

Shahrar Ali

Pledge 1: Would you support the Guidance on Antisemitism being included in the Framework for Ethics and Conduct?

No

Pledge 2: Would you commit to the principle of “nothing about us, without us” when talking publicly about issues relating to liberation groups?

Yes

Pledge 3: Would you attend antisemitism training and support its role out across the party?

Yes

Question 1: How do you intend to support the role of liberation groups such as Jewish Greens within the Party?

Liberation groups play an important role in building party solidarity around external campaigns and in providing a locus for members to develop policy in particular areas of interest. I do, however, think we are suffering from divisiveness in the party which these liberation groups could help to overcome. Take the slogan, “nothing about us without us”. Of course, I agree with the principle and spirit of it, but with the caution that there can be a tendency to assume that genuine consultation has included all the relevant people when in fact it hasn’t, because more people are affected than were originally assumed. Moreover, delegating initiative to interests groups can carry with it a risk of excluding others who are equally affected. For example, proposals for GRA reform arguably affect everyone equally and so assuming only one group should have authority in the matter would be a mistake. The “about us” and “without us” is not always obvious. Another example is that a bad definition of antisemitism could disproportionately affect Palestinians, or their allies, as well as Jews – precisely because it would be counterproductive on its own terms and not help to tackle genuine antisemitism by conflating legitimate political criticism. The Campaign Against Antisemitism, which promotes adoption of the highly problematic IHRA, has been caught out for peddling Islamophobic stereotypes and so we must look out for all communities and call out any racist stereotyping, equally.

Question 2: What is your strategy for tackling antisemitism within the party? What do you see the leadership’s role in this as?

I oppose all racism, including anti-Jewish racism, which is sadly on the rise. I regard our party as a safe and tolerant space for members of all religions or none, but this is not something we can be complacent about. We must ensure that members treat one another with respect and that they feel

safe and supported in reporting any incidences of antisemitism. We can improve trust in our processes, and where necessary this includes the use of disciplinary ones, by adopting good definitions, such as the Jerusalem Declaration of Antisemitism instead of the IHRA. The JDA supports a robust interpretation of how to identify antisemitism, especially within the context of free speech on Israel and Palestine, following a critique of the IHRA. I have a motion to conference to do just this, which I know another candidate pair now supports, too. I also support training on all forms of anti-discrimination awareness and think it is important that these both be delivered by properly licensed and vetted organisations and that we fulfil our duties under the Equality Act by being proactive on all forms of discrimination. As one among equals on GPEx, I would be part of the deliberation and decision-making on how best to achieve this. I would like us to introduce and prioritise training on active bystander techniques against bullying in the party. Standing by and witnessing should not be an option, especially among our leadership figures.

**Question 3: What should the Green Party's role be in tackling new far-right and conspiracist movements, which have strong antisemitic elements, particularly on social media?**

One of the great strengths of the Green Party is our commitment to the principle of assessing information based on evidence. Conspiracy theories appeal to those who are trying to make sense of an increasingly complex world; many of these theories are indeed antisemitic. We need to make it clear that there is absolutely no place for such false and destructive theories in our party. We must concentrate on promoting evidence-based factual information to counter such falsehoods, while encouraging critical thinking so that people can more accurately assess the tremendous amount of information with which we are faced every day.

**Question 4: As leader how would you promote outreach to faith communities such as the Jewish community?**

I agree that outreach to religious communities is important. I have been taking part in the commemoration activities of Holocaust Memorial Day every year for many years. Here's a recent example just pre-lockdown:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ShahrarAliGreenParty/posts/1157593461078817> I am delighted that this year's Rosh Hashanah can be properly celebrated this week, with the lifting of the Covid restrictions. And of course, in addition to the three main religions of this country, I am also keen to reach out to people of other traditions: Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and others. We need to celebrate the common values of our wonderful range of traditions in the UK, while respecting differing expressions and contributions to society.

**Question 5: What do you believe the Green Party's stance should be on ritual slaughter practices such as Kosher and Halal meat?**

We should promote dialogue with religious communities around humane slaughter methods, many of whom are already engaged in this matter. The Green Party is rightly committed to promoting

animal welfare and where there is a conflict between that and religious tradition, we must not be afraid to face that conflict and look for a positive way forward. I am aware that the proponents of ritual slaughter methods claim that these methods are humane, but more research must be done in this area. I also have a good relationship with East London Mosque and have been impressed with their commitment to reducing meat consumption in its own right as part of responsible environment action. With a diploma in Theology and sometime teacher of classes in philosophy of religion and animal ethics, I am confident in being able to address audiences or journalists on these matters with minimal preparation. I hope I'd be well-placed to avoid the kind of cross-fire which Jonathan got into over his incautious, nay offensive, remarks about halal meat. Despite his apology those comments did stick with many in the Muslim community, one we would do well to better reach out towards.

Question 6: With a year on year rise in reported antisemitic hate crime since 2015 (excluding data collected during the pandemic), what steps should the Green Party be pushing for to reduce this?

The Green Party must send an unmistakable message utterly condemning antisemitic hate crimes. Just one aspect of this is clamping down on racially motivated hate-speech in the context of international politics. By setting out our own policy regarding antisemitism within the Party, based on a clear definition of antisemitism that permits the justified critique of the actions of the Israeli government (instead of a conflation of the two), we will demonstrate a clear model and protect others in our party from vexatious allegations.

Question 7: Jews and GRT communities share common histories of racial violence and discrimination. What would you do as leader to help tackle discrimination against GRT communities?

Racial violence and discrimination against the Roma and wider travelling community is a big issue. I am extremely concerned about the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts bill currently making its way through Parliament. Not only does this bill have grave implications with regard to our right to protest, it also has potentially very negative implications for travellers. One of my first acts, if elected leader, will be to speak out strongly against this bill, pointing out the implications and the hardships it would inevitably lead to if passed. I have already begun the work of speaking out against these abuses of state power in my role as spokesperson for Policing and Domestic Safety.

Tina Rothery and Martin Hemingway

Pledge 1: Would you support the Guidance on Antisemitism being included in the Framework for Ethics and Conduct?

No response

Pledge 2: Would you commit to the principle of “nothing about us, without us” when talking publicly about issues relating to liberation groups?

No response

Pledge 3: Would you attend antisemitism training and support its role out across the party?

Yes

(NOTE: We do not respond to questions/pledges that do not permit a nuanced answer if that is what we would rather provide. This would apply to pledge 1 (see question 2) and 2 (qualification on circumstances in which the response is sought).

Question 1: How do you intend to support the role of liberation groups such as Jewish Greens within the Party?

The various member groups and working groups within the Party represent an important set of foci for the development of policy and practice in the Party. We are committed to the development of these groups. We will seek to interact with the groups attending meetings where possible, presenting arguments when there are presentational issues, or internal conflicts (in some case this may involve supporting mediation between groups), and representing their views to the wider public.

Question 2: What is your strategy for tackling antisemitism within the party? What do you see the leadership’s role in this as?

Our answer here covers the detailed response we would want to make to your ‘pledge 1’. We think real antisemitism in the Party ie hatred or distrust of Jewish people is very rare. We are concerned about the potential for what might be called ‘definitional anti-semitism’ to create differences where these are not real. For this reason we think it is important that the Party thinks carefully about how it is to define anti-semitism. For the most part this is uncontroversial, however we are concerned that with regard to criticisms of the actions of the Israeli state the use of a label of anti-semitism should not be used to defend actions that affect the rights of those who identify as Palestinian, or as non-Jewish Israelis. We have spent time on the two definitions widely available, the IHRA definition and the JDAS definition, and favour the latter because of its more nuanced approach to criticisms of the actions of the state of Israel. Ideally both would be available on the Party’s ‘Framework for Ethics & Conduct’, and we need to work together to ensure that this happens.

Question 3: What should the Green Party’s role be in tackling new far-right and conspiracist movements, which have strong antisemitic elements, particularly on social media?

This is an enormous question, and we are well aware of the increasing concerns, in relation to the protection of democracy (Peter Geoghegan 'Democracy for Sale'), in relation to misogyny (Laura Bates 'Men who hate Women'), as well as general hatred of minorities, whether of religion or race (Joe Mulhall 'Drums in the Distance'). The approach to dealing with each of these has individual aspects, but there are some regularities.

The PREVENT programme is rightly criticised for a focus on Muslim radicalisation, and the inclusion of animal rights and environmental campaigners. The idea behind the programme, that the risk of radicalisation requires intervention is acceptable, but the base needs to be extended to include a breadth of far right content covering misogyny, and race and religious hatred.

Secondly, and more difficult for government, but the pressure needs to be there, working with social media companies so that their algorithms do not lead searchers rapidly from an innocent inquiry to far right content.

Thirdly, the provision of education in schools focussed on these issues, and the provision of youth community facilities aimed at bringing in young people from a range of backgrounds to foster interaction, and – one hopes – mutual understanding.

**Question 4: As leader how would you promote outreach to faith communities such as the Jewish community?**

This is potentially easier for us in that neither of us belongs to a faith community, but we recognise the value of faith communities in fostering values not only about faith and community, but about the larger moral and ethical questions. We will be pursuing opportunities to meet faith community leaders and members to explore the link between green values and aims, and those of the faith community.

**Question 5: What do you believe the Green Party's stance should be on ritual slaughter practices such as Kosher and Halal meat?**

Neither of us is a meat-eater and this makes assessing the nuances around slaughter mechanisms problematic for us. We are aware that this is an issue of great concern to the Jewish community (MH found it 'challenging' at a hustings in the orthodox Jewish synagogue in Leeds) as well as in the Muslim community, as clear from the preferences of other friends. While one of the GPEW messages is around reducing meat consumption, it has to be recognised that meat eating will continue. GPEW policy is concerned with the welfare of the animals on the way to slaughter, before slaughter, and in the act of slaughter. It is only in relation to the last of these that the rules become significant. We recognise the arguments put up in both communities that ritual slaughter is no more painful than other slaughter mechanisms, and that there are disagreements about this, we recognise that the party policy (AR404) accepts ritual slaughter and only requires it to be clearly indicated on the labelling, and it is appropriate that this stance should continue.

**Question 6: With a year on year rise in reported antisemitic hate crime since 2015 (excluding data collected during the pandemic), what steps should the Green Party be pushing for to reduce this?**

This question overlaps with questions 2 and 3, and the responses there, particularly to 3, indicate approaches to this.

Question 7: Jews and GRT communities share common histories of racial violence and discrimination. What would you do as leader to help tackle discrimination against GRT communities?

We recognise the shared history of persecution, including in the Holocaust, and the continuing anti GRT prejudice that is widespread in Europe. It is important that two motions are coming to Autumn conference from the GRT community – one to establish a working group to work on party policy, and the other to add to PSS a working definition on Anti Gypsy Roma Travellerism. We will be supporting these motions, and as indicated in the answer to question 1 doing what we can to support the work of the Working Group, and the publicity around these issues.

### **Ashley Gunstock**

Pledge 1: Would you support the Guidance on Antisemitism being included in the Framework for Ethics and Conduct?

No Response

Pledge 2: Would you commit to the principle of “nothing about us, without us” when talking publicly about issues relating to liberation groups?

No Response

Pledge 3: Would you attend antisemitism training and support its role out across the party?

No Response

*Note: Ashley was advised by the ERO to refuse to answer yes/no questions. No other candidates received this advice and we are seeking clarification and hope to be able to add his responses soon*

Question 1: How do you intend to support the role of liberation groups such as Jewish Greens within the Party?

All people should be able to express their religion, race and/or culture in a safe and peaceful environment. Therefore, I would wish to see multi-racial events organised at the festival times so that we are able to learn and be more aware of each other's practices.

Question 2: What is your strategy for tackling antisemitism within the party? What do you see the leadership's role in this as?

A leader should facilitate a 'live and let live' culture within the party, be an example of how we may embrace and rejoice in the strength of our diversity.

Question 3: What should the Green Party's role be in tackling new far-right and conspiracist movements, which have strong antisemitic elements, particularly on social media?

The Green Party should be condemning all anti-Semitic and racist groups and campaign for any such to be removed from social media.

Question 4: As leader how would you promote outreach to faith communities such as the Jewish community?

I intend to visit local parties around the country, especially when I tour in stage productions as an actor. I would then make a point of suggesting that we encourage all ethnic groups to see what their local Green Party has to offer their communities in the way of support.

Question 5: What do you believe the Green Party's stance should be on ritual slaughter practices such as Kosher and Halal meat?

I am a vegetarian chiefly because I cannot bear any form of animal cruelty. Therefore, although Jewish and Muslim ritual slaughter was the cutting edge (pun intended) of it's time there are more humane ways for this to be undertaken. An animal should, at the very least, be stunned before it is to die.

Question 6: With a year on year rise in reported antisemitic hate crime since 2015 (excluding data collected during the pandemic), what steps should the Green Party be pushing for to reduce this?

As per my answer to question 4, we should be engaging more with our local Jewish communities. They need us to show them that we understand their difficulties and that we are there for them when hate crime raises its ugly head. We also need to be more vocal in our condemnation of this.

Question 7: Jews and GRT communities share common histories of racial violence and discrimination. What would you do as leader to help tackle discrimination against GRT communities?

The Greens should encourage the Jewish and GRT communities to see the similarities and the shared history that exist between these two groups. This would help them and others to embrace a culture of people on the move.

### **Amelia Womack & Tamsin Omond**

Pledge 1: Would you support the Guidance on Antisemitism being included in the Framework for Ethics and Conduct?

Yes

Pledge 2: Would you commit to the principle of “nothing about us, without us” when talking publicly about issues relating to liberation groups?

Yes

Pledge 3: Would you attend antisemitism training and support its role out across the party?

Yes

Question 1: How do you intend to support the role of liberation groups such as Jewish Greens within the Party?

Our Liberation Manifesto, released as one of the first actions of our campaign, sets out a number of plans and long-term strategies for empowering, platforming, and listening to our Liberation Groups. This includes the Jewish Greens. We released this plan early in the campaign because tackling both intentional and unintentional discrimination and prejudice is essential to building an accessible, inclusive, and representative movement. We will prioritise healing so that our Party can recover from the politics of exploitation and oppression. There is no short-cut to this work, but it is an essential



plank of our platform for election and, if elected, our leadership. Our Liberation Manifesto is a first step in proving this priority to our membership.

Our plans include: regular advisory meetings with a Liberation Panel comprised of representatives from groups facing significant marginalisation – our Liberation Groups, including investigating ways of funding the work of this panel; a programme of learning to support and educate members, and challenge ingrained culture within the party, with input from all Liberation Groups; and to develop and enact a plan for holding hate speech accountable within the party.

This manifesto outlines our clear intent to make the Green Party of England and Wales a party in which all of us can thrive. We are committed to centering the voices of those most impacted by situations in decision making. We commit to continual learning and growth.

Please do give our Manifesto for Liberation a read at <https://www.womackomond.green/news/a-manifesto-for-liberation-2> for more detail.

**Question 2: What is your strategy for tackling antisemitism within the party? What do you see the leadership's role in this as?**

The Leadership of the Green Party has a great deal of 'soft power' to influence the party, and it is incumbent on all members of the Leadership Team to use that power to tackle discrimination of all kinds, including antisemitism. Amelia is well aware of this in her role as Deputy Leader for the past 7 years – Amelia has supported multiple motions to conference in this area, coordinated learning sessions at conference, and has advocated for tackling this in her position on the Executive Committee.

We will support efforts of members to introduce a definition of antisemitism in our members' Code of Conduct to establish clear guidelines of what does and does not constitute antisemitism, so that we can begin to educate our members on how to spot antisemitic tropes, and how to avoid further propagating them themselves. This will also give the Disciplinary procedures within our party the confidence they need to ensure that those who perpetuate antisemitism, prejudice, and hate within our party are held accountable. We will assist every Liberation Group to revise our Code of Conduct to ensure best practice is enshrined in it.

We will also encourage the use of external specialist advice for complex and technical disciplinary cases, to ensure that nobody is denied the justice they deserve. We will also work with local and regional parties to implement changes to their own processes, including guidance around accessibility and inclusion. We will reduce the timeframe for cases to be handled, to give members confidence that the disciplinary processes are there to protect them, should they need them.

We will also challenge antisemitism in our roles as public spokespeople for the party, and make it clear to those who may bring it into our party that it is not welcome. This is especially a risk for our party as the Labour Party expels members who have perpetuated antisemitism and harm within their party – we must be clear that the Green Party will not be a safe haven for antisemites. We must make it clear that the Green Party will not tolerate hatred, prejudice or discrimination of any kind.

Please do give our Manifesto for Liberation a read at

<https://www.womackomond.green/news/a-manifesto-for-liberation-2> for more detail.

**Question 3: What should the Green Party's role be in tackling new far-right and conspiracist movements, which have strong antisemitic elements, particularly on social media?**

On both the far-left and far-right of politics, there are conspiratorialist factions that lend themselves well to perpetuating antisemitism, both intentionally and unintentionally. On the Left, there is a naive belief that because our politics are often believed to be based in strong moral grounding, that we are immune to the moral failings of intentional and unintentional bias, prejudice, and hatred present in our society. We are clear that we are not and we have to be consciously aware of this to route it out. On the right, there are leaders who point fingers and scapegoat already oppressed communities in order to manipulate and distract people so that they might not use their democratic right to challenge those in power.

We do not think it is helpful to think of this as a problem of uniquely the right or of the left of our politics. Rather, when your politics teaches you to be distrusting of institutions and the media, as is the case on both the far left and far right, you can become susceptible to the tactics of those who wish to sow hatred and division, by creating a scapegoat. This tactic has been used for generations to oppress Jewish communities, and we have seen similar tactics recently against many Eastern European communities in the lead up to the Brexit referendum and since. We have to be better than that. Our politics is one of love, compassion and active inclusion, and we have to be clear that those that cannot and will not get on board with that are not welcome in our movement.

We must not entertain those that are complicit in creating this conspiratorial outlook – that means refusing to engage with Russia Today and other fake news and propaganda outlets. These outlets will often try to flatter Greens by giving us attention often denied by the mainstream media, and we cannot fall for it.

We also have to tackle the root causes that lead people down the path of supporting this kind of politics. Economic inequality itself breeds division. The lack of opportunities for young people to get

ahead and to prosper manifests itself in so many hateful ways – from the rise in street crime to increasing support for right-wing conspiratorial politics. People need to feel they have a fair stake in our society and that their voice is valued and listened to. With policies like a Universal Basic Income, a wealth tax, and a £100bn a year Green New Deal, we will show people the value of an inclusive and open society, so as to reduce opportunity for those who wish us harm to recruit some of our most vulnerable to their cause.

We need to hold the tech giants accountable for the essentially ungoverned public squares they're creating – they must hold those who use their platforms to sow hate accountable. It cannot be right for them to make millions off us all, and then claim they cannot properly fund efforts to eradicate hatred from their platforms.

**Question 4: As leader how would you promote outreach to faith communities such as the Jewish community?**

We need to bring faith communities, especially those who are marginalised, into the heart of our Party. Faith communities are often built on shared values and the prioritisation of community - both of these things are very dear to the organising focus of our co-leadership candidacy. We will uplift Jewish Greens and the work of its membership. We will support Jewish Greens in their work of outreach to the Jewish Community. We will work with Jewish Greens to dismantle any Green Party structures, practises or processes that exclude Jewish people.

Outreach to communities takes time, focus and effort. It is a core plank in our organising strategy. As inter-faith organiser for the 10:10 campaign (now Possible), Tamsin has experience of mobilising and organising with faith communities, they will bring their insight into developing strategies with local parties for effective outreach.

**Question 5: What do you believe the Green Party's stance should be on ritual slaughter practices such as Kosher and Halal meat?**

The Green Party, fundamentally, believes in animal sentience and animal rights, and we will always encourage a transition towards plant-based diets. This is essential for both the purposes of beating climate change and developing sustainable agriculture, to dealing with the ever growing needs of a

growing population, to animal protection. However, this principal cannot be used as a stick to beat already marginalized communities with. In our activism, we have to be mindful of where people are starting from, and what the blockers might be for any individual community to make the changes we are calling for. This is true for those without access to vegan food, it is true for those with eating disorders that prevent them following a plant-based diet, and it is true for many religious communities too. It is only by truly embedding ourselves in communities can we fully understand their needs and their challenges, and we won't do that without respecting their religious practices.

We support the current Green Party policy, which focuses on better labeling which supports everyone.

Question 6: With a year on year rise in reported antisemitic hate crime since 2015 (excluding data collected during the pandemic), what steps should the Green Party be pushing for to reduce this?

Hate crime against many communities has increased. We don't say that to in any way diminish the fear and pain that Jewish communities have experienced watching their family and friends fall victim to hate crime. We say it to outline why an intersectional and holistic approach to challenging hate crime is essential. Some of the most oppressed in our society are waking up almost daily to news that there has been yet another attack on their community, or another oppressed community, and this includes Jewish people. We have to stand together as it is in solidarity that we have the power to challenge this hatred.

In any particular incident of hate crime, it is the perpetrator that must be held accountable, and no excuses can be made for their behavior. It is unacceptable and they must take full responsibility.

It is naive however to believe that societal factors do not influence the prevalence of hate crime. We are clear that what we are witnessing today are the consequences of this government's austerity agenda playing out. You cannot expect to tear apart the very fabric of our society with brutal cuts to public services without an increase in societal isolation, scapegoating, and ultimately hate crime and violent crime. Community-level policing has disappeared, and youth services have faced brutal cuts. Wages are stagnant at best. All of this leads to a level of anger that can often be misplaced at those with the least power in our society.

We cannot ignore the impact that the Brexit referendum has had on our society. For some of the most divisive people in our country, this referendum was taken as a sign that the country is with them. This is despite the fact that the Brexit vote was, for most people, not driven by the hate that those orchestrating it were espousing. Nonetheless, it has emboldened those who seek to sow division in our society.

Obviously, where recording of incidents as hate crime is not sufficient, we need better data and better transparency on that data. We need better communities that work for everyone. We need to be exposing the fallacy of the causes of our societal issues, and articulating how austerity causes these consequences to ensure we stop further divides, especially as the Government prepares yet another austerity budget.

**Question 7: Jews and GRT communities share common histories of racial violence and discrimination. What would you do as leader to help tackle discrimination against GRT communities?**

As part of our Liberation Manifesto, we commit to an educational programme around diverse groups. We specifically include the need to communicate the lived experiences of the GRT community. For too long, GRT culture and history has been ignored rather than celebrated. Misinformation has enabled hatred, and oppression. We must work to combat the prejudices ingrained in our societal structures.

This is an important time in our history to be supporting GRT rights. The recent Policing Bill has proven to be a direct attack on Traveller communities, and we must work to expose and tackle its discriminative powers. This legislation will make "residing or intending to reside on land without the permission of the owner or occupier" a criminal offence, meaning Gypsy, Roma and Traveller families could be handed fines of up to £2,500, criminal records and have their vehicles seized. Campaigning organisation Drive to Survive has called it "the single biggest threat to the traditional way of life of Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers in our lifetime".

Tamsin and Amelia both support any organisation working to make these new police powers unenforceable and will challenge it in the House of Lords.

We also must ensure that we never forget the horrific experiences of Jewish and GRT communities in the Holocaust. On Holocaust Memorial Day we will remember all those who suffered under Nazi persecution.

Amelia recently outlined Roma women as part of her feminism in a recent LBC hustings, because she believes we need to be working to address the discrimination they experience.

**Carla Denyer & Adrian Ramsay**

Pledge 1: Would you support the Guidance on Antisemitism being included in the Framework for Ethics and Conduct?

Yes

Pledge 2: Would you commit to the principle of “nothing about us, without us” when talking publicly about issues relating to liberation groups?

Yes

Pledge 3: Would you attend antisemitism training and support its role out across the party?

Yes

Question 1: How do you intend to support the role of liberation groups such as Jewish Greens within the Party?

We have a particular priority in our first 100 days to support the party’s liberation and policy groups to facilitate workshops and training (e.g. the Jewish Greens’ antisemitism training roadshow) that help our members understand each other, party policy and our shared mission, as a first step in tackling the divisions in our party. These should be led by liberation groups but we will proactively support them with an aim of getting the first workshops running within the first 100 days.

We also believe that it is important that liberation groups are consulted on policy. That’s why Carla has co-proposed a motion to Autumn conference that would give liberation groups the right of reply on conference motions that affect their members.

And we want to support liberation groups to run their own externally facing campaigns. For example, Greens of Colour’s 5 Demands campaign last year (<https://greensofcolour.greenparty.org.uk/five-demands-for-racial-justice>) was an excellent example of how the party can work with our liberation and special interest groups to champion change and recruit members.

We believe the ultimate direction should be a staff member supporting our liberation groups and the important work that we do. That's why we also see fundraising as an important part of our role

Above all, we will listen to and work closely with our liberation groups, to be informed by their expertise and lived experience in decisions we make.

Question 2: What is your strategy for tackling antisemitism within the party? What do you see the leadership's role in this as?

We would like to be guided by Jewish Greens on this - as with all diversity issues, we try to adhere to the principle of "nothing about us without us". Jewish Greens have been doing some great work lately which we have supported and as leaders will continue to do so:

A motion has been submitted to conference asking that we formally adopt a definition of antisemitism into our code of conduct to make it easier to address any internal antisemitism, by ensuring that the disciplinary committee can work to an agreed definition. Carla co-proposed that motion.

Jewish Greens' antisemitism training roadshow to local parties: Bristol (Carla's local party) was one of the first groups to take part in this. Carla found it a really helpful, constructive approach, with a mixture of presentation and discussion, a carefully facilitated space where there was 'no such thing as a stupid question'. We would like to support the Jewish Greens to roll this out more widely across local parties, and also to support other liberation groups to do similar - e.g. Greens of Colour did a session on Islamophobia at a previous conference and we understand LGBTIQ+ Greens are working on very similar roadshow format training about transphobia.

As leaders it is part of our role to set the tone and model inclusive behaviour within and outside the party, including listening to and being led by liberation groups in their areas of expertise.

Question 3: What should the Green Party's role be in tackling new far-right and conspiracist movements, which have strong antisemitic elements, particularly on social media?

It is important to know when to engage with people on social media, traditional media and real life; and when to recognise that engaging with bad faith actors only stokes division and provides a platform for hate.

Carla faced this decision in 2019 when invited onto a panel with Carl Benjamin, a far right YouTuber who stood for UKIP in the European Parliament 2019 elections. She refused to share a platform with him, calling on the organisers to replace him with another of the party's candidates.

(<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/may/15/university-uwe-bristol-cancels-eu-election-debate-over-ukip-candidate-carl-benjamin>)

Political education is hugely important. We need to guard people against repeating and propagating tropes. As well as within the Green Party, we see there's a greater role for education in our schools and wider society about how to spot and challenge conspiracy theories. We should campaign for this.

And as leaders we believe it's our role to challenge the spread of these toxic and dangerous lies. We can call out politicians who have a role in doing this.

**Question 4: As leader how would you promote outreach to faith communities such as the Jewish community?**

In the UK at large, aside from modelling inclusive behaviour in the party, we can help tackle antisemitism partly by engaging with and supporting Jewish communities in our towns and cities. For example, before the pandemic Carla visited the synagogue in Bristol to learn more about Jewish traditions and the challenges the local Jewish community face, and hopes to meet with the local Progressive Jewish Congregation once it is meeting in person again.

As leaders we would encourage all councillors and candidates to build links with their local faith groups. It should be a goal of the Green Party to be making inroads and winning council seats in Jewish communities.

**Question 5: What do you believe the Green Party's stance should be on ritual slaughter practices such as Kosher and Halal meat?**

We want to see society move towards much less meat consumption overall. For the meat that is still consumed we support the highest possible welfare for all slaughtered animals, and we are pleased to say the Green Party has policies to encourage this and still allow free expression of religion, which we think is the right balance.



Singling out kosher or halal is wrong. Some of the worst animal cruelty happens in irreligious abattoirs.

Question 6: With a year on year rise in reported antisemitic hate crime since 2015 (excluding data collected during the pandemic), what steps should the Green Party be pushing for to reduce this?

We have to take a three pronged approach:

We must address the propagation of hate speech on social media. We should use our platform to challenge big tech, who are clearly in the business of maximising profit, with under-resourced moderation.

We must address political rhetoric that drives hatred towards our communities. We want the Green Party to be a leader in challenging antisemitism and calling out politicians who cross the line and stoke hatred.

Finally, schools have a huge part to play. We can teach young people to understand and decry antisemitic and racist tropes and to challenge their use. We're not doing enough of that.

Question 7: Jews and GRT communities share common histories of racial violence and discrimination. What would you do as leader to help tackle discrimination against GRT communities?

Gypsies, Roma and Travellers face unacceptable prejudice in this country, and are widely considered to be among the most socially excluded communities in the UK.

Elected Greens and the leadership team must lead the charge against the Policing Bill - it will criminalise the lives of GRT, it's a gross over-step of government powers that threatens human rights. If it passed we should work with the communities to expose their mistreatment and demand change.

We should also continue our work with European Green Parties. Hatred of the Roma is a scourge across Europe, propagated by networks of hatred. Our green movement can play a role in exposing the hate, challenging the politicians who promote it, and building the drive for Europe-wide education and action.