Applying for 30 under 30 - Guidance Notes

Thanks so much for your interest in 30 under 30! We've produced this document to try and level the playing field a bit and to take steps to prevent us from taking on those who are best at filling out application forms!

The most important thing to remember is that we are interested in your potential as a Green Party organiser/campaigner/candidate. Mentioning previous experience is useful if you have it but we are more interested in your motivations, passions and ideas, so please do spend some time telling us in your application.

**Please note:** We are looking for people who are passionate about changing the world through politics and can contribute their skills and passion to building the Green Party. This scheme is not designed as a training course or CV enhancer for people who want to work for charities/NGOs etc. **But this does not mean you have to want to be an MP/MEP/the next Caroline Lucas.**

It may be useful to sum up the several elements of the scheme:

- This is the second round of applications. We took on 15 applicants in 2012 and will do the same in 2013. The formal scheme will last for 2 years and if successful you will be joining the existing 15 for most of the training weekends.

- You will be assigned a mentor who is experienced in areas of political activity that you are interested in. If you are accepted we will talk this through with you at the first event.

- There will be five events per year- The first induction weekend will be in mid-late May and will serve as an introduction to all the different parts of the Green Party, how they work and how to get involved in them.

- There is a fully funded trip to Brussels in mid June - this will be the place where we properly get to know each other and think a bit harder about what we want to get out of and achieve as part of the scheme. It will include a tour of the European Parliament.

- There will then be a series of training weekends focussing on developing skills most desired by the 2013 intake. So far these have included public speaking, media and communications, interviews, election campaign organising and being a candidate.

- We will be integrating both groups of 15 together as soon as we feel the time is right to form the wholesome 30 under 30, united at last!

# How to fill in the application form

**We want to see your passion for and commitment to the Green Party, its ideas and capacity to change society for the better.** This doesn't mean saying how much you love our policies, but you should believe in the principles of the party and want to get more involved.

**We want to hear where you see the Green Party going in the future, and what it would look like if you had your way.**  This doesn't mean 2, 3 5, 10, or 100 MPs, but what you see us needing to do to achieve that.

**We want to know what motivates you.** Did suddenly everything made sense for you, or did you slowly develop an awareness of environmental problems or the need for social justice? Whatever it is, want to know why you really want to get involved in politics.

## Your questions answered:

**I applied last year and wasn't successful, should I apply again?** Absolutely! We had a really tough job choosing the 15 last year and would welcome applications from those we didn't have room for last year.

**I don't know if I want to be a politician, is this scheme for me?** Very few of our current group know exactly what they want to do at the end of the scheme, but they are committed to finding a place in the Green Party that they can contribute to and develop whether that's in frontline politics or as a media officer, skills trainer or policy expert. This is what we want to see from you, even if you have multiple interests or aren't sure where you best fit.

**I don't have much experience, am I less likely to be successful?** No. We're looking for potential in your application. If you're passionate about politics and the Green Party and keen to get involved and learn new things, then you're in with a chance no matter how little experience you have.

**How do I apply?** Fill in the application form and diversity monitoring form and send it to us! Make sure you've put your contact details on it. We'll shortlist in the first week of May and hold interviews on the weekend of the 4th and 5th. The diversity form won't be connected to your application when it's looked at, but we use it to look at the diversity of our applicants, and, if your successful, to make sure we make any allowances if you have a disability that you need. You need to submit your application by the 23rd May.

**Am I eligible?** Anyone who is aged 16-30 and a member of the Green Party is eligible to apply for the scheme. Unfortunately, we can't take anyone younger than 16 because of our insurance. We welcome applications from people whether they're constantly at political events and campaigning for the Greens or whether you joined a few months ago and have never been active. If you live in Scotland, you are welcome to apply but we ask you to join the England and Wales party if you're successful.