

# FROM LABOUR TO GREEN - JANE TURNER

## How did you part company with the Labour Party?

The headline is that it no longer represented me or my values.

I nearly left over the ditching of Clause 4 but stayed with my nose held. I might have left sooner had I not liked and respected Margaret Greenwood MP and felt considerable loyalty towards her. I had a spell of feeling quite hopeful - the 2017 manifesto was good old-fashioned socialism. Like a frog in heating up water I didn't notice how far the party had drifted away from me. The last straw was the whip not to vote against the "spycops" bill. I resigned that night - what is the point of the labour party if it can't oppose something so egregious?

## Why did you join the Green Party?

The real question should be why didn't I join the Green Party sooner?

I actually joined because Labour seemed not to notice that I'd resigned and might not have noticed until my membership failed to renew, so I joined the Green Party as a way of underlining that they absolutely did not represent me anymore.

I've been an environmentalist all my life, and arguably I should have joined a lot earlier. I was aware that the Green's social policies were streets ahead of the Labour Party in terms of being progressive too. Every time I did one of those who should you vote for questionnaires, I picked the policies of the Greens. The reason that I didn't was a combination of inertia, loyalty to my local MP and a complete undervaluing of the importance of local politics.

## What is your experience as a Green Party member so far?

To say that I was welcomed in would be an understatement. I'm now Co-Chair and a target ward campaigner.



Luke Agnew

**MY PAST IS RED  
AND OUR FUTURE IS GREEN**