



# WE NEED SOCIALISTS IN LONDON'S CITY HALL

**Labour Mayor Sadiq Khan has joined the front ranks of the right-wing Labour Blairites attacking Jeremy Corbyn's policies. He even said voters who voted for Boris Johnson 'got it right'!**

**Now he has out-Toried the Tories, saying he is against a digital tax on global tech firms.**

**Socialist Party member and long-standing campaigner Nancy Taaffe says:**

**"Who will fight for those popular and essential policies in Corbyn's manifesto in May's London elections if Sadiq Khan goes unchallenged by socialists and trade unionists?"**

**Not content to be seen as the 'property developers' man', he now appears to also be the 'global tech giants' man'.**

Sadiq Khan has not actively fought austerity. He has not used his powers to build council housing and he has not supported workers fighting to improve their lives. He says things like "London needs more billionaires". We don't, we need socialist policies that will make London work for the people who work and live in London.

London is seen as a 'Labour city', but so was Scotland, so was the north of England. The same conditions - the housing crisis, the struggle on poverty pay, exist here and the same potential for disillusionment is here. We can't allow the fight for socialist policies in London to be snuffed out by the Blairites.

In 2020 the London Mayor and Greater London Assembly are up for election. The Socialist Party believes it is vital that there is a stand for socialist policies. With the 1st and 2nd preference system, there is no risk of letting the Tories in.

We are prepared to put forward Socialist Party member and long-standing campaigner Nancy Taaffe and others as potential candidates, but we want

to discuss with any other forces - trade unionists, socialists and anti-austerity campaigners inside and outside the Labour Party - to ensure socialist policies are fought for in this election.

## **Financial Appeal:**

Donate to our fund to help the fight for socialist policies in the London elections. These elections cost money. It is £20,000 to stand for Mayor and appear in the booklet. It is £5000 to stand a list. It is £1000 to stand as a constituency candidate.

Please donate to the Socialist Party's fund to enable a socialist programme to be fought in the London elections. However much we raise, we will use the money to fight for a socialist manifesto in these elections.

**Go to [www.londonsocialistparty.org.uk](http://www.londonsocialistparty.org.uk)**

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# A SOCIALIST MANIFESTO FOR LONDON

## Housing:

- An immediate moratorium on 'social cleansing' schemes. Stop the demolitions.
- No to Sadiq Khan's London plan. In place of handing public land to private developers to build blocks of expensive flats, build council houses on social rent, with secure tenancies, and take over empty speculative property. 100% council housing on public land.
- Set a London rent cap.
- Remove all cladding. Review all new builds and planning decisions in terms of fire safety and densification, and campaign to reverse the deregulation of planning.

## Young people:

- Reopen all youth clubs, recruit more youth workers.
- Establish a grant to enable young people to stay in Further and Higher Education.
- Re-open careers services
- Specialist housing and support for vulnerable young adults. Campaign to reinstate housing benefit for 16-17 year olds and establish support in the meantime.

## Cuts:

- Call on all Labour councils in London to stop passing on cuts and support any socialist councillors who refuse to implement these cuts. Set a budget based on the needs of working class Londoners and launch a campaign for the necessary funding from central government – taking the road of the 1980s socialist-led Liverpool city council
- No more outsourcing. Bring GLA privatised services back in-house and call on London councils to do the same.

## And...

- Reopen fire stations and reinstate the fire engines and jobs cut by Boris Johnson.
- Work with trade unions and communities to campaign to stop privatisation and cuts in the NHS, including cancelling PFI debts.
- Campaign against racism and the scapegoating of migrants and refugees, working with the trade unions to lead a 'Jobs and Homes, Not Racism' campaign
- Campaign to end attacks on disabled people. Establish a London fund in place of the independent living fund
- Defend the democratic right to peaceful protest in London, including Parliament Square.

## Low pay:

- End poverty pay – set £15 hour as the London Living Wage and campaign for it to be the minimum wage
- End zero hour contracts in all GLA jobs and call on all London councils to do the same.

## Schools:

- Immediate moratorium on academies and free schools in London.
- Call on councils to refuse to pass on cuts to school funding, including campaigning to stop cuts to special education needs and pupil referral units – fully fund them.

## Transport:

- End and reverse the Transport for London cuts passed on by Khan
- Re-open tube ticket offices. Cut fares.
- Instruct bus companies to implement the safe working conditions demanded by bus workers. Establish pay parity
- Bring privatised London transport back in-house.

## Environment:

In addition to fully-funded, publicly-owned and planned public transport:

- Invest in non-diesel public transport and establish a grant for people to convert or replace polluting cars, rather than punitive measures to tackle air pollution.
- Work with trade unionists and service users to develop a socialist green new deal for London.

A fight for policies like these and more, linking up with the trade unions and the many community campaigns in London, could reach out to councils across the country and spearhead a national campaign. We call on the Labour leadership and deputy leadership candidates to demand that Labour councils take a stand, refuse to make cuts and fight for the money the Tories have stolen from our jobs and services.

A mass movement is necessary to take on the Tories and would also play a big part in re-founding a mass working class party with a socialist programme. That would mean defending and extending the manifesto Corbyn stood on. No retreat on the nationalisation pledges. We fight for a socialist government to take into democratic public ownership the banks and big companies that dominate the economy, so that the vast wealth in society can be democratically planned in the interests of the overwhelming majority of people, and in a way that safeguards the environment.