

UK must show backbone and publicly reject Trump's 'brutish manipulation tactic' on Greenland, say Greens

17 January 2026 / 17 January 2026 by [Green Party](#)

Reacting to news that Donald Trump plans to [impose a 10% tariff on the UK, Denmark and other European countries](#) until “such time as a deal is reached for the complete and total purchase of Greenland”, Green MP Dr Ellie Chowns said:

“Donald Trump treats the international stage like a schoolyard playground, attempting to bully and brute force other countries into compliance with his imperialist agenda. The unhinged President’s latest threat to impose tariffs on the UK and a swathe of our European allies is an outrageous abuse of power and a direct attack on the principle of national self-determination, treating the future of Greenland as if it were a piece of spoils to be bought and sold.

“The UK must not be cowed. In an attempt to uphold Britain’s so-called “special relationship” with the US, the UK government has continuously appeased and emboldened the increasingly erratic President as he pursues a dangerous agenda of naked geopolitical vanity. This cannot continue. Chasing the White House’s favour will not secure Britain’s economic future; it leaves us exposed to the whims of a man with no respect for international law and order.

“If we are serious about protecting British jobs and businesses from sudden shocks like this, we need a different strategy: rebuild our relationships with our European neighbours, deepen co-operation across the continent, and rejoin the Customs Union so that our economy is defended by stable, reliable arrangements – not dependent on the fleeting favour of a single foreign leader.

“The UK government must show genuine backbone: publicly reject this brutish manipulation tactic by Trump, stand firm with Greenland’s right to self-determination, and urgently pursue closer, constructive ties with Europe that protect Britain’s long-term interests.

“Greenland cannot be bought – it’s time to prove that Britain can’t be either.”

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[Zack Polanski writes to Keir Starmer, calling for South East Water to be taken into Public Ownership](#)

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[Statement of solidarity with the people of Iran](#)

14 January 2026 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to the the repressive and violent crackdown on protesters by the Iranian regime, Dr Ellie Chowns MP, leader of the Parliamentary Green Party, said:

“The Green Party stands in solidarity with the people of Iran, who are demonstrating extraordinary courage, putting their lives at risk, in order to protest against the despotic Iranian regime.

“We defend the right to peaceful protest and demand that Iranians are granted freedom of speech; we acknowledge that these are human rights that the people of Iran – women and girls in particular – have spent many years fighting to achieve. Their determination and bravery in the face of brutality is nothing short of heroic.

“The scale of repression and bloodshed with which the regime has responded to protests – killing hundreds of protestors, and cutting off Iranian citizens’

access to the internet and global communication – is intolerable, and we welcome the UK Government’s new sanctions against the regime. We urge the government to use every possible diplomatic, economic, and legal lever available to hold those responsible for the persecution of protestors to account.

“The right to freedom of expression and the right to protest are fundamental. Enabling those rights to flourish unhindered inside Iran is essential if voices and parties who support democracy and human rights are to survive and shape the country’s future.

“We strongly oppose US military intervention as this is likely to result in more deaths and chaos. The US record of interference in the Middle East is a sorry one, be it invading Iraq under false pretences with no post-war governance plan, or failures at proper nation-building in Afghanistan; American intervention has nearly always led to intensified regional instability. Instead, every effort should be made to use all other available levers to sanction Iran and to support those campaigning for human rights and freedom in Iran.”

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[Parliamentary vote on British troop deployment in Ukraine ‘minimum democratic standard’ say Greens](#)

7 January 2026 by [Green Party](#)

Reacting to news that [MPs will have a debate and vote](#) before any UK troops are deployed on peacekeeping duties in Ukraine, Dr Ellie Chowns MP said:

“The Green Party supports the principle of UK troops serving in a peacekeeping role in Ukraine following a negotiated ceasefire, with a robust international mandate and safeguards, as a necessary precaution to protect civilians and help maintain a sustainable peace. I’m pleased the Prime Minister has confirmed there will be a parliamentary vote before the deployment of any British troops to Ukraine; that commitment to parliamentary oversight is the minimum democratic standard.

“MPs must be able to robustly scrutinise the details of the government’s proposal in full before any British troops are deployed, including the size, scale, and composition of forces (and what weapons they will be equipped with), clear rules of engagement so our forces can serve both as a credible

deterrent and a non-escalatory presence, the precise objectives and measurable indicators for how we will know peace has been secured, and a clear withdrawal plan tied to those outcomes.”

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[The only target for the number of people killed on the road should be zero, say Greens](#)

7 January 2026 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to the government’s [new Road Safety Strategy](#), which was announced today, Wednesday 7th January, Green MP, Siân Berry, said:

“The only target for the number of people killed on the road should be zero. With this strategy, the Government has massively overlooked key actions to cut traffic and achieve safer and slower vehicle speeds, which are truly effective at saving lives and essential to reaching this goal.

“The Government should follow the example of Wales, where the national default 20mph limit reduced road casualties on 20mph and 30mph roads by 26 per cent in the first 12 months of its introduction. That represents 630 people in Wales who made it home safely.”

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