
Housebuilding

Conservatives. Meet commitment to deliver a million homes by the end of 2020 and deliver half a million more by the end of 2022. Build 160,000 houses on government land. Deliver the reforms proposed in the **Housing White Paper** including giving councils powers to intervene where developers do not act on planning permissions. Build better houses, including high-density housing like mansion blocks, mews houses and terraced streets. Rebalance housing growth across the country. Support multigenerational homes and housing for older people. Help councils to build high-quality, sustainable and integrated communities. Work with housebuilders to capture the increase in land value created when they build to reinvest in infrastructure, essential services and further housing. National Productivity Investment Fund will take total spending on housing, economic infrastructure and R&D to £170 billion during the next parliament.

Greens. A major programme to build affordable, zero carbon homes. All new homes built to zero-carbon standards by 2020. Action to bring empty homes back into use. A trial of a Land Value Tax to encourage the use of vacant land and reduce speculation. Significantly increase numbers of homes built to lifetime home and mobility standards over the next 5 years.

Labour. No overall housebuilding target. Establish a Department for Housing to improve the number, standards and affordability of homes. New homes, including council homes, to be priority for a £250bn National Transformation fund. Overhaul Homes and Communities Agency. Give councils new powers to build the homes local communities need. Minimum space standards to prevent 'rabbit hutch' properties.

Lib Dems. "Ambitious" target of 300,000 new homes a year. Government to directly build homes where developers fail. Local authorities to: levy up to 200% council tax on second homes and 'buy to leave empty' investments; enforce housebuilding on unwanted public sector land; and penalise excessive landbanking when builders with planning permission have failed to build after three years. A British Housing and Infrastructure Development Bank to invest in low-carbon and sustainable infrastructure.

UKIP. Factory-built modular (FBM) homes, combined with a traditional housebuilding programme, could deliver one million homes by 2022.

Affordable Housing

Conservatives. New Council Housing Deals with ambitious, pro-development local authorities to help them build more social housing. Improve their capability and capacity to develop more good homes, providing with significant low-cost capital funding. New fixed-term social houses, to be sold privately after ten to fifteen years with an automatic Right to Buy for tenants, the proceeds recycled into further homes. Greater flexibility for housing associations to increase their housing stock.



The Manifestos

This eBulletin summarises the main parties' policies on planning, environment, transport, energy and housing supply, where they are relevant to England.

Planning

Conservatives. Encourage very best practice in design of buildings and public spaces. Ensure design of government buildings makes a positive contribution to local area. No mention of town centres, new towns or garden cities.

Greens. Significantly improve housing choice for deaf, disabled and older people by requiring all councils to appropriately plan for their housing needs. No mention of town centres, new towns or garden cities.

Labour. New generation of new towns to deliver homes and avoid urban sprawl. Prioritise brownfield sites. Local plans to address need for older people's housing. Properly resource and bolster planning authorities with fuller powers to put people and communities at the heart of planning. Update compulsory purchase powers. Give communities more power to shape their town centres, by strengthening powers to protect post offices, community pharmacies, high street banks, sports clubs, pubs and independent shops. Promote measures to decrease high-street vacancies. Examine causes for demise of local pubs with a joint taskforce to consider their future sustainability.

Lib Dems. At least ten new garden cities in England. British Housing and Infrastructure Development Bank with remit to provide long-term capital for major new settlements and attract finance for major housebuilding projects. Require local plans to consider at least 15 years of future housing need – focusing on long-term development and community needs. A community right of appeal where planning decisions go against the local plan. A community right of appeal where planning decisions go against the local plan. New council powers to reduce proliferation of betting shops in town centres.

UKIP. Promote inclusion of trees and open space into new developments. Binding local referenda on key local issues such as out-of-town supermarkets, incinerators, and major housing developments. No mention of town centres or garden cities.

Greens. Build 100,000 social rented homes each year by 2022. End mass council house sales and scrap Right to Buy. Back community-led approaches to building affordable homes.

Labour. By the end of the next parliament, build at least 100,000 council and housing association homes a year for genuinely affordable rent or sale. Build thousands more low-cost homes for first-time buyers. Guarantee Help to Buy funding until 2027. Give local first time buyers 'first dibs' on new homes. Remove finance restrictions that stop councils building homes and begin the biggest council building programme for at least 30 years. Suspend Right to Buy, with councils able to resume if they replace homes sold like-for-like.

Lib Dems. Deliver significant increase in social and affordable housing in rural areas. Half a million affordable, energy-efficient homes by the end of the parliament. Scrap affordable housing exemptions on smaller housing sites. Strengthen hand of local government to prevent large developers renege on commitments. End housing association Voluntary Right to Buy. Increase building of council and social housing by lifting borrowing cap on local authorities and increasing borrowing capacity of housing associations. Councils to end the Right to Buy if they choose.

UKIP. Roll out high quality, low cost factory-built modular (FBM) affordable homes, built to last and to high design standards, and energy efficient. A Housing Development Corporation (HDC) to acquire primarily brownfield sites where affordable housing is required. HDC to give itself planning permission to build between 10 and 100 FBM homes on an average site. Homes will be sold to first time buyers up to the age of 40. Houses must be sold back to HDC on moving. FBM will build up to 100,000 extra affordable homes every year. Identify long-term dormant land held by central and local government for release for affordable homes.

Countryside and Biodiversity

Conservatives. Maintain existing strong protections on designated land like green belt, national parks and AONBs. Already planting 11 million trees. Ensure that 1 million extra trees are planted in towns and cities. Public forests and woodland to be kept in trust for the nation. Stronger protections for ancient woodland. Councils to have a duty to consult when they wish to fell street trees. Encourage very best practice in design of public spaces. Champion greater conservation co-operation within international bodies, protecting rare species, the polar regions and international waters.

Greens. Equality of access to nature and green spaces, to boost leisure, health and wellbeing. Environmental Protection Act to safeguard and restore environment, protect and enhance biodiversity, and promote sustainable food and farming – also strong protection for green belt, national parks, SSSIs and AONBs. Everyone to have right of access to a healthy and safe natural green space promoting good mental health, physical exercise, and building community. Promote a network of interlinking local ecological spaces on both land and sea, ensuring our wildest places and urban green spaces are protected and flourish.

Labour. Protect the green belt. Keep forests in public hands. Prohibit neonicotinoids to protect bees as soon as relationship with EU allows. Work with farmers and foresters to plant a million native trees to promote biodiversity and better flood management.

Lib Dems. No mention of green belt. Significantly increase accessible green space. Complete coastal path. New national nature parks to protect up to one million acres of accessible green space. Plant tree for every citizen over next 10 years. A Nature Act to put Natural Capital Committee (NCC) on a statutory footing and set binding natural capital targets, including on biodiversity, clean air and water. Empower NCC to recommend actions to meet the targets. Protect and restore lakes, rivers and wetlands. Protect ancient woodlands. Suspend use of neonicotinoids until proven that they do not harm bees or other pollinators.

UKIP. An Environmental Protection Act to protect wildlife, nature reserves, AONBs, countryside, and coastlines. It will prioritise policies to protect countryside for future generations. NPPF to give ancient woodlands 'wholly exceptional' status. Major infrastructure projects must respect irreplaceable natural habitats.

Farming and Food

Conservatives. Grow, sell and export more British food. Provide stability to farmers during Brexit. New frameworks for supporting food production and countryside stewardship. Commit the same cash total for farm support until end of this parliament. Work with farmers, food producers and environmental experts to devise a new agri-environment system, to be introduced in following parliament. Natural England to expand provision of technical expertise to farmers to deliver environmental improvements on a landscape scale, from enriching soil fertility to planting hedgerows and building dry stone walls.

Greens. Set inspiring vision for natural world with thriving species and healthy habitats. Environmental Protection Act to promote sustainable food and farming and ensure animal protection. Create more sustainable farming and land use policies to restore natural environment. Brexit is an opportunity for an ecologically sustainable farming system – focusing on supporting family farms and relocalising food production, and creating thriving rural communities.

Labour. Champion sustainable farming, food and fishing by investing in skills, technology, market access and innovation. Secure continued access to EU market for farmers. Protect farmers and the rural economy by setting highest food quality and welfare standards. Prevent Brexit undercutting farmers and flooding food chain with cheap and inferior produce. Reconfigure funding for farming and fishing to support smaller traders, local economies, communities and sustainable practices. Allow EU workers employed in farming, fishing and food to remain in the UK. Reinstate Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme. Expand role of Groceries Code Adjudicator to ensure suppliers and consumers get a fair deal. End badger cull.

Sustainable Transport

Lib Dems. Ensure British farming remains competitive after Brexit. Reform agricultural subsidies to support healthy food and public benefits from effective land management, including countryside protection, flood prevention, food production and climate-change mitigation. Protect small farms and introduce a more localised agriculture policy. Improve standards of animal health and welfare in agriculture. Encourage younger entrants into farming. National food strategy to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food. Increased remit and powers for Groceries Code Adjudicator. Develop humane control of bovine TB including vaccines.

UKIP. Introduce a UK Single Farm Payment (SFP) that operates in a similar way to the present EU system. End discrimination in favour of larger, intensive farms and support smaller enterprises. To qualify for subsidies, land must be used for genuine agricultural purposes and meet [Entry Level Stewardship](#) conditions. Consider transferring some support to livestock producers who farm without antibiotics. Pay only those who farm the land not landlords. Organic farms will be paid 25% more. Additional support to hill farmers. No set-aside, cropping or rotation restrictions.

Marine

Conservatives. New regime for commercial fishing to preserve and increase fish stocks and help ensure prosperity for a new generation of fishermen. Withdraw from the [London Fisheries Convention](#). Continue work to conserve the marine environment. Work with Overseas Territory governments to create a Blue Belt of marine protection in their waters.

Greens. A wider, more effective network of marine protected areas around coasts, including fully protected no take zones. Ensure the completion of an ecologically-coherent network of well-managed marine protection areas around the UK and in UK Overseas Territories. New fisheries legislation will: contain a legal requirement to fish below level that allows fish stocks to fully recover; promote locally-led fishing that supports coastal economies; and bring an end to damaging fishing operations in protected areas. Implement a Blue New Deal to regenerate coastal communities, harnessing the potential of seas whilst protecting the marine environment.

Labour. Safeguard habitats and species in the 'blue belts' of the seas and oceans. Study feasibility of port development across UK. Continue working with neighbours on European Union's [Highways of the Sea](#). Establish a science innovation fund, working with farmers and fisheries, that will include support for small scale fishing fleet.

Lib Dems. Establish a 'blue belt' of protected marine areas. Defend fishing industry. Develop a national plan for sustainable fisheries.

UKIP. Leave the Commons Fishery Policy, take back control of our seas, and rebuild fishing industry. Repeal the London Fisheries Convention. Resumption of Britain's 200-mile maritime exclusive economic zone.

Conservatives. Continue to support local authorities to expand cycle networks and upgrade facilities for cyclists at railway stations. £1.1 billion to improve local transport through the [previously announced](#) National Productivity Investment Fund.

Greens. Phase-in free local public transport for young people, students, people with disabilities and older people. Invest in low traffic neighbourhoods and safe, convenient networks of routes for walking and cycling, including safe places for learning to cycle. Promote cycling and walking through a £2bn programme of investment in healthy, active transport.

Labour. Invest in a modern, integrated, accessible and sustainable transport system that is reliable and affordable. Every area to get fair share of transport investment. Invite National Infrastructure Commission to recommend the next stages for developing and upgrading National Cycle Network. Commit to [Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy](#).

Lib Dems. A Green Transport Act. Ensure local communities, particularly rural communities, remain connected with local rail and bus services. Design towns and cities as safe, attractive walking spaces. Implement [Get Britain Cycling](#) report. Shift more freight from road to rail. Deliver [Transport for the North](#) strategy. Develop more modern, resilient links to and within south-west peninsula. Strengthen London's transport infrastructure.

Buses

Conservatives. Support audio-visual displays for bus passengers. Support community minibuses for rural areas poorly served by public transport.

Greens. Reregulate buses. Increase bus services especially in rural and other poorly served areas.

Labour. Enable councils to provide first class bus services. Powers to re-regulate local bus services. Support municipal bus companies. Rules to designate and protect routes of critical community value, including those serving schools, hospitals and isolated settlements in rural areas.

Lib Dems. Halt decline in bus services. Review of bus funding and bus policies. Local authority powers to run and regulate local bus network.

UKIP. Start-up grants for rural community bus operators who use smaller and more efficient buses where commercial operators have cut essential services.

Railways

Conservatives. Support HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail. No mention of Crossrail 2. Create extra capacity, new lines and stations, and improve existing routes – including for freight. Increase services on main lines and commuter routes. Launch new services to places poorly served or with major new housing projects. Passenger ombudsman for rail users. Wi-fi internet service on all main line trains.

Greens. Return railways to public ownership. Invest in regional rail links and electrification, especially in the South West and North of England. Cancel HS2.

Labour. Complete HS2 and extend it to Scotland. Link HS2 with other rail investments, including [Crossrail of the North](#) and to the Durham Freight Centre. A new Brighton main line. Build Crossrail 2 and complete East West Rail. Rail electrification and expansion across the whole country. A Public Ownership of the Railways Bill to repeal the Railways [privatisation] Act 1993. Cap fares. Free wi-fi across network. Legal duty to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. Public ownership of track and stock. Expand freight.

Lib Dems. Proceed with HS2, HS3 and Crossrail 2, including a high-speed network to Scotland. Complete East West Rail to “catalyse major new housing development”. Electrify rail network, improve stations, reopen smaller stations, restore twin-track lines to major routes. New rail franchises focussed on customers, including investment in new stations, lines and modern trains. Government to run Southern Rail and Govia Thameslink. Metro services in London to be run by London Overground. Rail ombudsman to enforce passenger rights.

UKIP. Scrap HS2. Invest in upgrading existing main line services to create additional capacity, expand electrification, and improve east-west rail services and connections across the north of England.

Aviation

Conservatives. Support Heathrow expansion.

Greens. Cancel all airport expansion and end subsidies on airline fuel.

Labour. Additional airport capacity is needed in South East. Airports Commission report welcomed. Guarantee any airport expansion adheres to tests on noise, air quality, climate change obligations and supporting growth across country. Negotiate to retain membership of Common Aviation Area and Open Skies.

Lib Dems. Strategic airports policy for the whole of UK, taking account of impacts on climate change and local pollution. No net increase in runways across the UK. Oppose expansion of Heathrow, Stansted or Gatwick. Oppose a Thames Estuary airport. Improve existing regional airports.

UKIP. Freeze Air Passenger Duty, and seek to reduce or scrap it. Oppose expansion of Heathrow. There is a clear commercial need for additional airport capacity in South East. £100 million investment plan to revive aviation at Manston Airport, Kent is welcome. Support expansion of smaller regional airports.

Roads

Conservatives. Extra lanes on motorways. Improve key routes. Pay attention to parts of country left behind because of poor transport connections. Invest in roads to fix pinch points and open opportunities for new housing and local growth. Do more to improve the quality of road surfaces, filling potholes – especially in residential areas – and reducing road noise.

Greens. Invest in railways rather than wasting money on the national major roads programme. Significant investment in vehicle electrification and charging infrastructure.

Labour. Refocus roads building and maintenance programmes, connecting communities, feeding public transport hubs and realising untapped economic potential. Continue to upgrade highways and “improve roadworks” at known bottlenecks. Urgent consideration of A1 North, Severn Bridge and A30. Work with Welsh Government to scrap tolls on the Severn Bridge. Strive for a transport network with zero deaths.

Lib Dems. Significant investment in road infrastructure. Less congestion and pollution on roads.

UKIP. Remove tolls from publicly owned roads and block new toll roads. Oppose new Thames Crossing in Thurrock. Open consultation for crossing further east, including option through Canvey Island, linking A130 to the M2. Support transition to zero emission vehicles. Support installation of rapid charging stations in towns and cities. Encourage off street parking and charging provision in new housing and industrial developments.

Toxic Air

Conservatives. Ambition for Britain to lead world in electric vehicle technology. Almost every car and van to be zero-emission by 2050 – invest £600 million by 2020 to help achieve this. Invest in more low-emission buses. Act against poor air quality in urban areas.

Greens. A one-off fine on car manufacturers who cheated the emissions testing regime. A new Clean Air Act, expanding and funding a mandatory clean air zone network. Increase incentives to take diesel vehicles off the roads. Expand and strengthen a mandatory Clean Air Zone network, empowering local authorities to take control of air pollution in their communities. Remove diesel cars from roads – including through an increase in Vehicle Excise Duty on new diesel vehicles and a scrappage scheme.

Labour. New Clean Air Act. Position UK at forefront of development of ultra-low emission vehicles, supporting creation of clean through investment in low emission vehicles. Retrofit diesel buses in areas with severe air quality problems to [Euro 6 standards](#).

Lib Dems. Prevent 40,000 deaths a year with an Air Quality Plan to reduce air pollution. Diesel scrappage scheme. Ban on sale of diesel cars and small vans by 2025. Extend ultra-low-emission zones to ten more towns and cities. All private hire vehicles and diesel buses licensed for urban areas to run on ultra-low-emission or zero-emission fuels within five years. Reform vehicle taxation to encourage sales of electric and low emission vehicles. Develop electric vehicle infrastructure including universal charging points.

UKIP. Prevent diesel drivers from being penalised through higher taxes, parking fees or emissions zone charging. Support diesel scrappage scheme, combined with incentive scheme to encourage drivers to exchange vehicles for electric or hybrid models.

Climate Change and Environment

Conservatives. Leave environment in a better state than we inherited it. Lead the world in environmental protection. 25-Year Environment Plan to improve environment during Brexit. Meet **2050 carbon reduction target** and global climate change commitments.

Greens. Ensure environment is top of political agenda. Refocus public funding for the rural economy towards restoring biodiversity, sustainable land management and farming, improving animal welfare, and tackling climate change. Cooperation with businesses and other countries to limit global temperature, aiming for 1.5 degrees. Strengthen global deal on climate change. Ensure EU principles, such as precautionary principle and polluter-pays, are transposed into UK law. A 25-year target for biodiversity, water and air quality. Environmental court and regulator to enforce and monitor environmental law. Green Investment and Innovation Centre will replace the Green Investment Bank to help transition to a zero-carbon economy.

Labour. Defend and extend existing environmental protections. Put UK back on track to meet targets in the Climate Change Act and the Paris Agreement. Support international negotiations towards an Environmental Goods Agreement at the World Trade Organisation. Consult on new standards for zero carbon homes.

Lib Dems. Green Transport Act. Zero-Waste Act. Zero-Carbon Britain Act to set new legally binding targets to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2040 and to zero by 2050. Ambitious carbon capture and storage programme. Support Paris agreement. Play a leadership role in international efforts to combat climate change. Green Buildings Act to set energy-efficiency targets, including every home to reach at least **energy rating Band C** by 2035. At least four million homes are Band C by 2022, priority given to fuel-poor households. Restore the zero-carbon standard for new homes and extend it to non-domestic buildings by 2022.

UKIP. Brexit will not put countryside, marine environment or wildlife at risk. Idea that our membership of the EU has been only good for environment “is quite simply false”. Repeal the 2008 Climate Change Act has no basis in science. Its aim of cutting greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050 is unachievable. Withdraw from the Paris climate agreement and the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.

Nuclear Power

Conservatives. No mention.

Greens. Cancel contracts for Hinkley Point. Scrap plans for all new nuclear power stations.

Labour. Nuclear to be part of the UK energy supply. Further nuclear projects will be supported.

Lib Dems. New nuclear power stations have role provided concerns about safety, disposal of waste and cost are addressed, new technology is incorporated, and there is no public subsidy for new build.

UKIP. Support nuclear.

Fossil Fuels

Conservatives. Ensure oil and gas sector continues to play a critical role in economy and domestic energy supply. Support a world-leading decommissioning industry for North Sea. Work with the industry to create a multi-use yard and the UK's first ultra-deep water port. Non-fracking drilling will become permitted development. Expert planning functions created to support local councils. When necessary, major shale planning decisions will be decided under the National Planning Regime. A Shale Environmental Regulator to regulate environmental, safety and business aspects of shale. More tax revenues from proposed Shale Wealth Fund to directly benefit communities hosting drilling sites. Direct payments to communities that accept sites.

Greens. Replace fracking, coal power stations and nuclear with renewable energy. Ban fracking. Phase out the £6bn-a-year fossil fuel subsidies. Bring forward coal phase out to 2023 at the latest. Divest public funds from the fossil fuel industry. Ensure a just transition for communities dependent on fossil fuel jobs.

Labour. Ban fracking. Safeguard offshore oil and gas industry.

Lib Dems. Oppose fracking. Cut fossil fuel imports. Assist areas heavily dependent on fossil fuel industries to diversify away.

UKIP. Support a diverse energy market including coal, nuclear, shale gas, conventional gas and oil. Invest in shale gas but not allow it in national parks and AONBs.

Green Energy and Efficiency

Conservatives. Review into cost of energy to ensure UK energy costs are as low as possible, while ensuring reliable supply and meeting 2050 carbon reduction objective. Upgrade energy infrastructure in an affordable way, with ambition that the UK should have the lowest energy costs in Europe. Energy efficiency scheme for large companies. Smart meters offered to every household and business by end of 2020. Improve energy efficiency by committing to upgrading all fuel poor homes to EPC Band C by 2030. Review efficiency requirements on new homes. More large-scale onshore wind power is not right for England. Maintain UK's position as a global leader in offshore wind. After leaving European Union, energy policy will be based not on way energy is generated but on outcomes – reliable and affordable energy and meeting global commitments on climate change.

Greens. Insulate nine million homes. Bring two million people out of fuel poverty. Progressive energy tariffs so that small consumers pay less per unit than large ones. End the monopoly of the Big Six. Invest in community owned energy. Pioneer new Community Energy Tool Kit. Reform Tax Relief for smaller-scale projects. Require all projects with government support to have a community ownership element. Require grid operators to give priority to community energy projects. Replace fossil fuels and nuclear with renewable energy. Clean Energy Plan to ensure new investment is for renewable energy and a smarter grid.

Greens... End the effective ban on onshore wind. New support for onshore wind and solar-photovoltaics. Scale up investment in offshore wind and marine renewables. Decarbonise heat, including pilot residential and commercial projects. Introduce Green ISAs. Promote tax-free Green Bonds.

Labour. Invest in low-carbon gas and renewable electricity production, including tidal lagoons. Ensure 60% of energy comes from zero-carbon or renewable sources by 2030. Invest in new publicly owned energy provision. Take energy and grid infrastructure into public ownership. Emergency price cap to ensure average dual-fuel household energy bill remains below £1,000 a year. Support publicly owned, locally accountable energy companies and co-operatives. Insulate four million homes as priority. Interest free loans for homeowners to improve efficiency. Improve landlord energy efficiency regulations and allowances. Emerging technologies such as carbon capture and storage to help smooth transition to cleaner fuels. Maintain access to the internal EU energy market.

Lib Dems. Saving energy a top infrastructure priority. Expand renewable energy, aiming for 60% of electricity from renewables by 2030. Restore government support for solar PV and onshore wind in appropriate locations. Build more electricity interconnectors to underpin reliance on renewables. Invest in cutting-edge technologies including energy storage, smart grid technology, hydrogen technologies, offshore wind and tidal power. Give go-ahead for Swansea Bay tidal lagoon. Reduce energy bills by improving home insulation and encouraging small-scale, community and local-authority renewable schemes. Expand community energy schemes and encourage councils to develop community energy-saving projects and local electricity generation. Promote city-scale demonstration projects in electric vehicles and clean energy. At least 30% of household market to be supplied by competitors to the 'Big 6' by 2022.

UKIP. Remove VAT from domestic energy bills. Scrap green levies currently added to bills to subsidise renewable energy schemes. Support solar and hydro, as well as other renewables, when they can be delivered at competitive prices. Remove taxpayer-funded subsidies from wind and solar schemes.

Water and Flooding

Conservatives. Improve natural flood management, such as improving quality of water courses to protect against soil erosion and damage to vulnerable habitats and communities. Continue £2.5 billion flood defence programme to put in place protection for 300,000 existing homes by 2021.

Greens. Invest in a climate-proof future by building flood defences, investing in natural flood management, including restoring uplands.

Labour. Coastal protections and better flood management. Fund robust flood resilience. Plant a million trees for biodiversity and flood management.

Lib Dems. £2 billion flood-prevention fund to support small community and council-led schemes to reduce upstream flooding. Improved flood defences. Introduce high standards for flood resilience for buildings and infrastructure in flood-risk areas. Reform water management. Higher water-efficiency standards. Farming subsidies to promote flood prevention.

UKIP. Developments to use permeable surfacing materials for domestic car parking and front gardens.

Recycling and Litter

Conservatives. Reduce litter by supporting comprehensive rubbish collection and recycling, and better packaging. New powers to force councils to remove roadside litter and prosecute offenders.

Greens. Ensure reuse and recycling are at the heart of economy. Create a **circular economy**. Tough action to reduce waste with a zero-waste target. Promote culture of reusing and refilling through: introduction of a bottle deposit scheme; free public water dispensers and a community refill scheme. An end to unnecessary single-use plastics.

Labour. "Guiding targets" for plastic bottle deposit schemes. Work with food manufacturers and retailers to reduce waste.

Lib Dems. A Zero Waste Act. Binding targets for reducing consumption of key natural resources. Incentives for businesses to improve resource efficiency. Move towards the circular economy. Promote better product design to improve repairability, reuse and recycling. Statutory 70% recycling target. Food waste collections for at least 90% of homes by 2022. 5p charge on disposable coffee cups. Reinstate landfill tax escalator. Consult on an incineration tax. Set up a Cabinet Committee on Sustainability and an Office for Environmental Responsibility.

UKIP. Investigate introduction of a deposit scheme on plastic drinks bottles to encourage recycling.

Communities and Services

Conservatives. Bring sustainable growth to rural economy to give people the same opportunities as those living in towns and cities. Enhance provision of public services in rural areas. Safeguard post office network. Work with the post office to extend business and banking services in rural areas. Support rural pharmacies and village schools.

Greens. Bring energy, water, railways, buses, the Royal Mail and care work back into public ownership to give communities real control of public services.

Labour. Invest in rural and coastal communities. Ensure libraries are preserved and updated. End closure of Crown Post Office branches. A commission to establish a Post Bank to provide full range of banking services in every community. Invest in broadband, housing and transport to create jobs in rural communities. Extend broadband and 4G to support small rural businesses. Review rural business rates. Introduce rural-proofing so all laws, policies and programmes consider impact on rural communities.

Lib Dems. £2 billion Rural Services Fund to enable communities to establish a local base from which to co-locate services such as council offices, post offices, children's centres, libraries and visiting healthcare professionals. Prevent Post Office closures. Protect Royal Mail's Universal Service Obligation to deliver across the UK for same price.

UKIP. Create coastal enterprise zones with reduced business rates and renovate rundown housing. A taskforce will raise funding for new arts and heritage facilities in coastal towns.

Communications

Conservatives. £740 million of digital infrastructure investment through the National Productivity Investment Fund. Universal Service Obligation will ensure every home and every business has access to high speed broadband by 2020. Provide gigaspeed connectivity to as many businesses and homes as possible. By 2022, major fibre spines in over a hundred towns and cities and 10m premises connected to full fibre; clear path to national coverage over next decade. Most of population covered by a 5G signal by 2027.


Greens. Support the roll out of high speed broadband.

Labour. Universal superfast broadband by 2022. Improved mobile internet coverage. Improve 4G coverage and invest in 5G in urban areas and transport corridors. Instruct the National Infrastructure Commission to report on how to roll out ultrafast 3000bps across the UK within next decade.


Lib Dems. Superfast broadband – download 30Mbps, upload 6Mbps and unlimited usage – for every property by 2022. Invest £2 billion in innovative solutions to provide highspeed broadband across rural areas. Work with Ofcom to provide fast and reliable mobile phone coverage in rural areas.


UKIP. No mention.


Links to Manifestos and Candidates


Conservatives: *Forward together*; fielding 638 candidates. **Greens:** *Confident and caring Britain*; fielding 464 candidates. **Labour:** *For the many not the few*; fielding 631 candidates. **Lib Dems:** *Change Britain's future*; fielding 629 candidates. **UKIP:** *Britain together*; 378 candidates. **Others:** Several websites provide information on candidates, smaller parties and those of devolved administrations .

Green and Planning Manifestos

The **Campaign for National Parks** is seeking commitments to strengthen national planning protections for the national parks; protect funding for the next five years; and increase sustainable access to enable everyone to access and enjoy National Parks .

The **Ramblers** want to create a walking Britain which: puts walking at the centre of efforts to improve public health; makes towns and cities safe and attractive for walking; and supports the English coast path and the future of national trails .


The **Campaign for Better Transport** called for a shift of funding away from trunk roads to local transport; an end to bus cuts; expansion of railways; and affordable and attractive public transport .

The **Royal Town Planning Institute** wants greater cooperation between local authorities; investment in public transport, walking and cycling; conservation of built heritage and devolution of spending powers to councils. It is also calling for one million homes to be built and all buildings to be zero carbon .

The **Town and Country Planning Association** says the government wants more funding for social and affordable housing; a national spatial plan to address regional inequalities; more garden cities and a royal commission on resilience of climate change. It wants the NPPF revised to restore standards in design and placemaking and a new Community Planning Act .

The **Heritage Alliance** called for the parties to maximise the advantages of Brexit for heritage; maintain and improve protection for heritage; attract more investment and build sector skills and capacity; and continue to back Lottery funding for heritage .


CPRE Manifestos

CPRE Hampshire has written to the county's general election candidates asking them to support the CPRE manifesto . Chairman Dee Haas said: "Hampshire's rich and varied landscape contains national parks, AONBs and green belt. I ask that our local parliamentary candidates commit to protecting these and other valued and finite green spaces from ill-judged development that fails to meet local housing needs."

Friends of the Lake District has launched a manifesto calling on all political parties to unite in developing better environmental policies to create healthier landscapes for all and prosperous rural communities. It also calls for increased funding for the countryside in Cumbria .

In its manifesto, **CPRE Leicestershire** is calling for political parties to commit to protecting the countryside and adopt three priorities: develop brownfield sites before open countryside; help delivery of affordable rural homes for local people in our villages; and limit new warehousing in Leicestershire .

Manifesto for Surrey

CPRE Surrey issued a "Manifesto for Surrey" setting out several policies to protect the green belt, countryside and villages . It is calling on candidates to pledge to: protect the green belt, countryside and green spaces; oppose excessive and unsustainable housebuilding figures; and ensure that new development meets genuine local need not demand from outside Surrey. It wants urban and brownfield regeneration prioritised and a significantly higher proportion of well-designed affordable and social housing. Better use should be made of existing housing stock. The boundaries of the Surrey Hills AONB should be redrawn to bring existing Areas of Great Landscape Value within the AONB. Light pollution reduced and tranquility promoted.

CPRE Manifesto

CPRE is calling for commitments in the general election from all the political parties . It said:

We must move away from the opportunist free-for-all that has characterised our approach to rural development, eroding our green belts and precious landscapes. It is possible to tackle the challenges this country faces without destroying one of England's greatest assets [the countryside].

The six commitments CPRE is seeking are:

1. Stronger protection for green belts, national parks and AONBs. It is essential to shield such valuable areas from inappropriate development. Simply releasing more protected land for development will not solve the housing crisis.

2. Brownfield. Further investment in urban regeneration. Regenerating our towns and cities, especially vacant, derelict or underused brownfield sites, benefits both town and countryside. Regenerating these areas in exciting and ambitious ways will revive local economies, while limiting unnecessary development in greenfield and green belt areas.

3. Farming. Continued public funding for farming focused on the benefits beyond food. Farming needs to become more diverse if we are to be a resilient nation in terms of food and environment, reversing the decline in nature, in soils and in landscapes. Needs a new funding model that rewards wider public benefit.

4. Roads. Reset roads policy with a smarter travel investment strategy. Rather than seeking to triple road spending, the next government should commit to overhauling transport policy in favour of a better integrated and sustainable approach. This could include investment in existing public transport systems, with restored rail routes and integrated bus services, and a renewed focus on cycling and walking.

5. Reduce waste and pollution by committing to resource efficiency schemes, such as deposit return systems. Building on the success of the carrier bag charge and ban on microbeads, introducing new measures that promote efficient use of our resources, such as a Deposit Return System (DRS) for capturing single-use containers, would be a significant step in reducing blight on our celebrated landscapes.

6. Environment. Exiting the EU is a pivotal moment to restore and enhance our natural environment – now and in the future. Fully transposing and maintaining existing EU environmental laws and principles through the Great Repeal Bill would provide a solid foundation for post-Brexit environmental policy. An ambitious new Environment Act would build on this by setting strong antipollution rules, resource-efficiency standards, and measurable milestones for environmental restoration for the decades that follow.

We call on all parties in this election to recognise the countryside's huge contribution to the economy and our sense of who we are as individuals and communities, and to develop policies that will protect and enhance rural areas. In this way, we can provide for current and future generations so that both can benefit from the nourishment our countryside gives us.

Meeting CPRE's Commitments

Do the manifestos deliver CPRE's six commitments?

1. Protect green belt... (see page 2)

Conservatives. Maintain existing protections on green belt, national parks and AONBs.

Greens. Strong protections for green belt, national parks, SSSIs and AONBs.

Labour. Protect green belt.

Lib Dems. No specific mention.

UKIP. Safeguard AONBs.

2. Brownfield and urban regeneration (page 1)

Conservatives. No specific mention.

Greens. No specific mention.

Labour. Prioritise brownfield sites.

Lib Dems. No specific mention.

UKIP. Acquire brownfield and regenerate.

3. Farming and food (page 2)

Conservatives. Huge ambitions for farming industry. Devise new agri-environment system.

Greens. Environmental Protection Act to promote sustainable food and farming.

Labour. Champion sustainable farming and food. No agri-environment commitment.

Lib Dems. Reform funding to support healthy food and countryside protection.

UKIP. Subsidised farms must meet Entry Level Stewardship conditions.

4. Reset roads policy (page 3)

Conservatives. Extra lanes on motorways. Improve key roads, cycling and local transport. Rural minibuses.

Greens. Invest in railways not major roads. Promote cycling, walking, low traffic and local transport.

Labour. Continue to upgrade highways feeding public transport hubs. First class buses.

Lib Dems. Significant investment in roads. Green Transport Act. Halt decline in bus services.

UKIP. Remove tolls. Community minibuses.

5. Reduce waste and pollution (page 6)

Conservatives. Reduce litter and packaging.

Greens. Circular economy. DRS.

Labour. DRS? Reduce retail waste.

Lib Dems. Zero Waste Act. Circular economy. No mention of DRS.

UKIP. Investigate DRS.

6. Environment after exiting the EU (page 5)

Conservatives. 25-Year Environment Plan for Brexit.


Greens. EU rules transposed into UK law.

Labour. Defend and extend protections.

Lib Dems. Nature Act.

UKIP. New Environmental Protection Act.

CPRE SE eBulletin

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