

Heathrow expansion is a “flightmare on Downing Street” say Greens

31 July 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to the release of detailed [proposals for Heathrow Airport](#) expansion, Green Party MP, Ellie Chowns, reiterated the Green Party’s opposition to airport expansion, saying,

“Heathrow Airport expansion is a flightmare on Downing Street for people and planet. On one hand, this government is saying they’re taking the climate crisis seriously, and on the other, they’re backing a project that will release [a reported 4.4m tonnes of CO2 a year](#). These expansion plans would see the number of flights at Heathrow Airport [go up to 720,000 from their current capped number of 480,000 a year](#).”

These expansion plans are, at their heart, aimed to deliver profit for shareholders to enable a small group of people to fly more and more. In the UK we have a few frequent flyers that make up less than [3% of the UK population but take 30% of all journeys](#). On top of this, they seem oblivious to the impact that these plans will have on the communities currently living around Heathrow. Government must be grounded in reality and look hard at the climate science. No credible net-zero plan can include rampant airport expansion, and it’s time Labour looked to the many, many alternative ways to create high-paid green jobs.”

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Green reaction to Starmer’s ‘bargaining chip’ on Palestinian statehood

29 July 2025 / 29 July 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Reacting to today’s emergency cabinet meeting on Gaza and Keir Starmer’s statement, Green Party MP, Ellie Chowns, who is the party’s foreign affairs spokesperson, said:

“What Starmer has said today suggests Palestinian statehood is a bargaining chip, only to be awarded if the Israeli government fails to end the genocide

in Gaza and agrees to a range of other conditions such as allowing the UN to restart the supply of aid and ending annexations in the West Bank.

“While these conditions are welcome and essential steps towards a ceasefire and a peaceful solution, they must not be an alternative to recognising Palestinian statehood. This is a cynical political gesture ahead of the outcomes of the UN Conference and suggests that if Israel were to comply with the demands, Palestinian statehood would be kicked down the road again, disenfranchising the Palestinian people.

“The Green Party calls on Keir Starmer to immediately and unconditionally recognise a Palestinian state as part of a two-state solution, just as Labour promised to do in their election manifesto.”

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Responding to jubilant scenes in London where the Lionesses were seen parading the streets after winning the Euro 25 cup, Green MP for Brighton Pavilion, Siân Berry, said now was the time to “build on this momentum.”

“The historic and dramatic Lionesses Euros win has been such a boost and inspiration for budding footballers and for all sport. It is a reminder of how important sport is for our health, community cohesion and joy. We must build on this momentum,” she said.

Berry added:

“The Green Party wants to see more of these sporting victories in the future, and for local authorities to be properly funded so we can maintain key grassroots sporting infrastructure including pools and playing fields. Sport is a good tool for our public health and an important measure in tackling obesity.

“We also need to ensure sport is more accessible, and that opportunities to participate reach into our diverse communities. School playing fields must be protected from development and, outside school hours, school sporting facilities should be open for local clubs and teams to use.”

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