

## **Model submission for CLPs and Branches to the National Policy Forum *A Green and Digital Future* Policy Commission**

The *Green and Digital Future* commission is responsible for climate, energy, the environment, transport infrastructure, food and rural affairs, and science and digital. The first part of our model submission – in response to Question Three – defends Labour’s commitment to public ownership of rail and to lift the ban on public ownership of buses for those local authorities that want it. The second part of the submission – in response to Question Five – promotes a Green New Deal, including full public ownership of energy.

### **Model submission**

#### **Question Three: How can improvements to transport deliver growth across the country, including in rural areas?**

- *Labour’s commitment to bringing our railways into public ownership will be a huge step forward in ensuring Britain has the green and affordable rail network it deserves. The Party’s GB Rail White Paper published in 2020 offers a blueprint for a fully-integrated, publicly-owned rail service, and should be implemented in full by the next Labour government.*
  - o *The opportunities it brings for nation-wide growth, especially in rural areas, are wide-ranging, especially the commitment that “GB Rail, as a fully integrated rail company, will be in a position to examine how far it may be possible to give every citizen in Britain Swiss-style freedom to travel conveniently by public transport between any two places bigger than a small village.”*
  - o *Under the new publicly-owned GB rail, fares should be capped in order to encourage sustainable transport and increased connectivity.*
- *In addition to recommitting to end the ban on local authorities taking bus services into public ownership and control, Labour has the opportunity to reverse the cancellation of routes which has hit rural communities hardest, as well as encourage the use of buses - essential in order to cut emissions - through policies such as the extension of the free bus pass to under 25s.*

**Question Five: What policies can help contribute to the four missions outlined in Labour’s industrial strategy [a) delivering clean power by 2030; b) caring for the future; c) harnessing data for the public good; and d) building a resilient economy]?**

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- *In place of a market-led response to the climate crisis which has failed utterly, Labour should commit to complete public ownership of energy - at the level of the grid, of energy and supply, as think tanks such as Common Wealth have [argued](#). This means:*
  - o *Bringing the energy extraction (fossil fuels, renewables, etc.), transmission and distribution networks, and supply companies (e.g., 'Big Six', etc.) into public ownership, under democratic worker and citizen control;*
  - o *Creating an integrated energy system, comprising a National Energy Agency, and Regional and Municipal Energy Agencies (as per Labour's policy on [Bringing Energy Home: Labour's proposal for publicly owned networks](#));*
  - o *The public Great British Energy company announced by Keir Starmer at Conference should, as promised, be a large-scale operation on the scale of EDF, and should ensure that all existing renewable energy assets are taken into public ownership;*
  - o *Placing operational management of the public authorities comprising this integrated energy system in the hands of both management and the workforce;*
  - o *Ensuring a just transition by*
    - *offering all workers in the fossil fuel industry retraining and unionised jobs in the renewable industry on at least equivalent terms and conditions with high job security;*
    - *creating sector wide transition plans through democratic participatory planning with worker, trade unions, and impacted communities;*
    - *investing surpluses from the newly publicly owned energy extraction companies into the economies of impacted communities to diversify them, following [Community Wealth Building](#) principles.*
- *This must be backed up by fully-financed, publicly-owned national and regional green investments banks, mandated to lend in line with the mission to decarbonise our economy while increasing productivity and creating good jobs across the country.*
- *Labour should support the creation of millions of good, green, unionised jobs and hundreds of thousands of 'climate apprenticeships' to tackle the climate crisis, bring investment into held-back areas and re-energise Britain.*
- *Caring for the future means we must look after Britain's wonderful natural landscape. Labour should recommit to establishing the National Nature Service promised by Ed Miliband in 2020, delivering a range of secure, unionised jobs on environmental projects. As part of this, Labour should maintain the commitment to create ten new National Parks, ensuring 75% of the English population live within half an hour of a national park or AONB, and to plant two billion trees - both within a first term.*

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