

General Election 2019: Clean Air Parents' Network summary of manifestos

The main political parties have now published their manifestos for the 2019 General Election. They will cover all areas of government policy but to save you time we have trawled through them all and extracted the commitments that are most relevant for tackling air pollution.

The summary includes relevant manifesto commitments from the following parties:

Parties fielding candidates across England, Scotland and Wales

- Conservative Party (page 2)
- Green Party (pages 2-4)
- Labour Party (pages 4-5)
- Liberal Democrats (pages 5-6)

Commitments specific to Scotland

- Scottish Labour Party (page 7)
- Scottish National Party (page 8)

Commitments specific to Wales

- Plaid Cymru (pages 8-9)
- Welsh Conservative Party (page 9)
- Welsh Labour Party (pages 10-11)

The summaries only include what we have noted to be the most relevant commitments. For a complete view of what each party is committing to you should have a look at the full manifestos (the links to these are provided in each party's section). We have also tried to categorise the commitments in a standardised way to make it easier for you to compare each party's policies. The Scottish Conservative and Scottish and Welsh Liberal Democrat manifestos do not contain commitments which differ from their main manifestos.

As a reminder, the Clean Air Parents' Network is asking for all candidates to pledge to push for urgent and ambitious action to protect young lungs from illegal and harmful air pollution. This needs to happen through:

1. Urgent action to protect our children's health by tackling dirty air where they live, learn and play.
2. Getting the most polluting vehicles out of our towns and cities quickly through Clean Air Zones and providing practical help and support for people and businesses to move on to cleaner forms of transport.
3. Adopting ambitious new clean air laws that includes a binding commitment to meet World Health Organization guideline levels for particulate matter pollution by 2030.

The information below is up to date as of 27 November 2019. It has been taken directly from General Election manifestos and does not represent the views of the Clean Air Parents' Network, the British Lung Foundation or ClientEarth.

Parties fielding candidates across England, Scotland and Wales

Conservative Party manifesto	
See the full manifesto here .	
Laws and Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up an independent Office for Environmental Protection and introduce legal targets, including for air quality.
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £28.8 billion investment in strategic and local roads. Consult on the earliest date to phase out the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars, while minimising the impact on drivers and businesses.
Zero Exhaust Emission Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest £1 billion in completing a fast-charging network to ensure that everyone is within 30 miles of a rapid electric vehicle charging station.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give city regions the funding to upgrade their bus, tram and train services to make them as good as London's. Build Northern Powerhouse Rail between Leeds and Manchester; invest in the Midlands Rail Hub; invest in improving train lines to the South West and East Anglia; restore many of the Beeching lines. Invest in "superbus" networks with lower fares and increased frequency. Invest in electric buses, developing the UK's first all-electric-bus town.
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support commuter cycling routes, so that more people can cycle safely to work, and more families can go out together. Extend Bikeability – cycling proficiency training – to every child Create a new £350 million Cycling Infrastructure Fund and work with the NHS to promote cycling for healthier living.

Green Party manifesto	
See the full manifesto here .	
Laws and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections, from clean air to litter-free roads. The EPC will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards.
Motor vehicles & road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End the sale of new petrol and diesel fuelled vehicles by 2030. Over the next ten years we will ease this transition by incentivising the replacement of diesel and petrol vans, lorries and coaches with

<p>transport emissions</p>	<p>electric vehicles. Our priority is reducing overall mileage and the number of vehicles on our roads – these further measures will ensure that the vehicles still on our roads in 2030 create the minimum of pollution. Even electric vehicles pollute, so they represent an improvement on the current situation, not a solution in themselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilise our streets by making Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (in which rat-running is blocked) the norm for residential areas and making 20 miles per hour the default speed limit. These changes would reduce traffic, carbon emissions and danger to people walking and cycling. They would restore our streets to all people. • Scrapping the government's new road building programme, including the proposed road tunnel at Stonehenge that threatens to desecrate an iconic World Heritage Site. • Ensure through the planning system that all new housing is served by high quality walking and cycling routes and much improved bus, tram and local rail services. New residents must not be forced into car use. • Open up car-free access to the National Parks with new cycling, walking and bus links.
<p>Zero Exhaust Emission Vehicles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a network of electric vehicle charging points across the country, by requiring their construction through the planning system and encouraging the private sector to deliver them. We will ensure that these charging points are located in public places, and do not take up pavement and cycling space. We will require all existing petrol stations and motorway service stations to offer electric vehicle charging points by 2025.
<p>Public transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making travelling by public transport cheaper than travelling by car, by reducing the cost of travelling by train and bus. Coach travel will also be encouraged, with new routes for electric coaches provided across the country. • Electrifying all railway lines that connect cities, improving punctuality. • Creating a government-owned rolling stock company which would invest in a fleet of new electric trains to run on newly electrified lines. • Giving responsibility for running short-distance passenger rail franchises to councils, or groups of councils that come together to work on local transport. This will give local communities a greater say in the running of the rail services they rely on. We will bring all railways back into public ownership over ten years. • Giving all local authorities control over bus services (as London currently has) and supporting local authorities to restore lost bus routes and open new ones. Local authorities serving urban areas will be encouraged to explore tramways as an additional public transport option. • Providing more bus priority measures on the roads to improve punctuality.
<p>Active travel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spending £2.5 billion a year on new cycle-ways and footpaths, built using sustainable materials, such as woodchips and sawdust.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The funding from the government's current road building programme, the £6.5 billion in revenue received from Vehicle Exercise Duty each year, will be switched to supporting sustainable public transport and new cycle-ways and footpaths as part of the Green New Deal. £1.5 billion of Vehicle Exercise Duty revenue will be retained to maintain existing roads.
Freight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring good railway connections with all ports to enable more freight between ports and inland terminals to be carried on rail. We will invest in additional freight routes resulting in the majority of long-distance freight switching from road to rail.
Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the building of new runways and all increased road capacity, saving thousands of acres of countryside every year and protecting people from the harm of increased air pollution and traffic danger. Apply a Carbon Tax on all fossil fuels, which will increase the cost of petrol, diesel and shipping fuel. Make 40 miles per hour the default speed limit in non-residential areas except on major roads.

Labour Party manifesto

See the full manifesto [here](#).

Laws and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour will introduce a new Clean Air Act, with a vehicle scrappage scheme and clean air zones, complying with World Health Organisation limits for fine particles and nitrous oxides.
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Conservatives have committed to ending new sales of combustion engine vehicles by 2040. Labour will aim for 2030.
Zero Exhaust Emission Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 in electric community car clubs. We will accelerate the transition of our public sector car fleets and our public buses to zero-emissions vehicles.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour will ensure that councils can improve bus services by regulating and taking public ownership of bus networks, and we will give them resources and full legal powers to achieve this cost-effectively. Where councils take control of their buses, Labour will introduce free bus travel for under-25s. We will increase and expand local services, reinstating the 3,000 routes that have been cut, particularly hitting rural communities. Labour will deliver improvements for rail passengers by bringing our railways back into public ownership, using options including franchise expiry. This will enable us to make fares simpler and more affordable, rebuild the fragmented railways as a nationally integrated public service, cut the wastage of private profit, improve accessibility for disabled people, ensure safe staffing levels and

	end driver-only operation. We will implement a full, rolling programme of electrification.
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will increase the funding available for cycling and walking. We will bring together transport and land-use planning to create towns and cities in which walking and cycling are the best choice: safe, accessible, healthy, efficient, economical and pollution free. We will help children's health and well-being by ensuring street designs provide freedom for physically active outdoor play and by introducing measures to ensure the zones around our schools are safer, with cleaner air.
Freight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will promote the use of rail freight in order to reduce carbon emissions, air pollutants and congestion on the roads and expand the provision of publicly owned rail freight services.
Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will review public expenditure on transport to ensure that it promotes environmental sustainability and contributes to decarbonisation. Any expansion of airports must pass our tests on air quality, noise pollution, climate change obligations and countrywide benefits. Labour will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees, more efficient heating and insulation systems, greater reliance on renewable energy, including more solar panelling and a transition to electric paramedic vehicles, NHS fleet cars and hybrid ambulances.

Liberal Democrats manifesto

See the full manifesto [here](#).

Laws and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass a Clean Air Act, based on World Health Organisation guidelines, enforced by a new Air Quality Agency. The Act will enshrine the legal right to unpolluted air wherever you live.
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend Ultra-Low Emission Zones to ten more towns and cities in England and ensure that all private hire vehicles and new buses licensed to operate in urban areas are ultra-low-emission or zero-emission vehicles by 2025; provide £2 billion to support this transformation. Accelerate the transition to ultra-low-emission transport – cars, buses and trains – through taxation, subsidy and regulation. Build on the successful Local Sustainable Transport Fund established by the Liberal Democrats when in government, and workplace travel plans, to reduce the number of cars – particularly single-occupancy cars – used for commuting, and encourage the development of car-sharing schemes and car clubs and autonomous vehicles for public use. Amend planning rules to promote sustainable transport and land use.
Zero Exhaust Emission Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accelerate the rapid take-up of electric vehicles by reforming vehicle taxation, cutting VAT on EVs to 5 per cent and increasing the rate of installation of charging points, including residential on-

	<p>street points and ultra-fast chargers at service stations. Ensure that, by 2030, every new car and small van sold is electric.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support innovation in zero-emission technologies, including batteries and hydrogen fuel cells, supplementing government funding with a new Clean Air Fund from industry.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in public transport, buses, trams and railways to enable people to travel more easily while reducing their impact on the environment. • Give new powers to local authorities and communities to improve transport in their areas, including the ability to introduce network-wide ticketing, like in London. • Implement, in cooperation with local authorities, light rail schemes for trams and tram-trains where these are appropriate solutions to public transport requirements. • Restore bus routes and add new routes where there is local need; provide £4.5 billion over five years for this programme. • Convert the rail network to ultra-low-emission technology (electric or hydrogen) by 2035, and provide funding for light rail and trams. • Invest in bus services by substantially increasing funding for buses, enabling local authorities to restore old routes and open new ones, supporting rural bus services and encouraging alternatives to conventional bus services where they are not viable, encouraging local authorities to use their new powers under the Bus Services Act, including franchising powers and repealing the rule preventing local councils from running their own bus companies and providing funding to accelerate the transition to electric buses.
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place a far higher priority on encouraging walking and cycling – the healthiest forms of transport. • Introduce a nationwide strategy to promote walking and cycling, including the creation of dedicated safe cycling lanes, increasing spending per head five-fold to reach 10 per cent of the transport budget.
Freight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift more freight from road to rail, including electrifying lines leading from major ports as an urgent priority, and amend the current HGV road user levy to take account of carbon emissions.

Commitments specific to Scotland

Scottish Labour manifesto See the full manifesto here .	
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Labour support the introduction of Low Emission Zones, and believe they should be rolled out in a way that both reflects the severity of the crisis we are facing and the principles of Just Transition. • Scottish Labour would make it cheaper and easier to get to work and abolish the SNPs Workplace Parking Levy.
Zero exhaust emission vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In government Scottish Labour would work to remove the barriers preventing people from accessing less polluting vehicles by increasing charging points and providing support to ensure people are not priced out of green vehicles.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Labour would pursue a dedicated fund to support local councils with the up-front costs of running bus services. • Scottish Labour would introduce a free bus pass for under-25s. • In the long-term it is our goal to introduce universal free bus travel. This will encourage a shift to public transport and help address the decline in bus passenger numbers, allowing communities to rebuild their bus networks. • We will ensure that decisions about Scottish routes are made in Scotland and the Scottish Government will have a stake in the publicly owned rail company, giving Scotland a voice in cross-border rail links. • Labour will also unlock capacity and improve cross-border rail links, including working towards extending the Borders railway to Carlisle and by completing the full HS2 route to Scotland. • A Scottish Labour government in Holyrood would deliver rail electrification and expansion, and consult with local communities to re-open branch lines and stations. • We will invest in a direct rail link to Glasgow Airport. • Scottish Labour in Holyrood will invest in Scotland's ferry fleet and take all lifeline services into public hands. We will produce a Scottish Ferry Building Programme which sets out a long-term plan for vessel replacement and port upgrades. • We will protect island communities by retaining Air Discount Schemes, Road Equivalent Tariffs on lifeline ferry routes, and seek to reduce fares to Orkney and Shetland. • Taking transport back into public hands will facilitate better integration across Scotland and between different modes of transport. This will allow for the development of integrated ticketing schemes in Scotland and lay the groundwork for a national multimodal smartcard, as well as supporting better timetable co-ordination.
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next Scottish Labour government would bring together transport and land-use planning to create towns and cities where walking and cycling are the best choice.

Scottish National Party manifesto

See the full manifesto [here](#).

Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaign for the UK government to bring forward plans to move to electric vehicles to match the Scottish target of 2032. • Re-design of vehicle and tax incentives to support industry and business investment in zero emission and sustainable transport choices – such as reduced VAT on bicycles and additional incentives for businesses and individuals to use Ultra Low Emission Vehicles. • Support a diesel scrappage scheme if trading in ultra-low emission vehicles.
Zero Exhaust Emission Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping people with the cost of ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEVs), including second-hand cars, by providing an additional £17 million for loan funding.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Scottish public sector control of the structure, governance and operation of the Scottish railway system. • Investing over £500 million in improved bus priority infrastructure to make bus travel the faster, greener option and encourage people out of their cars • Reduce emissions from Scotland's railways to zero by 2035

Commitments specific to Wales

Plaid Cymru manifesto

See the full manifesto [here](#).

Laws and Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a national and regional plan to reduce air pollution in Wales. • Reform planning law to require impact on air pollution to be given greater weight in the planning system. • Enable local authorities to introduce pollution and congestion charges. • Create clean air zones in towns and cities.
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give communities the right to place pollution-monitoring equipment outside schools and hospitals. • Accelerate the transition to an electric transport system so petrol and diesel cars are phased out by 2030
Zero Exhaust Emission Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in a national electric vehicle charging network across Wales, starting the transition towards a wholly electric fleet of public sector vehicles and increased use of private EVs.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrification of all major rail lines by 2030. • Building a super-Metro for south-east Wales. • Building the new Swansea Bay and Western Valleys Metro, and reopening rail services for the Amman, Swansea, Neath and Dulais Valleys. • Developing a metro for north-east Wales and relocate the Chester Transport for Wales Depot to the north of Wales. • Creating a trans-Wales railway: connecting Wales' coastal communities by re-opening the Carmarthen to Aberystwyth line together with a second phase linking our communities from north to south. • A Cross-Rail for the Valleys, from Porth to Pontypool.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding the Traws Cymru bus network with high-quality coaches powered by renewable sources of energy. • Transport for Wales will create a new publicly owned regional bus company for southern Wales. This will amalgamate Cardiff and Newport Bus with First Cymru to provide additional inter-city bus services between Newport, Cardiff and Swansea and additional cross valley services. • Make public transport free for all FE/6th form students and apprentices in Wales below age 21 in full time education or training.
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase spending on active travel routes and promote walking and cycling. • Introduce a bicycle use reward scheme, where participants are paid for every mile they cycle to work, alongside improvements to cycling infrastructure.

Welsh Conservative Party manifesto

See the full manifesto [here](#).

Laws and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a Clean Air Act for Wales
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop proposals to upgrade the A55 as the main road transport artery for North Wales and improve capacity and resilience on the road. • Progress the dualling of the A40 to Fishguard by 2025. • Work with the UK Government to deliver a Pant/Llanymynech bypass. • Ensure the delivery of an M4 relief road. • Improve cross border and intra-Wales transport links. • Make extra investment in strategic and local roads.
Zero exhaust emission vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest up to £50 million in completing a fast-charging network to ensure that everyone in Wales is always within 30 miles of an EV charging station. • Deliver 10,000 electric charging points by 2030.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give every Welsh local authority extra funding to improve and extend bus services, making them more frequent, with more electric vehicles which are better-integrated with other modes of transport
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase funding for walking and cycling routes, creating a new cycling infrastructure fund and new design standards which must be followed to receive any money. We would support commuter cycling routes, connecting more people to jobs, and promote cycling for healthier living. • Double the length of cycle and walking routes in urban residential areas by 2040, prioritising local cycling networks around community anchors.

Welsh Labour Party manifesto	
See the full manifesto here .	
Laws and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Welsh Labour government is developing a Clean Air Act for Wales to help bring about faster reductions in air pollution from all sources, including road traffic and industry, to meet the World Health Organisation guidelines.
Motor vehicles & road transport emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Welsh Labour government is committed to addressing the problems of motorway congestion around the Brynglas Tunnels and will use the recommendations of the Burns Commission to deliver innovative, affordable and sustainable solutions in the shortest possible timescale.
Zero exhaust emission vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health boards and shared services are introducing low emission vehicles into their fleets as part of the target for all new fleet cars and light goods vehicles to be low emission by 2025. The Welsh Labour government is investing in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and it will work with a UK Labour government to develop this important network. A UK Labour government will accelerate the transition of our public sector car fleets and build on the Welsh Labour government's commitment to ensure that all taxis and buses in Wales will have a zero carbon footprint within 10 years.
Public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In government in Wales, Labour is developing new legislation that will give local councils the powers to improve bus services through franchising as well as giving them the power to create municipal bus companies. We will utilise additional funding from a UK Labour government to increase funding for local bus services and to extend the MyTravelPass scheme providing discounted travel for younger people. The Welsh Labour government will publish a new Wales Transport Strategy to encourage more people onto public transport and to build on the significant £5bn investment being made in the Welsh rail service to deliver significant improvements for rail passengers. The Welsh Labour government will invest more than £800m in new rolling stock, support increased weekday and Sunday rail services; extend free rail travel for younger people, with free travel for under 11s and introduce half-price fares for 16 – 18 year-olds and allow under 16s to go free off peak. Welsh Labour will examine transport pricing to keep fares affordable, particularly in deprived areas. It will invest around £200m in new rail station improvements. Labour in Wales will utilise additional funding made available from a UK government to enhance the exciting Metro project in South East Wales as well as progress the North Wales and Swansea Bay Metros. The Welsh Labour government will work with partners to take forward innovative projects such as the Global Centre of Rail Excellence to help make Wales a hub of rail expertise as well as strengthen supply chain capacity, improve productivity and support the inclusive growth benefits of significant rail infrastructure investment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Welsh Labour government will work with a UK Labour government to develop a model where the responsibility and powers for passenger services and infrastructure are comprehensively devolved to the Welsh government in a way that harnesses the significant knowledge and skills of both the staff that run the railway and the citizens that use it. • Labour's transport programme in Wales is focused on creating better, publicly accessible transport systems. By improving public transport, Labour will help people to become less reliant on their cars, for our better health, for a cleaner environment and to improve quality of life in our towns and cities.
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Welsh Labour government is making the biggest investment in active travel Wales has ever seen. It has committed more than £60m to schemes over the next three years to encourage more people to walk and to cycle. • The Welsh Labour government will prioritise funding for active travel on routes that are most likely to encourage people who currently do not walk or cycle to shift their mode of transport. • Through the development of new Integrated Network Maps the Welsh Labour government will set out stretching new targets for walking and cycling. • Welsh Labour will use Transport for Wales to better plan walking and cycling routes into major transport hubs and improve cycle storage facilities.