

The next election will decide whether or not we have a ...

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My friend, Green New Deal colleague and Finance for the Future partner Colin Hines [has this letter in the Guardian today](#). As it echoes themes being discussed here right now I thought I would share it:

The encouraging defeat of the Tories by the Lib Dems in North Shropshire immediately elicited tired tropes from the Conservatives about a midterm kicking they will learn from. More depressingly, Labour [fell back](#) on the empty “no secret deals” pledge when discussing tactical voting. Boris Johnson must have been mightily relieved at being given that particular get-out-of-political-defeat-free card.

As memories of Christmas parties and expensive wallpaper fade, it is what will be done in the run-up to the next election that will decide whether or not we have a corrosive and permanent Tory democratic dictatorship. To avert this catastrophe, opposition parties in vulnerable constituencies must sink their differences and cooperate in fielding one candidate to fight the [Conservatives](#) in the run-up to polling day.

The key to overcoming party tribalism and to make this happen is for these parties to make clear that once there is a non-Tory majority elected, then that parliament’s first act will be to change the voting system to an agreed form of proportional representation. This would mean that for all subsequent elections, people will have a greater incentive to vote for their original political tribe.

In terms of addressing the worries of the general public, most of whom are not that concerned about changes to the voting system, the different manifestos must put centre stage publicly popular commitments that increase economic, social and environmental security for voters in every constituency.

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