

Habitats Regulations Report **underscores the need for urgent action** **to restore nature in Northern Ireland**

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has, for the first time, published a comprehensive statutory report on Northern Ireland's implementation of the Habitats Regulations for protected habitats and species. The report which covers the period 2019-2024 underscores the urgent need for decisive action to restore nature.

Kimmins announces £450,000 carriageway **resurfacing scheme for the A32** **Mossfield Road at Sidaire**

Infrastructure Minister Liz Kimmins has announced that a £450,000 carriageway resurfacing scheme on the A32 Mossfield Road at Sidaire, between the Drumbulcan Road and Makenny Road, will commence on Monday 2 February 2026.

Storm Chandra update

The Department for Infrastructure has provided an update on the impact Storm Chandra and subsequent weather events as business begins to return to normal.

Greens pick local plumber to win **Gorton & Denton**

Hannah Spencer was today announced as the Green Party candidate for the Gorton and Denton by-election.

Hannah, 34, is a plumber, local councillor and has lived in Greater Manchester all her life.

“I work as a plumber, something I’ve done since leaving education at 16. I’m training to become a plasterer too. I’ve lived in the constituency and still work here. So, I know the issues and what people want to change.

“This is a crucial by-election. The choice is clear – Green v Reform. Hope v hate.

“Only the Green Party can stop Reform in this by election.

“I want to thank every single member and supporter who has already been out on the doorstep listening to voters.

“We know Labour’s vote is in free fall. They have banned their own Mayor from standing. The Labour government has abandoned voters in Gorton and Denton and failed to tackle the cost-of-living crisis

“I will be meeting voters day and night for these next few, short weeks of this vital campaign making the case for hope.

“Reform have chosen a candidate that will divide our community. He doesn’t even think many of the people who live and work here are even British.

“I will bring the people of Gorton and Denton together.

“With their support, I will join my Green MP colleagues in the House of Commons, hold the government to account and demand action to push down costs, raise wages and bring desperately needed investment into our community.”

Green Party leader Zack Polanski said: “Hannah Spencer will be a brilliant MP for the people of Gorton and Denton. I’m a Mancunian and know when someone genuinely wants to roll up their sleeves and work for the community. Hannah is that person.

“We have just days to stop Reform and make hope normal again.”

NOTES TO EDITORS

Hannah Spencer biography:

Hannah is Leader of the Green Party Group on Trafford Council

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