Election 2024: Party Pledges on key Hampshire and Isle of Wight Environmental Priorities

POLICY AREA	CONSERVATIVE	GREEN	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRATS	REFORM
A planning system that helps nature recover	 Scrap nutrient neutrality Review role of statutory consultees e.g. Natural England Meet tree planting target and cut red tape Cut infrastructure approval time New design competition for urban greening areas Review of environmental impact regulations Protect greenbelt 	 Reduce environmental impact of construction and protect green spaces Require local authorities to spread small developments across their areas, where appropriate, rather than building huge new estates Protect greenbelt 	 Community right-to-buy derelict land A New Towns Commission & standards code Review National Planning Policy & restore housing targets More resourcing for local planning officers Urban brownfield FastTrack Review 'grey' greenbelt 	 100% BNG on large sites New Wild Belt designation More funding for gov. agencies e.g. Environment Agency 10 new garden cities More funding for local planning departments 'Double' nature (species, woodland, protected areas) by 2050 	 Fast track planning and tax incentives for development of brownfield sites 'Loose fit planning' policy for large residential developments with preapproved guidelines Overhaul and merge the National Infrastructure Commission and Infrastructure Bank
Supporting nature- friendly farming	 £1bn increase to current £2.4bn farming budget over 5-year parliament (linked to ELMS) Public procurement target for 50% local/ high standard food A Land Use Framework 	 Triple farming budget over 5- year parliament & link directly to sustainability End factory farming End Badger cull 	 Support agri-environment schemes Ban bee-killing pesticides End badger cull A Land Use Framework 	 £1bn a year increase to sustainable farming budget Support for encouraging sustainability (inc. public procurement) A Land & Sea Use Framework 	 Increase farming budget to £3bn (from current £2.4bn) Replace climate related subsidies with direct payments. Reform remit of Natural England
Tackling water pollution	 Block water company bonuses Invest fines in River Restoration Network Reform Price Review for water companies 	 Increase Defra agency budget by £1.5bn to aid enforcement Public ownership of water companies £12bn investment in water infrastructure 	 Block water company bonuses Possible criminal charges End self monitoring 	 Block water company bonuses Sewage tax on profits Public benefit companies 2030 legal target to stop polluting nature sites More local authority powers 'Blue corridor' of Blue Flag standard waterways 	 Stop release of sewage into our rivers and seas Bring 50% of each utility into public ownership, with the other 50% owned by UK pension funds Build new reservoirs in high rainfall areas.
Greener communities	 A new National Park Continue landscape recovery fund New national trails, e.g. King's coastal path, and more access to nature routes 	 New Clean Air Act Right to Roam Aim for everyone within 15 minutes of nature Support outdoor learning New natural history GCSE 	 9 new River Pathways 3 new National Forests Introduce 'golden rules' to ensure development benefits communities and nature 	 3 new national parks New 'Environmental Rights Act' / right to access nature Explore a 'right to roam' 	Ban all ULEZ and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods
Nature-based solutions (NBS) to climate change	 Maintain current flood mitigation spending £5.6bn over 2021-2027 (including NBS) Moratorium on deep sea mining and ratify the Global Oceans Treaty 	 Support a nature-based solutions approach to flooding and storm overflows. £7bn investment in climate adaptation £30bn R&D budget, including NBS 	 Set up a flood resilience task force to speed up building of flood defences and planting trees Increase resilience & standards across Government 	 New Blue and Soil Carbon Standards Support for NBS: ban heather burning, restore seagrass meadows Mandatory sustainable drainage in new build Nature-impact disclosure for companies 	 Scrap climate and environment laws based on EU regulation. More tree planting Scrap energy levies and Net Zero and develop Britain's oil and gas reserves