

Green Achiever Newsletter – April 2010

ELECTION FEVER – WHAT THE MAIN PARTIES SAY ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Dear

The date has now been set for the next general election so in this newsletter we are providing a synopsis (not an analysis) of what each of the main political parties say with regard to their environmental policies. While the main debates are currently around economic recovery and public spending, the backdrop of environmental policy still looms large as this can have a large, if often indirect, impact on both.

Also in this issue we are celebrating our first 2010 Silver Award going to “How Can We Help You?”, event caterers and coordinators based in Walton on Thames. Congratulations.

Alongside this, we alert you to another date for our Environmental workshops – Thursday 1st July, 2010, at Holborn Studios, London. We're holding two on one day – the morning session is an introduction to Greening your Business, the legislation and ways and means of dealing with the issues; the afternoon is about Saving Cash and Reducing Energy where we will have experts on-hand to help businesses discuss the real options for improving their energy efficiency. We will be sending out more information shortly but if you're interested in both or either session please contact Kelly Jones at kj@e4environment.co.uk or telephone on 01743 343403.

So a really positive month – spring is here, lambs are a-gambolling and Feed-in-Tariffs have come on-stream. Let's look forward to more good news from May 6th

POLITICAL PARTY ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Labour

Labour says it aims to make Britain [greener, cleaner and less polluting](#). Energy and climate-change policies include:

- Reducing Britain's CO₂ emissions by at least 20 per cent by 2020
- Make all new homes zero-carbon from 2016
- Helping 5 million households with insulation, giving out 100 million low energy light bulbs and providing other energy saving products to 4 million homes over the next two years
- Phasing out old high-energy light bulbs in favour of energy efficient ones by 2011
- Working with industry to phase out single-use carrier bags

- Delivering reductions in greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to at least 9.3 million tonnes of CO₂ per year by 2020

Conservative

The Conservatives says it will "put the F back into Defra" (the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs) by providing more support to farming.

Key [environment policies](#) include:

- Backing a cull of badgers to stop spread of cattle disease
- Cutting red tape for farmers and land managers
- Free vote on repeal of the hunting ban
- Offering every household a 'Green Deal' of up to £6,500 to improve energy efficiency
- Upgrading the national grid so demand and supply is managed better
- Expanding offshore wind and wave power in 'marine energy parks'
- Requiring every energy company to offer social tariffs

Liberal Democrat

The Lib Dems believes it is the only party willing to make the tough choices to stop "real and dangerous" climate change. Key [environmental policies](#) include:

- Pledging that at least 20 per cent of energy and 40 per cent of electricity will come from renewable sources by 2020 rising to 100 per cent by 2050
- Seeking to toughen limits on pollution across Europe
- Introduce a supermarket ombudsman to get a fair deal for farmers
- Ensuring guaranteed fair prices for energy consumers
- Making energy suppliers ensure homes are well insulated
- Roll-out of smart metering in five years
- More investment in public transport to cut emissions

The Green Party of England & Wales - Policies for a Sustainable Society

The Green Party (GP) aims to create a just, equitable and sustainable society. We focus our efforts primarily, though not exclusively, through the electoral system.

Principles - The Green Party has a short statement of our [Core Values](#), and a longer explanation, called the [Philosophical Basis](#), of the underlying thinking and motives behind our policies.

Policies - We are building up a [library](#) of short documents called policy pointers which are intended both as introductions to GP policies and as downloadable leaflets which can be used by activists for campaigning. The [Policies for a Sustainable Society](#) contains all the policies agreed at successive Green Party conferences.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE ON THE GREEN ACHIEVER WEBSITE

The Green Achiever website is now the top entry on Google for 'Green Business' and is on the Google front page for 'Green Businesses.' Our site gets over 20,000 hits a week and regularly 1,200 – 1,500 visits a week. We know that our members use the Business Directory to find suppliers so how about using our front page for advertising your business? We have put up a rolling example on the Green Achiever website homepage so follow this link www.greenachiever.co.uk to see the space. For just £30.00 a month, £150.00 for 6 months (ie. one month for free) or £285.00 for a year (ie. 2½ months free) you could use this space and reach those people looking for 'Green Business'. Call Deb on 01743 343403 or email deb@greenachiever.co.uk to book a space.

SILVER AWARD FOR “How Can We Help You?”



Walton-on-Thames (Surrey) based How Can We Help You? is an eco caterer and events management company. It recently achieved Green Achiever silver status. Managing director Darren Allen, said: "Our ethos is to support local communities and charities whilst caring for our environment. This award is the icing on the cake for us and shows that we not only aim to better ourselves but improve our environment, surroundings, other local businesses and organisations. We are planning to reach gold status next year and feel we have a strong enough business to bid for potential contracts linked to the 2012 Games."

www.hcwhy.co.uk

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