

Infrastructure Minister appoints Councillor to the Drainage Council

Infrastructure Minister, Liz Kimmins has appointed Eddie Thompson to serve as a Non-Executive Councillor Member on the Drainage Council.

Archibald confirms formal closure of Non-Domestic RHI Scheme

Economy Minister Dr Caoimhe Archibald has confirmed the Executive has agreed a pathway to deliver on the closure of the Non-Domestic RHI Scheme.

Leading the Way

Today, Liberal Democrat members have voted to approve the final report of our party's Policy Review.

This has been a massive project that the party's been working on since the General Election – with contributions from thousands of our members – and I hope you'll find the results both interesting and inspiring.

For the past year, I've had the privilege of chairing the fantastic Policy Review team, made up of activists, councillors, parliamentarians and policy experts from across the party and around the country.

I am incredibly grateful to them all for the time, dedication and effort they put into this important work for our party.

Together, we examined the opportunities and challenges facing the UK today, analysed how well existing Liberal Democrat policies address them, and took a huge amount of evidence from think tanks, academics and policymakers.

But our most important job was listening to you: Liberal Democrat members and supporters.

We ran an enormous programme of engaging with members at federal and regional conferences, as well as through an online consultation that received thousands of responses.

We heard what you think about the vision you want for the future of our country, and the areas where we need bold new policies to make that vision a reality.

So I want to say a big thank you! This report is your report. Its findings are your findings. I'm immensely proud of it, and I hope you are too.

You can read it here, please share it with anyone you think might be interested:

Read the review in full

Ed Davey

Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Chair of the Policy Review

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[“A second runway at Gatwick is a disaster” say Greens](#)

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

Responding to the [news](#) that Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander has approved plans for a second runway at London Gatwick Airport, Green Party Leader, Zack Polanski, said:

“Signing off on a second runway at Gatwick is a disaster. It ignores basic climate science and risks undermining efforts to tackle the climate crisis. Labour keeps wheeling out the same nonsense about growth, but at what cost? What this really means is more pollution, more noise for local communities, and no real economic benefit. Expanding Gatwick is a tired, 20th-century answer to a 21st-century crisis. Labour’s obsession with ‘growth at all costs’ is driving us deeper into a climate breakdown and social inequality crisis.”

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This Land is Your Land – Restoring Public Paths Through Nature



In the UK, access to public paths is shrinking. Thousands of miles of disused railway lines, canal towpaths and green spaces sit unused or blocked off.

Liberal Democrats have a vision to transform these forgotten routes into vibrant public paths for everyone to enjoy.

By creating a national legal framework to unlock thousands of miles of new walking, cycling, and horse-riding routes, we can connect communities, boost local economies, and improve health across the country.

That's why today, Liberal Democrats members have passed new policy, to:

- **Introduce a national legal framework** to turn disused railway lines into public rights of way, making grassroots trail campaigns easier, faster, and fairer to all parties, with fair compensation for landowners.
- **Create a long-term fund and incentives** for local authorities and communities to reclaim unused land – including railway sidings, airfields, and industrial sites – for walking and cycling routes, allotments, and green spaces.
- **Promote outdoor education** by ensuring every child experiences residential outdoor learning during their school years.
- **Improve canal and river towpaths** in partnership with the Canal & River Trust, enhancing habitats and public access.
- **Refresh and popularise the Countryside Code** to boost respect for nature and countryside etiquette.

Read our new policy in full

We believe every person should have guaranteed, fair access to Britain's beautiful green spaces, coastlines, and waterways. The Conservatives failed to deliver the investment and legal backing needed, we will fix that.

By unlocking disused routes and investing in nature and outdoor education, we can build a healthier, greener, and more connected UK.

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