

Green Party Autumn Newsletter

Welcome to the Autumn edition of our new **Green Party** newsletter, **green-shields**. There's been a lot happening in the Green Party lately. First up there's the election of a party leader for the first time in Green Party history. Caroline Lucas, Green Party MEP, was elected leader with 90 per cent of the vote.

Then there's a new policy focus on radical new solutions on issues that affect everyone.

Radical policies

Free insulation

Help for domestic energy generation

Free School dinners Meals

A Green New Deal for our economy

A living wage

Safer streets

Grill the Greens!

Ocean Road Community Centre

Wednesday 8th October

On Wednesday 8th October at Ocean Road Community Centre South Shields, South Tyneside Green Party parliamentary candidates for the next general election will be available for a Question and Answer session.

Bryan Atkinson, parliamentary candidate for Jarrow and **Shirley Ford, parliamentary candidate for South Shields**, will be available for your questions.

This is the first such event in South Tyneside. Whilst some parties have not yet selected their candidates, South Tyneside Greens are taking the debate to the public.

Labour: milking the council tax payer

South Tyneside's infant and primary schools are now getting 3rd pint milk in plastic-lined 'tetra' cartons. Previously school milk came in glass bottles. However, due to problems with the milk supplier's bottling machine, glass bottles were dropped.

The suppliers, Dairy Farmers of Great Britain, decided not to repair the bottling machine for financial reasons. The procurement agency used by the council to organise the supplies the of milk to the region's schools accepted the supplier's excuse for abandoning reusable glass bottles.

Documents leaked to the Green Party reveal that as a result of dropping the glass bottles the price of school milk has risen. This meant that other budgets have been raided and the milk price for parents has gone up.

Reusing glass bottles is more sustainable. Reusing the same glass bottle many times uses less energy, produces less CO2 and resources and avoids the use of plastics.

South Tyneside's Burning issue

South Tyneside Council, in partnership with Sunderland and Gateshead councils, is planning what to do with our domestic waste over the next 20 years. Recent statements from Labour cabinet members suggest that they are considering incineration, sometimes referred to as 'Energy from Waste', as part of their solution.

The Green Party is **opposed to incineration** because:

- **it's a waste of natural resources**
- **emits dangerous particulates and cancer-causing toxins**
- **produces up to 3 times more CO2 per kilowat than a gas-fired power station**

However, we don't know what South Tyneside's Labour cabinet and its chums in Sunderland and Gateshead have decided - they're keeping quiet. Despite Freedom of Information requests they've been hiding behind the ruse of 'commercial confidentiality' to keep the whole truth from the public.

We can't continue to landfill our waste. The Greens want better, but **are alone in South Tyneside in demanding that plans for domestic waste incineration are dropped**. Technologies like anaerobic digestion combined with a massive reduction in packaging with an increase in recycling offer a sustainable low carbon solution.

Get involved - join the Green Revolution!

Most of us are 'green' already. We are prudent, recycle, and reuse our shopping bags. We want better public services; safer communities; to travel on clean and safe public transport; health and education services protected from the ravages of privatisation.

Most of all, **we want a world which will be fit for our children.**

If you want to take the next step and get involved in the Green Party, receive our regular email updates or have some suggestions for us, please contact us.

Did you know...

That in Kirklees, Huddersfield, Green Councillors have made sure that 40,000 households will receive around £400 worth of insulation measures for absolutely nothing.

In fact, last year, more homes were insulated like this in Kirklees than in the whole of Greater London.



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