



Women's Equality Party Conference

26 November 2022

Title: **Accelerating Climate Justice**

Proposed by: **WE Exeter Branch**

Proposer: **Katrina Brown**

Seconder: Moira Macdonald

Type of motion: **Policy motion**

Motion text:

1 The Women's Equality Party Conference 2022 reaffirms its commitment to accelerating action to
2 address the climate crisis and recognises that there can be no Climate Justice without Social
3 Justice. Equality lies at the heart of the interlocking crises we face, and women and children bear
4 the brunt of the current climate, energy and cost of living crises.

5 The Women's Equality Party calls on the UK government to immediately address the intersecting
6 crises impacting UK households. Measures should take explicit account of intersectional inequality
7 and should target the poorest and single parent families. Addressing these crises is urgent and
8 potentially life-saving.

9 In order to deliver a faster and fairer climate transition and to reverse the unequal and unjust impacts
10 of the climate, energy and cost of living crises, the Women's Equality Party demands that the UK
11 Government:

- 12 1. **Immediately** establishes a national scheme to fully fund the insulation of all social housing and
13 all new build properties in Britain by 2025.
 - 14 2. **Within 6 months** produce and implement a legally binding national plan to fully fund full low-
15 energy and low-carbon whole-house retrofit, and reinstate grants for installation of renewable
16 energy, for all homes in Britain by 2030.
 - 17 3. **Within 2 years** scrap the existing price cap system and replace it with a new system of free
18 basic energy.
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19 4. **By 2030** phase out all fossil fuel exploitation and achieve full decarbonisation of the UK
20 economy.

Motion rationale:

21 At Conference in 2020 The Women's Equality Party resolved to put gender equality at the centre of
22 climate and environmental action. The Party voted to mainstream Climate Justice across its objectives
23 and to examine the potential impact of all policies and action on climate. Climate Justice is thus a core
24 part of Party Policy. We have completed a Climate Audit and have built a strong constituency within
25 the Party. Now we need specific policy to advance Climate Justice.

26 The transition to a more equal and sustainable society is more urgent than ever but is receding in the
27 face of current Government policies that are making inequality more acute¹, pushing households into
28 fuel poverty², and reversing trends towards decarbonisation³. The Government has turned its back on
29 equality and sustainability.

30 The climate, energy and cost of living crises are systemically linked, and each has critical impacts on
31 inequality. Each of these crises hits women hardest – and particularly women with children, women
32 from POC communities, those with disabilities and women on low income⁴. At present The Women's
33 Equality Party has no specific policy addressing these crises. This motion proposes new policy on
34 fuel poverty, Greenhouse Gas emissions and wellbeing of most vulnerable people and households
35 as the key means to accelerate Climate Justice.

36 WE have identified the priorities because:

- 37 ● Nearly 15% of the UK's total emissions comes from heating homes: an overhaul of the energy
38 performance of the UK's housing stock is needed to reduce energy demand⁵. Insulating homes
39 and other energy saving measures could add £7bn to the economy, lift many out of poverty and
40 create up to 140,000 new jobs⁶
 - 41 ● Approximately 4 million households are living in social housing⁷. They include many of the most
42 vulnerable people⁸
 - 43 ● Fuel poverty is skyrocketing. Lone-parent families are three times more likely to be behind on
44 bills or living in a cold house, and five times more likely to be unable to afford to eat properly
45 compared to couples with children. 47% of all lone parents are in poverty⁹. Fair access to clean
46 energy is a fundamental part of a comprehensive, effective and just decarbonisation strategy¹⁰
 - 47 ● Free basic energy reverses inequality in fuel poverty by providing the poorest households with
48 nearly all their energy free, but charging richest and higher users a higher rate¹¹
 - 49 ● There are multiple benefits from warm, safe and clean homes, particularly for health of the
50 elderly and youngest in society. Everyone should be entitled to clean, warm homes – for health,
51 wellbeing, the environment and the economy¹².
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- 52 ● Climate Justice is more urgent than ever. We need now to accelerate our action and our
53 commitment to put equality and justice at the core of environment, economic and social policy.
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