

SENEDD MANIFESTO 2026



Plaid Werdd
Green Party

CONTENTS

OUR HOMES & COMMUNITIES.

PAGE 4

**OUR COMMUNITIES, CULTURE &
HERITAGE**

PAGE 11

OUR HEALTH & WELLBEING

PAGE 16

FOOD, NATURE & OUR ENVIRONMENT

PAGE 22

OUR FUTURE

PAGE 32

Failing Labour, in Wales and in Westminster, has let Wales down. For too long Wales has been ripped off. We can do so much better. The status quo, run for the wealthy establishment, has to end.

Electing Greens to the Senedd is the first step to making hope normal again. Lowering bills, protecting the NHS, making housing affordable and always defending human rights, at home and abroad.

Bills are soaring. Patients wait longer and longer in crumbling hospital buildings, despite the hard work of nurses and doctors. Schools are starved of the budgets they need to nurture the next generation. Rents are unaffordable, while buying somewhere to live is a pipe dream for young people. Our young people struggle to find decent paying jobs, often forced to leave their communities. It feels like we're paying more and more every day while getting less and less back.

Greens will always work for you, not the billionaires who've benefited from squeezing the rest of us. We're funded by ordinary people. By electing Greens, **you have the power** to say we won't accept the status quo any longer.

We will work every day to win the power and money from Westminster we're entitled to, and the tools we need to build the society we know we can create. But we can also make life easier now. We can freeze rents. We can replace the unfair council tax. We can cut bus fares. And we can ramp up investment in switching to a green economy. **If you put Greens in the Senedd, this is what we'll deliver.**

One thing is clear: we'll be getting a new government on 8 May. Greens in the Senedd will make sure that new government doesn't backslide on cutting your bills, fixing the housing crisis, and taking our responsibility to the climate seriously.

You have the power to make sure we take this historic opportunity to turn things around for Wales.

Hope is here. It's all of us.

Anthony Slaughter
Leader of Wales Green Party

OUR KEY PRIORITIES

1. SCRAP COUNCIL TAX

Council tax is unfair and is one of the biggest bills for most households. We will replace it with a land value tax that cuts the average bill, while wealthier property owners pay more.

2. HOUSING

We will freeze rents. Build 60,000 social homes over 10 years. End no-fault evictions. Make housing secure, affordable, and fit to live in – get rid of a system that exploits people.

3. HEALTH

We will put an immediate end to corridor care by declaring any incidents of this as an emergency, which should never happen. We will immediately address the mental health pandemic in Wales. We will make bold, long-term reforms which deliver the change our NHS needs.

4. TRANSPORT

We'll bring in £1 bus fares and free travel for under-22s. We will create more routes, better links, real reliability – so getting to work, school, or anywhere else doesn't depend on what you earn.

5. CHILDCARE

We'll back universal childcare from nine months. More hours, more flexibility, lower costs – so families aren't priced out of work and early years support works for all.

6. WATER

We'll take back control of water. We will end pollution, enforce the rules, and strip licences from repeat offenders – because essential infrastructure should serve people, not fail them.

7. NATURE & CLIMATE

We will create clear, legally enforceable goals to protect wildlife, and ensure every government decision supports climate and nature recovery.

OUR HOMES & COMMUNITIES

HOUSING

Housing is a human right. Yet across Wales, the cost of housing has spiralled out of control, swallowing wages, pushing families into poverty and leaving too many people in insecure or unhealthy homes. Everyone deserves a safe, warm place to live that does not drain their income or damage their health.

The Green Party will bring housing costs under control, expand social housing, strengthen tenants' rights and ensure homes are fit for a low-carbon future. Investing in better homes – fixing damp, improving insulation and retrofitting buildings – will cut energy bills, reduce pressure on the NHS and improve quality of life.

A FAIRER PRIVATE RENTAL MARKET

Too many renters face rising costs, insecurity and poor housing conditions. We will stabilise rents and give tenants the protections they deserve.

We will introduce a one-year rent freeze, including between tenancies, to provide immediate relief. This will be followed by rent controls, allowing Welsh Ministers to approve local authority Rent Pressure Zones where rent caps apply to keep housing affordable.

Rent increases will only be permitted where landlords deliver genuine improvements to homes, particularly upgrades that improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.

These rules will apply across the entire rental sector, with no exemptions for mid-market or build-to-rent housing. Landlords who breach rent caps will face financial penalties.

WE WILL STRENGTHEN TENANT PROTECTIONS BY:

- **Banning no-fault evictions**
- **Banning rental bidding wars, with penalties of up to £7,000 for accepting offers above the listed price**

- **Creating an independent Housing Ombudsman to resolve disputes and challenge unfair charges**
- **Extending the Welsh Housing Quality Standard to the private sector, with stronger protections against damp, mould and unsafe conditions**
- **Ensuring landlords cannot unreasonably refuse tenants the right to keep pets**
- **Clarify landlords' responsibilities to act on delivering reasonable adjustments for disabled tenants in properties which should include appropriate facilities for washing and bathing**

To support enforcement, Rent Smart Wales will collect and publish rental data so local authorities can monitor rents and enforce caps effectively.

EXPANDING SOCIAL HOUSING

Wales urgently needs more affordable homes. We will launch a 10-year programme to deliver 60,000 affordable homes, with the majority built as social housing.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE WILL:

- **Introduce a moratorium on the sale of social housing, except in**

exceptional circumstances

- **Expand the Social Housing Grant so local authorities and Registered Social Landlords can buy homes, build new social housing and bring empty or derelict buildings back into use**
- **Use compulsory purchase powers to bring long-term empty homes into public housing stock**

A NATIONAL HOUSING DEVELOPER

We will need an effective national social housing developer to coordinate funding, work with local authorities and housing associations, and develop new social housing at scale. It should also support collaboration between councils to pool funding and accelerate construction.

New homes will meet low-carbon standards, integrate with local transport and infrastructure, and reflect the needs of the communities they serve. Residents and tenants will have a real voice in where and how new homes are built.

ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Everyone deserves a safe place to live.

We will embed the Right to Adequate

SENEDD MANIFESTO 2026

Housing in Welsh law, requiring future governments to develop long-term strategies to prevent homelessness and ensure secure housing.

TO ACHIEVE THIS WE WILL:

- Advocate for the removal of the freeze on Local Housing Allowance so it rises with the cost of living
- Ensure refuge accommodation for survivors of domestic abuse and violence provides clear pathways to secure long-term housing
- Invest in early homelessness prevention, including support in schools and community service
- Strengthen coordination between housing, health and social support services

REFORMING HOME OWNERSHIP

The outdated leasehold system must end.

All new developments will be freehold, commonhold or cooperatively owned, giving residents real control over their homes. Existing leaseholders will be supported to buy their freehold at a fair price and convert to commonhold ownership if they choose.

GREENER, WARMER HOMES

Homes should keep people warm in winter, cool in summer and safe from damp and pollution.

WE WILL ACCELERATE THE TRANSITION TO LOW-CARBON HOMES BY:

- Ring-fencing funding from the UK Government Warm Homes Plan for use in Wales
- Expanding schemes such as NEST to prioritise insulation, ventilation and heat pumps
- Providing grants and affordable loans so homeowners can retrofit their properties

A national programme will coordinate area-based energy efficiency upgrades across Wales.

Building regulations will require all new homes to meet low- or net-zero carbon standards, including solar panels as standard and fossil-free heating systems such as heat pumps.

We will also improve indoor air quality through stronger ventilation standards and by tackling damp, mould and polluting heating systems.

BUILDING A RETROFIT WORKFORCE

Transforming Wales's housing stock will create thousands of skilled jobs.

We will invest in training and apprenticeships to build a national retrofit workforce, working with Medr, colleges and training providers to develop skills in insulation, heat pump installation and sustainable construction.

Housing associations will also support training and employment programmes, creating secure green jobs while improving homes across Wales.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING

Community-led housing – including cooperatives, community land trusts and co-housing, can deliver affordable homes designed around local needs.

WE WILL SUPPORT THESE INITIATIVES BY:

- **Working through our new Co-operative Development Hub to raise awareness of community-led housing among local authorities and investors**

- **Improving access to start-up grants and finance**
- **Removing planning barriers that slow down community projects**

EFFECTIVE PLANNING

Planning must help communities grow sustainably while protecting the environment. We will ensure planning policy is centred on the specific needs of communities and local economies. This will include local action to avoid buildings becoming derelict and high streets looking homogenous. Instead, we will use planning to require a minimum provision of green spaces, easy access to local shops, and better protection of heritage buildings.

We will ensure local authorities are properly resourced to deliver housing and infrastructure, including appointing a statutory Chief Planner in every authority.

Public participation in planning will be strengthened so communities have a real voice in Local Development Plans and major developments.

INVESTING IN AFFORDABLE HOMES

The Social Housing Grant remains a key tool for delivering affordable homes in Wales. It allows councils and housing

associations to acquire land, build homes, purchase properties and convert unused buildings into housing.

With £437 million allocated in the 2025–26 Welsh budget, we will ensure this investment continues to grow and is used strategically to meet the scale of the housing crisis.

These policies will deliver affordable, secure and warm homes, ensuring every community in Wales has the foundation it needs to thrive.

TRANSPORT

Public transport in Wales has suffered decades of underinvestment, leaving many communities without reliable alternatives to the car. This must change. Modern, integrated transport is essential to tackle the climate crisis, reduce air pollution and support a stronger economy. It is also a social justice issue, with the poorest communities having to rely most on public transport.

The Green Party will implement a long-term plan to transform how people move around Wales over the next 30 years. Public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling will become affordable, reliable and convenient choices. We will improve coverage in both urban and rural areas, keep fares affordable and integrate transport with housing, health, environmental and land-use planning to create a joined-up national system.

BUSES

Buses are the backbone of local transport and must be affordable and dependable. We will introduce a **£1 single fare for adults aged 22–59**, ensuring that everyday travel is affordable until franchising and integrated ticketing is fully rolled out. We will also transform the **Young Person's £1 bus scheme into free bus travel for everyone under 22**.

Affordable fares must go hand in hand with better services. We will prioritise delivering on a unified and easy-to-use bus system across Wales with a single timetable and simple ticketing system, expansion of routes, and improved connections across towns and cities.

We will support services that run earlier in the morning, later at night and more frequently at weekends, while increasing provision in rural and poorly served areas. Contactless payment will be rolled out nationwide, and ticketing will be integrated so that the final “last-mile” bus journey from a railway station can be included in the cost of a rail ticket.

We will create new express bus routes including new cross-valleys express bus links connecting towns that are currently poorly served by public transport.

Better integration between buses and trains will be prioritised through coordinated timetables, improved interchange facilities and stronger collaboration between operators. We

will also develop **a national strategy for long-distance coach services**, identifying locations for modern coach stations that link effectively with local bus and rail networks.

RAIL

A modern rail network is essential for a connected Wales. We will establish a long-term programme of rail investment focused on resilience, accessibility and expanded services.

This includes a **rolling programme of electrification**, investment in new and existing lines, and improvements to stations. We will increase service frequencies on the Welsh rail network, including the introduction of Sunday services where they aren't in place.

Delivering a package of new stations throughout Wales which meets local needs. Accessibility will be a core principle. All stations will move towards step-free access and trains will provide level boarding, while improvements will make rail travel easier for families and passengers with additional needs.

We will support and fund tram-train systems for constructions in cities, Cardiff Crossrail and develop proposals for Swansea, Newport, Wrexham for construction.

We will further enhance the South Wales Metro by connecting the disconnected communities.

A Wales Green Government will also continue to challenge the UK Government over the refusal to grant Wales fair consequential funding from large rail projects classified as “England and Wales” schemes, including **HS2, Northern Powerhouse Rail and East West Rail**, despite Wales receiving little direct benefit.

We will continue to lobby for investment in major infrastructure to deliver a long-term vision for Welsh rail. Going beyond a Senedd term, we will work towards interregional interconnectivity, which could include the phased development of a major new railway line linking North, Mid and South Wales, and developing connections between Carmarthen and Aberystwyth, and between Bangor and Caernarfon. We will also begin work on a second rail crossing across the River Severn between South Wales and Bristol.

The UK and Welsh Governments are committed to extra services linking West Wales and Bristol. We would look to deliver this at the earliest opportunity along with additional services to Cheltenham, Birmingham and Liverpool.

ACTIVE & INCLUSIVE TRAVEL

We aim to **double the proportion of journeys made by walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport by 2030.**

This will create a healthier Wales, greener communities, and save public money through a healthier society.

To achieve this, we will ensure that **at least 10% of the transport budget is spent on active travel.** Investment will focus on safer crossings, high-quality cycle lanes, secure cycle storage, improved paths and better integration with public transport hubs.

Safe routes to schools will be prioritised so that more children and young people can travel safely and independently. We will incorporate active travel guidance into highway design, putting walking and cycling at the heart of new developments. Rural roads will include appropriate safety measures to support cycling and reduce accidents. Public awareness campaigns will promote road safety and highlight the health and environmental benefits of active travel.

We will also expand affordable **cycle hire schemes** across Wales to ensure that cost is not a barrier to cycling.

ROADS

Maintaining the roads we already have must come before building new ones.

We will prioritise tackling **potholes and unsafe road surfaces** through sustained investment in road and path maintenance.

We will support the transition to **electric vehicles** by expanding fast-charging infrastructure on public estates and along key trunk roads, helping to reduce transport emissions.

In rural areas, we will provide **starter funding for community car-sharing schemes**, helping reduce isolation while lowering the need for multiple car ownership.

Finally, we will review public investment in the aviation sector, including funding for **Cardiff Airport**, with the aim of ending such subsidies by the end of the Senedd term and focusing instead on sustainable transport alternatives.

Together, these policies will deliver a transport system that is **affordable, integrated, safe, low-carbon and designed for the future of Wales.**

OUR COMMUNITIES, CULTURE & HERITAGE

The Green Party envisions a Wales where culture is alive, evolving and shaped by everyone who calls it home. Cultural life grows from communities – through choirs, youth clubs, arts spaces, sports teams and grassroots initiatives. We will remove barriers so everyone can participate in and shape Wales's cultural future. Culture is essential to wellbeing, identity and belonging. We will also protect and strengthen the Welsh language through housing, education and local economic support. Our goal is a confident bilingual Wales where Welsh thrives in everyday life and newcomers are welcomed into the country's cultural and linguistic communities.

A NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO CULTURAL WELLBEING

Cultural wellbeing is too often undervalued in public policy. Across Wales we have seen cultural spaces close, heritage assets neglected and opportunities for participation decline.

This trend must be reversed.

WE WILL DELIVER A NEW NATIONAL APPROACH BASED ON TWO PILLARS:

- **A Culture Bill** establishing statutory duties on public bodies
- **A Cultural Rights Framework** guaranteeing participation in cultural life

Together these measures will ensure that culture is recognised as essential infrastructure for healthy communities. We will nurture Welsh culture, and all cultures represented in Wales to thrive.

A CULTURE BILL FOR WALES

We will introduce a **Culture Bill** that guarantees every community access to cultural spaces, services and opportunities. The Bill will place clear duties on public bodies, particularly local authorities, to protect and sustain cultural life.

PROTECTING CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Local authorities will be required to ensure access to **free, warm and welcoming community cultural spaces**, including libraries, youth centres, community halls, arts hubs, rehearsal spaces and sports facilities.

National minimum standards will be set for **libraries, museums and archives**, ensuring every region maintains core cultural services.

We will also establish a **Community Right to Buy**, allowing local people to protect and acquire valued buildings such as music venues, pubs, chapels, libraries and heritage spaces.

CULTURE IN PLANNING & REGENERATION

Culture and heritage will become central to planning and regeneration.

All **Local Development Plans** will embed culture, placemaking and the historic environment in line with the Placemaking Wales Charter. Public bodies will include cultural wellbeing within their wellbeing objectives.

Public spaces should be **beautiful, inclusive and socially just**, supporting

creativity, community life and cultural expression.

Through our **Land Reform Act**, communities will gain stronger rights to acquire land and buildings. A **Community Land Fund** will help local groups purchase sites for cultural spaces, community enterprises and creative regeneration.

SUPPORTING THE WELSH LANGUAGE

The Culture Bill will strengthen Welsh language use in communities and public life.

Public bodies will be required to actively increase the use of Welsh in workplaces and services. Welsh-medium and bilingual opportunities will expand in schools and community settings.

Planning and housing policy will support **sustainable Welsh-speaking communities**, including community ownership options in areas where housing pressures threaten the survival of the language.

CULTURAL EDUCATION & YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Young people must have the opportunity to explore creativity and culture regardless of background.

Local authorities will support **creative festivals or Eisteddfod-style events in every school**, encouraging participation in arts, literature, music and performance.

We will ensure **free and accessible Welsh-language learning and cultural opportunities for young people aged 8–25**, alongside a minimum cultural entitlement covering arts, sport, literature, music, film, digital culture, theatre, youth work and creative learning.

PROTECTING HERITAGE & CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Wales's cultural identity is rooted in its landscapes and history.

Public bodies will have a duty to protect **archaeological sites, industrial heritage, working-class heritage and culturally significant landscapes**, particularly those threatened by climate change.

Communities will be supported to protect and manage **green spaces and heritage sites**, recognising their importance for cultural life and wellbeing.

SPORT AS CULTURAL WELLBEING

Sport is a central part of Welsh identity and community life. The Culture Bill will

recognise sport as part of our national cultural infrastructure.

Local authorities will ensure access to **pitches, sports halls, play areas and training spaces**, meeting minimum safety and accessibility standards. Urban sports such as skateboarding, BMX and parkour will also be supported.

Grassroots rugby and football clubs will be protected as community institutions, with equal opportunities for girls, boys and mixed teams. Long-term investment will ensure that access to sport does not depend on geography or income.

Wales's landscape also provides opportunities for **outdoor adventure and nature-based tourism**. We will invest in infrastructure supporting walking, cycling, climbing and other outdoor activities.

We will expand access to **sustainable water sports**, improve water quality at bathing sites and introduce local bathing water improvement plans.

A fair, rules-based **Welsh Right to Roam** will allow responsible access to the countryside while protecting nature and communities, including education opportunities for the general public in how to look after the environment.

Sustainable transport options will support tourism in areas such as **Bannau Brycheiniog, Eryri, the Pembrokeshire Coast and the Clwydian Range**, building on successful models such as the Sherpa'r Wyddfa service.

GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

We will strengthen leadership in cultural policy by creating a **Cabinet Secretary for Arts, Culture and Language**.

Public bodies will report annually on cultural wellbeing outcomes, ensuring accountability and transparency.

Local cultural plans will be developed through **co-production with communities**, giving people a genuine voice in shaping the cultural life of their areas.

We will also seek powers to establish **St David's Day as a Welsh bank holiday**, and in the meantime ensure it is recognised in public-sector employment contracts.

CULTURAL RIGHTS FOR EVERYONE

Alongside statutory duties, we will establish a **Cultural Rights Framework** to guide decision-making across the public sector.

PARTICIPATION & BELONGING

Everyone in Wales will have the right to participate in cultural life, create and express themselves, and see their identity reflected in national culture.

Access to culture, sport, music, literature and the Welsh language must be **affordable and accessible regardless of income or postcode**.

DIVERSITY & REPRESENTATION

Wales's cultural life must reflect its diversity. Migrant, racialised and minoritised communities will have the right to see their stories and creativity represented in national institutions.

We will support **multilingual, multicultural and migrant-led arts**, including initiatives such as a **Music of Black Origin Wales Fund** and community-led festivals.

WELSH LANGUAGE RIGHTS

Everyone will have the right to **learn and use Welsh**.

Free and accessible Welsh-language learning will be available for people of all ages. The language must be usable in workplaces, public services, creative spaces and everyday community life.

CULTURE FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Children and young people deserve access to culture from the earliest age.

We will support **free creative sessions, youth cultural programmes, reading schemes and family-friendly festivals**, alongside opportunities for intergenerational cultural activities such as choirs, arts projects and community celebrations.

FAIR WORK IN CULTURE

People working in arts, heritage, sport and creative industries must be able to build sustainable careers.

We will support **fair pay, secure employment and professional development** for cultural workers, recognising their contribution to national wellbeing.

DIGITAL CULTURE & KNOWLEDGE

Access to culture increasingly depends on digital infrastructure.

Everyone will have the right to access **online archives, performances, learning resources and translation technologies**, ensuring digital inclusion in cultural life.

STRENGTHENING WALES'S CREATIVE ECONOMY

We will explore new ways to support

Wales's creative industries, including community studios, world music festivals and funding initiatives such as a **MOBO Wales Fund**.

We will advocate for **broadcasting and media powers to be fully devolved to Wales**, allowing the country to shape how its stories are told and funded.

In the meantime, we will establish a **Local Journalism Fund** to support independent local news organisations, including Welsh-language media, ensuring communities continue to have access to trusted local information.

Our vision is a Wales where culture is not an optional extra but a **foundation of national wellbeing**. By protecting cultural spaces, strengthening the Welsh language and guaranteeing cultural rights, we will ensure every community has the opportunity to create, participate and thrive.

OUR HEALTH & WELLBEING

Wales needs a fundamental shift in how health is understood, funded and delivered. For too long, the NHS has been pushed to breaking point by rising demand and a system focused on treating illness rather than preventing it. This approach cannot meet the challenges of inequality, mental health need, an ageing population and the health impacts of poverty and pollution.

The Green Party will build a health system centred on prevention, long-term wellbeing and joined-up care. Health begins in homes, schools, workplaces and communities. Success will be measured not only by treatments delivered, but by whether people live healthier lives and those most excluded are supported to thrive.

HEALTH & WELLBEING FOR ALL

We will reduce health inequalities by directing support to where need is greatest and shifting investment towards prevention, early intervention and integrated care.

Our approach will be built on clear foundations: healthier homes, cleaner air

and water, safer communities, access to nature, healthy local food, strong early years support, social connection, active living and community wellbeing. We will expand **Nature for Health** programmes to improve physical and mental wellbeing, strengthen social prescribing for adults and introduce age-appropriate social prescribing for children, and make movement part of everyday life through safe walking and cycling routes, greener neighbourhoods and better public transport.

We will enshrine the **right to healthy food** in law, regulate harmful food environments and use public procurement to support Welsh farmers and deliver fresh, nutritious food in public services. We will treat obesity as a public health challenge, not a personal failing, by making healthy choices easier and more affordable.

We will retain the **20mph speed limit in built-up areas**, helping to reduce serious injuries, save lives and ease pressure on the NHS.

A LONG-TERM WORKFORCE PLAN

A modern health and care system needs a workforce plan that is fully funded, properly resourced and built for the long term.

We will deliver a workforce plan for **NHS Wales and social care** that tackles shortages, improves continuity of care and supports multidisciplinary working. We will improve pay, job security and career progression, reduce caseloads and administrative pressure, and strengthen recruitment, retention and training.

The plan will prepare the workforce for the future, including rising levels of dementia, diabetes, respiratory disease and other chronic conditions. It will take a 20–30 year view, aligned with the Well-being of Future Generations Act. Ethical international recruitment will help fill urgent gaps while supporting culturally competent care and tackling discrimination in the workplace.

PUBLIC HEALTH

We will build a properly funded public health system focused on prevention, fairness and the wider causes of poor health.

We will reduce health inequalities by improving the social conditions that shape people's lives, such as housing, income, education, discrimination, community

environment and employment, so that everyone has a fair chance to live a healthy life. We will make Wales a “Marmot nation” making health equity a national mission.

We will consolidate, align and deliver the vision and actions set out in the Future Generations Act, Public Health Wales's Working Together for a Healthier Wales and the Healthy Wales Strategy.

We will strengthen environmental health protections, including clean indoor air standards, and replace weak existing structures with stronger **Regional Wellbeing Partnerships**. These partnerships will have dedicated budgets and clear accountability for reducing health inequalities.

PRIMARY & COMMUNITY-BASED CARE

Care should happen closer to home wherever possible. We will strengthen local services so people can get help earlier and avoid unnecessary hospital admissions.

We will increase funding for **GP and dental services**, reform funding formulas to reflect community need, set national GP access targets and expand NHS dentistry.

We will develop **local health and wellbeing hubs** bringing together services such as physiotherapy, podiatry,

SENEDD MANIFESTO 2026

occupational therapy, screening, wellbeing advice, health visiting, community midwifery and minor injury care. These hubs will connect with reablement and step-up, step-down services to reduce pressure on hospitals and improve recovery.

BEST START IN LIFE

We will prioritise the first 1,000 days of life, where the greatest gains for lifelong health can be made.

This means stronger perinatal care, better postnatal mental health support, skilled breastfeeding support and comprehensive postpartum care. We will invest in play-based early years provision, nutritious school meals, daily movement and safe outdoor play, recognising that early childhood is one of the most effective points for prevention and reducing inequality.

HEALTHY & RESILIENT YOUNG PEOPLE

We will implement a **Youth Mental Health Plan**, expand school-based support and create early intervention pathways for the “missing middle” who currently fall between universal services and specialist CAMHS support.

We will strengthen work on healthy relationships, sexual health, drugs and alcohol, and ensure people seeking help will be guided to the right services wherever they enter the healthcare system.

SOCIAL CARE

Social care must help people live independently, stay connected and avoid crisis. It should remain **locally delivered and democratically accountable**. Integration should mean better joint planning, funding and data sharing, not simply transferring social care into health boards.

We will expand **local, not-for-profit and community-led provision**, support social enterprises and co-operatives, and reform commissioning so smaller community organisations are not squeezed out. We will improve pay parity, workforce wellbeing and safe conditions across social care, while investing in prevention and early intervention for children and adults alike.

CHILDREN'S CARE

We will continue to reshape children's care towards **not-for-profit, child-centred and community-based provision**. Building on the Health and Social Care (Wales) Act 2025, we will expand public, charitable and community care options so every child can access safe, stable and local care.

We will improve placement stability, particularly for LGBTQIA children tackle racial inequalities, ensure children can maintain their language and identity, and campaign for **care experience to become a protected characteristic** under equality law.

HOSPICES

We will protect funding for **Welsh hospices**, recognising the vital role they play in delivering compassionate, person-centred care.

MENTAL HEALTH

We will put prevention, early help and equality at the centre of mental health policy.

We support the **Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025–2035**, but it must be matched by real delivery, investment and accountability. We will fund prevention through housing security, clean air, active travel, safe green spaces, community food programmes and poverty reduction. Poverty is a mental health emergency, and we will treat it as such.

We will guarantee faster access to support and introduce a no wrong door approach for children and young people. We will create a transparent national system to track and reduce inequalities by deprivation, gender, ethnicity, LGBTQIA, disability, age, language and rurality.

We will strengthen community-based roles, improve support in schools and communities, and expand training, apprenticeships and fair pay across the workforce. We will also take a gendered approach to mental health, including better support after childbirth, for survivors of sexual violence, and for men in mid-life who are at highest risk of suicide. We will support gender affirming care for anyone who requires it.

NEURODEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

We will extend the **National Neurodivergence Improvement Programme** beyond 2027 and increase investment in early intervention.

We will improve diagnostic capacity, expand multidisciplinary pathways and strengthen coordination between primary care, community services and specialists.

AGEING WELL

We will deliver person-centred care for older people, including people living with dementia.

Care should focus on comfort, communication, identity, safety and connection. We will replace fragmented, disease-led models with personalised care plans based on what matters to each person. This will include earlier palliative care, appropriate deprescribing and better shared decision-making.

A NATIONAL CANCER STRATEGY

We will create a fully funded **National Cancer Strategy** for Wales focused on prevention, earlier diagnosis, fairness and person-centred care.

We will continue the drive for a **Smoke Free Wales by 2030**, tackle obesity, reduce alcohol and substance harm, cut air pollution and strengthen protections against carcinogens and workplace toxins.

We will expand screening and diagnostic access, deliver the **Single Cancer Pathway target**, and reduce cancer inequalities across Wales. Services will be co-produced with people affected by cancer and frontline staff, and will include rehabilitation, psychological support, survivorship care and earlier palliative support. We will address glaring gaps in our evidence base particularly for secondary or metastatic cancer

We will also deliver a **national lung cancer screening programme** and make lung cancer inequality a national priority.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

We will deliver an inclusive, rights-based approach to women's health, address medical misogyny, and strengthen and implement the **Women and Girls' Health Plan 2025–2035**.

We will improve access to reproductive and gynaecological care, continue free period products in schools and colleges, support safe maternity services through minimum staffing standards, establish endometriosis centres in every health board, and improve menopause support in healthcare and workplaces. Progress will be tracked through transparent reporting and lived-experience scrutiny.

URGENT ACTION TO END CORRIDOR CARE

We will act now to relieve overcrowding and restore safe care.

We will make being cared for in a chair for more than 24 hours a **Never Event**, and require transparent corridor care reporting. We will pause hospital bed reductions, increase senior clinical decision-making at weekends, restore district nursing and community care capacity, invest in social care to speed discharge, and rapidly expand same-day emergency care and assessment units.

A YOUTH GENDER SERVICE

We will support NHS Wales to publish its own guidance independent from NHS England which protects the health of trans people on the basis of the internationally recognised best practice.

We will establish a dedicated gender

service for young people under 17 to access support and therapy, provide resources such as voice training, and offer advice to parents, alongside dedicated routes to healthcare provision (both mental health and physical). The service will also provide support for accessing adult youth services to avoid facing gaps in support. Talking therapies, HRT, and puberty blockers should all be accessible. While HRT may need to be delayed for younger people due to Westminster rules, puberty blockers have been shown to be safe and effective as a treatment method.

A HEALTHIER, FAIRER WALES

Shifting investment into prevention, primary care and community support will reduce avoidable illness, ease pressure on hospitals and improve long-term outcomes. It will also keep more value in Welsh communities through secure jobs in health, care and the third sector.

This is how we build a healthier, fairer and more resilient Wales: by preventing illness where we can, responding earlier when problems emerge, and making wellbeing the real measure of success.

FOOD, NATURE & OUR ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENERGY

Climate change is the defining challenge of our time. Wales must act urgently to cut emissions, reduce energy demand and accelerate the transition to renewable energy. This requires change across the economy: how we heat our homes, how we travel, how we manage land and how we produce food and energy.

The Green Party will lead a rapid transition to a **clean, safe, resilient and community-owned energy system** that tackles climate change while reducing fuel poverty and creating skilled jobs across Wales.

We will maintain the commitment that **100% of Wales's electricity demand is met by renewable energy by 2035**, with a target of at least 17GW of renewable generation.

This includes delivering **5GW of solar**

power and 10GW of battery storage by 2035 to support a stable energy system.

New developments must support this transition. We will require **rooftop solar panels on all new buildings** and ensure new housing developments use **heat pumps or other fossil-free heating systems** rather than gas connections.

Renewable energy must be developed responsibly. Infrastructure such as pylons and grid upgrades will be carefully planned to avoid damage to sensitive ecosystems and protected landscapes.

We will accelerate decarbonisation of the **public sector estate**, ensuring schools, hospitals and public buildings lead the shift to clean energy.

We will also explore innovative solutions such as **mine-water heating networks**, using former coal mines to deliver affordable low-carbon heat to nearby communities.

A **Methane Action Plan** will coordinate measures across agriculture, waste and energy to reduce methane emissions.

Delivering this transition requires investment and skills. We will scale up **home retrofit programmes**, invest in public and active transport, support sustainable farming and accelerate the development of a circular economy.

Programmes such as **Warm Homes NEST** and **Green Homes Wales** will provide accessible finance to help households install insulation, heat pumps and energy-saving upgrades.

A **Green Transformation Fund** will unlock long-term investment in renewable infrastructure and climate solutions. We will work with the Wales Pension Fund to support investment in Welsh energy projects.

Our **National Green Jobs Plan** will ensure workers have the skills needed for renewable energy deployment, building retrofit, land restoration and environmental innovation.

Communities must benefit directly from energy generated in Wales. We will expand **community energy ownership**, supporting the creation of cooperative energy companies and shared ownership models.

A **Co-operative Development Hub** will help local groups develop energy projects and access funding and technical expertise. We will introduce a **Community Right to Buy energy assets**, ring-fence

non-domestic rates from onshore wind projects so councils retain local benefits, and encourage community ownership in new developments.

Where developers do not provide community benefit, a **natural resources levy** will ensure local areas share in the value created.

We will not weaken Wales's climate commitments. We will require all new laws to demonstrate "no regression" on environmental protections. The Green Party **opposes nuclear power**, including small modular reactors. We will maintain the ban on **fossil fuel extraction**, including coal mining, oil and gas drilling and fracking, and we will not support new high-carbon infrastructure.

To accelerate progress we will continue to call for **devolution of the Crown Estate** so Wales can control its own renewable resources and keep the economic benefits within Welsh communities.

NATURE, OUR LAND, WATER AND SEAS

Nature in Wales is under severe pressure. One in five species is now at risk of extinction and ecosystems across land and sea are deteriorating due to pollution, habitat loss and climate change.

The Green Party will act urgently to restore nature and protect the ecosystems that sustain our communities.

STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

Effective protection requires strong institutions. We will ensure **Natural Resources Wales** is properly resourced to lead biodiversity recovery, sustainable land management and pollution enforcement.

We will strengthen **Area Statements** to guide local nature recovery and establish the **Office of Environmental Governance Wales** without delay to provide independent environmental oversight.

By **2027** we will introduce **legal biodiversity targets**, ensuring Wales remains on track to meet international commitments for 2030 and the long-term vision for nature recovery by 2050.

We will protect **30% of Welsh land, freshwater and seas by 2030**, and ensure all public funding for climate and nature restoration aligns with these goals. A **“no regression” principle** will prevent future governments from weakening environmental protections.

PROTECTING AND RESTORING NATURE

Protection alone is not enough; ecosystems must be restored.

We will bring **70% of protected sites**

into favourable ecological condition by 2030, with the remainder classified as “unfavourable – improving”.

Tree planting will focus on communities with limited access to green space, while urban development will include long-term tree planning and green infrastructure.

We will publish a **National Rewilding Strategy** to support ecosystem restoration, including reintroduction of native species where appropriate and restoration of habitats on public land.

Legacy environmental risks will also be addressed by stabilising coal tips, tackling contaminated land and applying the **polluter pays principle** to historic pollution.

National Parks legislation will be reformed so **biodiversity recovery becomes a core purpose** alongside landscape protection and recreation.

LAND USE AND PUBLIC ACCESS

Land must support multiple goals: food production, nature recovery, climate resilience and community wellbeing.

A national **Land Use Framework** will guide decisions to ensure land delivers benefits for food security, carbon storage, biodiversity and public access.

Through a **Land Reform Act Cymru** and **Community Land Fund Cymru**, we will

expand community ownership of land and strengthen tenant rights.

We will introduce a **Welsh Right to Roam**, allowing responsible public access to land and waterways while protecting wildlife and farming livelihoods.

Responsible backpack camping will be permitted in appropriate areas, supported by a well-funded **national ranger service** to educate visitors, protect nature and enforce access rules.

Local authorities will receive funding to maintain public rights of way and strengthen planning capacity through the employment of ecologists.

CLEAN RIVERS AND LAKES

Wales's rivers and lakes are under growing pressure from pollution and nutrient runoff.

We will reduce **nutrient pollution by at least 50%**, ensure **100% of water bodies are actively monitored by 2027**, and strengthen enforcement against pollution offences. We'll deliver better oversight in river catchments including by reducing the threshold for poultry units falling under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR).

Advice and support programmes will help land managers prevent pollution before it occurs.

We will work with the UK Government to

ban "**forever chemicals**" contaminating rivers and seas.

RESTORING WELSH SEAS

Our seas are vital ecosystems and economic resources.

We will complete the **Marine Protected Area network** and ensure **30% of Welsh seas are protected**, with **10% fully protected from damaging activities**.

We will designate remaining **Marine Conservation Zones**, ban bottom trawling and dredging within protected areas, and introduce byelaws restricting damaging activities such as destructive fishing methods and seabed disturbance.

Restoration programmes will rebuild **saltmarsh, seagrass meadows, kelp forests and oyster reefs**, improve biodiversity and strengthening coastal resilience.

WATER GOVERNANCE

Water governance must prioritise environmental protection and public health.

We will push for stronger regulation of water companies. We will seek the powers from the UK Government to place Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water into special measures, towards genuine public ownership.

SENEDD MANIFESTO 2026

Governance reforms will ensure greater public accountability, including representation for workers, communities and environmental interests.

Environmental harm will be monitored alongside pollution incidents so companies cannot ignore long-term damage.

FLOOD RESILIENCE

Climate change is increasing the risk of flooding across Wales.

We will simplify access to flood defence funding, protect long-term investment in prevention infrastructure and support **community flood resilience initiatives**.

Flood prevention will also be integrated into the **Land Use Framework**, ensuring land management reduces flood risk rather than worsening it. We will implement Nature-based Solutions to prevent flooding impacts in our communities.

CLEAN AIR

Air pollution damages health and contributes to thousands of preventable illnesses.

We will adopt the **latest World Health Organization air quality standards** in Welsh law and introduce **Clean Air Zones** where needed while protecting

disadvantaged communities from disproportionate impacts.

Domestic wood burning will be gradually phased out in urban areas, with support provided to households transitioning to cleaner heating systems.

Together these policies will restore Wales's ecosystems, strengthen climate resilience and build a **cleaner, greener economy that works with nature rather than against it**.

FOOD, FARMING AND AGRICULTURE

Wales needs a food system that works for farmers, communities, public health and nature. The Green Party will build a fair, resilient and nature-positive system that supports farm livelihoods, restores ecosystems and strengthens food security.

Farming shapes most of Wales's land and is central to rural economies and cultural identity, and the social fabric of our communities. Yet farmers face unstable markets, rising costs and uncertain support. We will end this "eco-austerity" approach by matching environmental ambition with stable funding, clear policy and fair markets. Through a **Welsh Good Food Bill** and a national Land Use Framework, we will align food production, climate goals, public health and biodiversity recovery.

FARMERS FIRST: VIABILITY AND A JUST TRANSITION

Farmers must be fairly and properly rewarded for delivering climate-resilient, nature-friendly farming.

We will simplify agricultural regulation and review rules that unnecessarily undermine farm viability. Application, monitoring and payment systems will be streamlined so farmers spend less time on paperwork and more time managing land.

The **Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS)** will provide stable, multi-year commitments so farmers can plan for the long term. Payments will be delivered on time and designed to reward farmers fairly for the environmental public goods they provide.

We will introduce a **Land Reform Act Cymru** and **Community Land Fund Cymru** to strengthen tenant security and expand community ownership of land. At the UK level we will press for a **ring-fenced, multi-year agricultural budget** that reflects Wales's climate, food and nature priorities.

New regulated **green finance mechanisms** will also help farmers invest in sustainable practices, diversification and long-term resilience.

A LAND USE FRAMEWORK FOR WALES

Land must deliver multiple benefits for society and our environment. A national Land Use Framework will guide decisions across Wales to balance food production, biodiversity, climate resilience, water protection and community wealth. We need genuine involvement from landowners, small farmers, communities, civil society and business in delivering this with the objective of protecting the best agricultural land for food production while ensuring that woodland creation, renewable energy and nature recovery are planned strategically.

Co-created with farmers, it will offer greater clarity to plan long-term investments in soil health, water management, agroforestry and renewable energy on farms.

GROWING MORE FOOD IN WALES

Wales produces far less fruit and vegetables than it consumes. This is a missed opportunity for both food security and rural economic development.

We will introduce a **National Horticulture Strategy** to expand domestic production of fruit, vegetables and pulses.

Horticulture-specific support payments

will reflect the labour intensity and transition costs involved in growing fresh produce. Capital grants will support infrastructure such as polytunnels, irrigation systems, cold storage and local processing.

Training and mentoring programmes will **support new entrants to farming**, while investment in soil health and climate-resilient growing practices will strengthen long-term productivity.

We will also expand production of **pulses and plant proteins**, helping reduce reliance on imported feed and supporting healthier diets.

Public procurement will play a key role in creating stable markets. Welsh schools, hospitals and public institutions should prioritise locally produced food wherever possible. Local **food hubs and regional processing infrastructure** will strengthen supply chains and keep value within communities.

An **Organic Action Plan** will aim for **10% of farmland to be organic by 2030**, supporting farmers who wish to transition and helping meet growing consumer demand.

We will also develop environmental outcome metrics that allow farmers to access properly regulated green finance that shifts capital away from activities that cause environmental harm and towards those that deliver long-term ecological and social benefits.

STRENGTHENING THE SUSTAINABLE FARMING SCHEME

The **Sustainable Farming Scheme** will be the central mechanism for delivering climate and nature outcomes across agriculture.

We will ensure that all layers of the scheme are fully operational by **2026**, with the full transition completed by **2030**.

Farmers will be rewarded fairly for delivering environmental public goods such as habitat restoration, soil regeneration and water protection. Existing farm assurance schemes will be recognised within SFS reporting to reduce duplication.

Improved monitoring systems will provide farmers with meaningful data on soil health, water quality and biodiversity, helping guide better land management decisions.

We will also invest in digital tools that simplify administration and reduce bureaucratic burdens.

MINIMUM ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

Agriculture must meet clear environmental standards while supporting

productive farming.

We will introduce **National Minimum Standards** covering soil protection, nutrient management, slurry storage, pesticide use, animal welfare and habitat protection.

A national **soil health target and monitoring framework** will ensure soils are protected and restored for future generations.

We will reduce pollution from nutrients, sediment, ammonia and antibiotics, while setting a national **pesticide reduction target** within the Sustainable Land Management framework.

Sales of **horticultural peat** will be ended, and we will support a transition away from **fossil-fuel-derived nitrogen fertilisers**.

FARMING FOR NATURE AND CLIMATE

Farmers are essential partners in restoring ecosystems and addressing climate change.

We will support measures such as **natural flood management, wetland restoration, hedgerow expansion, agroforestry and soil carbon restoration**.

Collaborative projects through the Sustainable Farming Scheme will allow

farmers to work together at **landscape scale**, delivering biodiversity recovery and climate resilience across entire catchments. At least two-thirds SFS funds will be allocated to the Optional and Collaborative layers by 2030. This includes prioritising investment in Nature-based solutions which help to build climate resilience and protect farmers and communities from the impacts of flooding and drought.

Natural capital markets will be carefully regulated to ensure transparency, fairness and genuine environmental benefit.

ENDING OFFSHORED ENVIRONMENTAL HARM

The UK currently imports large quantities of animal feed linked to deforestation overseas.

We will reduce reliance on these imports by supporting **home-grown protein crops and diverse pasture systems**.

We will also press the UK Government to introduce **deforestation-free supply chain legislation**, ensuring that food imports do not contribute to environmental destruction abroad.

SKILLS, ADVICE AND THE NEXT GENERATION

The future of farming depends on knowledge, skills and a new generation entering the sector.

We will expand **Farming Connect** so every farmer can access integrated advice covering productivity, sustainability, climate adaptation and biodiversity recovery.

We will ensure fairer access for small farms, new entrants and young growers, by having minimum SFS payment thresholds for small horticultural enterprises and by ensuring that regulation is proportionate to risk and therefore targeted to larger farms involved in more intensive agriculture.

Training programmes will support new entrants and young farmers, while improved advisory services will help farms adapt to new markets and environmental opportunities.

We will also strengthen **mental and physical health support for farmers**, recognising the pressures facing the agricultural community.

PROCUREMENT, MARKETS AND FAIR VALUE

Public procurement can transform Welsh food systems.

We will prioritise **Welsh food produced to high environmental and animal welfare standards** in schools, hospitals and public institutions.

Investment in **local processing, cooperative infrastructure and regional supply chains** will strengthen markets for Welsh producers and reduce reliance on imported food.

Trade rules must not allow imports produced to lower environmental or welfare standards to undercut Welsh farmers.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Wales has strong animal welfare standards and we will strengthen them further.

We will introduce **method-of-production labelling** so consumers can make informed choices about how the food they buy is produced. Public procurement will prioritise food produced to the highest welfare standards.

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We will introduce a **Welsh Good Food Bill** will provide a long-term statutory framework for transforming the food system.

It will establish national food system targets, define responsibilities for ministers and public bodies, and create transparent monitoring and reporting systems.

Stronger **local food partnerships** will coordinate regional food systems and ensure communities play a direct role in shaping food policy.

Together these policies will deliver **healthy, affordable food for everyone in Wales**, fair livelihoods for farmers and growers, restored ecosystems and thriving rural communities.

OUR FUTURE

A third of children in Wales are growing up in poverty. That fact alone should shape every decision government makes. If we fail to act now, the next generation will inherit a future defined by overlapping crises: climate breakdown, ecological collapse, and economic instability.

The Green Party believes Wales must move beyond incremental change. Tinkering around the edges will not deliver the future our children deserve. We need bold, systemic transformation that prepares young people and future generations for the challenges ahead and gives them the tools to build a fairer, greener society.

That transformation starts in our schools, continues through our economy and is supported by a democracy that works for everyone.

Our vision is that every child in Wales has a happy, safe and nurturing childhood. We will strengthen families and communities that support children, embedding love, kindness and compassion as core principles in all our policies. These values will guide how we shape childcare, education and family support so that every child can thrive.

EDUCATION

Every child should be able to learn and grow in an environment that puts their wellbeing first. Education should empower children and young people to explore, question and learn without limits.

Our teachers and education staff are deeply committed to giving every child the best start in life. But they are too often forced to work in difficult conditions shaped by poverty, crumbling buildings and chronic underfunding.

The Green Party will put education at the heart of national renewal. Schools should nurture curiosity, creativity and critical thinking. Children should grow up with a love of culture, sport, the environment and the Welsh language.

A child's opportunities must never be determined by the cost of living, poor housing or lack of access to healthcare.

We will support educators, invest in school infrastructure and ensure that every learner leaves education confident in their abilities and their future.

EARLY YEARS

Our early years policies will ensure every child in Wales has a safe, nurturing and stable start in life, and that parents, carers and early years professionals are supported to provide the loving environments that young children need to flourish.

The earliest years of life are critical for development, yet childcare costs are placing enormous pressure on families. Early years workers, who perform some of the most important work in society, remain among the most undervalued.

The Green Party will build an early years system that supports children, families and care professionals.

We will introduce **universal childcare for children aged nine months to four years**, without requiring parents to work a minimum number of hours. Existing childcare schemes will be unified into a **single, simpler system** available for 48 weeks of the year.

We will establish a universal block of 20 hours, alongside additional funded hours offered on a sliding scale of fees based on income. Over time we will expand the universal block for 2-4 year olds from **20 hours to 30 hours per week**, while allowing greater flexibility so parents working irregular hours can use support in ways that suit their lives.

Early years education will focus on **play-based learning, outdoor education and**

social development, helping children build communication skills, confidence and creativity.

SCHOOLS

Every child deserves a school where they are known, valued and supported to thrive. Children learn best when they feel happy and secure, in a school rooted at the heart of their community.

Budget pressures from Westminster have left many schools understaffed and struggling with deteriorating buildings and fewer cultural opportunities for pupils.

We will support schools to adopt **evidence-based approaches to improving literacy** and learning outcomes. Schools will become **phone-free environments**, with necessary exemptions for accessibility and health needs.

The curriculum should prepare young people for the world they will inherit. We will ensure it combines play and fun with **eco-literacy, health and wellbeing education, food literacy and relationships education inclusive of LGBTQIA relationships**, alongside civic education that prepares students for democratic participation.

We will extend **universal free school meals to secondary schools**, helping reduce inequality and ensuring every child has access to nutritious food.

Families should not face unnecessary

costs simply to send children to school. We will reduce financial pressure by limiting branded uniforms and encouraging clothing swap schemes.

The education system must support all learners. We will strengthen the **Additional Learning Needs (ALN) system**, ensure schools are fully accessible for disabled students and expand early intervention support for children who may require additional learning support. All learners will be supported to develop racial literacy and meaningful cultural awareness.

Rural schools play a vital role in community life and in sustaining the Welsh language. We will **end the closure of small rural schools**, recognising their importance to local communities.

We will consult with educators on best practices for assessment at GCSE, learning the lessons of the Covid period.

SUPPORTING EDUCATORS AND SCHOOLS

Teachers and school staff are leaving the profession at alarming rates due to workload pressures and poor working conditions. Recruitment challenges are particularly severe in Welsh-medium education.

We will improve recruitment, retention and working conditions.

Support staff will receive **year-round pay**, and a statutory negotiating body will be created to represent them. Teachers will receive clearer guidance on planning and preparation time, with minimum **PPA time increased from 10% to 15%**.

Staff will also receive guaranteed opportunities for **continuous professional development**, allowing them to shape their training and career progression. All staff will receive in-person anti-racism training as an implementation of the Anti-Racist Wales Plan.

We will end the long-term use of teaching assistants as substitute teachers and restart work on a **national supply teacher register** to improve workforce stability.

Working with Welsh universities, we will expand teacher training programmes, including **language immersion courses** that help new educators develop Welsh-language teaching skills.

We will also strengthen collaboration between schools, local authorities and health services to better support pupils with additional learning needs.

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Further education colleges and universities and apprenticeship opportunities are vital to ensure young people reach their full potential. They're also vital to Wales's future workforce and

economic development.

We will launch an **independent review of the further education sector** to ensure provision meets the needs of students, employers and staff. Long-term investment will expand course availability and support the development of skills needed for healthcare, renewable energy and other green industries.

We will improve financial support for post-16 learners so students are not prevented from continuing their education because of the cost of living.

Our goal is to increase participation in higher education so that **40% of young people attend university by the end of the Senedd term**. This will be achieved through improved careers guidance, new entry pathways and stronger links between further education and university courses.

We will simplify systems for **credit transfer and recognition of prior learning**, allowing students to move between institutions more easily and have their existing skills recognised.

Maintenance support for students studying in Wales will be increased so financial hardship does not become a barrier to education. We will expand the Seren programme towards keeping students in Wales.

The Green Party ultimately supports **free higher education**, ending the burden of excessive student debt. In the short

term, we will commission an **independent review of university funding and student support**, including a pathway to sustainably lowering tuition fees.

In negotiation with the UK Government, **we will maximise a student finance partial cancellation scheme within the limits of devolved powers**. Finally, we will strengthen democratic governance within universities by ensuring meaningful representation for students and staff on governing bodies.

The future of Wales depends on the opportunities we provide for the next generation. By investing in education, supporting educators and building fairer pathways into learning and work, we will give young people the tools they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

ECONOMY

Wales is part of one of the richest nation states in history, yet too many people struggle to pay bills or find secure work. Wealth created in Wales often flows out of our communities. The Green Party will build an economy that keeps value in Wales and works for its people.

We will move away from an extractive model based on short-term corporate investment and instead support businesses rooted in Wales, including cooperatives, worker-owned firms and social enterprises. By using AI responsibly, alongside strategic public investment, procurement and long-term planning,

we will accelerate a just transition, supporting green industries and high-skill jobs, strengthening communities, improving public services, and protecting workers, people and the environment while tackling the climate and nature crises.

A GREEN TRANSFORMATION

We will establish a **Green Transformation Fund for Wales**, a not-for-profit public body that will finance major climate and nature restoration projects. The fund will raise investment, develop infrastructure and generate long-term returns through leases, rents and power purchase agreements.

Through the issuance of **Transformation Bonds**, citizens will be able to invest directly in Wales's transition to a greener economy, keeping the benefits of this transformation within our communities.

Alongside this, we will introduce a **Green Jobs Workforce Plan** to ensure Welsh workers have the skills needed to lead the transition.

THIS WILL INCLUDE:

- **Investment in training for green industries such as renewable energy, building retrofit, sustainable land management and climate adaptation.**
- **Creation of a national retrofit**

workforce to decarbonise homes and buildings.

- **Expansion of the National Nature Service, providing stable funding, coordinated leadership and accessible training and employment pathways in conservation and restoration.**
- **Growth in nature-based industries, including emerging sectors such as ocean farming and the development of sustainable materials like hemp and wool.**

Education and employability programmes will also be tailored to ensure that **under-represented and marginalised groups** can access high-paying sectors such as STEM, engineering and emerging technologies.

Our economic strategy will follow the vision of the **Well-being of Future Generations Act**, measuring prosperity through fair work, environmental sustainability and social wellbeing.

We will support a gradual shift towards a **four-day working week**, improving wellbeing, productivity and work-life balance.

We will also support the full development of **Banc Cambria**, enabling it to provide finance for social and environmental enterprises and help existing industries transition to low-carbon operations.

FAIR TAXATION AND INVESTMENT

To support investment in infrastructure and economic development, we will call for **greater borrowing powers for the Welsh Government**.

Public investment must also reflect our values. We will work with the **Wales Pension Partnership** and other public sector pension funds to continue divesting from fossil fuels and the arms trade, while directing investment into Welsh projects that support climate action, nature recovery and critical infrastructure.

We will reform taxation to make it fairer and more effective.

Council Tax will be replaced with a **Land Value Tax**, meaning the average household pays less while owners of the most valuable properties contribute more. Importantly, the tax will fall on property owners rather than tenants.

Business Rates will also be replaced with a land value-based system so that **small businesses pay less while large corporations such as supermarkets contribute more**. In the short term, we will reform business rates to create a fairer and more progressive structure.

We will introduce a **Vacant Land Tax** to ensure unused land with planning permission is put to productive use.

The Welsh Revenue Authority will be

strengthened so it can estimate the gap between taxes owed and taxes collected, ensuring wealthy individuals and corporations pay their fair share.

At the UK level we will press for a **polluter pays tax** targeting the largest contributors to environmental damage, including high-emitting industries and the most polluting luxury activities.

SUPPORTING LOCAL ENTERPRISE

Economic prosperity grows when wealth circulates locally rather than being extracted.

We will align Welsh funding, procurement, regulation and governance to support **community-led, farmer-led and locally owned initiatives** that transform local economies.

Through our **Land Reform Act**, communities will gain **a right to buy key assets and buildings** that are at risk of closure or being lost to local ownership.

We will establish a **Co-operative Development Hub** to identify opportunities for cooperative and social business models and help entrepreneurs establish and scale community-focused enterprises.

Local authorities will be encouraged to map social enterprises in their regions and make better use of them to deliver public services and economic development.

To strengthen local economies further, we will explore legislative approaches such as a **Community Wealth Building Bill** to keep more money circulating in Welsh communities.

TRANSFORMING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Public spending is one of the most powerful tools available to government.

We will transform procurement so it actively supports **local businesses, SMEs, cooperatives and social enterprises**.

Clear guidance will ensure that public sector contracts prioritise local suppliers wherever possible. Procurement decisions will measure **social value, community benefit, fair work and carbon reduction**, not just price.

Anchor institutions such as **local authorities, health boards and universities** will play a key role in building local supply chains and supporting regional economic development.

RESPONSIBLE PRIVATE INVESTMENT

The Welsh Government operates with some of the most restricted financial

powers in the world. This means private investment will continue to play a role in delivering infrastructure and development.

However, private finance must operate within strong public-interest rules.

We will create a framework that prevents extractive financial models and instead prioritises long-term community benefit.

THIS FRAMEWORK WILL:

- **Embed community leadership and benefit-sharing in investment projects.**
- **Prevent short-term profit-driven approaches that undermine long-term wellbeing.**
- **Require public banks and investment bodies to prioritise ethical, local and long-term investment.**
- **Expand community-led blended finance models for renewable energy, housing and nature restoration.**

The Green Party's economic vision is simple: an economy that works for people, communities and the planet.

By investing in green industries, strengthening local enterprise and ensuring wealth stays within Wales, we will build an economy that delivers **good jobs, thriving communities and a sustainable future for everyone**.

EQUALITIES, GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION

Wales needs a step change in how it is governed. The Green Party will strengthen democracy by creating a system that is more transparent, accountable and rooted in human rights, equality and prevention.

We will modernise Welsh law so it is clear, accessible and focused on improving people's lives, supported by transparent data and strong accountability. Wales must also have the powers to shape its own future. We will push for the same devolved powers as Scotland, prioritising the devolution of justice, policing, rail, water, research and development and the Crown Estate, and campaign for reform of the Barnett formula so Wales receives fair funding to invest in its future. We will work to end of the use of Welsh territory for development of weapons and training for internationally illegal acts of war.

A STRONGER WELSH DEMOCRACY

A healthy democracy requires participation, transparency and trust.

We will expand democratic participation by introducing **automatic voter registration** across Wales, building on recent pilot schemes. This will make it

easier for people to take part in elections and strengthen democratic engagement.

We will review the recently introduced **closed proportional list voting system**, focusing on how it was introduced, how clearly it has been explained to the public and what further steps are needed to improve voter understanding and engagement.

We will also strengthen opportunities for **direct public participation in decision-making**, including the use of **citizens' assemblies and participatory budgeting** at local and national levels.

Public bodies must operate openly and honestly. We will strengthen duties of candour, improve data transparency and embed meaningful partnerships between national government, local authorities and social partners.

JUSTICE AND POLICING

Wales needs a justice system that prioritises prevention, fairness and community safety.

We will set out a long-term vision for a **devolved policing, probation and youth justice system**, allowing Wales to develop approaches that focus on prevention, rehabilitation and community wellbeing.

This will include tackling **violence against women and girls** and systemic

misogyny within policing. We will adopt a **zero tolerance approach** to misogyny in misconduct and examine policing practices affecting **racialised communities**, including deaths in custody, ensuring that transparency and accountability are strengthened.

REDUCING THE PRISON POPULATION

Wales has an opportunity to rethink justice. Too often the system focuses on punishment rather than prevention or rehabilitation.

We will set clear targets to **reduce the prison population**, focusing on preventing crime and supporting rehabilitation.

This means building strong communities where people feel connected, supported and able to access meaningful work, education and volunteering.

We will expand **community-based alternatives to custody**, including restorative justice, problem-solving courts and targeted community sentences that address the underlying causes of offending such as trauma, addiction and poverty.

We will also invest in programmes that tackle **male violence and harmful behaviours**, including early intervention programmes, peer education and bystander training.

Local authorities, health services and

community organisations will work together to support rehabilitation and reduce reoffending.

INTERNATIONALISM AND COOPERATION

Wales must play an active role in the wider world. The Green Party believes in international cooperation, peacebuilding and global solidarity.

We will strengthen Wales's international engagement, particularly with our **European partners**, recognising the importance of collaboration in areas such as climate action, research, culture and economic development.

We will commission an **independent assessment of Brexit's impact on Wales**, examining how leaving the EU single market, customs union and research programmes has affected the Welsh economy and society.

Where possible within devolved powers, we will seek to maintain **alignment with European standards** on environmental protection, food safety, medicines, chemicals and data regulation.

We will work to rebuild links with European programmes including **supporting the Taith programme, research cooperation and cultural initiatives**, and advocate for a **youth mobility scheme with the EU**.

A Green Government will also defend

the UK's membership of the **European Convention on Human Rights**, ensuring that fundamental rights remain protected.

EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Equality policy will be rooted in human rights, recognising how discrimination and disadvantage intersect across race, gender, disability, care experience, class, sexuality and migration status.

We will incorporate international human rights standards into Welsh law, including **the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)** and the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)** within devolved competence.

The **Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan** will be strengthened with clear milestones, proper resourcing and transparent progress reporting.

MIGRANT JUSTICE

Wales should remain a welcoming nation.

We will strengthen support for **refugees, asylum seekers and migrants**, ensuring access to housing, healthcare, learning Welsh and English, and opportunities to settle into their new community .

The **Nation of Sanctuary programme**

will be protected and expanded, and the Migrant Victim of Abuse Fund will continue to support survivors who face barriers to safety.

DISABILITY RIGHTS

Disabled people must be able to live independently and participate fully in society.

We will deliver a long-term **Disabled People's Rights Plan**, supported by transparent reporting and strong partnership with Disabled People's Organisations.

Policies will include expanding accessible housing, strengthening Direct Payments, reducing insecure work and investing in services that support independent living.

A **Minister for Disabled People** will be appointed to ensure disability rights are prioritised across government.

WOMEN'S EQUALITY

Women continue to face significant economic inequality and violence. Women are poorer than men, in part because society still relies on their unpaid reproductive and caring labour.

We will expand childcare support,

support women entering STEM and green industries and recognise the economic contribution of unpaid care.

Sustainable funding will be provided for specialist services addressing **violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence**, including services run by and for affected communities.

LGBTQIA+ EQUALITY

We will ensure that Wales moves towards a safe, thriving enriching environment for people of all sexualities and gender identities. We will increase representation of these communities in the curriculum and include diverse family units. Healthcare will be revisited to ensure equitable access to treatment. Employers will be encouraged to create inclusive work environments for members of the LGBTQIA community, as staff or customers.

REPRESENTATION AND INCLUSIVE POLITICS

Politics should reflect the society it serves.

We will work to restore **gender balance in the Senedd by 2030**, alongside measures that support candidates with caring responsibilities, including financial assistance and childcare support.

Clear standards will be introduced to

tackle abuse and harassment in politics and ensure safe participation in public life.

Public bodies must also better reflect the diversity of Wales. Leadership diversity targets, stronger equality reporting and anti-racist practice standards will be introduced across the public sector.

We will push for better representation from people with one or more protected characteristic including ethnicity, age, sex, gender identity, sexuality, and disability.

USING PUBLIC SPENDING TO ADVANCE EQUALITY

Public procurement will be used as a tool for fairness and inclusion.

Contracts awarded by public bodies will prioritise employers who demonstrate **fair work practices, accessibility and strong equality standards**.

By strengthening democracy, embedding human rights and tackling inequality at its roots, the Green Party will build a Wales that is **fairer, more democratic and better equipped to meet the challenges of the future**.



Plaid Werdd Green Party

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