

Framework of Ethics and Conduct

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1 Aims

The Framework of Ethics and Conduct for the Green Party of England and Wales will:

- Express our ethical philosophy, related codes of practice and supporting guidance.
- Be a one-stop-shop for all such internal policies.
- Cover legal, regulatory, or statutory compliance requirements.
- Cover guidance and good ethical practice.

2 Principles

The framework should emulate the kind of code of ethics and conduct that would be adopted by an enlightened organisation.

- The framework should be usable on a daily basis by members and staff.
- The framework should be written in positive language not legalese.
- All existing policies should continue to be overseen by the same bodies as now.
- Any gaps discovered where new or updated policies seem to be needed should be referred to the relevant party bodies.
- Green Party Regional Council (GPRC) will be responsible for keeping the framework up to date.

3 Belief and Conduct

For all guidance documents within the Framework of Ethics and Conduct, please note that the available guidance does not concern itself with mere belief, including any legally protected beliefs. Rather, the guidance concerns observable behaviour or conduct, and should be read alongside the party's Code of Conduct and its appendices to further guide its interpretation and application. It is advisable for all party members, and especially those making decisions about the behaviour and conduct of members, to be familiar with all such guidance.

The aim of this framework is to help ensure that all members, in particular those belonging to socially marginalised or oppressed groups, are treated with respect and allowed to feel safe in the Green Party of England and Wales. Each document is prepared and adopted to support our members in working to achieve this together.

4 Content

The following documents have been adopted as content within the Green Party's Framework of Ethics and Conduct. These resources are available on the members' website.

- GPRC Guidance on Bringing the Party into Disrepute
- Antisemitism: A Guidance
- APPG Definition of Islamophobia
- GPRC Approved Addendum to APPG Definition of Islamophobia
- GPRC Guidance to Identify Queerphobia

5 Maintenance of the Framework

Green Party Regional Council (GPRC) or any successor body will be responsible in all aspects for the content, creation, and maintenance of the framework and any associated accession processes by simple majority vote.

6 Management of Content

New content may be added to the framework either by a two thirds majority vote of conference or by using the accession process outlined in this framework.

Existing content considered suitable for the framework may be promoted into this framework as content using the accession process.

Any content previously adopted into the framework may be amended or removed by a simple majority vote of GPRC should that seem desirable.

7 Accession Process for New Content

When new content is desired, any working group of GPRC may request approval from GPRC to create or otherwise facilitate the creation of new proposed content for the framework relating to that issue or topic, and will undertake this work if given approval by a simple majority of the Regional Council.

GPRC itself may also request a working group undertake work of this nature without there being any request originating from the working group.

The working group will consult with any affiliated groups of common interest which the group considers to be relevant to the proposal.

The working group will consider and keep written record of (in its opinion):

1. Whether the proposed content is appropriate for the framework given its stated aims and principles.
2. Whether the proposed content is compliant with the party's Philosophical Basis, Core Values, and general positive and inclusive ways of working.
3. Whether the addition of the proposed content might reasonably assist decision-making within the party (whether of a disciplinary, operational, or some other nature).
4. Whether the addition of the proposed content may create a risk to the party, and whether there is a robust response to any such risk.
5. Whether there are any reputational or other risks which may arise as a result of not adopting the proposed content.
6. Whether sufficient consultation (if appropriate) has taken place with others.

GPRC will then consider the proposed content, taking into account the opinions of the working group as set out above. If accepted by a simple majority of GPRC, the proposed document will become content within the framework effective immediately.

If GPRC are of the opinion that a proposal is within the remit of GPEx, GPRC may first vote by simple majority to refer a proposal for a decision of GPEx, and if approved by a simple majority of GPEx it will become content within the framework subject to ratification by a simple majority of GPRC.