

# WHAT THE MANIFESTOS SAY 2019

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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This document sets out the key commitments on housing and environment policy in the 2019 Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green Party and Brexit Party national manifestos.

### CONSERVATIVE PARTY MANIFESTO

[www.vote.conservatives.com/our-plan](http://www.vote.conservatives.com/our-plan)

### LABOUR PARTY MANIFESTO

[www.labour.org.uk/manifesto](http://www.labour.org.uk/manifesto)

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT PARTY MANIFESTO

[www.libdems.org.uk/plan](http://www.libdems.org.uk/plan)

### GREEN PARTY MANIFESTO

<https://campaigns.greenparty.org.uk/manifesto>

### BREXIT PARTY CONTRACT

[www.thebrexitparty.org/contract](http://www.thebrexitparty.org/contract)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Housing supply

#### CONSERVATIVES

- [Build] 300,000 homes a year by the mid-2020s. This will see [...] at least a million more homes, of all tenures, over the next Parliament – in the areas that really need them. (p.31)
- Bring forward a Social Housing White Paper which will set out further measures to empower tenants and support the continued supply of social homes. This will include measures to provide greater redress, better regulation and improve the quality of social housing (p.30)
- Commit to renewing the Affordable Homes Programme, in order to support the delivery of hundreds of thousands of affordable homes. (p.30)
- Continue to prioritise brownfield development, particularly for the regeneration of our cities and towns.(p.31)
- Establish a new duty on councils to plan and build these homes in their area, and fund them to do so, with backing from national government. (p.78)
- Review the case for reducing the amount of housing debt councils currently hold. And give councils the powers and funding to buy back homes from private landlords. (p.79)
- Create a new Department for Housing, make Homes England a more accountable national housing agency and put councils in the driving seat. (p.78)
- Set out a strategy for a flourishing construction sector with a skilled workforce and full rights at work. (p.78)
- Set up a new English Sovereign Land Trust, with powers to buy land more cheaply for low-cost housing. Use public land to build this housing. (p.78)
- Developers will face new ‘use it or lose it’ taxes on stalled housing developments. (p.78)
- Make brownfield sites the priority for development and protect the green belt. (p.78)
- Give tenants a stronger say in the management of their homes and stop social cleansing by making sure regeneration only goes ahead when it has the consent of residents, and that all residents are offered a new property on the same site and terms. (p.79)
- Bring empty homes back into use by giving councils new powers to tax properties empty for over a year. (p.79)

#### LABOUR

- Deliver a new social housebuilding programme of more than a million homes over a decade, with council housing at its heart. By the end of the Parliament will be building at an annual rate of at least 150,000 council and social homes, with 100,000 of these built by councils for social rent in the biggest council housebuilding programme in more than a generation. (p.78)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- New direct spending on housebuilding to help build 300,000 homes a year by 2024, including 100,000 social homes. (p.17)
- Help finance the large increase in the building of social homes with investment from our £130 billion capital infrastructure budget. (p.66)
- Allow local authorities to increase council tax by up to 500 per cent where homes are being bought as second homes with a stamp duty surcharge on overseas residents purchasing such properties. (p.66)
- Increase Local Housing Allowance in line with average rents in an area. (p.65)

### GREENS

- End the housing crisis by creating enough affordable homes – including 100,000 new council homes a year. (p.13)
- Empower local authorities to bring empty homes back into use and create a total of 100,000 new homes for social rent (council homes) a year, built to the Passivhaus or equivalent standard. (p.13)
- Allocate funding to local authorities for council home creation based on the needs of their area. (p.13)
- Ensure all new developments will be located and designed to ensure that residents do not need cars to live a full life, either having safe pedestrian access to local shops and schools, or are within 1km of a local rail, tube or tram station, or 500m of a high frequency bus service. (p.13)

- Give communities the first chance to buy local land that comes up for sale by extending Scotland's Community Right to Buy policy to England and Wales. Communities will then be able to directly deliver new affordable homes on purchased land, supported by the Community Housing Fund (which the Government plans to end in 2020, but we will maintain for at least another three years). (p.51)

### BREXIT PARTY

- Change the funding model to make it easier for councils to borrow from central government to build council houses. (p.23)
- Accelerate infrastructure grants funding to kick start schemes of marginal viability. (p.23)
- Introduce more flexibility on the size and type of units as part of a development. (p.23)
- Allow more flexibility in the number of affordable homes within a development scheme. (p.23)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Planning

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Enabling councils to use developers' contributions via the planning process to discount homes in perpetuity by a third for local people who cannot otherwise afford to buy in their area. Councils could use this to prioritise key workers in their area, like police, nurses and teachers. (p.29)
- Protect and enhance the Green Belt. Improve poor quality land, increase biodiversity and make our beautiful countryside more accessible for local community use. (p.31)
- Make the planning system simpler for the public and small builders, and support modern methods of construction. (p.31)
- Amend planning rules so that the infrastructure – roads, schools, GP surgeries – comes before people move into new homes. [A] new £10 billion Single Housing Infrastructure Fund will help deliver it faster. (p.31)
- Expect all new streets to be lined with trees. (p.31)
- End the conversion of office blocks to homes that sidestep planning permission through 'permitted development'. (p.78)
- Review the planning guidance for developments in flood risk areas. (p.78)
- Bring together transport and land-use planning to create towns and cities in which walking and cycling are the best choice. (p.20)
- Give local government new powers to put empty shops to good use. (p.50)
- Keep the Land Registry in public hands, and make ownership of land more transparent. (p.78)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Help protect our high streets and town centres by scrapping the rule which allows developers to convert offices and shops into residential properties without planning permission. (p.20)
- Reform planning to ensure developers are required to provide essential local infrastructure from affordable homes to schools, surgeries and roads alongside new homes. (p.68)

#### LABOUR

- Labour will put the voices of local people at the heart of planning (p.51)
- Rebalance power in the planning system by giving local government greater freedom to set planning fees and by requiring the climate and environmental emergency to be factored into all planning decisions. (p.51)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### GREENS

- Give councils the ability to set planning fees locally. Tax payers are subsidising developers for the costs of their planning applications to the tune of £200 million a year – councils need the power to meet these planning costs not from central funds, but from charging developers realistic fees for the planning services councils provide for them. (p.41)
- Amend the National Planning Policy Framework so it no longer imposes centrally set development targets on local councils. Allow councils to develop their own planning policies, based on genuine local housing need and their requirement to contribute to the creation of at least 100,000 new council homes a year nationally. Councils will be required to deliver these new homes in a way that preserves local ecology and creates new green spaces. (pp.57-58)
- Give councils the power to set their own housing targets, and to strike the right balance between local housing need and the need to preserve the local environment. (p.41)
- Expand the powers of councils to prevent land banking through mechanisms including charging developers who sit on land where permission has been granted or using compulsory purchase powers to accelerate appropriate development where development is stalled or slow. (p.41)
- Encourage the renovation of nondomestic buildings, through making planning consent harder to achieve for new commercial property. (p.19)
- Change the planning system to prevent building on floodplains, to further reduce the flooding risk communities face. (pp.23-24)
- Transform the planning system so that it works to support a massive increase in wind power and other renewable generation. (p.13)
- Ban fracking, and other unconventional forms of fossil fuel extraction. (p.11)
- Work with the Crown Estate, which owns much of the UK's coastline, to open up more coastal waters for offshore wind and marine energy. (p.10)
- Transform the planning system and building regulations, so that all new buildings built by private developers are built to the Passivhaus standard (or to a standard that delivers energy efficiency at an equivalent or better level). Enable selfbuild development that meets the same standards. (p.14)
- Change the planning system to incentivise renovation, extension and improvement of existing buildings, rather than relying on new build, to reduce the use of steel, concrete, cladding and finishes, which produce massive amounts of carbon in their manufacture. Incentivize the use of sustainable materials. (p.15)
- Ensure through the planning system that all new housing is served by high quality walking and cycling routes and much improved bus, tram and local rail services. (p.18)
- Encourage, through changes to the planning system, the 'rewilding' of spaces to provide new habitats for wildlife. (p.22)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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- Encourage urban food growing, including new community farms and allotments, through the planning system, as well as matching those with gardens and who want to grow food with those with the skills to undertake the work for communal benefit. Similarly encourage the creation of new green spaces wherever they can take root – from pocket parks on vacant land, to living green roofs and walls. Encourage urban gardeners to plan for wildlife. (p.23)

### BREXIT PARTY

- Simplify planning consents for brownfield sites. (p.23)
- Change the process for outline planning consent. (p.23)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Council tenants and Right to Buy

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Maintain our commitment to a Right to Buy for all council tenants. (p.29)
- Maintain the voluntary Right to Buy scheme agreed with housing associations. Following the successful voluntary pilot scheme in the Midlands, evaluate new pilot areas in order to spread the dream of home ownership to even more people. (p.29)
- Proactively enforce the regulations that are intended to protect social renters.
- Fully recognise tenant panels so that renters have a voice in landlord governance.(p.67)
- Devolve full control of Right to Buy to local councils. (p.66)

#### GREENS

- Allocate funding to local authorities for council home creation based on the needs of their area. Incentivise local authorities to spread small developments across their areas, rather than building huge new estates, and to build, renovate and convert to high quality designs that respect local architectural heritage. The new council homes will offer secure, lifetime tenancies. (p.13)
- Fund councils to deliver additional social housing in their area (over 100,000 new homes a year nationally) through sustainable construction, renovation and conversion, and to improve and insulate existing homes (over 1 million homes a year). (p.41)
- Support councils to set more affordable rent rates for social housing tenants in their area by lifting the local housing allowance and reconnecting it to average area rents. (p.42)
- Abolish the heavily subsidised current Right to Buy Programme. Instead allow councils to set discounts locally and retain 100 per cent of receipts to reinvest in new and existing homes. (p.80)

#### LABOUR

- End the right to buy, along with the forced conversion of social rented homes to so-called 'affordable rent'. (p.79)
- Scrap the Conservatives' [...] definition of 'affordable', set as high as 80 per cent of market rents, and replace it with a definition linked to local incomes. These council and housing association homes will be more affordable than market housing and built to higher standards. (p.78)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- To improve social renting:
  - Set clearer standards for homes that are socially rented.
  - Require complaints to be dealt with in a timely manner.

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Private rented sector

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Bring in a Better Deal for Renters, including abolishing 'no fault' evictions and only requiring one 'lifetime' deposit which moves with the tenant. (p.29)

#### LABOUR

- Take urgent action to protect private renters through rent controls, open-ended tenancies, and new, binding minimum standards. Stop runaway rents by capping them with inflation, and give cities powers to cap rents further. (p.79)
- Give renters the security they need to make their rented housing a home, with new open-ended tenancies to stop unfair, 'no fault' evictions. (p.79)
- Make sure every property is up to scratch with new minimum standards, enforced through nationwide licensing and tougher sanctions for landlords who flout the rules. (p.79)
- Fund new renters' unions in every part of the country – to allow renters to organise and defend their rights. (p.79)
- Get rid of the discriminatory rules that require landlords to check people's immigration status or that allow them to exclude people on housing benefit. (p.80)
- Give councils new powers to regulate short-term lets through companies such as Airbnb. (p.80)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Help young people into the rental market by establishing a new Help to Rent scheme to provide government-backed tenancy deposit loans for all first-time renters under 30. (p.67)
- Promote longer tenancies of three years or more with an inflation-linked annual rent increase built in, to give tenants security and limit rent hikes. (p.67)
- Improve protections against rogue landlords through mandatory licensing. (p.67)

#### GREENS

- Introduce rent controls on private tenancies, which reflect average local income rates and the cost of maintenance. End no-fault evictions and make it easier to set up community-led housing initiatives and for private renters in Houses of Multiple Occupancy to buy and run their home as a housing co-op. (p.51)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Home ownership

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Encourage a new market in long-term fixed rate mortgages which slash the cost of deposits, opening up a secure path to home ownership for first-time buyers in all parts of the United Kingdom. (p.29)
- Review new ways to support home ownership following [Help to Buy's] completion. (p.29)
- Reform shared ownership, making it fairer and more transparent. Simplify shared ownership products by setting a single standard for all housing associations, thereby ending the confusion and disparity between different schemes. (p.29)
- Continue with reforms to leasehold including implementing [a] ban on the sale of new leasehold homes, restricting ground rents to a peppercorn, and providing necessary mechanisms of redress for tenants. (p.29)
- Helping people who want to build their own homes find plots of land and access the Help to Buy scheme. (p.31)
- Support communities living on council estates who want to take ownership of the land and buildings they live in. (p.31)

#### LABOUR

- Build more low-cost homes reserved for first-time buyers in every area, including Labour's new discount homes with prices linked to local incomes. (p.79)
- Reform Help to Buy to focus it on first-time buyers on ordinary incomes. (p.79)
- Introduce a levy on overseas companies buying housing, while giving local people 'first dibs' on new homes built in their area. (p.79)
- End the sale of new leasehold properties, abolish unfair fees and conditions, and give leaseholders the right to buy their freehold at a price they can afford. (p.79)
- Introduce equivalent rights for freeholders on privately owned estates. (p.79)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Introduce a new Rent to Own model for social housing where rent payments give tenants an increasing stake in the property, owning it outright after 30 years. (p.66)

#### GREENS

- Ending the Help to Buy Programme, which mainly served to drive developer profits. The funds will be redirected to the Green Party's council home creation programme that will deliver attractive, affordable homes for all. (p.80)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Housing standards

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Ask every community to decide on its own design standards for new development, allowing residents a greater say on the style and design of development in their area, with local councils encouraged to build more beautiful architecture. (p.31)
- Publish a National Strategy for Disabled People before the end of 2020. This will look at ways to improve the benefits system, opportunities and access for disabled people in terms of housing, education, transport and jobs. (p.17)
- Encourage innovative design and technology to make housing more affordable, accessible, and suitable for disabled people and an ageing population. (p.31)
- Continue to work with industry, housing associations and individuals to ensure every home is safe and secure. Support high rise residential residents with the removal of unsafe cladding, and continue with our rigorous process of materials testing. (p.31)

#### LABOUR

- Fund a new Decent Homes programme to bring all council and housing association homes up to a good standard. (p.79)

- Introduce a £1 billion Fire Safety Fund to fit sprinklers and other fire safety measures in all highrise council and housing association tower blocks, enforce the replacement of dangerous Grenfell style cladding on all high-rise homes and buildings, while introducing mandatory building standards and guidance, inspected and enforced by fully trained Fire and Rescue Service fire safety officers. (p.77)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Reform building standards to ensure that all new homes built from 2022 have full connectivity to ultra-fast broadband and are designed to enable the use of smart technologies. (p.19)
- Build new houses to zero-carbon standards and cut fuel bills through a ten-year programme to reduce energy consumption from all the UK's buildings. (p.66)

#### GREENS

- Support councils to better provide housing for disabled people, supporting every council to draw up their own disability housing plans, and work to significantly increase the numbers of homes built to mobility standards over the next five years. (p.42)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Home energy efficiency

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Help lower energy bills by investing £9.2 billion in the energy efficiency of homes, schools and hospitals. (p.55)
- Support the creation of new kinds of homes that have low energy bills and which support our environmental targets. (p.31)
- Keep existing energy cap and introduce new measures to lower bills. (p.15)
- Give the Competition and Markets Authority enhanced powers to tackle consumer rip-offs and bad business practices. (p.15)
- Extend the water rebate for those in the South West. (p.16)
- Keep [...] the winter fuel payment. (p.16)

#### LABOUR

- Upgrade almost all of the UK's 27 million homes to the highest energy-efficiency standards, reducing the average household energy bill by £417 per household per year by 2030 and eliminating fuel poverty. Introduce a zero-carbon homes standard for all new homes. (p.15)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- An emergency programme to insulate all Britain's homes by 2030, cutting emissions and fuel bills and ending fuel poverty. (p.40)
- Cut energy bills, end fuel poverty by 2025 and reduce emissions from buildings, including by providing free retrofits for low-income homes, piloting a new subsidised Energy-Saving Homes scheme, graduating Stamp Duty Land Tax by the energy rating of the property and reducing VAT on home insulation. (p.42)
- Empower councils to develop community energy-saving projects, including delivering housing energy efficiency improvements street by street, which cuts costs. (p.42)
- Require all new homes and non-domestic buildings to be built to a zero-carbon standard (where as much energy is generated on-site, through renewable sources, as is used), by 2021, rising to a more ambitious ('Passivhaus') standard by 2025. (p.42)
- Increase minimum energy efficiency standards for privately rented properties and remove the cost cap on improvements. (p.43)
- Adopt a Zero-Carbon Heat Strategy, including reforming the Renewable Heat Incentive, requiring the phased installation of heat pumps in homes and businesses off the gas grid, and piloting projects to determine the best future mix of zero-carbon heating solutions. (p.43)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### GREENS

- Significantly reduce heating bills by improving 1 million existing homes and other buildings a year, so that they reach the highest standard of energy efficiency (over and above the Energy Performance Certificate A rating). This will be a deep retrofitting of 10 million homes by 2030. (p.14)
- Improve the insulation of every UK home that needs more insulation by 2030. The material used for these insulation improvements will be sustainable. (p.13)
- Reduce the use of natural gas for heating homes through a programme, to replace polluting boilers with renewable heat from heat pumps, and solar thermal, geothermal, biomass and stored heat technologies. (p.14)
- Insulate non domestic buildings, addressing the large amounts of energy lost from offices and public buildings. (p.14)
- Deploy heat networks to transport heat from the source of renewable heat to individual buildings in a district or neighbourhood. (p.14)
- Reinstate the requirement for local council building control inspectors to carry out inspections themselves of new build properties and renovations to ensure this work is carried out to the required standards. (p.14)
- Ensure that all 8 million rented homes are A rated for energy efficiency, or as close to this as possible, by implementing a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard escalator to raise the minimum level allowed from the current E rating to A rating by 2030. (p.14)

### BREXIT PARTY

- Cut VAT on domestic fuel: EU rules stop us reducing our VAT rates. We will zero rate VAT on domestic fuel to reduce energy bills — saving an average £65 per household. (p.13)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Homelessness

#### CONSERVATIVES

- End the blight of rough sleeping by the end of the next Parliament by expanding successful pilots and programmes such as the Rough Sleeping Initiative and Housing First, and working to bring together local services to meet the health and housing needs of people sleeping on the streets [...] pay for this by bringing in a stamp duty surcharge on non-UK resident buyers. (p.30)

#### LABOUR

- End rough sleeping within five years, with a national plan driven by a Prime Minister-led taskforce. Expand and upgrade hostels, turning them into places where people can turn their lives around. Make available 8,000 additional homes for people with a history of rough sleeping. (p.80)
- Tackle the wider causes of homelessness, raising the Local Housing Allowance in line with the 30th percentile of local rents, and earmarking an additional £1 billion a year for councils' homelessness services. (p.80)
- Bring in a new national levy on second homes used as holiday homes to help deal with the homelessness crisis. (p.80)
- Save lives this winter by ensuring extra shelters and support are in place in all areas. Repeal the Vagrancy Act and amend

antisocial behaviour legislation to stop the law being used against people because they are homeless. (p.80)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Urgently publish a cross-Whitehall plan to end all forms of homelessness. (p.67)
- Exempt groups of homeless people, and those at risk of homelessness, from the Shared Accommodation Rate. (p.67)
- Make providers of asylum support accommodation subject to a statutory duty to refer people leaving asylum support accommodation who are at risk of homelessness to the local housing authority. (p.67)
- Introduce a 'somewhere safe to stay' legal duty to ensure that everyone who is at risk of sleeping rough is provided with emergency accommodation and an assessment of their needs. (p.67)
- Ensure sufficient financial resources for local authorities to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act and provide accommodation for survivors of domestic abuse. (p.67)
- Legislate for longer term tenancies and limits on annual rent increases. (p.67)
- Scrap the Vagrancy Act, so that rough sleeping is no longer criminalised. (p.67)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### GREENS

- People who were reliant on Housing Benefit before the Universal Basic Income [is] introduced will continue to receive it, so that they can cover their rent. (p.27)
- Give councils clearer guidance and better training on helping homeless people, including support for the Housing First approach, a widening of the grounds on which councils can offer help to people without a home, and the provision of social services once a person is housed. The extra costs of this can be met from the £10 billion yearly uplift to council funding. Refocus council services in this area on homelessness prevention rather than crisis management, through expanding and combining multiple funding pots into a single grant distributed to councils. (p.42)
- Repeal the Vagrancy Act 1824, which criminalises street homelessness and can hinder attempts to help those without a home. (p.42)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Food, farming and land use

#### CONSERVATIVES

- In return for [CAP replacement] funding, [farmers] must farm in a way that protects and enhances our natural environment, as well as safeguarding high standards of animal welfare. (p.42)
- Encourage the public sector to 'Buy British' to support our farmers and reduce environmental costs. (p.42)

#### LABOUR

- Maintain agricultural and rural structural funds but repurpose them to support environmental land management and sustainable methods of food production. (p.23)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Reduce basic agricultural support payments to the larger recipients and redeploy the savings to support the public goods that come from effective land management, including restoring nature and protecting the countryside, preventing flooding and combating climate change through measures to increase soil carbon and expand native woodland. (p.45)
- Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food and cut down on food waste. (p.45)

- Significantly increase the amount of accessible green space, including protecting up to a million acres, completing the coastal path, exploring a 'right to roam' for waterways and creating a new designation of National Nature Parks. (p.45)
- Give the Local Green Space designation the force of law. (p.45)
- Protect and restore England's lakes, rivers and wetlands, including through reform of water management and higher water efficiency standards, and establish a 'blue belt' of marine protected areas covering at least 50 per cent of UK waters by 2030, in partnership with UK overseas territories. (p.45)

#### GREENS

- Work with farmers to refocus farm subsidies to help farmers transition to more sustainable, diverse and environmentally friendly forms of land use, including organic farming, agroforestry and mixed farming, and away from intensive livestock farming. (p.21)
- Establish a Land Commission to investigate the effects concentrated land ownership is having on food and farming systems, housing, local economies, cultures and livelihoods. This Commission will be introduced alongside a new Land Value Tax, which will help ensure that all land is taxed fairly. (p.22)
- Plant 700 million new trees and aim for 50 per cent of all farms to be engaged in agroforestry by 2030. (p.22)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Climate change

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Reaching Net Zero by 2050 with investment in clean energy solutions and green infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions and pollution. (p.2)
- A £640 million new Nature for Climate fund. Building on support for creating a Great Northumberland Forest, reach an additional 75,000 acres of trees a year by the end of the next Parliament, as well as restoring our peatland. (p.43)
- Set up a new independent Office for Environmental Protection and introduce our own legal targets, including for air quality. (p.43)
- Create new National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. (p.43)
- Set up new international partnerships to tackle deforestation and protect vital landscapes and wildlife corridors. (p.55)
- Use our £1 billion Ayrton Fund to develop affordable and accessible clean energy that will improve lives and help us to lead the world in tackling climate change. (p.40)
- Deliver nearly 90 per cent of electricity and 50 per cent of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030. (p.14)
- Introduce a Climate and Environment Emergency Bill setting out in law robust, binding new standards for decarbonisation, nature recovery, environmental quality and habitats and species protection. Maintain and continuously improve the existing EU standards of environmental regulation. (p.22)
- Instruct the Committee on Climate Change to assess the emissions the UK imports as well as those it produces, and recommend policies to tackle them, including making UK industry the greenest in the world. (p.16)
- Improving the fitness of our financial authorities to mobilise green investment and by giving them powers to manage the risk to financial stability posed by short-sighted investment in polluting assets. (p.13)
- Set legally binding targets to drive the restoration of species and habitats. (p.23)
- Embark on an ambitious programme of tree planting, with both forestry and native woodland species. (p.23)
- Fully fund the Environment Agency and other frontline environment agencies, and improve upstream river management. (p.23)

#### LABOUR

- Develop the recommendations of our '30 by 2030' report to put the UK on track for a net-zero-carbon energy system within the 2030s – and go faster if credible pathways can be found. (p.14)
- Review and improve protected area designations, from National Parks to local nature reserves and urban green spaces. (p.22)
- Ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees. (p.32)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Create a statutory duty on all local authorities to produce a Zero Carbon Strategy, including plans for local energy, transport and land use, and devolve powers and funding to enable every council to implement it. (p.41)
- Our first priorities in the next parliament will be:
  - An emergency programme to insulate all Britain's homes by 2030, cutting emissions and fuel bills and ending fuel poverty.
  - Investing in renewable power so that at least 80 per cent of UK electricity is generated from renewables by 2030 – and banning fracking for good.
  - Protecting nature and the countryside, tackling biodiversity loss and planting 60 million trees a year to absorb carbon, protect wildlife and improve health.
  - Investing in public transport, electrifying Britain's railways and ensuring that all new cars are electric by 2030. (p.40)
- Establish a Department for Climate Change and Natural Resources, appoint a cabinet-level Chief Secretary for Sustainability in the Treasury to coordinate government-wide action to make the economy sustainable resource-efficient and zero-carbon, and require every government agency to account for its contribution towards meeting climate targets. (p.41)
- Establish UK and local Citizens' Climate Assemblies to engage the public in tackling the climate emergency. (p.41)
- Create a Joint Climate Council of the Nations to coordinate action to tackle the climate emergency. (p.83)
- Guarantee an Office of Environmental Protection that is fully independent of government, and possesses powers and resources to enforce compliance with climate and environmental targets. (p.41)
- Increase government expenditure on climate and environmental objectives, reaching at least five per cent of the total within five years. (p.41)
- Support investment and innovation in zero-carbon and resource-efficient infrastructure and technologies by creating a new Green Investment Bank and increasing funding for Innovate UK and new Catapult innovation and technology centres on farming and land use and on carbon dioxide removal. (p.41)
- Implement the UK's G7 pledge to end fossil fuel subsidies by 2025, and provide Just Transition funding for areas and communities negatively affected by the transition to net zero greenhouse gas emissions. (p.41)
- Accelerate the deployment of renewable power, providing more funding, removing the Conservatives' restrictions on solar and wind and building more interconnectors to guarantee security of supply; aim to reach at least 80 per cent renewable electricity in the UK by 2030. (pp.41-42)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Expand community and decentralised energy, support councils to develop local electricity generation and require all new homes to be fitted with solar panels. (p.42)
- Ban fracking because of its negative impacts on climate change, the energy mix and the local environment. (p.42)
- Support investment and innovation in cutting-edge energy technologies, including tidal and wave power, energy storage, demand response, smart grids and hydrogen. (p.42)
- Provide an additional £12 billion over five years to support these commitments, and ensure that the National Infrastructure Commission, National Grid, the energy regulator Ofgem, and the Crown Estate work together to deliver our net zero climate objective. (p.42)
- Reduce emissions from industrial processes by supporting carbon capture and storage and new low-carbon processes for cement and steel production. (p.43)
- Provide more advice to companies on cutting emissions, support the development of regional industrial clusters for zero-carbon innovation and increase the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund. (p.43)
- Expand the market for green products and services with steadily higher green criteria in public procurement policy. (p.43)
- Introducing legally binding targets for reducing the consumption of key natural resources and other incentives for businesses to improve resource efficiency. (p.44)
- Introduce a Nature Act to restore the natural environment through setting legally binding near-term and long-term targets for improving water, air, soil and biodiversity, and supported by funding streams of at least £18 billion over five years. (p.44)
- Combat climate change, and benefit nature and people by coordinating the planting of 60 million trees a year and introducing requirements for the greater use of sustainably harvested wood in construction. (p.44)
- Invest in large scale restoration of peatlands, heathland, native woodlands, saltmarshes, wetlands and coastal waters, helping to absorb carbon, protect against floods, improve water quality and protect habitats, including through piloting ‘rewilding’ approaches. (pp.44-45)
- Increase the budget for the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, ensuring that agencies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency are properly funded. (p.45)
- Introduce a general duty of care for the environment and human rights – requiring companies, financial institutions and public sector agencies to exercise due diligence in avoiding specified activities such as child labour or modern slavery, or specified products such as commodities produced with deforestation, in their operations and supply chains, and to report on their actions. (p.22)

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## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Reform fiduciary duty and company purpose rules to ensure that all large companies have a formal statement of corporate purpose, including considerations such as employee welfare, environmental standards, community benefit and ethical practice, alongside benefit to shareholders, and that they report formally on the wider impact of the business on society and the environment. (p.22)
- Encourage new forms of incorporation and a diversity of business types, such as for large firms contracting with the public sector or providing essential utilities and for smaller firms wanting a dual purpose to be profit-making and have a positive impact on society, workers, communities and the environment. (p.22)
- Require all companies registered in the UK and listed on UK stock exchanges to set targets consistent with the Paris Agreement on climate change and to report on their implementation; and establish a general corporate duty of care for the environment and human rights (p.40)
- There will be a combined investment of over £100 billion a year in the Green New Deal. (p.6)
- The Green New Deal will give power and resources for devolved governments, elected mayors and local governments to transform the communities they represent. Local people will be directly involved, actively engaging all of us in the future of the places where we live and work. It will also mean new forms of common ownership throughout vital parts of our infrastructure, such as waterways, buses, parks and railways. (p.7)
- Give councils access to an additional £3 billion a year Climate Adaption Fund. Bids from councils facing the greatest threat from climate chaos, and councils with the high levels of poverty, will be prioritised as money is distributed from the Fund. (p.41)
- Give councils new powers and resources to deliver environmental improvements and increase biodiversity, as well as tackling flooding and coastal erosion locally. (p.43)
- Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. (p.58)
- Protect our precious water supplies by enforcing stricter penalties for polluters and for water companies found to be extracting too much water. Require water companies to invest in water conservation and in capturing water surpluses, to enable transportation across the country. (p.59)

### GREENS

- The Green New Deal will get the UK on track to reducing climate emissions to net zero by 2030 by:
  - Meeting most of our energy needs through the domestic production of renewable energy.
  - Reducing our overall energy demand from buildings and homes.
  - Transforming UK industry, transport and land use. (p.6)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Investment will be targeted at those who need it most, including communities with high unemployment, those excluded from full participation in the economy and those dependent on old, energy guzzling, polluting industries. Work alongside trade unions to ensure a just transition to a green future, which will leave no one behind. (p.7)
- Create a new public banking infrastructure to help deliver our ambitious programme and the Green New Deal will ensure the banks invest and lend at low, affordable interest rates to support the economy's environmental transformation. (p.7)
- Enable communities to develop their own renewable energy projects, so that the benefits of locally generated energy can stay local. (p.10)
- Introduce new support and incentives to directly accelerate wind energy development, paving the way for wind to provide around 70 per cent of the UK's electricity by 2030. (p.10)
- Introduce new support for solar, geothermal, tidal, hydro and other renewable energies to provide much of the remainder of the UK's energy supply by 2030. (p.10)
- Transform the planning system so that it works to support a massive increase in wind power and other renewable generation. (p.10)
- Ensure that the long-term profits from these vital energy assets come to the UK government rather than energy firms. (p.10)
- Remove subsidies to the oil and gas industries. (p.10)
- Encourage greater energy efficiency across the economy, including by providing energy efficiency training for businesses and public bodies, emphasising the need for behavioural change. (p.11)
- Create a new government department to oversee the implementation of the Green New Deal, led by a Carbon Chancellor,. The Carbon Chancellor will set a yearly Carbon Budget, which will drive the decarbonisation of the economy. (p.38)
- Make energy efficiency and the elimination fuel poverty a national infrastructure priority. (p.7)
- Investment will be targeted at those who need it most, including communities with high unemployment, those excluded from full participation in the economy and those dependent on old, energy guzzling, polluting industries. (p.7)

### BREXIT PARTY

- Invest in the Environment: in addition to planting millions of trees to capture CO2 [...] will promote a global initiative at the UN. (p.10)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Flooding

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Flood defences will receive £4 billion in new funding. (p.27)

#### LABOUR

- Provide an extra £5.6 billion in funding to improve the standard of flood defences and respond to the increased risk of flooding, prioritising areas at risk in North West England, Yorkshire and the East Midlands that have been neglected. (p.23)
- Give fire services the duty to coordinate the emergency response to floods locally. (p.52)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Establish a £5 billion fund for flood prevention and climate adaptation over the course of the parliament to improve flood defences, and introduce high standards for flood resilience for buildings and infrastructure in flood risk areas. (p.45)

#### GREENS

- Deploy environmentally friendly flood management measures to protect communities from flooding. These measures, which include tree planting and soil restoration in upland catchment areas to tackle excess water at source, are cheaper and more effective than the traditional approach of simply covering river banks in concrete. (pp23-24)
- Change the planning system to prevent building on floodplains, to further reduce the flooding risk communities face. (pp.23-24)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Fracking

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Placed a moratorium on fracking in England... [and] will not support [it] unless the science shows categorically that it can be done safely (p.55)
- Ruled out changes to the planning system. (p.55)

#### LABOUR

- Expand distributed and community energy, and immediately and permanently ban fracking. (p.15)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Ban fracking for good. (p.40)

#### GREEN

- Ban fracking, and other unconventional forms of fossil fuel extraction. (p.11)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Air quality

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Use new air traffic control technology to cut the time aircraft spend waiting to land, reducing delays, noise nuisance and pollution. (p.28)
- Support clean transport to ensure clean air, as well as setting strict new laws on air quality. (p.55)

#### LABOUR

- Introduce a new Clean Air Act, with a vehicle scrappage scheme and clean air zones, complying with World Health Organisation limits for fine particles and nitrous oxides. (p.23)
- Introduce measures to ensure the zones around our schools are safer, with cleaner air. (p.20)
- Accelerate the transition of our public sector car fleets and our public buses to zero-emissions vehicles. (p.20)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Pass a Clean Air Act, based on World Health Organisation guidelines, enforced by a new Air Quality Agency. (p.47)

- Extend Ultra-Low Emission Zones to ten more towns and cities in England and ensure that all private hire vehicles and new buses licensed to operate in urban areas are ultra-low-emission or zero-emission vehicles by 2025; provide £2 billion to support this transformation. (p.47)
- Support innovation in zero-emission technologies, including batteries and hydrogen fuel cells, supplementing government funding with a new Clean Air Fund from industry. (p.47)

#### GREENS

- Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. The EPC will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards. (p.58)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Waste and recycling

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Continue to lead the world in tackling plastics pollution, both in the UK and internationally, and will introduce a new levy to increase the proportion of recyclable plastics in packaging. (p.43)
- Introduce extended producer responsibility, so that producers pay the full costs of dealing with the waste they produce, and boost domestic recycling. (p.43)
- Ban the export of plastic waste to non-OECD countries, consulting with industry, NGOs and local councils on the date by which this should be achieved. (p.43)
- Crack down on the waste and carelessness that destroys our natural environment and kills marine life. (p.43)
- Increase penalties for fly-tipping, make those on community sentences clean up their parks and streets, and introduce a deposit return scheme to incentivise people to recycle plastic and glass. (p.43)
- Establish a new £500 million Blue Planet Fund to help protect [...] oceans from plastic pollution, warming sea temperatures and overfishing, and extend the Blue Belt programme to preserve the maritime environment. (p.55)

#### LABOUR

- Take on the global plastics crisis by investing in a new plastics remanufacturing industry creating thousands of jobs, ending exports of plastic waste and reducing our contribution to ocean pollution. (p.17)
- Make producers responsible for the waste they create and for the full cost of recycling or disposal, encouraging more sustainable design and manufacturing. (p.24)
- Learn from Wales' example, and will also back bottle-return schemes. (p.24)
- Invest in three new recyclable steel plants in areas with a proud history of steel manufacturing. (p.24)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Introduce a Zero-Waste and Resource Efficiency Act to ensure that the UK moves towards a circular economy, including:
  - Ban non-recyclable single-use plastics and replace them with affordable alternatives, aiming for their complete elimination within three years, as a first step towards ending the 'throwaway society' culture and an ambition to end plastic waste exports by 2030.
  - Benefit consumers through better product design for repairability, reuse and recycling, including extending the forthcoming EU 'right to repair' legislation for consumer goods, so helping small repair businesses and community groups combat 'planned obsolescence'.

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Introduce legally binding targets for reducing the consumption of key natural resources and other incentives for businesses to improve resource efficiency.
  - Extend deposit return schemes for all food and drink bottles and containers, working with the devolved administrations to ensure consistency across the UK.
  - Establish a statutory waste recycling target of 70 per cent in England, extend separate food waste collections to at least 90 per cent of homes by 2024, and strengthen incentives to reduce packaging and reduce waste sent to landfill and incineration. (p.44)
  - Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food and cut down on food waste. (p.45)
  - Initiate negotiations within the UN for a legally binding international treaty on plastics reduction. (p.94)
- will also extend the successful tax on plastic bags to cover plastic bottles, single-use plastics and microplastics, and extend plastic bottle deposit schemes. (p.20)
- Require manufacturers to offer ten year warranties on white goods, to encourage repair and reuse. We will create a comprehensive 'right to repair', to require manufacturers to keep goods operational years after purchase and to ban the practice of producing goods with the intention that they will become obsolete in a few years' time. (p.20)
  - Boost the repair and recondition sector with new apprenticeship schemes. (p.19)
  - Develop the infrastructure necessary to enable large corporations and individuals to recycle close to 100 per cent of the items they use. (p.19)
  - Encourage a shift from models of ownership to usership, such as with car-sharing platforms and neighbourhood libraries for tools and equipment. (p.20)

### GREENS

- Develop and implement a reformed waste strategy where manufacturers and retailers are required to pay the full cost of recycling and disposing of the packaging they produce. (p.20)
- Support councils to promote waste prevention innovations and to increase recycling. (p.43)
- Ban the production of single-use plastics for use in packaging and invest in research and development into alternatives to plastic. We

### BREXIT PARTY

- Recycle our own waste and make it illegal for it to be exported across the world to be burnt, buried or dumped at sea. (p.10)

# MANIFESTO POLICY PROPOSALS

## HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Animal welfare

#### CONSERVATIVES

- Introduce tougher sentences for animal cruelty. (p.54)
- Bring in new laws on animal sentence. (p.54)

#### LABOUR

- Introduce an animal welfare commissioner. (p.25)
- Boost police resources to tackle rural and wildlife crime. (p.25)

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

- Enshrine the principle of animal sentience in UK law to ensure that due regard is paid to animal welfare in policymaking. (p.49)

#### GREENS

- Guarantee the principle of animal sentience. This will mean that regard for the welfare needs of animals as sentient beings is uppermost in formulating and implementing relevant government policy. (p.68)
- Create a new Commission on Animal Protection, responsible for overseeing all rules designed to protect animals from cruelty. This Commission will ensure that the highest standards of animal welfare are applied to companion animals, farm animals and wildlife. (p.69)



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