

London Manifestos 2016 – Environment Round Up

There were many common themes across the manifestos in the energy and environment sectors with many of the policies proposed indistinguishable from candidate to candidate.

All four of the main parties (Con, Lab, LD, Green) proposed the creation, in some form, of a “London energy company” to provide low carbon energy specifically for the city.

It also seems that solar energy will have a growing role in the city regardless of who wins on May 5 with Goldsmith and Pidgeon both aiming for panels on 200,000 rooftops by 2025 and Khan stating he will produce a “solar energy strategy” to make the most of spare space in the city.

Similarly both Khan and Goldsmith have pledged to exploit waste heat from the tube via London’s district heat networks.

Waste and recycling also feature prominently in the manifestos with Goldsmith’s pledge to set out a Zero Waste Roadmap perhaps trumping Khan’s statement that he wanted to see recycling rates hit 65 per cent by 2030.

There are also similarities for the natural environment with all four candidates wanting to see a London “National Park”.

There are some differences of approach in the water sector. Whilst it doesn’t get a mention by Goldsmith, Khan has focused on education with pledges to promote information about initiatives that reduce consumption such as metering. Pidgeon meanwhile has been much stronger, saying the party will bring forward the target date for meter roll outs and pressure Thames Water and Ofwat to speed up the replacement of historic water mains.

With three committed environmentalists in the form of Goldsmith, Pidgeon and Berry on the ballot paper Khan was always going to have to propose some strong policies of his own. Consequently it seems regardless of the result on May 5 London may have a “greener” four years ahead.



Energy generation

Community energy co-operatives will be given the right to generate solar power from under-used public space. (p29)

The party will work with boroughs, housing associations and the Green Investment Bank to help community energy co-ops set up their own green energy projects, with a new programme of ‘**Solar Powered Estates**’. (p29)

Depending on the type of building, new developments will be expected to include **solar panels, roof gardens or green roofs**. (p22)

The party will put a plan in place to supply a quarter of London's energy needs from low carbon sources by 2025 including **200,000 homes powered by solar**. (p29)

Waste heat generated by TfL will be plugged into London's **district heating networks**. (p29)

Energy retail

The party will set up "**Energy for London**" a new clean energy company which will bulk buy energy from low carbon generators across London. (p31)

The party will work with the Government to secure an **Energy Deal for London**: devolution of London's share of the new efficiency levy on energy suppliers which will come in 2018. (p31)

Energy Efficiency

The party will strengthen the London Rental Standard to include **minimum energy efficiency standards**, decided in consultation with the Government and industry and progressively tightened over time. (p31)

Waste and recycling

They will work with the Government to look at a **boiler scrappage scheme** in order to facilitate a 'clean energy revolution' and improve the air in London. (p65)

The party will work with the London boroughs and **Resource London** to move towards a 'London Guarantee': a common set of London-wide collection standards. (p28)

Within the first year of office the party will set out a **Zero Waste Route Map** for London. (p28)

The Conservatives will work with retailers to support mobile **litter hit squads**, who will be tasked with cleaning up dumped rubbish within 24 hours. (p27)

The party will set a **London-wide target for any dumped rubbish** to be cleaned up within 24 hours. This will include holding local authorities to account, collating data on fly-tipping areas. (p27)

Green spaces and natural environment

The Conservative Party will ensure every Londoner lives **within ten minutes' walk of a green space** and no more than five minutes as soon as practically possible. (p22)

The largest developments will be expected to create **new parks and wetlands**, with a network of green spaces. (p22)

The party will introduce an **Urban Right to Roam** where any green space created as a result of council-imposed planning obligations will be open to the public in perpetuity. (p22)

Any new green space created by the developer as a planning condition will be transferred to the council, with a **fund for ongoing maintenance** provided by the developer. (p23)

The party will fund **200 pocket parks** over the next four years at a cost of £4m, funded by GLA underspend and match-funding from local business (p23).

The party will undertake a **'Big Green Survey'** and use the findings to inform a new Biodiversity Strategy for London. The Conservatives will also work with wildlife groups and Londoners to conduct it. (p25)

The party will support plans to make London a **'National Park City'**. (p25)

The party intends to work with the Government and developers to secure £25m funding for the **'All London Green Grid'** network of green spaces, rivers, canals and flood plains. (p25)

The Conservatives will establish long term plans to **plant around 80,000 trees a year**, eventually lead to London having as many trees as people. In addition to this they will put in place plans to make **London pesticide-free** by banning the use of toxic chemicals. (p25)



Energy generation

The Labour mayor will make the most of the city's roofs, public buildings and land owned by TfL for energy generation by producing a **solar energy strategy** (p67)

The party will back **district heating schemes** that make the most of waste heat from the Tube (p67)

Energy retail

The party will establish **Energy for Londoners**, a not-for-profit company providing a comprehensive range of energy services to help Londoners generate more low-carbon energy and increase their energy efficiency, support local and community energy

enterprises, and buy clean energy generated across the city, using it to power GLA and TfL facilities (p67)

The party will promote the **roll out of smart meters** and explore the case for **bulk buying energy** (p67)

Energy Efficiency

Invest in older properties to make them more energy efficient. (p24)

Waste and recycling

The Labour mayor will lead on reducing the city's waste footprint, working to **increase recycling** and cut the amount London sends to landfill (p68)

Green spaces and natural environment

The party will introduce **Cleaner Walking Routes to School** and embark on a major tree planting programme. (p64)

The party will **complete the Thames Path** and open up more walking routes around London (p66)

The Labour mayor will make London the first '**National Park City**' with a target of more than 50 per cent of the city being green. (p66)

Water

The party will promote initiatives that **reduce water consumption** in London, including the roll out of, and more public information about water metering (p67)



Energy generation

The party will target to **roll out solar** to 200,000 London rooftops by 2025 (p81)

The party will use the purchasing power of TfL to commission **additional renewable generating capacity** so the Underground can become sustainably powered (p81)

On investing in **environmental technologies**, the Liberal Democrats wish to challenge the financial sector to invest in environmental technologies and develop plans to co-create a Green Investment Bank for London. (p63)

Increase the amount of energy generated by **anaerobic digestion**, promote local hydroelectric schemes and expand the use of water source heat pumps. (p80)

The party will promote **decentralised energy systems**, combined heat and power systems and onsite renewables. (p80)

Energy retail

Establish a **London energy company** supplying to domestic consumers. (p80)

The Lib Dems will insist that a fair share of the **national energy company obligation** is ring-fenced for London which is currently losing out. (p21)

Waste and recycling

The party will set **tough targets for reducing the amount of waste** produced by individuals and businesses in the capital (p82)

The Lib Dems will encourage every borough to **introduce food waste collections** (p82)

The party will **support moves by manufacturers to minimise packaging** and simplifying the mix of plastics entering the waste stream. They will also challenge branded goods companies to fund 'on the go' recycling collections (p82)

The party will re-establish the **Flats Recycling Programme** and promote a London-wide online swapshop (p82)

Green spaces and natural environment

The Lib Dems will support the campaign for a Greater London National Park and set up a GLA Parks Agency (p83)

Water

The Lib Dems will pressure Thames Water and its regulator Ofwat to **speed up the replacement of historic water mains**, to reduce further the extent of water leakage (p84)

The party will bring forward the target date for **roll-out of water metering**, with a fair tariff scheme to protect vulnerable customers (p84)



Energy retail

The party will create a **London not-for-profit energy company**, under Transport for London's wing

The party will develop **district energy anchors** to help housing estates, hospitals, prisons, universities and regeneration projects on public land share their energy needs (p34)

Energy Efficiency

The party will **expand the RE:FIT workplace refurbishment programme** (p34)

The Greens will introduce **London's own Green Deal** and **require excellent energy efficiency standards** for new homes despite the withdrawal of the Government's own Code for Sustainable Homes standard (p35)

Waste and recycling

The party will Support and maintain the **new boiler scrappage scheme** from the GLA (p35)

The party intends for London to become **self-sufficient in waste processing by 2030**, which will include blocking new landfill or mass-burn incineration. (p32)

The Greens will build **more and smaller waste facilities** to minimise the impact on any one community. (p32)

The party will ensure the **waste hierarchy is applied** so that recycling don't take waste that can be reused. (p32)

The Greens will work for powers for the Mayor to develop **consistent set of recycling services** across London boroughs. (p32)

The party will lobby government **to tighten up packaging regulations** to remove single use plastic bottles from shop shelves, in addition to other non-recyclable material. (p32)

Green spaces and natural environment

The party will introduce policies in the new London Plan that mean new **publicly accessible spaces** must be governed by local authority bylaws. (p31)

The party want to ensure **no development leads to the net loss of permeable land or water storage capacity** and improve streetscapes and water permeability by using transport funding and planning policies to create 'pocket parks'. (p31)

The Greens will continue their campaign to make London a **National Park City** as well as establish a new strategic appointment in City Hall to raise the profile of planning for green and blue infrastructure. (p30)

The party will provide funding to the **All London Green Grid** and help make sure all Londoners are within easy reach of parks and green spaces. (p30)

The party intend to **increase green spaces and vegetation** in London so it covers more than half of the city by 2025 and plant two million trees. (p30)

The party will **integrate tree planting and sustainable urban drainage systems** into all suitable transport for London projects. (p31)

The Greens will **restore and re-wild at least 50km of rivers**. (p31)