

Green Party Manifesto for 2017 - 2021

VISION AND CORE VALUES

People in Norfolk will elect their County Councillors on Thursday 4 May 2017. Norfolk needs Green Party Councillors who will challenge any ruling party at County Hall and work with residents to make Norfolk a better and fairer place.

The Green Party believes in:



A healthy environment for people and nature

A flourishing local economy that addresses everyone's needs

Thriving grass roots communities

Strong public services including a properly funded NHS

Tackling the unfolding disaster of climate change

We believe in supporting local people in shaping decisions that affect their lives. Please join us in working for a more caring, equal, happier, healthier society. We need an environment and economy where everyone's basic needs are met.

Retaining Green voices on Norfolk County Council is essential for people & planet

If you would like to be a part of this change, or if there are any issues you want to raise, please get in touch with us at:

Tel: 01603 611909

Email: enquiries@norwichgreenparty.org

Key Green Party Actions for the next four years

Here are some of the ways that Green councillors will work for a more caring, equal, happier and healthier society, if elected:

BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES

- Pool resources with partners to improve mental health support for children and young people.
- Pool resources with care and health partners and pilot innovative ways of keeping people out of hospital and well supported at home.
- Continue to argue for a well-resourced NHS and oppose cuts to hospital beds.



BUILD A THRIVING LOCAL ECONOMY

- Encourage large local employers to pay a real Living Wage (£8.45/hour), not just the 'national living wage' (£7.50/hour for people aged 25 plus from April 2017).
- Encourage community energy projects.
- Develop local markets for local produce keeping money circulating locally



STAND UP FOR NORFOLK'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Plant two trees for every ash tree lost to disease.
- Increase the wildlife value of our countryside and towns.
- Improve poor air quality, for example, by working with public transport operators to bring in zero carbon buses.





GIVE A LEAD ON NORFOLK TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

- Adopt an ambitious annual carbon budget alongside the County Council's capital and revenue expenditure budgets.
- Trial eco-street lights using 'smart' technology that make people feel safe at night and have a much lower environmental impact.
- Work with partners to find ways of reducing and recycling plastic packaging.



GIVE PRIORITY TO GREEN TRANSPORT

- Invest in public transport instead of spending money on more new roads. We oppose the proposal for a 4-lane road through the Wensum river valley west of Norwich.
- Improve our local railway, for example by providing new rail stations around Norwich. Persuade the local rail operator to bring in a fairer local rail fares policy.
- Work towards zero deaths and serious injuries on Norfolk's roads.



Norwich  **Green Party**
for the common good

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-  norwich.greenparty.org.uk
-  facebook.com/NorwichGreenParty
-  @NorwichGreens
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GREEN PARTY ACHIEVEMENTS 2013 - 2017



Four Green Party councillors representing Norwich wards were elected to Norfolk County Council in 2013. We are proud of our achievements, which include:

Opposing cuts to services: we proposed budget changes and small council tax rises to protect social care. The Council would now have an additional £33m a year if our amendments had been accepted by the Labour/UKIP/Lib Dem councillors who ran Norfolk for three years from 2013 to 2016.

Campaigning against unnecessary works: we actively opposed spending £185 million on the Norwich Northern Distributor Road (NDR) when social services were under stress.

Fighting for local democracy: we successfully campaigned for the cross-party committee system that gives all 84 councillors a voice in making decisions, replacing a Cabinet system that concentrated power with a few councillors.

Reducing greenhouse gases: Greens persuaded the County Council to adopt a carbon reduction target for all its operations; supported building a solar park at Coltishall to provide energy for 12-15,000 homes; got the Council to install 225 solar panels on County Hall roof.

Stopping the Council's plans for a waste incinerator: Greens played a major role in halting the large expensive polluting incinerator at King's Lynn.

Tackling air pollution: we persuaded the Council to start cleaning up diesel buses.

Improving transport: we helped to improve walking and cycling in Norwich.