

Britain should invest in environmental jobs.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

We face an environmental crisis that will destroy our civilisation. Climate change will alter the face of the earth, including Britain. It will bring water shortage (and wars for water), food shortages, new diseases, floods and a shrinking land.

We are polluting our fertile lands and seas and over-exploiting them. By 2050 there are projected to be no fish left in the sea worth commercial fishing!

Already, both across the globe and here at home, we are seeing a cycle of catastrophic floods followed by droughts.

An economy based on importing, making and consuming ever-more "stuff" will make this worse and worse.



INVEST IN OUR ENVIRONMENT

We need to invest in making the right things. There is a crying need for the machines and services to help with the problems of climate change and pollution.

Britain should invest heavily in renewable energy to cut our greenhouse gas emissions and our dependence on imports of gas and oil. (The Labour government did not lift a finger to stop the closure of Vestas, the only wind-turbine blade factory in the UK. Vestas should be reopened immediately.)

WASTE

We waste large amounts of energy. Investment in insulation and other energy efficiency measures would cut our need for so much energy.

We need a government-funded scheme to insulate all existing houses, and to build new, affordable, eco-friendly houses using far less energy for heating.

Energy goes into transport and pollution comes out. We should put money into affordable and integrated public transport systems, publicly owned and run, for both people and freight. Public transport uses far less energy and other resources than filling our roads with cars and lorries.

Jobs would be created in vehicle building, transport, house improvement and house building

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Oil and gas are running out. Burning them causes global warming. Of course, we cannot do without energy, but we must switch to getting it from sources that don't pollute and won't run out.

We should invest in urgent research into all the forms of renewable energy, verifying which works best and has fewest drawbacks. We should develop the most promising types as rapidly as we can, replacing the use of oil and gas with renewable energy.

A massive programme of R&D into renewable technologies and putting these to work would create jobs on a huge scale.

LAND ...

Britain currently produces less than half of our food - the rest is imported, often from thousands of miles away. We need to grow more of what we eat.

We need to undo the damage that decades of intensive harvesting has done to our soil, rivers and seas. Much of our soil depends on the addition of huge amounts of fertiliser to grow anything. But cheap fertiliser depends on cheap oil to make it.

We must move to more natural ways of farming, less dependent on manufactured inputs. This will create more jobs.



... & WATER

Many of our lakes and rivers are heavily polluted, not only by factories but by the run-off of all the fertiliser used on our farms.

At sea we continue to follow a suicidal policy of over-fishing, here and across the world.



Invest in our environment.

Alliance for Green Socialism

