"Now is the time to make clear we, as a country, stand with Zelensky in working for a lasting just peace."

28 February 2025 by Green Party

Responding to the "bullying" and "shameful" <u>behaviour of President Trump</u> <u>towards President Zelensky</u>, Green Party MP, Ellie Chowns, said:

"What we witnessed today was bullying from one of the most powerful men in the world. It was the antithesis of the diplomacy needed in such a delicate moment. While many Brits watched on in horror with real fear, we call on the Prime Minister to make abundantly clear that he stands with Zelensky in working for a just peace and opposed to the strongman brinkmanship tactics of President Trump. Today's shameful behaviour by the American administration-of inviting a leader to their country with the intention to bully and humiliate — must be clearly condemned. Now is the time to make clear we, as a country, stand with Zelensky in working for a lasting just peace."

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Gatwick expansion unwanted, say Greens

27 February 2025 by Green Party

Responding to the Transport Secretary's decision to pursue a positive decision for Gatwick Airport to bring its northern terminal into constant use, (1) Siân Berry Green MP for Brighton Pavilion said:

"The Labour government is trashing its climate credentials one absurd decision at a time. Only one day after receiving critical advice from its own climate advisors on the need to lower flying demand, ministers continue to support yet more unnecessary expansion for the benefit of wealthy investors.

"Pushing through these damaging plans shows such poor economic judgement. Over 100,000 extra flights a year won't deliver for our communities. Labour should listen to the public who think airport expansion is the wrong priority. Most of us fly once a year if at all and would rather see cheaper train tickets and more bus routes instead to help with our daily journeys and create jobs where we live, in contrast with frequent flyers leaching money out of the economy.

"The green economy grew by ten per cent last year, and this is where Labour should be investing to deliver high-wage, long-term jobs across the entire country."

(1) Transport planning: Gatwick Airport — GOV.UK

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"There should be zero tolerance of coercion, violence, or sexual abuse."

27 February 2025 / 27 February 2025 by Green Party

In response to the <u>review out today concluding that degrading</u>, <u>violent and misogynistic pornography should be banned</u>, Green Party Baroness, Jenny Jones said:

"Online pornography is a space where those who wish to abuse women are currently operating with virtual impunity. We're clear that it's the role of government to prevent this abuse, just as we would offline. Strengthening controls for online content is a good first step as we reiterate that there should be zero tolerance of coercion, violence, or sexual abuse."

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<u>Greens press government to act on</u> <u>Grenfell oversight</u>

Responding to the government's announcement that it will accept all the recommendations from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry (1), Green MP Carla Denyer urged the government to accept her Private Members' Bill on preventing future deaths.

Carla's Bill calls for the creation of a National Oversight Mechanism which would have responsibility for ensuring that recommendations made following inquests and inquiries are followed. Currently, there is no body which has this responsibility.

Reacting to the government's statement, Carla Denyer MP said:

"The deaths of 72 people in the Grenfell tower fire was an unimaginable tragedy, but worse, it was an avoidable tragedy. We owe it to those who lost their lives to make sure nothing like this happens again.

"I welcome the Government's commitment to taking forward all of the report's recommendations, a vital first step towards justice.

"The Grenfell Inquiry recognised a failure of the state to properly follow up on the recommendations made by inquests and inquiries — meaning that too often, changes needed to prevent people from harm are simply not made. Time and time again, bereaved families go through the trauma of reliving the circumstances of a loved one's death at an inquest only for the lessons from that death to be forgotten.

"We urgently need an organisation responsible for making sure that recommendations from inquests and inquiries are actually followed, rather than being forgotten. I have put forward a Bill to create a National Oversight Mechanism for state-related deaths, which would do just that. It would be an independent body, able to scrutinise government action so bereaved families don't have to be the ones fighting for change.

"The National Oversight Mechanism proposal has the support of over 70 organisations, including Grenfell United, Amnesty, the Mayor of London, and the Institute for Government. It recently featured as a recommendation in the Health Services Safety Investigations Body's report on deaths of mental health patients. It's clear that this is badly needed, and I hope the government will support my Bill."

(1) <u>Government responds in full to Grenfell Tower Inquiry, setting out tough</u> <u>new reforms to fix building safety and strengthen accountability — GOV.UK</u>

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Green Party demands ambitious action in wake of Climate Change Committee report

As the Climate Change Committee publishes its 7th carbon budget [1], the coleader of the Green Party, Adrian Ramsay MP, has demanded the Government ensure ambitious climate action isn't delayed any further — and for polluters to pay the highest price, not the poorest in our communities.

Adrian Ramsay MP said: "Today's advice from the Climate Change Committee

(CCC) makes clear that a climate safe future is still within our grasp — and that the cost of not reducing climate emissions will be far higher for our economy than the cost of investment in net zero. Crucially, we need to see the Government make investment choices that result in households benefiting financially from climate action too — both by ensuring everyone can access renewables and energy efficiency and because they are paying lower bills. The public are clear that they want to see the worst climate polluters pay, and we need to make sure that the costs of climate action never fall on those least able to afford it.

"A thriving green economy is also vital if we are to prevent climate deniers, like Reform, from weaponising the mass destruction of climate chaos. Instead, we must help the most vulnerable and build resilience in communities to adapt to climate breakdown."

He continued: "Without an immediate acceleration of climate ambition, our economy, national security and environment are all at serious risk. That's why we are disappointed not to see the CCC go even further on measures to reduce energy demand. In the face of impending airport expansion decisions by this Labour government, more ambitious policy is urgently needed to keep the aviation sector in check. Their advice shows strong public support for limiting airport expansion and introducing a frequent flier levy where the small percentage of the population who take the vast majority of the flights have to pay more .

"The CCC have shown that a positive, fairer, jobs-rich, greener future is possible, and they have set a clear pathway for the Government to follow. Now, we need the Government to step up, stop the vested interests who are intent on delaying, and show the ambition and leadership this moment demands."

Notes

1. The Seventh Carbon Budget - Climate Change Committe

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