

**FOR A FAIRER,**

**GREENER HACKNEY**



HACKNEY GREEN PARTY  
**MANIFESTO 2022**  
LOCAL AND MAYORAL ELECTIONS

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## OUR PLAN FOR HACKNEY



Hackney could be the greenest borough in the greenest city in the world and we need to be prepared for the future.

Residents tell me they love Hackney but they are losing the things they love and life is getting harder. Things can be different, and we have the policies to transform Hackney.

I'm really proud of our manifesto for the Local Elections in 2022 – it has been developed from conversations with residents and from proposals put forward by local community groups.

We listen and respect residents as experts in their lives and communities.

Greens are standing candidates in all seats across the borough. To get hard-working Green representatives onto the council to bring fresh ideas and accountability to the table, please use all of your votes to elect your Green candidates wherever you live in Hackney.



**ZOË GARBETT, GREEN PARTY CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF HACKNEY & DALSTON WARD**



# THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY



We are at a crisis point. The climate and ecological emergency demands urgent action and requires us to change the way we do things.

The climate emergency is a health emergency and the effects on people are being experienced unequally. It is also a housing emergency, with many people living in cold, bad and insecure housing.

We need to address social injustice alongside the climate crisis and move to a sustainable way of living which is fair for everyone.

We need to cut carbon emissions from our homes, businesses and travel. Hackney Council's current ambition is to be net-zero by 2040. We will urgently bring this target forward to 2030 to avoid the risk of going over a 1.5C rise in global temperatures.

It is deeply saddening to already see the impacts of climate breakdown through floods and heatwaves with impacts on our homes and health.

Whilst prioritising action to reduce our impact, we will also prioritise activity to prepare for climate risks such as improving our buildings (for example schools and hospitals) and implementing improved drainage systems..



**Addressing the climate and ecological emergency is one of our top priorities and will be considered in all decisions we make.**

**You will see this reflected throughout the work we do and all other areas of policy.**

## **Hackney Greens commit to:**

- Tell the truth about our impact and the overall carbon impact of decisions
- Use all powers to reduce our impact, such as through the services we buy, to reduce the carbon footprint of all activities
- Listen to residents and respect the expertise of community groups like Sustainable Hackney
- Holding a more regular, more powerful, wider reaching Citizen's Assembly supported by a network of community panels to be accountable to residents, to be transparent about the challenges and to work with you to find solutions
- Identifying opportunities to invest in green jobs and transforming our economy to focus on wellbeing (not consumption, waste and short-term profit)
- Work with partners such as local businesses to ensure that everyone in Hackney is signed up to our 2030 ambition
- Calling for the government to do more – this is a global crisis demanding a global response.



## PEOPLE POWER



Residents tell us that they do not feel listened to and that even when they participate in a consultation they do not feel it makes any difference.

We will be led by residents so that we can create a better Hackney together.

Currently, developers have too much say over what happens in the borough and their profits are considered more important than the views of people living and working in the borough.

We will give more power to residents, community groups and local businesses (including artists) to shape the future of their neighbourhoods.



The power and importance of young people's voices has been shown by many **youth-led** movements such as the young climate activists. **Hackney Greens will**

- Hold a young people's Mayor's questions
- Enable Hackney's Youth Parliament to propose budget amendments
- Call for the voting age to be brought down to 16 years old for all elections





## PEOPLE POWER



We will undertake a resident-led redesign of the council's consultation process so that residents trust that their views carry the most weight.

We will make sure the council reports back on how resident views have been considered and how they have impacted plans for the borough. There will also be more ways for you to tell the council what needs to change so that we can advance better developments that meet community needs.

In addition to the above, **Hackney Greens will** hand over power directly to citizens of Hackney by:

- Including disabled people's advocates more closely in the work of the council
- Strengthening the power of our SEND Parent Carer forum (Hackney Independent Parents)
- Holding a more regular, more powerful, wider reaching Citizen's Assembly supported by a network of community panels on the climate and ecological emergency. These will be delivered with local expert organisations
- Working closely with community organisations to support and encourage wide, diverse participation in council scrutiny and planning, working together to minimise barriers to participation such as language
- Introducing participatory budgeting, for up to 20 per cent of the council budget by 2022 so that residents can decide how budgets are spent
- Replacing town plans with people's plans
- Requiring resident-led planning to be supported from the start of the process for any changes to estates
- Support, work with and listen to unions including workers unions, student unions and independent renters unions
- Asking residents, through a referendum, whether they would like to move from a council cabinet structure, where a few people hold a lot of power, to a committee system where more councillors (representing residents) have a say in the business of the borough

## AN ECONOMY FOR ALL



Hackney is a great place to live. But like much of the UK, it also faces growing inequality. Our economy unfairly benefits the wealthy.

Despite new housing, schools and other activities to build local wealth, Hackney remains ranked the 7th most deprived area in the country. Nearly 20% of local households are 'income deprived', meaning they are either out of work or on low earnings with 8% of our 16 – 65 population no qualifications.

**Our local economy is broken;** it has to change. At the moment, profits are being extracted by companies and people who already have well beyond their fair share.



**OUR ECONOMIC PLAN TAKES A  
NEW APPROACH TO BUILDING WEALTH.  
IT IS DRIVEN BY RESIDENTS,  
FOR RESIDENTS.**

**Community wealth building** is a strategy to create more local jobs for local people and redirect wealth back into the local area. It puts control of a fair economy for Hackney – and the benefits of that economy – back into the hands of our community.

By taking this approach, we offer a solution to the economic challenges we face. We can learn from pioneers in other areas such as Cleveland, Ohio, Mondragon in Spain and more recently in Preston, UK.

These local authorities looked at where and how they were spending money. They then identified practical steps to change their economy for the benefit of local people based on the four principles of:

- 1. Plural ownership of the economy** – this means more of our community will participate in deciding how resources are shared. They will also have more ownership of local enterprises.
- 2. Making financial power work for local places** – invest in local businesses within the community, for example, through community banks.
- 3. Creating fair employment and just labour markets** – hire and train local people and pay Living Wages.
- 4. Progressive procurement of goods and services** – local businesses and organisations hire talent and get supplies from within the community. For example from local shops.

This created a new 'local money flow' so that profits stopped leaking out of the area into multinational corporations. Instead, it created new jobs filled by new talent. This is community wealth building in action.

It is a resilient – and established – model of local economic development proven to help mitigate the extreme inequalities created by our economy.

It tackles the vulnerabilities caused by overreliance on international markets..

It offers a way to address economic, environmental and social challenges by doing some good joined-up thinking in Hackney. E.g., community owned businesses and cooperatives providing supplies for local organisations. It's about win, win, win solutions.



## AN ECONOMY FOR ALL



We will do it. **Hackney Greens will:**

- Work with our large institutions such as Homerton Hospital, Learning Trust and Hackney Police as pioneers in investors in our local economy and workforce. They will do this by committing to procure goods and services from local businesses, train and employing local people and re-investing any surplus back into the local economy.
- Support the transfer of council property and land into the hands of the community, to provide a foundation for future local initiatives and enterprises.
- Champion the community right to bid – so that the people of Hackney can nominate buildings or land as having ‘community value’. This means the community can own and manage our own public services.
- Ensure there is good quality vocational training in core skills, particularly for those without access to further education and training.
- Ensure crucial community services are a part of all new retail and workspace developments. We will prioritise money and debt advice services, welfare rights and legal advice, and ethical financial services that will help local enterprises.
- Ensure locally owned and managed small businesses are given proper financial support and are protected from being priced out of the area by large corporations. We will do this through financial incentives such as rate relief, cap on out-of-borough large business, fit for purpose leases, and ensuring 25% of business units are allocated for genuinely affordable rents.
- Ringfence use of new retail spaces to deliver a programme of Hackney Community Wealth Building
- To help resource this we will ring-fence of participatory budgets, so that local people have a say in how resources are used in their community.



## SAFER, HEALTHIER STREETS



Imagine if Hackney's roads were designed for people, not cars with cleaner air and safe, **healthy streets for every single resident**. That's the Hackney Greens vision for our borough.

In our first term, we will aim to fairly reduce traffic miles in Hackney by 40%, bring forward the council's active travel and net zero targets by 10 years, and let Hackney lead the way as London's first low-traffic borough.



### Hackney Greens will

- make Hackney 100% walkable, with a borough-wide push to repair, declutter, green and widen pavements and install benches and resting places.
- fix Hackney's cycle storage crisis, by doubling the current number of secure bike parking spaces, clearing the waiting list for council bike hangars, and making sure it never costs more to store a bike than a car.
- increase the road priority of buses by introducing new lanes and priority signals.
- reduce the speed limit to 20mph on every street in Hackney, and push for powers to step up enforcement.
- make parking more costly for those who can afford the largest and most polluting private cars, and charge a corporate parking levy. Income from parking fees will remain ring-fenced for improving walking, cycling and public transport.
- tighten Hackney's air quality targets in line with the latest World Health Organisation research, and do everything possible to meet the new targets on every street in the borough.
- ensure there is a named council cabinet member with responsibility for Climate and Clean Air.
- create more low-traffic neighbourhoods in suitable areas of the borough, alongside a comprehensive plan to predict, monitor and quickly mitigate any negative effects on nearby roads.

## SAFER, HEALTHIER STREETS



**Hackney residents take fewer car journeys than any other Londoners**, and most of us don't own a vehicle. But we know from speaking to residents that traffic levels on our roads are unacceptably high.

Vehicle traffic is a major contributor to the climate emergency. Almost a third of Hackney's carbon emissions come from road transport, and for London to achieve net zero carbon by 2030, citywide traffic must be reduced by at least 27%. Furthermore, right now every single street in Hackney has toxic air quality, exceeding the latest guidelines from the World Health Organisation. Children, older people and people with long term conditions are particularly at risk. On top of this, our borough is a major blackspot for vehicle accidents, with far too many people killed or injured on our roads.

We recognise that some car and van journeys will always remain essential. But we want to make it easier and more convenient for Hackney residents to choose to travel in a way that's healthier for themselves, our community and the whole planet.

Recent measures taken by the council have cut traffic on some streets while doing little or nothing to improve conditions for others. Hackney Greens will push for **every street** in the borough to be safer, healthier, less congested and more inclusive.



## WALKING AND WHEELING

Getting out on foot or with the help of a mobility aid is the most common way for people to get around Hackney, with huge health and social benefits. But our streets are not always welcoming to those who don't or can't drive.

### Hackney Greens will

- make Hackney 100% walkable, with a borough-wide push to repair, declutter, green and widen pavements and install benches and resting places.
- make it easier and more convenient for pedestrians (including those with disabilities) to safely cross streets, by upgrading existing pedestrian crossings, creating new raised ones, and making sure pedestrians never have to wait too long to cross.
- create a new network of safe, low-pollution, pedestrian-friendly 'Green Routes' throughout the borough.
- change planning rules to help give all Hackney residents easy access to green spaces and local facilities within walking distance of home.
- help all walkers and wheelers feel safe and secure at all times of the day with street lighting, fewer vacant units and a borough-wide education programme aimed at preventing sexual offences.



## SAFER, HEALTHIER STREETS



### SAFE AND EASY CYCLING

Hackney is already relatively cycle-friendly compared to some places, but there's still so much that could be done to make more people feel confident and able to travel on two wheels.

#### Hackney Greens will:

- fix Hackney's cycle storage crisis, by doubling the current number of secure bike parking spaces, clearing the waiting list for council bike hangars, and making sure it never costs more to store a bike than a car.
- create more protected, accessible cycle lanes throughout the borough, aiming to improve on current provision on every one of Hackney's main roads.
- work with TfL to extend its cycle hire scheme northwards to Dalston Junction, Hackney Central, Homerton and beyond, and roll out 'dockless' cycle hire schemes borough-wide in a way that does not block pavements or cause danger.



### BOOSTING PUBLIC BUS SERVICES

Hackney residents tell us that they need good, quick and affordable bus links. But rising traffic on our main roads is slowing down these vital bus connections.

#### Hackney Greens will:

- increase the road priority of buses by introducing new lanes and priority signals.
- lobby TfL to reinstate bus routes recently cut due to the pandemic, and fight any further attempts to cut bus routes or frequency here in Hackney, including night bus routes.
- work with TfL to trial its new electric buses on local routes, cutting air pollution.





## SAFER, HEALTHIER STREETS



### TACKLING TRAFFIC

We've heard from many residents who have told us there is too much traffic on our streets, causing road danger, toxic air and stress. We would all benefit from less congested main roads, including those who really need to use a car or van.

#### **Hackney Greens will:**

- reduce the speed limit to 20mph on every street in Hackney, and push for powers to step up enforcement.
- create traffic-free school streets at all primary and secondary schools where possible, and introduce them at colleges.
- support City Hall plans for smart, fair road user charging to reduce traffic, and offer to run a trial here in Hackney.
- run a borough-wide awareness campaign on the social and environmental costs of car use, and the many benefits of more sustainable methods of transport.
- support the expansion of affordable car-sharing schemes, to help those who still need to drive at times.
- help businesses make the shift to quick and sustainable delivery methods such as electric vans and cargo



### IMPROVING AIR QUALITY

Air pollution is one of the biggest health risks facing Hackney's communities, causing lung and heart problems that can be fatal. It poses even greater danger for children, the elderly and those with long-term health issues. Low-income and African, Caribbean, Asian, Latino and other minority ethnic groups are disproportionately affected. There are many causes of air pollution here in Hackney, but road traffic is among the biggest.

#### **Hackney Greens will:**

- tighten Hackney's air quality targets in line with the latest World Health Organisation research, and do everything possible to meet the new targets on every street in the borough.
- create car-free and zero-emission zones in areas with lots of pedestrians, like high streets.
- take action on vehicle idling, with more enforcement and a public awareness campaign.
- introduce a diesel surcharge for visitor parking, and work towards phasing out diesel cars entirely in the borough.
- raise awareness of the harms of wood and coal burning, with the goal of phasing out open fires and woodburners wherever they aren't an essential source of heating.

## SAFER, HEALTHIER STREETS



### LOW-TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOODS

The council introduced several 'low-traffic neighbourhood' (LTN) schemes in 2020, and since then we have spoken to so many residents about their effects.

Many people of all backgrounds have said how much they have enjoyed having cleaner air and safer streets as a result of the LTNs. But some, especially residents on main roads, have told us that they've seen heavier traffic since LTNs were introduced nearby, causing increased stress and health problems.

We want to work with residents to urgently find a solution to these issues, and cut traffic on all Hackney streets – not just some.

#### **Hackney Greens will**

- create more low-traffic neighbourhoods in suitable areas of the borough, alongside a comprehensive plan to predict, monitor and quickly mitigate any negative effects on nearby roads.
- introduce a small number of new exemptions for low-traffic neighbourhoods, allowing all Blue Badge holders and their carers plus health and social care staff to pass through traffic filters. We will listen to the needs of those residents and businesses who may have no choice other than to drive, and remain open to further exemptions for essential vehicles in future.
- ensure transparency, two-way communication and fairness on all future traffic schemes, with clear objectives, regularly updated scorecards, ongoing in-person consultations with a representative range of residents, and better equality impact assessments.

Hackney Greens will be committed to working alongside Hackney residents on the things that matter, and listening to you every step of the way. We have already consulted hundreds of residents on our plans to cut traffic, and would love to hear from you too.





## HOUSING HACKNEY



Everyone should have the right to a safe home but we are in a housing crisis and currently failing too many people. Between 2003 – July 2020 Hackney had a net loss of 1,392 council homes. In 2019, there was a net gain of only one social house in Hackney.

Renting privately in Hackney is too expensive. Local people, especially those reliant on Local Housing Allowance to pay their rent, are often unable to afford private rented accommodation within their community. This is unfair, especially with the lack of available council homes.

We cannot afford to lose more council homes through demolition. Demolishing estates and council homes breaks up communities and is also hugely damaging to the planet. Demolishing and rebuilding gentrifies an area, we are seeing this across Hackney, areas change and people who have lived there can no longer afford to.

The relationship with developers is broken and does not result in the housing we need.

### **Hackney Greens will**

- Bring empty homes back into use
- Use council investment to buy homes for key workers that also helps raise new money for council homes
- Explore additional investment from pension funds and borrowing to build social housing
- Support the development of more cooperatively owned housing.





# HOUSING HACKNEY



## **Hackney Greens will listen to what residents need and:**

- Increase the number of homes which are wheelchair accessible and adapted for disabled people and prioritise these homes for those who need them
- Redefine Living Rent for Hackney which takes into account wage gaps faced by households led by women and people from ethnic minorities
- Take action on estate agents and landlords illegally discriminating against people in receipt of housing benefit to provide more social housing and make it easier for us to meet the needs of local people.

We need to take better care of the council housing available so that these homes are of good quality for the people living there and remain habitable for future tenants. We will also introduce a minimum standard to provide appropriate accommodation which respects people's dignity.

**Hackney Greens will** set up a resident-led independent body to ensure that the Council undertakes repairs and retrofits its properties to tackle dampness and make them more energy efficient.

We will also use the position of Mayor of Hackney, to demand that the government do more to support the council to provide more social housing and make it easier for us to meet the needs of local people.



## NATURE AND GREEN SPACE



We love Hackney's green spaces and recognise how important our parks, the marshes and the rivers are to residents. Over the pandemic, the positive impact of our local green spaces on our wellbeing was recognised.

Green spaces also help the planet; plants absorb carbon and local plants and animals can thrive.

To protect green spaces and respond to the ecological emergency **Hackney Greens commit to:**

- Not build on any green space and work with neighbouring boroughs to limit building that impacts our green space and wildlife such as around Hackney Marshes
- Limit human access to green space which is already being built on, such as the marshes, to minimise the impact on wildlife
- Protect mature trees; recognising their contribution to hosting wildlife, people's health and wellbeing and for carbon sequestration.
- Doing all we can to protect biodiversity including establishing a Biodiversity Officer, joining up green spaces across the borough, increasing the number of growing boxes and managing green space in an environmentally friendly way – limiting machine use and stopping all glyphosate use
- Supporting the Ecoschools programme.





## NUCLEAR FREE HACKNEY



According to the UN

“Nuclear weapons are the most dangerous weapons on earth... One can destroy a whole city, potentially killing millions, and jeopardizing the natural environment and lives of future generations through its long-term catastrophic effects. The dangers from such weapons arise from their very existence.”

That is just one, yet there are thousands and we are at constant risk from devastating accident – let alone deliberate use, a scenario that the current war in Ukraine has made frighteningly more realistic.

### Hackney Greens will

- see that Hackney Council joins a growing list of Nuclear Ban Communities.
- work with the Pensions Committee to remove any obstacles to the total divestment of the council's pension fund from companies involved in the testing and manufacture of nuclear weapons.

Under our leadership, Hackney Council will declare its support for the United Nations 'Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons' – The Ban Treaty. This is an historic treaty which prohibits its signatories from developing, testing and using nuclear weapons.

We recognise the urgent necessity of creating a world free from nuclear weapons and will denounce the United Kingdom Government's refusal to sign or ratify this landmark treaty.

Furthermore, a Green council will call on the United Kingdom Government to work for global denuclearisation by:

- Signing and ratifying the UN Ban Treaty, thereby joining the global majority of countries opposed to nuclear weapons.
- Cancelling the replacement of Trident, Britain's nuclear weapons system.
- Utilising all diplomatic avenues possible to work towards a nuclear-free world including lobbying our two MPs.





## ETHICAL ADVERTISING



Hackney Greens support calls from the AdFree Cities and Adblock Hackney campaigns to introduce a council-wide Ethical Advertising Policy.

Advertising is used to stimulate consumption, often causing negative impacts on the health and wellbeing of the people it targets and promoting products and services which have a detrimental impact on people, the climate and the environment.

Already there are laws and regulations about advertising certain products and services which aim to profit from stimulating people's consumption, while ignoring the impact on their wellbeing, such as cigarette advertising.

Hackney Council is responsible for granting permission for new advertising sites and is directly responsible for 48 advertising sites across the borough. Many of the billboards currently in use require lots of energy to operate.



**PAVEMENT BASED DIGITAL BILLBOARDS CAN USE THE SAME AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY AS 4 AVERAGE HOUSEHOLDS, AND LARGER DIGITAL BILLBOARDS CAN USE THE SAME AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY AS 37 AVERAGE HOUSEHOLDS [SOURCE: ADFREE CITIES]**

## ETHICAL ADVERTISING



To promote a healthy and happy environment, communities and individuals **Hackney Greens will**

- Implement an Ethical Advertising Policy as part of the council's planning policies, to apply to bus stops, billboards and advertising spaces in the Hackney.
- Include in contracts with the Hackney Council's advertising contractor a ban on advertising on the sites under their control that are potentially harmful to mental or physical health or the environment, such as junk food, gambling, alcohol or high carbon products (including cars, fossil fuel companies and airlines and airports).
- Adopt a presumption against planning applications for all new digital advertising screens to make new screens harder to install, due to the high electricity use of these technologies.
- Utilise existing advertising sites in public space for creative community projects engagement and artwork.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, asking for a ban on such forms of unethical advertising nationally.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities asking for reforms to Planning Guidance on outdoor advertising to take into account the unique problems with energy-intensive digital billboards.

Other local authorities have begun to implement advertising policies against specific products if they consider them to be harmful to the amenity of an area. Even in London the Greater London Authority (GLA), which controls Transport for London (TFL) property, enacted a Healthier Food Advertising Policy in 2018 prohibiting High Fat, Sugar or Salt (HFSS) food advertising on TFL property. Which has been proven to help Londoners make healthier shopping decisions.

A 2021 study found that exposure to Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) car advertising for example can make someone 250% more likely to own an SUV than no vehicle at all. SUVs generally have poorer fuel efficiency and require more resources to manufacture than smaller vehicles, thus contributing more to climate change and environmental degradation. Also their height makes them twice as likely to roll in crashes and twice as likely to kill pedestrians.

Other councils, including Bristol, Norwich and Liverpool, have developed more ethical advertising policies, often spearheaded by Green councillors.



# NEIGHBOURHOODS



We love Hackney – its diversity, community spirit, and green spaces – but we know that there is plenty that needs to change. For too long, decisions about how resources are used have been for the benefit of large corporations, and residents have been missing out. Local people have experienced increased congestion, rising rents, and one of the highest crime rates across London, with 43% of women feeling unsafe while traveling alone.

During lockdowns, we relied on our neighbourhoods: their local shops, parks and streets. As we come out of the worst of the pandemic, we will continue to work with groups to protect the best of our borough and reimagine what our neighbourhoods and town centres could be in a post–pandemic era – with thriving small businesses, streets which can be enjoyed by everyone, and green spaces that are protected for future generations, bringing people together and supporting community cohesion.

## SAFETY AND CRIME

Everyone deserves to feel safe and secure when moving around our borough, but this is currently not the case.

In order to make our streets safer **Hackney Greens will:**

- Prioritise public safety on all new developments, especially in relation to street access and pedestrian lighting
- Bring vacant commercial properties quickly back to occupancy through reduced business rates and temporary pop–up schemes – thriving and well–occupied city centres are shown to reduce crime.
- Encourage businesses to employ local young people through apprenticeship schemes, and promote businesses to residents to encourage their long–term success.
- Work with schools, youth services, and the police to take a coordinated approach to reducing violence between young people, and prevent any further cuts to youth services across the borough
- Lobby Transport for London (TfL) to implement new standards for bus stops, to boost public safety at all times of day and accessibility for all residents





# NEIGHBOURHOODS



## CHAMPIONING COMMUNITY

Closer communities which support each other are also safer communities. To build on the existing community links across Hackney, **Hackney Greens will:**

- Support communities to organise events such as local street festivals, providing logistical and financial support for them
- Expand community sharing schemes such as the Library of Things and support the creation of reuse and repair hubs, to encourage the sharing of skills locally and help people save money on expensive items
- Expand the network of community champions engaged in the pandemic response, so we can continue to break down barriers between communities and ensure that all groups are represented in decision-making for the borough
- Use the council's communication channels (including advertising sites) to promote local events, small businesses and low-cost activities, particularly for children during the school holidays.



## PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Local residents are experts in what is most needed in their neighbourhoods – so where we need to maintain and update local infrastructure, we will put the people of Hackney at the heart of decision making.

### **Hackney Greens will:**

- Replace town plans with people's plans, developed in close and ongoing dialogue with the local community
- Use Community Infrastructure Levy funds to invest in public facilities that make Hackney a welcoming place for everyone, creating more free community spaces and accessible public toilets
- Prioritise work to bring step-free access to more of Hackney's Overground and tube stations

The Green Party is the only party with a coordinated set of policies to create healthier, greener communities that are affordable for people to live in. It's crucial that decision-making powers about what happens to our neighbourhoods are given back to the people who live there.

**We will put power in the hands of residents and small businesses**, create opportunities for young people, and focus on leveraging existing community structures to make our borough's hubs safer and welcoming for all.

## THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS



With the economic impacts of the pandemic, changes to Universal Credit and national insurance, and increasing energy bills and council rents – we know this is a really difficult time for lots of Hackney residents.

In speaking to residents across Hackney, we have heard how people are doing all they can to make ends meet and need those in power to do more to help. We know that it is structural and systemic issues that trap people in debt and worsen health inequalities.

We will do everything we can to help, and use all the council's powers to cut household costs now and in the future.

### ZERO COUNCIL TAX FOR HACKNEY'S POOREST

Currently, Hackney's poorest citizens are required to pay 15% of the regular amount of council tax. Many are falling behind on council tax payments and being unfairly hit by court summons, extra costs and bailiffs. Under a Green council, the lowest-income residents of Hackney will have to pay zero council tax – a 100% council tax discount. Those who can't pay, shouldn't pay – and should not live in fear of bailiffs.

Other London boroughs have already exempted low-income residents from council tax, with Green councillors leading the way in other boroughs such as Camden.



### A HACKNEY FREE OF CHILD POVERTY

Almost half (48%) of the borough's children are already living in poverty, with many more now at risk due to rising living costs. We are committed to working towards a Hackney free of child poverty.

Having recently met with 4in10, London's Child Poverty Network, we know that the main cause of poverty is a lack of affordable child care.

Our mayor candidate, Zoë Garbett, has supported the campaigns to save Fernbank and Hillside children's centres, and will continue to protect subsidised children care.

**Hackney Greens commit** to support our children's centres and not close any.



# THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS



## A LIVING WAGE BOROUGH

To lift people out of poverty, we need work that pays. We commit to making Hackney a living-wage borough, following the Living Wage Place scheme, and will work with every local business to make this a reality.

### **Hackney Greens will also:**

- Lower council rents by reversing the 2022 increase of 4.1%, and not increasing it again throughout our first term in office
- Improve the quality of council homes and take action on rogue, neglectful landlords. Everyone should live in good-quality housing which is well insulated, well heated and not making people ill.
- Help towards housing costs by topping up discretionary housing payments.
- Protect, support, fund, and promote local welfare assistance funds like Hackney Community Food Hub.



## NO MORE RACIST POLICING



The recent news of the horrifying experiences of Child Q, a Black girl who was strip searched by police officers at her Hackney school because of suspected cannabis possession, have brought to the forefront how unfair, unjust and racist our policing is.

We are all too aware that this is not a one-off incident. Research by local youth-led social-action project Hackney Account has highlighted the trauma young Black people experience when they are stopped and searched by the police.

It is depressing that the historical divide between Black communities and police is still as wide as ever. The Green Party have supported calls for the borough commander to resign or be dismissed in the light of the Child Q case.

**Hackney Greens will** listen to residents and liaise with community groups, especially those representing communities disproportionately affected by racist policing.

**Hackney Greens commit to:**

- Holding the Met to account for policing in Hackney to ensure action is taken and change happens
- Work to ensure that no-one is subjected to unsafe or racist policing





## NO MORE RACIST POLICING



Suspected cannabis possession is too often used as an excuse by police in Hackney and elsewhere to target young Black people. For far too long people, predominantly from Black and Brown communities, have been criminalised for suspected of being in possession of cannabis (a drug which is now legalised in many other countries) and/or have been subjected to traumatising stop and search procedures in relation to the drug. Harassment and criminalisation has a devastating impact on young people's lives and life chances.

Our mayor candidate, Zoë Garbett, cares passionately about this injustice and the harmful impact of our current legislation. Working with people with lived experience and drug reform organisations, she led a review of The Green Party's drug policy which resulted in the Party passing an evidence-based Drug Policy in 2019.



We are the only party with a drug policy calling for legalisation and regulation of all drugs, replacing a punitive approach with one focused on public health approach.

Decriminalisation is supported by experts and scientific evidence. In a recent London Assembly Health Committee chaired by Caroline Russell that explored ways to reduce drug deaths in London, Alex Stevens (Professor in Criminal Justice) stated that, at the very least, 'decriminalisation is unlikely to increase drug use, while criminalisation certainly does not reduce it.'

**Hackney Greens will** work with the police and campaign to:

- Extend the Mayor of London's diversion trial to Hackney
- Deprioritise the policing of cannabis possession
- Campaign to end stop-and-search for suspected drug possession

# WASTE

We live on a planet with finite resources. Each new item of clothing we buy, every electronic upgrade and even the food we eat requires vast amounts of these resources to be used. There is also the vast sums of energy (usually in the form of fossil fuels) required for producing products and shipping them around the globe.

What we do locally matters. We need to rapidly rethink how we use and dispose of these products, by shifting from a linear economy to a circular economy – where those precious resources are used in the most effective way and for as long as possible.

**Hackney Greens will aim to become a zero–waste borough by 2030**, acting decisively to reduce the amount of waste Hackney produces and will rethink material usage wherever possible. Where it is absolutely necessary to dispose of waste, we will move towards doing this in a way that is more sustainable and responsible than the current system of incineration.



## **Hackney Greens will:**

- Lead by example and remove single–use items from council–run cafés and facilities
- Ensure council procurement is as efficient as possible in all sectors, to reduce waste to a minimum
- Offer business rates discounts to encourage shops, cafés and restaurants to cut down on single–use packaging
- Bring a Library of Things to every ward in Hackney, to enable residents to borrow useful household items
- Set up, promote, and support reuse and repair hubs across the borough
- Expand the council’s food waste composting scheme to include all homes
- Work with residents to to increase recycling rates on estates
- Crack down on commercial fly–tippers and increase awareness and access to house bulk waste collection
- Continue to oppose the rebuild of the Edmonton Incinerator, listen to residents and experts about the harmful effects of burning waste, and work for a solution that is better for the climate and public health



HACKNEY MAYORAL ELECTION: 5TH MAY 2022



# FOR A FAIRER, GREENER HACKNEY

[www.zoe4hackney.co.uk](http://www.zoe4hackney.co.uk)  
[@Zoe4Hackney](https://twitter.com/Zoe4Hackney)



“Hackney is a great place to live, but too many people do not feel heard or are excluded from what makes Hackney great. I’m passionate about listening to people and making sure that changes in the borough are what people want. We need to address social injustice alongside the climate crisis and move to a sustainable way of living which is fair for everyone.”

# ZOË GARBETT

## A GREEN MAYOR FOR HACKNEY



# COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATES: 5TH MAY 2022



## 1 BROWNSWOOD

Gitta Wigro  
Mark Douglas

## 2 CAZENOVE

Maria Cristina Hornero Garcia  
Stephen Fielder  
Daniel Alexander

## 3 CLISSOLD

Marie Remy  
Feodora Rayner  
Reiner Tegtmeier

## 4 DALSTON

Zoë Garbett  
Tyron Scott

## 5 DE BEAUVOIR

Nicholas Lee  
Heather Finlay

## 6 HACKNEY CENTRAL

Florence Wedmore  
Stefan Liberadzki  
Nicholas Costley-White

## 7 HACKNEY DOWNS

Alastair Binnie-Lubbock  
Bettina Maidment  
Charlie Norman

## 8 HACKNEY WICK

Laura Salisbury  
Clive Ardagh  
Stuart Coggins

## 9 HAGGERSTON

Kathryne Chalker  
Maxime Vers  
Alice Spendley

## 10 HOMERTON

Brenda Puech  
Benjamin Newman  
Thomas Richardson

## 11 HOXTON EAST & SHOREDITCH

Chesca Walton  
Conan Cook  
Nicholas Thorp

## 12 HOXTON WEST

Cheuk Ting Ho  
Daniel Enzer  
Kit McCarthy

## 13 KINGS PARK

Donell Walter  
Peter Jones  
Josie Holden Wilby

## 14 LEA BRIDGE

Douglas Earl  
Ruth Jenkins  
Sally Zlotowitz

## 15 LONDON FIELDS

Paul Urwin  
Graham Woodruff  
Carrie Hamilton

## 16 SHACKLEWELL

Felix Thomson  
Benjamin Hughes

## 17 SPRINGFIELD

Noah Birksted-Breen  
Julie-Anne Hogbin  
Celia Coram

## 18 STAMFORD HILL WEST

Johnny Dixon  
Lewis Garland

## 19 STOKE NEWINGTON

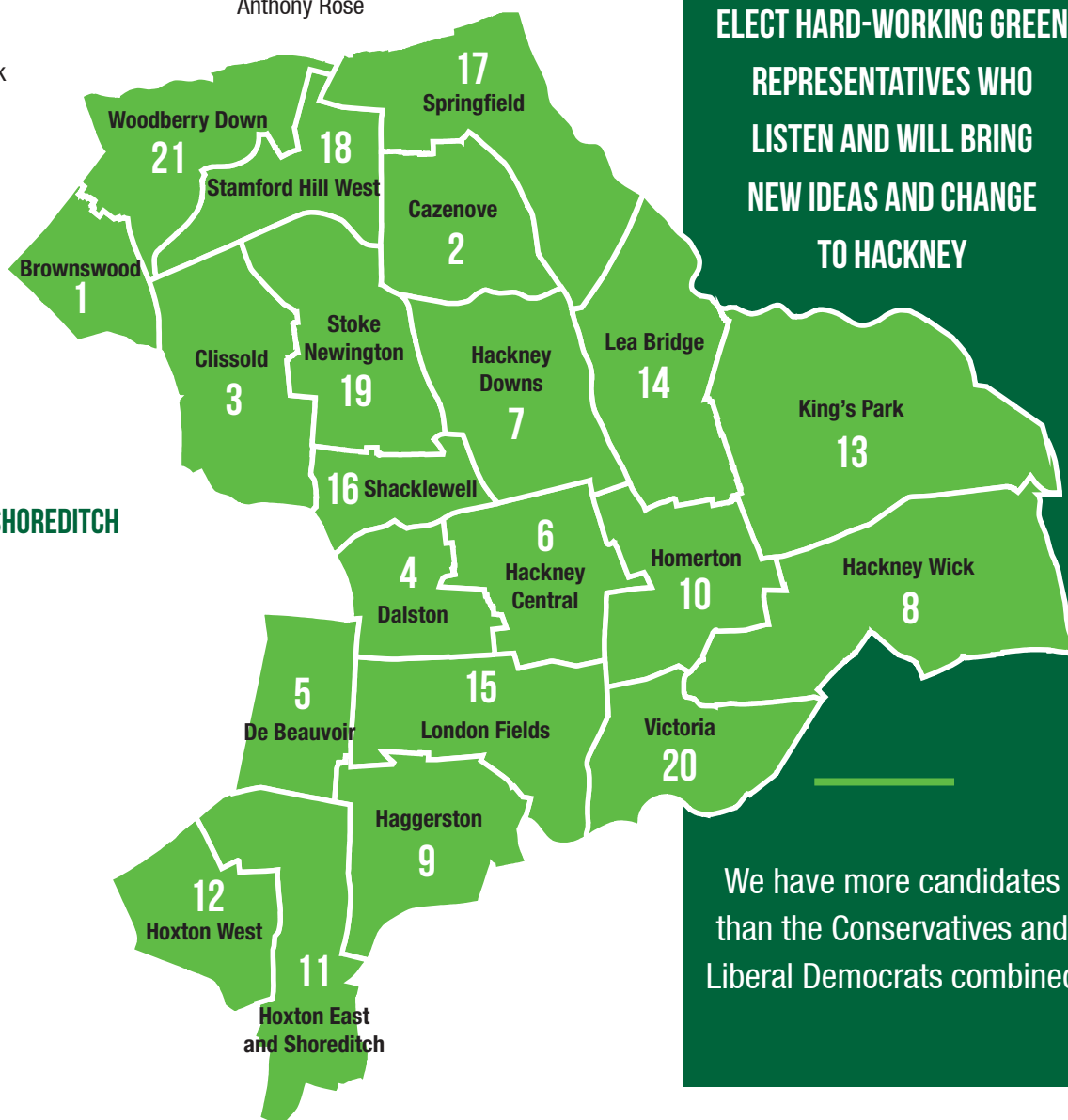
Charlene Concepcion  
Siobhan MacMahon  
Richard Scarborough

## 20 VICTORIA

Rolf Dekker  
Sandra McLeod  
Wendy Robinson

## 21 WOODBERRY DOWN

Catherine Elisabeth Scanlon O'Shea  
Anthony Rose



**GREENS ARE STANDING  
FOR EVERY SEAT  
IN EVERY WARD**

**AND**

**ZOË GARBETT IS OUR  
CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR**

**USE ALL OF YOUR VOTES TO  
ELECT HARD-WORKING GREEN  
REPRESENTATIVES WHO  
LISTEN AND WILL BRING  
NEW IDEAS AND CHANGE  
TO HACKNEY**

**We have more candidates  
than the Conservatives and  
Liberal Democrats combined**



**FOR A FAIRER,**

**GREENER HACKNEY**



**FIND OUT MORE, OR GET INVOLVED**



Leave us a message: **07565 161 238**



**[contactus@hackney.greenparty.org.uk](mailto:contactus@hackney.greenparty.org.uk)**

Promoted by Stefan Liberadzki on behalf of Zoë Garbett and Hackney Green Party, at Flat 30, 19–24 Marcon Place, E8 1LP.