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From: Paul Chandler [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 November 2019 07:38
To: conservation <swtconservation@sussexwt.org.uk>
Subject: Re: What will you do for wildlife?

Dear Henri,

Thank you very much for your letter to Beatrice. I am helping her by responding to the very many emails we get everyday and I can assure you I will discuss the issues in your email with her.

Beatrice is standing on the Liberal Democrat manifesto which you can find here:
www.libdems.org.uk/plan.

Please can I quote these paragraphs which are relevant to your concerns:

'We will protect the natural environment and reverse biodiversity loss at the same time as combating climate change. We will support farmers to protect and restore the natural environment alongside their critical roles in producing food, providing employment and promoting tourism, leisure and health and wellbeing. We will:

1. Introduce a Nature Act to restore the natural environment through setting legally binding near-term and long-term targets for improving water, air, soil and biodiversity, and supported by funding streams of at least £18 billion over five years.
2. Combat climate change, and benefit nature and people by coordinating the planting of 60 million trees a year and introducing requirements for the greater use of sustainably harvested wood in construction.
3. Invest in large scale restoration of peatlands, heathland, native woodlands, saltmarshes, wetlands and coastal waters, helping to absorb carbon, protect against floods, improve water quality and protect habitats, including through piloting 'rewilding' approaches.
4. Reduce basic agricultural support payments to the larger recipients and redeploy the savings to support the public goods that come from effective land management, including restoring nature and protecting the countryside, preventing flooding and combating climate change through measures to increase soil carbon and expand native woodland.
5. Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public procurement policy, to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food and cut down on food waste.
6. Support producers by broadening the remit of the Groceries Code Adjudicator and supporting them with access to markets.
7. Significantly increase the amount of accessible green space, including protecting up to a million acres, completing the coastal path, exploring a 'right to roam' for waterways and creating a new designation of National Nature Parks.
8. Give the Local Green Space designation the force of law.
9. Protect and restore England's lakes, rivers and wetlands, including through reform of water management and higher water efficiency standards, and establish a 'blue belt' of marine protected areas covering at least 50 per cent of UK waters by 2030, in partnership with UK overseas territories.
10. Create a new 'British Overseas Ecosystems Fund' for large-scale environmental restoration projects in the UK Overseas Territories and sovereign bases, home to 94 per cent of our unique wildlife.

11. Establish a £5 billion fund for flood prevention and climate adaptation over the course of the parliament to improve flood defences, and introduce high standards for flood resilience for buildings and infrastructure in flood risk areas.

12. Ensure that sustainability lies at the heart of fisheries policy, rebuilding depleted fish stocks to achieve their former abundance.

Fishers, scientists and conservationists should all be at the centre of a decentralised and regionalised fisheries management system.

Immigration policy should also be flexible enough to ensure that both the catching and processing sectors have access to the labour they need.

13. Increase the budget for the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, ensuring that agencies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency are properly funded.

It was very interesting to read about the Sussex Wildlife Trust and I have read the material you sent us and looked at the links which we will study with care.. While I feel sure your list of policies are excellent, it is not really possible for Beatrice to commit herself to your very specific demands.

Detailed policy will be worked out in consultation with her fellow MPs and our general policy making processes once she is elected.

Perhaps Beatrice could meet with you once she is elected.

Thank you very much once again for your email.

Paul Chandler

Campaign support for Beatrice Bass

Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Hove and Portslade Published and promoted by David Kingston on behalf of Beatrice Bass (Liberal Democrats), both at 3 Albany Villas, Hove BN3 2RS

On 2019-11-28 15:48, conservation wrote:

Dear Beatrice,

As your local Wildlife Trust, we work on the ground to protect and recover nature in Hove.

Your constituency includes fragments of flower-rich chalk grassland and ancient Saxon hedgerows that provide links through the landscape and refuge for wildlife, with the Kingmere Marine Conservation Zone just off the coast. We run regular Wild Beach sessions and are partners in the successful Brighton and Hove Environmental Education service, providing outdoor learning in school grounds and beyond.

The upcoming General Election is a crucial moment for wildlife in the UK. Our natural environment is in crisis - the UK is one of the most nature-depleted places on earth and over half of our wildlife species are in decline.

We are utterly dependent on nature for our wellbeing and prosperity, so it is vital that the next government enacts the kinds of ambitious measures that will guarantee wildlife's recovery. There is evidently widespread support among the public for such decisive action.

Our 35,000 members would be very interested to know what you will do for wildlife in Hove and across the country. I would be grateful if you could respond to the following questions:

* How will you and your party act decisively to tackle the crises in the natural environment?

- * What will you do to ensure we have farming policies that support land managers in contributing to nature's recovery?
- * What will you do to ensure we protect and revive our seas?
- * How will you and your party prioritise and fund nature-based solutions to the climate crisis?
- * What will you do to ensure that development is within environmental > limits and truly sustainable in Sussex?

We are asking all candidates in Sussex these questions. If you have no objections, we will share your responses with our members and publish them on our website along with those from other candidates.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Henri Brocklebank
Director of Conservation Policy and Evidence