

Clean up our air to save lives

Air pollution is an invisible enemy threatening the community spaces we love and the people we care most about.

Our Community Clean Air Fund would let councils and communities invest in the transport systems and options they need.

It kills thousands of people every year and affects the quality of life for all of us.

At the same time, air pollution is threatening our world, with **climate change**.

After the experience of the pandemic, people want action focused on their **community** and know that bold action for clean air could bring huge **health and environmental benefits** – and help kickstart the green recovery and the new jobs we all know are so desperately needed.

Our Community Clean Air Fund would let councils and communities invest in the transport systems and options **they need**, rather than Whitehall and Westminster dictating what's right.

The Conservatives' failure to act is shown by the fact that the UK regularly breaks legal limits on air quality in so many towns and cities, and yet Conservative Council after Conservative Council are **running away** from taking action to clean the air for local people.

Liberal Democrats are leading on clean air and the climate.

Conservative Councils and councillors are even **voting against** local climate emergency plans and blocking new cycling routes.

Liberal Democrat councils are acting and getting things done.

From Lib Dem run Bath Council introducing a clean air zone in the city centre to the Lib Dem Mayor of Watford pioneering new pay-as-you-go bikes, people can see it's the Liberal Democrats leading on clean air and the climate.

Our **£20 billion** Community Clean Air fund will target all transport emissions affecting local communities and the climate, with emergency 3 year plans to transform people's local transport options, **including:**

- New walking and cycling routes (£5.5 billion)
- New light rail and tram projects (£4.5 billion)
- Expansion of bus routes – old ones restored and new introduced (£5 billion)
- Hydrogen bus revolution – to convert bus fleets to hydrogen (£2 billion)

- New council-led clean air zones for congested towns and cities (£2 billion)
- Extra electric vehicle charging points (£1 billion)

With air pollution causing 40,000 early deaths a year and transport now the country's biggest source of carbon emissions, our strategy will not only boost to the nation's health, but also tackle the climate emergency too.

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Author:

[Conservative development cuts are shameful](#)

The Conservatives are cutting our commitment to overseas aid at the time it is needed most.

We're in the middle of a global pandemic – **global problems need global solutions**. Instead, the Conservatives are shirking their moral and legal responsibilities.

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[Overseas Operations Bill: Support Our Armed Forces](#)

Today the Government is seeking to reverse Lords amendments to the Overseas Operations Bill that add important provisions to properly support our Armed Forces.

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[Carers deserve better than 5p more per day](#)

Being a carer can be rewarding and full of love.

900,000 full-time unpaid carers rely on Carer's Allowance

But it's far from glamorous. It can be relentless and exhausting.

900,000 full-time unpaid carers rely on Carer's Allowance – but at just £67.25 a week, it's **not nearly enough**.

More than a third of those on Carer's Allowance are struggling to make ends meet.

Many have been struggling for months, often relying on foodbanks to feed themselves and the people they care for.

Increasing Carer's Allowance by 5p a day is an insult

The Government's decision to **increase Carer's Allowance by 5p a day** is an insult to the millions of people looking after their loved ones.

The Liberal Democrats are calling on the Government to immediately **raise Carer's Allowance by £1,000** a year.

I've been a carer for much of my life.

First as a teenager, nursing my mum during her long battle against bone cancer.

Later for my Nanna, organising her care and trying to make her last few years as comfortable as we could.

And now as a father, as Emily and I care for our disabled son John.

I know how tough it can be.

We are calling on the Government to immediately raise Carer's Allowance by £1,000 a year.

Whether you are the parent of a disabled child, a young carer or you look after an elderly family member, Coronavirus has made it even tougher.

Most carers are spending even more time looking after loved ones during the pandemic.

Most haven't been able to take a **single break** since it started. Most are simply **exhausted**.

I am determined that the Liberal Democrats will lead the way to a more caring society as we emerge from this pandemic.

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Author:

[It's time to restore community policing.](#)

Everyone has the right to feel safe where they live, and everyone who has been the victim of a crime deserves justice.

But for too long, this Conservative Government has been ignoring victims, failing the police and letting our communities down.

Last year, 1.8 million cases were closed without a suspect even being identified.

And that's why, last year, **1.8 million cases were closed without a suspect even being identified.**

Even before the Covid pandemic, too many people felt unsafe in their own homes or walking down their own streets. In fact **half of all people never even see police patrols in their local area.**

Conservative Ministers like to talk tough on crime, but they have failed to do what works to actually keep people safe. Their unnecessary police cuts have contributed to a **rise in serious violence.**

Police need the officers, resources and time to focus on preventing and solving crimes.

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solving crimes.

Instead, the Tories want to waste police time chasing centralised Whitehall targets and carrying out pointless, suspicionless Stop and Search.

That's why today, the **Liberal Democrats are calling for a return to proper community policing**, where officers are **visible, trusted** and **known** personally to local people.

We will do what works to build communities where people are safe and feel safe too.

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Author: