

A close-up, profile view of a young child with blonde hair and blue eyes, looking slightly to the left. The lighting is soft and natural, highlighting the child's features. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the child's face.

**Think ahead.**



**Think ahead. Act now.**

Our green vision for Aotearoa.

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**“  
We’re the only party with a  
plan to ensure all of us, and  
our planet, are looked after.”**

# The Green Party has a bold new plan for an Aotearoa where all of us have what we need to live good lives, and where our natural environment is protected for our kids and grandkids.

For too long, successive governments have put short-term profit before our people and the planet, risking our future. They have prioritised economic growth at the expense of community wellbeing and the environment.

COVID-19 has shone a glaring light on the inequalities in our society, but it has also shown that we can make big changes, fast, when we work together.

Right now, we have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reimagine our communities in a way that treats everyone with dignity, while safeguarding our country's precious natural heritage. We must take this opportunity by thinking ahead, and acting now. The Green Party is the only party with a transformational plan to ensure all of us, and our planet, are looked after.

At the heart of everything the Green Party does is a commitment to te Tiriti, and four key principles: ecological wisdom, social responsibility, appropriate decision-making, and non-violence.

Never before have these principles been more relevant.

We will continue to strive for climate, environmental and social justice in everything we do. None of these goals can be achieved in isolation from each other.

We're so proud of how much progress we've made this term. With your help, we can go further and faster to create a fairer Aotearoa for all of us, and for future generations.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'James Shaw' and the signature on the right is 'Marama Davidson'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

**James Shaw and Marama Davidson, Green Party Co-leaders**

**Our plan.**

**Healthy nature.**





**We should all be able to enjoy Aotearoa's precious nature – to hear the dawn chorus in our forests, and see wildlife thrive in our oceans and rivers.**

Previous governments have failed to protect our rivers and oceans against pollution, or invest enough in nature. The Green Party knows we must protect and respect Papatūānuku. A healthy environment is the basis of our wellbeing and an economy that delivers for people and planet.

In Government, we've achieved so much for nature. Now we want to go further and faster to protect our forests, rivers and oceans for future generations.

*Mā te oranga o te taiao, ka ora ai te iwi.*



# Animal welfare

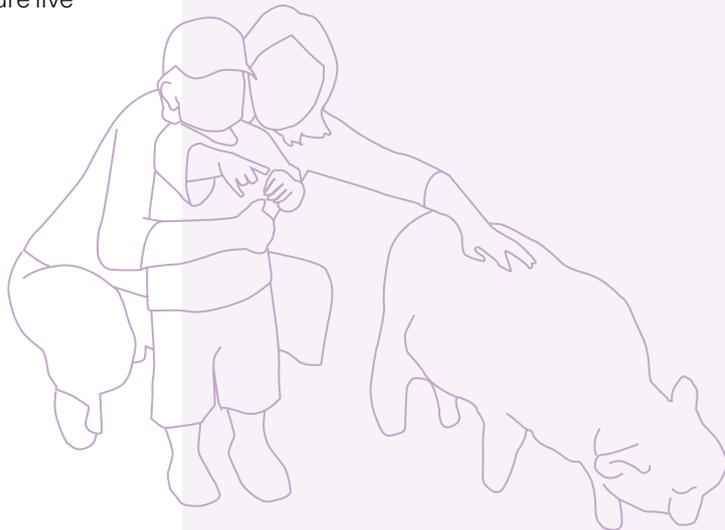
Animals are worthy of care and respect, but current rules allow animal abuse and exploitation. Aotearoa could easily have a world-leading animal welfare system, but many animals are mistreated and subject to cruelty.

The Green Party has championed animal welfare for decades, as the leading voice in Parliament on issues like factory farming, greyhound racing, and cage-free hens and eggs. Meanwhile, other parties have backed down on promises to ban rodeos and cruel production practices like farrowing crates.

The Green Party will strengthen Aotearoa's animal welfare standards. We will outlaw harmful activities such as factory farming and rodeo, protect companion animals from abuse and exploitation, and ensure animals in agriculture live happy and comfortable lives.

## We will:

- Ban or phase-out harmful activities including live export of animals, use of animals in rodeo, greyhound racing, factory farming, farrowing crates, and the “backyard breeding” of companion animals under inhumane conditions.
- Support farmers to ensure animals are provided with appropriate shade, shelter, and comfortable resting areas.
- Create dedicated champions for animals by establishing a Minister for Animal Welfare and a Parliamentary Commissioner for Animal Welfare, and boost funding for animal welfare programmes.
- Review the operation of the Animal Welfare Act and increase funding for compliance monitoring and enforcement, to achieve better coordination between the Act and other Codes of Welfare.
- Oppose animal testing except in very limited circumstances.
- Ensure the accuracy of “free range”, “cruelty free” and other animal welfare product labelling.





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# Clean water

From the maunga to moana, water is a taonga which must be protected, but too many rivers, lakes, and wetlands have been polluted over the years, and river flows have fallen below healthy levels. At the same time, climate change disrupts rainfall patterns, putting rivers at risk from both drought and flooding.

Change is happening. The Government has introduced the strongest ever water reforms. For the first time, rules for water will prioritise ecosystem baselines and Māori cultural values. These changes mean water quality will improve over time, restoring our lakes, rivers and wetlands so people can swim safely, and freshwater species can thrive.

Now that we're making progress towards restoring rivers and streams, we need to fix the approach to water allocation and conservation. This means using water fairly and efficiently, within natural limits.

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## We will:

- Create a fair system for water allocation, with commercial users like water bottling companies paying a resource rental fee, and allocation phased down to sustainable levels. Iwi and hapū will be involved in designing a framework that recognises te mana o te wai Māori interests, prioritises ecological integrity, and protects food production.
- Uphold the kaitiaki, proprietary, and customary rights of iwi and hapū over water.
- Improve urban water quality and supply by funding green infrastructure, supporting home water storage, and requiring new buildings to include greywater recycling.
- Support farmers to reduce run-off and the need for irrigation. This will include on-farm water storage and distribution, to improve resilience to floods and droughts.
- Rehabilitate and protect wetlands, recognising this is an important part of climate change adaptation.
- Ensure regional councils have sufficient resources to properly implement Freshwater Farm Plans and the *National Environmental Standard on Freshwater*.
- Oppose large-scale irrigation projects that encourage intensive farming.
- Keep drinking water, stormwater, and sewerage infrastructure under public control.
- Ensure nitrogen limits are based on the best science.



# Conservation

Everyone should be able to enjoy the dawn chorus in Aotearoa's forests and have rivers safe for fishing, swimming, and gathering kai.

But previous governments slashed conservation funding, causing hundreds of DOC rangers to lose their jobs, while allowing rivers to be degraded by intensive agriculture and urban pollution.

In Government, the Green Party has secured the largest investment in conservation ever. This funding will better protect kiwi, kākāpō, takahē, and other wildlife from the predator crisis. We've added 64,000 hectares to Kahurangi National Park – the largest ever addition to a national park in Aotearoa. We are responding to the job losses COVID-19 has created by investing \$1.3 billion to create thousands of jobs for nature over the next four years, including 6,000 jobs in conservation.

There is still much to do to protect and enhance nature. The Green Party will support more people into jobs protecting forests, rivers, and wetlands. We can secure a future where Aotearoa's wildlife is able to thrive the way nature intended.

## We will:

- Protect kauri from kauri dieback by investing in a National Pest Management Strategy.
- Create sustainable employment through the Government's Jobs for Nature programme, and support conservation volunteer groups nationwide.
- Enhance Predator Free 2050 by increasing funding for research, innovation, and landscape predator control; and by establishing more protected and pest-free islands and sanctuaries, including in our towns and cities.
- Invest in restoring wetlands, riverbanks, and estuaries to protect communities against rising seas and floods.
- Increase funding support for iwi and hapū, landholders, and community organisations to restore the health of forests and waterways, through programmes including the Community Conservation and Partnership Fund, Mātauranga Kura Taio, Ngā Whenua Rahui, Nature Heritage and QEII Trust Funds.
- Improve implementation of te Tiriti by Te Papa Atawhai, including reviewing key conservation policy and legislation.
- Resource the active implementation of Treaty settlements and co-management/co-governance of public conservation land.
- End new mining on and under conservation land, except for pounamu and some small scale river based gold mining.
- Eradicate pigs, cats and mice from Makauhuka/Auckland Islands in partnership with Ngāi Tahu.



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# Oceans

Oceans are the lifeblood of our planet. Home to a vast array of species and delicate ecosystems, and a source of kai and recreation. Our marine environments must be protected for future generations.

In Government, we've doubled the size of the protected area for Māui and Hector's dolphins and banned new offshore oil and gas drilling.

Our oceans and marine life are still being harmed by overfishing, sediment, and nutrient and plastic pollution. Proposals for seabed mining threaten the marine habitats and ecological health of our oceans.

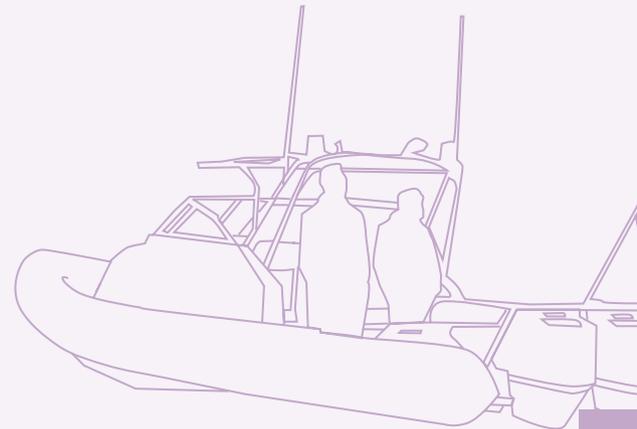
The political influence of the fishing industry means overfishing and destructive fishing methods – such as bottom trawling, dredging, and set netting – continue, severely impacting fish stocks, seabirds, and dolphins. The Green Party is not in the pocket of big fishing companies. We are committed to ensuring the survival and restoration of marine environments for future generations.

The Green Party will prioritise the health and sustainability of fisheries by protecting areas rich in ocean life and biodiversity. Restoration of our marine environments will be a major focus of government policy. We will ensure te Tiriti o Waitangi is honoured, affirming iwi and hapū kaitiaki rights over the marine environment, and recognising the marine environment is home to many taonga.

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## We will:

- Protect and prioritise recreational and customary fishing over commercial fishing.
- Ban set netting and phase out the most destructive forms of commercial fishing, such as bottom trawling, dredging, and other bottom impact methods.
- Ban seabed mining and seismic surveying for minerals.
- Seek to finalise negotiations on the Global Ocean Treaty, and reform and replace relevant legislation in Aotearoa to enable a network of Marine Protected Areas that recognises te Tiriti o Waitangi rights and responsibilities.
- Accelerate the roll-out of monitoring cameras on commercial fishing boats.
- Restore shellfish beds in areas such as the Hauraki Gulf.
- Investigate the development of proposals for integrated marine ecosystem management for all activities. This will include commercial fishing, within a kaitiakitanga framework, that ensures ngā taonga ō te moana are managed responsibly for current and future generations with te Tiriti o Waitangi honoured.
- Facilitate discussions to progress and create the Kermadec Rangitahua Ocean Sanctuary.





# Reducing waste

There is no waste in nature; only cycles of resource use. The Green Party wants our communities and economy to run on the same no-waste principle. Overuse of fossil fuel-based plastic is contributing to climate change and plastic pollution. The volume of rubbish going to landfill increasing by 49% in the last decade. Our food production systems also send huge amounts of waste to landfill, where it emits greenhouse gases.

The Green Party supports products that reduce waste at every step of the production chain. Protecting Papatūānuku, and creating jobs in the process, requires effective regulation, incentives, and innovation.

This term, the Green Party has done more to address waste than any other previous government. We have banned single use plastic bags, phased out micro-beads in cosmetics, and expanded the waste levy on landfills. We're designing a container return scheme for beverage containers and have implemented mandatory product stewardship schemes, as well as improving Aotearoa's kerbside recycling system.

We will continue to invest in waste reduction and community initiatives, encouraging the recovery, reuse, redistribution, recycling, and reallocation of materials. Through careful planning and a clear vision, we will create a sustainable and circular economy.

## We will:

- Fix kerbside plastic recycling to be more consistent throughout Aotearoa, and develop local recycling capability to process more recyclable materials on-shore.
- Phase out low-grade plastic products that can be easily replaced with reusable alternatives, especially plastic water bottles, cotton buds, and fruit stickers.
- Commit to zero food waste and zero e-waste in our landfills, and pass legislation creating clear waste management obligations for businesses and local authorities.
- Develop a new Waste Strategy and review the Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act to ensure we have the tools needed to put Aotearoa on a zero waste pathway.
- Amend the Consumer Guarantees Act to introduce a Right to Repair, requiring manufacturers to design products that can be fixed, not thrown away.
- Improve clear labelling with common standards to ensure people can have confidence in products marked "compostable" and "recyclable".
- Continue to create more sector-wide product stewardship schemes for problem products like electronics, and implement a container return scheme for beverage containers.
- Reward innovation by increasing funding available through the Waste Minimisation Fund, creating a materials recovery, re-use, and repurposing sector that supports good jobs in Aotearoa.



# Tourism

Tourism is important to Aotearoa, but it's been hit hard by COVID-19. Our clean, green image and spectacular nature is what draws people to visit. We need to live up to that image and protect those landscapes.

The tourism industry can be productive, sustainable and inclusive. Encouraging local holidays in Aotearoa is more important than ever.

Now is the time for the Government to work with communities, iwi, hapū, and businesses to create jobs that will prepare the tourism sector for a strong recovery. Small councils cannot be expected to shoulder all the costs of infrastructure and facilities to support tourism.

In Government, the Green Party set up the International Visitor Levy to provide sustainable funding for tourism upgrades in the regions, and to invest in protecting the natural wonders that draw people to Aotearoa. With COVID-19, the focus needs to shift to domestic tourism, to give everyone the opportunity to connect with nature, explore their own backyard, and support local businesses through a challenging time.

The work we do now needs to ensure that when international tourists return to Aotearoa, we can live up to our 100% Pure New Zealand brand.

## We will:

- Welcome back international tourists when appropriate, but with very strong health controls at the border.
- Encourage domestic tourism, to revitalise the sector and reduce the climate impact of international air travel.
- Create jobs upgrading walking tracks, huts, and other popular tourism infrastructure.
- Invest in regional rail and safe cycling so tourists can explore the country using low-carbon transport.
- Limit visitor numbers at popular sites to protect them and the visitor experience, and minimise the impacts of tourism on conservation land.
- Work with councils to address waste issues – including plastic water bottles.
- Encourage low impact recreation and ecotourism over high-carbon tourism.
- Institute stronger controls on vehicle camping and encourage visitors to use local accommodation providers.
- Review the *New Zealand-Aotearoa Tourism Strategy* in light of COVID-19, and strengthen its commitment to sustainability and protecting areas for local communities to enjoy.



**Our plan.**

**Fairer communities.**





**We all deserve safe, warm, and affordable housing, well-resourced public services, and a strong social safety net.**

We have more than enough to go around in Aotearoa, but for too long those in power have made decisions that have kept incomes low, and made it a real struggle for many families to get by.

The Green Party knows we need to rewrite the rules, so our country's success is shared among all of us.

We have a bold new vision for a fairer Aotearoa which builds on our huge success in government, but goes further and faster to bring us all forward, together.

*He taonga  
rongonui te aroha  
ki te tangata.*

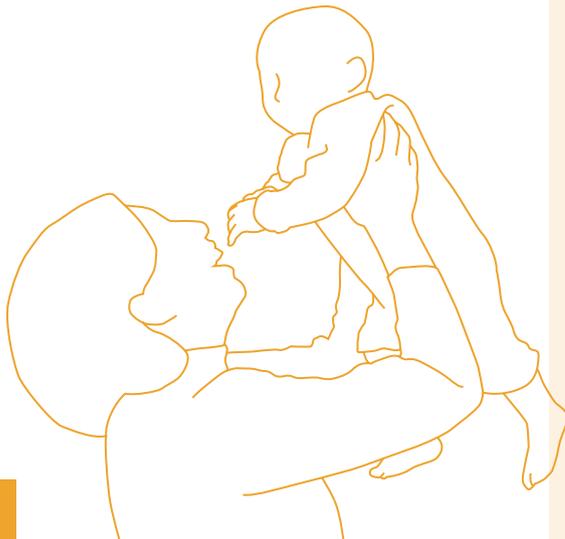


# Children

The wellbeing of children and young people is best secured by ensuring their whānau and communities have what they need. A prosperous and successful Aotearoa must be built around the needs of our tamariki.

Unfortunately, too many children are still missing out, especially in their crucial early years. When these years are a time of stress for families, there are long-term consequences for our kids.

This Government has made a big difference to whānau by increasing Working for Families support, extending Paid Parental Leave, and introducing the Best Start Payment, so kids get a better start in life. The Green Party prioritises the needs of whānau through all of our policies, ensuring everything we do helps our youngest citizens.



## We will:

- Work to see that all children are safe, and provide community support to address the root causes of child abuse and neglect.
- Improve funding for early childhood education and extend childcare subsidies.
- Create school hubs with health and other services on-site.
- Create safe walking and biking routes for every school, by supporting local authorities to implement active transport plans created by school communities.
- Develop a Kids in Nature programme where schools get operational funding to enable students to learn in outdoor classrooms, build their outdoor recreation skills, and go kayaking, bush walking, and snorkelling.
- Ensure every child lives in a warm, dry home through the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme and by improving the Building Code.
- Ensure government agencies actively engage children and young people in decision making on issues that affect them.
- Increase Best Start support payments from \$60 to \$100 a week and make them universal for all children under three years old.
- Simplify Working for Families tax credits into a single “Family Support Credit” of \$190 a week for the first child and \$120 for each younger child.



# Democracy, human rights, and te Tiriti o Waitangi

Aotearoa can have a flourishing democracy with te Tiriti o Waitangi as its foundation. We can be proud of our democracy compared to many other countries, but secretive donations and unequal access by lobbyists creates an uneven playing field. Human rights are not protected enough, and we have not honoured tino rangatiratanga, as set out in Article Two of te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Green Party has consistently pushed for civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. We are the only parliamentary party calling for major constitutional reform based on te Tiriti. In Government, we've championed transparency, as the first party to publish records of who our Ministers have met with. We've also established a fund for disabled candidates from all political parties to cover the disability-related costs of standing in a general election.

We need to act now to protect our democracy from special interests, uphold human rights, and expand the opportunities for people to participate meaningfully in our democracy at all levels.

## We will:

- Uphold human rights by lowering the voting age to 16 and extending voting rights to all people in prison.
- Initiate a Crown response to the *Matike Mai Aotearoa* report, including the goal of constitutional transformation by 2040.
- Establish a citizens' assembly to put decisions on political donations and public funding of election campaigns in the hands of the public.
- Entrench the Māori electoral seats so there is guaranteed Māori representation in Parliament, and enable Māori voters to change from the General to the Māori roll, or vice versa, more regularly.
- Make local elections fairer and more accessible by: expanding the Election Access Fund to disabled people who are running in local elections; providing more accessible voting options than postal voting; moving administration of local elections from private companies to the Electoral Commission; and removing barriers to the establishment of Māori electoral wards.
- Implement the recommendations of Waitangi Tribunal kaupapa inquiries that have reported back, and ensure the Waitangi Tribunal is well-resourced to undertake current and future inquiries.
- Strengthen accountability by reforming the Official Information Act and providing greater transparency of political lobbying.
- Update the Bill of Rights Act to include the right to privacy, and the right to a sustainable environment that is protected for the benefit of present and future generations.



# Disability

Everyone deserves to be able to fully participate in our society. This means recognising the rights of disabled people and making changes to end discrimination.

Nearly one in four people in Aotearoa lives with a disability, and many more of us have a whānau member or close friend who does. Current laws, policies, and social norms mean there are many barriers in the way of disabled people being able to participate fully in society.

The Green Party is committed to an Aotearoa in which all people with impairments can access their full rights, actively participate in their communities, are valued for their abilities and gifts, and lead rich and satisfying lives.

That means recognising the rights of disabled people and making changes to create an inclusive society where everyone can live, work, and learn with dignity.

## We will:

- Uphold the *UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* in all policy areas.
- Reform ACC into an Agency for Comprehensive Care, bringing all health and disability-related income support into a single system to end income support discrimination based on cause of disability.
- Ensure publicly funded buses and trains are accessible.
- Reform the Building Code so new houses and buildings are accessible by design, unless specifically exempted.
- Uphold the right of all children to a quality and inclusive education at their local public school.
- Support people with disabilities to advocate for themselves, and fund advocacy services.
- Enable employers and employees to make adaptations and obtain equipment and support for people with impairments.
- Extend the financial support available to disabled political candidates running for Parliament, to include local government candidates.
- Ensure people with disabilities are protected from abuse, while ensuring appropriate pathways for disclosure, training to help identify and respond appropriately to signs of abuse, and guaranteed accessible services.
- Reform the Human Rights Act to remove the exception which allows pay discrimination for disabled people.



# Drug law reform

The Green Party supports evidence-based, compassionate drug law reform that reduces harm. Drugs are a health, housing, employment, and education issue and criminalising people doesn't solve any of those problems.

Both legal and illegal drugs can cause harm, especially if used to excess or at a young age. Our social and legal response can either increase or decrease that harm. We know prohibition fuels organised crime and causes far more damage than it prevents.

Many people in Aotearoa use drugs, but a lack of sensible regulation means people put their lives at risk by using substances of unknown potency from unknown sources. At the same time, open advertising and sponsorship rules normalise and glorify Aotearoa's unhealthy drinking culture, and communities often don't have enough say over alcohol sales in their area.

The Green Party supports a "yes" vote in the referendum to legalise and control cannabis, and has worked to ensure the proposed law is a world-class public health response. In Government, we also passed important drug law reform, so people found using or possessing illegal drugs are supported into recovery rather than locked up.

The Green Party is focused on reducing drug harm.

## We will:

- Support the legalisation and regulation of personal use of cannabis in ways that reduce harm to users, their families, and communities, as provided by the Cannabis Legalisation and Control Bill.
- Legalise and regulate drug checking services, such as Know Your Stuff, that currently operate in a legal grey area at events, and fund these services throughout the community.
- Increase health and rehabilitation support for people who need it.
- Expand programmes such as Te Ara Oranga, focused on decreasing demand for substances by improving peoples' lives through housing, employment, and education.
- Significantly reduce alcohol advertising and sponsorship of sporting and cultural events, while introducing a replacement funding programme in line with the recommendations in the *2014 Ministerial Forum on Alcohol Advertising and Sponsorship*.
- Remove the ability of big alcohol and supermarket corporates to challenge Local Alcohol Policies.
- Require health warning labels on all legal drugs, including alcohol.



# Education

Every child deserves a high-quality, free, accessible public education that gives them the best possible start in life. We want all children to reach their full potential, but unfortunately, not all learners get equal opportunities and recognition. We know it's not only the school system that affects a child's education, but also housing, income, and health.

Aotearoa has an unequal education system, where there is a difference between the haves and the have-nots, achievers and non-achievers. We must fix this inequality so every child is treated fairly and can thrive. We've made a start by supporting the Government's increased funding for school lunches, te reo in schools, the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme for high-needs children, English language teaching, and restorative justice approaches in schools.

Schools are the heart of communities and should be community hubs providing health services, internet access, cultural services, and adult education programmes to meet local needs.

With greater government and community support, everyone can reach their potential so they can fully participate in society. Together we can make the necessary changes so that all children thrive.

## We will:

- Empower schools as community hubs, providing health services, internet access, cultural services, early childhood education, and adult education.
- Encourage clustering of Early Childhood Education (ECE) centres with nearby primary schools to support the transition to school.
- Ensure all public schools are resourced to provide special education and learning support as needed.
- Roll out Te Reo Māori as a core curriculum subject through to Year 10.
- Increase funding for kura kaupapa, kohanga reo, and mainstream te reo immersion and bilingual classrooms, including funding for professional support of Māori medium teachers and teacher scholarships.
- Improve child to teacher ratios.
- Embed ecological sustainability and civics education in the curriculum.
- Support schools and early childhood services to have policies, resources, and programmes to create an inclusive culture free of bullying, racism, and violence.
- Increase early childhood funding and prioritise pay equity for early childhood education teachers.
- Work towards a sustainable funding framework for community-run early childcare centres (such as play centres, kindergartens, parent co-operatives, and kohanga reo).
- Increase funding for outdoor environmental education – to get kids into nature and employ displaced tourism workers.

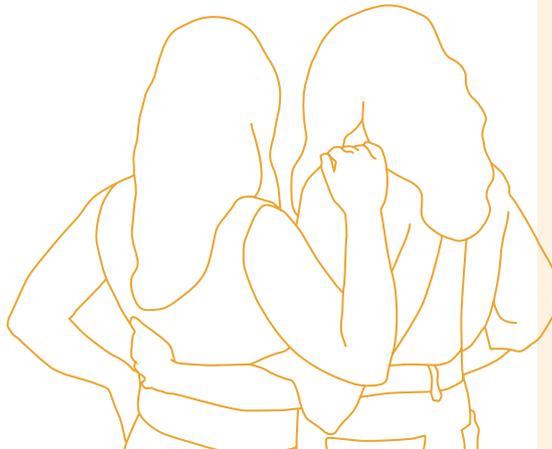


# Equality for women

All people, regardless of gender, should be respected for their innate human dignity. Everyone should be able to enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms without discrimination. Our current economic and political system does not adequately recognise the needs and experiences of women and gender minorities, leading to entrenched disadvantage.

With the Green Party in Government, the past three years have seen significant improvements for gender equality. We have overhauled pay equity legislation to make it fairer for women in work, increased paid parental leave to six months, reached settlements in key pay equity claims for teacher aides and social workers, reformed outdated abortion laws, and introduced family violence and sexual violence laws to improve safety for women.

Next Parliamentary term, the Green Party will continue to ensure Government policy responds to the needs of all women.



## We will:

- Recognise unpaid care work and household labour by: creating a Universal Child Benefit for children under three; replace Working for Families credits with an increased Family Support Credit; and ensuring sole parents have enough income to support themselves and their children.
- Honour te Tiriti o Waitangi as an essential aspect of equality for wāhine Māori, and support the leadership of wāhine Māori within tino rangatiratanga. We will prioritise initiatives recommended in the *Mana Wāhine* inquiry.
- Close the gender pay gap by achieving pay equity settlements in the public and government-funded community sectors.
- Introduce pay transparency legislation and increase support for preparing claims.
- Provide training and workforce re-entry programmes for sole parents of school-aged children.
- Guarantee equal gender representation in Government appointments, while addressing other gaps including ethnicity and disability.
- Ensure job creation and apprenticeship programmes have policies promoting inclusion, to reduce gendered job segregation.
- Implement a fair funding model for midwives that prioritises high quality care, and increase social support services during pregnancy and postnatally, with a focus on marginalised communities' healthcare needs.
- Increase funding to Family Planning clinics to ensure contraception and abortion care is available everywhere.
- Update abortion legislation to provide for safe zones.
- Expand the provision of free period products in schools.



# Freedom from violence

Everyone has the right to control their own lives and be free from violence. Children have a right to be safe. But Aotearoa currently has high rates of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and child abuse. This causes both immediate and long-term harm.

The Green Party in Government has secured paid leave for victims of domestic violence, helping people keep their jobs while leaving an abusive relationship. Over three years, we committed over \$440 million for frontline community services dealing with domestic and sexual violence. We're also building an integrated response to family and sexual violence by bringing together departments, agencies, Māori, and service providers working across and outside government. This will help develop coordinated approaches that prioritise violence prevention, victim/survivor safety, whānau-centred responses, effective early intervention, and recovery.

We recognise that ending family and sexual violence will require challenging gender norms, colonisation, and other forms of discrimination within society and government. In the next Government, we will extend support for community-led and kaupapa Māori early intervention approaches, and work to address the root causes of domestic and sexual violence – so all families are safe and supported.

## We will:

- Implement the recommendations of the *Ko Te Wā Whakawhiti* report to improve Oranga Tamariki.
- Establish enduring mechanisms for the Crown to work in partnership with Māori and people impacted by violence, and ensure specialist stakeholder and survivor voices inform responses to family violence and sexual violence.
- Ensure all people and whānau are at the centre of responses, and fund culturally specific responses.
- Fund comprehensive prevention education and early intervention programmes.
- Develop workforce capability plans so everyone knows their role identifying and responding to violence and has confidence to respond effectively.
- Ensure national leadership enables community-led responses for people, and whānau, while ensuring equity of outcomes and evidence based practice.
- Give community providers secure, fully funded, long-term government contracts to respond to the needs of the people they are supporting for as long as necessary.
- Fund family violence experts in courts, as recommended by the Family Violence Death Review Committee.
- Continue to explore pathways for addressing sexual violence beyond the justice system and reducing re-traumatisation within courts.
- Review emergency housing for victims to ensure all needs are catered to.
- Ensure emergency housing is available for men seeking to remove themselves from a situation in which they were at risk of harming others, or subject to a Police Safety Order.



# Global affairs

Aotearoa can play a leading role creating a connected and compassionate world, where the global community works together to address issues including climate change, human rights, and public health by upholding the international rule of law, and promoting peace and shared responsibility.

The world is going through a period of instability, with the impacts of climate change, COVID-19, war, international inequality, mass displacement, pollution, and biodiversity loss among the challenges. Lack of political resolve to combat these challenges leads to poor outcomes for people and planet.

The Green Party believes that Aotearoa must take an independent and principled position on global affairs, by addressing current and historic global injustices, strengthening international law, and championing disarmament. Aotearoa should lead the world providing international mediation and conflict resolution, and be grounded in principles of environmental protection and restoration, equity, human rights, shared responsibility, and non-violence.

## We will:

- Ensure Aotearoa's defence forces promote peace, justice, and environmental protection (such as fisheries enforcement) throughout the Pacific and the world.
- Ensure Defence procurement of new ships and planes is focused on what is needed for peacekeeping, disaster relief, and defence of natural resources.
- Promote peaceful conflict resolution as a key contribution on the international stage, and establish a Conflict Prevention Unit.
- Oppose Aotearoa's participation in the Five Eyes spy network.
- Support Aotearoa to uphold and promote human rights internationally, and continue to support the work of the International Criminal Court and International Court of Justice.
- Implement the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and lead by example by honouring te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Promote and support the principle of self-determination of peoples everywhere, including in West Papua, Western Sahara, and Palestine.
- Increase Official Development Assistance funding and ensure we use recognised best practice for poverty reduction approaches.
- Work with global partners to support the forgiveness of unjust Global South debt, and fair debt relief measures, especially in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.
- Support the integrity of the Antarctic Treaty system, to promote scientific research and peace.



# Health

COVID-19 has shown us how much we rely on each other. It has also shown us that strong health services are critical. The key to this is quality healthcare provided by a publicly funded health system. There should be no financial or other barriers to anyone accessing the healthcare services they need. In Aotearoa, not everyone is able to get the treatment they need.

Our health and wellbeing is shaped by the environment we live in and the personal circumstances we experience. Good personal health relies on the health of whole communities, housing standards, and access to good food.

In Government, we have made progress reducing some of the barriers to healthcare, including providing free or low-cost contraception to women. With greater government support, everyone in Aotearoa will have access to healthcare when they need it, with no barriers.



## We will:

- Increase resources for wellness and preventative health measures, to keep everyone as healthy as possible.
- Increase public health funding to keep pace with need and the growing population.
- Ensure everyone can access healthcare services, regardless of their ability to pay, at the earliest stage possible. This includes working towards providing adequate funding for community-based care.
- Incorporate matauranga Māori into the health system, and fund provision of primary healthcare through Māori organisations, overseen by a new Māori health agency that focuses on remote areas with significant health disparities.
- Ensure all parents and caregivers have access to free, well-staffed and resourced helplines.
- Uphold the independence and strength of PHARMAC.
- Investigate a levy on sugary drinks to fund affordable dental care.
- Support water-only policies in schools, hospitals, and sports clubs.
- Restrict junk food advertising aimed at children.
- Continue to implement measures to make Aotearoa smoke-free by 2025.
- Ensure communities have influence over public health decisions that affect them.
- Research and plan for the impacts of climate change on health and disease.



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# Housing

Everyone deserves a warm, dry, affordable home that supports their wellbeing and helps them to be part of a connected community. Successive governments have allowed speculation to drive up prices, and failed to build enough public housing, or support our community housing sector.

Owning a home has become unachievable for many families, and many people who rent are forced to settle for substandard, overpriced homes.

With the Green Party in Government there has been a reset to the approach to housing. We have built more public houses than any Government since the 1970s, provided wrap around support to end homelessness, introduced comprehensive rental reforms, and created a \$400 million progressive homeownership scheme.

We need to scale up what works, so that everyone can have a decent place to call home.

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## We will:

- Build more solar powered and energy efficient state houses every year, enabling people to share clean electricity with their neighbours.
- Develop public housing in ways that ensure no net loss of publicly owned land.
- Expand progressive homeownership programmes like rent-to-own and shared equity, as well as non-profit community rental initiatives, in partnership with iwi, hapū and community housing providers.
- Ensure our laws are fit for purpose for a thriving housing sector, by introducing professional standards for property managers and student accommodation.
- Ensure regulatory frameworks support the development of innovative co-housing initiatives.
- Facilitate finance for development of papakāinga on Māori land, and ensure relevant central and local government planning documents enable papakāinga development.
- Provide high quality emergency and transitional housing to help end homelessness, with a clear pathway into an affordable long-term home.



# Immigration and refugees

The Green Party welcomes people who want to make Aotearoa their home. The global refugee crisis continues to see millions of people displaced, and as a responsible member of the international community we should help more refugees find a home here.

We look forward to welcoming people into our communities who bring their experiences and perspectives, as well as much-needed skills. For too many new migrants, decent housing and good jobs aren't available, so we need to build more houses and strengthen workplace protections.

With the Green Party's support, the Government raised the refugee quota to 1,500 and increased support to reunify families.

The Green Party will make sure immigrants feel welcome, settled and supported with specific support programmes, remove discriminatory profiling in the immigration system, and raise our refugee quota.

## We will:

- Progressively increase the refugee quota to 5,000.
- Improve resourcing for community providers to enable successful outcomes for refugee and migrant communities, including those providing English language training, orientation information, te reo and kaupapa Māori education, and civics education.
- Ensure our immigration legislation makes provisions for people displaced by climate change, based on need.
- Increase workplace rights for temporary migrant workers to ensure equality with local workers.
- Review government immigration processes to ensure policies are impartial regarding countries of origin, ethnicities, cultures, age, gender, and sexual orientation, and review the use of algorithms and risk profiling in immigration decisions.
- Include funding support for asylum seekers during and after their claim process.
- Provide better resources and review the barriers to refugee family reunification.
- Ensure iwi and hapū have opportunities to contribute to immigration policy decisions, and welcome new migrants.



# Justice

The Green Party shares the vision of Te Uepū Hāpai i te Ora Safe and Effective Justice Advisory Group: “A justice system that treats all people with humanity, dignity, respect and compassion; recognises the mana inherent in all people and communities; and enables the restoration of that mana whenever it has been diminished.”

In Government, we made it easier for victims of sexual and domestic violence to access justice without being re-traumatised, and extended the Youth Court to include 17 year olds. We opposed a new mega-prison being built at Waikeria.

The current justice system makes Aotearoa less safe by failing to ensure equal access to courts, effective rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, and restorative support for victims. We have one of the highest rates of imprisonment in the world, fuelling a cycle of crime and despair which disproportionately harms Māori and people of colour, mental health sufferers, and low-income communities.

Our justice system needs transformative change. We must move away from mass incarceration; ensure we do not militarise the Police; empower by-Māori, for-Māori criminal justice processes; and support legal aid and community law centres. Our justice system must respond to discrimination against marginalised groups, address the underlying causes of offending, and focus on rehabilitating offenders. Fixing the justice system requires better housing, inclusive education, and mental health and addiction treatments.

## We will:

- Oppose further arming of the Police and require regular de-escalation training.
- Reform sentencing, bail and parole laws to enable the gradual replacement of most prisons with community-based rehabilitation.
- Properly fund tikanga-based and restorative justice solutions to criminal cases, including Te Pae Oranga.
- Transfer authority and resources to Māori communities to design and develop responses to the systemic causes of harm.
- Properly fund social support to those who have caused and experienced harm, extend legal aid, better resource community law centres, and make applications for protection and parenting orders free.
- Expand well-performing specialist courts like the Rangatahi and Pasifika Courts for young people throughout Aotearoa, so justice doesn't depend on where someone lives.
- Expand the Youth Court to cover all young people up to the age of 18, regardless of offence, ban detention of young people with adults in all circumstances and review the use of remand in youth detention facilities.
- Create an independent Victims Commissioner to give a formal voice to victims in the justice system and ensure support services are resourced to provide specialised support for victims of intimate partner violence and sexual violence.



# Kaupapa Māori

The Green Party wants an Aotearoa where the status of Māori as tangata whenua is recognised and respected, and the harm of colonisation is acknowledged and put right.

We understand ecological and social justice includes justice for indigenous people, and that Aotearoa is immeasurably enriched by tikanga Māori. As a Parliamentary political party, we take seriously our responsibility to tangata whenua to reset the relationship with the Crown so tino rangatiratanga is honoured. Our MPs are proud to stand with tangata whenua at Ihumātao, and we will continue working to honour te Tiriti o Waitangi.

We will prioritise policies that promote iwi and hapū self-determination across all areas, with a particular focus on: kaitiakitanga rights, Māori economic development, water, housing, hauora Māori, justice, and education.

## We will:

- Roll out te reo Māori as a core curriculum subject through to Year 10. We will also increase funding for kura kaupapa, kohanga reo, and mainstream te reo immersion and bilingual classrooms, including funding for professional support of Māori medium teachers and teacher scholarships.
- Require tertiary institutes to report on their responsiveness to the needs of Māori students.
- Review the Reserves Act to embed kaitiakitanga and co-governance by iwi and hapū of reserve areas within their rohe.
- Ensure economic and environmental policy recognises the needs of Māori and maximises opportunities for Māori-led sustainable economic development, with a focus on iwi and hapū-led green industries.
- Facilitate finance for development of papakāinga on Māori land, and ensure relevant central and local government planning documents enable papakāinga development.
- Fund primary health care provision through Māori organisations, overseen by a new Māori health agency, with particular focus on remote areas with significant health disparities.
- Support kaupapa Māori restorative justice and rehabilitation programmes, particularly through expanding the availability of Rangatahi Courts nationwide.
- Oppose the use of the Public Works Act to acquire Māori land.
- Recognise Matariki as a public holiday.



# Mental health

Aotearoa can be a country where everybody feels they belong. The Green Party has always recognised that our mental health is inextricably linked to communities, our physical wellbeing and sense of belonging, the health of our environment, and our relationships with each other. Poverty, exclusion, racism, isolation, and trauma affect too many people and hamper their ability to live and reach their fullest potential.

In Government, we've increased access to free youth mental health services through the Piki programme for students. We've also supported the Mental Health Commission to hold the Government and service providers accountable.

But too many of us find it difficult to identify when “feeling down” tips into something more enduring, and too many are not reaching out for help when they need it. A lot of people simply don't know who to turn to. We need to confront the most damaging stigmas around mental health and addiction, and fight for what's right even when it's complicated.

Aotearoa can be a place where everybody is valued, respected, housed, and has access to fulfilling education and livelihoods. The Green Party will prioritise mental health, recognising the public health factors that influence wellbeing, and ensuring barrier-free access to professional support when needed.

## We will:

- Expand free counselling to everyone under 25, and work towards extending this to all adults.
- Champion recognition of mental health as a community and country-wide responsibility, instead of placing the burden on people experiencing issues.
- Fund inpatient and community mental health services at all levels to ensure everyone in Aotearoa can access help if they need it.
- Improve post-natal mental health services so that no new parent needs to struggle.
- Fund innovative initiatives that indicate high recovery rates with minimal medication.
- Continue working through the Cross Parliamentary Mental Health and Addiction Wellbeing Group, to further destigmatise mental ill health and ensure MPs are well educated to build consensus on the drivers of mental ill health and policy solutions.



# Pāsefika

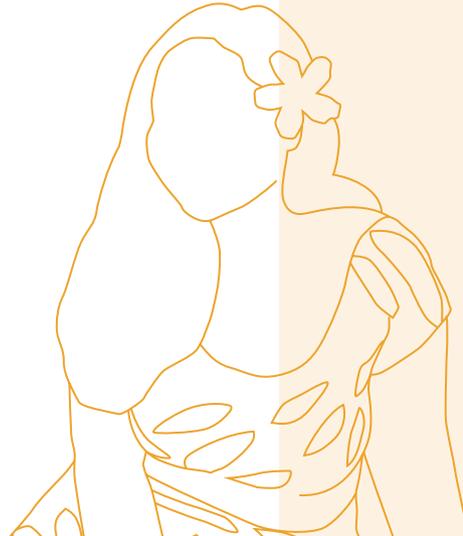
Aotearoa is a Pacific country. Our Government has a responsibility to support Pāsefika communities in Aotearoa, and to be a good neighbour to other nations in our region.

Too many people in our Pāsefika communities are held back by Aotearoa's economic, education, welfare, and health systems. The Green Party acknowledges the hardships, inequities, and injustices faced by our Pāsefika communities, and knows that supporting all our young people to thrive means investing in them. The Green Party will work alongside Pāsefika communities to open up new opportunities while improving incomes, housing, education, and health outcomes.

The Green Party understands the importance of strengthening public health services within Pāsefika communities, increasing educational support, ending racial prejudices, and reforming the justice system so everyone can reach their potential.

## We will:

- Ensure New Zealand's Pāsefika history is taught in schools, by Pāsefika people wherever possible.
- Commit to climate action in Aotearoa to limit global warming to 1.5C so the effects of climate change on Pāsefika countries are minimised, and people can stay in their homelands.
- Ensure our immigration policy is welcoming to Pāsefika people displaced by climate change.
- Increase the capacity of the Ministry of Pacific Peoples to develop policy advice focused on long-term funding models and practices that enhance the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Pāsefika communities.
- Support and strengthen the Pāsefika Education Plan and develop a national Pāsefika Education Strategy to help grow and retain teachers with diverse Pāsefika whakapapa.
- Reform teacher registration practices which penalise Pāsefika teachers who qualified in their home countries.
- Develop funding so more Pāsefika people can become healthcare workers; and encourage Pāsefika people to train in small business, art, IT, research and education.





# Poverty action plan

Everyone deserves to live with dignity. The Green Party knows this is possible with a fairer approach to income support and taxation.

Change is underway with Best Start payments to support children, and increases to benefits and the minimum wage. But our current social safety net doesn't do enough to get people through economic shocks or personal setbacks. As we rebuild after COVID-19, we must go further and faster to deliver income support that enables all of us to live good lives.

Our Poverty Action Plan ensures everyone has what they need. That means support for students and people out of work, extra help if you're sick or disabled, simple payments for families, and a higher minimum wage.

We have more than enough to go around in Aotearoa. But right now, unfair rules funnel money into the pockets of the wealthiest few, rather than distributing it among all of us. Our plan rewrites the rules and makes sure those who have done extremely well under the current system pay their fair share.

During COVID-19 we saw our collective ability to work together to change the system in a way which benefits all of us. Our Poverty Action Plan levels the playing field so everyone can live with dignity, put a roof over their head, and keep food on the table.

## We will:

- Ensure a Guaranteed Minimum Income of \$325 per week for students and people out of work, no matter what.
- Introduce a Universal Child Benefit for each child under three of \$100 per week.
- Replace Working for Families tax credits with a Family Support Credit of \$190 per week for the first child and \$120 per week for each younger child.
- Change abatement and relationship rules so people and their partners can earn more from paid work before their income support entitlements are reduced.
- Provide additional support for sole parents through a \$110 per week top-up.
- Reform ACC to become the Agency for Comprehensive Care, creating equitable social support for everyone with a work-impairing health condition or disability, with a minimum payment of 80% of the full-time minimum wage.
- Introduce a new tax of 1 per cent on an individual's net wealth above \$1 million and 2 per cent on net wealth over \$2 million. This tax would only affect the wealthiest 6 per cent of New Zealanders.
- Create two new top income tax brackets for a more progressive tax system that redistributes wealth.
- Guarantee annual minimum wage increases, with one minimum wage rate instead of the starting out rate.



# Rainbow communities

Aotearoa is strongest when everyone can be themselves, free from discrimination.

The Green Party celebrates diversity and encourages understanding of all people – including diversity of gender, sex, and sexual orientation. In Government, we've started to make changes such as ensuring the next Census contains questions about gender identity, and secured funding to start clearing decades long waiting lists for gender affirming surgeries.

Rainbow communities deserve acceptance, and equal opportunities in law and in practice. For too long, people have been marginalised through legislative barriers, discrimination, prejudice, and a lack of awareness and understanding.

## We will:

- Create an Office for Rainbow Communities, tasked with developing and implementing a plan to improve LGBTQIA\* rights, championing rainbow issues, and providing a point of government contact for rainbow communities.
- Ban conversion therapy.
- Take an active role internationally to promote human rights issues in relation to rainbow communities throughout the world.
- Support initiatives to educate institutions, including Local and Central Government, about Rainbow issues.

We will implement the recommendations of the Human Rights Commission's *Prism Report* relating to sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics in Aotearoa:

- Amend the Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics.
- Pass the Births, Deaths, Marriages and Relationships Registration Bill so the process of changing gender markers on birth certificates is based on self-identification.
- Address the healthcare needs of rainbow people by prioritising the needs of intersex, transgender, and non-binary people, giving them the respect they deserve.
- Ensure schools are inclusive and safe, and workplaces are free from discrimination.



# Sustainable buildings and warm, dry homes

Everyone has the right to a warm, dry home. Instead, housing in Aotearoa often makes us sick from damp and cold.

In Aotearoa, much of our housing stock just isn't up to standard. Cold, draughty houses with high heating costs can and should be a thing of the past. The Green Party has been committed to warming up our homes for decades, working with both Labour and National governments to deliver subsidies for home insulation.

This term, with the Green Party in Government, we've introduced Healthy Home Standards for rental properties – requiring insulation and reliable heating. We've made sure all new Kāinga Ora public homes are energy efficient and we've launched the Building for Climate Change programme to improve how we build while reducing carbon emissions.

It's now time to go further and create a green building revolution, for the health of people and planet.

## We will:

- Overhaul the Building Code so all new homes are built to high standards of warmth, dryness, and energy and water efficiency, working towards net zero energy new builds by 2030. The new Code will require all new builds to use greywater recycling and be accessible to people with disabilities.
- Provide grants to insulate, heat, and ventilate older homes, targeted at those most in need.
- Introduce mandatory energy efficiency ratings for all commercial and residential buildings, both new and existing.
- Create a Rental Warrant of Fitness to complement the existing Healthy Home Standards, so all tenants can have confidence in the warmth of rental properties.
- Kick-start Aotearoa's sustainable building materials industry, with a particular focus on scaling up sustainable timber processing and prefabricated buildings.
- Finance clean energy replacements of fossil fuel heating systems in commercial and industrial buildings.
- Support green roofs and other "soft" infrastructure.
- Ensure new government buildings are built to high environmental standards.
- Reduce emissions from buildings through the Building for Climate Change programme.



# Tertiary education and student support

A flourishing tertiary education sector is well-resourced, innovative, responsive, and accessible to students. Its institutions reflect the diversity of Aotearoa and champion mātauranga Māori.

Aotearoa's tertiary education institutions have been compromised by decades of corporate behaviour that has prioritised profit over education as a public good. Successive governments have systematically devalued education and its critical contribution to the vibrancy and progress of our communities. Those who teach and research at Aotearoa's tertiary institutions are often not recognised for the work they do.

We all deserve the right to train, upskill, and become students. The Green Party has fought hard this term for greater student support and free mental health services. We've triggered a Select Committee Inquiry into unfair and inconsistent practices by student accommodation providers. We have championed universalising the student allowance and reinstating postgraduate student allowances.

The Green Party's vision is a strong tertiary education system that contributes to the social, cultural and environmental wellbeing of Aotearoa.

## We will:

- Support all students not in paid employment with a Guaranteed Minimum Income of at least \$325 a week. Those in part-time employment will also receive support.
- Reform the student accommodation sector to ensure students get a fair deal.
- Reform student loans to make repayments more progressive and with a higher threshold before you have to pay (the less you earn after you graduate, the less you have to pay).
- Investigate writing-off some student debt for graduates who live and work in Aotearoa after completing study.
- Provide targeted funding for tertiary institutions to create an inclusive environment for students with disabilities, by supporting disability and learning support services, and improving staff to student ratios, library resources, and staff retention.
- Ensure tertiary education providers prioritise space for study and community-building within their physical facilities.
- Continue free apprenticeships.
- Create a Clean Energy Training Plan to encourage people to train for jobs upgrading Aotearoa's economy with solar and other clean energy.





**Our plan.**

**Clean economy.**





**Our country is at  
a crossroads. The  
decisions we make now  
will determine what kind  
of planet we pass on to  
our grandchildren.**

Governments have known about the climate crisis for decades but have failed to take meaningful action, putting our future at risk.

In the last three years in Government, we've done more for climate action than in the last three decades of governments combined. The Green Party knows we need to act urgently and build on this progress, and we have a bold plan to support our communities and businesses into a more sustainable future.

If we make good choices now, we can ensure all of us, and our grandchildren thrive.

*E kore te matau e  
rawe ki te moana takai  
ai, engari anō a uta.*



# Agriculture and food production

Aotearoa can have a thriving and sustainable agricultural sector that responds to the challenge of climate change while protecting food security, producing high value exports, preserving and enhancing the natural environment, and contributing to flourishing rural communities.

Intensive agriculture pollutes our waterways, degrades our land, warms our planet, and endangers biodiversity. Decades of focus on quantity over quality has left many farmers in debt and at risk from market changes and economic shocks.

Our food production systems can change. Sustainable food production is crucial to Aotearoa's long-term prosperity.

The Green Party supports regenerative and organic farming practices. These methods are natural, enhance land and water quality, and increase biodiversity. They ultimately produce clean, green products which command higher prices in export markets.

Our vision is for an agricultural sector that sustainably feeds Aotearoa and the world; protects and enhances the environment; and contributes to the continued success and vibrancy of Aotearoa's rural communities.

## We will:

- Support regenerative agriculture in New Zealand, so farming practices improve the ecosystems they rely on.
- Phase-out the most environmentally degrading agricultural inputs, such as synthetic fertilisers and harmful pesticides, and ban Palm Kernel Expeller (PKE) imports.
- Support farmers to transition to organic agriculture, provide support for up-scaled farm advisory services, and fix the Organic Products Bill to give the organics sector a fair go.
- Establish a sustainability accreditation scheme for agricultural products created in Aotearoa, to ensure consumers in Aotearoa and overseas can see their food has been sustainably produced.
- Extend country-of-origin labelling to all food products.
- Promote urban agriculture, food forests, and food growing in towns and cities.
- Work with farmers to urgently develop a fair and science-based way to measure and price agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, including recognising the value of on-farm tree planting.
- Model environmentally sustainable farming with Pāmu-Landcorp.
- Protect productive food-growing land from urban sprawl.
- Encourage government agencies to buy locally grown food and timber products.



# Arts and culture

Artists and creatives should be valued and the work they make should be accessible to everyone. But the creative sector has been underfunded for years, and COVID-19 has left many artists without a paying audience.

Many artists and creatives, particularly those just starting out, end up compromising their work or giving up entirely. This robs them of their passion, and denies all of us their contributions to Aotearoa's social fabric.

The Green Party believes in sustainable public funding for the creative sector. This means funding to back our artists and to support local venues that are critical for musicians and creatives trying to build an audience. The Crown has a responsibility to foster and encourage the taonga of toi Māori.

We will work to establish sustainable support and community-led projects across Aotearoa that weave the contributions of our creatives into the cities, towns, and regions they love and reflect. This requires collaboration across central and local government, community organisations, iwi, and hapū to create the best possible supportive environment for our music venues, galleries, and theatres.

With greater government support, Aotearoa will have a more vibrant creative sector that inspires and challenges us as a nation.

## We will:

- Require public funding goes directly to artists themselves.
- Work to ensure publicly-funded creative projects pay a living wage.
- Collaborate with local councils, community groups, and iwi to ensure there are enough venues for all forms of art, and that these venues are accessible to everyone.
- Ensure laws support creative workers on big projects to get a fair share of profits and decent working conditions, especially for international film and television projects.
- Make donations to non-profit art and creative organisations tax-deductible, like charities are.
- Support Aotearoa's artists to tour overseas.
- Support and fund more locally made content on television, radio and online.
- Ensure funding of arts and culture organisations does not solely rely on gambling revenue, and work with venues to secure revenue that doesn't rely solely on alcohol consumption.
- Fund arts, culture, and creativity in schools, including supporting the Creatives in Schools programme.
- Embed creativity in future Wellbeing Budgets and the Treasury's Living Standards Framework, so it influences policy-making right across government.



# Broadcasting and public media

The Green Party supports a thriving, vibrant media sector, with a diversity of accessible and independent sources to entertain and inform New Zealanders, and hold power to account. The media sector is changing fast, under enormous financial pressure in an environment of diminishing public trust. New thinking is needed.

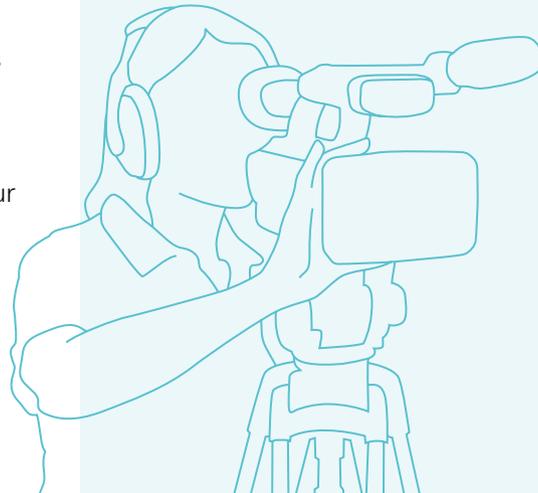
COVID-19 has brought the issues the media faces into harsher light, with sudden job losses and uncertain futures. Less journalism means more unchecked power for decision-makers, which is bad for everyone. A strong media sector is crucial to a functioning democracy, and public interest journalism is the core of a strong media sector.

The Green Party will work to enable new funding streams to support our journalists and storytellers. This means innovation in the content produced and the platforms it appears on, not just propping up unsustainable business models.

Aotearoa can ensure a diverse and resilient fourth estate. One well equipped to hold power to account and share our communities' stories, promoting our shared identity and challenging us to be better.

## We will:

- Establish a Public Interest Journalism Fund, making grants available for projects and journalists, with criteria to ensure diversity of voice in media is considered as part of the grants process.
- Implement a 'digital services tax' on digital advertising revenue, to disincentive sending revenue offshore and provide a new stream of funding for local media.
- Support NZ on Air to continue funding the production of local content.
- Increase RNZ's funding, including RNZ Concert, which could then employ journalists losing jobs in the private media sector.
- Protect and further support student media, Māori media, and Pāsefika media.





# Clean energy

When all our energy comes from the sun, the wind, and the flow of rivers, there will be no need to burn coal or import oil.

But for decades, Governments have passed up clean energy opportunities and chosen to keep burning last century's dirty fuels instead.

Many of our big factories still burn coal. Aotearoa spends \$7 billion every year importing oil. These fossil fuels cause climate change, putting our grandkids' futures at risk. It's time to make urgent changes, using clean technology alternatives.

In Government, the Green Party achieved a historic ban on new offshore oil and gas exploration. We've put solar panels on school roofs, and started swapping old coal boilers in schools and hospitals for clean alternatives. Since 1999, partnering with Labour and National-led Governments, we've insulated almost 400,000 homes, reducing energy bills and making sure more people have a warm, dry place to live.

The Green Party will widely roll-out rooftop solar panels and electric vehicles chargers so everyone has easy access to clean energy. We'll also work with industries to switch from burning coal to clean alternatives.

By 2030, Aotearoa can generate 100% of the electricity we need from clean, renewable sources. The work required to achieve that goal will create thousands of jobs.

## We will:

- Bring forward the Government's target for 100% renewable electricity from 2035 to 2030, and re-instate the ban on building new fossil-fuel electricity generation.
- Equip all suitable public housing with solar panels and batteries, saving people on their power bills and enabling them to share clean energy with their neighbours.
- Make it 50% cheaper for everyone to upgrade to solar and batteries for their own homes, with government finance.
- Create a community Clean Energy Fund to support communities, iwi, and hapū to build and share low-cost, clean energy.
- Train thousands of people for clean energy careers with a Clean Energy Industry Training Plan, developed with the energy industry, training providers, and unions.
- Ban new fossil-fuelled industrial heating systems and boilers in our first 100 days in Government, end industrial coal use in Aotearoa by 2030, and end industrial gas use by 2035.
- Increase financial and advisory support for businesses to replace fossil fuels with clean energy alternatives.
- Reform the Crown Minerals Act so it facilitates a just transition towards ending fossil fuel extraction, and stop issuing permits for new onshore fossil fuel extraction.
- Update planning rules to make it easier to build new wind farms.
- Encourage time of use pricing options for major electricity retailers, and encourage local generation and energy storage instead of building more poles and wires.



# Climate change

The Green Party wants future generations to know we did everything we could to prevent the climate crisis. Unfortunately, previous governments left polluters free to profit at the cost of our kids' and grandkids' futures.

The changing climate means communities throughout Aotearoa and around the world are facing more extreme weather events.

During the last three years in Government the Green Party has done more for the climate than all governments for the past 30 years combined. We passed the Zero Carbon Act to set a legal framework to tackle the climate crisis, invested record amounts in public transport and cycleways, created new powers in the Resource Management Act to stop big polluting developments, and required all default Kiwisaver funds to stop investing in fossil fuels.

We need to do more. To reach our Paris Agreement commitment to stay within 1.5 °C of global warming above pre-industrial levels, we must halve our carbon dioxide emissions by 2030. This means Aotearoa must stop burning fossil fuels urgently.

A stable climate for future generations means homes heated by clean energy, real transport choices to cut the need to drive, and producing food that nourishes the environment, and people.

## We will:

- Make electric cars more affordable and invest in better cycle lanes, buses, and trains.
- Roll out rooftop solar panels and electric car chargers so affordable clean energy is everywhere.
- Replace industrial fossil fuel use with clean energy and continue working towards 100% renewable electricity.
- Let emissions prices rise to incentivise polluters to switch to clean alternatives, and recycle the revenue back to households and businesses.
- Pull all government investments out of fossil fuel companies and work towards ending fossil fuel subsidies.
- Commit to a Just Transition approach, working with affected communities, businesses, and unions to create good, sustainable new jobs.
- Work with local government, iwi, hapū and communities to increase resilience and plan for the changing climate, especially in coastal areas.
- Push for Aotearoa to play a leading role internationally to reduce global emissions and uphold the Paris Agreement.
- Implement emissions budgets, following advice from the Climate Change Commission.



# Green cities and towns

Cities and towns can be places where people and nature thrive, with affordable homes, low-emissions transport, clean rivers and beaches, and vibrant green spaces.

But successive governments have failed to plan for flourishing urban environments, leading to an overreliance on roads and carparks, poor quality buildings, and polluted waterways.

The Green Party in Government is making change for the better. We are working to ensure new Crown developments will be low-emissions and prioritise active transport, including with Homestar 6 environmental ratings for new public houses. And we are removing the minimum parking requirements rule that meant new developments had to prioritise building carparks instead of more affordable homes or green spaces.

Cities are already economic and social hubs. With better planning they can also be places that enhance community resilience through our physical and natural environment.

## We will:

- Support local councils to fund rainwater tanks, so communities are better prepared for droughts.
- Restore urban waterways and create walking and cycling paths alongside them, creating jobs and improving water quality. This will include storm water improvements to prevent polluted run-off entering urban streams; upgrading urban culverts to ensure safe passage of native aquatic species; and working with councils to identify opportunities for “daylighting” piped streams.
- Update the Ministry for the Environment’s Urban Design Protocol to provide guidance on urban design principles for high-density and mid-density housing types, for quality living environments and vibrant urban spaces; retrofitting commercial buildings to provide quality, affordable inner-city housing; and community-led brownfield redevelopment in existing urban and urban fringe areas.
- Provide government guidance on co-designing mixed use developments and new public transport routes; heritage protection, including strong protections for wāhi tapu; and green water infrastructure, with a focus on “soft” infrastructure solutions such as rain gardens and green roofs.
- Create strong regional spatial planning requirements to ensure urban fringe developments are on good public transport routes; protect significant natural areas, food production land; water catchments; and ensure urban development does not occur in areas with high natural hazard risk.
- Restore dunelands, streams, wetlands, and bush near urban areas, working with iwi and hapū, local government, community organisations, and neighbourhood groups.
- Support community clean energy networks, including shared solar panels.



# International trade

Fair and sustainable trade is critical to the wellbeing of Aotearoa. The Green Party supports trade that is fair, protects human and workers' rights, is environmentally sustainable, and honours te Tiriti o Waitangi.

But international trade rules are broken. Recent trade agreements have protected the profits of foreign corporates by signing away Aotearoa's right to regulate in our public best interest. Agreements have neglected the environment, allowed breaches of our privacy rights, encouraged foreign investment that does not benefit Aotearoa, and allowed other countries to use exploitative labour practices to undercut sustainable and fair competition.

While some political parties wavered, the Green Party is the only party in Parliament to remain steadfastly opposed to the TPPA because of the risks it presents to Aotearoa's sovereignty.

In light of COVID-19, we have a unique opportunity to reduce Aotearoa's reliance on imported goods while improving the quality of the trade we do conduct. We want to see trade live up to its potential to enrich the lives of people across the world, alleviating inequality instead of creating and entrenching it.

## We will:

- Continue to champion a new way of doing trade, including completing the Agreement on Climate Change, Trade, and Sustainability with world-leading environmental commitments, and seek to bring other countries into the agreement as quickly as possible.
- Review Aotearoa's existing trade agreements to remove the controversial Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions and government procurement limitations, lower investment screening thresholds, and strengthen environmental and labour rights provisions.
- Seek to align all trade agreements Aotearoa signs with the Paris Agreement's climate change commitments.
- Strengthen the democratic process around signing trade agreements, with the creation of a Parliamentary Committee for Treaties, an independent Parliamentary Commissioner for Trade, and ensuring any decision to sign an agreement requires a vote in Parliament.
- Improve scrutiny of trade agreements, with the public release of final texts before signing and independent National Interest Analyses.
- Support our Pāsefika neighbours to increase the value of their exports.



# Sustainable businesses

In the wake of COVID-19, we must empower small businesses in Aotearoa to flourish, create new jobs, and support their local communities.

The Green Party knows that supporting sustainable business is one of the best ways to renew our economy. COVID-19 has shaken up “business as usual,” and highlighted existing issues like cash flow insecurity and the power imbalance in commercial tenancy arrangements.

We all need our local businesses to be resilient and well equipped to protect the environment. We want them to create less waste, and employ more people than before.

The Green Party will ensure government investment is directed toward sustainable business initiatives.

## We will:

- Revitalise ‘Buy Kiwi Made’ and increase country of origin labelling so it’s easier to support local businesses.
- Commit government departments to buying more goods and services from Aotearoa businesses.
- Support small owner-operator tenants to resolve issues with commercial landlords during and beyond the COVID-19 economic period.
- Provide sustainable business leadership training programmes so local businesses grow and adapt to new modes of operation.
- Review regulatory frameworks that distinguish between commercial businesses and non-profit organisations, to support social enterprises to thrive.
- Encourage business-clustering so small businesses can share resources and expertise, and encourage circular business relationships where the outputs of one business are the inputs to another.
- Support more apprenticeships and training subsidies.





# Sustainable jobs

A sustainable economy means good working conditions and fair distribution of the benefits of our natural resources.

As we respond to the disruption caused by COVID-19 and continue the transition to a climate safe future, sustainable jobs are more crucial than ever before. However, Aotearoa's economy is still based on unsustainable extraction and exploitation – and it is vulnerable to economic shocks.

The Green Party believes job creation must prioritise restoring our environment, caring for people, and replacing emissions intensive industries with clean, renewable alternatives.

In Government, we have established Green Investment Finance Ltd to kick start climate safe job creation, and we prioritised sustainable jobs in the COVID-19 economic response with a \$1.3 billion Jobs For Nature investment to create thousands of environmental restoration jobs.

## We will:

- Create thousands of jobs in green energy, including putting solar panels on the roofs of all suitable state homes, and working with businesses to replace fossil fuel equipment.
- Support a skilled workforce by increasing funding for apprenticeships and training, and ensuring secure income for students through our Guaranteed Minimum Income.
- Identify areas where Aotearoa is overly reliant on imports for essential products and invest in domestic production to improve resilience and create new local jobs.
- Scale up MSD's "Project in the Community" Programme, which provides wage assistance for fixed-term community projects that employ people not in paid work. We will also expand this to medium-term projects with social or environmental benefits.
- Continue to invest in regional development with a focus on sustainable building and infrastructure products, regenerative agriculture and horticulture, and iwi and hapū-led economic activity.



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# The high-tech economy

A strong manufacturing and technology sector will create jobs in low-emissions industries and ensure we can sell Aotearoa's skills to the world. The digital revolution is an opportunity to create a more sustainable economy, address social inequalities, and connect communities.

Aotearoa's economy relies too much on exporting large volumes of low-value raw commodities. If the Government makes smart choices, Aotearoa can develop a green economy with world class, modern manufacturing and technology sectors at its heart. Reviving our local manufacturing sector will see more Kiwi-made products used in Aotearoa and exported to the world.

Working and studying from home during the COVID-19 response has highlighted unequal access to technology across Aotearoa. Digital divides must be addressed to bridge the gaps in economic and social outcomes. We must increase people's access to the internet, and make digital spaces more accessible for all of our communities.

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## We will:

- Use government procurement to support local suppliers and open-source software, including hosting government data onshore, to deliver broader value to Aotearoa.
- Encourage low-emissions industries with export potential, like software, gaming, and precision agriculture.
- Set up a Digital Export Office at New Zealand Trade and Enterprise to support low-carbon 'weightless exports'.
- Boost science funding and simplify the grant process so innovators can do what they do best.
- Support the local wood processing sector to add value to Kiwi timber, including by developing biofuels.
- Support 3D printing-based manufacturing through a National Growth Strategy.
- Give manufacturers, technology firms, and software developers a voice in trade negotiations.
- Commit to open data so people can innovate, while protecting individual privacy and data sovereignty, including Māori data sovereignty.
- Implement Internet NZ's five-point plan for digital inclusion, including making internet connectivity and devices affordable for those on low incomes and ensuring accessible digital skills training for working people and small businesses.
- Ensure all government websites are accessible to people with disabilities, and are available in te reo Māori and other languages.



# Transport

Aotearoa has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to help solve climate change while creating more vibrant, attractive places to live that are accessible for everyone.

Successive governments have spent too much on expensive motorways and underinvested in low-carbon transport infrastructure. This approach caused congestion, environmental harm, and has made it expensive and hard for people to get around.

The Green Party is the only political party that will stop building unnecessary motorways that create urban sprawl and confine people to polluting cars. In Government, we've reprioritised low carbon options in transport planning. In the recent New Zealand Upgrade Programme, we negotiated \$1.6 billion for sustainable transport, cycling, and walking infrastructure. We've secured funding for iconic projects like the SkyPath over the Auckland Harbour Bridge.

Aotearoa is beginning to move to a cleaner, less-congested transport system, but we need to go further and faster.

## We will:

- Connect our cities and provincial towns with fast, modern passenger rail.
- Commit to a ten-year programme to upgrade intercity and regional rail, including fast, electric passenger and freight trains, connecting major towns and cities.
- Make buses, ferries, and trains frequent and affordable, and build new, rapid bus and train services in our major cities to avoid traffic and make it faster to get around.
- Design people-friendly streets that are safer for walking and cycling, particularly around schools.
- Expand electric vehicle charging stations across Aotearoa.
- Introduce fuel efficiency standards for cars and a clean car discount to make electric cars cheaper and reduce pollution.
- Make our supply chains carbon neutral by moving more freight on rail and incentivising zero emission fuels for heavy vehicles, including hydrogen and biofuels.





# Workplace rights

Good working conditions help support good lives, but for decades, working people in Aotearoa have not received their fair share of productivity gains. At the same time, work has become more precarious, with short-term contracts instead of stable employment. This makes it harder for people to care for themselves and their families.

The Green Party has supported the Government to end National's roll-back of workplace rights, including restoring the right to a meal break and ending most 90-day trial periods. We've guaranteed that core public sector employees will be paid at least the living wage.

But we need to go further and faster to ensure all workers get a fair deal, by improving collective workplace rights and employment protections in law, while ensuring the state sector prioritises good employment standards.

## We will:

- Progress Fair Pay Agreement legislation, and prioritise the essential workers who supported our communities during COVID-19.
- Guarantee annual minimum wage increases, and abolish the "youth wage" starting out rate.
- Move to default union membership so people automatically join a union when they start a new job, but can opt out.
- Encourage worker representation on boards of publicly listed companies.
- Restore the right to solidarity strikes and political strikes.
- Introduce ten days of employer-funded sick leave, with unlimited top-ups through a reformed ACC.
- Progressively shift to five weeks annual leave.
- Improve redundancy processes and provide a minimum of one month full pay for people made redundant.
- Ensure employment laws enable flexible working arrangements including working from home or a four-day working week.
- Increase the number of labour inspectors to ensure workplaces are meeting their obligations to their staff.
- Review the Health and Safety Act and Worksafe's capacity to ensure safe workplaces, including freedom from bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment.
- Extend the living wage beyond the core public sector, including to contractors.
- Remove barriers for hiring and promoting women and marginalised groups.
- Develop specific employment and equity standards to be used when selecting contracts for government procurement.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a light-colored jacket, is seen from behind, holding a young child. The child is wearing a light-colored knit beanie and a pink jacket, and is pointing their right hand towards the horizon. They are standing in a field of tall green grass or crops. The sun is low on the horizon to the left, creating a bright, golden glow and lens flare. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. A faint rainbow is visible in the lower right corner of the image.

**“  
This is our chance to  
create an Aotearoa we’re  
proud to pass on.”**”

**Think ahead.**

**Think ahead.**

**Act now.**

For full policy details visit  
[www.greens.org.nz](http://www.greens.org.nz)

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 **Green**