

'Different tone, same Brexit' says Caroline Lucas on Labour



25 April 2017

Caroline Lucas, Green Party co-leader, has responded to Keir Starmer's interview on the Today programme today [1].

She said:

"Though Labour's position on the EU has improved since their Article 50 capitulation it still simply isn't strong enough. It's a different tone, but looks like the same Brexit.

"Labour's hollow words on access to the single market simply doesn't stack up. Either they want Britain to remain a member of the Single Market or they don't. And Labour's reluctance to give British people a final say on the terms of any deal shows an utter disregard for democracy. If they trust MPs to have vote on the deal, then why not give people the choice in a ratification referendum?"

Notes:

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/live/2017/apr/25/general-election-2017-labour-pledge-to-wipe-brexit-slate-clean-politics-live>

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Caroline Lucas: UKIP agenda is full-throttled Islamophobia



24 April 2017

Caroline Lucas, the Green Party co-leader, has responded to UKIP's 'integration agenda' [1]. She accused the far-right party of 'full throttled islamaphobia' and pledged to 'stand up to the politics of hate'.

Caroline Lucas, co-leader of the Green Party, said:

“UKIP’s ‘integration agenda’ is an assault on multiculturalism and an attack on Muslims. It’s full throttled Islamaphobia.

“Now that the referendum has passed Nutall’s party is desperately scrabbling around for relevance and seem to have settled upon attacks on Muslims and fringe far right politics as their new home. In this election the Green Party will be standing up to the politics of hate spewing from UKIP and putting forward a vision for a multicultural, welcoming Britain which we can all be proud of.”

Notes:

[1] <https://twitter.com/jessicaelgot/status/856457234875899905>

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[Green Party to launch ‘boldest campaign ever’](#)



20 April 2017

***General election campaign launch in Bristol**

***Co-leader Jonathan Bartley: ‘An amazing selection of candidates up and down the country will drive our boldest campaign yet’**

The Green Party will set out its vision for young people during its general election campaign launch in Bristol today.

The Greens will campaign for free education, a living wage for all and investment in mental health services. The party is also calling for votes at 16 so 16 and 17-year-olds can have their say in the election [1].

The campaign will be launched at 1.15pm in Bristol by Caroline Lucas MP and Jonathan Bartley, Green Party co-leaders, and Molly Scott Cato, MEP for the South West and Bristol West candidate [2].

Scott Cato is expected to say:

“With this election, we are at a crossroads for Britain’s future. Today marks

the beginning of the Green Party's campaign for a bold, positive future for our country, in full opposition to the extreme Brexit and far-right agenda threatened by the Tories.

"The Green Party wants to close this gulf that's opening up between young people and older generations, because the way that young people are being let down at the moment is a disgrace. It's hard to think of a time when it's been more difficult to be a young person in Britain and in this election, we risk getting a Tory government which will make it so much worse."

Bartley is expected to say:

"We have amazing opportunities, like here in Bristol with Molly primed to join Caroline in Parliament, making the Green Party an even stronger force in politics. We're polling even better than our result in 2015, and we've got such an amazing selection of candidates up and down the country ready to drive our boldest campaign yet.

"If you're one of the millions of young people let down by this Government, saddled with debt and uncertainty, the Green Party is the home for you. We have a positive vision for the future of this country, a fairer more equal society, and a tolerant, outward looking Britain."

Notes:

1. <https://www.greenparty.org.uk/news/2017/04/19/green-party-calls-for-votes-at-16-in-june-election/>
2. <https://www.greenparty.org.uk/news/2017/04/18/green-party-we-will-make-history-in-bristol-west/>

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[Greens: Labour must commit to ratification referendum](#)



20 April 2017

The Green Party is calling for Labour to commit to a ratification referendum. At an election event earlier the leader of the Labour Party refused to rule out such a poll [1].

Caroline Lucas, co-leader of the Green Party, said:

“Labour should immediately commit to holding a ratification referendum. If they truly trust the British people – and want to give them a real say over the future direction of this country – then they must commit to a democratic vote on any final deal. With the Tories already hurtling us towards an extreme Brexit the Labour Party should also make clear whether or not they support Britain’s continued membership of the single market or if they, like the Government, are willing to sacrifice this country’s prosperity at the altar of stopping freedom of movement.

“The Green Party is clear on our opposition to an extreme Brexit. We will campaign to remain a member of the single market and for continued freedom of movement and the protection of our environment.”

Notes:

1. <https://twitter.com/SamCoatesTimes/status/855002311856459777>

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[Green Party: Rolling back foreign aid commitment would be a 'dereliction of duty'](#)



20 April 2017

The Green Party has responded to Bill Gates urging the Government to continuing spending 0.7% of GDP on foreign aid.

The Microsoft founder urged the UK to keep spending at least 0.7% of national income on foreign aid, saying it was proof of its goodwill and humanity.

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

“Bill Gates is right: cutting the aid budget will cost lives. Any moves by the Tories to rollback our commitment to international development would be a dereliction of this country’s duty to the rest of the world. We know that aid alone isn’t enough, and that it must come alongside fairer trading rules, but it is the bedrock of a credible foreign policy where Britain can play a positive role in world affairs. The Tories little-Englander approach, inspired by UKIP, sells this country short – and the Green Party will oppose any moves to cut the aid budget. Indeed in the coming weeks we will put

forward a bold plan to step up Britain's global commitments on aid, climate change and nuclear disarmament.”

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