

Churches together
in
East Grinstead



Justice and Peace
East Grinstead
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May 2017

(Candidate)

Dear

Questions from the churches of East Grinstead

East Grinstead Justice and Peace Group, as part of Churches Together in East Grinstead (representing nine of the churches in the town), believe that there are fundamental questions that we need to ask all candidates in the forthcoming general election. These reflect who and what we are and our focus on social justice for all. Britain has a proud record of looking after those on the margins in the UK and in looking outwards working with others to tackle global poverty inequality and climate change. We want to explore with all candidates and parties their commitment to maintaining and strengthening this record.

Please let us have your response to the following questions:

1. Global poverty and aid

- 1.1. What will you and your party do to continue to tackle poverty overseas?
- 1.2. Will your Party ensure that 0.7% of GDP remains the basis of overseas aid?
- 1.3. Will your party guarantee free access to the UK market for producers from the poorest countries after Brexit?

2. Climate change and care for creation

- 2.1. How will you and your party make tackling Climate Change a priority?
- 2.2. What priority would you give to environmental concerns in negotiating new trade deals?

3. Britain in the world

- 3.1. How will you and your party ensure that Britain is an outward-looking, tolerant and welcoming nation in years ahead?
- 3.2. How will you care for the influx of child refugees into Europe?
- 3.3. Will your Party commit to introducing a 28 day time limit on immigration detention since at present the UK is the only country in Europe that detains people indefinitely.
- 3.4. How will your Party ensure that the sales of arms is better controlled? Would you agree that Arm exports to Saudi Arabia should be suspended immediately to ensure that humanitarian aid supplies reach Yemen's suffering people?

4. Building strong communities in the UK

- 4.1. What will you and your party do to help build strong inclusive communities so that all people can flourish?

- 4.2. Should those who have insufficient money to feed their children in the UK have to rely on Foodbanks?
- 4.3. What would you do to tackle the pervasive antagonistic speech on immigration in some parts of the British media and the internet that encourage an atmosphere of hate?
- 4.4. In order to tackle the increasing problem of homelessness would your Party commit to developing and implementing a comprehensive, long-term national strategy to end homelessness in England and require every local authority to develop a strategy to address homelessness in their area?

Please respond to _____ by _____

We would propose that your answers will be publicised widely within the churches of East Grinstead and locally.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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