**General Election 2019**

**Party manifestos analysis**

This document records the manifesto pledges made by the Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Plaid Cymru and Green Parties against the policies Friends of the Earth asked them to make part of their programme for Government.

These parties have been chosen because they stand in more than one of the UK nations and had at least one MP at the time the General Election was called. MPs from these parties were sent copies of our manifesto demands before Parliament was dissolved.

**The manifestos are all available online:**

* Conservative [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf)
* Labour [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)
  + [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)
  + [Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf)
  + [Cycle announcement 1/12](https://labour.org.uk/press/labour-announces-plan-to-make-england-one-of-the-most-cycling-and-walking-friendly-places-in-the-world/)
  + [Rail announcement 1/12](https://labour.org.uk/press/labour-announces-biggest-ever-rail-fares-cut-saving-the-average-commuter-over-1000-a-year/)
  + [Warm Homes for all](https://labour.org.uk/press/warm-homes-for-all-labours-plan-to-reduce-energy-bills-create-jobs-and-tackle-the-climate-emergency/)
* Liberal Democrat [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)
  + [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf)
  + [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf)
* Green [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf)
  + [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/FoE%20letter%20JB%2004.12.19.pdf) (provided post-deadline)
* Plaid Cymru [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto)
  + Amende

Friends of the Earth is a politically impartial organisation. Our objective during this General Election is to ensure that all these parties have the strongest policies for the environment. We have read and extracted relevant policies and commitments from the party manifestos, and recorded them below with a brief comment and our score.

Our scoring reflects our assessment of each party’s policies on environmental criteria, and does not represent an endorsement of any party.

**Notes on scoring:**

We have allocated one point where a party has entirely or substantially met our ask, and zero points where they have not. In a limited number of cases, party commitments are positive but we have significant questions or concerns about some elements of those commitments. In this case we have awarded 0.5 points.

Interim scoring was conducted based only on publicly available manifestos. Where parties have followed up on these main manifesto documents with additional publications or confirmation that previous policy remains valid, these have been added to scoring.

**Our General Election Manifesto policies – summary**

1. **Climate change** – Commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions significantly faster, including bringing international aviation and shipping emissions into the UK’s carbon budgets, ruling out the use of international offsetting,  meeting our fair share of funding international climate finance and stop funding fossil fuels abroad.

1. **Surface transport**– Spend an additional £11.5 billion per year on public transport (including free buses for the under 30s),  cycling and walking by reviewing the road building programme and HS2; speed-up the transition to electric vehicles and ensure clean air everywhere.

1. **Aviation** – Reduce emissions from aviation, including through the introduction of a frequent flier levy, and cancel airport expansion.

1. **Energy**–Speed-up and scale-up the development of renewable energy;  ban fracking; increase the cost of fossil-fuel use; and commit to phasing out the use of natural gas.

1. **Homes** – invest at least an additional £3.3 billion per year over the next few years into a local authority led insulation and eco-heating programme; improve the energy efficiency standards of the private rented sector; and improve the standards of new build homes.

1. **Food, farming and land-use** – Commit to doubling UK tree cover to capture carbon and let nature thrive. Reduce the use of pesticides, commit to deliver a strategy that leads to diets with less but better meat, and set a binding target to halve food waste.

1. **Nature** – Invest an additional £5.6 billion a year into nature protection and restoration (including important carbon sinks such as peatbogs), introduce targets and powerful new legislation to protect the environment, and introduce a new law to end the scourge of plastic pollution.

1. **Local authorities** -  Require and fully empower local authorities to deliver on the climate emergency, including through providing sites for renewable energy developments, enabling local authorities to raise significant sums for low carbon investment, and rewrite national planning rules.

1. **Brexit** - Oppose a No Deal Brexit under all circumstances and pursue a close future relationship with the EU. Ensure current high environmental standards are guaranteed in law to be maintained and improved upon, including in a focus on ‘public money for public goods’ in farming, and ensure any future trade deals promote global sustainability and maintain standards.

1. **Rights & Democracy** - Improve democracy by enabling 16- and 17-year olds to vote in future elections, introducing proportional representation, introducing a Future Generations Act for England, overhauling electoral law, and protect the right to protest.

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| **Meeting our international climate commitments (max score is 5)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Commit to going significantly faster than Net Zero by 2050. Ask the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) to undertake a new study to identify the fastest possible UK emissions reduction scenarios, and their impacts, bringing forward recommendations to tighten the 4th and 5th carbon budgets. | We will lead the global fight against climate change by delivering on our world-leading target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, as advised by the independent Committee on Climate Change. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will develop the recommendations of our ‘30 by 2030’ report to put the UK on track for a net-zero-carbon energy system within the 2030s – and go faster if credible pathways can be found. We will deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030.  We aim to achieve net-zero-carbon food production in Britain by 2040. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We share the National Farmers Union commitment to achieve net zero emissions targets in agriculture and will work with farmers to adopt strategies set out in ‘Achieving Net Zero: Farming’s 2040 goal’.  We will set legally binding targets for 2030, 2040 and 2050, with the aim of reaching net zero by 2030 and full nature restoration by 2050. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | We will deliver a ten-year emergency programme to cut emissions substantially straight away, and phase out emissions from the remaining hard-to-treat sectors by 2045 at the latest - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | New green homes, new green transport and new green jobs will get us on track to reduce the UK’s carbon emissions to net zero by 2030 and provide new opportunities for everyone to live happier and more secure lives. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | […] goal of making Wales a carbon and single-use plastic free nation by 2030  Ensure that Wales transitions to a low carbon, nature friendly economy. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto)  “We have adopted the recommendations of the IWA report in Wales and have encouraged the WG to do the same.  IWA report: <https://www.iwa.wales/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/IWA_Energy_WP6_Digital-2.pdf>  <https://cofnod.cynulliad.cymru/Plenary/5572#C181369>  We also scrutinise the WG on their emission targets, pressurising them to engage with the CCC: <https://cofnod.cynulliad.cymru/Plenary/5668#C207215> “ |
| ***Score: 0***  *This is a commitment to achieve net-zero by 2050, not faster than 2050.* | ***Score: 1***  *This is an ambitious and practical plan to get to net-zero well before 2050, with strong early action.* | ***Score: 1***  *Proposes net-zero before 2050, with a focus on deep cuts in the next 10 years.* | ***Score: 1***  *Ambitious ideas which fulfil criteria of net-zero ‘faster than 2050.’ Very high ambition - a reductions scenario that goes faster than any of the other parties, although still unlikely to achieve the 2030 objective.* | ***Score: 1***  *This is a positive commitment to becoming carbon free by 2030, although it would be helpful to see further clarity on how Plaid Cymru are defining ‘carbon free’ and ‘low carbon’ in relation to the concept of ‘net-zero’ emissions.*  *We can’t see any evidence of suggesting CCC engagement on carbon budgets, although these are not controlled at a devolved level.* |
| Enact Secondary Legislation to the Climate Change Act 2008 to fully include international aviation and shipping into the UK’s carbon targets. |  | Labour will take full responsibility for our carbon footprint instead of passing the buck. We will instruct the Committee on Climate Change to assess the emissions the UK imports as well as those it produces - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We will work with our shipping industry to assess targets for achieving zero carbon domestic shipping by 2050. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  “You have to include aviation and shipping in the target otherwise you are missing a major source of pollution” – [Corbyn, Climate leadership debate 28/11](https://youtu.be/H6bJhKvFVw4)  We can confirm that Labour will include international aviation and shipping in the UK's carbon targets. . [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | See pp. 19–20: emissions from international transport are included in our overall emissions commitments by carbon budget period (see table and graph). See also Section 7.2. Since it is clear that these emissions are included in our targets, we did not think it necessary to add details of the secondary legislation – this would follow automatically. – [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) and [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) |  | n/a |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this measure in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *Following clarification, this fully meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Plan to Tackle the Climate Emergency provides figures for carbon reduction which include aviation and shipping, and the clarification letter makes clear that legislation is expected.* | ***Score: 0***  *No direct promise on adding aviation and shipping to UK carbon targets. Previous commitments not restated.* | ***Score: 1***  *Aviation and shipping is already counted in t*he *We*lsh *carbon account via the Environment (Wales) Act (although this only covers transport directly from or to Wales).* |
| Rule out the use of international offsetting in meeting UK carbon budgets. |  | We will not export our climate impacts or polluting waste to the Global South. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  We can confirm that Labour will […] will rule out the use of offsetting in meeting UK carbon budgets. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Unlike the Conservatives, we would aim to meet this target without the use of international offsets. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) |  | “Plaid Cymru representatives in Westminster will support the call to rule out international offsetting in meeting carbon budgets” |
|  | ***Score: 0***  *No mention of international offsetting in the manifesto* | ***Score: 1***  *Labour have confirmed by letter that the general commitment on exporting impacts will be accompanied by ruling out of international offsetting.* | ***Score: 0***  *This is an aim, not a firm commitment.* | ***Score: 0***  *No mention of international offsetting in the manifesto. Previous commitment not restated.* | ***Score: 1***  *While this is not a devolved issue, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that their representatives in Westminster will rule out any support for international offsetting* |
| Make a new five-year commitment to international climate finance, in line with the UK’s commitments under the UNFCCC and in line with our global fair share. These funds must be genuinely new and additional sources of public finance, not from existing ring-fenced finance for the aid budget. | We have doubled International Climate Finance. And we will use our position hosting the UN Climate Change Summit in Glasgow in 2020 to ask our global partners to match our ambition. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | Provide a top-up of new and additional spending on international climate finance to bring the total to £4 billion a year, and also support international calls for compensation to those nations already suffering loss and damage. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Remain firmly committed to spending 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income on aid, prioritising development that both helps the poorest and ties in with our strategic international objectives on gender equality, climate change and the environment, human rights, conflict prevention and tackling inequality.  Increase the proportion of the aid budget committed to tackling climate change and environmental degradation: helping countries mitigate the impact of climate change and other environmental crises and support climate refugees.. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Phase in an increase in spending on foreign aid from 0.7% to 1% of our GDP…  Building on the Green Party’s commitment to global justice the Green New Deal includes finance and technology to help the majority world adapt to climate change and support human well-being…  Making finance and technology available to support developing nations to develop local Green New Deals and transform their economies, equipping them to tackle the causes and impacts of the Climate Emergency…  The funds saved from cancelling Trident will be diverted towards the development of non-carbon emitting technologies and finance to help countries deal with the Climate Emergency…  Increasing international aid: £6.5 billion – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “Should this issue become devolved, our AMs would call for assurances that our commitment to the international climate finance would continue in line with the UK’s commitments under the UNFCCC. We will also support this call at Westminster.” |
| ***Score: 0***  *Not a new, further commitment.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to increasing funds directed at climate issues and to ensuring this is new money.* | ***Score: 0***  *The Liberal Democrats have committed to increasing funds directed at climate issues, but this is a reallocation of the existing aid budget and does not represent new investment.* | ***Score: 1***  *There are plenty of positive policies here, which will go a fair way towards the UK doing its fair share of international climate The manifesto recognises the historic role of the UK in driving climate breakdown and its current position of power, and concludes the UK must use our influence and wealth to act internationally. However, it’s unclear how much climate finance will be provided and whether that comes from new sources or risks diverting aid from humanitarian projects.* | ***Score: 1***  *While this is not a devolved issue, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that their representatives in Westminster will call for a new 5 year commitment to international climate finance and support action to bring the UK in line with UNFCCC commitments – and will support in Wales if the issue becomes devolved.* |
| End public financing of coal, oil and gas projects overseas - both directly and indirectly under UKEF and Official Development Assistance. | We will use export finance to increase our businesses’ access to emerging markets and engage diaspora communities in the UK with this agenda. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | Stop all aid spending on fossil fuel production overseas, redirecting it towards clean, renewable energy for all.  End all UK Export Finance support to fossil fuel projects, and reject any trade deals that conflict with our climate principles. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | End support from UK Export Finance for fossil fuel-related activities, and press for higher environmental standards for export credit agencies throughout the OECD  Increase the proportion of the aid budget committed to tackling climate change and environmental degradation: helping countries mitigate the impact of climate change and other environmental crises and support climate refugees.  Argue for an end to all fossil fuel subsidies world-wide and provide aid to developing countries to help them transition to clean sources of energy. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Building on the Green Party’s commitment to global justice the Green New Deal includes finance and technology to help the majority world adapt to climate change and support human well-being […]  Making finance and technology available to support developing nations to develop local Green New Deals and transform their economies, equipping them to tackle the causes and impacts of the Climate Emergency – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Invest in Overseas Development Aid that supports a transition to ecologically friendly farming. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto)  “See Ben Lake’s contribution: <https://www.theyworkforyou.com/debates/?id=2019-06-12e.660.6#g682.0>  We will continue to call for an end to public financing of fossil fuels overseas.” |
| ***Score: 0***  *Manifesto talks only about extending export finance to increase market access. No limit on funding fossil fuels abroad and does not mention ODA.* | ***Score: 1***  *Manifesto commits directly to both parts of the ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto commits to ending UKEF support for fossil fuels, although it is unclear if other funding, including via ODA, will end.* | ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto covers increasing funding for renewables overseas but doesn’t directly commit to end public financing for fossil fuels or reference UKEF/ODA.* | ***Score: 1***  *It is positive to see this investment, and Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that their representatives in Westminster will call for an end to public financing of fossil fuels overseas.* |
| **Surface transport (max score is 6)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Invest £14.33 billion, of which £11.55 billion is new money, into transforming public transport, cycling and walking. | * We will build Northern Powerhouse Rail * We will invest in the Midlands Rail Hub * We will also invest in improving train lines   We will give city regions the funding to upgrade their bus, tram and train services to make them as good as London’s  We will invest in superbus networks with lower fares – flat fares in urban areas – and increased frequency. We will keep bus fares low, bring back and protect rural routes, and speed up your journeys. We will invest in electric buses… Developing the UK’s first all electric- bus town.  We will support commuter cycling routes, so that more people can cycle safely to work and more families can go out together. We will create a new £350 million Cycling Infrastructure Fund with mandatory design standards for new routes.   * 500m for rail 20-21 – 250m from Network rail * 280m cycling * Intra-city transport 1680m [over 4 costed years] - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will introduce a long-term investment plan including delivering Crossrail for the North as part of improved connectivity across the northern regions. We will consult with local communities to reopen branch lines.  We will increase the funding available for cycling and walking.  Our transport programme is focused on creating better, publicly accessible local transport systems. By improving public transport, Labour will help people to become less reliant on their cars.  £250 billion will directly fund the transition through a Green Transformation Fund dedicated to renewable and low-carbon energy and transport, biodiversity and environmental restoration. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  A Green Transformation Fund of £250 billion over the next ten years will be established by a Labour government to directly fund the transition to our sustainable future. Separate funding streams will support or be dedicated to: […] supporting the shift towards sustainable, pollution-free transport systems, including accessible public transport, rail electrification and low or ultra-low emission road vehicles  Our comprehensive plans for reducing transport emissions through investments in local public transport will contribute to a cleaner environment. By improving public transport and investing more in healthier active travel forms like cycling, by supporting the transition to ultra low emission vehicles and expanding rail freight, we will help people to become less reliant on polluting forms of transport and improve air quality for our better health, for a cleaner environment – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)   * Cut regulated rail fares by 33% from January 2020, saving the average commuter £1097 a year. * Make rail travel free for those 16 years old and under. – [Labour rail 01/12](https://labour.org.uk/press/labour-announces-biggest-ever-rail-fares-cut-saving-the-average-commuter-over-1000-a-year/)   Labour say these changes would cost about £1.5bn per year. The funding would come from a wider change planned by the party to create a sustainable transport fund from the revenues bought in by vehicle excise duty, or VED, which is based on emissions. – [Guardian election pledges story, 01/12/19](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/dec/01/labour-plan-cut-rail-fares-england-season-tickets)   * Double cycling journeys by adults and children. * Build 5000km of cycleways. * Create safe cycling and walking routes to 10,000 primary schools. * Deliver universal affordable access to bicycles and grants for e-bike purchase. * Provide cycle training for all primary school children and their parents, plus extend training to secondary schools and make it available for all adults. - [Labour cycle 01/12](https://labour.org.uk/press/labour-announces-plan-to-make-england-one-of-the-most-cycling-and-walking-friendly-places-in-the-world/)   Labour will make the biggest ever investment in zero carbon ‘active travel’ modes totalling £7.2 billion over the first term of a Labour Government.   * Double cycling journeys by adults and children * Build 5000km of cycleways * Create safe cycling and walking routes to 10,000 primary schools * Deliver universal affordable access to bicycles and grants for e-bike purchase * Provide cycle training for all primary school children and their parents, plus extend training to secondary schools and make it available for all adults * A Labour government will take a stake in a world-leading electric bike research, development and manufacturing facility that will form the core of an ‘E-bike Valley’ industrial cluster. * E-cargo bike demonstration cities. * Grants of £200 for e-bike purchase to boost purchase rates to those in other European countries. * Expansion of Bikeability cycle training, doubling present provision so it covers all primary school children, plus extension to all their parents, extension to give advanced training in secondary schools and extension to offer cycle training to all adults. * Universal affordable access to bicycles. * ‘Social prescribing’ of cycling and bicycles on prescription. * Expansion of the successful Walk to School scheme to all schools * A Cycling and Walking Social Investment Fund to support walking and cycling in left-behind areas.   Funding of £1.3bn/yr to completely reverse the Tories’ cuts to buses since 2010 - some 3000 routes axed - plus additional funding to lay on as many additional bus routes.  Funding of £1.4 bn/yr to provide free bus travel to under-25s everywhere that local authorities take back control of their buses. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Investing in public transport, buses, trams and railways to enable people to travel more easily while reducing their impact on the environment. Placing a far higher priority on encouraging walking and cycling – the healthiest forms of transport. Accelerating the transition to ultra-low-emission transport – cars, buses and trains – through taxation, subsidy and regulation.  Restore bus routes and add new routes where there is local need; we will provide £4.5 billion over five years for this programme.  Introduce a nationwide strategy to promote walking and cycling, including the creation of dedicated safe cycling lanes, increasing spending per head five-fold to reach 10 per cent of the transport budget.  Freeze rail fares for commuters and season ticket holders for a parliament, while we fix our railways. Extend Britain’s rail network, improve stations, reopen smaller stations and restore twin-track lines to major routes. Convert the rail network to ultra-low-emission technology (electric or hydrogen) by 2035, and provide funding for light rail and trams. Improve the experience of people who rely on the railways for work by investing in commuter routes and the integration of rail, bus and cycle routes. Fix the broken fares and ticketing system so that it provides better value for money. Improve disabled access to public transport via the Access for All programme. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  Green transport: investing in green transport and encouraging people to use greener options; substantially increasing funding for buses so that new routes can be opened and old routes restored; promoting walking and cycling as options; and, freezing rail fares for five years while we make the rail system fit-for-purpose. Cost = £2,610m  Capital investment includes £86 billion to tackle the climate emergency and protect the environment, including: - Substantial additional investment in the railways – opening new routes and electrification – [manifesto costings](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574260354/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future_COSTINGS.pdf?1574260354). | Spending £2.5 billion a year on new cycleways and footpaths, built using sustainable materials, such as woodchips and sawdust…  The funding for this road building programme, the £6.5 billion in revenue received from Vehicle Exercise Duty each year, will be switched to supporting sustainable public transport and new cycleways and footpaths as part of the Green New Deal. £1.5 billion of Vehicle Exercise Duty revenue will be retained to maintain existing roads…  Reduction in public transport fares: £3.5 billion Upgrading cycleways and footpaths: £0.5 billion (admin costs) Upgrading rail capacity, including electrification: £12.2 billion Upgrading cycleways and footpaths infrastructure: £2.0 billion Electric vehicles and infrastructure: £2.5 billion– [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | * Electrification of all major rail lines by 2030. We will complete the planned electrification of the South Wales Valley Lines. The next line to be electrified should be the North Wales Coast Line. * Building a super-Metro for south-east Wales with new stations acting as development hubs. * Building the new Swansea Bay and Western Valleys Metro, and reopening rail services for the Amman, Swansea, Neath and Dulais Valleys. * Developing a metro for north-east Wales and relocate the Chester Transport for Wales Depot to the north of Wales. * Creating a trans-Wales railway: connecting Wales’ coastal communities by re-opening the Carmarthen to Aberystwyth line together with a second phase linking our communities from north to south. * A Cross-Rail for the Valleys, from Porth to Pontypool. * Expanding the Traws Cymru bus network with high-quality coaches powered by renewable sources of energy.   Transport for Wales will create a new publicly owned regional bus company for southern Wales. This will amalgamate Cardiff and Newport Bus with First Cymru to provide additional inter-city bus services between Newport, Cardiff and Swansea and additional cross valley services.  Plaid Cymru will introduce a bicycle use reward scheme, to encourage people out of their cars and onto their bikes[…] significant improvements to cycling infrastructure, making cycling safer and more enjoyable for children and casual bike users. It would include nationwide improvements to cycle paths, the development of cycleways connecting economic hubs and providing train carriages with enough room for bicycles.  invest a total of £20 billion in our green jobs revolution – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *Investment far below required levels, with focus on rail rather than investments across walking, cycling and bus infrastructure.* | ***Score: 1***  *A range of positive plans and significant detail which more than meet our ask for additional investment in transport.* | ***Score: 1***  *The proposed investment meets our ask, although it isn’t clear how much of this is new spending.* | ***Score: 1***  *The costed commitments in the manifesto relating to public transport add up to £20.7 bn in total, above our ask. At least £6.5 bn is VED, ‘new’ to investment in public transport, but it isn’t clear how much of the rest is existing.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Some good ideas here but the manifesto lacks specific levels of investment (including within the Green Jobs Revolution) or an overarching strategy. We would welcome further detail.* |
| Provide the under 30s with free bus travel. |  | Where councils take control of their buses, Labour will introduce free bus travel for under-25s - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Provide a package of carer benefits such as free leisure centre access, free bus travel for young carers - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) |  |  |
| ***Score: 0***  *No commitment in manifesto.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Manifesto promises free bus travel but only for under 25s and only in areas where councils control services.* | ***Score: 0***  *Liberal Democrat proposals for free bus travel extend only to a small sub-section of young people.* | ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto suggests the VED funding would be used for wider public transport improvements rather than free bus travel, which isn’t mentioned. Previous commitment not restated.* | ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this in the manifesto* |
| Review the £28.8 billion road building programme, including scrapping all new road projects that will lead to increased carbon dioxide emissions. | We will make a £28.8 billion investment in strategic and local roads. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will review public expenditure on transport to ensure that it promotes environmental sustainability and contributes to decarbonisation. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  The next Labour government will expand the hypothecation of VED to form a sustainable transport fund for rail and other sustainable modes of travel and to address the pothole backlog. If this money were to be spent on road building it would increase traffic, congestion and carbon emissions, the opposite of what is needed to reach the UK’s commitment to climate targets and to clean up polluted air.  All the revenue funding for active travel, buses and rail pledges detailed above will be from the Tories’ £6bn/yr VED road building fund, instead of building new roads. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | This would be supported through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, originally set up by Liberal Democrats, with additional funds from money currently allocated to the road building budget. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) | Scrapping the government’s new road building programme, including the proposed road tunnel at Stonehenge that threatens to desecrate an iconic World Heritage Site…  Scrapping the government’s road building programme: [saving] £5 billion – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “We back no new proposal for new roads in Wales, instead looking to invest in improving the quality of pre-existing roads - particularly between the north and south of Wales. We also look to strengthen transport links in other ways (i.e. electrification of south Wales rail network)  Objection to M4 relief roads on the grounds of environmental impact as well as cost. Our alternative plans were based on developing public transport. Although an alternative of the blue route was touched upon, this meant the development of an already existing route, rather than carving a new one, and did not form the basis of our alternative plans.  See the Plaid Cymru debate here: <https://cofnod.cynulliad.cymru/Plenary/5665#A51555> “ |
| ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto recommits to the existing road building scheme.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Useful to see a diversion of VED away from roads and towards sustainable travel but it is still unclear if this equates to a firm commitment to scrap all new road building – leaving open the possibility of further road building as part of a transport ‘mix’.* | ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto does not repeat previous proposals to reallocate Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) towards zero-carbon transport and provides little detail on the scale of road building funding remaining.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Greens have met the commitment to scrap the new road building programme.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *No proposals, although there are currently no new proposed major roads in Wales, and the manifesto contains no wider plans to build additional roads. Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that their representatives in Westminster will rule out any support for further road building in Wales, although fall short of confirming opposition to all new road building and support investment in pre-existing roads.* |
| Cancel the £90 billion HS2 project. | HS2 is a great ambition, but will now cost at least £81 billion and will not reach Leeds or Manchester until as late as 2040. We will consider the findings of the Oakervee review into costs and timings and work with leaders of the Midlands and the North to decide the optimal outcome. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will also unlock capacity and extend high-speed rail networks nationwide by completing the full HS2 route to Scotland, taking full account of the environmental impacts of different route options. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We need to ensure that proper account is taken of the environmental impacts. Under the Conservatives, the profit and cost of such developments always override environmental concerns, which is what has given rise to approvals for the destruction of ancient woodlands along the route of HS2 – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Support High Speed 2, Northern Powerhouse Rail, East-West Rail and Crossrail 2, but ensure far tighter financial controls and increased accountability to ensure that these projects are value for money, and address problems with implementation to ensure that HS2 opens as early as possible to meet our decarbonisation goals while minimising the destruction of precious UK habitats and woodland. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Scrapping HS2: £3.5 billion (an additional £0.5 billion of savings from this measure will be spent on costs of cancellation) – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We would scrap the wasteful and environmentally harmful HS2 project.  That would not only avoid the destruction of important habitats, it would also allow us to instead invest public transport infrastructure more fairly across the UK. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *No cancellation, rather a proposal to review.* | ***Score: 0***  *Labour are proposing an extension rather than an end to HS2. References in the Plan for Nature to taking account of environmental impacts do not go far enough.* | ***Score: 0***  *While the Liberal Democrats have tried to offer some improvements to the HS2 projects, these don’t overcome the severe problems with the proposed line. ‘Minimising’ the destruction of precious habitats is not enough.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Greens have met the commitment to scrap HS2.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment meets our request to support the scrapping of HS2* |
| Set a 2030 cut-off date for the sale of petrol and diesel cars, vans and buses and 2040 for HGVs. | We will consult on the earliest date by which we can phase out the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | The Conservatives have committed to ending new sales of combustion engine vehicles by 2040. Labour will aim for 2030. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We will meet the new standards set out in the [Clean Air] Act with a scrappage scheme for polluting vehicles, an expansion of rail freight to take more lorries off our roads – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  Our investment figures (including for the EV charging network) are based on what would be necessary to achieve a 2030 sales phase out date, and hence our investment figures are larger than those called for by Deloitte and the CCC. Labour’s commitment to 2030 is thus a firm proposal, and we are confident these measures will put the UK on a pathway to meeting it. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | We will ensure that, by 2030, every new car and small van sold is electric - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | End the sale of new petrol and diesel fuelled vehicles by 2030. Over the next ten years we will ease this transition by incentivising the replacement of diesel and petrol vans, lorries and coaches with electric vehicles – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Accelerate the transition to an electric transport system so that petrol and diesel cars are phased out by 2030. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto does not offer a date at all for cars or HGVs* | ***Score: 1***  *This is a new and additional commitment from Labour to a 2030 cut-off date on smaller vehicles. Detail on HGVs would be welcomed.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment meets our ask for smaller vehicles. It would be helpful if the Liberal Democrats could be more specific on the date at which of HGV’s might be addressed.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment meets our ask, and seems to go beyond for HGVs by specifying ‘all vehicles’ by 2030.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment meets our ask for smaller vehicles, although it would be helpful to get some further detail on HGVs* |
| Back legislation to enshrine legally binding targets to meet World Health Organisation air pollution standards by 2030 and a right to healthy air for all. | introduce our own legal targets, including for air quality. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | Labour will introduce a new Clean Air Act, with a vehicle scrappage scheme and clean air zones, complying with World Health Organisation limits for fine particles and nitrous oxides. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Labour will introduce a new Clean Air Act enshrining the World Health Organisation’s advisory air quality standards into domestic law. We will meet the new standards set out in the Act with a scrappage scheme for polluting vehicles, an expansion of rail freight to take more lorries off our roads, support for farming practises which reduce the release of ammonia and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and clean air zones around schools. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Pass a Clean Air Act, based on World Health Organisation guidelines, enforced by a new Air Quality Agency. The Act will enshrine the legal right to unpolluted air wherever you live - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | [savings from] Ending air pollution: £1.8 billion…  a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will implement a Clean Air Act for Wales to:   * Create clean air zones in our towns and cities. * Give communities the right to place pollution-monitoring equipment outside schools and hospitals. * Enable local authorities to introduce pollution and congestion charges. * Set a national and regional plan to reduce air pollution in Wales. * Reform planning law to require impact on air pollution to be given greater weight in the planning system. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto)   “Historically our AMs have (and continue to) back a clean air act for Wales, the carbon neutral date of 2030 and a right to healthy air for all.  See Dai Lloyd’s short debate on this topic, based on WHO standards and a 2030 target: <https://cofnod.cynulliad.cymru/Plenary/5426#A48727> “ |
| ***Score: 0***  *Legally binding targets are proposed within legislation, but not with a 2030 deadline and no commitment to WHO levels. Doesn’t recommit to measures in the Environment Bill.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto specifies a specific act containing WHO standards, and clean air zones, but not with a 2030 deadline. The Plan for Nature offers no further detail.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto specifies WHO standards, enforcement and the right to clean air, but not with a 2030 deadline.* | ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto doesn’t specify what will be in this new Clean Air Act, although previous Green proposals for a CAA have included legally binding WHO targets. Previous commitment not restated. We* [*received a letter*](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/FoE%20letter%20JB%2004.12.19.pdf) *from Jonathan Bartley which set out further detail on Green policy. – however this was sent after our deadline so has not been scored.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto specifies a specific act containing clean air zones but does not reference WHO standards, the 2030 date or a right to air. However, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified their support for an Act in Wales that includes these elements.* |
| **Aviation (max score is 3)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Commit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aviation to well below the level in the year 1997 as fast as possible. |  | “Labour will align the priorities of the Department for Transport with our commitment to tackle climate change. […] The Department doesn’t have a carbon reduction budget or target. […] I will want to see the Department set a carbon budget consistent with the aspirations of the Paris Agreement on climate change. […] In addition, I will want each of the sectors – rail, road, aviation and maritime – to have carbon reduction targets in line with that departmental budget.” [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | The trajectory described in the paper (see pp 19—20) returns international transport emissions to the 1997 level by the mid 2030s. – [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) and [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) |  |  |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0***  *No mention in manifesto or Plan for Nature. The clarifying letter demonstrates some positive aspiration but this does not go as far as a commitment to reduce aviation emissions to pre-1997 levels.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The projection on pages 19 and 20 of the Plan for Tackling the Climate Emergency demonstrates a positive aim, but is an illustration of possible reductions, not a clear commitment to achieve these reductions.* | ***Score: 0***  *No specific commitment on cutting emissions from aviation, although a number of measures elsewhere to discourage flying, including, increases to fuel costs and ending of domestic flight VAT exemption, which may contribute to this.* | ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this in the manifesto* |
| Cancelling the approval of Heathrow expansion and banning the expansion of regional airports. | Parliament has voted in principle to support a third runway at Heathrow, but it is a private sector project. It is for Heathrow to demonstrate that it can meet its air quality and noise obligations, that the project can be financed and built and that the business case is realistic. The scheme will receive no new public money. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | Any expansion of airports must pass our tests on air quality, noise pollution, climate change obligations and countrywide benefits. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Under the Conservatives, the profit and cost of such developments always override environmental concerns, which is what has given rise to […] an inadequately mitigated proposal for Heathrow expansion – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  Labour’s manifesto says it will only authorise plans that are consistent with our ambitious climate targets. Proposals that aren’t consistent with our policy to reduce carbon emissions will not go ahead. The logical conclusion of this commitment is that climate-busting airport expansions will not be permitted*.*  would order the Airports National Policy Statement which grants permission to Heathrow expansion to be reviewed against the UK’s Paris Climate Commitments and Labour’s more ambitious targets and would immediately cancel it if it was found to be inconsistent[– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | placing a moratorium on the development of new runways (net) in the UK, opposing any expansion of Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted and any new airport in the Thames Estuary, and introducing a zero-carbon fuels blending requirement for domestic fights. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Scrapping plans for airport expansion across the country…  Stop the building of new runways – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Plaid Cymru opposes the construction of a third runway in Heathrow. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *No cancellation, and no commitment on regional airports.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *These set very tough conditions for airport expansion, however it still falls short of a firm commitment.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The Liberal Democrats propose scrapping the Heathrow expansion and opposing (net) new runways, but don’t seem 100% committed to a ban on regional airport expansion given the use a of a ‘net’ runway loophole.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to ending all airport expansion including new runways.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto does support the cancellation of Heathrow expansion, but lacks further detail on support of opposition to the expansion of other airports, including in Wales.* |
| Introduce a graduated tax to discourage frequent fliers (a frequent flier levy). |  | Labour recognises the Davies Commission’s assessment of pressures on airport capacity in the South East. Any expansion of airports must pass our tests on air quality, noise pollution, climate change obligations and countrywide benefits. We will examine fiscal and regulatory options to ensure a response to the climate crisis in a way that is fair to consumers and protects the economy. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We agree with the Committee on Climate Change that a FFL appears to be the best available option and are persuaded by the argument that the vast majority of the population who fly once a year or less shouldn’t be taxed at all, while wealthy frequent flyers should shoulder more responsibility. We do however recognise that a FFL is not an ‘oven ready’ proposal, which the report on which the proposal is based acknowledges, which is why the report advises that cruder approaches could be needed. We would review aviation taxation in government to reform it in a way to manage demand, with a preference for a FFL. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Reduce the climate impact of flying by reforming the taxation of international fights to focus on those who fly the most, while reducing costs for those who take one or two international return fights per year - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  “Frequent flyer tax for those taking more than 3 return long haul flights in a year” – Swinson, 28/11 | Ban advertising for flights, and introduce a Frequent Flyer Levy to reduce the impact of the 15% of people who take 70% of flights. This Frequent Flyer Levy only applies to people who take more than one (return) flight a year, discouraging excessive flying. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “Plaid Cymru has supported calls to introduce a frequent flier levy and we will continue to do so. “ |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Following clarification, Labour support for a frequent flyer levy is welcome progress, although we would welcome further detail to clarify if this will apply to both long and short-haul flights and that it will apply after the first flight.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *There is some form of graduated tax on flying in the manifesto, but its construction suggests the Liberal Democrats plans may encourage some non-flyers to fly by making first and second flight prices cheaper, and does not tackle short-haul flights. This commitment also appears to have become weaker over time, with Jo Swinson suggesting a third international return flight may also fall outside the levy.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear and detailed levy plans meet our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *No mention of this in the manifesto. However, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that they support such a levy.* |
| **Energy (max score is 4 points)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Speed-up the deployment of renewable energy capacity - from an average of 7.7 GW per year to around 14 GW per year~~.~~ | Our world-leading offshore wind industry will reach 40gw by 2030, and we will enable new floating wind farms  We will use our £1 billion Ayrton Fund to develop affordable and accessible clean energy that will improve lives and help us to lead the world in tackling climate change.- [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | £250 billion will directly fund the transition through a Green Transformation Fund dedicated to renewable and low-carbon energy and transport, biodiversity and environmental restoration.  We will deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030. We will build:   * + 7,000 new offshore wind turbines   + 2,000 new onshore wind turbines   + Enough solar panels to cover 22,000 football pitches.   + New nuclear power needed for energy security.   As part of heat decarbonisation, we will roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen, and invest in district heat networks using waste heat. To balance the grid, we will expand power storage and invest in grid enhancements and interconnectors. We will expand distributed and community energy,  We will trial and expand tidal energy and invest to reduce the costs of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production.- [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  A Green Transformation Fund of £250 billion over the next ten years will be established by a Labour government to directly fund the transition to our sustainable future. Separate funding streams will support or be dedicated to: developing renewable and low carbon energy sources with which we can power our society, industries and homes  We will ensure renewable energy sources power the water industry sector – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | We will:   * Accelerate the deployment of renewable power, providing more funding, removing the Conservatives’ restrictions on solar and wind and building more interconnectors to guarantee security of supply; we aim to reach at least 80 per cent renewable electricity in the UK by 2030. * Expand community and decentralised energy, support councils to develop local electricity generation and require all new homes to be fitted with solar panels. * Ban fracking because of its negative impacts on climate change, the energy mix and the local environment. * Support investment and innovation in cutting-edge energy technologies, including tidal and wave power, energy storage, demand response, smart grids and hydrogen. * Provide an additional £12 billion over five years to support these commitments, and ensure that the National Infrastructure Commission, National Grid, the energy regulator Ofgem, and the Crown Estate work together to deliver our net zero climate objective. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)   Introducing a £10 billion Renewable Power Fund to leverage investment in renewables from the private sector – [manifesto costings](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574260354/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future_COSTINGS.pdf?1574260354) | Enable communities to develop their own renewable energy projects, so that the benefits of locally generated energy can stay local.   * + Introduce new support and incentives to directly accelerate wind energy development, paving the way for wind to provide around 70% of the UK’s electricity by 2030.   + Introduce new support for solar, geothermal, tidal, hydro and other renewable energies to provide much of the remainder of the UK’s energy supply by 2030.   + Transform the planning system so that it works to support a massive increase in wind power and other renewable generation.   + Work with the Crown Estate, which owns much of the UK’s coastline, to open up more coastal waters for offshore wind and marine energy.   We will ensure that the long-term profits from these vital energy assets come to the UK government rather than energy firms.  Upgrades to electricity grid: £10.4 billion Renewable electricity generation: £12 billion – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will invest in the acquisition and development of new large scale generating and storage capacity projects through our renewables revolution and provide support for community energy initiatives. Plaid Cymru will commission a national inventory of green energy potential in Wales, an “Energy Atlas for Wales”, which will identify areas where development will have the least ecological impact.  We will develop plans for renewable energy that operate in harmony with nature by identifying ecologically sustainable sites for offshore and onshore wind energy development, as well as potential areas for solar and tidal energy development.  Plaid Cymru will increase community ownership of renewable energy to retain more benefits locally. We will:   * Establish a national energy agency, Ynni Cymru, which would be charged with realising Wales’s green energy potential. * Fully realise marine energy potential including wave, tidal range and tidal stream energy. * Seek a complete ban on fracking and new open-cast coal mines. * Oppose the development of new sites for nuclear power stations. * Tidal Lagoons for Swansea Bay, Cardiff and Colwyn Bay. * Building an Ynys Môn offshore windfarm. * Building an Usk barrage. * A network of local energy grids for Wales.   Amending land use planning legislation to enshrine a fast-track route for community-owned energy schemes such as hydro-electric power projects, with a presumption in favour of development.  will ensure that Wales makes the transition to becoming 100% self-sufficient in renewable energy by 2030. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *While a significant pledge for one technology, this commitment does not meet the required increase in GW capacity. The manifesto lacks any detail on renewables beyond offshore wind, or details on costing.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment definitely meets our ask to speed up the deployment of renewables, and seems likely to meet our ask on GW increase, although we can’t be 100% sure.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment definitely meets our ask to speed up the deployment of renewables, and seems likely to meet our ask on GW increase, although we can’t be 100% sure.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment definitely meets our ask to speed up the deployment of renewables, and seems likely to meet our ask on GW increase, although we can’t be 100% sure.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *This commitment definitely meets our ask to speed up the deployment of renewables, but doesn’t specific GW based improvements in renewable capacity, so further clarity would be helpful* |
| Ban fracking in England (as it is already in the rest of the UK) which is unpopular, threatens to industrialise large swathes of the countryside, and runs counter to the necessary transition to a clean energy future. | We placed a moratorium on fracking in England with immediate effect. Having listened to local communities, we have ruled out changes to the planning system. We will not support fracking unless the science shows categorically that it can be done safely. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | immediately and permanently ban fracking. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Ban fracking because of its negative impacts on climate change, the energy mix and the local environment - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Ban fracking, and other unconventional forms of fossil fuel extraction, now and forever. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Seek a complete ban on fracking and new open-cast coal mines. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 1***  *Commitment to retain the current moratorium for the foreseeable future.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to banning fracking.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to banning fracking.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to banning fracking.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to banning fracking* |
| Build on the success of the UK’s Carbon Price Floor mechanism in reducing coal use by raising the rate to £30/tCO2e, and raising it steadily year on year, to accelerate the transition from gas to renewable energy and to provide funds for a heating transformation programme. |  | Labour is open to raising the Carbon Price Floor, but our position is that direct investment under public ownership, combined with a traditional regulatory approach to reducing emissions, is more effective than relying on a market-based carbon pricing policy which does not guarantee the same outcomes. . [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | We would provide additional support by reinstating renewables’ exemption from the Climate Change Levy (apart from biomass, which is not zero-carbon) and increasing the Carbon Price Floor. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf)  We can confirm that we would intend to increase it to at least £30/tCO2e, and raise it steadily each year. – [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Apply a Carbon Tax on all fossil fuel imports and domestic extraction, based on greenhouse gas emissions produced when fuel is burnt. We will also apply a Carbon Tax on imported energy, based on its embedded emissions. We will raise the Carbon Tax rate progressively over a decade, rendering coal, oil and gas financially unviable as cheaper renewable energies rise up to take their place…  This will raise the price of processes that use fossil fuels and thus of the products they produce. This will incentivise industry to switch to low and zero carbon technology and equipment as well as encouraging consumers to choose low carbon products. Non-fossil-fuel greenhouse gas emissions from industrial installations will also be subject to the Carbon Tax. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
|  | ***Score: 0***  *No mention in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0***  *The proposals outlined by Labour do not meet the same aims as increasing the Carbon Price Floor.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to increase the Carbon Price floor.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Green manifesto definitely aims to increase the cost of fossil fuels to incentivise phase out, even though it uses a slightly different mechanism to the Carbon Price floor.* | ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this in the manifesto. We would welcome clarity as to whether Plaid Cymru will act to increase the cost of coal in Wales, and if Plaid Cymru representatives in Westminster will support an increase in the level of the UK Carbon Price Floor in order to be clear if the party meets this ask.* |
| Develop a renewables-to-hydrogen pathway to enable the complete phase-out of natural gas in heating and electricity production, and to enable excess renewable energy in the summer to be stored for use in the winter. | We will support gas for hydrogen production and nuclear energy, including fusion, as important parts of the energy system, alongside increasing our commitment to renewables - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will… invest to reduce the costs of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production  As part of heat decarbonisation, we will roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen  fund R&D into newer technologies like hydrogen and carbon capture and storage.  To balance the grid, we will expand power storage and invest in grid enhancements and interconnectors - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  supporting the decarbonisation of energy intense industries through investment in carbon capture and storage, hydrogen and energy efficiency – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Support investment and innovation in cutting-edge energy technologies, including tidal and wave power, energy storage, demand response, smart grids and hydrogen…  Support innovation in zero-emission technologies, including batteries and hydrogen fuel cells, supplementing government funding with a new Clean Air Fund from industry - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Expand our short-term capacity for energy storage so that electricity from peak periods of renewable electricity generation (e.g. days with very strong winds and many hours of sunshine) can be effectively stored – utilising solutions such as domestic solar batteries, storage as heat in hot water cylinders and thermal stores, and smart control of vehicle battery charging…  Improvements to energy storage system: £4.5 billion – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “We remain committed to the promotion of hydrogen and its potential to decarbonise energy in Wales, as explored in our 2018 paper.“ |
| ***Score: 0***  *The focus on using hydrogen generated from natural gas is disappointing as this is still polluting.* | ***Score: 1***  *Together, the manifesto and Plan for Nature meet the ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto commitment to support hydrogen technology and storage meets this ask. However, there is less detail in the manifesto than in previous policy commitments – it would be helpful to see a clarification that this hydrogen will be produced in non-polluting ways.* | ***Score: 0***  *The Greens haven’t detailed any hydrogen focused plans in the manifesto. They do however have a costed plan for improving energy storage.* | ***Score: 1***  *No mention of this in the manifesto. Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that prior publications promoting hydrogen are intended to form part of their manifesto commitments.* |
| **Homes (max points is 4)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Introduce a national energy efficiency infrastructure programme with ring-fenced additional public capital investment of at least £1 billion per year. | We will help lower energy bills by investing £9.2 billion in the energy efficiency of homes, schools and hospitals. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will upgrade almost all of the UK’s 27 million homes to the highest energy-efficiency standards, reducing the average household energy bill by £417 per household per year by 2030 - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Improving energy efficiency through measures like loft insulation and double glazing so that we use less energy. Under Labour’s plans, we estimate that households will need 23% less energy to heat their homes. Under Labour’s plans, we estimate that by 2030, 92% of cavity walls will be insulated, 88% of remaining lofts will be insulated, 62% of homes will have floor insulation, and 60% of homes will have enhanced double glazing.  We will provide £60 billion of direct public subsidy for the programme [including heating, below], with the rest paid for through energy savings. - [Warm Homes for all](https://labour.org.uk/press/warm-homes-for-all-labours-plan-to-reduce-energy-bills-create-jobs-and-tackle-the-climate-emergency/) | We will:   * Cut energy bills, end fuel poverty by 2025 and reduce emissions from buildings, including by providing free retrofits for low-income homes, piloting a new subsidised Energy-Saving Homes scheme, graduating Stamp Duty Land Tax by the energy rating of the property and reducing VAT on home insulation. * Empower councils to develop community energy-saving projects, including delivering housing energy efficiency improvements street by street, which cuts costs.. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)   £15 billion for an emergency programme – helping to leverage additional private investment – to reduce energy consumption from buildings – [manifesto costings](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574260354/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future_COSTINGS.pdf?1574260354) | Significantly reduce heating bills by improving 1 million existing homes and other buildings a year, so that they reach the highest standard of energy efficiency (over and above the Energy Performance Certificate A rating). Homes lived in by people on low incomes will be the first to receive these major improvements and benefit from reduced heating bills. This will be a deep retrofitting of 10 million homes by 2030, on top of the insulation improvements every home that needs it will receive…  Funding local authorities to better insulate all homes and deep retrofit of 1 million homes a year: £24.6 billion – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | A comprehensive £5bn Greener Homes programme to improve the energy efficiency of housing in Wales and reduce fuel poverty. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto suggests £0.9bn annually for home upgrade grants and social housing decarbonisation fund, which appears to cover both heat and insulation. If covering only efficiency the investment would be almost equal to that needed.* | ***Score: 1***  *This commitment meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This works out to £3bn a year, 3x our ask – however there isn’t any reference to ring fencing, which would be helpful.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto suggests huge levels of funding to support a national warm homes programme (24x our ask!) – although it isn’t completely clear the proportion of this funding to be spent to energy efficiency as opposed to the ‘deep retrofit’. There isn’t any reference to ring fencing, which would be helpful.* | ***Score: 1***  *This seems to meet our ask with an impressive level of investment in Welsh homes, although it would be helpful to see further detail on how this funding is broken down and if it is also intended to cover decarbonised heating.* |
| Provide £2.3bn of additional public capital per year initially for low carbon heating scaling to much larger investments in future spending reviews. |  | As part of heat decarbonisation, we will roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen, and invest in district heat networks using waste heat.  14 new Regional Energy Agencies will replace the existing district network operators and hold statutory responsibility for decarbonising electricity and heat and reducing fuel poverty.  We will deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030 - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Installing renewable and low carbon technologies like solar PV, solar thermal, and heat pumps, so that the energy we use is lower carbon. Under Labour’s plans, we estimate that by 2030, 6.34 million homes will have heat pumps, 5.3 million homes will have solar thermal systems, and 1.75 million more homes will have solar PV.  We will provide £60 billion of direct public subsidy for the programme [including energy efficiency, above], with the rest paid for through energy savings. - [Warm Homes for all](https://labour.org.uk/press/warm-homes-for-all-labours-plan-to-reduce-energy-bills-create-jobs-and-tackle-the-climate-emergency/)  developing renewable and low carbon energy sources with which we can power our society, industries and homes – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Adopt a Zero-Carbon Heat Strategy, including reforming the Renewable Heat Incentive, requiring the phased installation of heat pumps in homes and businesses of the gas grid, and piloting projects to determine the best future mix of zero-carbon heating solutions. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Roll out solar panels and other forms of renewable domestic energy generation, giving 1 million households a year the means to generate a proportion of the energy they use. This will mean that 10 million homes are able to generate their own renewable energy by 2030...  Reduce the use of natural gas for heating homes through a programme, to replace polluting boilers with renewable heat from heat pumps, and solar thermal, geothermal, biomass and stored heat technologies. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
|  | ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto suggests £0.9bn annually for home upgrade grants and social housing decarbonisation fund, which appears to cover both heat and insulation. As indicated above this is only enough for the needed efficiency action - therefore nowhere close to the investment we need.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The Liberal Democrats are moving in the right direction but have a much slower trajectory than needed.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Greens appear to be proposing a low carbon heating and energy generation programme. It isn’t clear how much funding is allocated to it from the costings in the manifesto**but it seems very feasible that this hits our spending ask.* | ***Score: 0***  *Currently no specific mention. it would be helpful to see further detail on if the Greener Homes proposal above aims to cover decarbonised heating.* |
| For private rented homes, increase step by step the minimum energy efficiency standards on the path to a minimum EPC band C in 2030, increasing the maximum threshold of spending by landlords to at least £5000. |  | Labour will also regulate so that residences in the social and private rented sectors reach at least EPC band C by the mid-2020s. - [Warm Homes for all](https://labour.org.uk/press/warm-homes-for-all-labours-plan-to-reduce-energy-bills-create-jobs-and-tackle-the-climate-emergency/) | Increase minimum energy efficiency standards for privately rented properties and remove the cost cap on improvements. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  We would introduce a new Green Buildings Act setting the following targets:   * + All homes of low-income households (social, rented or owner-occupied) to reach the highest energy efficiency standard feasible by 2025.   + All other homes and non-domestic buildings to reach the highest energy efficiency standard feasible by 2030.   […] We will aim for EPC Band A and B for homes, but recognise that for some homes, the highest energy efficiency standard feasible will be below this.  […] We would use the capital infrastructure budget to provide fully subsidised retrofits for low-income owner-occupiers and for social housing, and funds for improvements in public buildings, including schools, universities, hospitals and local authority buildings. We would scrap the current cost cap on the improvements private landlords are required to undertake to raise their properties to the minimum levels required for renting - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf)  We can confirm additionally that the minimum standard for the private rented sector would be EPC C, if EPC A or B are not achievable at reasonable cost. – [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Ensure that all 8 million rented homes are A rated for energy efficiency, or as close to this as possible, by implementing a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard escalator to raise the minimum level allowed from the current E rating to A rating by 2030. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “We would support the call for this increase in energy efficiency standards” |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention* | ***Score: 1***  *Meets the ask by an earlier date* | ***Score: 1***  *Meets the ask* | ***Score: 1***  *Meets and goes beyond our main ask and implies that the spending cap would need to increase to deliver this.* | ***Score: 1***  *While this is not a devolved issue, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that their representatives in Westminster will call for this increase in the energy efficiency standards and spending threshold attached to privately rented homes in order to be clear if the party meets this ask.* |
| Reinstate the Code for Sustainable Homes (or equivalent) to require all new homes to meet the level 6 standard (net zero CO2), including fitting renewable energy technology (solar PV or thermal, heat-pumps) and incorporating green and water infrastructure (e.g. green roofs, nesting boxes, trees, water capture, sustainable drainage, etc.). | Environmentally friendly homes. We will support the creation of new kinds of homes that have low energy bills and which support our environmental targets - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will introduce a zero-carbon homes standard for all new homes. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Require all new homes and non-domestic buildings to be built to a zero-carbon standard (where as much energy is generated on-site, through renewable sources, as is used), by 2021, rising to a more ambitious (‘Passivhaus’) standard by 2025. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Empower local authorities to bring empty homes back into use and create a total of 100,000 new homes for social rent (council homes) a year, built to the Passivhaus or equivalent standard. This standard will see these new homes use 90% less energy for space heating than the average home, significantly reducing household bills.  Transform the planning system and building regulations, so that all new buildings built by private developers are built to the Passivhaus standard (or to a standard that delivers energy efficiency at an equivalent or better level). We will enable selfbuild development that meets the same standards.  Improve building regulations so that all renovations to roofs, external walls, windows and doors improve the energy performance of that part of the building to the equivalent of (or better than) an Energy Performance Certificate A rating. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will ensure that all new-build housing will be insulated to the highest standards and equipped with photovoltaics for electricity generation and solar water-heating. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *Very vague. Not enough detail on what an environmentally friendly home is and an obvious lack of recommitment to the Future Homes Standard.* | **Score: 1**  *Meets our ask.* | **Score: 1**  *Meets our ask.* | **Score: 1**  *Meets the ask.* | **Score: 0**  *This commitment may well meet our ask but we will require further detail on how Plaid Cymru are defining ‘the highest standards’ to be sure* |
| **Food, farming and land-use (max score is 4 points)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Commit to and fund the doubling UK tree and woodland cover in order to take carbon pollution out of the atmosphere, provide space for nature and reduce reliance on unsustainable timber imports. | Building on our support for creating a Great Northumberland Forest, we will reach an additional 75,000 acres of trees a year by the end of the next Parliament,  will expect all new streets to be lined with trees.- [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees  We will embark on an ambitious programme of tree planting, with both forestry and native woodland species - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Labour will invest £2.5 billion over its first term to plant 300 million trees in Britain, with a target of reaching one billion new trees planted across Britain by 2030, and two billion by 2040. We will plant mixed native woodlands and enlarge commercial forestry to support housebuilding and other industries.  Some of our plans will be delivered under framework agreements with the devolved governments of Scotland and Wales . The Scottish Government is already planting 10,000 ha each year, rising to 15,000 from 2024/25. The Welsh Assembly Government is planting 2,000 ha each year with the aim of adding 100,000 ha by 2030. Consequential funding from our investments will allow both to raise ambitions, as we also set out more ambitious targets for England. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | coordinating the planting of 60 million trees a year and introducing requirements for the greater use of sustainably harvested wood in construction. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Plant 700 million new trees and aim for 50% of all farms to be engaged in agroforestry by 2030. We will encourage the planting of more trees in more towns and cities, including apple, nut and other crop trees than can produce food. The new woodland, when fully grown, will store carbon, provide home-grown timber and create new wildlife-rich environments. We will support farmers to diversify their incomes through new forest management.  Deploy environmentally friendly flood management measures to protect communities from flooding. These measures, which include tree planning and soil restoration in upland catchment areas to tackle excess water at source… – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We should aim for a minimum planting rate of 2,000 hectares a year from 2020, a target recommended by the UK Climate Change Committee.  We will examine the case for establishing a dedicated forestry organization to undertake the urgent task of addressing the Climate Emergency by planting more trees  Legislate to end the importation of goods that have caused deforestation. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| **Score: 0**  *No clear commitment to doubling tree cover. Extrapolating this planting rate out to 2050 would result in 900,000 hectares of new woodland, ie 3.9m ha total UK woodland cover by 2050, or 16.25% of total land area - not hitting the CCC’s lower recommendation, and falling well short of our doubling ambition.* | **Score: 1**  *The commitment in the Plan for Nature looks to be the most ambitious of all the parties now on trees. If Labour were to maintain planting rates out to 2050 this would double tree cover.* | **Score: 0.5**  *The Liberal Democrats are proposing a number of good ideas but have no clear commitment to doubling tree cover.*  *Maintaining this planting rate to 2050 would see a total of 1.2m ha of new woodland, ie 4.2m ha total, or 17.5% of total UK land area – hitting the CCC’s lower recommendation, but falling well short of our doubling ambition. (26% coverage, 120m trees a year).* | **Score: *0.5***  *Greens proposing a n umber of good ideas but no clear commitment to doubling tree cover. If these rates were sustained out to 2050, they would add 2.1m hectares of woodland, leading to 5.1m ha total UK woodland cover, or 21% of total UK land area – exceeding the CCC’s lower and ‘stretch’ recommendations, but still falling short of our doubling ambition.* | ***Score: 0***  *While we haven’t specified the proportion of action that needs to be taken by each nation to double UK tree cover, this commitment falls well short of doubling tree cover in Wales, raising the total woodland cover from 15% to 18% by 2050.* |
| Set an ambitious target to reduce the use and impacts of pesticides and set out proposals to make the use of Integrated Pest Management by farmers and landowners’  standard practice. |  | Farmers will need support to adapt and improve agricultural practises to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage the usage of fertilisers and pesticides differently, to the benefit of environmental quality.  Agricultural pesticides can degrade our environment, impacting soils, water and pollinating insects. We will consult to set appropriate targets for the reduced use of harmful pesticides and fungicides and adopt the precautionary principle in regulations. We will provide more support to sustainable farming methods with less reliance on chemicals.  We will work with and incentivise farmers to build soil carbon through reducing pesticide use. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) |  | Reduce pesticide and fungicide use by at least 50% by overall weight by 2022, phase out all non-agricultural uses of pesticides, and immediately ban the most harmful substances. We will secure protection of rural residents and communities from exposure to pesticides sprayed on nearby crop fields and prohibit the use of pesticides in the locality of homes, schools and children’s playgrounds. We will strengthen the role of independent scientific advice and the application of the precautionary principle in the pesticide regulation and monitoring process – only pesticides that pass strict tests, and demonstrably don’t harm bees, butterflies and other wildlife, will be approved for use in the UK. We will also reduce the amount of nitrogen fertiliser used on UK farms. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “We support moves to reduce the use and impact of pesticides, including limiting the scale of the use of pesticides by targeted application.” |
| ***Score: 0***  *Not covered in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Plan for Nature offers confirmation Labour will set a target following consultation and provide farmers with some form of support to reduce usage.* | ***Score: 0***  *This isn’t covered in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *This would constitute an ambitious reduction, although weight isn’t a great way to measure. Good to see an additional focus on banning the most harmful.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *This is not covered in the manifesto, but Plaid Cymru have directly clarified that their representatives in Westminster will support moves to decrease pesticide usage. However, this does not directly commit Plaid to an ‘ambitious target’.* |
| Produce an overarching food strategy which leads to a shift to sustainable, healthy diets with ‘less and better’ meat and dairy, using regulatory tools, procurement, guidance, and fiscal measures to deliver this shift. | And we will improve hospital food alongside our wider National Food Strategy. - [Manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | Labour will introduce A Right to Food.  We will establish a National Food Commission - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We will implement recommendations from Our Future in the Land, the report of the RSA Food, Farming and Countryside Commission and adopt the standards set out in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on a Right to Food.  Labour will establish a People’s Access to Food Fund and review our food system under the governance of a National Food Commission. We will work across government to ensure our national diets become healthier and more sustainable, setting dietary and nutritional standards for hospital, school and prison meals, resetting food procurement standards and reviewing the food distribution and retail sectors. We will review food labelling with the aim of reducing harmful food consumption.  We will support local food networks, expand access to farm holdings and ensure union representation and fair wages and conditions for all food and agricultural workers. We will put farmers and food sector workers at the heart of our plans, increasing fairness throughout the food supply chain. We will also ensure that food production and land use keeps pace with changing public appetites and dietary requirements.  Meat and dairy products form part of a healthy, balanced diet but a recent Lancet report recommends a reduction of red, white and processed meat consumption by as much as 80% from current levels. We will ask Public Health England to review dietary health guidelines in, in line with scientific and nutritional advice and we will help our livestock and dairy farmers to anticipate and manage any transitions arising from changing consumer demands. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement  policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and  affordable food and cut down on food waste.  Establish a legal right to food to enshrine in law the government’s responsibility to ensure that existing and new public policy is audited for its impact on food security. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  Food consumption is one of the drivers of climate change, not just through emissions from UK farms, but also through imports of foodstuffs particularly associated with deforestation, such as palm oil, soy and cocoa; world-wide, clearance for agriculture is the main driver of global forest loss. A long-term approach to food consumption is needed, combining education, persuasion and incentives. There are, however, major potential benefits as well as climate mitigation. Eating a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, nuts and legumes, and reducing consumption of foods such as sugar would have major positive impacts not just on greenhouse gas emissions but on standards of health, and accordingly on incomes and health budgets.  This is increasingly recognised by the public, with some projections suggesting that 25 per cent of the population will be vegetarian by 2025, a doubling of the proportion today. Meat substitutes are gradually appearing on the market, and the UK has an opportunity to be a world leader in their production and consumption.  We would accordingly introduce a National Food Strategy to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable food, thereby reducing the consumption of unhealthy, unsustainable food. This would focus especially on working with schools to empower children and young people as citizens and consumers. Crucially, the strategy must aim to ensure that healthy and sustainable food is also affordable.  We will work with food manufacturers to reduce the climate impact of their products, drawing on the experience of reductions in salt from government interventions where public health bodies helped industry to collectively reformulate products on a voluntary basis, but with the fallback of regulation if necessary. We would also work with existing food assurance schemes to explore how zero-carbon commitments could be incorporated into their approach; if no progress could be made we would introduce a new scheme. We would use public procurement policy to grow the market for sustainable food and, where appropriate, locally sourced products. The public sector is a major purchaser of food and catering; we would set annual targets for central government public-sector bodies to significantly reduce the climate and health impacts of their food consumption, and encourage local government and the NHS to do the same. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) | Incentivise changes in food consumption, by promoting the benefits of healthy diets, based on locally and sustainably produced food, and ‘less but better’ meat and dairy consumption, including clear labelling to indicate carbon emissions, high animal welfare and intensive production methods.  Support the transition to plant based diets by phasing in a tax on meat and dairy products over the next ten years, to reduce the 5% of the UK’s carbon emissions that come from the methane produced by livestock. The revenues from this part of the Carbon Tax will be recycled back into farming, and will be spent on measures to  help farmers transition to more sustainable farming methods.  Legislate for a right to food, giving everyone access to healthy, nutritious, locally grown food, including the creation of new providers to supply this food at an affordable price to schools. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
| ***Score: 0***  *Food strategy mentioned but no detail.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Detailed commitments in the Plan for Nature meet our ask and provide a helpful level of detail on how this will be achieved. To fully achieve this ask it would be helpful to see a clearer commitment to cut meat and dairy consumption.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto proposes an overarching food strategy, although gives little detail on what methods might be within it and how healthy, sustainable diets are being defined. For this commitment to fully meet our ask we’d need a definition of sustainable food referencing less meat or dairy consumption, and detail on how the Liberal Democrats would drive change.* | ***Score: 1***  *No specific overarching strategy but part of a GND for food, farming and forestry. References our definition of sustainable diets and a range of actions to promote growing, better access to food, and health. Clear commitment to action to reduce meat and dairy consumption.* | ***Score: 0***  *This doesn’t appear to be covered in the manifesto* |
| Introduce binding targets to halve UK food waste from farm to fork by 2030, including through funding weekly food waste collections for every household as proposed in the Resources and Waste Strategy. |  | We will make food security a reason to intervene in the economy and work with local councils to minimise food waste - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We will invest £4.5bn in the waste and recycling infrastructure [including] fifteen anaerobic digestion sites for food recycling – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  Grants to local authorities could support increased doorstep food waste collection.  A binding target to halve food waste by 2030 will be included in the Fair Food Act which Sue Hayman also announced in her keynote speech to the pre-election party conference, when she said, ““Today , I am announcing that the next Labour government ... will introduce a Fair Food Act.” The aim of halving food waste by 2030 is already government policy, the legally binding target will be introduced in our Fair Food Act*.* [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement  policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and  affordable food and cut down on food waste. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  We would implement the food waste hierarchy, which gives priority to (in order): avoiding waste; redistributing or reusing food; composting or anaerobic digestion to produce renewable energy. This would be backed up with a target for zero-carbon food waste to landfill, building on existing good practice by Liberal Democrat councils, including financial support for innovation by local authorities. We would encourage retailers to invest in reducing their suppliers’ food waste, and introduce reporting requirements for large retailers and food producers to publicly report on food waste through their operations, with transparent benchmarking of progress.  Establishing a statutory waste recycling target of 70 per cent in England, extend separate food waste collections to at least 90 per cent of homes by 2024 - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) | Promote initiatives to reduce food waste, including education programmes and changing the rules to allow food waste to be used for animal feed for pigs and chickens.  Support councils to promote waste prevention innovations and to increase recycling. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Plaid Cymru will place Wales at the forefront of the circular economy and ensure a Zero Waste Wales by 2030 through a combination of legislation and policy initiatives, such as Deposit Return Schemes, extended producer responsibility and use of planning laws, levies and tax-making powers. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention of this in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Labour have clarified plans to introduce a binding target for food waste reduction or action on food waste collections, but stop short of a firm commitment to fund weekly food waste collections.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Good intention and direction of travel – but no binding targets specifically on cutting food waste across the supply chain.* | ***Score: 0***  *Good intention and direction of travel – but no binding targets and no reference to funding for additional collection.* | ***Score: 1***  *The overall zero waste commitment would necessitate going beyond halving food waste by 2030, and Wales already benefits from weekly food waste collections.* |
| **Nature protection and restoration (max score is 4 points)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Introduce an Environment Bill that sets ambitious targets for the restoration of nature and ensures the UK is a world-leader in environmental protection and governance, with a well-funded a powerful regulatory regime - including an expanded role for environmental tribunals to improve access to justice for the public. | Our Environment Bill will guarantee that we will protect and restore our natural environment after leaving the EU. Because conservation has always been at the very heart of Conservatism.  We will set up a new independent Office For Environmental Protection and introduce our own legal targets, including for air quality.  We will ensure that judicial review is available to protect the rights of the individuals against an overbearing state, while ensuring that it is not abused to conduct politics by another means or to create needless delays. In our first year we will set up a Constitution, Democracy & Rights Commission that will examine these issues in depth, and come up with proposals to restore trust in our institutions and in how our democracy operates. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will introduce a Climate and Environment Emergency Bill setting out in law robust, binding new standards for decarbonisation, nature recovery, environmental quality and habitats and species protection.  rewrite the Treasury’s investment rules to guarantee that every penny spent is compatible with our climate and environmental targets  ambitious emissions targets  Our Plan for Nature will set legally binding targets to drive the restoration of species and habitats.  We will fully fund the Environment Agency and other frontline environment agencies, and improve upstream river management  boost police resources to tackle rural and wildlife crime  We will establish a new environmental tribunal to ensure that administrative decisions are consistent with environmental and nature-recovery obligations.- [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  A Labour government will review the hierarchy of designations for protected areas informed by the recommendations of the Glover Report. […] a revised system of area-based protections, including Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the National Forest, Natura Network Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the Green Belts and both local and national Nature Reserves. Each designated area, whether existing, revised or newly selected will be given legal and regulatory protections, and will adopt management plans and rigorous targets for either nature restoration or carbon sequestration, or both, proportionate to the environment emergency we face.  10 new National Parks will be created under a single National Nature Parks Authority. […] The new authority will have the primary purposes of nature restoration and climate change mitigation, for both of which we will set challenging targets consistent with the best available scientific advice. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Introduce a Nature Act to restore the natural environment through setting legally binding near-term and long-term targets for improving water, air, soil and biodiversity, and supported by funding streams of at least £18 billion over five years - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. The EPC will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards…  Increase funding for the Environment Agency and Natural England, to support the vital work they do to protect our environment…  Commit to making at least 30% of UK domestic waters into fully protected marine protected areas by 2030. We will also work with British Overseas Territories (BOTs) to increase the ‘blue belt’ protecting BOTs’ waters from commercial extraction, from the current 32% of coverage to 50% – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Plaid Cymru will bring forward legislation to tackle the extinction crisis, placing a legal obligation on this and future governments to act for the recovery of nature. Furthermore, we will secure robust, independent governance and accountability processes to uphold the law and stand up for our environment. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *This proposal would set legally binding targets. However, lack of detail on the proposed OEP and worrying language on restricting judicial review could restrict access to justice in environmental matters.* | ***Score: 1***  *Taken together, the manifesto and Plan for Nature promise legislation and detailed action including both targets and funding, with an additional promise on environmental justice.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *This manifesto promises legislation including both targets and funding, although lacks detail on governance and access to justice.* | ***Score: 1***  *Together, the Sustainable Economy and Clean Air Acts would cover the ground of an environment bill, and the Greens have proposed some targets within them (although it’s not clear how many they would look to create, nor how ambitious they would be at the current time). A new regulatory body is proposed with a wide remit, backed by increased enforcement funding - although no details on how access to justice might improve. A range of additional policies are also proposed.* | **Score: 1**  *This meets our ask* |
| Introduce a Plastics Pollution Bill to eliminate the plastic pollution that is the scourge of rivers and oceans as well as streets, roadways and fields, with a particular focus on action to reduce plastic use and increase the re-usability of products. | We will establish a new £500 million Blue Planet Fund to help protect our oceans from plastic pollution, warming sea temperatures and overfishing,  We will continue to lead the world in tackling plastics pollution, both in the UK and internationally, and will introduce a new levy to increase the proportion of recyclable plastics in packaging. We will introduce extended producer responsibility, so that producers pay the full costs of dealing with the waste they produce and boost domestic recycling.  We will ban the export of plastic waste to non-OECD countries, consulting with industry, NGOs and local councils on the date by which this should be achieved.  and introduce a deposit return scheme to incentivise people to recycle plastic and glass. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will make producers responsible for the waste they create and for the full cost of recycling or disposal, encouraging more sustainable design and manufacturing.  We’ll also take on the global plastics crisis by investing in a new plastics remanufacturing industry creating thousands of jobs, ending exports of plastic waste and reducing our contribution to ocean pollution - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  nine new plastics recycling and manufacture sites – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  The Environment Emergency Bill can provide a vehicle for any legislation that may be necessary. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Banning non-recyclable single-use plastics and replace them with affordable alternatives, aiming for their complete elimination within three years, as a first step towards ending the ‘throwaway society’ culture and an ambition to end plastic waste exports by 2030… Benefitting consumers through better product design for repairability, reuse and recycling, … Introducing legally binding targets for reducing the consumption of key natural resources … Extending deposit return schemes for all food and drink bottles and containers… Establishing a statutory waste recycling target of 70 per cent in England, extend separate food waste collections to at least 90 per cent of homes by 2024, and strengthen incentives to reduce packaging and reduce waste sent to landfill and incineration. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Ban the production of single-use plastics for use in packaging and invest in research and development into alternatives to plastic. We will also extend the successful tax on plastic bags to cover plastic bottles, single-use plastics and microplastics, and extend plastic bottle deposit schemes. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will tackle the issue of plastic waste by banning single-use plastics, developing sustainable alternatives and increasing recycling targets. Plaid Cymru will place Wales at the forefront of the circular economy and ensure a Zero Waste Wales by 2030 – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *No specific legislation is proposed but some steps are outlined in the context of the Environment Bill that would have the impact of reducing plastic pollution. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Labour focus is on increasing recycling and not the action we really need to reduce plastic use. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto commitment here is not to a specific piece of legislation but to a rapid ban on non-recyclable single use plastic. This is positive but allowing a 10-year timeline for ending plastic waste exports suggests a distinct lack of longer term/wider ambition. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The manifesto commitment here is not to a specific piece of legislation but to a series of actions, including a ban on single use plastic, which would seem to offer a good chance of leading to lower plastic usage, increased reuse and better waste outcomes. This falls short of a solution to the systemic problem of plastic pollution.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto commitment here is not to a specific piece of legislation but to a rapid ban on single use plastic and wider action on recycling which achieves the same aims* |
| Invest an additional £5.6 billion in mapping, protecting and developing an extensive network of wildlife sites with nature-friendly corridors between them. |  | We will create new National Parks alongside a revised system of other protected area designations, which will guard existing wildlife sites and join up important habitats, while also ensuring more people can enjoy living closer to nature. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Our Plan for Nature starts with a transformational programme to recover and enhance the natural state of our National Parks, working with scientists, farmers, local communities and conservation groups to reverse years of decline.  We will increase the funding for our National Park authorities by 50%, from under £50m each year to almost £75m each year.  Our plans envisage a network of natural hedgerows and other nature-friendly corridors joining all these places with each other, with replanted road verges, railway lines and canal paths connecting them to our urban green and blue spaces in parks, communal gardens, lakes and ponds.  The National Nature Parks will increase our National Parks’ land coverage by 50% and to ensure that by 2030 75% of the English population lives within half an hour of a National Park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.  The Green Transformation Fund will support our Plan for Nature with new investments totalling £3.7 billion over the next ten years for the latter of these purposes. We will use those funds to expand sustainable forestry and restore the natural environment of our National Parks, our new National Nature Parks and our other protected areas, including important newly identified areas and existing areas with revised designations. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | £7.1 billion [over five years] for environmental land management and nature restoration  £6 billion [over 5 years] for expanding forests. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf)  We can confirm that these sums between them include at least £5.6 billion for wildlife and habitat protection, including mapping, protecting and developing wildlife sites and nature-friendly corridors. – [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Reintroduce nature into our urban environments, by investing in schemes such as street planting of native trees, compulsory hedgehog holes in all new fencing and bee corridors…  Encourage, through changes to the planning system, the ‘rewilding’ of spaces to provide new habitats for wildlife. An ecological crisis is happening – we must tackle it by restoring, expanding and joining up the wild spaces nature needs to thrive. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
| ***Score: 0***  *The approach was supported in the Environment Bill previously before Parliament, but there is no mention of the activity or required funds in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *This suggests a broadly similar trajectory to our demand, with some helpful detail around proposals to expand the number of protected sites and join them up. However, further funding may be required to entirely meet these commitments.* | ***Score: 1***  *This funding commitment meets our ask.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *This suggests a broadly similar trajectory to our demand but lacks a commitment to the detailed proposal of mapping and developing a network of wild sites and has no specifically allocated funding.* | ***Score: 0***  *No manifesto mention of mapping, corridors or funding for this* |
| Restore, protect and expand natural carbon sinks to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through restoring degraded peatland, protecting and creating new salt marshes, and halting the damaging practice of moorland burning. | as well as restoring our peatland. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | To help restore degraded peatlands to their natural state we will end the harvesting of peat and the burning of moors or blanket bog.  We will prepare our coastlines and communities for the impacts of climate change using nature based solutions, such as managed realignment, to restore our salt marshes and mudflats. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Invest in large scale restoration of peatlands, heathland, native woodlands, saltmarshes, wetlands and coastal waters, helping to absorb carbon, protect against foods, improve water quality and protect habitats, including through piloting ‘rewilding’ approaches - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Invest in peatland restoration and end both the burning of peatlands and use of peat in compost in horticulture. We will advocate an emergency international agreement to conserve and enhance carbon sinks and reservoirs including forests, peat fields and coastal and estuarine areas. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
| ***Score: 0***  *Mention of peatland but no detail and no further efforts proposed, nor a restatement of ministerial pledge to legislate.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Plan for Nature sets out broad commitments that meet our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto broadly meets our concerns although no specific commitment to end moorland burning.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto broadly meets our concerns although no specific commitment to end moorland burning.* | ***Score: 0***  *No manifesto mention* |
| **Local action (max score is 6 points)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Require local authorities and combined authorities to reduce carbon emissions within their area in line with national carbon budgets through setting local carbon budgets. |  | Labour will set and enforce carbon budgets across all government departments and will devolve responsibility for these when appropriate and when the capacity exists. For example, REAs will hold primary responsibility for energy-related emissions, but LAs will be able to take on those responsibilities where they have capacity. [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Establish a Department for Climate Change and Natural Resources, appoint a cabinet-level Chief Secretary for Sustainability in the Treasury to coordinate government-wide action to make the economy sustainable resource-efficient and zero-carbon, and require every government agency to account for its contribution towards meeting climate targets - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Give councils access to an additional £3 billion a year Climate Adaption Fund. Bids from councils facing the greatest threat from climate chaos, and councils with the high levels of poverty, will be prioritised as money is distributed from the Fund.  Give councils new powers and resources to deliver environmental improvements and increase biodiversity, as well as tackling flooding and coastal erosion locally.  Require councils (and other public bodies) to divest their pension funds away from fossil-fuel-related investments. We will encourage all private pension funds to do the same – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
|  | ***Score: 0***  *No manifesto mention of local carbon budgets or requirements on Local Authorities.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *This approach is a good direction of travel but does not set a firm requirement on local authorities at the current time.* | ***Score: 0***  *This is a good direction of travel but does not set any firm requirement on local authorities.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *No specific requirement for local authorities relating to emissions. The focus is on empowering and supporting rather than requiring action, although a clear intention to help local authorities cut emissions.* | ***Score: 0***  *No manifesto mention of local carbon budgets or requirements on Local Authorities* |
| Require planning authorities to plan for sustainable energy generation, working in partnership with communities, energy providers and utilities. |  | We will rebalance power in the planning system by giving local government greater freedom to set planning fees and by requiring the climate and environmental emergency to be factored into all planning decisions. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Amend planning rules to promote sustainable transport and land use. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  National planning and regulation of the decarbonisation process requires close cooperation between the National Infrastructure Commission, National Grid and the energy regulator Ofgem, together with the new Regional Energy Partnerships we propose (see below). We would ensure that the remits of all of them, and those of other relevant agencies such as the Crown Estate, are amended to give a high priority to net zero objectives.  Create a statutory duty on all local authorities to produce a Zero Carbon Strategy, including plans for local energy, transport and land use, and devolve powers and funding to enable every council to implement it. – [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) | Transform the planning system so that it works to support a massive increase in wind power and other renewable generation. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) |  |
| ***Score: 0***  *Does not feature in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0***  *Lacks specificity despite the general requirement for planning authorities to factor in the climate emergency when making decisions. This is not a proactive commitment.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask. Nice to see a focus on devolving both funding and powers to support Local Authorities to do this.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *Useful activity but does not specify a clear and strong requirement.* | ***Score: 0***  *No manifesto mention* |
| Enable local authorities to raise finance from new sources to fund local carbon action  (such as a local public transport payroll levy, visitor lodging levy, or eco-levy for road use, all of which have been successfully used overseas to transform transport). |  | Labour will properly fund local councils after a decade of devastating cuts so that they can breathe new life into local communities. We will invest in our local authorities in order for them to fulfil their statutory obligations and locally determined priorities, including local environmental management responsibilities. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf)  *Labour will reverse cuts to local councils through a £20bn funding boost and give them access to further funds to tackle the climate and environmental emergency through our Local Transformation Fund. This is a distributionally fairer and more effective way to fund local carbon action that giving councils their own finance-raising powers.* [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Councils clearly need additional resources to accompany these new responsibilities, and we would provide additional funding from central government for the design, implementation and monitoring of Zero-Carbon Strategies. We would also end the current Council Tax capping regime and give councils enhanced powers to call on new income sources such as vacant property taxes. We would replace the existing system of business rates with a new tax on the land value of commercial sites, removing the disincentives to invest created by business rates and enabling the state to better capture increases in land value driven by public infrastructure investment. We would give councils enhanced borrowing powers, including for housing and local infrastructure.’ - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) |  | Enable local authorities to introduce pollution and congestion charges. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *Does not feature in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0.5***  *The proposal to provide central funding rather than powers to raise funds meets our ask to fund local climate action but does not provide the powers for Local Authorities to raise funds directly to supplement this.* | ***Score: 1***  *The plan proposes a mix of income generation, additional funding and borrowing powers, which would provide needed additional funding for climate action.* | ***Score: 0***  *Does not feature in the manifesto* | **Score: 1**  *The manifesto provides only one example of a charge that Local Authorities could levy, but specifically linked to tackling air pollution. It would be helpful to get some clarification of how broadly Plaid Cymru are defining ‘pollution and congestion’ and hence the range of levies supported* |
| Require and fund local authorities to coordinate area-by-area eco-heating and energy efficiency transformation programmes. |  | Communities themselves will decide, because utilities won’t be run from Whitehall but by service-users and workers…  publicly owned networks will accelerate and co-ordinate investment to connect renewable and low-carbon energy while working with energy unions to support energy workers through the transition…  14 new Regional Energy Agencies will replace the existing district network operators and hold statutory responsibility for decarbonising electricity and heat and reducing fuel poverty.- [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Labour meets this criteria, though with a different emphasis on the delivery vehicle. We will establish public, Regional Energy Agencies to coordinate rollout of Labour's Warm Homes for All initiative - which combines energy efficiency and renewable heating technologies. Labour will make REAs, rather than Local Authorities, initially responsible for area-based delivery in recognition of the lack of capacity at Local Authority level following a decade of underfunding. However, where Local Authorities do have capacity, they will be supported to establish Municipal Energy Agencies, which will take responsibility for local renewable energy generation, supply, network management and retrofitting*.* [– Public letter, 3/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Labour%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Local authorities would have a major role to play in particular in developing and implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy programmes for buildings, and we would also encourage them to set up or expand their own renewable electricity generation capacity.  Local authorities would be given the responsibility, as part of their Zero-Carbon Strategies, to develop combined energy efficiency and zero-carbon retrofit programmes (which, as the Energiesprong whole-house retrofits in the Netherlands, also currently being implemented in Nottingham, have demonstrated, can be cost-effective), working with local residents and businesses to develop the optimum outcomes for their communities, including district heating systems where appropriate. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) |  | n/a |
| ***Score: 0***  *No specific mention.* | ***Score: 1***  *Following clarification that this ask will be achieved via a different mechanism, this commitment meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Plan to Tackle the Climate Emergency sets out a clear responsibility for local authorities although it is not clear on how this will be funded.* | ***Score: 0***  *Does not feature in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto contains no specific requirement for local Authorities to coordinate projects, but we would anticipate that the coordination of UK-wide area-by-area transformation would take place on a cross-Wales scale under the Greener Homes scheme* |
| Rewrite national planning rules to make carbon reduction, and nature’s restoration and recovery a legal requirement in the planning system. |  | We will rebalance power in the planning system by giving local government greater freedom to set planning fees and by requiring the climate and environmental emergency to be factored into all planning decisions. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Amend planning rules to promote sustainable transport and land use.- [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172)  We would amend the National Planning Policy Framework to provide local authorities with clear expectations for the provision of sustainable transport and greater access to goods and services in new housing developments. - [Plan to tackle the climate emergency](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Liberal%20Democrats%20-%20Our%20Plan%20to%20Tackle%20Climate%20Change%20FINAL.pdf) | Encourage, through changes to the planning system, the ‘rewilding’ of spaces to provide new habitats for wildlife – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will create an overarching strategic framework for planning that prioritises sustainable development and protects against environmentally damaging development.  Reform planning law to require impact on air pollution to be given greater weight in the planning system. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *Does not feature in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *The commitment to ‘factor in‘ the climate and nature emergency meets our ask.* | ***Score: 0***  *This proposal is too vague and does not equate to a legal requirement.* | ***Score: 0***  *Too vague and narrow to score.* | **Score: 1**  When taken together with the existing legislative framework for Wales (the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, Environment Act and Planning Act) this would meet our ask |
| Remove restrictive rules on approving new onshore wind developments. |  | 2,000 new onshore wind turbines - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | removing the Conservatives’ restrictions on solar and wind - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Transform the planning system so that it works to support a massive increase in wind power and other renewable generation – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will develop plans for renewable energy that operate in harmony with nature by identifying ecologically sustainable sites for offshore and onshore wind energy development  Amending land use planning legislation to enshrine a fast-track route for community-owned energy schemes such as hydro-electric power projects, with a presumption in favour of development. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *Does not feature in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *No specifics on removing restrictive rules but the commitment to build 2,000 new turbines wouldn’t be feasible without a change to planning regulations.* | ***Score: 1***  *Meets the ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *Meets the ask.* | **Score: 1**  *Together, the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Energy Act 2016 devolved powers relating to onshore wind to the Welsh government, which means that the current rules restricting wind generation across much of the UK do not apply. Taken together with the above commitments, this meets our ask.* |
| **Brexit (max score is 4 points)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Oppose a No Deal Brexit under all circumstances, and support a close and cooperative future relationship with the EU, guarantee in law that high environmental standards and protections will be maintained, without regression and enhanced over time. | We will negotiate a trade agreement next year – one that will strengthen our Union – and we will not extend the implementation period beyond December 2020. In parallel, we will legislate to ensure high standards of workers’ rights, environmental protection and consumer rights…  This will be a new relationship based on free trade and friendly cooperation, not on the EU’s treaties or EU law. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | Labour rules out a no-deal Brexit, and we will end the scandal of billions of pounds of taxpayers’ money being wasted on no-deal preparations. No deal has never been a viable option…  Dynamic alignment on workers’ rights, consumer rights and environmental protections so that UK standards keep pace across Europe as a minimum, allowing the UK to lead the way, not fall behind.  Continued participation in EU agencies and funding programmes, including in such vital areas of co-operation as the environment…  We will also secure robust and legally binding protections for workers’ rights, consumer standards and environmental protections, and ensure level-playing field protections are maintained. Labour will never accept an outcome that puts rights and standards at risk…  we will get Brexit sorted in six months by giving people the final say – with a choice between a sensible leave deal or remain. We will implement whatever the British people decide. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We remain fully committed to non regression of all environmental standards, in our relationship with the EU and in any future trade agreement with other countries. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Stop Brexit - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | The Green MPs you elect will champion their constituent’s right to an immediate final say on the terms of any Brexit deal, through a People’s Vote, with Remain as an option on the ballot paper….  … Harmonising minimum environmental standards. As nature knows no borders, the EU can play a major role in ensuring that habitats split between different counties are all protected by the same rules…  And whatever happens, we will guarantee the full rights of EU citizens and their families living in the UK, including the right to automatic settled status and ensure there is no rolling back of the rights and protections enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Plaid Cymru is campaigning to end Brexit once and for all through a People’s Vote.  Leaving without a deal, with tariffs imposed on our lamb exports, would seriously impact on Welsh agriculture. It would also put at risk vital supplies of medicines and fresh food. The catastrophe of a crash out Brexit is still in play and safeguarding the welfare of the people of Wales is Plaid Cymru’s number one priority – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *The manifesto states outright support for no-deal post December 2020 and does not state support for non-regression.* | ***Score: 1***  *Rules out a no deal Brexit outright and commits to non-regression, ongoing participation in and alignment with EU.* | ***Score: 1***  *Much of this ask is not required if the UK remains within the EU (as this guarantees a close relationship and prevents regression), which the Liberal Democrats are committed to.* | ***Score: 1***  *Commits to non-regression of rights and protections and to harmonised standards.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask* |
| Ensure the UK has access to a powerful, independent  environmental watchdog in place to police environmental law though the courts and issue fines, and that  environmental rights and principles, including the precautionary and polluter-pays principle, are enshrined in law and must be applied by all public bodies (including in Northern Ireland where current governance regimes are particularly weak). | We will set up a new independent Office For Environmental Protection | We will maintain and continuously improve the existing EU standards of environmental regulation.  We will establish a new environmental tribunal to ensure that administrative decisions are consistent with environmental and nature-recovery obligations. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We will establish the Office of Environmental Protection as an independent, fully resourced watchdog with transparent governance processes and Parliamentary accountability  We will […] adopt the precautionary principle in regulations. – [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Guarantee an Office of Environmental Protection that is fully independent of government, and possesses powers and resources to enforce compliance with climate and environmental targets. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. The EPC will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “We fully support a powerful environmental watchdog based in Wales serving the needs of Wales, and enshrining current EU environmental law in Wales in the event of the UK leaving the EU.” |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *There is no detail on the OEP beyond ‘independent’, nor that all environmental principles apply directly in law to all public bodies.* | ***Score: 1***  *The Plan for Nature confirms Labour support for a strong and independent environmental watchdog. The plan also commits to adopting the precautionary principle although it does not reference the other EU environmental principles.* | ***Score: 1***  *Meets requirement for a watchdog although unclear how this relates to the plan to revoke Article 50 as the role proposed for the OEP is currently carried out by the CJEU. There is also no mention of principles - but an assumption that remaining in the EU would mean these continue to apply in the current way.* | ***Score: 1***  *Lack of detail on the strength and independence of the body, but clear and wide commitment.* | ***Score: 1***  *The manifesto lacks detail on this issue (partly due to desire to remain within the EU). However, in the Welsh context, some EU principles directly apply – as does a duty on public bodies – through the Wellbeing of Future Generation Act. Others are proposed to be incorporated post-Brexit. Plaid Cymru have now directly confirmed they plan to support a strong environmental watchdog.* |
| Pass an Agriculture Act that enshrines a ‘public money for public good’ approach to financial support for farmers, to reward agro-ecological farming approaches which enhance nature, protect soils and contribute to drawing down carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, while ensuring farmers get a fair deal for their produce from the food supply chain. | Once we have got Brexit done, we will free our farmers from the bureaucratic Common Agricultural Policy and move to a system based on ‘public money for public goods’. To support this transition, we will guarantee the current annual budget to farmers in every year of the next Parliament.  In return for funding, they must farm in a way that protects and enhances our natural environment, as well as safeguarding high standards of animal welfare.  And one of the great opportunities of Brexit is the chance to lead the world in the quality of our food, agriculture and land management – driven by science-led, evidence-based policy. And we want those same farmers and fishermen to act as the stewards of the natural world, preserving the UK’s countryside and oceans as they have for generations. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | A Labour government will maintain agricultural and rural structural funds but repurpose them to support environmental land management and sustainable methods of food production. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  Our aim is to ensure the transition to our future agriculture is fair to farmers, better for wildlife and affordable for us all. We will fund the transition by maintaining current environmental improvement schemes and investing in new schemes after the British public has had its final say on our future relationship with the European Union  A Labour government will properly maintain agricultural support systems, ensuring that the current level of funding support made available to British farming and farmland management remains stable.  In order to transform our food system we will first need to work closely with our principal primary food producers, to promote sustainable agricultural and fisheries practises  We will cooperate with farmers to ensure more sustainable land management goes hand-in-hand with viable businesses and thriving rural economies. We will invest in more county farms to replace those lost, and we will work with agricultural organisations to increase access into farming for new entrants. We will support local food networks, expand access to farm holdings and ensure union representation and fair wages and conditions for all food and agricultural workers.– [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Reduce basic agricultural support payments to the larger recipients and redeploy the savings to support the public goods that come from effective land management, including restoring nature and protecting the countryside, preventing flooding and combating climate change through measures to increase soil carbon and expand native woodland.  Support producers by broadening the remit of the Groceries Code Adjudicator and supporting them with access to markets - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | We want to increase the opportunities for food growing, for greening our landscape and improving our health. Through reforestation, rewilding and regenerative farming, we will reduce carbon emissions and realise the land’s ability to absorb carbon. The way we produce our food needs to support employment, the ecosystem and improve public health. A ten-year transition to agroecological farming will include the transfer of subsidies to farming methods and food systems that create jobs and restore ecosystem health, including the quality of our soils and rivers. It will also advance food sovereignty, including by localising food systems and putting control over the resources to produce, distribute and access food in the hands of communities and workers across the food system. We will also lay down a new natural inheritance to be passed down to future generations, through the creation of community owned and run forests. Our Green New Deal for food, farming & forestry will:   * Work with farmers to refocus farm subsidies to help farmers transition to more sustainable, diverse and environmentally friendly forms of land use, including organic farming, agroforestry and mixed farming, and away from intensive livestock farming.   + Provide farmers with grants to allow replacement of old high-emitting carbon farming machinery with low carbon machinery (including vehicles powered by biofuels rather than fossil fuels). Grants will also be available to enable further improvements to farm buildings and infrastructure, to help farmers in the transition to agroecological farming.   + Encourage the expansion and replanting of majority of hedgerows lost in the last 50 years through new subsidies, creating new environments for wildlife.   + Legislate to give farmers greater security of tenure, so that they can invest in sustainable improvements to their land, whilst ending the use of land as a tax shelter and encouraging new entrants into farming…   Establish a Food and Agriculture Research Council to research sustainable and health-promoting Green Party Manifesto 2019 The Green New Deal 23 methods of food production and distribution. We will also support research into the reduction of methane emissions from livestock and the conservation and development of high quality soils, as the foundation of all that we grow…  aim for 50% of all farms to be engaged in agroforestry by 2030. … – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | A Plaid Cymru government will retain a direct payment scheme. We can also protect this funding for Welsh farmers by remaining in the EU. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto)  “We emphasise that the future scheme would result in earmarking funding specifically to address the environmental impact of farming.” |
| ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to supporting farmers deliver ‘public good’ in exchange for financial support, although it would be helpful to provide more detail on how fairness for producers will be achieved.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to supporting farmers to manage their land in ways that benefit the environment, and some details on how fairness for producers will be achieved.* | ***Score: 1***  *These proposals do bring in a PMFPG approach and focus on producer fairness, but assume continued membership of the EU and therefore ongoing participation in CAP.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear, detailed and wide-ranging commitment to support farmers to improve outcomes in their area, with some innovative ideas around supporting farmers to get a fairer deal by improving security of tenure and localising food systems.* | **Score: 0**  *The focus on retaining direct payments rather than shifting to a public money for public gods approach (outside of the EU) or supporting CAP reform to improve environmental outcomes is not in line with this ask. The clarification that future funding will address the environmental impact of farming is helpful, but does not equate to supporting environmentally beneficial activity.* |
| Ensure any future trade deals promote global sustainability, increase environmental standards and guard against imports produced to lower standards, with scrutiny by Parliament and transparency for civil society. | Now, we will be able to tailor our trade deals to the needs of British firms and the British economy….  In all of our trade negotiations, we will not compromise on our high environmental protection, animal welfare and food standards**.** - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will uphold the highest environmental and social regulations in all our trade relations, and will never downgrade standards as ‘barriers’ to trade.  Introduce legislation to ensure transparency and parliamentary scrutiny of trade and investment agreements.  Reject any trade agreements that undermine labour standards or environmental protections, and rule out UK Export Finance support to companies engaged in bribery or corruption. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf)  We will pursue trade frameworks within or without the EU that match our own environmental standards, comply with international environment law and protect biodiversity in partner countries.  We will commit to environmentally sustainable, transparent trade policies and apply these to any future trade relationships we negotiate. We will commit to a deadline to end the importation of goods that have caused deforestation.  We remain fully committed and will enshrine in law non-regression of all environmental quality standards. These laws will apply to all future trade agreements.– [Plan for nature](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/FINAL-FOR-WEB_13172_19-Environment-Manifesto.pdf) | Work within the EU to ensure that future trade agreements require high environmental and animal welfare standards, and legislate to ban the importing of hunting trophies where the hunting does not contribute to environmental protection.  Work through international bodies for better regulation and scrutiny of international trade and investment treaties to ensure they do not worsen inequalities or undermine human rights or developing countries’ ability to regulate the environmental and social impacts of businesses - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Commit that any future trade deals will maintain and enhance environmental and food standards and workers’ rights, minimise the environmental footprint of trade, make trade terms explicitly subject to environmental and human rights commitments, and not undermine the implementation of existing or new national and international commitments (including over protections for vital global ecosystems and habitats such as the Amazon, and for indigenous people).  End the current practice of including investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms in trade and investment agreements. These mechanisms can give too much power to investors, at the expense of democracy, and need to be scrapped.  Ensure trade democracy by assessing the development impact of all trade and investment agreements and guaranteeing Parliament a vote on them…  Increase the transparency of European institutions, including the European Central Bank, with steps such as live streaming all meetings, and publishing minutes and key papers like trade negotiation documents. Citizens have the right to know how decisions are made and how their money is spent… – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Future trade deals undertaken by the UK, whether inside or outside the EU, should maintain and enhance environmental standards, minimise the environmental footprint of trade and make trade terms explicitly subject to environmental and human rights commitments. There should be specific protections for vital global ecosystems and habitats such as the Amazon, and for indigenous people.  Plaid Cymru will work hard to ensure that any future trade policy will uphold social, health and environmental protections. We will never support deals that weaken the standards and rules on food safety and medicines.  Plaid Cymru will demand that future trade deals seek to strengthen rather than weaken animal welfare legislation.  We will publish a set of trade negotiation principles, including for labour and environment standards, and protection of the rights of cultural and language minorities.  Plaid Cymru will ensure that all the national parliaments of the UK are consulted throughout the negotiations on future trade deals, and that the ratification process includes endorsement by the Senedd, the Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0.5***  *Gives promise that environmental standards will not be trade away in pursuit of trade deals, but fails to offer any guarantee that negotiations will guard against lower standard import, look to promote sustainability, or be developed in a transparent and scrutinised way.* | ***Score: 1***  *Clear commitment to maintaining protections and upholding the highest standards, plus a guarantee to support legislation aimed at improving transparency and scrutiny of negotiations. It would be helpful to have an affirmation that Labour will look to improve standards.* | ***Score: 1***  *These commitments are written in the context of EU membership but do support action on scrutiny and high standards.* | ***Score: 1***  *Very comprehensive proposals on international trade issues, although could benefit from more detail on import standards.* | **Score: 1**  *This meets our ask* |
| **Rights and democracy (max score is 5 points)** | | | | |  |
| **Our manifesto ask** | **Conservative** | **Labour** | **Liberal Democrat** | **Green** | **Plaid Cymru** |
| Legislate to enable 16 and 17 year olds to vote in future parliamentary elections, local elections and referendums. | We will maintain the voting age at 18 – the age at which one gains full citizenship rights. - [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) | We will oversee the largest extension of the franchise in generations, reducing the voting age to 16, giving full voting rights to all UK residents, making sure everyone who is entitled to vote can do so - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Giving people a voice with a fair voting system so that everyone’s vote counts equally, letting people vote at the first election or referendum after they turn 16 and giving votes to all British citizens abroad and to EU citizens who have made the UK their long-term home. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Give 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote and have a say on their future. We will also allow people to stand for Parliament and all other elected offices from the age of 16, offering support to elected young people so that they can combine their duties with studying. . – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | We will lead efforts to extend the right to vote to sixteen and seventeen-year-olds for Westminster elections, and we will campaign to give EU citizens and all those with permanent residency the right to vote in all elections. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *This is opposed to our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask* |
| Introduce proportional representation for Westminster elections. | We will continue to support the First Past the Post system of voting, as it allows voters to kick out politicians who don’t deliver, both locally and nationally. [manifesto](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf) |  | Put an end to wasted votes, by introducing proportional representation through the Single Transferable Vote for electing MPs, and local councillors in England. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Replacing First Past the Post with a proportional voting system, giving 16-year-olds the vote, reforming government to better combat the Climate Emergency and devolving power to councils. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Plaid Cymru is committed to overhauling the Westminster voting system, getting rid of First-Past-the-Post and turning it into a parliament elected under the Single Transferable Vote proportional system, in which all votes count equally. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *This is opposed to our ask.* | ***Score: 0***  *Not in manifesto.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *This meets our ask* |
| Introduce a Future Generations Act for England, building on the success of the Welsh Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and Future Generations Commissioner, to ensure the interests of future generations are heard in decision-making. |  | We will introduce a Future Generations Well-being Act, enshrining health aims in all policies and a new duty for NHS agencies to collaborate with directors of public health - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) |  | Introduce a Future Generations Act for England, modelled on the current Act for Wales, building the needs of future generations into every government decision. We will also appoint a Minister for Future Generations to represent young people at the heart of government. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | Plaid Cymru proposes the establishment of a new Ministry for the Future. In the Senedd, we already have a dedicated Shadow Minister for the Future. As well as surveying the broad policy environment, the Minister will be tasked with taking a long-term view of our environment, with responsibility to:  Ensure that Wales transitions to a low carbon, nature friendly economy.  Develop a package of environmental and fiscal reforms to aid the transition to a greener economy.  Encourage private sector investment in new green technologies. – [manifesto](https://www.partyof.wales/full_manifesto) |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention in the manifesto.* | **Score: 0.5**  *This proposed Act does not clearly and directly build upon the Welsh Act. We would require further detail about how climate will be considered to award full marks.* | **Score: 0**  *No mention of this in the manifesto.* | **Score: 1**  *This meets our ask.* | ***Score: 1***  *Met already as Wales started somewhat ahead of the game on this one.* |
| Undertake a comprehensive review of electoral law (including the so called ‘Lobbying Act) to ensure it is fit for the digital age, provides genuine transparency on lobbying, electoral donations and spending, and protects the voice of legitimate civil society. |  | We will free the voices of civil society by repealing the Lobbying Act 2014 and overhauling the rules that govern corporate lobbying. We will introduce a lobbying register covering both in-house lobbyists and think tanks and extending to contacts made with all senior government employees, not just ministers. We will also increase the financial penalties available to the Electoral Commission and require imprints for digital political adverts. - [manifesto](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Real-Change-Labour-Manifesto-2019.pdf) | Strengthen and expand the lobbying register and ban MPs from accepting paid lobbying work.  Work towards radical real-time transparency for political advertising, donations and spending, including an easily-searchable public database of all online political adverts. - [manifesto](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/libdems/pages/57307/attachments/original/1574251172/Stop_Brexit_and_Build_a_Brighter_Future.pdf?1574251172) | Implement a fair system of state funding for political parties to eliminate dependence on large private donations, removing the undue influence large donations can give corporations and the super wealthy.  Remove the cap on fines that can be imposed by the Electoral Commission on political parties that have been found to have breached electoral law.  Strengthen the transparency rules on recording political lobbying and make the work of Think Tanks more transparent too, by establishing a distinct legal entity for political foundations which conduct policy research and political education. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “Plaid Cymru has long called for changes to the UK electoral system. We therefore support this ask.” |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention in the manifesto.* | **Score: 1**  *This meets our ask.* | **Score: 0.5**  *Some strong policies but no mention of the Lobbying Act.* | **Score: 0.5**  *Some strong proposals but no mention of reforming the Lobbying Act.* | **Score: 1**  *No manifesto mention. However, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified their support for this ask.* |
| Protect the right to peacefully protest including from corporate anti protest injunctions and end labelling peaceful, environmental activists as domestic extremists. |  |  | A policy motion from the 2012 conference included:  ‘The right to protest to be restored through:  a) The repeal of the offence of ‘Aggravated Trespass’, as set out in Sections 68 and 69 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 and used in the Fortnum and Mason trial.  b) A properly regulated right to protest in quasi-public spaces to balance the interests of citizens and landowners.  c) An end to threats being made against protestors who have done nothing wrong, such as the threatened use of rubber bullets before demonstrations.  d) The end of kettling large groups of people.  e) Resisting new powers to impose curfews on unconvicted people.  f) Not extending the existing powers on people covering their faces.  We can confirm that these remain Liberal Democrat commitments, to be implemented in government. – [Public letter, 4/12](https://cdn.friendsoftheearth.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/Letter%20from%20the%20Liberal%20Democrat%20Party%20to%20Friends%20of%20the%20Earth%20031219.pdf) | Introduce a public interest defence for breaching the Official Secrets Act, alongside better protection and support for whistle-blowers in the public and private sectors.  Protect the right to peacefully protest and prevent disproportionate police responses to protest. – [manifesto](https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/Elections/Green%20Party%20Manifesto%202019.pdf) | “Plaid Cymru supports the right to peaceful protests across policy areas as an essential part of a health democracy. We support this ask.” |
| ***Score: 0***  *No mention in the manifesto.* | ***Score: 0***  *No mention in the manifesto.* | **Score: 0.5**  *These policies do not fully address the current threats to the right to protest.* | **Score: 1**  *This meets our ask.* | **Score: 1**  *No manifesto mention. However, Plaid Cymru have directly clarified their support for this ask.* |

**FINAL SCORES:**

Labour: 33

Green: 31

Liberal Democrat: 30

Conservatives: 5.5