

4 June 2024

PRESS RELEASE: CPRE Sussex calls on candidates to back the countryside

Charity's election manifesto includes plans for climate, nature and affordable housing.

CPRE Sussex is calling on all candidates in the upcoming election to back the countryside.

The charity's manifesto asks potential MPs to commit to actions and policies which will tackle climate breakdown, protect nature and make genuinely affordable housing a reality. They include:

- Backing the rapid rollout of rooftop solar.
- Stopping airport expansion, including the new runway at Gatwick.
- More funding for nature-friendly farming.
- Abolishing "hope value" to help local authorities build social housing.

CPRE Sussex director Paul Steedman said: "Sussex is on the frontline of our cost of living, housing, nature and climate crises. We need our next MPs to champion policies that address these huge challenges – and we have put them at the heart of our manifesto."

Several of the priorities set out in the manifesto explore how to increase access to affordable housing while still protecting the Sussex countryside. They include a regional economic development strategy to take the heat out of house prices in the South East and a new strategic approach to land use to get the right development in the right places.

Other priority areas include an increase in hedge and tree planting, an end to fossil fuel extraction and consumption, and more cash for the South Downs National Park, High Weald and Chichester Harbour National Landscapes.

[Read more about the CPRE Sussex election manifesto here.](#)

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For press inquiries and interview opportunities call Sheena Campbell on 07709 354924.

Notes for editors:

About CPRE Sussex

CPRE Sussex is shaping a greener future for Sussex. Our priorities are:

- Beautiful landscapes, rich in nature and greener towns and cities
- Countryside and green spaces which are accessible to all, enriching lives and health
- Sustainable development for thriving communities
- Effective responses to the climate emergency



We engage with decision makers, influencing them and challenging them to protect the Sussex countryside and green spaces. We inform on environmental issues and empower individuals and communities with robust evidence to defend and enhance the green spaces they love. We believe in collaborating with others to ensure a greener future for our county. We research and provide advice on planning issues. Together we can shape a greener future for Sussex.