

Wakefield By-Election June 2022

We have all seen the evidence in the last year that the climate emergency is with us now: intense heat waves, droughts, huge floods, wildfires, melting glaciers and ice-caps and disrupted seasons. This is not an issue to be kicked down the road.

As a candidate to represent Wakefield, I pledge to fight for action on the Climate Crisis and Ecological Emergency in and around Wakefield, and across the world.

➤ **The Economy:** I recognise that the market alone cannot drive decarbonisation and the transition to zero carbon, because it relies on selling more: expanding infinitely in a finite world. I agree to campaign for a comprehensive strategy to urgently transform the economy – energy, industry, transport, health and finance – to create fair work and fair pay for all, and with strategic interests managed for the public good not private enrichment. I agree to work with local politicians, unions, businesses and campaigners to keep Wakefield at the front of this transition.

➤ **Social Justice:** I agree that we cannot solve the climate crisis if we leave in place the structural inequalities that blight our district and our world. I support a Just Transition for all workers as we transition to a zero-carbon economy, and in parallel, tackle poverty and discrimination. I pledge to use my office to work for social, climate and economic Justice for the Global Majority.

➤ **Health:** I recognise that society is blighted by health inequality. Health inequalities are driven by social and economic inequality, and are worsened by environmental factors including air pollution, fuel poverty, overheating and poor diet. I pledge to work with Wakefield Council and other MPs in the district to tackle these structural health issues that blight so many lives.

➤ **Fuel and Energy:** I understand that in order to tackle the climate crisis, accelerating genuine renewables and energy storage is not enough on its own – we must phase out fossil fuels, cutting our direct emissions by well over 50% by 2030. I support the divestment campaign. I support the ending of false solutions like BioEnergy and pledge to support communities to develop energy security.

➤ **Nature:** I understand that humanity is bound to nature and dependent on its systems. I recognise that natural systems are under threat from climate change, habitat loss and pollution, and that this is causing ecological collapse across the world: the Sixth Mass Extinction. I pledge to work with Wakefield Council to enhance the biodiversity and ecological resilience of our district, and to work with other MPs to push for nature friendly systems in agriculture, planning and climate adaptation. I pledge to work with other MPs to end chemical and plastic pollution that is destroying nature through its global reach.


Just
Transition
Wakefield