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23 July 2015

Ms Natalie Bennett
The Green Party
Development House
56-64 Leonard Street
London
EC2A 4LT

Dear Ms Bennett,

The purpose of Naturist Action Group (NAG) is to foster the general acceptance of Naturism in the UK as a way of life for those who choose it. In this context 'naturism' is the practice of not wearing clothing with the absence of any of the sexual undertones, which are often associated with nudity.

While the law in the UK does not currently criminalise naturism per-se, it is widely perceived by the public and those in authority to be illegal if it takes place where others might see naturists, such as at a beach or any other open public space or even on one's own property. As a consequence, otherwise entirely innocent and law abiding naturists can find themselves being reported to the police, victimised by the public, and occasionally, prosecuted for public order offences or breach of the peace.

In the extreme case of Stephen Gough (aka 'The Naked Rambler'), he has spent some 10 years in jail for nothing more than his refusal to wear clothes or dress for Court appearances. This, we believe, is a gross misuse of the Criminal Justice System and an unjustifiable cost on the public purse.

While the Green Party has extensive policy on equality and diversity rights and are very strong on anti-discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, etc. I cannot see anything similar based on clothing, dress or indeed, the choice not to wear any clothing at all.

I would be most grateful if you could clarify the Green Party's policy about this issue.

Yours Sincerely,

Reg Barlow
Chairman, Naturist Action Group