



Green Party

VOTE SHIRLEY FORD

Your anti-war Green candidate for South Shields

We live in an era of massive military spending, yet the world seems increasingly insecure. Britain and the USA are said to be leading a 'war on terror' however they have created even more fear and hatred, both at home and the world at large.

Our existing 'defence' policy is making the world more dangerous by challenging violence and supporting harsh regimes. Yet the British taxpayers subsidise the international arms trade by almost £1 billion a year and the annual British arms exports are the second largest in the world.

The first objective of all government policy should be to provide real, sustainable human security. However, this cannot be achieved through military aggression.

Instead we must focus on the real fundamental causes of insecurity that exist across the world, working to reduce poverty and increase trust between people.

The Green Party would:

- Ensure that the British military is only used in self defence, or as a last resort, within an international UN-led policing force.
- Improve the military to promote human security, by focusing only on defence not aggression and specialising in crisis prevention, emergency relief and conflict resolution.
- Seek binding global agreements against all weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons.
- End all export subsidies and increase controls on UK arms sales, especially to governments who violate human rights.

