

GENERAL ELECTION 2024

HOW YOU CAN HELP IN YOUR AREA



General Election 2024: How you can help in your area

We believe that every child has the right to be active, feel safe and breathe clean air.

That's why, when a new UK Government is elected on 4 July, we are calling for a simple, achievable target: **We want 60% of primary school children walking to school in England by 2029.** When we design streets for children, we create places that work better for everyone. Increased walking rates will reduce road deaths and congestion, improve health, and air quality, and boost our economy.

Our **four key recommendations** will help reach the 60% walk to school target and help others to walk more, too.

These are:

1. Increase the walk to school target to 60% and maintain the target for 365 stages walked per person per year.
2. Provide safe routes for children to walk to school, committing to a Vision Zero approach. Slower speeds, improved crossings and an end to pavement parking will make streets safer for all.
3. Ensure local authorities are properly resourced, have the right skills, and have the right powers to respond to local concerns such as speed, pavement parking and high traffic levels.
4. Allocate 10% of domestic transport expenditure to active travel by the end of the next Parliament.

How you can help

It's essential that we get our calls and messages out to candidates up and down the UK. Can you help us amplify our voice in the run up to the elections?

1. Use our campaign actions

We've created two campaign actions to put walking on your agenda during the General Election.

We're inviting our supporters to write personalised letters to their constituency MP candidates, calling on them to make the walk to school safer and easier for all and pledge, if elected, to deliver on our four key recommendations.

Follow [this link](#), enter your postcode and you'll be provided with an editable email template which we encourage you to tailor to tell candidates about specific issues in your

neighbourhood. The more personal your letter is, the more impact it will have. [Write to your candidates now.](#)

If you want to go further, we also are running a 'Write to your local paper' e-action. Again, follow [this link](#), enter your postcode and you'll be provided with an editable email template to write to your local paper calling for child-friendly streets. [Write to your local paper now.](#)

2. Tweet your candidate asking them to pledge

If you are on X/Twitter, find your MP candidates handle (we recommend [Democracy Club](#) for this), and reinforce your email by asking them to pledge, with the online community watching in anticipation.



3. Print and display your safe streets door hanger

HELP PUT WALKING ON THE GENERAL ELECTION AGENDA

When we design streets for children, we create places that work better for everyone. More people walking and wheeling means safer streets, better health and cleaner air.

As the General Election approaches, candidates and campaigners from all parties may knock on your door canvassing for your vote. If you want your incoming MP to prioritise safer streets, then this is your chance to let them know.

HOW TO USE YOUR DOOR HANGER

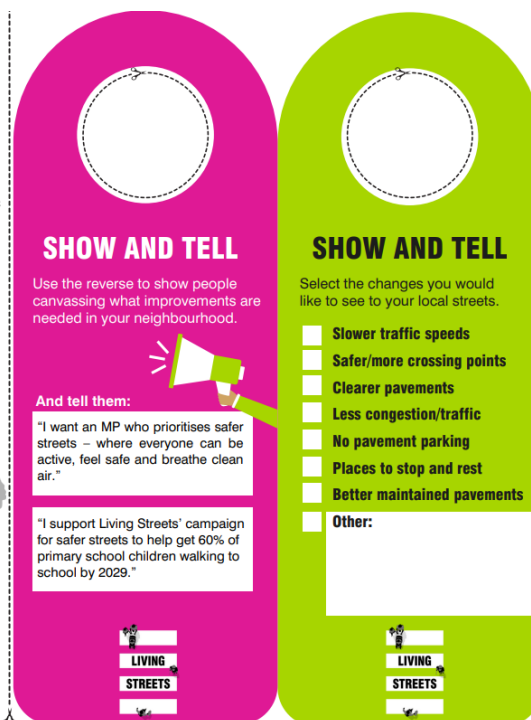
1. Print, cut down the dotted line and fold the hanger in half, then cut out the circles.
2. Tick what would make your local streets safer and better for walking/wheeling.
3. Hang on the outside/inside of your front door - depending on the weather!
4. When canvassers visit, it's on hand to let them know what you want.
5. Show any issues on your street and tell them about Living Streets' campaign.



Find out more about our campaign and our four key recommendations to enable more children to walk to school at livingstreets.org.uk/GE2024 or scan the QR code.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR DOOR-STEP CONVERSATIONS!

@livingstreets campaigns@livingstreets.org.uk



We've created an editable printable door-hanger for our supporters to hang on or inside their front door so those canvassing for their vote can see that safer streets are important to them. You'll also have our key messages to hand when canvassers knock on your door.

With responses from constituents on the door fed back to local political parties and their representatives, this will enable our supporters to show that the walkable streets and neighbourhoods is important to those with power. Download the hanger in English [here](#), and yn Cymraeg, [yma](#).

4. Communications

Living Streets are producing a series of short videos, amplifying the voices of children, outlining why the walk to school is important to them. We will use these videos to generate interest in our four key recommendations to enable our walk to school target. If you are on social media, please amplify these by liking, sharing, or retweeting.

5. Suggested questions to put to candidates

You can also ask candidates, on the doorstep or at hustling events, questions about their plans to increase walking and create child-friendly streets. To help you, we have drafted a set of questions to find out what your candidates will do on these issues if they are elected.

- What do you see as being the main benefits of active travel? And how will you work to ensure everyone enjoys these benefits?
- What would you do, if elected, to support pupils and schools to ensure children could walk to school and that walking was the easy option?
- What do you see as being the main benefits of active travel? And how will you work to ensure everyone enjoys these benefits?
- Are you in favour of Vision Zero targets that significantly reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads?
- Low traffic neighbourhood schemes create streets that are quieter, where children play out, and air pollution is lower. If elected, would your party support expansion of low traffic neighbourhoods?
- Reduced vehicle speeds decrease the probability of a fatality in the case of road traffic collisions. If elected, would you advocate for 20mph speed limits in residential areas?
- How do you think the next Government could empower local authorities to make decisions that create safer, inclusive streets?
- How do you think the next Government can move people out of their cars and towards walking, cycling and public transport, to work towards net zero?
- Would your party commit to 10% of the transport budget being dedicated to active travel?
- What would you do, if elected, to support pupils and schools to ensure children could walk to school, and that walking was the easy option?
- Pavement clutter is a major issue up and down the country. How will your party ensure our pavements are made safe and clear for everyone to use?
- Pavement parking from cars, vans and lorries often forces vulnerable street users off the pavement and onto the road. If elected, how would your party tackle pavement parking?

We are keen to know what candidates are saying in answer to these questions.

Please let us know about any action you are taking and any responses you are receiving, by contacting Zak Viney, Living Streets Public Affairs & Campaigns Coordinator, at zak.viney@livingstreets.org.uk