



# **A Green Manifesto for Bradford District**

## **Summary**

**Shipley Green Party  
April 2010**



**Green Party** 

***Real Progress***



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## Summary

The Green Party has won seats on Bradford Council since 2000 by knocking on doors, talking to residents and responding to their concerns. We currently have three green councillors in Shipley and regularly stand green candidates across the district in local elections. In 2010 Cllr Hawarun Hussain is defending her seat in Shipley, strongly supported by her fellow councillors, Martin Love and Kevin Warnes. Sonja McNally is also campaigning hard to win the neighbouring Council seat in Heaton.

The Green Party stands for environmental sustainability and social justice, applying these principles across every part of government and every aspect of the life of our communities. In Shipley and Heaton, where we have previously held a seat, we have campaigned for improved housing, quieter roads, more recycling, good planning decisions, energy conservation, cleaner and safer streets and better recreational facilities for young people. We are proud of our achievements of the past six years and, looking ahead, we will continue to work hard on behalf of local residents for positive environmental and social change in a wide range of policy areas.

Here are some of our ideas.

- ▶ We will promote **community safety** through better cooperation between the local police, council officers and community groups.
- ▶ We will make our streets **safer places** to live by encouraging homezoning, extending traffic calming – especially near schools - and developing more youth recreational facilities.
- ▶ We will develop a comprehensive **arts and recreation** strategy for the district and boost allotments and healthy living initiatives.
- ▶ We will promote **local democracy** by allowing area committees and town and parish councils to control more council funding.
- ▶ We will develop a comprehensive strategy that supports **diversity within our communities** through initiatives such as better linkages between the voluntary sector, community groups and other agencies and the promotion of mediation skills wherever possible.
- ▶ We will improve **education** provision in our district by providing additional funding for necessary specialist provision in our schools; encouraging schools to liaise and share resources more effectively; encouraging a diverse and inclusive educational system that reflects our local communities; and improving the nutritional quality of school meals.



- ▶ We will work with local NHS trusts to enhance **health care** by promoting healthier lifestyles and ensuring that health considerations are built into the every area of council activity (for example, developing travel planning to encourage more local government employees to walk or cycle to work).
- ▶ We will improve local **housing** by promoting energy efficiency through better support for home energy saving schemes. We will also work closely with social landlords, such as Incommunities, to ensure that repairs are carried as quickly as possible and suitable housing is available for tenants across the district.
- ▶ We will tackle **homelessness** through a range of strategies such as encouraging housing cooperatives, reducing the number of empty properties and consulting homeless people about the services they need.



- ▶ We will strengthen our **local economy** by campaigning for more local sustainability in the City Centre, Airedale and Manningham Masterplans. We will change the emphasis of the Council's regeneration policy from 'inward investment' to sustainable local production and champion the cause of local shops, especially those marketing locally produced goods. We will promote job-rich local renewable energy production and conservation and re-use, repair and recycling enterprises. We will promote local markets, such as the Saltaire farmers' market, to give residents more choice about where to shop and keep our money in our community.
- ▶ We will deliver social justice to the international **refugees** in our communities by campaigning for benefits reform and the option of paid employment for asylum seekers while their cases are reviewed, and guaranteeing free school meals for their children.
- ▶ We will enhance the provision of **social services** across the district by directing additional resources at preventative work such as home helps and day centres. We will set up a joint housing and community care working group to encourage Incommunities and council services to work more closely together for the benefit of the more vulnerable people in the district.
- ▶ We will improve the district's **transport** infrastructure through more support for travel planning, a review of car parking arrangements, more investment in public transport, more provision for pedestrians and cyclists, more 20mph zones, more car-free housing developments and homezones, and safer routes to school.
- ▶ We will transform **waste management** across the district by implementing a Zero Waste Strategy, minimising packaging, maximising re-use and recycling and rejecting incineration.

*"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."*

President John F. Kennedy