

[Greens set for record number of councillors after first breakthroughs](#)



3 May 2024

Green Party co-leader Carla Denyer responded to the first council elections results:

“I’m delighted to see the first ever Green Party councillors elected to Newcastle City Council which show that voters are increasingly putting their trust in Greens to deliver a fairer, greener country.

“In Byker ward in Newcastle, the Green candidate, Nick Hartley, won over 50 per cent of the vote. And in Elswick ward, Khaled Musharraf was elected with notable movement of Muslim voters from Labour to Green.

“The Newcastle gains from Labour come alongside two stunning gains in South Tyneside – one from Labour and one from the Conservatives.

“These results show us reaching new areas of the country – and we are achieving that because our message of hope is being heard by new groups of voters.

“In these elections we have argued for practical solutions to the cost of living crisis, the climate crisis and the cuts to public services, that are clearly resonating with voters.

“We have some big results to look forward to in elections being counted throughout the weekend, including in Bristol, where we have a Green target seat for the General Election, but already this is proving a very positive night for the Greens.

“More results like this and we can be confident that we have put down the firmest of foundations for our General Election campaign when we are going to do everything we can to get at least four Green MPs elected to Parliament.”

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[Greens set for record number of councillors as polls close](#)



2 May 2024

As polls closed across England in the local elections, Green Party co-leader Carla Denyer said:

“It has been a wonderful experience to be out on the doorstep listening to voters and understanding why their concerns over the cost of living, cuts to local services and the climate crisis are turning into votes for the Green Party.

“I want to thank every single voter who has gone to the polls today to vote for a fairer, greener country.

“Our fantastic volunteers and candidates have been out knocking on doors, listening to voters and responding with a positive vision of what their Green vote would mean.

“As counting begins, I look forward to another record night for the Green Party. We have increased our councillor numbers at each of the last four elections – and I believe we can do so again.

“That will lay the firmest of foundations for our General Election campaign when we are going to do everything we can to get at least four Green MPs elected to Parliament.

“We know that having a Green in the council chamber or in Parliament delivers for people, the community and the planet.”

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[Greens pledge to support repeal of new Rwanda deportation law](#)



23 April 2024

Responding to the Rwanda Bill completing its parliamentary stages, Green Party co-leader Carla Denyer said:

“I don’t want people risking their lives crossing the channel in small boats. But the way to stop that isn’t this punitive, inhumane approach. It’s providing safe and legal routes for people to apply for asylum from overseas, and working to fix the reasons that people are having to claim asylum – including wars and the climate crisis.

“This new Act is simply a very expensive way to be cruel. We need to get the

humanity back into our refugee policy and Green MPs will certainly seek this Act's repeal after the General Election."

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[Greens respond to Sunak plans to end 'sick-note culture'](#)



19 April 2024

Responding to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's plans to stop GPs issuing sick notes to people too ill to work, Green Party co-leader Carla Denyer said:

"How cold hearted do you have to be, and how lacking in empathy, to see this crisis of ill health as anything other than caused by decades of austerity and lack of investment in the NHS?"

"The PM should be fixing the NHS so that people can get well, not blaming people who are ill."

"We would invest in mending the health and social care system, not denying people the right to see a GP when they need it."

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[Green Party backs charities calls to restore nature](#)



15 April 2024

Green Party co-leader, Adrian Ramsay, has announced the Party's plans for an Independent Commission for Nature that would protect nature and ensure the restoration of wildlife habitats. The new watchdog would be created as part of a new "Rights of Nature" Act that would enshrine in law the intrinsic value of nature while also recognising how a healthy natural environment is fundamental to clear air, water and food.

Ramsay made the announcement as he joined leaders of national conservation

charities at Black Bourn Valley Reserve in Suffolk [1] where they delivered their 'Nature 2030 Open Letter' signed by 100,000 people across the country [2].

Adrian Ramsay said:

"I am delighted to be the first party leader to back the calls of conservation groups to restore nature. The natural environment is deeply important to the British people, yet the lack of adequate legal protection has left the UK as one of the most nature depleted countries in the world. Last year's State of Nature report [3] highlighted the scale of the threats facing nature, with 1 in 6 species at risk of extinction. Given this alarming situation, the work of the country's many conservation and wildlife organisations is critical in helping to protect and restore nature. Like them, the Green Party understands we need a change in government policies to ensure the UK meets legally binding targets for nature by 2030.

"Greens believe that nature has an intrinsic value. It is also vital to human health and survival – for the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat. Evidence also shows that people's physical and mental wellbeing is enhanced by easy access to green spaces and nature.

"The Green Party wants to see much greater protection of nature in law. We would set up an Independent Commission for Nature that would set targets for nature protection and restoration, enforced through the courts. This would be groundbreaking, allowing for the first time the possibility of individuals, communities and conservation groups taking legal action on behalf of nature. Currently, every time our rivers, seas or land is polluted, prosecution is left to hopelessly underfunded quangos.

"The Nature 2030 open letter, signed by over 100,000 people, demonstrates that people want to see firm action to halt and reverse the decline of nature by 2030. The Green Party fully backs the outcomes the Nature 2030 coalition of conservation organisations want to see [4]. Nature restoration will be a key priority in our general election manifesto, and for me personally if I'm elected as an MP.

"Only the Green Party will take the necessary action to double the budget for nature friendly farming, protect 30% of the land and sea for nature, invest in the skills needed for regenerative farming and wildlife habitat restoration, and protect people's right to clean air and water and access to nature."

Notes

1. [Black Bourn Valley Nature Reserve managed by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#) is a 290 acre former arable farm where natural regeneration methods and conservation grazing are being used to demonstrate how land management can balance competing demands on land use and natural resources whilst bringing back nature.
2. [Open_Letter_Nature_2030_Campaign.pdf](#)

3. [State of Nature 2023 – report on the UK's current biodiversity](#)
4. [Nature_2030_Report_18.07.2023.pdf \(wcl.org.uk\)](#)

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