



## Report on Scorecard for NZ Election 2020

### - Climate Change and Health

Well-designed climate action is a huge opportunity to address some of New Zealand's biggest problems of health and equity, but continued inaction is the biggest threat to population health of the 21st century.

We asked political Parties about their policies on climate change and interactions with health and equity. Their responses and information on the Parties' websites were rated by a group of health professionals across eight areas.

The results reveal two things. When comparing parties, the Greens score highest overall and in most areas of climate and health policies. The Māori Party, Labour Party and TOP party had some beneficial policies in some areas. Notably, all other parties had mostly either no information or actively harmful climate policies.

Party rankings are detailed below. OraTaiao emphasises that a vote for climate is a vote for health.

#### **The eight areas the Parties were assessed on were:**

- Just global action and international leadership
- NZ frameworks to ensure climate change planning and implementation
- Rural, agricultural and food policies
- Transport, housing and urban planning
- Energy sector
- Te Tiriti, equity and just transition
- Adaptation policies on climate change
- Other

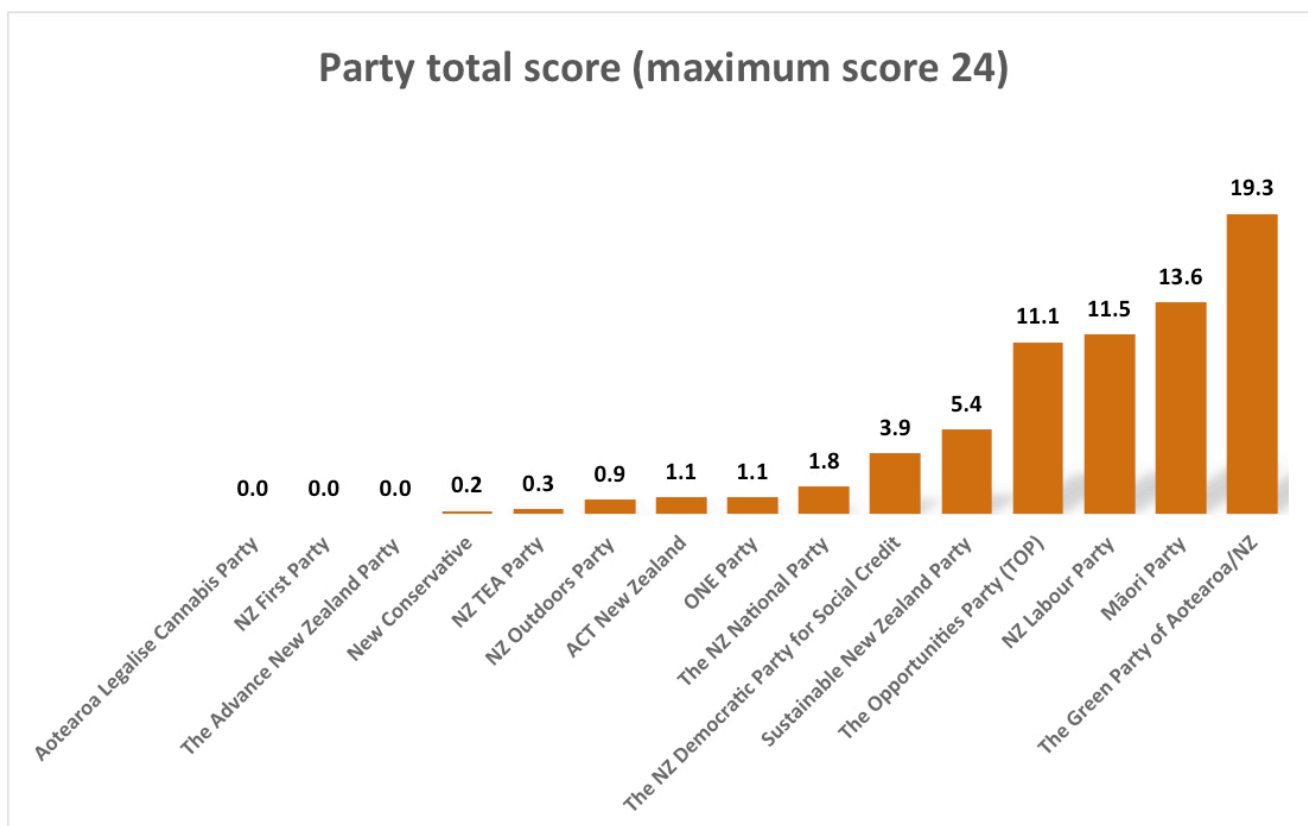
### Scorecard for NZ Election 2020

The scorecard below shows ratings of political parties climate & health policies – September 2020

	Just global action and international leadership	NZ frameworks to ensure climate change planning and implementation	Rural, agricultural and food policies	Transport, housing and urban planning	Energy sector	Te Tiriti, equity and just transition	Adaptation policies on climate change	Other	Answer our questions ?
The Green Party of Aotearoa/NZ	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓
Māori Party	✓✓	✓✓	✓	●	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	
NZ Labour Party	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Opportunities Party (TOP)	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sustainable New Zealand Party	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	●	✓	●	
NZ Democratic Party for Social Credit	●	●	✓	✓	●	●	✓	✓	
The NZ National Party	✓	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
NZ Outdoors Party	●	●	✓	●	●	●	●	●	
ACT New Zealand	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
ONE Party	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Aotearoa Legalise Cannabis Party	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓
NZ First Party	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
NZ TEA Party	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
The Advance New Zealand Party	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
New Conservative	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	

Best practice/optimal (Dark Green), Beneficial (Light Green), Neutral (Orange), Actively harmful/ no information (Red)

## How do the Parties compare?



The above graph shows the total Party scores when all eight areas are combined (maximum score 24)

### How we arrived at these results

In early August, 15 Parties then registered with the Electoral Commission were asked:

- What are your climate change policies, and specifically how will they reduce our national emissions?
- How do your climate change policies regarding transport, housing, food systems and air pollution address emissions and improve population health?
- How do your climate change and health policies give expression to Indigenous rights as described in Te Tiriti o Waitangi?
- How does your party intend to mitigate climate change through a reduction in agricultural emissions and an investment in the rural sector?
- What policies do you have that will help New Zealand adapt to a changing climate?
- What policies do you have to assist the health sector reduce its greenhouse gas emissions?
- In achieving a zero-emissions economy and in adapting to the consequences of climate change, how does your party intend to provide an equitable and just transition in New Zealand for those communities and individuals most affected, particularly Māori?

- What policies do you have that will assist our Pacific Island neighbours to respond to climate change?

Party websites were viewed between 17 and 22 September. Parties that did not reply to our questions within three working weeks were rated solely on the policies on their websites.

Assessors were four OraTaiao members all of whom declared they were not members of any political party. The Parties were scored against criteria developed for Aotearoa New Zealand, based on published health and climate publications, including the World Health Organization (further details available on request). Each Party was rated independently by the assessors. The assessors then took part in online meetings. Where ratings differed greatly they discussed and presented rationales until they reached a consensus on a rating, or they took the average of the various ratings when differences were minor.

## **Further information on the criteria for assessing political party policies on climate change and health**

Party policies were assessed in eight areas. Below is more detail on the make-up of those areas. The health professionals who did the assessments rated each party on each criterion on a scale 0 (actively harmful/no information) to 3 (best practice/optimal). We then took the total score of criteria for each party under each area and calculated a weighted average (based on the number of criteria). The maximum possible overall score for a Party was 24 when all eight areas were combined (excellent in all 8 areas).

### **Just global action and international leadership**

- International obligations- leadership on emissions reduction and equity, commitment to global mitigation and adaptation financing.
- Net Zero NZ by 2050 in all sectors, and all emissions (i.e. including agriculture).
- Pacific support and migration - adaptation financing and support for international migration of displaced people.

### **NZ frameworks to ensure climate change planning and implementation**

- Climate change commission- commitment to, and plans to integrate with existing government structures.
- Financial incentives - stronger than current ETS.
- Shift goals and measures of the economy to wellbeing for people and planet.

### **Rural, agricultural and food policies**

- Supports healthy and Te tiriti based food production that reduces climate pollution.
- Support uptake of healthy and equitable diets, which are predominantly plant-based (EAT-Lancet - The Planetary Health Diet).
- Set stronger and less risky biogenic methane reduction targets, in line with IPCC scenarios that take early and concerted climate action: 24-48% reduction by 2030 (relative to 2010), and 33-69% reduction by 2050 (relative to 2010).
- In rural areas, subsidise zero carbon access to goods, services, education, health and employment.
- Provide the financial resources to local government needed to implement Action for Healthy Waterways.

**Transport, housing and urban planning**

- Massive development of tactical and permanent infrastructure to make travel by walking, wheelchair use, biking, scooting and skating safe, convenient, inclusive and accessible for all.
- Major investment in intercity electric rail.
- Turn public transport into a free or very low cost, fully accessible and electrify it.
- Government buy-back of private rental houses as they come on the market.
- Major investment in new zero carbon, healthy, accessible social housing.
- Complete the retrofitting of insulation and clean heating in existing housing stock.
- Improve the energy efficiency of public buildings.

**Energy sector**

- End fossil fuel exploration and extraction.
- Invest in small- and large-scale renewable energy projects that enhance community resilience and energy equity, while eliminating fuel poverty.
- Re-deploy savings from ending overt and hidden subsidies and financial support for fossil fuel exploration and extraction.

**Te Tiriti, equity and just transition**

- Policies give expression to indigenous rights as described in Te Tiriti.
- Just transition for communities and employees in affected industries (including in primary industries).
- Planning for internal migration of displaced communities, especially tangata whenua, that improves equity.
- Strengthen social safety nets in keeping with the recommendations of the Welfare Working Group.
- Equitably fund Māori-led health initiatives and services.

**Adaptation policies on climate change**

- Develop and fund national adaptation planning, with equity informed adaptation law changes e.g. RMA, recognising integration between mitigation and adaptation.
- Community emergency preparedness (including severe weather events) includes climate change.
- Health sector (including health training and education) required and resourced to develop equity-informed adaptation plans.

**Other factors**

- Make health infrastructure and procurement zero emissions and resilient to climate shocks.
- Within health policies, climate change co-benefits and equity identified (air pollution, physical activity, breast feeding, nutrition, housing insulation).
- Make a significant investment in strengthening Public Health.
- Support for education and research on health impacts, mitigation co-benefits, adaptation and equity.