

“Expanding Heathrow in the face of a climate emergency is the definition of irresponsible.” say Greens

Responding to the [news that Rachel Reeves is backing the expansion of Heathrow Airport](#), Green Party MP, Sian Berry MP said,

“The Chancellor talked about the ‘costs of irresponsibility’ but expanding Heathrow in the face of a climate emergency is the definition of irresponsible.”

“Worst still, we’re also expecting formal planning decisions from ministers on Gatwick and Luton airport expansion, which the Chancellor pre-empted today. Giving these permissions in the month before vital new advice is expected from the Climate Change Committee, today’s speech is nothing short of reckless.

“The carbon cost of expanding Heathrow, Luton, and Gatwick together will cancel out the benefits of Labour’s keystone clean energy plan, making Net Zero minister Ed Miliband’s task almost impossible.

“The Chancellor’s stated goal is ‘raising living standards in every part of the UK’ but more and bigger airports will serve only the very richest aviation bosses and the most frequent flyers whose wealth doesn’t help people’s daily lives get better.

“Tackling inequality and building a greener future should go hand in hand. That must mean investment in warmer homes, green energy and the local transport people use every day, not these bleak proposals.”

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Greens respond to possible airport expansions

Responding to the news that [Rachel Reeves is expected to give the go-ahead to a series of airport expansions](#) across the UK, Green Party MP for Brighton Pavilion, Sian Berry, said:

“We must ask who these decisions would be made for and why. Whose advice is the Government listening to, when record-high wealth inequality is causing

harm to the economy and society in many different ways, while frequent flying is the preserve of the super-rich?

“The aviation lobby is loud and well-funded, but the Government should instead be listening to scientists and its own Climate Change Committee, which has already urged a halt to overall airport expansion. The previous Labour government’s poor record on airport expansion doesn’t have to continue.

“If Ed Miliband is serious in his role as Net-Zero Minister, he will work to prevent the Chancellor and Transport Secretaries making a huge mistake, and advise the Chancellor to not make any dangerous new decisions until they have heard and listened to the new advice from the Climate Change Committee which is due in February.”

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Inauguration response: Trump will put us all in danger unless we unite

Responding to President Trump’s inauguration speech, Green Party Co-Leader, Adrian Ramsay said:

“Trump’s inauguration speech showed us that the peace many take for granted, and indeed the very foundations of our democracy, are under threat.

“His obsessive isolationism risks leaving fatal cracks in the international co-operation that we need to build a fairer and greener future.

“While he focuses on short-term national populism, surrounded by his mega-rich backers, he offers nothing to ease the hardships and discontent felt by many who have been beaten down by decades of low wages or insecure work.

“His polarising rhetoric risks fuelling the discontent and resentment exploited in Britain by the reactionary right-wing.

“His energy policies that promise to “roll back” the incremental steps Biden took and instead to “drill baby drill” will leave us all open to the growing impacts of the climate crisis from floods, wildfires and of course a devastating loss of nature.

“Our shared environment cannot afford four years of his denial of the climate crisis.

“From rolling back Biden’s regulations on power plants, to ending his pause on liquefied natural gas exports, Trump has made clear today his contempt for

the severity of the climate crisis and the fate of those whose lives are already been upended by it.

“This represents a severe threat to us all.

“As Trump seeks to drive fear and division through his political opponents, now is the time to respond with unity and hope.

“For Britain this means doubling down on our response to the climate crisis; it means rapidly re-building closer ties to the EU; it means being unequivocal in our support for the most vulnerable and for a fairer future where no one is left behind.

“United we can help soften the blows coming over the next four years and lay a foundation to build a future.

“But divided, be under no illusion, we will fall.”

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Statement ahead of President Trump's inauguration: “a dangerous turn toward right-wing populism”

Green Party Co-Leaders, Adrian Ramsay and Carla Denyer released a joint statement ahead of President Trump's inauguration saying:

“We must stand up for peace and democracy in what will be a dangerous turn toward right-wing populism in the wake of Donald Trump taking office.

“The antidote to Trump in the US, and the likes of Reform in the UK, is to offer people a real hope for real positive change that will transform their lives.

“That means a new offer to people beaten down by decades of low wages, insecure work, decimated public services and a realisation that the impact of the climate crisis is all around us in the form of floods, wildfires and a devastating loss of nature.

“We need the green investment to deliver the jobs of the future – well-paid, meaningful and secure – and we need the UK government to invest properly in schools and the NHS, and stand up for international law and human rights.

“A greener future is a more just and fairer future.

“The Green Party is clear – President Trump is a misogynist, a racist, a

convicted criminal and, we believe, a fascist.

“We will be pressing the Labour government to recognise that to defeat fascism, political parties that believe in democratic values must work together to keep the flame of democracy alive and show people that democratic politics can deliver real change.”

Statement ends

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Green Party welcomes Gaza ceasefire and calls for root causes of the conflict to be addressed

Ellie Chowns, MP for North Herefordshire and Green Party Foreign Affairs spokesperson, said: “I welcome the news of a ceasefire agreement between the Israeli government and Hamas. This is a vital step to halt the devastating violence that has claimed tens of thousands of lives and caused unimaginable suffering, particularly for the people of Gaza. I also welcome reports that hostages are being released, bringing relief to many families.

“The Green Party has been calling for a ceasefire since October 2023, and while this agreement offers hope, it must mark the beginning of addressing the root causes of the conflict. The ongoing occupation, the siege of Gaza, and systemic violations of Palestinian rights cannot continue.

“The UK government must formally recognise the State of Palestine. Recognising Palestine is a vital step toward justice, equality, and a sustainable peace. It demonstrates a commitment to international law and a balanced approach to the region.

“Suspending some arms sales to Israel is not enough. The Green Party has consistently called for a full suspension of all arms exports to the Israeli military. This includes UK-supplied weapons parts, such as components of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, which evidence suggests have been used in ways that violate international law and exacerbate the humanitarian crisis.

“The UK must support efforts to hold all those responsible for violations of international law accountable. We must ensure that humanitarian aid flows freely into Gaza to address the urgent needs of those who have endured this catastrophic violence.

“True peace requires justice, dignity, and equality for all people in the

region. This is a moment for global leaders to act with courage and commitment, working towards a future where Palestinians and Israelis can live in peace, free from fear, violence, and oppression. Let us ensure that this ceasefire marks not just the end of the bombs, but the beginning of a pathway to lasting peace and justice.”

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