



Dear Bristol Labour MPs and Bristol Labour

We are writing to urge you to join us in publicly condemning the Government's decision to approve the Jackdaw gas field and call for a renewed commitment to tackling the climate emergency.

This decision from your Government is extremely concerning at a time when Bristol is already experiencing the escalating consequences of climate change.

The extreme heat we all experienced this summer raised serious concerns about public health, pressure on public services, and the resilience of our city's infrastructure. We, alongside many Bristolians, are therefore alarmed that the Government is choosing to escalate drilling for fossil fuels - an act of climate vandalism that will only make the situation worse.

As a city, Bristol has worked hard to establish itself as a leader on climate action. Bristol City Council was the first to declare a climate emergency in 2018 and has recently announced that we have reduced our direct emissions by 75% since 2015/16.

As a city, we have also invested significant effort into promoting clean energy, climate resilience, sustainable transport, energy efficiency and nature recovery.

These efforts reflect the wishes of many Bristol residents who want to see decisive action to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the transition to a clean energy future.

The approval of a new offshore oil and gas development is an insult to this ambition. At a moment when this Labour Government should be accelerating investment in renewable energy, insulation, energy efficiency and clean technology, approving new fossil fuel extraction will lock in further emissions and undermine confidence in the Government's commitment to legally binding emission targets.

As elected representatives, we recognise the importance of energy security and affordable energy bills for our residents. But this will not bring down bills or protect jobs and will only provide profit to the fossil fuel companies that are wrecking our planet.

Lasting energy security will only come from reducing our reliance on volatile fossil fuel markets and investing in the green transition; home-grown renewable energy, storage, demand reduction and energy efficiency measures.

As Labour MPs representing Bristol constituencies, your voices carry significant weight. We therefore ask you to join us in expressing opposition to this decision and to call on the Government to prioritise the rapid transition to a clean, secure and affordable energy system that is consistent with the UK's legally binding climate obligations and the wishes of the residents of Bristol.

As a city, we have consistently shown that ambitious climate action is both possible and popular. At a time of growing concern about climate impacts and following a summer marked by unprecedented heat, we believe it is vital that Bristol's representatives speak with a clear and united voice to tackle climate change.

Yours sincerely,

Carla Denyer MP

Member of Parliament for Bristol Central

Councillor Tony Dyer

Leader of Bristol City Council

Councillor Abi Finch

Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee on Bristol City Council

Councillor Emma Edwards

Leader of the Green Group on Bristol City Council

Bristol Green Group Councillors