

EC5 Kelsey Trevett

Agenda item: 1. Executive Committee Candidates

Introduction

My name is Kelsey Trevett (they/them), and I'm the former Co-Chair and Equality & Diversity officer of the Young Greens of England and Wales. I'm a recent graduate from a BA programme in Philosophy, Politics, and economics, and have a strong background in campaigning, within and beyond the Green movement, for intrinsically-linked social and climate justice. I'm a young queer disabled activist, and bring my background, personal and professional experience to the table, advocating for an unapologetically anticapitalist political platform, brought about by diverse and inclusive organising. I can be found with my guide dog, Lacey -- a strong advocate of UBI (universal biscuit income!) --, and often at a protest, demonstration, or on a picket line.



Member Organisation:
Young Greens of England and Wales

Supporters

Benjamin Wold Birmanis (Young Greens of England and Wales); Michael Heffernan (Scottish Young Greens)

The need for strong, powerful, organised youth leadership on the intrinsically-linked social and climate crises has never been more crucial. With the failure of political leadership to take the bold decisions necessary now to protect people and planet, contextualised by democratic backsliding, attacks on the rights of women and LGBTIQ+ people, and the prioritisation of profits and billionaires over our future, FYEG has a key role to play in 2024 and beyond. With my two years of experience as Co-Chair of the Young Greens of England and Wales, and my background in campaigns, strategy, and facilitating cooperation within networks, I feel my skillset would be a valuable addition to the FYEG EC as we work hard towards the European elections and beyond.

From 2021-2023, I was elected as the Co-Chair of the Young greens of England and Wales, a role which granted me the opportunity to develop and exercise skills directly relevant to the work of the FYEG EC. Co-chairing a committee of 20 members, all of whom were volunteering their time alongside their studies or work, allowed me to develop not only my teamwork skills, but also my ability to prioritise the committee's collective wellbeing, building strong connections with committee members to ensure open and trusting working relationships. As Co-Chair, I supported other portfolio holders with a variety of projects, ranging from political education to international work with FYEG, and led on projects where capacity was lacking. This included running our biggest local election campaign ever, almost doubling the number of elected Young Green councillors in England and Wales in 2023, as well as planning and delivering our flagship residential training programme 30 Under 30 in March this year. Both of these activities required close liaison with stakeholders, coordinating plans and communications, and adapting messaging and activities for the specific circumstances of a variety of campaigns. As we approach the 2024 European elections, I feel that this experience and flexibility will be effective in working with the European Green Party, and the wider Green family, to deliver strong results.

When elected in 2021, one of our first projects was to begin the process of creating a five-year strategy for the Young Greens of England and Wales — an activity which I feel places me in a strong position to carry out work on the FYEG 2025-2030 strategy if elected. In creating our strategy, we worked with key stakeholders to identify areas of interlocking activity, establishing short, medium, and long-term goals, as well as steps towards achieving them. This strategy focussed on increasing our electoral force, movement building in local communities and in educational institutions, and embedding ourselves in the broader civil society movement for change and liberation of marginalised communities. I am excited at the prospect of bringing this experience to FYEG, to develop a five-year strategy which seeks to strengthen our existing network, increase its scope and reach, and elect more young Greens at the regional, national, and European level, as well as within structures such as trade and student unions.

Prior to my election as Co-Chair of the Young Greens of England and Wales, I served a year as its equality & Diversity officer, and my passion for this area of work remains strong. Over the past few years, I have worked on initiatives to diversify the Green movement in England and Wales: introducing diversity criteria onto the Young greens of England and Wales' flagship training programme; organising at the Green Party of England and Wales' conferences to support motions for liberation, including successfully for policy supporting the self identification of gender, and for improved internal guidance on antisemitism; and designing and delivering political education events to draw attention to interlocking forms of social discrimination, and our movement's role in tackling them. As a queer disabled person, I have experienced some of the challenges those from marginalised backgrounds can face in political involvement. Our recognition of the interlocking nature of climate and social justice, and our movement's roots in protest and resistance, mandates that liberation must lie at the heart of our politics, and by consequence at the heart of our activity as an organisation. If elected, I am keen to put my experience and passion towards building an even more diverse pan-European movement, to ensure that the welcoming and inclusive experience I have enjoyed with FYEG is always the case.

Earlier this year, I had the honour of being selected as a Prep Team member for FYEG's youth assembly in Brussels. This experience represents one of the highlights of my year, allowing me to work with a team of activists from across FYEG, to create an inspiring, energised, and exciting event alongside the Green group in the European Parliament. I gained a deeper insight into the workings of FYEG, and the interaction between its different bodies, as well as getting to learn from young campaigners and candidates from so many member organisations. I am excited at the possibility of progressing this work, supporting, and continuing to learn from, the southern region,

and putting my network building skills to good use in facilitating projects and cooperation between member organisations.

Carrying out my responsibilities as Co-Chair alongside full-time university studies in politics and philosophy necessitated that I developed exceptional time management skills, and the ability to maintain my own wellbeing so as to be able to avoid burnout. However, on top of this, I retained my engagement with a wide range of non-partisan campaigning activity. I served a year as the LGBTQ+/Disability intersectional officer at the University of Oxford, supporting queer disabled students, including working with them to develop accessibility guides for queer venues and events in the city. I continued working with a range of civil society organisations in the UK to improve the education opportunities and outcomes for young visually impaired people — a passion driven by my own experience —, and also worked closely with the University and College Union (UCU) to build student solidarity throughout an extended period of industrial action, culminating in a piece published in a Nature journal. I include this here to illustrate not only my own background, but also my commitment, passion, and experience working in a range of different environments, building and maintaining professional relationships beyond the green movement.

This summer, whilst living in Brussels, I undertook an internship focussing on the development of political narratives, with particular attention paid to the rise of far-right narratives in the UK and central and eastern Europe. As well as exposing me to the realities of the European institutions, this opportunity has given me an insight into the construction of political narratives, which I believe will be integral to progressing the work of FYEG as we approach and look beyond next year's elections. Constructing a narrative of hope, inspiring action from even broader swathes of society, will be vital to the growth of FYEG in the years to come, and I'm excited to embed this understanding into the work of building FYEG's networks, and beginning the design of the 2025-2030 strategy.

We have no time to waste. Crucial elections approach in 2024, and our planet burns. If given the opportunity, I would be honoured and excited to put my skills and experience, from within and beyond the Green movement, to use in propelling the work of FYEG forward. We have the talent and ambition to build a diverse movement, focussed and strategic, which brings young people from across Europe with us in our pursuit of social, environmental, racial and economic justice. I hope to have the opportunity to play my part in that work as a member of the FYEG EC,, and in the meantime welcome any questions you may have.

Yours in solidarity,
Kelsey Trevett

When I joined the Green Party of England and Wales in 2019, I did so for two reasons. Firstly, a fear of what I saw around me: a climate crisis out of control, intertwined social inequality growing rapidly, and a government not only failing to act, but failing to care. Overwhelmingly, I joined for the second reason: hope. I saw a political project which was built on a vision not just for something better than this, but something altogether positive. I was energised especially by young people taking leadership, advocating for ecosocialism, and working together to build a movement which was connected, diverse, and effective. The fact that the vision and the movement is never static, and is instead a process, is what gives us our strength. Here's an outline of how we develop that process in FYEG.

Connected

Our member organisations are undertaking fantastic work in their respective countries, and achieving unprecedented success. Providing even more opportunities for sharing learnings, successes, and skills is vital to building a strong pan-European network. FYEG already offers so many chances for this: in Ireland, this summer, the English and Welsh, Scottish, and Irish Young Greens came together for a summer camp, to forge exactly these sorts of connections between member organisations. I would like to support member organisations in the southern region, and across FYEG, to implement similar initiatives, working within their capacity, to connect and empower activists, and motivate them for the 2024 European Parliament elections and beyond.

Diverse

FYEG has the capacity to be a movement which champions the diversity of the communities with which we work. Empowering activists from traditionally marginalised backgrounds to get involved with organising and standing for election is vital, first and foremost to pursuing our values. Funding and facilitating training initiatives for those from underrepresented groups, reaching out to existing campaigns to develop and maintain connections, and encouraging member organisations to push for diversity within their candidate selection processes are all tangible steps FYEG can take towards diversifying our movement for the years ahead, and in preparation for the 2029 European Parliament elections.

Effective

Our movement is most impactful when it works to an ambitious strategy which has broad buy-in from our membership. Following the European Parliament elections in 2024, we need a strong political strategy which focusses on building a movement for change, both within and beyond the electoral sphere. Delivering political education and skills training, developing a political platform which is unashamedly anticapitalist, and embedding ourselves in campaigns for social justice, liberation, and climate justice in order to mobilise these networks at pivotal moments — this is how we create change from the grassroots. This also entails working with the existing Green family, to continue to influence the broader political agenda with our ideas for radical societal transformation, direct action, and youth-led democratic policy.



Kelsey Trevett

Date of birth: 31/12/2001 | **Nationality:** British | **Gender:** Other | **Phone number:** (+44) 7565506220 (Mobile) |
Email address: kelsey.trevett@icloud.com | **LinkedIn:** <https://be.linkedin.com/in/kelsey-trevett-563a06235> |

● ABOUT ME

I am a passionate organiser for social and environmental justice, with experience in both community organising and developing issue-based campaigns, creating and executing delivery plans for a range of circumstances, environments, and groups. I enjoy working in teams, forming relationships to develop and implement visions for change, and ensuring strategic planning to achieve mutually-designed goals. I am flexible and creative, have excellent time management skills, and thrive in dynamic, diverse teams where new ideas are embraced.

● WORK EXPERIENCE

26/06/2023 – 08/09/2023 Brussels, Belgium

INTERN FLARE GOVERNANCE ASBL

- Gathered and presented research on the development of culture war narratives in the UK and Western Europe, integrating theoretical backgrounds with real-world examples
- Explored the construction and development of political narratives in order to investigate what learnings might be taken for creating progressive, community-centred narratives
- Co-organised community dialogues on the future of a just, sustainable society, with focuses on work culture, and the impact of economic systems on social interactions
- Spent time with the Democratic Society, learning about their Horizon Europe funded pan-European project on civic engagement and participatory democracy
- Created communications content for Flare Governance events, adapting content for a range of social channels
- Engaged with the European Forum Alpbach to attend workshops on systems thinking, project management, and strategic innovation

21/07/2021 – 23/07/2023 United Kingdom

CO-CHAIR YOUNG GREENS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

- - Chaired meetings of the national Executive Committee of the Young Greens
- Facilitated residential weekends of non-formal education and skills training for young activists, electoral candidates, and community organisers
- Developed and executed strategies to increase youth representation in local government within England and Wales, mobilising hundreds of organisers and bringing new activists into the movement
- Experience on the Executive Board of the Green Party of England and Wales, taking key decisions on annual budgets and day-to-day party management
- Represented the Green Party on national media platforms, including in cross-party debates, and in opening speeches to party conferences

01/2023 – 04/2023 Brussels, Belgium

PREPARATORY TEAM MEMBER FEDERATION OF YOUNG EUROPEAN GREENS

- Developed a residential programme of non-formal education sessions to support young candidates and campaign organisers from across Europe in the 2024 European Parliament elections and in domestic local, regional, and national elections
- In April 2023, I facilitated this residential weekend in Brussels, implementing non-formal education methods, managing day-to-day logistics of the residential, and ensuring consistent follow-up

- Promoted the views, interests, and inclusion of Young Green liberation groups, and ensured a good relationship with the national Executive
- Organised and facilitated an online education session on transphobia, antisemitism, and islamophobia, ahead of important liberation motions at the Green Party's Spring Conference
- Organised activists to pass a variety of liberation-related motions, including antisemitism guidance created by Jewish Greens, and our policy for the self identification of gender

● **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

10/2020 – 06/2023 Oxford, United Kingdom

BA PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS University of Oxford

Website <https://ox.ac.uk/>

09/2018 – 07/2020 Hereford, United Kingdom

A-LEVEL FRENCH Royal National College

Website <https://rnc.ac.uk/>

09/2018 – 07/2020 Hereford, United Kingdom

A-LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE Royal National College

Website <https://rnc.ac.uk/>

09/2018 – 07/2020 Hereford, United Kingdom

A-LEVEL HISTORY Royal National college

Website <https://rnc.ac.uk/>

● **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s): **ENGLISH**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
FRENCH	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

● **DIGITAL SKILLS**

Microsoft Office | Google Drive | Social Media | Action Network | Zoom

● **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

PUBLICATIONS

[Why I Support my Striking Lecturers](#) – 2023

A World View peace in Nature Human Behaviour on student solidarity with the 2022-2023 University and college Union (UCU) industrial action in the United Kingdom.

[All things Equal: Creating the Future Commission report](#) – 2021

A report, for which I was a commissioner, on the provision of education, health, and social care support for young visually impaired people and their families in the UK, alongside recommendations for improvements and standardisation across local authorities.

Young Greens of England and Wales

co-chairs@younggreens.org.uk



16th October 2023

Federation of Young European Greens

To whom it may concern,

We're writing on behalf of the Young Greens of England and Wales to support the nomination of Kelsey Trevett to the vacant position on the FYEG Executive Committee.

Kelsey has been Co-Chair of the Young Greens of England and Wales for two years. Throughout their time in the role they have led a number of projects, including coordinating a large part of our 30 Under 30 2023 programme and leading our local elections campaign in May 2023. They have been an active member of the Committee, supporting other Committee members, as well as providing leadership for the Young Greens.

Throughout their tenure as Co-chair, Kelsey has shown great interest in and understanding of international cooperation. They were part of the Prep Team for *The Future is Green: Youth Assembly* last year, and have championed increased engagement of our members with FYEG. They have also consistently supported new international initiatives and relationships, notably our engagement with the Scottish Young Greens and Óige Ghlas.

Kelsey has shown continual commitment to and understanding of Green values and international collaboration. We believe that Kelsey would be an outstanding candidate for this role and we highly recommend them.

Sincerely,

Jane Baston and Luanne Thornton

Young Greens of England and Wales Co-Chairs