

SOUTH EAST GREEN NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024 EDITION



**WELCOME TO THE SE NEWSLETTER
FROM YOUR SEGP CO-CHAIRS
ANNE YOUNGER & MALCOLM WALLACE**



LOCAL ELECTIONS

With over 9,000 members in the South East, the SE Green Party is a force to be reckoned with. Following on from our election successes in May 2023, we have now risen to 194 councillors across 45 Local Authorities. Many Greens across the region are working hard to get more Green councillors elected at the Local Elections on 2nd May 2024 - see our article later in the newsletter about standing as a Local Election Non Target candidate.

GENERAL ELECTION

Alongside this, with the possibility of a General Election as soon as May this year, we are aiming to make it into the big league by standing parliamentary candidates in every seat in England and Wales. In the SE we are being helped by Andi Mohr, National Elections Manager, who is working with our regional Elections Returning Officer, David Newman, to coordinate the selection process for seats where candidates are not already selected. The Green Party are committed to standing a range of General Election candidates who match the demographic of our communities - therefore we would encourage a diverse range of people to respond to the call for candidates and put themselves forwards. If you would like further information about the process and the commitment please look [here](#) (you need to be logged into the Members' Website to access it) or get in touch with Claudia Fisher your SE Field Organiser at claudia.fisher@greenparty.org.uk

SEGP COMMITTEE

We are excited to be working with a new committee this year, including new officers bringing their energy and ideas. Work is on-going to update our website, and social media posts are continuing to stimulate comment and extend our reach. Resources on Water and Sewage campaigning will be shared and work is starting on growing the Young Green vote. In the background, working groups are revising our constitution (last changed in 2015) and regional disciplinary process. We know that governance isn't everyone's thing, but please get in touch if you would like to get involved. Email anne.younger@icloud.com

DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR WORK

Our finances remain very tight and in the main go to fund our excellent Field Officer team - if you want to support our move to professionalisation and consistent success, giving a small amount every month would be a fantastic investment in the success of the party. You can make a monthly donation [here](#) or a one off donation [here](#). Thank you!



2024: A BIG YEAR

GET INVOLVED - HELP SIAN BERRY WIN BRIGHTON PAVILION!

**JOIN SIAN AND CAROLINE'S TEAM TO HELP
KEEP BRIGHTON'S GREEN VOICE IN PARLIAMENT**



CONTACT US:

SCAN ME!



info@brightonandhovegreenparty.org.uk

Did you know, the Brighton team have already delivered over 250,000 leaflets since August and are out door knocking every weekend?

Want to know more and join #TeamSian please email or join the [WhatsApp group](#).

Getting Sian elected is the SE Greens' TOP PRIORITY!

LOCAL ELECTIONS - WHY STAND A GREEN IN EVERY SEAT?

There are over 500 seats up for election in the SE on 2nd May, so to achieve our ambition of standing a Green in every seat this year, we need your help! **Sign up to our online training and Q&A to find out everything you need to know about standing as a Non Target (NT) candidate in the Local Elections 2024 - why, how and what kind of a difference it makes...** All your questions will be answered!



**YOU CAN PUT
A GREEN
NAME ON
THE BALLOT.**



WHY? Because it really helps and costs nothing!

WHEN? 7pm on 15th February

WHERE? Via Zoom - [RSVP here](#)



2024: A BIG YEAR

CONTINUED

SOUTH EAST BY-ELECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

Local authority by-elections happen all the time when a vacancy arises. Sometimes they are winnable and contesting them can help engage more local activists in your area.

For more info and to help please contact your SE Field Organiser claudia.fisher@greenparty.org.uk



WHO? Malcolm Watkinson, Gill Perry, Jen Nuin Smith
WHERE? Romney Marsh, Henfield, Southwater North
WHEN? 22nd February, 29th February, 29th February

WATER POLLUTION - WHAT ARE THE SE GREENS DOING?



In the UK, combined water systems cause sewage overflow issues during heavy rain. Privatisation diverts profits from system improvements. Tighter regulations and involving water companies in planning could help. Local Green Parties in the South East are organising a campaign for change, offering a toolkit for grassroots action.

Email Laura Manston (cllr.manston@sevenoaks.gov.uk) or join via this [WhatsApp link](#) to stay updated or get involved. Click this [link](#) to read more.

HELP STOP GATWICK'S INSANE EXPANSION PLANS

Gatwick Airport is trying to push through an expansion that will lead to more noise, more traffic and significantly more carbon emissions, all of which will damage the environment and surrounding community. There is no need for this expansion and the Green Party will be campaigning against it, but we need your help!

If you are interested in helping the campaign against Gatwick expansion then contact greenjonathanessex@gmail.com or join our [South East Greens Against Gatwick Expansion \(SEGAGE\) WhatsApp group](#) to find out about our demo at 9am on 28th Feb!



HELP US, HELP YOU

GREEN PARTY REGIONAL COMMITTEE (GPRC) UPDATE

Our Green Party is growing exponentially, which we urgently need it to, but exponential growth poses risks. All our national and regional bodies run the party and are essential to our success; we as individual members elect to those committees, executives, councils and so on, placing a huge amount of trust in those volunteers.

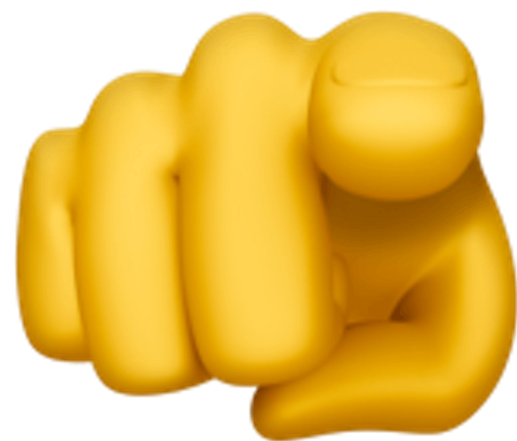
We currently have a vacancy on Green Party Regional Council (GPRC). Between conferences GPRC is the custodian of our policy, and much, much more. We'd like to invite you to take a bit of time today to understand what GPRC is, ahead of the election process when you can read candidate statements and listen to/take part in hustings before casting your vote.

Watch this clip where an experienced ex-GPRC representative, Adrian Spurrell, talks about the role of Green Party Regional Council [here](#). Or, if you just have 2 minutes read the summary [here](#).

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We will be running a newsletter slot for local parties to submit material of their campaigning efforts. This material could be specific campaigns you've done, motions you've brought to the council, or examples or where your scrutiny on elected representatives has led to successful changes.

These efforts will be featured in each newsletter and will draw a focus on what you achieved and what tips you have for other local parties.



Send a description and photos of your achievements to anne.younger@icloud.com

