireland's five main teaching unions.

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## [Murphy congratulates new DfE Permanent Secretary](#)

Economy Minister Conor Murphy has welcomed the appointment of Ian Snowden to the position of Permanent Secretary at the Department for the Economy (DfE).

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## [Minister welcomes first meeting of the Ulster University Magee Taskforce](#)

The Ulster University Magee Taskforce held its inaugural meeting today.

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## [Reaction to Wes Streeting comments on NHS reform and private sector involvement](#)



Green Party

## 8 April 2024

Responding to comments by the Shadow Health Secretary saying that under a Labour government investment in the NHS would be dependent on reform and that there would be an increased role for the private sector [1], co-leader of the Green Party, Carla Denyer, said:

“Wes Streeting says that if the NHS doesn’t change, it will die. But it is inadequate funding that has left our NHS in a poor state of health, not lack of reform.

“Between 2010 and 2019 the UK had a lower level of capital investment in health care and 18% lower average health spending than 14 EU countries [2].

“So to say that the public is paying a heavy price for failure is an insult to hard-working NHS staff, who are doing their level best despite being overworked and underpaid. It is the failure to invest adequately and pay staff properly that is at the root of dissatisfaction with the NHS.

“The public agrees. They don’t want endless reforms; neither do they share the Conservative or Labour appetite for creeping privatisation. They want the current model to work and to see the NHS available to everyone free of charge and primarily funded through taxes [3]. A tax on the super-rich billionaires and multi-millionaires can provide the funds needed to fix our cherished NHS.

“The Green Party has never had any truck with the profit motive in health care and will continue to push for a fully publicly funded NHS.”

### Notes

[1] [Wes Streeting warns NHS that there’ll be no additional funding without ‘major surgery’ under Labour | The Sun](#)

[2] [How does UK health spending compare across Europe over the past decade? – The Health Foundation](#)

[3] [Public satisfaction with the NHS and social care in 2023 | Nuffield Trust](#)

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## [Greens call for end to violence in Gaza six months since October 7th](#)

# attack



# Green Party

## 7 April 2024

The Green Party has repeated its call for a full bilateral ceasefire, the release of all hostages, the suspension of arms exports to Israel, and for key players in the Netanyahu government to be held accountable for possible war crimes, six months on from the 7 October attacks by Hamas.

Co-leader of the Green Party, Carla Denyer, said:

“This isn’t just a far away conflict that we have nothing to do with. By consistently refusing to call for a ceasefire and continuing to supply arms, the UK Government has been complicit in the deadly assault on Gaza by the Israel Defence Forces.

“Six months on from the horrific Hamas attacks on Israeli citizens, it is clear that the Netanyahu government’s response has been totally disproportionate. Over 33,000 innocent Palestinian civilians have now been killed, the majority of them women and children. This is not an act of self defence. As the UN’s Human Rights Council has resolved, the actions by the Israeli government are possible war crimes and crimes against humanity. Indeed, the UK Government itself has reportedly concluded secretly that Israel is breaking international humanitarian law.

“It is time for our Government to end their complicity and start leading efforts towards peace. They must finally call for a ceasefire, immediately suspend arms exports to Israel and back the UN Human Rights Council’s call for accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.”

In the six months since October 7<sup>th</sup>, the Green Party of England and Wales has called for:

- A full bilateral ceasefire
- The release of all hostages
- A suspension of all arms export licences to Israel until the violence stops
- The cessation of all military collaboration with Israel, including use of British bases by Israeli forces, and intelligence sharing
- Targeted Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against individuals and

institutions supporting or facilitating Israel's occupation of Palestine

- An investigation by the Metropolitan Police and Director of Public Prosecutions of war crimes committed against UK citizens, or where UK citizens are potential perpetrators
- The UK government to use its position as a permanent member of the UN Security Council to vote for, rather than abstain on, ceasefire votes
- Targeted sanctions against key individuals in the Israeli leadership, including travel bans and asset freezes on Israel's government ministers
- An end to occupation of the Palestinian territories
- The UK government to return to international law being the benchmark for UK policy, and repair the UK's international reputation as a defender of the international rules-based order.

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