

CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH

A GREEN MAYOR FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH

A GREEN PARTY MANIFESTO

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A woman with blonde hair, wearing a bright red double-breasted coat, black trousers, and black boots, stands in a grassy field. She is looking down at a small, grey, scruffy dog lying on the grass in front of her. The dog is wearing a black harness. In the background, there is a dirt path, a small stream, and bare trees under a cloudy sky.

"If elected, I will be a hard-working, listening mayor. I will not stand for economic growth at any cost and will protect our precious environment while working hard to deliver infrastructure that is fit for purpose."

Julie Howell

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1. NO ONE LEFT BEHIND

I live in Peterborough, and I love this thriving city-in-the-countryside.

I know you love your area of Cambridgeshire too, but you are concerned about the effects of economic growth on the landscape and heritage that we treasure here. You are concerned that our transport networks are not fit for purpose. You are concerned that we don't have enough of the right type of housing to suit the needs of everyone.

You are concerned about what Brexit could mean for our region and whether EU nationals and migrant workers who call Cambridgeshire and Peterborough home will be able to stay here. And you are extremely concerned about what the future holds for our young people. Will they be able to afford a place to live, to attend university or to find meaningful employment within our region?

Like you, I want to live in a fairer Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, where wealth is distributed more evenly and where people live in communities, not stuck on housing lists or unable to afford a place they can call home. A Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that meets the challenges of ageing, providing satisfying jobs for our young people, with public transport systems that are safe and pleasant to use, so the car can be the least attractive choice.

I want us all to live a long and healthy life without fear that what we're breathing is doing us harm, without fear of what old age may hold and without fear that we'll ever find ourselves struggling to survive in an unequal society where wealth is unevenly spread.

If my vision for our region sounds good to you, if it sounds fair, reasonable, sensible and inclusive, with a focus on what we need now and an eye on how the decisions we make today affect Cambridgeshire and Peterborough tomorrow, then I invite you to vote for me. Let's create the kind of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough where everyone can thrive.

Julie Howell

Green Party Candidate

Mayor for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority



2. GREEN PARTY PRIORITIES

Democracy

- Create a democratically elected Assembly (similar to the one in London) that would scrutinize the work of the Mayor.
- Increase scrutiny and democratic involvement if the mayoral budget and powers increase.
- The Mayor would take only the average salary for Cambridgeshire (about £29,000) and donate the remainder (around £40,000) to organisations that support people living with dementia.

Transport

- Design bus networks that are more convenient and more affordable.
- Create smart ticketing that works between different modes of transport.
- Require operators to provide the most modern, clean buses to reduce air pollution.

Housing

- Provide money for new council housing and social housing in villages and towns.
- Propose a guarantee that any new towns and villages will be served by regular and affordable bus and/or train services.
- Promote the continued independence of disabled and older people by building appropriate, accessible and flexible housing in communities that supports their varying and changing needs.

Energy

- Support investment in renewable energy, sustainable transport and zero carbon homes.
- Call on councils to divest from the fossil fuel industry.

Economy

- Employ an enterprise champion, whose job it will be to promote SMEs across the region, championing, overseeing and monitoring inclusive growth.
- Encourage districts to offer subsidised retail or commercial premises along our high streets for start-ups and small independent businesses to develop their ideas and products and undertake market testing.
- Promote local markets in more of our towns and cities, reducing the amount of 'red tape' and ensuring all who want a stall can get one with short-term tenancies and affordable rates.

Education

- Ensure that the new University of Peterborough would provide the type of courses that benefit young people living in and around Peterborough.
- Work with local businesses to ensure the university offers courses in the skills that local businesses actually need (thus encouraging qualified graduates to remain in the region once their studies are completed).
- Ensure the availability of adult education and educational opportunities that will help EU nationals and migrant workers to fully utilise the skills they bring to our regions, such as languages, agricultural, healthcare and business skills.

Equality

- Champion the rights of EU nationals and migrant workers to acceptable working and living standards and fair pay.
- Invest in teaching and language facilities to help EU nationals and migrant workers to have a voice in their local communities and to help end exploitation through lack of awareness and knowledge.
- Highlight the contribution that refugees, asylum seekers, ex-pats and economic migrants have made to the region.

Health

- Establish a network of community health centres offering 24-hour support to those in need of it, including those experiencing psychological trauma.
- Ensure that carers receive the support that they are entitled to.
- Establish community-based care and support networks to help residents most in need to remain in their community.

3. DEMOCRACY

The Green Party opposed the creation of a Mayor for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

We believe that the role places too much power in the hands of a single individual and an unaccountable 'Combined Authority', which includes representatives from other democratically unaccountable bodies such as Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs).

As the region's local councils have now accepted the Government's proposed 'Devolution Deal' The Green Party believes that holding the Mayor and the Combined Authority to account is a critical job.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Create a democratically elected Assembly (similar to the one in London) that would scrutinize work of the Mayor. The Assembly would be elected by you using a voting system known as Proportional Representation (PR). PR is a fairer voting system that ensures that those elected more accurately reflect the wishes of the electorate.
- Ensure representatives of local communities, small businesses and trades unions are involved to scrutinise the work of the Mayor and to make policy suggestions.
- Make meetings open to the public, webcast live over the internet, with minutes available online.
- Increase scrutiny and democratic involvement if the mayoral budget and powers increase.
- Take only the average salary for Cambridgeshire (about £29,000) and donate the remainder (around £40,000) to organisations that support people living with dementia throughout the combined authority area.
- Increase engagement with community groups, giving local communities a greater say over how the Mayor's powers protect and develop your local areas.

4. TRANSPORT

We all rely on our transport system to get us from A to B. Whether it's the daily commute, a trip to the shops, visiting friends or getting to school and back, transport should help us to get on with our lives, not be a tedious and expensive hassle.

Our current transport system has given us choked roads and poisonous air. Instead of getting us to where we need to be quickly, we're too often stuck in traffic. It's a waste of time, money and potential. There are over 200 premature deaths every year caused by air pollution across Cambridgeshire.

Public transport in rural areas is worse than it was 60 years ago, leading to heavy reliance on private cars, social exclusion of those who do not drive, and high carbon footprints for many rural residents. Meanwhile, traffic congestion in and around urban areas such as Cambridge and Peterborough is causing ever-worsening problems, from appalling air quality to unacceptable delays to people's journeys.

The establishment of the Combined Authority is an opportunity to create a sustainable and accessible transport system, one by which we can get around more quickly, cheaply, pleasantly and conveniently than we can by car. This will also make roads work better for those people and businesses who will always need to drive.

Transport policy objectives should be to reduce private car traffic and fossil fuel consumption, through provision of a wider range of attractive and affordable public transport options, encouraging active travel such as walking and cycling, and reducing the need to travel where possible. A range of transport options needs to be available and accessible for all, including disabled and older people.

I believe that achieving these objectives in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is both vital and possible. I would introduce a Workforce Parking Levy in our cities, with the proceeds earmarked for public transport provision. I would improve transport provision while ensuring that areas of high agricultural,

wildlife or landscape value are not sacrificed for unsustainable transport schemes.

I would seek to increase local and democratic control over public transport to ensure it meets local needs. I would prioritise investment in public transport to make it quicker, affordable and more convenient and work to bring the cost of public transport down so it is more accessible for people on low incomes.

Modes of transport will be made more inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities or mobility problems. Our roads would be made safer through lowering speed limits in residential areas, protecting cycle-ways and introducing traffic calming measures where there is a need to make travelling safer. I would seek to improve air quality and reduce pollution to make our communities healthier. I would prioritise clean and active modes of transport such as cycling and walking, where possible, to promote good health.

My transport investment would target solutions that are shared and low carbon, including electric vehicles, the technology of the future. I would oppose transport decisions that threaten nature and the local environment, genuinely including communities in decisions about their local areas

Bus Franchising

I would use powers promised by Government in the Bus Services Bill to franchise bus networks. Bus franchising has helped London buck the national trend in the decline in bus journeys. Using these powers I would work with councils, communities and local groups to plan bus networks that work for both rural and urban areas.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Design bus networks that are more convenient and more affordable, helping to make commuting and travel by bus from rural areas a realistic alternative to driving.
- Create smart ticketing that works between different modes of transport.
- Require operators to provide the most modern, clean buses to reduce air pollution.

Supporting Active Transport

Cycling and walking need to be safer and more enjoyable. Segregated cycle paths offer those who wish to walk a safe alternative. Infrastructure and new routes should be designed to maximise the accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities and long term conditions.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Encourage more projects like the Chisholm Trail and the 'Greenways' cycle routes scheme, safer protected cycle routes that keep cyclists away from heavy traffic.
- Give cyclists priority at junctions to make them safer.
- Create citywide networks for easy, single-journey cycle hire linked to a smart ticketing scheme (when one is introduced). These networks would offer bikes of a good standard, equipped for safe journeys, including lighting.
- Introduce better facilities for cyclists at Park-and-Rides, rail stations, bus stops and other transport hubs. These would include secure and dry bicycle storage for those who cycle and also provide access to public cycle hire schemes for those who wish to cycle into Cambridge or Peterborough having arrived by another mode of transport.

Workforce Parking Levy

I would support the implementation of a Workforce Parking Levy (WPL). The WPL would charge large employers providing parking spaces for staff an annual levy for each parking space provided. The Nottingham WPL has enabled the extension of new tram networks and investment in municipal buses. It has also contributed to a reduction in private car journeys and reduced the city's carbon emissions.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Introduce a workforce-parking levy in Cambridge and Peterborough and use the money raised to improve public transport, making alternatives to driving easier and therefore reducing congestion and air pollution.

Tackling Air Pollution & Congestion

Around 250 deaths annually in Cambridgeshire are attributable to air pollution, mostly caused by traffic (Source: The Telegraph). It also significantly worsens the quality of life of those living in urban environments.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Introduce low emissions zones in urban areas, following the example of Westminster City Council, and press for charges on diesel and high-polluting vehicles.
- Launch a consultation on creating powers to allow the Combined Authority to take emergency measures to reduce traffic at times when pollution poses a severe threat to health.

Light Rail

I believe that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough needs strategic transport solutions that will be fit for purpose, enabling both sustainable travel in growing urban areas and the region's many market towns and villages to thrive. I believe a light rail scheme could form an important mass transit component in an overall mix of modes of transport.

Light rail schemes are becoming increasingly common in cities across the world and they are clean, reliable and efficient. The trains can carry at least double the number of passengers of a bus and minimum intervals between services are shorter than for heavy rail, meaning that capacity could easily be scaled up in the future.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Consider the feasibility of a light rail or tram link from Hampton to Peterborough city centre.
- Consider the feasibility of bypassing the culturally sensitive centre of Cambridge by means of a tunnel.

County Rail Network

I support the construction of the East–West Rail Line between Oxford and Cambridge. With the Oxford–Bedford section currently under development I would like a firm commitment to an ambitious time plan for the Bedford–Cambridge section.

I am in favour of opening new stations on existing lines, including a station at the biomedical campus in Cambridge. The number of people currently working at the site and the significant foreseeable growth justifies a station there.

Adding an additional stop to many services could have a significant impact on journey times and timetabling. Parallel infrastructure improvements, such as four-tracking the section between Cambridge Station and Cambridge junction, need to be investigated.

I am in principle in favour of opening other stations if they can be justified. This could include stations at Soham, Fulbourn/Cherry Hinton and Wisbech if services are regular and provide attractive links to Cambridge, other regional centres and London.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Support continued investment in the rail network.
- Include additional stops and open new stations (if they can be justified).
- Add capacity and reopen mothballed lines where there is obvious demand.

Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicles are becoming rapidly more affordable and efficient.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Accelerate the transition to cleaner technologies by increasing the number of electric vehicle charging points.
- Require new buses and taxis to be all electric.

Greener City Deal

The City Deal is an opportunity to create a modern, sustainable transport system for the City of Cambridge. Unfortunately, too many of its current proposals show a distinct lack of vision and have not been welcomed by local communities. I realise that roads and streets are part of the environment where people live and not 'transport corridors'. Precious green spaces should not be sacrificed for the sake of City Deal objectives

Your Green Mayor would:

- Work with local communities to campaign for transport solutions that improve the quality of life for local residents whilst protecting the local environment.

5. HOUSING

House prices in our region have sky-rocketed, while the provision of council housing and truly affordable housing has failed to meet local needs. According to research by the Local Government Association, only 20% of 25-year-olds own their own home. This compares to 46% 20 years ago. Over the last two decades, the average house price has risen nearly four times as much as the corresponding rise in average earnings and at six times the rate of inflation.

Few young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough can find affordable accommodation in their native villages, let alone in the towns and cities. We must make full use of existing housing stock by bringing empty buildings back into use and we must introduce disincentives for second homes. Planning policy should favour affordable, energy efficient, low impact housing.

Far too many 'dormitory towns' are cropping up in our region that simply act as commuter towns for Cambridge. We must address the over-development of towns in South and East Cambridgeshire in particular and ensure that new towns and settlements have suitable sources of employment and recreation to that they thrive on their own.

Social housing company Habinteg and the Papworth Trust commissioned research that found that 19% of the British public would most favour moving to a different property specifically designed for adapted to enable them to live independently in later life.

Housing (continued)

Your Green Mayor would:

- Provide money for new council housing and social housing in villages and towns.
- Create a community landbank, whereby communities can bid to ensure that their valued green spaces are preserved and managed in ways that benefit wildlife and local people.
- Propose a guarantee that any new towns and villages will be served by regular and affordable bus and/or train services.
- Amend the definition of 'affordable' (currently 80 per cent of market price) by linking it to minimum wage levels (i.e. to the ability to pay, rather than to the market).
- Choose sites for development based on rigorous assessments of impacts on wildlife and the environment, protecting green belt wherever possible.
- Place an emphasis on regenerating the entire region, not just the greater Cambridge area.
- Work collaboratively with the National Housing Federation and local housing associations to build homes for people who need good quality rented homes and specialist housing for older and disabled people.
- Promote the continued independence of disabled and older people by building appropriate, accessible and flexible homes in communities that support their various and changing needs.

- Introduce measures to ensure that new government support for self-build housing focuses on affordable housing, not just luxury housing. Single plot exception sites for self-build affordable housing should become a county policy.
- Encourage local councils to build non-domestic buildings to the 'Excellent' certification standard required by the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM).
- Ensure renewable technologies are incorporated into domestic and non-domestic developments.
- Encourage local councils to adopt the Passive House standard for domestic developments in their local plans as doing so will improve thermal comfort, energy efficiency and air quality and help to reduce fuel poverty.
- Ensure rural exception sites give priority to local people.
- Adopt low impact and/or 'one planet development' policies such as those currently in force in Wales. Low impact co-housing projects with access to some agricultural land should be permitted on the edge of settlements.
- Explore the possibility of increasing council tax on second homes and very high value homes as part of a re-banding process.
- Encourage the installation of solar thermal on all suitable roofs.
- Invest in appropriate renewable energy technologies (including energy storage solutions), which can bring economic benefits to all areas. Energy efficiency measures, including retrofitting insulation to housing and buildings, would be a priority.
- Ensure that all newly built houses are sold to homeowners on a freehold (not leasehold) basis.

6. ENERGY

In Cambridgeshire & Peterborough our countryside is the source of most of our renewable energy. Therefore, it has a key role to play in the drive to reduce carbon emissions and in working towards a zero carbon future. The faster we move towards zero carbon the better our futures will be.

We know that to keep the world's climate within livable limits we need to stop burning fossil fuels and to do it fast. It makes no sense to continue to invest money in extracting coal, oil and gas when we know that more than 80% of current reserves will have to be left in the ground. I believe that our local councils can and should lead the way by withdrawing their money from the fossil fuel industry.

Cambridge City Council (where Oscar Gillespie is a Green Party city councillor) has already made a declaration that it wants to commit to a fossil-free future for the sake of future generations. It is time for other local councils in our region to follow suit.

I would also like to persuade Cambridge University to divest from fossil fuels. When public bodies announce they are turning away from fossil fuels they are using their influence to change the world's mind about how we see fossil fuels and the companies that produce them.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Support investment in renewable energy, sustainable transport and zero carbon homes.
- Call on councils to divest from the fossil fuel industry.
- Support calls for the Cambridgeshire Pension Fund (the local government pension scheme covering councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough), and other investors, to sell their harmful and risky investments in fossil fuel companies and instead invest in companies and projects that are good for our communities and our climate. The scheme currently has nearly £120m invested in fossil fuels.
- Set targets for the reduction of carbon emissions through renewable energy generation, including solar, wind and micro-hydro (especially community schemes); and through energy-saving measures, such as insulation of buildings.
- Work towards a Greater Cambridgeshire Bio-region that is as energy self-reliant as possible.

7. ECONOMY

The Combined Authority of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is mostly rural with large urban populations. The rural economy is land-based and largely a provider of primary commodities (e.g. agriculture, forestry, fisheries, mineral extraction). There has been a severe decline in the number of jobs in the primary commodity industries over recent years. To some extent this has been offset by other land-based activities (conservation land management and rural tourism). In some areas, rural regeneration has led to the spread of dormitory villages where the majority of residents commute to nearby towns. A diverse range of small, medium and large businesses in our city centres and surrounding industrial estates drives the urban economy.

There is also a divide between areas such as Cambridge with its fast growing technology and research-driven economy and areas in the north of the county where many residents feel somewhat left behind. In South Cambridgeshire, for instance, the number of people classified as unemployed according to Office for National Statistics figures is 2.3%. In contrast, in Peterborough, the proportion is almost twice as much.

To bridge the divide we need to grow enterprise in our communities. This means helping companies to start up in every area, rather than just improving the transport network and hoping wealth created elsewhere will trickle down. An economy based on more small businesses and co-operatives will be more resilient. If a multinational company opens up in Cambridgeshire, it can as easily shut up shop and move somewhere else if economic conditions change, taking people's jobs and livelihoods with it. However, if someone who lives in March, Ely, St Neots, Peterborough, or Cambridge starts a business there it is arguably less likely to move elsewhere.

Developing a Low Carbon Economy

The Federation of Small Businesses calls the development of a low carbon economy an 'economic imperative'. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough could be the home of a low carbon revolution, based on low-carbon manufacturing and technology. As we face 'hard' Brexit, developing a

more self-reliant region is an opportunity we should not miss. Low carbon research, renewables, energy-efficient construction and design, low carbon manufacturing (especially vehicles and building materials), and low carbon education are all areas forecast for high growth that match our areas of strength. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has the strengths needed to lead a low carbon industrial revolution.

Small & Medium Size Enterprises (SMEs)

According to research by the Centre for Local Economic Strategies, for every £1 spent locally, between £0.50 – £0.70 is retained by the local economy. When the £1 is spent with businesses that are out of town or online, only around £0.05 is retained by the local economy. The nurturing local SMEs and co-ops in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will help to strengthen our economy.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Employ an enterprise champion, whose job it will be to promote SMEs across the county, championing, overseeing and monitoring inclusive growth.
- Encourage districts to offer subsidised retail or commercial premises along our high streets for start-ups and small independent businesses to develop their ideas and products and undertake market testing.
- Promote local markets in more of our towns and cities, reducing the amount of 'red tape', and ensuring that all who want a stall can get one with short-term tenancies and affordable rates.
- Investigate a 'supermarket levy' to be applied to large chains in out-of-town shopping centres to help our high streets flourish.
- Encourage the local councils to use investment monies to support businesses (including social enterprises) and co-ops in starting up, surviving and thriving, especially in the least well-off areas of the region.
- Develop a low-carbon revolution in manufacturing and technology to provide secure jobs both now and in the future.

- Re-skill our workforce, investing in new research and development and supply chains, providing start-up funding, and supporting and promoting small businesses.

Rural economy

Farmers play a special role in our region as the guardians of our natural environments and providers of our food. Agriculture and the management of the countryside are crucial here and should not be left to the mercy of market forces.

I would design policies that increase opportunities for land-based livelihoods, and facilities that help process the outputs from the land-based activities. This in turn would support a wider range of rural services and a more vibrant and self-sufficient rural economy. We must protect family farms, that promote humane animal husbandry techniques and protect rural ecosystems.

There is considerable poverty associated with rural and farming-based communities where much of the work is deemed 'unskilled' and wages are often undercut by unscrupulous work practices. We must ensure that workers get a fair wage for their work.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Promote policies that enable the Greater Cambridgeshire Bio-region to become as self-reliant as possible. Local policies should promote measures and infrastructures that support small-scale and family farms selling to local people.
- Encourage local food supply from local sources to reduce the threat to the viability of Cambridgeshire farms from imports of cheaper identical produce from outside the region.
- Ensure that in planning applications for mega-farms, adverse social impacts and the likely impact upon the viability of smaller farms are a material consideration alongside environmental impacts and implications for animal welfare.
- Improve public procurement of good quality local food.
- Help local councils to acquire land for rent to small-scale farmers and new entrants where there is a proven need.
- Encourage the allocation of land in green belts around metropolitan areas for small farms, market gardens, dairies and forestry enterprises providing fresh local food for city-dwellers.

8. EDUCATION

Young people are being ignored in the Brexit negotiations. It is a policy they didn't want, that risks their future, and they are likely to be disproportionately affected by as the economy and jobs take a hit, higher education loses European funding, and the opportunities to study and learn abroad are taken away from them.

Young people need a life raft in this Brexit storm and the Green Party is committed to building them one.

Nationally, the Green Party would scrap the tuition fees that put so many off studying for a degree. We would reinstate Higher Education Maintenance Grants to ensure that those from the poorest backgrounds are not blocked from attending university. And we would make sure that Brexit does not have a disastrous impact on young people's education by creating a UK equivalent of the EU Higher Education Funding which looks set to be scrapped.

One of the key aspects of the Devolution Deal is the formation of a new university for Peterborough with degree-awarding powers.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Ensure that the new University of Peterborough would provide the type of courses that benefit young people living in and around Peterborough.
- Work with local businesses to ensure the university offers courses in the skills that local businesses actually need (thus encouraging qualified graduates to remain in the region once their studies are completed).
- Ensure adult education and educational opportunities that will help EU nationals and migrant workers to fully utilise the skills they bring to our regions, such as languages, agricultural, healthcare and business skills.
- Prioritise the provision of genuinely useful apprenticeships across the region that give young people a sure start in life.
- Discourage businesses from offering unpaid internships in favour of paid work experience that provides skills that could make them appealing applicants for future positions.
- In partnership with the National Housing Federation to invest in a programme of training, skills and apprenticeships for people who live in social housing.
- Support the brilliant work of Peterborough's U3A (University of the Third Age) and opportunities for lifelong learning beyond retirement age.

9. EQUALITY

Equality and fairness are the silver threads that run throughout this manifesto and throughout every Green Party policy.

Our diversity is one of the key aspects that makes Cambridgeshire and Peterborough strong and able to meet the challenges of growth while protecting our environment and our communities.

EU Nationals and the Triggering of Article 50

The Green Party welcomes EU and migrant workers and recognises the contributions they make to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, both economically and culturally.

The Government's decision to trigger Article 50 so we can begin to take the necessary steps to leave the European Union has understandably caused worry to our EU national residents and their employers, who have come to depend on their skills, expertise and loyalty.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Champion the rights of EU nationals and migrant workers to acceptable working and living standards and fair pay.
- Via our links with Westminster and our Green MP Caroline Lucas, continue to push the Government to provide reassurances that resident EU nationals have the right to remain.
- Ensure that EU nationals and other migrant workers are included in public consultations that affect them as residents of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, particularly with regard to rights to remain, housing and employment.
- Seek to put an end to the exploitation of migrant workers by 'gangmasters' and other forms of modern slavery.
- Put an end to exploitative practices by agencies providing labour to businesses, establishing a task force of relevant organisations to tackle the problem.

- Invest in teaching and language facilities to help EU nationals and migrant workers to have a voice in their local communities and to help end exploitation through lack of awareness and knowledge.
- Campaign to ensure we receive a fair share of the revenues generated by our workforce to reinvest in public services and infrastructure to support our EU and migrant workforce.
- Highlight the contribution that refugees, asylum seekers, ex-pats and economic migrants make to the region.

Older People

It is becoming more and more common for people to retire and then find themselves needing to return to work, either because their pension does not sustain them, or out of a desire to remain fully involved and active in society.

As our older population continues to grow in size we need policies for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that will ensure that older people do not experience age-related discrimination.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Ensure that all plans and policies are considered from the perspective of people of all ages and work towards an age-friendly region accessible to all.
- Champion the inclusion of older representatives at all levels of the Combined Authority.
- Recognise the skills, expertise and energy of older people by encouraging employers to offer more part-time and flexible work as an alternative to full-time work or sudden retirement.
- Improve access and training for digital services for older people and encourage all public sector bodies to improve accessibility to all of their digital services.
- Champion the rights of people with dementia and ensure services are available to support people with dementia and their families throughout the region.

Disabled people

Disabled people and people who live with chronic conditions experience high rates of unemployment and under-employment. Disabled people are also more likely to experience hate crime and many struggle to participate fully in community life due to lack of resources, lack of access to transport or suitable housing and the additional financial pressures associated with living with disability or chronic illness.

The Green Party believes that given the right opportunities and support and equal access to resources and the built environment disabled and chronically ill people can thrive. For some this means full and active participation as employees, for others it means equal access to learning opportunities and for those for whom employment and learning are not appropriate options the right to meaningful, purposeful lives as connected citizens within communities, including fair and equal access to public transport, heritage and leisure.

LGBT-friendly Services

Your Green Mayor would:

- Support public services, including the police, transport service providers and community initiatives, in their work ensuring the safety of LGBT people, directly challenging discrimination and prejudice in house, healthcare and education and take a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and violence.
- Help community organisations, public services and businesses to explore together how they can become more sensitive to the needs of trans people.
- Support the provision of specialist domestic violence services that understand the issues that LGBT people uniquely face.

Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority (BAME)

Everyone in our region should have an equal opportunity to find work, gain an education, access healthcare and build a good life in a safe home. Ethnicity, skin colour and faith should not predetermine poorer outcomes in life.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Work alongside businesses to bring in voluntary targets on BAME apprenticeships.
- Promote continued understanding between people of different cultures and faiths. For example, through supporting local-level interfaith fora and opening up opportunities to explore what we all have in common.
- Encourage open working and collaboration between faith groups, BAME communities, the police, schools, voluntary groups and others.
- Request evidence of inclusive and appropriate public service delivery and review the legally required equality consultations to ensure fairness for all.

10. HEALTH

A key role for the new Mayor is to oversee the integration of local health and social care resources to provide better outcomes for residents. Good physical and mental health complemented by services that support and empower those in need of support and specialist care are critical.

Your Green Mayor would:

- Establish a network of community health centres offering 24-hour support to those in need of it, including those experiencing psychological trauma.
- Ensure that every parent and their child has access to a SureStart Children's Centre where they can meet, play and learn and receive support if required from health and social care professionals.
- Encourage those residents who are eligible for a health or social care service to receive this via a direct payment.
- Ensure that health and social care professionals always adopt an integrated approach characterised by partnership and participation.
- Ensure that carers receive the support that they are entitled to.
- Establish community-based care and support networks to help residents most in need remain in their community.

11. ABOUT JULIE

I first moved to Peterborough in 2003. At that time, I worked for the blindness and sight loss charity RNIB as the digital policy development manager. I was diagnosed with the chronic neurological condition multiple sclerosis (MS) when I was 19, and have dedicated my life to making life better for everyone, and especially disabled people and people living with chronic conditions.

During my working life, I have influenced many organisations and businesses from the Cabinet Office to Tesco.com to the British Bankers' Association, helping them to make their online services and products more usable by disabled people so that no one is left behind in the digital revolution.

I'm a writer and a published author on a range of subjects from technology to dogs!

I have been fortunate in my career. My work has been recognized numerous times. In 2000, the online community I founded for people with MS won a clutch of awards. That same year I appeared in a book that named the heroes of the dot com era, alongside Monty Python's Terry Gilliam and performer David Bowie.

In 2003 I was named one of the most influential people in new media, in a list that also featured Steve Jobs of Apple and Bill Gates of Microsoft.

In 2005, I was the first woman to receive the award for Greatest Individual Contribution to New Media (New Media Age Effectiveness awards) for bringing the needs of disabled people to the attention of business owners. The following year, I received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Net Imperative for my campaigning in the digital arena.

In 2012, my former university – University of Brighton, from which I received a degree in Library & Information Studies in 1992 – selected me from a pool of 115,000 past graduates as the recipient of its inaugural Alumnus Award for my achievements in public life and as a mentor to many of the university's students.

Today, I am a confidence coach, helping people to deliver excellent public presentations and assisting them with job interview skills. I specialize in helping people to deliver eulogies to people they love.

I live in the new Orton Northgate estate in Peterborough with my partner David, dog Reggie and cat Gracie. David works for a software company in Cambourne.

I am very involved in my local community here. I am a parish councillor for both Orton Waterville and Orton Longueville parishes and I'm joint coordinator of Peterborough Green Party with my colleague Roger Proudfoot.

I care about the people of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough very much and I have a strong desire to protect everything that is good about our region while striving to create a sustainable future for the generations to come. I am kind and patient and thoughtful, but I am also strong, analytical and decisive. I'm very proud to have secured a place on this ballot because it is my strong belief that women should take up their place in politics.



I am always happy to hear from you, so do drop me a line. My email address is julie@greencambsmayor.co.uk No one opens or answers my email except me, so you can be sure of speaking to me directly when you get in touch.

If elected, I will be a hard-working, listening, considerate mayor. I will not stand for economic growth at any cost and will protect our precious environment while working hard to deliver infrastructure that is fit for purpose.



BAY	SERVICE NUMBER
15	X4
11	21
6	31 33, 701,
16	Citi 4
10	X1
4	101/102
4	101/102
5 and 7	Citi 3, 20
14 and 7	Citi 1, 20
7 and 14	Citi 1, 22
7 and 14	Citi 1, 22
10	X1
16	37
8	8
8	Citi 6, 46
3, 5, 8 and 6	Citi 1, Citi 3, Citi 6, 31
1 and 10	Citi 2, 9
1	Citi 2
1 and 10	Citi 2, 9
15	X4
1 and 15	Citi 1, 23, 24, X4
6	33
20	CallConnect
4	101/102
4	101/102
4	101/102
4	101/102
4	101/102
4	101/102



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