

Karen BUCK

Local news from your local Labour Member of Parliament

The Time to Act on Climate Change is NOW

Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge facing the modern world.

Although a few people still try and deny it, almost everyone now accepts that the world is getting hotter and that this is because of human activity. When we burn coal, oil or gas; drive our cars, or fly, we are adding to the amount of Carbon Dioxide in the earth's atmosphere; which is then trapping more of the sun's heat



Comment by
Karen Buck MP

(the ten warmest years on record have all been since 1990). Glaciers and ice caps are melting, causing the sea level to rise, changing the path of currents in the oceans and affecting weather patterns making more extreme weather events such as floods and heatwaves more likely.

All countries will be affected. The world's poorest countries will be hit earliest and hardest, with the strong possibility of creating millions of "environmental refugees". Nevertheless, global warming will also do untold damage to richer countries like ours. For example, the floods in Britain in 2000 cost the country over £500 million, whilst the 2003 heatwave (the hottest for 500 years) claimed over 2000 lives.

Global warming is happening now and we have only a very few years to stop it from becoming uncontrollable. But we can stop it: -through a mix of technology and

**GLOBAL
WARMING
SPECIAL**

changes in our behaviour; through international agreement and action at every level, from the personal to that of national governments.

The government has announced plans to introduce a Climate Change Bill into Parliament, bringing forward measures to help us respond to this gravest of challenges to our planet. In addition, things like taxation policies, and grants and subsidies can influence the way individuals and businesses behave.

I want you to tell me what you would like to see in a Climate Change Bill. You can do so by completing my online survey on www.karenbuck.org.uk I look forward to hearing from you.

In the meantime, if you would like to know more about the problem and what you can do about it, you may like to look at the following websites: est.org.uk; carbontrust.co.uk, or defra.gov.uk. To find out how much carbon you produce, go to carboncounter.org.uk



And what about the Conservatives & Lib Dems?

Conservative Leader David Cameron went 'green' by cycling to work but he had his chauffeur drive his shoes and briefcase in a car behind him. Whilst Cameron has been focusing on photo-opportunities his party is opposed to the Climate Change Levy, which is responsible for 25% of our cuts in emissions.

The Lib Dems claim to be green but in Lib Dem controlled councils up and down the country have opposed the building of wind farms.

Labour's Karen Buck is **on your side**... www.karenbuck.org.uk

NEW POLICE TEAMS MAKING A "REAL DIFFERENCE"

Labour's Policing Minister Tony McNulty visited north Westminster in November to see what difference neighbourhood policing has made. Local Labour MP Karen Buck said, "Tony and I joined local police, City Guardians, councillors and residents on a walk through local estates and focal points of anti-social behaviour. We saw first hand how crime and anti-social behaviour are being responded to locally."

This has been very usefully complemented in many areas by the warden patrols, supported by the government through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and delivered through the City Guardians programme.



Police Minister Tony McNulty visits a local estate with Karen Buck MP, local residents, Labour Councillors, police and neighbourhood wardens

However, there are still challenges to be overcome. Too many Anti Social Behaviour orders are still being breached; and problems still exist with drug dealing and related nuisance around the Prince of Wales junction, for

The introduction of Neighbourhood Police Teams across Westminster has helped cut crime and raise public reassurance- time and time again, when asked, members of the public have said that they want to see 'visible policing, on the street', and that is what neighbourhood policing has done.

example. Tony McNulty discussed with local police how best to deal with these issues, such as improved communication between agencies and making sure that the early hours are covered if there is evidence of drug dealing taking place at such times.

WESTMINSTER GETS £7.3million BOOST FROM LABOUR

Labour has just announced a generous increase in the amount of money given to Westminster



Council to spend on local services.

Next April Westminster Council will get an extra £7.3million from the government - an increase which is almost twice the rate of inflation at 4.6%.

Education is a top priority for Labour and Westminster's schools will get an extra 7.2% to spend - that brings spending to over £5,200 per pupil.

This generous settlement will mean that the council has to raise only 15p in every £1 it spends. In fact they raise more money from parking charges than from council tax. They also manage to spend £3m on promoting themselves.

Printed and Promoted by Bassam Mahfouz on behalf of Karen Buck, both at 4G Shirland Mews, London W9 3DY



What would you like to see in the next edition of your Karen Buck newsletter...

- more about _____

- I would like to receive a Climate Change survey by post

- I would like to know details of my local police team

Name:

Address:

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Postcode:

Tel:

E-mail:

MAKING A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY

Every day Labour policies are making ordinary people's lives change for the better.

We can only do this with your continued support.

If you would like to help to make a difference locally then please do let us know.

- I would like to join the Labour Party

- I would like to help the Labour Party

- I would like to vote by post

- I would like to make a donation

PLEASE RETURN TO: Karen Buck MP, FREEPOST, Shirland Mews, London W9 2BR

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