

LABOUR'S MANIFESTO FOR LONDON



FOREWORD

Britain needs a government that works for the whole country. When Labour says we stand for the many not the few, we mean we will build a fairer country, where no one is held back and every community has its fair share of wealth and power.

The harmful inequality that scars our society is not an act of God or a law of physics. It is the result of deliberate Conservative government policy that has made us one of the most unequal countries in Europe – both between the billionaires at the very top and everybody else, and between the different parts of the UK.

It's time to bring a divided country together so we can get on with delivering the real change Britain needs. To drive that change we will unleash a record investment blitz, getting the economy moving in every corner of our country.

This is about the jobs at the end of your road. It's about breathing new life into your area; reviving your high street; restoring the pride to your community.

Our investment blitz will upgrade our infrastructure in every town, city and region, and rebuild our schools, hospitals, care homes and housing. This is investment on a scale our country has never known.

Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives tried to wipe out British industry in the 1980s. This Conservative government is continuing that legacy. Over the last decade almost half a million manufacturing jobs have been lost.

The wealthy and powerful who have the system rigged in their favour will tell you that real change isn't possible. They'll say it's unrealistic. They'll say we cannot afford decent housing, free education, or well-paid, secure jobs.

But we know change is not only possible, but necessary. This election is our last chance to tackle the climate and environmental emergency and a once in a generation chance to transform our country, take on the vested interests and ensure that no community is left behind

So the next Labour government will rebuild our economy and bring our country back together by kick-starting a Green Industrial Revolution that will make every region a world-leader in green industries – the cutting edge industries of the future.

Labour will put wealth and power in the hands of the many. Boris Johnson's Conservatives, who think they're born to rule, will only look after the privileged few.

So we're going after the tax dodgers. We're going after the dodgy landlords. We're going after the bad bosses. We're going after the big polluters. Because we know whose side we're on – your side.

And when Labour wins, the nurse wins, the pensioner wins, the student wins, the office worker wins, the engineer wins. Every region wins. We all win.



Jeremy Corbyn,
Leader of the Labour Party

FOREWORD

London gave me the opportunities to go from the council estate where I grew up to being Mayor of the greatest city on earth. Three and a half years later I still wake up every morning passionate about delivering the promise I made to Londoners: to make London a fairer city where all Londoners get the opportunities that our city gave to me and my family.

The last few years have been incredibly tough for Londoners. We have witnessed the horrific tragedy of the fire at Grenfell Tower and suffered a series of terrorist attacks. We've lived through the chaos surrounding Brexit. And we've seen the consequences of the Tory Government's punishing austerity programme go from bad to worse, with ever-deeper cuts to schools, the NHS, local authorities, youth services, welfare and the police leading to an appalling rise in violent crime across the country.

Despite these challenges, I'm proud that Labour in London has already started delivering the change we want to see. This includes:

- The boldest action of any city in the world to tackle toxic air pollution and climate change – including the introduction of the world-leading Ultra Low Emission Zone this year and declaring a climate emergency in London.
- Laying the foundations to fix London's housing crisis – including starting to build more council homes last year than in any year since 1984, giving residents and tenants the right to a vote on estate regeneration plans and doubling our homelessness outreach teams.

- Making transport more affordable – with all TfL fares frozen for the fourth year running and millions of journeys taken on the unlimited Hopper bus fare.
- Creating new opportunities for young Londoners to fulfil their potential to help tackle inequality – with our new £45 million Young Londoners Fund.
- And protecting Londoners' values from the rise of the far-right in Britain and around the world.

Labour has made real progress in London, but our city is being held back by the Tory Government.

That's why we desperately need a Labour government to help London fulfil its potential, to help us build the thousands of social homes we need, to take the issue of air pollution and the climate emergency seriously, to deliver the infrastructure we need for future growth, to properly fund our schools and hospitals, to allow our city to have access to the talent we need from around the world, and to properly fund our police and the youth services that help us tackle the root causes of crime.

Ultimately, we need a Labour government – led by Jeremy Corbyn – to help us create a fairer and more equal London – one where no one ever gets left behind, and one that works for the many, not just a few.



Sadiq Khan,
Mayor of London

1. INTRODUCTION

Labour will unlock the potential of everyone by building a fairer Britain. A Britain in which we care for each other, in which wealth and power are shared, and in which every part of the country gets its fair share of investment and its say in shaping our future.

Years of under-investment and neglect by Tory governments have left too many parts of London stuck with underpaid jobs, low productivity and slow growth. London has been no exception. No other UK region has more households and more children living in poverty once housing costs are taken into account.

Under the Tories, too many people in London are struggling to make ends meet or finding that work is no longer a way out of poverty. Across the UK pay has stagnated while insecurity and inequality have risen. Wages are still lower than before the financial crisis, while across the country dividends paid to shareholders are up 85%.

A decade of Tory cuts has pushed public services in London to breaking point. Tory inaction on air quality and climate change means that many Londoners are suffering from toxic air while we waste precious time in taking action on the climate emergency. The Tory housing crisis has left an

affordable home to rent or buy out of reach for millions of Londoners. And Tory cuts to police and youth services have led to an appalling rise in violent crime across the country.

Sadiq Khan, our Labour Mayor of London, has done so much over the last three years to address these urgent problems and is starting to deliver real change for Londoners.

He is undertaking the boldest action of any major city in the world to tackle toxic air pollution – including the introduction of the world-leading Ultra Low Emission Zone this year.

He is laying the foundations to fix London's housing crisis, including starting more council homes last year than in any year since 1985, and more social rented homes than in any year since City Hall took on its housing powers.

Sadiq has also made transport in London more affordable – with all TfL fares frozen for the fourth year running, and more than 300 million journeys taken on the unlimited Hopper bus fare.

And on crime, Sadiq has supported the Met Police to tackle violent crime in the face of huge government cuts. This includes funding the Met's new

Violent Crime Taskforce, with almost 300 officers dedicated to tackling violent crime, and creating new opportunities for young Londoners to fulfil their potential and to tackle the underlying causes of crime through the establishment of the Violence Reduction Unit and our new £45 million Young Londoners Fund.

But the Labour Mayor could do so much more with a Labour Government to help deliver real change for London.

We will make sure everyone has enough to live on and eradicate in-work poverty in our first term by tackling the causes of poverty and inequality, such as low pay and high living costs, while raising the floor provided by our social safety net.

We will rebuild our public services and make them the best and most extensive in the world, paid for by creating a fairer taxation system in which those with the broadest shoulders pay a little more and everyone pays what they owe.

We will kick start a Green Industrial Revolution that will tackle the climate crisis while creating 80,000 good jobs in London. We will build on London's already thriving low carbon goods and services sector and ensure greater economic cooperation between our capital city and the regions.

We will also bring about a radical decentralisation of power in Britain so that local people and communities are given far greater control over their own lives and prospects. That means more powers for City Hall and local councils to fix the housing crisis, reduce crime and tackle the climate emergency.

Labour is on London's side.

2. Top commitments for London

- £13 billion new investment from the Green Transformation Fund**
- 7 million tonnes less carbon dioxide in the atmosphere each year – equivalent to taking 3.8 million cars off the road**
- Connect 3 million households and businesses to full-fibre Broadband**
- 35,000 new council and social homes a year by the end of the parliament**

3. Transforming London

3.1 Labour's Green Industrial Revolution

Labour's Green Industrial Revolution will make London wealthier and healthier, putting our economy and climate on a stable footing to thrive in the 21st century.

London is one of the greatest cities on earth but residents struggle with polluted air, poor quality housing and underinvestment in our public spaces.

Labour's Green Industrial Revolution will transform the quality of life for millions of Londoners, while creating thousands of new jobs servicing the low carbon economy. We will do this by mobilising £13 billion in public and private sector investment. This includes:

- Upgrading the housing of almost all of the 3.4 million households across London, reducing bills, eliminating the vast majority of fuel poverty, and making our homes healthier and more comfortable.
- Investing in London's electric vehicle charging network, so that everybody can have access to a charge point for low emission vehicles.
- Establishing community car share clubs so everyone can benefit from the electric vehicle revolution.

- Tackling London's air pollution crisis by making the entire government fleet electric by 2025, calling on businesses to do the same, and banning the sale of internal combustion engine cars by 2030.

- The creation of over 8,000 jobs in London's low carbon service sector, associated with UK-wide investments in offshore and onshore wind, solar power, electric vehicles and other low carbon industries.

- Plastic recycling facilities, match funded by the private sector, so that the UK no longer relies on exporting its plastic waste to the rest of world, some of which ends up in the world's oceans.

- Installing solar power on roofs of homes and over 200 public spaces like libraries and community centres across London, lowering emissions and bills.

- Upgrading the internet connection of 3 million households and businesses to Full-Fibre Broadband – the highest possible standard of connectivity.

If you live, work or do business in London you will benefit from Labour's Green Industrial Revolution.

It will mean 80,000 new skilled, well-paid jobs in London that will last long

into the future. Labour's new climate apprenticeships will ensure local people can access these jobs and become the engineers, technicians and construction workers of tomorrow.

It will mean new opportunities for businesses working across the region, such as those specialising in renovation and home maintenance and a growing local economy, with new wealth rippling out across all sectors.

And because Labour will take a public stake in new projects, we will improve town centres and high streets across London by reinvesting profits in our public spaces.

3.2 Local transport

London's Labour Mayor has made huge strides in tackling air pollution across our capital city through the introduction of the world's first Ultra Low Emission Zone and through freezing fares whilst providing a better service for Londoners. He has continued to invest in public transport despite huge cuts by the Conservative government who have overseen record disruptions, cancellations and delays to services while national rail fares have soared.

Nevertheless, more investment in low emissions transport is necessary to continue to make progress towards a cleaner, healthier city, which contributes its share to meeting the challenge of a climate emergency.

Labour is committed to:

- A £750 million boost to cycling and walking across the city. This could fund hundreds of miles of new, safer routes, reducing air pollution and emissions from car use, while improving public health and wellbeing.
- £585m to convert all of London's buses to electric vehicles.
- Creating a National Investment Bank, backed up by a network of Regional Development Banks, to provide £250 billion of lending for enterprise, infrastructure and innovation over 10 years.



4. Work and social security

Work should provide a decent life for all, guaranteeing not just dignity and respect in the workplace, but also the income and leisure time to allow for a fulfilling life outside it.

In London, our Labour Mayor, Sadiq Khan, is a long-standing champion of the benefits of the London Living Wage - to the lives of Londoners and to business - and many employers in London have signed up since 2016.

Building on the progress already made in London. Labour will rapidly introduce a Real Living Wage, giving a pay rise

to thousands of workers aged 16 and over, across London, and use savings to public finances to help small businesses manage the extra cost.

We will end insecure and precarious work for approximately 106,000 people in London by banning zero-hour contracts and giving workers a right to a contract that reflects the hours they regularly work.

The Tories' flagship social security programme, Universal Credit (UC), has been a catastrophe. It has pushed thousands of people into poverty,

caused families to lose their homes and forced parents to visit food banks in order to feed their children.

Labour will scrap UC and replace it with a system dedicated to dignity, universalism and ending poverty. We will spare 838,000 people in London set to be on UC by immediately stopping people moving onto it and designing an alternative system that treats people with dignity and respect.

Over the course of three years we will end people's dependence on food banks. In 2018/19, Trussell Trust food banks handed out 167,000 three-day emergency food parcels to people in crisis across London. That included 60,000 parcels to children.

We will also bring justice to 389,000 women born in the 1950s across London whose State Pension age has been unfairly changed by the Tories. We have a historic debt of honour to them and Labour will offer pay-outs of up to £31,000, with an average of £15,000, to compensate them.

We will maintain the Triple Lock on state pensions, protecting the incomes of 947,000 pensioners across London.

The Tory decision to u-turn on their manifesto pledge and end the free TV license for over-75s is set to affect almost 370,000 households across Greater London, costing pensioners in the region a total of £55 million. Labour will reverse this cruel and unnecessary

cut, and restore free TV licences for over-75s.



5. Public Services

5.1 National Education Service

Education makes our economy stronger, our society richer and our people more fulfilled. Whether it is businesses finding people with the right skills, a tech start-up making our economy more dynamic or more people in better paid work and able to contribute to public services, we all benefit from an educated society.

The Conservatives have starved our education system of funding, transferring costs onto students, staff and communities and those in need have lost out most.

That's why our National Education Service will be at the heart of Labour's plan for real change

We will reverse cuts to Sure Start so that all communities across London have access to a Sure Start centre in their area.

We will give all 2, 3 and 4-year olds 30 hours of free preschool education per week and access to additional hours at affordable, subsidised rates staggered with incomes. In London this will provide free childcare to almost 317,000 children, saving families between £491 and £7,959.

As a result of Tory underfunding there are now 6,234 children being taught by unqualified teachers across London and over 36,000 children in over-sized class sizes.

Labour will make sure schools are properly funded to guarantee that every school in London has a qualified teacher in front of every class and is open a full five days a week, and to cap primary school class sizes at 30.

As a result of Tory failure there are now an extra 247,000 children in working households living in poverty in London. To tackle this crisis, Labour will 'poverty-proof' schools, providing a free school meal to over 744,000 primary school children in London, encouraging breakfast clubs, and tackling the cost of school uniforms.

5.2 NHS and Social Care

The National Health Service is one of Labour's proudest achievements. The right to free-at-the-point-of-use healthcare, universal and comprehensive in scope, is socialism in action.

A decade of Tory health cuts and privatisations has pushed our greatest institution to the brink. Our hospitals are crumbling, we have a shortage of 43,000 nurses, and patients are left waiting far too long.

In London, the number of people waiting for an operation has now reached almost 679,000.

Since 2010, the number of people waiting longer than 4 hours in A&E has soared. In the first six months of 2019/20 almost 299,000 people waited more than 4 hours in A&E.

A Labour government will invest in the NHS to give patients the modern, well-resourced services they need. We will increase expenditure across the health sector by an average 4.3% a year.

We will end the social care crisis that has left 1.5 million elderly people across the country without the care they need. A Labour government will build a comprehensive National Care Service for England.

We will start by providing free personal care to all older people who need it, and seek to extend this to all working-age adults.

5.3 Police and crime

Government has a duty to keep people safe. Our communities were endangered when Conservative cuts pushed officer numbers to below 30,000 in London for the first time in 16 years, while the country has lost 21,000 police.

Government funding to police services has been cut by £1 billion across forces in London.

Violent crime in London started rising in 2014, when Boris Johnson was Mayor. Sadiq has directed local government

finance to the highest levels possible to invest in police services, but the reality is it's a drop in the ocean compared to the scale of the cuts to the Met since 2010.

Last year the police recorded over 6 million offences, but the proportion leading to a charge or summons fell to its lowest level on record – thanks to Tory cuts, less than one in ten crimes now lead to a suspect being charged.

A Labour government will invest in policing to prevent crime and make our communities safer.

We will rebuild the whole police workforce, recruiting more police officers, police community support officers and other staff. We will re-establish neighbourhood policing and recruit 2,000 more frontline officers than the Conservatives.

And we will also restore the services that address the root causes of violent crime, which have been decimated by nearly a decade of the Tories' failed austerity agenda.



6. Communities, Local Government and Housing

Tory cuts, which have been deliberately targeted at the poorest areas of the country, have plunged our councils into crisis and pushed many services to breaking point. London has seen 25% of funding stripped from council budgets by consecutive Tory governments.

Labour will reverse the Tory decade of austerity for local government and aim to restore council spending powers to 2010 levels over the lifetime of the Parliament, meaning more money for key local services such as libraries, bin collections and youth services.

The country is facing a housing crisis. Private rent has gone up by an average of £3,516 over the last 10 years. Labour will be building 35,000 new council and social homes in London a year by the end of the Parliament, building on the success of the Labour Mayor in London who started building more social rented homes last year than in any year since City Hall took on its housing powers.

Labour will also cap rents, end “no fault” evictions, deliver a consumer rights revolution in the private rental sector and make sure that regeneration works for residents, making sure that major

regeneration only goes ahead with residents' consent and guaranteeing every resident an equivalent home on the same terms on the new site – real regeneration, not social cleansing.

No one should sleep without a roof over their head in one of the richest countries in the world. But under the Tories, the number of people sleeping rough has more than doubled.

In London, at least 1,283 people slept rough last year. Labour will end rough sleeping within five years, with a national plan driven by a Prime Minister-led taskforce.

We will tackle the wider causes of homelessness, raising the Local Housing Allowance in line with the 30th percentile of local rents, and earmarking an additional £1 billion a year for councils' homelessness services.



7. Environment

Nearly a decade of Tory neglect has led to more litter on our streets, with reported incidences of fly tipping rising by 23% across London.

In government, Labour will implement a comprehensive Waste and Recycling Strategy, investing £200 million in new recycling facilities for London and introducing new measures such as bottle recycling schemes.

London is among the worst polluted parts of the country, with air quality frequently breaching legal limits. The Tories have lost in court three times over their failure to reduce air pollution.

Sadiq Khan, our Labour Mayor of London, has taken bold action on air quality, including the introduction of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone. Sadiq has also introduced a scrappage scheme to support low income and disabled Londoners, as well as charities and small businesses, make the switch to cleaner vehicles.

But he wants us to go further and faster to tackle air pollution and climate change and much more could be done with Labour in power.

This includes introducing a new Clean Air Act, with a vehicle scrappage

scheme, to help tackle the problem head-on.

We will position the UK at the forefront of the development and manufacture of ultra-low emission vehicles and will support their sale. We will invest in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and electric community car clubs. We will accelerate the transition of our public sector car fleets and our public buses to zero-emissions vehicles.

We will support the creation of new green spaces in and around London to ensure everyone has access to nature, regardless of their wealth or background.

This includes planting two billion trees across the country and creating 10 new National Parks in areas near London such as the Chilterns and Wessex.

