

SURREY

MANIFESTO

2017

**ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY
COUNTY COUNCIL REFUGEES
ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY
COUNTY COUNCIL REFUGEES
ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY**



A GREEN VISION FOR SURREY

Greens have a vision for Surrey that's very different from the other political parties. The Government sees Surrey as an extension of London. They want London to keep growing, which means we lose our communities, our distinctiveness, and our unique Surrey countryside, to make way for housing and transport infrastructure.

We need an economy that works for everyone at the local level - providing decent jobs for Surrey residents, and transport that's accessible for all. Local shops should take pride of place on our High Streets, not be squeezed out by high business rates and high street chains.

One of the most important services Surrey County Council provides is caring for people. Yet the Government has slashed funding for care. We're fighting to make sure the Government prioritises local services, not just in Surrey but throughout the country.

Please vote Green. Having Greens on Surrey County Council makes a real difference.

We believe in building a Green economy which creates local jobs. We will:

- Invest in Green jobs which strengthen the local and Surrey economy, communities and the environment and create a 'circular economy' which reuses and recycles our resources – whilst reducing waste and pollution.
- Support local food production and distribution which minimises the resource and carbon footprints of what we eat and supports Surrey's rural economy.
- Provide ongoing support for small businesses and communities in our towns and villages.
- Manage public land and other developments owned by the council in ways that maximise community value, and deliver socially affordable and sustainable homes to rent.
- Ensure that the highest environmental and efficiency standards (Passivhaus) are met in all new Surrey County Council development & redevelopments, including schools and estate management. This will allow climate targets to be met and save money in the long run.



We believe in protecting the Green Belt and our wider countryside. We will:

- Defend our Green Belt and green spaces from inappropriate development, particularly pressure from house-building, fossil fuel drilling and fracking and inappropriate leisure developments.
- Promote the Green Belt's critical importance and value to our health and well-being, and that of the wildlife and planet.
- Ensure our countryside is accessible and well managed with sustainable rural jobs, promoting biodiversity and public enjoyment as aims, rather than profit for private developers.
- Ensure that all of Surrey is managed to mitigate against rapidly increasing flood risk.
- Introduce a ban on Council owned land on hunting, snaring and culling.
- Protect existing parks and play areas for the benefits of outdoor play/activities/pursuits and ensure everyone in Surrey is within 30 minutes' walk of a park or play area so all are able to enjoy the benefits of access to green space.
- Oppose the government's London-centric development strategy, which puts pressure on Surrey's countryside and Green Belt land for housing. Investment and fairly-paid jobs should be more evenly distributed throughout the UK.



We want to ensure safe, sustainable, accessible and healthy modes of transport across Surrey. We will:

- Ensure rail services in Surrey meet the needs of passengers in terms of cost, quality of service, accessibility, reliability and efficiency and oppose cuts to services whilst holding franchise owners accountable and supporting changes when these goals are not met.
- Maintain, improve and increase the number of strategic and local safe walking and cycling routes.
- Ensure bus services meet the needs of local communities and commuters in an affordable way to provide a realistic alternative to car use, and resist cuts which harm quality of life in rural areas or intensify social exclusion.
- Introduce measures to improve air quality in areas affected by traffic pollution.
- Introduce 20mph speed limits outside Surrey schools and in residential areas to help keep children safe.
- Resist expansion at Gatwick Airport and Heathrow which would impact on roads and rail in Surrey, and worsen air quality, noise pollution and carbon emissions
- Start the processes of decarbonising Surrey's Transport to ensure climate change targets are met.



OUR PUBLIC SERVICES

We will defend our public services to ensure that all Surrey residents have a good quality of life. We will:

- Ensure sufficient school places are provided in the right places for local communities and the environment so as to cut school run congestion, and meet Surrey's long term needs.
- Improve the quality of services for vulnerable children, teenagers, adults and carers, and improve mental health provision for all and particularly for young people.
- Oppose cuts to Public Health and make progress in providing a healthy environment where people can best meet their physical and emotional needs, whilst supporting preventative healthcare campaigns and measures to promote healthy living and minimise the risk of illness.
- Ensure public services are kept in public ownership - privatisation fragments public services and allows private companies to divert public money to their shareholders, at the expense of Surrey residents.
- Ensure our elderly people are supported in independent living, and receive continuing high quality social care when needed.
- Support libraries, leisure services, and local community and cultural events which welcome all Surrey residents.
- Oppose cuts to public services and ensure they are adequately funded – the government should be ensuring the richest pay their way, not forcing increased Council Tax and service cuts on everyone in Surrey.



ETHICS AND DEMOCRACY

We want to work with honesty and transparency to the highest possible standards. We will:

- Promote an ethical approach by Surrey County Council to the conduct of its own affairs through greater democracy: to follow its own existing ethical investment policy, and divest from its current unethical, unsustainable investments such as fossil fuels.
- Introduce fair working practices including a living wage for staff and fair contracts of employment, opposing exploitative zero-hours contracts.
- Support devolution that increases democratic accountability, not further centralising of power in the hands of Mayors.
- Ensure that spending of Surrey's two local enterprise partnerships and other public sector partnerships act in public interest.
- Provide a warm welcome for refugees and provide support to help them integrate into our communities.

ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY
COUNTY COUNCIL REFUGEES
ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY
COUNTY COUNCIL REFUGEES
ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY
ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT
PUBLIC SERVICES ECONOMY
COUNTY COUNCIL REFUGEES
ENVIRONMENT TRANSPORT



Green Party
for the common good

Promoted by Tony Cooper on behalf of Mole Valley Green Party, both c/o 13 Albert Road, Ashted KT21 1BJ.