

April 2018



Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand

Policy Manifesto

Tl;dr: An ecologist/ecosocialist party that believes in environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and grassroots democracy within a steady-state economy.





Contents

Our four pillars	4
Ecology	4
Social responsibility	4
Grassroots democracy	4
Nonviolence	4
A zero carbon economy by 2050	6
Farming	7
Protecting drinking water	8
Turning trash into cash	9
Refunds on drink containers	9
Phase out unnecessary plastic packaging	9
Zero waste Aotearoa	9
Animal welfare	10
Independent commissioner	10
Agriculture	10
Transport of animals	10
Companion animals	11
Animals in entertainment	11
Pests	12
Animal experimentation	12
Clean, fast transport	13
Safe walking and cycling to school	14
Turning the broken safety net into a trampoline	15
A budget for all mothers	17
Affordable homes	18
Progressive home ownership	18
Working with community housing providers	18
Innovative housing finance	19
Banning letting fees	19
State housing	20
Solidarity	21

Superannuation	22
Health	22
Youth mental health plan	22
Universal dental care	22
Restoring community level involvement in health services	23
Education	23
Inclusive education plan	23
Supporting students	24
Honouring te Tiriti o Waitangi	25
Justice	26
Public journalism funding	27
Immigration	28
Foreign affairs	28
Welcoming more refugees	29
Rainbow community	30
Better representation	31

Our four pillars

Ecology

All human beings are part of the natural world. This world is finite, therefore unlimited material growth is impossible. Ecological sustainability is paramount.

Social responsibility

Unlimited material growth is impossible, but we must ensure everyone has enough to live a healthy life. The key to social responsibility is the just distribution of social and natural resources, locally and globally.

Grassroots democracy

For the implementation of ecological wisdom and social responsibility should be made directly at the appropriate level by those affected.

Nonviolence

Nonviolent conflict resolution is the process by which the three pillars above should be implemented, and on all levels.



Goals for a Green Government

When confronted with politicians espousing a bold vision and hope for New Zealand, voters have every right to be suspicious and sceptical. For years, successive governments have promised gifts of gold before doing little of it, to sometimes even doing the opposite.

This is the Green Party's comprehensive plan to deliver on our bold goals for the future of Aotearoa.

We have three primary priorities.

1. To make Aotearoa New Zealand a world leader in the worldwide fight against the existential threat that is climate change
2. To restore and replenish our forests, birds, and rivers
3. To end poverty in New Zealand

A clean steady economy, a healthy environment, and an equitable society is possible. We have the plan. This is change to believe in.

We believe we have proved our strength and commitment as a senior partner in these last two governments, effectively leading the legislative agenda, despite being only a junior party in the first term.

We have also proved that we are strong and stable, the only party free of leadership resignations and replacements.

At this upcoming election, the choice is clear. Stable and progressive Green government, or the fanaticism of the opposition. We encourage all voters not to make light of this decision. The future of this country depends on everyone's vote.

We encourage you to have a good read through this manifesto, and learn how we can make Aotearoa New Zealand a leader in green and progressive politics together.



imnofox, Co-Leader



UncookedMeatloaf, Co-Leader

Our Plan

A zero carbon economy by 2050

In our first term in government, we successfully passed the Zero Carbon Act, committing New Zealand to reaching a net-zero carbon economy by the year 2050. This Act also founded the Independent Climate Commission, requiring governments to create binding plans on how they will strive towards meeting that goal. The commission also provides governments with advice, and acts as a government watchdog to keep the government from straying.

The Greens will:

1. Continue to support the Zero Carbon Act
2. Continue to plant the 1.2 billion trees
3. Continue to support the Kiwi Climate Fund
4. We will commit to 100 percent renewable electricity by 2030
5. Divest public investment funds from companies involved in fossil fuel exploration, mining, and production
6. Set ambitious emission standards for imported vehicles
7. Slowly and gradually increase the carbon tax prices for the agricultural sector to match the general carbon tax price





Farming

The agricultural sector makes up nearly half of New Zealand's net emissions, so it's important we address this problem by supporting transformation, not fighting against industry. The Green Party will:

1. Help farmers move to more sustainable and profitable farming by
 - a. Extending the Sustainable Farming Fund with an extra \$20 million every year to reach more farmers and help them to farm with environment, not against it
 - b. Creating a Transformational Farming Partnership Fund of around \$70 million a year to focus on farming for clean water, adaptation to climate change, soil research, dryland research, and drought-proofing farms
 - c. Increasing funding for the Landcare Trust to \$16 million over three years to work more closely with farmers and councils on environmentally friendly farming projects
 - d. Rewarding tree planting by farmers and landowners
 - e. Allowing accelerated depreciation on dairy farm equipment to help farmers transition
 - f. Support organic farming by introducing national standards, and new funding of \$5 million a year
2. Put a moratorium on new dairy farm conversions
3. Wind up Crown Irrigation Investments Ltd and stop providing subsidies for big irrigation projects
4. Transition away from Palm Kernel Expeller/Extract (PKE) to alternative feed stocks
5. Establish a 'Good Food Aotearoa New Zealand' national sustainability accreditation scheme for food products, processors and farmers, so those who work with the land, not against it, can prove it to consumers at home and overseas to fetch a higher price and are more attractive to export markets

Protecting drinking water

Unfortunately, New Zealanders can no longer take clean drinking water for granted, but this can be fixed. Nobody should ever have to worry about the water coming from their taps being unsafe to drink.

Water bottling companies profit by taking some of our purest and cleanest water, but may only minimal administration fees for the privilege, dirtying our clean water systems while some New Zealanders have to boil their water before they can drink it.

The Greens will put an immediate 10c/litre level on water bottling and exports. Revenue will go directly back to the community through regional councils, with the expectation that the revenue is used to clean up waterways, and to protect drinking water and infrastructure.

In government we will develop a new way of allocating and pricing all commercial uses of water, based on shared values of protecting freshwater, honouring te Tiriti o Waitangi, and upholding mana whenua rights. This will involve nationwide meetings and hui to involve all New Zealanders in the process. We expect tangata whenua will play a critical role in this process.

New water bottling consents will be banned until we have the regulation in place to ensure priority is given to good supplies of clean drinking water for all New Zealanders. We will protect drinking water sources from the activities that pollute them with pathogens, sediment, run off and nitrates.





Turning trash into cash

We have a plan to clean up our beaches, create jobs, and transform trash to cash.

By 2050, oceans will carry more plastic mass than they do fish, and an estimated 99 per cent of seabirds will have ingested plastic. Because Kiwis love the beach and most of live pretty close to the ocean, we increase the risk of single use plastics ending up in the marine environment, even by mistake. Our plan will introduce refunds on drink containers, ban plastic bags, phase out unnecessary plastic packaging, and commit to a zero-waste New Zealand. Administrative funding for the implementation of the plan will come from the Minister for the Environment baselines.

Refunds on drink containers

We will establish a nationwide network of refund programmes to encourage people to recycle plastic bottles, glass bottles, and aluminium cans.

A container deposit scheme has helped make South Australia the cleanest state in Australia, and the policy has the support of 90 percent of local and regional councils in New Zealand

Phase out unnecessary plastic packaging

The Green Party will reduce unnecessary plastic packaging in stores by declaring plastic packaging a “priority product” under the Waste Minimisation Act.

We’ll also set targets for reducing and phasing out plastic cutlery, plates, and cups.

Zero waste Aotearoa

We are committed to a bold, transformative vision for the waste sector in New Zealand with no waste going to landfill by 2050. We can do this by increasing the waste levy, and re-prioritising the waste minimisation fund. This plan will reduce pollution in our waterways and beaches, and will generate new jobs.



Animal welfare

Animals are sentient beings, able to experience pain and distress as well as positive states. We have a moral responsibility to ensure that all animals are treated with respect, to minimise pain and suffering, and provide animals in human care with a high quality of life.

Independent commissioner

There is a need for animals to have a stronger voice independent of both political parties and of the Ministries. The Greens will:

1. Establish a Commissioner of Animal Welfare, independent of political parties and Ministries, and which will report to parliament
2. Ensure that the new Commissioner of Animal Welfare has the power to review and report on animal welfare codes and regulations to protect animals from suffering due to the direct or indirect actions of humans. The commissioner will also have the proactive power to investigate and make recommendations on complaints regarding animal welfare

Agriculture

Even though gestation crates have been banned and battery hen cages are being phased out, a number of practices are widely used in farming which cause animals to suffer. The Greens will:

1. Reduce confinement of sows in farrowing crates to a maximum of 72 hours and explore commercially viable alternatives
2. Phase out painful techniques such as the debeaking of hens and maceration of day old chicks in association with the development of alternative, humane practices such as gender selection of fertilised eggs
3. Prohibit new, and phase out existing, factory farming of animals, including highly intensive outdoor facilities such as feedlots
4. Ensure that all agricultural animals are provided with appropriate shade, shelter, and comfortable resting areas
5. Support the breeding of genetic lines with inherent disease resistance, and traits such as horn free, and discourage the use of breeds, and the development of transgenic animals for agricultural research or other purposes, with inherent deformities or susceptibilities

Transport of animals

Many animals suffer when they are transported. We will:

- 
1. Require animals to be slaughtered as near as possible to the point of production, support the development of more localised slaughter houses, and require specific transport conditions, in order to minimise stress for animals
 2. Prohibit the transport of live farm animals for slaughter where the journey exceed 8 hours from the point of pick up to slaughter
 3. Significantly strengthen protection for bobby calves who are particularly vulnerable to rough handling and mistreatment during transport
 4. Continue to support a prohibition on the export of animals for slaughter, and tighten the current rules to prevent the export of animals for slaughter under the guise of export for breeding
 5. End the export of live animals for breeding to countries without acceptable animal welfare regulations
 6. Encourage the exchange of breeding material, such as through semen and egg import and export

Companion animals

Companion animals provide huge benefits to humans in many ways and are often much loved members of a family. However, they can particularly vulnerable to neglect and abuse. We will:

1. Incentivise responsible pet ownership
2. Support education around dog safety particularly in 'at risk' areas
3. Support measures such as microchipping and desexing of companion animals
4. End unnecessary and painful tail docking for cattle and dogs
5. Ban the life chaining of animals, such as dogs and coats
6. Oppose expanding breed specific legislation for dogs as it unfairly penalises responsible dog owners, and any dog can be dangerous if neglected or mistreated
7. Increase funding to the RNZSPCA
8. Require council pounds and rescue shelters to provide a good standard of care for animals

Animals in entertainment

Animals must not suffer to provide entertainment for people. We will:

1. Support a ban on the use of animals in rodeo events as these events rely on inflicting pain and distress to animals to get them to perform

- 
2. Require all racing codes that use animals to make publicly available the numbers of animals bred, raced, injured, euthanised, and re-homed or retired from racing through birth to death reporting

Pests

The Green Party will:

1. Encourage the development and use of control methods for pests, with a minimum level of suffering
2. Encourage humane alternatives to 1080 and other slow acting poisons when realistic

Animal experimentation

Experimentation involving animals is unnecessary and fails to show respect or compassion for them. We believe the extent of animal experimentation should be drastically decreased with the ultimate aim eliminating all animal suffering. We will:

1. Make a legal presumption that non-animal methods of testing will be used
2. Develop a public database of alternatives to animal testing and require that these methods are used wherever suitable
3. Support the development of non-animal methods for research, testing, and teaching
4. Require non-animal methods of experimentation and testing to be used wherever they exist
5. Where non-animal methods do not exist, experiments and research on animals are limited to situations where:
 - a. It is endeavoured that no animal suffers as a result, and
 - b. The study can show the potential for overwhelming benefit to animals or humans. Such research should recognise the principles of reduction, refinement and replacement, with the eventual aim of eliminating suffering, distress or pain to animals involved in animal experiments.
6. Require all educational institutions to provide non-animal alternatives, wherever they exist, for course work

Clean, fast transport

The Greens believe investing in public transport is the best way to ensure clean and efficient travel.

The Green Party will:

1. Deliver light rail networks in Auckland and Wellington, and bus rapid transport in Christchurch
2. Provide free buses, trains, and other rail for everyone under 18 and with disabilities
3. Provide free off-peak and subsidised peak bus and rail travel for students
4. Invest in regional rail networks
5. Invest \$1 billion over 10 years in new and safe cycling infrastructure



Safe walking and cycling to school

Nowadays, most kids travel to school stuck in the backseat of a car, creating unnecessary congestion and pollution in our cities. Justifiably though, safety is the number one concern that stops parents from sending their children to school on foot or by bike.

Parents should feel secure in knowing that when they wave goodbye to their kids in the morning that they're going to be safe when riding their bike or walking with their friends to school.

It's healthier, happier, and makes them more engaged at school

We will:

1. Reduce the speed limit outside urban schools to a safer 30 km/h
2. Reduce the speed limit outside rural schools to 80 km/h, with the option of a 30km/h limit during drop-off or pick-up times
3. Allocate \$50m a year for four years to build modern and convenient walking and cycling infrastructure around schools, separating kids and other users from road traffic
4. Get half of New Zealand kids walking or cycling to school by 2022, reducing congestion, improving health and learning, and saving families time and money

Research shows that we can get up to \$20 of gains for every dollar spent. That's a billion dollars of gains for each year's \$50 million investment.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
School pedestrian and cycling infrastructure	50	50	50



Turning the broken safety net into a trampoline

No one should live in poverty. Whether they are working or on a benefit, everyone has different life circumstances and everyone is entitled and deserving of support for as long as they need it.

The Green Party won't just repair the holes that have been torn in our social safety net by successive governments, but will replace it with a trampoline to springboard New Zealanders back into a comfortable and healthy life. These changes will bring people out of poverty and provide independence, dignity, and choice.

These changes constitute the biggest reform of our tax and welfare system in a generation, lifting more than 200,000 children out of poverty.

In the last term, we increased benefits by 20% across the board, helping our most vulnerable get ahead. We raised the amount beneficiaries could earn before having their benefits cut by 20%, ensuring beneficiaries could find work without fear of losing their support.

The Greens will:

1. Increase the value of Working for Families for all families
2. Create a Working for Families Children's Credit of \$72 a week
3. Remove financial penalties and excessive sanctions for people receiving benefits
4. Keep progressively raising the minimum wage to an indexed living wage
5. Fund the creation of new night shelters across the country to meet demands

Our welfare system should provide effective support to people who need it, while they need it. The social safety net should stop families from falling into poverty and guarantee a basic, liveable income. It should lift people out of poverty, not lock them into it. That's what it means to live in a decent and compassionate society.

Punishing people through benefit sanctions, cuts, and investigations has not worked. Rather than giving people 'incentives', it traps them in a cycle of poverty and puts children's wellbeing at risk. Children suffer when the welfare system punishes their parents, and in the long term, so does society. It is never okay for the government to use poverty or the threat of poverty as a weapon.

We want every single Kiwi kid to have a great start in life, regardless of what their parents earn or whether they work or not. To make that a reality, their parents need more time, more support, and more flexible work arrangements. Well-supported kids have a better chance of becoming healthy and happy adults.

Here are some examples of how much better off people will be with the Green Party:

- A family of two parents who both earn the median income and have three children: \$130 better off every week.
- A family of two parents, one working for \$70,000 a year, with two children: \$88 better off every week.
- A single parent who is studying and receiving the Student Allowance, with two children and part time, low wage work: \$176 better off every week.
- A single parent on a benefit with no paid work and two school-age children: \$179 better off every week.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Continued benefit increases and abatement changes	935	912	888
Working for Families changes	1,178	1,203	1,228
Reinstate Training Incentive Allowance	35	35	35
Removing benefit sanctions (net)	26	26	26
Income tax changes (net)	+163	+163	+163
Progressively raising the minimum wage	148	290	290



A budget for all mothers

The Greens want to help parents when they need it most, by ensuring that they have time and money to focus on raising happy, healthy kids.

Our budget for all mothers will support parents further by:

1. Making the \$220 per week Parental Tax Credit available to all families who don't get paid parental leave. This ensures every baby born in New Zealand gets the same support and makes the system simpler
2. Extending sick leave to a minimum of 10 days a year, so that parents and whānau have time to look after sick kids
3. Ensuring the OSCAR subsidy for afterschool and holiday programmes is available to all kids from low-income families
4. Offering every new born baby a Wahakura (baby pod) which includes a safe sleeping place, clothes, nappies, and bedding.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Parental Tax Credits	43	43	43
OSCAR subsidy	30	30	30
Wahakura (baby pods)	12	12	12



Affordable homes

It's time to make homes more affordable and rental homes warm and secure

Our Home for Life plan will help New Zealanders get into their own homes by establishing a rent-to-buy programme and by creating new opportunities for community housing providers to play a bigger part in solving the housing crisis.

This will give more New Zealanders a fair shot at owning their own home, even when the market is stacked against them, and make sure the community housing sector has the financial and political support to help solve the housing crisis.

Progressive home ownership

As part of a government-build programme, we'll make 10,000 new homes over ten years available to people who can't afford a deposit or normal commercial mortgage through progressive rent-to-buy arrangements.

Progressive home owners will pay a weekly payment of no more than 30 percent of their income. Part of each payment will be rent to cover the Crown's costs. The rest will purchase equity shares in the home. Over time, with each regular payment, ownership of the home will transfer from the government to the people who live in it.

Our plan will save people more than \$100 a week compared to a commercial mortgage.

Working with community housing providers

Community and social housing providers, including iwi, have the skills and experience to play a big part in ending the housing crisis.

Community housing providers will be able to purchase an additional 5,000 newly built, energy efficient homes from the government through the progressive ownership programme. Community housing providers may choose to use these as emergency housing, rent them out as social housing, or sell them to tenants over time using their own rent-to-buy programmes.

Community housing providers will provide a deposit or use private sector finance to pay for part of the initial cost of building new, highly energy efficient homes. The government will fund the remaining stake through Housing New Zealand. Community housing providers will make regular payments to buy out the government's stake.

Innovative housing finance

Investors who want safe, socially responsible investment options can help fix the housing crisis.

To enable the community housing sector to grow and help solve the housing crisis, the government will issue low-interest loans to community housing providers to build new, energy efficient homes. We'll fund these by supplying long-term partially-guaranteed housing bonds to investors who want to see their money put to use to solve the housing crisis.

This will be in addition to existing community housing funding programmes.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Home for Life	81	94	115
Home for Life \$50M housing bond issue	-	2	2
Insulation fund	100	200	200
Affordable Housing Authority set up	100	-	-

Banning letting fees

As part of our commitment to helping New Zealanders get into homes at a more affordable cost, we pledge to ban letting fees, saving New Zealanders \$47 million every year.

The fee is supposed to cover the costs of advertising a property, conducting open homes, and vetting potential tenants. These are services that are provided to the landlord. The contractual relationship is between the landlord and the letting agency, but somehow the existing law allows the fee for those services to be charged to a third party: the tenant.

In reality, there's no relationship between the letting fee and the costs of letting a property. The fee is, typically, one week's rent plus GST. That's a massive upfront barrier to new renters, especially lower-income people, Māori people, Pacific people, and people with a disability who are all already struggling with the rental process in a highly competitive market.

Further, to better the rights of renters, the Greens will:

- Improve tenant security through three year standard tenancies, rights of renewal, and ending no-cause evictions.

- Limit rent rises to once a year based on a mutually agreed formula.
- Implement a Warrant of Fitness and star system for rental properties to make sure all homes are liveable.

State housing

The Green Party plan would allow Housing New Zealand to retain its dividend and, in addition, would refund its tax, freeing up \$207 million in the next financial year to spend on the emergency building of around 450 new state homes.

Despite New Zealand being one of the wealthiest countries in the world, families are sleeping in cars, under bridges and in garages. This requires an urgent and direct response from the Government.

There aren't enough houses in New Zealand, particularly in Auckland, and this policy is another step in trying to fix that.



Solidarity

The Green Party recognises the value of labour in New Zealand's economy, and will fight for the rights of Aotearoa's workers. Industrial law needs to protect workers bargaining rights, ensure workplace safety, and guarantee an adequate income.

The Green Party will:

1. Tighten work health and safety laws. Too many Kiwis die at work or from preventable workplace related illnesses
2. Ban anti-union actions by corporations and businesses. All forms of misinformation and obfuscation of union operations will be challenged by us
3. Introduce government subsidies for unions. Only unions can make sure that workers receive the wages they deserve
4. Support the right of unionised workers to prevent freeloaders by non-union workers
5. Increased penalties for employers that breach employment law by obstructing union efforts to communicate with members and non-members, including by denying access and communication
6. Scrap 90 day trials, as they are exploitative and unfair



Superannuation

We'll continue restarting payments to the New Zealand Superannuation Fund immediately as part of our commitment to maintaining the superannuation age at 65.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Super Fund contributions	500	500	500

Health

Youth mental health plan

New Zealand unfortunately has some of the worst rates of youth suicide in the world, with serious impacts on people, families, schools, and communities.

There is an urgent need to help build strong mental health in our young people. To do this, we'll:

1. Introduce free counselling for under 25s, and work towards extending this to all adults
2. Increase funding for our stretched youth mental health services
3. Fund more community initiatives in the health and education sector
4. Begin a mental health inquiry and re-establish the Mental Health Commission

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
New mental health services	263	263	263

Universal dental care

Many New Zealanders can't afford dental check ups, or are put off going to the dentist because of the costs associated with treatment. The last national dental survey found that about half of New Zealand's population had put off dental treatment they knew they needed because of the cost.



Dentists are now finding tooth conditions associated with countries with much higher levels of poverty than New Zealand, because dental care is expensive for so many of us. This is unacceptable!

The Green Party will:

1. Subsidise dental services for the communities that need it most
2. Extend free dental service access to the age of 21
3. Provide one free annual dental check up for every other New Zealander

Restoring community level involvement in health services

In the First Model Government, the ACT party cut the number of District Health Boards from 20 down to 7. This increased bureaucracy and created District Health Boards that were disconnected from their communities. In government, the Greens will revert this decision.

Paying nurses and midwives fairly

New Zealand's nurses and midwives do important work, yet the Ministry of Health currently pays them too little relative to the work that they do. Nurses and midwives work all around the clock all across the country.

In government, the Green Party will increase the pay of Nurses and Midwives by 22%. This'll help compensate for the hard sacrifices nurses and midwives make, and help balance out the flaws of the current fee-based pay model.

Education

Inclusive education plan

The Greens are passionate about improving inclusive education services so that every Kiwi kid gets to fully participate in school life. In government, the Greens will increase education funding by \$315 million to build a more inclusive education system. To do this, we'll:

1. Properly fund a full-time Children's Champion for every 400 children to coordinate support for children with high needs
2. Create a \$5 million annual School Camp fund to support students with additional learning needs to attend camps and other activities that ought to be enjoyed by all kids
3. Double funding for the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme and the Early Intervention Service to increase the number of students who can access these services

- Invest \$25 million over three years in targeted learning support professional development for teachers

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Inclusive education package	315	315	315

Supporting students

Students are the only group in society expected to borrow just to get by. We believe that students should be supported so that they can focus on learning the skills they need to contribute to a smart, innovative economy and a fairer society. It's difficult to do that when you are constantly worried about making ends meet. Tertiary study should be a way out of poverty, not a way into it.

The Greens will:

- Make all post-graduate students eligible for student allowances, as a step towards a truly universal student allowance
- Progressively reduce tertiary education fees over the next 15 years, with the ambition of making them fee-free.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Universal allowance for post grads	300	300	300
Improving student disability support	1	1	1



Honouring te Tiriti o Waitangi

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the basis of peace and justice in Aotearoa. The Green Party accepts te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of New Zealand, recognises the declaration of independence in 1835, and recognises Māori as the tangata whenua in Aotearoa New Zealand. Honouring te Tiriti o Waitangi means making New Zealand a fairer place for all who live here.

Greens will:

1. Entrench the Māori electorates
2. Fix the Treaty settlement process
3. Negotiate to honour the Te Kōhanga Reo settlement claim (WAI 2336), and provide additional resource for kaupapa Māori education
4. Create Parihaka Day as a national holiday to recognise the invasion of Parihaka and the broader land wars
5. Support the creation of Māori wards in local government
6. Return Māori land seized under the Public Works Act that was not used for the specified works back to its owners or descendents





Justice

The Green Party believes in restorative justice. Firstly, the victim should always be at the centre of the process and the first priority is to heal the harm caused to them and protect them from any other harm. Secondly, it's important to get the community involved, allowing more appropriate and creative outcomes. Thirdly, the offender needs to take responsibility for their actions, and needs to take steps to make what they've done right.

The Greens will:

1. Oppose private prisons and immediately end such contracts
2. Institute a moratorium on the construction of new prisons
3. Ensure publicly funded mediation services for civil proceedings
4. Enable Māori groups, community organizations and community class actions to be eligible for legal aid funding, and enact legislation to facilitate group action claims
5. Commit to addressing institutional racism in the justice system
6. Ensure that tikanga and reo programmes, prepared and delivered by Māori, are readily available in all prisons and youth justice centres
7. Ban solitary confinement
8. Reduce our world-leading prison population by letting out those convicted for low-level non-violent offences, moving them into community service
9. Commute all non-violent marijuana sentences
10. Make private ownership of fully functional semi-automatic weapons illegal
11. Investigate the benefits and costs of a low fee, centralised gun registration system and database
12. Reduce the licensing period from ten years to five, in line with practices in the UK, Australia, and Canada
13. Adopt the New Zealand Privacy Charter
14. Support amending the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 to specifically include a right to privacy.
15. Ban wiretapping and roll back draconian anti-terror measures. The state should not have the right to spy on its citizens.

Public journalism funding

Reading, hearing, and watching stories about New Zealanders, by New Zealanders, is critical to our democracy and our national identity.

Traditional media are facing financial and technological disruption. There's been a lot of great journalism in New Zealand, however, recent years have seen a cut to staff numbers and proposed mergers.

It's time the government stepped up to ensure the future of public interest journalism on paper, on our screens, and on the radio.

To do this, the Greens will:

1. Launch a New Zealand Public Journalism Fund to support public interest journalism and help tell our country's stories across all platforms.
2. Quickly increase RNZ's funding by 60%, which was frozen from 2008 until the measly increase in the 2017 budget.
3. Expand RNZ's charter to include 24/7 television broadcasting on a dedicated channel, with content largely independent from that on live radio.
4. Sell off TVNZ while it is still worth something, as it continues to drastically suffer steep drops in profits, putting the proceeds towards RNZ and the Public Journalism Fund. TVNZ is a commercial broadcaster, while state-owned broadcasters should be intended for the public interest.

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Public journalism funding	10	10	10
RNZ funding increase	56	56	56
TVNZ sell off	-200	-	-



Immigration

We support a progressive and humane immigration system that recognises immigrants not as numbers on a page or economic units, but people seeking a better life for them and their families

The Greens will:

1. Give priority to skills needed to build a low-carbon economy that lifts living standards
2. Tighten up the process for the investor visa category
3. Grant temporary migrant workers full labour rights
4. Allow temporary workers to apply for residency
5. Make adult English language courses available outside the main centres to make moving to regions easier
6. Work towards making Te Reo Māori and NZSL available to immigrants
7. Make learning about Te Tiriti o Waitangi compulsory as part of the induction of new immigrants
8. Ensure that iwi and hapū have input on such education
9. Work towards a culture of acceptance in New Zealand to allow immigrants to freely participate in New Zealand society
10. Oppose giving immigration officers more search and detention powers
11. Oppose any efforts to blame immigrants for the housing crisis, which are ridiculous and offensive

Foreign affairs

The Green Party will:

1. Oppose any military action not mandated by the United Nations, and even then show scepticism
2. Take an advocacy role in global politics, fighting for human rights and fair trade
3. Oppose any trade deal that infringes on sovereignty and the rights of New Zealanders

Welcoming more refugees

New Zealanders want to do more to help people around the world affected by war and famine. It's the right thing to do.

The Green Party will:

1. Progressively increase New Zealand's refugee quota to 4,000 people per year after six years, and properly fund asylum seeker and refugee services
2. Establish a programme for church and community groups to sponsor and addition 1,000 refugees per year
3. Create a new humanitarian visa for people displaced by climate change in the Pacific
4. Negotiate directly with Papua New Guinea to take all the remaining refugees on Manus island

Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Refugees	66	150	250





Rainbow community

The Green Party stands in solidarity with New Zealand's LGBTQI+ and takatāpui communities. Greens will:

1. Expunge all convictions for historical homosexual offences
2. Affirm that rainbow communities are entitled to equal opportunities in law *and in practice*
3. Support parenting skills that are distinct from sexual orientation or gender identity
4. Ensure that all people regardless of their health or partnership status have the right to adequate medical care
5. Ensure rainbow communities receive fair and just treatment in dealings with authorities such as police, courts, and the military
6. Amend any discriminatory laws in policies to ensure the government complies fully with the Human Rights Act 1993
7. Establish equal criteria for both rainbow and heterosexual couples in their assessment for suitability and eligibility for parenting
8. Recognise sexual orientation in the census
9. Support initiatives to educate all institutions, including police, penal institutions, courts, and the military, in sexual orientation and gender identity issues
10. Support the creation of safe and supportive educational environments, such as through the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in teacher training
11. Actively seek to address the long ignored needs of transexual, genderqueer and intersex people



Better representation

The Green Party values representation and democracy. The Green Party will:

1. Replace the first-past-the-post voting system in electorates with a form of ranked choice to end the binary hold on electorates, primarily in by-elections
2. Reduce the cost of filing a petition to initiate a citizens initiated referendum, whilst maintaining opposition to binding CIR
3. Seek a referendum on republicanism
4. Introduce a statutory register of lobbyists
5. Support legal responsibilities and penalties for public servants to keep good records and ensure staff training on proper implementation of the OIA
6. Introduce tighter limits on anonymous donations, place an annual limit of \$35,000 on total donations from any single person or entity to a political party, and introduce a ban on overseas donations

