

# Greens Condemn Integrated Review as 'Misguided'



16 March 2021

## **'Unless everybody is secure, nobody is secure'**

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Bartley has responded this morning to the Integrated Review calling it 'Misguided'. He said:

"This review is based on meaningless rhetoric about Global Britain and a desire to boost the sale of arms by British companies. It will do nothing to increase the security of British people. The posturing about providing global leadership on cooperation and democracy will convince nobody, especially coming from a government that is in an ongoing dispute with its closest neighbours and has shamelessly broken treaty obligations entered into less than a year ago.

"Much is made of the potential of the Indo-Pacific region. But the power in that region lies with the Quad – USA, India, Japan and Australia – who had their inaugural meeting last week and felt no need to call on the services of Boris Johnson. [1] Such post-colonial fantasies will do nothing to make up for the damage to our trading, diplomatic and security relationships caused by Brexit."

Bartley went on to consider the real meaning of security, saying:

"We are also horrified that, at a time when the UN is actively seeking to negotiate nuclear disarmament, the government is proposing to increase the UK's stockpile of nuclear weapons. We repeat our demand for the government to live up to its legally binding commitments under the Non-Proliferation Treaty and sign up to the UN Treaty on the Prohibitions of Nuclear Weapons. [2]

"We deeply regret the misguided framing of security as a competitive survival of the fittest and a failure to grasp that the real source of insecurity across the world is the sale of arms and climate destabilisation for which the UK itself is largely responsible.

"Rather than being based in competition, the government should set a vision for global security and resilience in all countries.

"Unless everybody is secure, nobody is secure."

ENDS

Notes:

[1] [White House statement on the Quad](#) reaffirming their commitment to 'quadrilateral cooperation between Australia, India, Japan, and the United

States.'

[2] Mark Urban, Newsnight's Diplomatic Editor, notes proposal to raise 'cap' on nuclear warheads from 180 to 260. As he notes 'it's hard to reconcile with, "the determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic & progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally", a commitment made by UK govt in 1995 extension to Nuc Non-Proliferation Treaty'.

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## [Road building and airport expansion must be scrapped say Greens](#)



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## [Green Party responds to Met mismanagement of Sarah Everard vigil](#)



14 March 2021

The Green Party has condemned the harmful and shocking Metropolitan police action on Clapham Common this weekend.

Responding to policing at the vigil, Green Party co-leader and candidate for Mayor of London Sian Berry said:

"I can't think of a more shameful way for an organisation to have handled this whole situation.

"There was literally no chance of this being a violent event if it had been

left in peace. And given what prompted it, these scenes are just abhorrent and traumatic to see for so many of us.

“The Met has failed on every level and it’s hard to see how the Commissioner – and the Mayor and the Home Secretary – could not be considering her position right now.”

The highly politicised policing bill arrives in the House of Commons tomorrow, and the Green Party is adamant this should be opposed in order to stop the right to peaceful protest being curtailed.

Jenny Jones, Green Peer and former member of the Met monitoring body said:

“The government wants to use this new policing bill to buttress its political power in a way typical of an authoritarian regime.

“The police used extra-ordinary powers this weekend to stop and break up a peaceful vigil, imagine what they would do if given a new set of extraordinary post-covid powers to stop peaceful protest.

“The resources spent on our police force should be used to protect us all. We don’t want money that could be used to protect women’s lives spent defending the political interests of this far right government.”

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## [Greens express horror at 40% decline in exports to EU](#)



12 March 2021

- **Party repeats call for UK to explore options for rejoining the customs union**

Former MEP and economics professor Molly Scott Cato has demanded urgent action after trade figures released this morning showed a 40% decline in UK exports to the EU. [1]

Dr Scott Cato said:

“I am horrified by clear evidence that Johnson’s determination to ‘f\*\*k business’ [2] has succeeded so dramatically. The decision to put up new trade

barriers with our largest trading partner has had the inevitable consequences that we warned about with trade falling off a cliff.

“We need to take urgent action to reverse the destructive decision to cut ties with our closest neighbours. This is why the Green Party has called for the government to think again about choosing the hardest possible Brexit and to seek ways to rejoin the EU customs union as a matter of urgency.”

Dr Scott Cato, who was recently elected to the Executive Committee of the European Movement, continued:

“As an MEP I took the government to court to release the studies of the impact of Brexit on our economy. Now I understand why they fought so hard to keep them secret.

“Commentators are trying to lessen the blow by suggesting that these figures may be impacted by stockpiling and teething problems but this is entirely to miss to the point.

“The decision to leave the European Union was an act of wanton destruction driven by a tiny elite for their own self-serving reasons. The devastating consequences for the rest of us are only now beginning to play out.”

ENDS

## Notes

1

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56370690>

2

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-44618154>

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# [Greens join UN critique of failure of government on building back better](#)



11 March 2021

- **The call comes as a report finds just one fifth of money spent by major economies is going towards green policy as part of the Covid recovery**

The Green Party is demanding the government take immediate action to invest in green measures to ensure we build back greener after Covid.

A report from the UN and the University of Oxford found that only a small number of countries have made significant increases in spending to tackle the climate and ecological crisis since the start of the pandemic. [1]

According to the report, the UK's Green recovery spending as a percentage of its total recovering spending is just 17% [2] , falling far behind other nations such as Canada (78%), Germany (47%), France (35%), South Korea (27%) and Spain (24%). Turkey has spent 100% of its total recovery spending on Green measures.

Jonathan Bartley, co-leader of the Green Party, said:

"The government is failing to ensure that its level of investment in a Green Recovery matches its rhetoric on the climate and ecological crises. This data clearly shows the UK is falling far behind other countries worldwide when it comes to the percentage of Covid recovery investment being spent on green policy.

"In a year when the UK plays host to the UN climate talks and a G7 summit focused on climate, this is a national embarrassment on the global stage.

"What we need to see is the UK government proving their credentials as a world-leader for green investment, which secures jobs for local communities and puts the environment at the heart of all ministerial decisions, putting their actions into words and setting an example for other nations to follow.

"This leadership is urgently needed since the report is clear that only a handful of governments around the world are taking the climate and ecological crisis seriously when investing for Covid recovery. Most are simply kicking the can down the road and putting the future at risk.

"There is a golden opportunity for the world to turn to renewable, clean policy in the wake of the pandemic so we don't revert to the highly damaging and backward tendencies of the pre-Covid era which is pushing our planet and its inhabitants to the brink."

ENDS

## Notes

1

<https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/green-recovery-covid-spending-un-b1815153.html>

2

<https://data.undp.org/content/global-recovery-observatory/>

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