

Greens react to Starmer's defence plans following Strategic Defence Review

2 June 2025 / 2 June 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Reacting to the Strategic Defence Review and Keir Starmer's speech earlier today outlining the government's defense spending plans, Ellie Chowns MP, who holds the defence brief for the Parliamentary Green Party, said:

"Keir Starmer is sounding like he is on a war path with his "battle-ready, armour-clad nation" rhetoric. Security is not just based on arms expenditure and threats, but on real leadership that uses diplomacy and development too. There must be a real commitment to an international order based on human rights, equality and genuine cooperation.

"To avoid the horrors of war and armed conflict, we need to look at the deeper causes of insecurity, including poverty and climate breakdown. This is why the Green Party strongly supports the restoration of the international aid budget to at least 0.7% of GNI. And we will continue to argue that real patriotism means ending UK-made weapons or components being sold to dictators, human rights abusers or for use against civilians anywhere in the world.

"The prime minister has talked up the boost to jobs and the economy through increased defence expenditure, but there are many more jobs of the future to be created right now in the clean, green – and peaceful – economy, a sector growing four times faster than the rest of the economy. This is where the government's focus for investment should be if they are serious about a secure and resilient future."

[Adblock test \(Why?\)](#)

Greens call for investment in genuine global security

2 June 2025 / 2 June 2025 by [Green Party](#)

In anticipation of the outcome of the strategic defence review being published today, Ellie Chowns MP, who holds the defence brief for the

Parliamentary Green Party, said:

“We acknowledge the need for greater defence spending and continued NATO membership, but also call for a more thorough reappraisal of strategic defence alliances. With Trump no longer a reliable ally, we need to deepen our defence cooperation with the EU, and review AUKUS.

“A Green approach to security is not based on arms and threats, but on the three Ds: diplomacy and development as well as defence. Defence policy should not be a simple competition over spending, but based on real commitment to an international order based on human rights, equality and genuine cooperation.

“If we are to avoid the horror of war, we need to look at the deeper causes of insecurity, including poverty and climate change. We strongly support the restoration of the international aid budget to at least 0.7% of GNI, with a considerable proportion spent on climate action.

“And we will continue to argue that real patriotism means to stand against UK-made weapons or components being sold to dictators, human rights abusers or for use against civilians anywhere in the world.”

[Adblock test \(Why?\)](#)

[Greens urge government action in spending review to tackle dire warning on climate crisis](#)

28 May 2025 / 28 May 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Green Party co-leader Adrian Ramsay MP said:

“The dire warning today from the World Meteorological Organization (1) should serve as a wake-up call. With global temperatures predicted to breach internationally agreed safe limits in at least one of the next five years due to global inaction, we are facing a future filled with increasingly severe climate impacts.

“The Spending Review is the government’s chance to act. It must prepare for the climate consequences we can no longer avoid while also accelerating the path to net zero.

“In our submission, the Green Party has called for an additional £7 billion annually to be invested in making the changes we need to face the impact of climate change on all our lives – from flood defences to future-proofing

homes and buildings. This is no longer an optional extra. It's vital to protect lives and livelihoods.

"Delaying now means greater costs, deeper disruption, and irreversible damage. The science couldn't be clearer, and the warning couldn't be louder – the Government must respond with urgency and ambition. The Spending Review is the chance to do it."

(1) [Global climate predictions show temperatures expected to remain at or near record levels in coming five years – Met Office](#)

[Adblock test](#) (Why?)

"Clean, green, renewable power not tied to the old fossil gas market is what we need to bring down bills sustainably."

23 May 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to the news that the [price cap for energy bills is set to drop](#), Green Party Deputy Leader Zack Polanski said,

"£129 off energy bills will be felt as a welcome relief to families up and down the country who are struggling with the cost of living crisis. However, this reduction won't scratch the surface for many who will still be worrying about how they will heat their houses over the winter ahead. It also highlights the folly of coupling our energy prices to the volatile gas market. [Research](#) shows that breaking this market mechanism that ties our energy bills to gas markets added £43 billion to UK energy bills. That's £367 per household. This one step would allow us to utilise cheap renewable power to provide cheap renewable energy for British homes. Clean, green, renewable power not tied to the old fossil gas market is what we need to bring down bills sustainably."

[Adblock test](#) (Why?)

Greens welcome apparent U-turn from government on winter fuel payments

21 May 2025 / 21 May 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Reacting to comments in the Commons today in which Keir Starmer said he wanted to ensure more pensioners are eligible for winter fuel payments, Sian Berry MP said:

“The Prime Minister’s statement shows just how much pressure he is now under, from the public, Greens and others in opposition, and many Labour MPs, to demonstrate he has at least some understanding that his Government’s cuts are hurting people.

“To truly right these many wrongs, the Chancellor must try harder, and use her upcoming fiscal decisions to tax extreme wealth fairly. This could not only restore payments in full to the millions of pensioners Labour has betrayed, but also enable her to reconsider other cruel political choices, including £5 billion in cuts to welfare and her refusal to cancel the two-child benefit cap.

“Together, these u-turns would save hundreds of thousands from being pushed into poverty, and Greens will be making the case for this alongside everyone affected until this Government does the right thing.”

[Adblock test](#) ([Why?](#))