

GREEN PARTY LEADER

KEY PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the Green Party Leader is to provide visionary leadership and direction for the party. This involves shaping and articulating the party's policies, values, and goals to both internal and external audiences, thereby ensuring a coherent and compelling message. Additionally, the Party Leader plays a crucial role in supporting election candidates and local parties, guiding political strategy, and maintaining strong relationships with party members, staff, and other key stakeholders. The Party Leader's work is pivotal in fostering morale and unity across all levels of the Green Party.

ACCOUNTABILITY

As the Green Party Executive (GPEx) is responsible and liable for the governance and functioning of the organisation, members are accountable in varying degrees to a variety of stakeholders, including members the Green Party Regional Council (GPRC) and each other.

Furthermore, GPEx members should take a lead on building public trust and confidence in the Party's work through demonstrating good practice and good governance, taking into consideration the wider implications of the decisions they make, and to communicate widely the reasons behind such decisions or actions.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTY LEADER ROLE

REPRESENTING THE PARTY EXTERNALLY

Representing the party and its policies in the media and through other national platforms and campaigns.

SUPPORTING ELECTION CANDIDATES

Supporting candidates and local parties in key elections and campaigns.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communicating Party campaigns, priorities and achievements to Party members.

POLITICAL STRATEGY

Taking a leading role in developing political strategy.

GPEX COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Party Leader is a member of Political Committee and Elections Committee.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAFF

The Party Leader will be in regular contact with the Chief Executive Officer and can expect to work closely with the press and other communications and campaign staff.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE GREEN PARTY

The Party Leader may choose to spend a significant amount of time visiting Regional and Local Parties as the role is important for morale at all levels of the Green Party.

RELATIONSHIPS OUTSIDE THE GREEN PARTY

The Party Leader develops close working relationships with organisations outside the Green Party, including media, NGOs, other political parties and other organisations as required. It is essential that the Party Leader is able to maintain cordial and constructive relationships with those organisations.

SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Extensive experience of TV, radio and press work, public speaking, debating.
- Available at short notice
- Good speaking and debating skills
- Experience of running successful election campaigns
- Experience of developing political and campaigning strategies
- Determination, toughness, resilience, self-confidence
- Excellent understanding of Green Party short and long-term policy and political strategy.
- Tact and diplomacy under pressure

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please note the following from section 8 of the Constitution:

iv) Two members of a different gender may together stand for the office of Leader in order to hold the post as a job-share in which case they shall be known as 'Co-Leaders'. In this case a single Deputy, the individual who polls the highest vote, regardless of gender, will be elected. Members standing to be Co-Leaders may not simultaneously be candidates as individuals for either Leader or Deputy Leader.

xi) If there are Co-Leaders and one of the Co-Leaders resigns, there will be a byelection for both Co-Leaders.

xii) In the event of the suspension or resignation of one of two Co-Leaders, the other Co-Leader shall have the position of Acting Leader until a new election has taken place.

Please note that at Autumn Conference 2012, the following motion was passed:

"The person undertaking [the leader role] should be offered financial support in the form of an allowance in order to allow them to perform their duties fully as required by the Constitution. Where the Leader is also a paid full-time politician, this allowance will not be paid. Conference requests that GPEx put in place the necessary arrangements and set the allowance at a level that is both practical and affordable."

Although the final decision on allowance amounts rests with GPEx, Co-Leaders may each receive an allowance. If a Co-Leader wishes to, or is only able to, work part-time, they may be paid a pro-rata allowance subject to a decision by GPEx. It is expected that in the case of Co-Leaders, the allowance of one Co-Leader will not affect the allowance of the other. Both shall be afforded the same status regardless of working hours/pay. The final decision on allowance amounts rests with GPEx, who may, in exceptional circumstances, wish to pay a full allowance for part-time hours. No leader is obliged to take their allowance.

BEHAVIOURAL STANDARDS

All members of GPEx are expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct and operate in a way that upholds the Values of the Party and supports the Philosophical Basis on which it is built.

ROLE DESCRIPTION REVIEW

This role description is reviewed at the end of the first year of each 2 year term, and in advance of every election.

- Last review date: **May 2025**