VOTE FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE IN
Green Party
for the common good

VOTE FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN

CAROLINE LUCAS

MP OF THE YEAR, 2014

"Imagine a political system that puts the public first. Imagine an economy that gives everyone their fair share. Imagine a society capable of supporting everyone's needs. Imagine a planet protected from the threat of climate change now and for the generations to come.

That's the future we want to create and we believe we have the means to do it. Green Party membership is soaring as more and more people are recognising that the politics of the future doesn't have to look like the politics of the past.

Vote Green and you can help us build a society that works for the Common Good."

NATALIE BENNETT

GREEN PARTY LEADER

AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL

#FAIRECONOMY

We have everything we need to build a fair economy: natural resources, skilled people, modern technology.

But the Westminster Establishment has built an unfair one where those at the top gain while those at the bottom suffer.

We can transform our economy if we have the courage to challenge the vested interests and close the gap between the rich and the poor.

BAD NEWS

5.2 million people are paid less than the Living Wage.

Source: Living Wage Commission

GOOD NEWS

11 countries in Europe have already agreed to implement a Robin Hood tax on financial transactions, including France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Source: The Guardian

WE WILL:

☑ End austerity and restore the public sector, creating over one million good jobs that pay at least a living wage.

WE WILL:

☑ Pay for this with a new wealth tax on the top 1%, a Robin Hood Tax on the banks and the closure of tax loopholes.

WE WILL:

☑ Increase the minimum wage to reach a living wage of £10 an hour by 2020.

TAKING BACK OUR HEALTH SERVICE

#PUBLICNHS

Our NHS is the most effective public service that we have ever created.

But competition has poisoned it and privatisation is eroding it bit by bit.

That's why we need to take the profit motive out of healthcare and restore a public NHS that will last for generations to come.

BAD NEWS

Private companies pocket £18 million a day from the NHS budget.

Source: Department of Health

GOOD NEWS

Ten years after the NHS was founded the UK's infant mortality rate was almost half its 1947 rate.

Source: Office for National Statistics

WE WILL:

☑ Fight for a publicly funded, publicly provided health service free at the point of use.

WE WILL:

☑ End the creeping privatisation of the NHS and repeal the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

WE WILL:

☑ Make mental health a much higher priority with resources to match this status.

FOSSIL FREE, AFFORDABLE ENERGY

#SAFECLIMATE

In the last thirty years there has been an explosion in environmental awareness and activism.

It's been sorely needed but Governments must also prioritise action on climate change to avoid devastating harm to our economy, society and environment.

A rapid transition to a zero-carbon sustainable economy will create millions of jobs and secure a safe climate for our children and grandchildren.

BAD NEWS

2014 was the wettest winter ever, leaving thousands of households flooded and costing our country over £1 billion.

Source: MET Office & ABI

GOOD NEWS

In 2012 Sweden, Latvia and Finland all generated more than 1/3 of their energy from renewables. Meanwhile the UK was stuck at a shameful 4.2%.

Source: EUROSTAT

WE WILL:

☑ Take urgent action on climate change and work with other countries to hold the increase in global temperature to below 2 degrees.

WE WILL:

☑ Ban fracking, phase out coal power stations and say no to new nuclear.

WE WILL:

☑ Invest in a public programme of renewable generation, flood defences and building insulation.

QUALITY EDUCATION, NO TUITION FEES

#FREEEDUCATION

We have world class universities, brilliant teachers and talented students.

But by putting a price tag on education, running schools as businesses and making them exam factories we are wasting children's potential and stifling creativity.

We can free education from these shackles if we are bold and ambitious.

BAD NEWS

Student debt is set to reach £100 billion in 2018.

Source: House of Commons Library

GOOD NEWS

Finland's education system – comprehensive schools run by local authorities - is one of the best in the world.

Source: OECD

WE WILL:

☑ Scrap university tuition fees, reverse cuts and invest in further education.

WE WILL:

☑ Promote a comprehensive system of local schools offering mixed ability teaching staffed by qualified teachers.

WE WILL:

☑ Bring Academies and Free Schools into the Local Authority system.

SECURE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR EVERYONE

#DECENTHOMES

We all want somewhere warm, safe and secure to call home.

But we have a housing crisis with soaring private rents while social housing is being sold off left, right and centre.

We need homes that people can afford to live in.

BAD NEWS

1.8 million households are on waiting lists for social housing.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government

GOOD NEWS

In the 1950s Local Authorities were building 200,000 social homes a year.

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government

WE WILL:

☑ Abolish the cruel and unfair bedroom tax.

WE WILL:

☑ Provide 500,000 social rented homes by 2020 and bring empty homes back into use to ensure everyone has access to an affordable place to live.

WE WILL:

☑ Cap rent, introduce longer tenancies and licence landlords to provide greater protection for renters.

MAKING PUBLIC TRANSPORT PUBLIC

#BETTERTRANSPORT

Britain was the first country in the world to build a railway system.

But it was also one of the first to close lines and stations and then privatise the trains.

We need proper public transport that takes us where we want to go, affordably and reliably.

BAD NEWS

Since 2010 rail fares have shot up by 25% while real wages have fallen.

Source: The Independent and Office for National Statistics

GOOD NEWS

Europe's public railways are cheaper for passengers. A ticket from London to Bristol costing almost £100 is more than 3 times the French equivalent.

Source: The Telegraph

WE WILL:

☑ Return the railways to public hands, saving money and improving services.

WE WILL:

☑ Introduce an immediate cut in fares of 10% to give passengers a much-needed financial break.

WE WILL:

☑ Promote walking and cycling to help reduce pollution and improve people's health.

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