



## Manifestos 2019

# Sector by Sector breakdown of the 2019 party manifestos





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## Overview

Manifestos arrive in a blaze of publicity and hype, with party leaders extolling their vision in front of a teeming throng of journalists and the party faithful.

They can take many forms. Labour have produced a 105-page text, whilst the Brexit Party put out a “contract with the people” the length of a brochure. Labour’s bulky effort contains a raft of radical proposals, whilst the Conservative equivalent shows a “remarkable lack of significant policy action” (IFS).

It would be wrong to label this a solely “Brexit Election” but the issue is certainly front and centre. As in the campaign generally, Brexit is the undertone to the manifestos, although no party will shock anyone with the stance they are taking. Each document serves only to articulate the carefully formulated positions that the parties have adopted over the last three years.

As a result, headlines have instead focused on other policy areas, with Labour’s pledge to renationalise areas of BT perhaps the most reported proposal. The Tory manifesto has not been quite as eye-catching, although this is largely by design rather than accident. In 2017, Theresa May’s eventual U-turn on the so called “Dementia Tax” midway through the campaign was widely seen as the start of a catastrophic drop in her previously robust polling. With a similarly large polling lead in this campaign, the party is keen to avoid such a mistake this time out.

Despite May’s travails in the last election, there is a sense that manifestos produce more hype than they do tangible results. In mid-November, Lord Ashcroft [polled more than a thousand members of the public](#) on what they had noticed over the course of the campaign. The manifestos were well behind the leadership debates in the public perception and had registered more than the controversial “FactCheck” rebrand of the Conservative twitter page. Labour’s headline-grabbing BT announcement was only mentioned by 2% of the respondents.

Regardless of their electoral value, manifestos offer a vital insight into the policy direction of the next Government. With a hung parliament still a possibility, smaller parties may well end up with a role to play in the Parliamentary arithmetic to come. As such, the Dods team has put together a sector-by-sector briefing on the proposals of each party.

## Transport

The battle lines have been drawn and the manifestos have been published, with competition among the main parties to outspend each other on transport and infrastructure. On infrastructure spending, John McDonnell committed £400bn through their “national transformation fund” while Sajid Javid said that spending on infrastructure would rise as a proportion of GDP from 1.8 per cent to 3 per cent.

With the climate emergency a key focus of this election, all parties sought to highlight their green credentials. Boosting bus travel featured in many of the manifestos, with Labour and the Green Party pledging to give councils the powers and the resources to control bus services. Other measures included the Liberal Democrat’s commitment to a Clean Air Act, Plaid Cymru’s promise to introduce clean air zones and the Conservatives pledge to introduce strict new laws on air quality. Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats both oppose Heathrow expansion, while Labour and the Conservatives have set air quality and noise pollution measures as preconditions for support.

Following commitments made during party conference season, there is a real on uplifting the UK’s electric charging infrastructure, which has been identified as a key obstacle for expanding the use of electric vehicles. Measures to boost active travel are also notable, with the Liberal Democrat’s committing to allocate 10 per cent of the transport budget to walking and cycling

Turning to the railways, both Labour and the Liberal Democrats pledged to support HS2 and each of the main English parties committed to Northern Powerhouse Rail. In line with promises made at their party conferences, Labour, the SNP and the Green all called for the railways to be brought into public ownership.

In conclusion, the manifestos offered little in the way of surprises, with many proposals either longstanding, or proposed at party conferences. Regardless of the outcome of the election, it will be incumbent on the next government to deliver a practicable national infrastructure strategy that assists in driving productivity gains and expediting our transition to net zero.

### Conservative

- Support clean transport to ensure clean air, as well as setting strict new laws on air quality; consult on the earliest date at which the phasing out of the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars can take place (p55)
- Upgrade the A55 as the main road transport artery for North Wales. (p47)
- Deliver the M4 relief road. (p47)
- Fund the building of the West Wales Parkway Station outside of Swansea. (p47)
- Improvement and investment in bus networks in coastal towns (p43)
- Invest in the Midlands Rail Hub, strengthening rail links (p27)
- Invest in improving train lines to the South West and East Anglia (p27)
- Extend contactless pay-as-you go ticketing to almost 200 more stations in the South East (p27)
- Give city regions the funding to upgrade their bus, tram and train services (p27)
- £100bn additional infrastructure spending, including £4bn for flood defences, £28.8bn in strategic and local roads, and £1bn in a fast charging network for electric vehicles (p27)
- Consider the findings of the Oakervee review into HS2 and decide the optimal outcome (p27)
- Invest in superbus networks with lower fares (p28)
- Biggest ever pothole filling programme (p28)
- Create a new £350m Cycling Infrastructure Fund (p28)
- Ensure Heathrow expansion meets its air quality and noise obligations (p28)
- Set up the UK’s first Space Command. (p53)

**Stakeholder reaction:**

Responding to the manifesto, **Director of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership Henri Murison**, said:

- *Today, the Leader of the Conservative Party has moved their position on HS2 agreeing to work jointly with leaders of the North and Midlands to decide the optimal way forward, which is a clear acceptance of one of the major areas of recommendations from the Independent Northern Powerhouse Review into HS2, which reported shortly before the election. This sits alongside explicit commitments from the Liberal Democrats and Labour to both HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail last week.*
- *We will be scrutinizing in detail the proposed spending figures to ensure the scale of ambition on Northern Powerhouse Rail is pushed as far as it can be, and whomever wins the election we must move out of the planning phase with a delivery model in place and up and running to give greater confidence to commuters and businesses on progress.*

Responding to the manifesto, **TSSA General Secretary Manuel Cortes**, said:

- *This is a naked attempt to stop working people taking action when their bosses are out of line. It's a direct attack on our democracy, workers across our railways as well as the general public.*
- *The Tories clearly don't have a clue about our railways – what they are proposing is mindless and would have a huge negative impact on passengers.*
- *Having minimum level of service agreements give a false expectation that lines are running as normal and lead to huge disappointment and anger for commuters when they are confronted with queuing up to board jam packed trains.*
- *This is a nonsense of a policy doomed to fail. It amounts to little more than election bluster. When Johnson became Mayor of London he said he'd implement a no strike policy. He was there for eight years and he never did.*
- *All we are seeing today is Tory desperation as the gap between them and Labour continues to narrow. Labour is the only Party offering to end the great railway rip off of Tory privatisation.*

Responding to the manifesto, **Edmund King, president of the Automobile Association (AA)**, said:

- *Many local authorities are still struggling to keep up with damaged roads ravaged by the 'beast from the east' a couple of years ago. All road users will welcome a £2bn four-year pledge to fill the potholes.*

**Labour**

- Labour will ensure that councils can improve bus services by regulating and taking public ownership of bus networks. Where councils take control of their buses, Labour will introduce free bus travel for under-25s (p19)
- Bring the railways back into public ownership, using options including franchise expiry (p20)
- End driver-only operated trains (p20)
- Implement a fully rolling programme of electrification. Labour would also deliver rail electrification and expansion across the whole of the UK, including Wales (p20)
- Deliver Crossrail for the North and deliver HS2 in full to Scotland (p20)
- Increase the funding available for cycling and walking (p20)
- Invest in ultra-low emission vehicles and will support their sale. The party will also invest in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and in electric community car clubs (p21)
- Reform taxi and private hire services, including a review of licensing authority jurisdictions, setting national minimum standards of safety and accessibility and updating regulations to keep pace with technological changes (p21)
- Adopt an ambitious Vision Zero approach to UK road safety (p21)
- The party will review all tolled crossings (p21)
- Any expansion of airports must pass Labour's tests on air quality, noise pollution, climate change obligations and countrywide benefits (p21)
- End nationality-based discrimination in seafarer pay (p21)

- Labour will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees, more efficient heating and insulation systems, greater reliance on renewable energy, including more solar panelling and a transition to electric paramedic vehicles, NHS fleet cars and hybrid ambulances (p32)
- Reinstate 3,000 bus routes that have been cut, particularly in rural communities (p20)

**Stakeholder reaction:**

Responding to Labour's manifesto, **Director of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership Henri Murison**, said:

- *The restatement of Labour's commitment to both HS2 and a new railway line across the Pennines to unlock the full potential of our northern city regions is welcome.*
- *There is the need for further devolution to northern regions, beyond only Yorkshire such as in Cheshire or Cumbria. The North should be a priority, but in Labour's plans there remain ongoing questions as regards the fiscal credibility and we will be scrutinizing the Grey Book further.*

Responding to Labour's commitment to support HS2 all the way to Scotland, **Joe Rukin, Campaigner Manager for Stop HS2**, said:

- *Today Jeremy Corbyn berated Margaret Thatcher for allowing corporate interests to set government policy, but in supporting HS2, he is doing exactly the same thing. This project has only got this far because it has been lobbied for by people who intend to make billions of pounds out of building it and from the associated land grab.*
- *It is now accepted across the board that HS2 is around £50bn over budget. To put that in context in the global financial crisis it cost £38bn to bail out the banks, supposedly responsible for ten years of austerity.*
- *It is time that politicians woke up and realised that this project is a multi-billion-pound fraud.*

Responding to Labour's commitment to transport infrastructure in their manifesto, **Arianna Giovannini, Interim Director of IPPR North**, said:

- *Labour's pledges to invest in Northern transport and deliver Crossrail for the North are welcome. As our research shows, this could benefit millions of people, as well as businesses, across the North and the whole country.*
- *Next we need to see a commitment from all parties to devolve real transport power, and support existing bodies like Transport for the North, so that the our region can take responsibility for its own transport network and unleash its full potential.*

## SNP

**Transport and infrastructure commitments:**

- Invest £500 million in improved bus priority infrastructure to make bus travel the faster, greener option and encourage people out of their cars. (p30)
- Reduce emissions from Scotland's railways to zero by 2035. (p30)
- Pursuing the UK Government to commit to improvements on the journey times between Scotland and London- improving connections to North of England at the same time, help people with the cost of ultralow emissions vehicles (ULEVs), including second hand cards, by providing an additional £17 million for loan funding to reduce domestic flights (p30).
- The Government will work with the UK Government to improve our rail journey times between Edinburgh and London. (p30)

**Stakeholder reaction:**

Responding to the manifesto, **Brian Berry, Chief Executive of the Federation of Master Builders**, said:

- *Reducing waste and carbon emissions associated with our construction industry and our existing housing stock is a matter of urgency if we are to meet the demands of the climate crisis. The Scottish National Party's pledges to encourage green finance investment in construction and to cut the VAT on energy efficiency improvements in the household are positive steps.*
- *We need to go further in ensuring that this programme of work is completed to a high standard. The construction industry has an image problem and one that will hamper growth if not addressed. A mandatory licensing scheme is needed for all UK construction companies in order to raise standards and professionalise the industry, encouraging more young people to choose a career in construction.*

**Liberal Democrats****Transport and infrastructure commitments:**

- Devolve Air Passenger Duty to Wales on a fair playing field with Scotland and Northern Ireland (p85)
- Legislate for the right to unpolluted air, and take urgent action to reduce pollution especially from traffic (p60)
- Accelerate the take-up of electric vehicles by reforming vehicle taxation, cutting VAT on EVs to 5 per cent. (p46)
- Increase rate of installation of charging points, including residential on-street points and ultra-fast chargers at service stations. (p46)
- Ensure that by 2030 every new car and small van sold is electric. (p47)
- Pass a Clean Air Act, based on World Health Organisation guidelines, enforced by a new Air Quality Agency. (p47)
- Extend Ultra-Low Emission Zones to ten more towns and cities in England. (p47)
- Ensure that all private hire vehicles and new buses licensed to operate in urban areas are ultra-low emission or zero-emission vehicles by 2025. £2 billion will support this transformation. (p47)
- Shift more freight from road to rail, including electrifying lines leading from major ports as an urgent priority. (p47)
- Amend the current HGV road user levy to take account of carbon emissions. (p47)
- Support innovation in zero-emission technologies, including batteries and hydrogen fuel cells, supplementing government funding with a new Clean Air Fund from industry. (p47)
- Reduce the climate impact of flying by reforming the taxation of international flights to focus on those who fly the most, while reducing costs for those who take one or two international return flights per year. (p47)
- Place a moratorium on the development of new runways (net) in the UK. (p47)
- Oppose any expansion of Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted and any new airport in the Thames Estuary. (p47)
- Introduce a zero-carbon fuels blending requirement for domestic flights. (p47)
- Give new powers to local authorities and communities to improve transport in their areas, including the ability to introduce network-wide ticketing, like in London. (p47)
- Implement, in cooperation with local authorities, light rail schemes for trams and tram-trains where these are appropriate solutions to public transport requirements. (p47)
- Restore bus routes and add new routes where there is local need. £4.5 billion will be provided over five years for this programme. (p47)
- Introduce a nationwide strategy to promote walking and cycling, including the creation of dedicated safe cycling lanes, increasing spending per head five-fold to reach 10 per cent of the transport budget. (p47)
- Build on the Local Sustainable Transport Fund and workplace travel plans. (p48)
- Amend planning rules to promote sustainable transport and land use. (p48)
- Freeze rail fares for commuters and season ticket holders for a parliament. (p48)
- Extend Britain's rail network, improve stations, reopen smaller stations and restore twin-track lines to major routes. (p48)

- Convert the rail network to ultra-low-emission technology (electric or hydrogen) by 2035 and provide funding for light rail and trams. (p48)
- Support High Speed 2, Northern Powerhouse Rail, East-West Rail and Crossrail 2, but ensure far tighter financial controls and increased accountability. (p48)
- Start a revolution in rail franchising by opening up the bidding process to public sector companies, local or combined authorities, not-for-profits and mutuals. (p48)
- Build into new rail franchise agreements a stronger focus on customers. (p48)
- Create a new Railways Agency to oversee the operations of the railway network, removing the Department for Transport from day-to-day decision-making. (p48)
- Be far more proactive in sanctioning and ultimately sacking train operators if they fail to provide a high-quality public service to their customers. (p48)
- Improve the experience of people who rely on the railways for work by investing in commuter routes and the integration of rail, bus and cycle routes. (p49)
- Fix the broken fares and ticketing system so that it provides better value for money. (p49)
- Improve disabled access to public transport via the Access for All programme. (p49)
- Introduce a capital £50bn Regional Rebalancing Programme for infrastructure spend across the nations and regions of the UK, with local and devolved authorities given a say in how it is used (p16)
- Reinforced infrastructure spending with a Just Transition Fund to support communities negatively affected by policies to tackle the climate emergency (p16)
- Convert the rail network to ultra-low-emission technology (electric or hydrogen) by 2035 (p17)
- A continued commitment to HS2, Crossrail 2 and other major new strategic rail routes. (p17)
- The Liberal Democrats will invest £130bn in infrastructure projects including transport sector (p16)
- Increase funding for buses to help local authorities in restoring old routes and opening new ones, use powers under the Bus Services Act and accelerate the transition to electric buses (p68)

## DUP

### Transport and infrastructure commitments:

- The DUP support continued development of the Glider network across Belfast, extending 'park and ride' facilities across Northern Ireland and high-speed rail link between Belfast and Dublin. (p20)
- To support cycling enthusiasm the DUP will back the continued development of the Greenway network throughout Northern Ireland. (p20)
- Increase the amount of investment available in the Greenway Fund and maximise the use of publicly owned sites. (p20)
- Reform the law for e-bikes and have the Assembly Committee examine the case for e-scooters. (p20)
- Invest in developing the cycling network across Northern Ireland, improving the visibility and safety of routes and quiet ways network in Belfast. (p20)
- Continue the development and support of Greenway network throughout Northern Ireland, investment available in the Greenway Fund, have the Assembly Committee examine the case for e-scooters. (p20)

## Plaid Cymru

### Transport and infrastructure commitments:

- An extra £20bn investment capacity through treasury allocation of capital investment would allow them to establish a National Reconstruction Fund (p25)
- They would consider creating a publicly-owned Welsh Broadband Infrastructure Company to guarantee access to full-fibre broadband to every home and business in Wales by 2025 (p26)



- They would consider electrification of all major rail lines by 2030, completing the planned electrification of the South Wales Valley Lines. The add the next line to be electrified should be the North Wales Coast Line (p26)
- They would consider building a super-Metro for south-east Wales with new stations acting as development hubs (p26)
- They would consider the new Swansea Bay and Western Valleys Metro, and reopening rail services for the Amman, Swansea, Neath and Dulais Valleys (p26)
- They would consider developing a metro for north-east Wales and relocate the Chester Transport for Wales Depot to the north of Wales (p26)
- They would consider creating a trans-Wales railway: connecting Wales' coastal communities by re-opening the Carmarthen to Aberystwyth line together with a second phase linking Welsh communities from north to south (p26)
- They would consider a Cross-Rail for the Valleys, from Porth to Pontypool (p26)
- They would consider expanding the Traws Cymru bus network with high-quality coaches powered by renewable sources of energy (p26)
- Transport for Wales would consider creating a new publicly owned regional bus company for southern Wales. This would amalgamate Cardiff and Newport Bus with First Cymru to provide additional inter-city bus services between Newport, Cardiff and Swansea and additional cross valley services (p26)
- Scrap HS2. (p60)
- Oppose the construction of a third runway in Heathrow. (p60)
- If a third Heathrow runway and HS2 go ahead, Plaid Cymru will demand extra funding for Wales in terms of a full proportionate share, as determined by the Barnett funding formula. (p60)
- Create clean air zones in our towns and cities. (p66)
- Give communities the right to place pollution-monitoring equipment outside schools and hospitals. (p66)
- Enable local authorities to introduce pollution and congestion charges. (p66)
- Accelerate the transition to an electric transport system so that petrol and diesel cars are phased out by 2030. (p66)
- Invest in a national electric vehicle charging network across Wales. (p67)
- Introduce a bicycle use reward scheme, where participants are paid for every mile they cycle to work. (p67)

## Green

### Transport and infrastructure commitments:

- Ensure all new developments are located within 1km of a local rail, tube or tram station or 500m of a high frequency bus service (p 13)
- Spending £2.5bn a year on new cycleways and footpaths built using sustainable materials (p 15)
- Opening new rail connections to increase passenger and freight capacity. Also improve journey times and frequencies to the South West, Midlands and the North and connect currently unconnected urban areas. (p 16)
- Cancel HS2 (p 16)
- Electrify all railway lines that connect cities (p 16)
- Creating a government-owned rolling stock company which would invest in a fleet of new electric trains (p16)
- Give responsibility for running short-distance passenger rail franchises to councils or groups of councils that come together to work on local transport (p 16)
- Bring all railways back into public ownership over ten years (p 16)
- Giving all local authorities control over bus services. Local authorities will also be given additional funding to improve the appearance and facilities of bus stops, bus stations and train stations (p 16)
- Apply a Carbon Tax on all fossil fuels which will increase the cost of petrol, diesel and shipping fuel (p 16)
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- Domestic flights will lose their VAT exemption and there will be an additional surcharge on domestic aviation fuel (p 17)
- Ban advertising for flights and introduce a Frequency Flyer Levy to reduce the impact of the 15 per cent of people who take 70 per cent of flights. This Frequency Flyer Levy only applies to people who take more than one (return) flight a year (p 17)
- Stop the building of new runways and all increased road capacity (p 17)
- End the sale of new petrol and diesel fueled vehicles by 2030 (p 17)
- Require all existing petrol stations and motorway service stations to offer electric vehicle charging points by 2025 (p 17)
- Make 40 miles per hour the default speed limit in non-residential areas except on major roads (p 17)
- Require manufacturers to only produce the most energy efficient low emission vehicles (p 20)
- Increase rail capacity with rail lines running from Liverpool and Manchester to Sheffield, Hull and the Tees Valley. (p79)
- Scrap the government's new road building programme. (p79)
- Scrap plans for airport expansion across the country. (p79)
- Scrap HS2 rail line and use funds for more sustainable transport. (p79)
- Open up car-free access to the National Parks with new cycling, walking and bus links (p58)
- Giving councils power over local bus services and franchises for local train services (p41)

## Brexit Party

### Transport and infrastructure commitments:

- Scrap HS2 (P8)
- Invest at least £50bn in local road and rail schemes in the "development-starved regions" (P8)

## Energy and Industry

The importance of the energy sector in the UK's transition to net zero is subject to little contention amongst the major parties, with disagreement centring around the proposed date for decarbonising the UK economy.

However, Labour's plans to renationalise utility companies have certainly proved divisive, provoking major backlash from markets and political opponents. Public perceptions around such large-scale changes to utility operations are also mixed. Labour will rely on the issuing of bonds to bring companies into public ownership, increasing Government debt. Calculations that the undertaking will be largely "cost neutral" in the long term, rely on the assumption that profits can be stably accrued by the Treasury. However, a Labour Government would also need a radical reinvestment strategy to drive the decarbonisation of energy and the built environment, which may require further significant levels of borrowing.

The oil and gas sector deal seemed to appear as an afterthought in the Conservative manifesto and was notably absent from the 'energy' page. The deal is significant for all parts of the UK, but especially for Scotland. The deal would make way for sustainable decommissioning of oil and gas rigs and path the way for oil companies to play a vital role in enhancing carbon capture and utilisation storage technology. Ministers originally rejected a report on the deal earlier this year, and the lack of focus in the manifesto raises doubts as to whether the Government would implement such a project.

Most manifestos, including the Conservative, make cautious references to stopping fracking across the UK and pledging to improve the energy efficiency in homes. Plaid Cymru focused on a green revolution, but predominantly listed actions they may seek to take, rather than official commitments.

Nuclear energy remains controversial, with Labour and the Conservative's supporting increased nuclear infrastructure, but smaller parties such as the SNP, Greens and Plaid Cymru vehemently opposed. How the UK would meet net zero ambitions without nuclear remains to be seen.

With all parties committed to net-zero, greater intervention in utility markets will likely be forthcoming. Questions over the efficacy of regulators and a lack of progress in smart meter roll outs have helped fuel Labour's demands for renationalisation. However, whilst the need for net-zero is beyond debate, there is pointed disagreement over how we get there.

## Conservative

- Invest £4bn in new funding for new flood defences, electric vehicle infrastructure including a national plug-in network and gigafactory; and clean energy over the coming years (p55)
- Increase offshore wind capacity – offshore wind industry will reach 40GW by 2030 (p55)
- Invest £800m to build the first fully deployed carbon capture storage cluster by the mid-2020s (p55)
- Invest £500m to help energy-intensive industries move to low-carbon techniques (p55)
- Support gas for hydrogen production and nuclear energy, including fusion, as important parts of the energy system, alongside increasing our commitment to renewables (p55)
- Not support fracking unless the science shows categorically that it can be done safely (p55)
- Help lower energy bills by investing £9.2bn in the energy efficiency of homes, schools and hospitals (p55)
- Support clean transport to ensure clean air, as well as setting strict new laws on air quality; consult on the earliest date at which the phasing out of the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars can take place (p55)
- Make the UK the leading hub for life sciences after Brexit (p.40)
- Use the £1bn Ayrton fund to develop affordable and accessible energy (p.40)
- Use increased R&D funding from Government to attract and kickstart private investment
- Reform the science funding system to cut time wasted by scientists filling in forms (p.40)
- Unlock long-term capital in pension funds to invest in and commercialise scientific discoveries (p.40)
- Support international collaboration and exchange to ensure UK teams can recruit the skills and talent they need from abroad (p.40)
- Increases in the science budget will be used to drive forward the development of technologies of critical importance to the UK (p.40)
- Shall use Government procurement to support new ideas and companies (p.40)

### Stakeholder reaction

Commenting on the Conservative Party's Manifesto, **RenewableUK's Director of Strategic Communications Luke Clark** said:

"It's great to see the Conservatives reinforcing their commitment to net zero emissions by increasing our offshore wind target to 40 gigawatts by 2030 and pledging support for innovative floating offshore wind projects. Offshore wind is a vital technology for tackling the climate emergency and increasing our ambition will help to create tens of thousands of new jobs, especially in coastal communities, and attract billions in investment in much-needed clean energy infrastructure.

"As the party's manifesto acknowledges, we will need to use a range of renewables to modernise our energy system – and that must include using the cheapest sources available, as well as innovative new technologies".

Commenting on the publication of the Conservative's general election manifesto, **Nick Baveystock, Director General of the Institution of Civil Engineers**, said:

"We face some big challenges as a country, including, crucially, the need to decarbonise and build a net-zero economy. This will support attempts to improve quality of life, provide cleaner air and deliver opportunity.

"Infrastructure investment is central to delivering that. To have any chance of achieving this we collectively need to make difficult choices to construct a comprehensive national infrastructure strategy that delivers the net-zero target and improves productivity across the economy. Whoever forms the next government, this is what they must drive."

## Labour

- Kick-start a Green Industrial Revolution that will create one million jobs in the UK to transform our industry, energy, transport, agriculture and our buildings, while restoring nature. (p12)
- Implement a Green New Deal, which aims to achieve the substantial majority of UK emissions reductions by 2030 in a way that is evidence-based. (p12)
- £250 billion from the National Transformation Fund to fund the transition through a Green Transformation Fund dedicated to renewable and low-carbon energy and transport, biodiversity and environmental restoration. (p13)
- Develop the recommendations of Labour's '30 by 2030' report to put the UK on track for a net-zero-carbon energy system within the 2030s. (p14)
- Deliver nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low-carbon sources by 2030. (p14)
- Build 7,000 new offshore wind turbines and 2,000 new onshore wind turbines. (p14)
- Build enough solar panels to cover 22,000 football pitches. (p14)
- Build new nuclear power needed for energy security. (p14)
- Trial and expand tidal energy and invest to reduce the costs of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen production. (p15)
- Upgrade almost all of the UK's 27 million homes to the highest energy-efficiency standards. (p15)
- Introduce a zero-carbon homes standard for all new homes. (p15)
- Roll out technologies like heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen. (p15)
- Invest in district heat networks using waste heat. (p15)
- Expand power storage and invest in grid enhancements and interconnectors.
- Expand distributed and community energy. (p15)
- Immediately and permanently ban fracking. (p15)
- Support energy workers through transition and guarantee them retraining and a new, unionised job on equivalent terms and conditions. (p15)
- Introduce a windfall tax on oil companies. (p15)
- Provide a strategy to safeguard the people, jobs and skills that depend on the offshore oil and gas industry. (p15)
- Bring energy and water systems into public ownership. (p15)
- Surplus energy and water will be reinvested or used to reduce bills. (p15)
- Create a new UK National Energy Agency, which will own and maintain the national grid infrastructure and oversee the delivery of decarbonisation targets. (p16)
- Create 14 new Regional Energy Agencies to replace the existing district network operators and hold statutory responsibility for decarbonising electricity and heat and reducing fuel poverty. (p16)
- Bring the supply arms of the Big Six energy companies into public ownership. (p16)
- Ensure that whenever public money is invested in an energy generation project, the public sector will take a stake and return profits to the public. (p16)
- Instruct the Committee on Climate Change to assess the emissions the UK imports as well as those it produces and recommend policies to tackle them. (p16)
- Set a target for 3% of GDP to be spent on research and development (R&D) by 2030. (p17)
- Increase direct support for R&D and reforming the innovation ecosystem to better 'crowd in' private investment. (p17)
- Establish a Foundation Industries Sector Council to provide a clean and long-term future for existing heavy industries like steel and glass. (p17)
- Fund R&D into newer technologies like hydrogen and carbon capture and storage. (p17)
- Support the steel industry through public procurement and exempting new capital from business rates. (p17)
- Build three new steel recycling plants and upgrade existing production sites. (p17)
- Put British innovation at the heart of procurement. (p17)
- Public buildings will be modernised to ensure a reduction in their carbon footprint (p30)
- Labour will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees, more efficient heating and insulation systems, greater reliance on renewable energy, including more solar panelling and a transition to electric paramedic vehicles, NHS fleet cars and hybrid ambulances (p32)

### Stakeholder reaction

Responding to Labour's manifesto, a **SSE spokeswoman** said: "This is a time for working together now to tackle the climate crisis, not waste years attempting a very costly, complex and controversial nationalisation."

**RenewableUK's Director of Strategic Communications Luke Clark** said on Labour's manifesto:

"Labour is right to identify renewable energy as a major engine for job creation in the years ahead. Offshore wind alone will be employing 27,000 people by 2030, regenerating coastal communities and creating supply chain opportunities for companies all over the country.

"The renewables industry is working hard to ease the transfer of experienced workers from other parts of the energy sector into renewables, as well as investing in creating the next generation of green collar jobs, which the Climate Apprenticeship programme unveiled today could support.

"We welcome Labour's ambition to build much-needed new capacity by rolling out more onshore and offshore wind using our two cheapest power sources, as well as their championing of innovative tidal power and the expansion of energy storage and local community projects.

"It's also good to see a recognition of the importance of upgrading the grid to modernise our energy system, however re-organising our energy networks risks being a costly and complex option at a time when we need to speed up the decarbonisation of our economy".

Commenting on the inclusion of water nationalisation in the Labour Party's election manifesto, **Water UK Chief Executive Michael Roberts** said:

"It's incredible that Labour haven't even bothered to set out a price for nationalisation. You can't take over a major industry for free – one way or another, taxpayers and pensioners will have to fund the eye-watering, multi-billion-pound cost. At a time when the industry is planning record investment, the biggest leakage reduction programme for twenty years, and a major push to become carbon neutral by 2030, these unnecessary nationalisation plans would cause massive disruption and risk setting back a crucial public service for years to come. It doesn't make any sense to go back to the days when cash-strapped governments couldn't afford to fund the improvements needed in water and sewerage industry because they spent the money on other priorities instead. This idea is bad for the environment, bad for customers, and bad for the economy."

Responding to the Labour Party Manifesto 2019, **Deirdre Michie, Chief Executive OGUK** said:

"The Labour manifesto talks about a windfall tax on oil and gas companies but does not give numbers.

"Our industry supports over 270,000 highly skilled, well-paid jobs the length and breadth of the UK and delivers £24 billion of value to the UK economy. The recently published, independent report from the Committee on Climate Change confirms that oil and gas will remain an important part of the UK's energy mix for decades to come. Any increase in tax rates affecting our UK activities will drive investors away and damage the competitiveness of the UK's offshore oil and gas industry. This tax has the potential to affect security of energy supply for the UK and increase our reliance on imports, effectively passing the buck for production emissions to other countries. Neither do imports sustain UK jobs or the supply chain companies whose expertise we need to enable the energy transition.

"We are an industry in action and we have been one of the first to step forward in response to the Government target of net zero with a clear plan, 'Roadmap 2035 a blueprint for net zero', to reduce our own emissions and help to develop the technology essential to enable the UK to achieve net zero. Our industry's expertise and investment is needed as part of the solution. We look forward to working with the next government, whoever wins, and will play our part with others in society

### SNP

- Put the transition to net-zero at the heart of the Scottish National Investment Banks's work. (p31)
- Unlock additional resource for emissions-reducing investment through a Green Growth Accelerator combining public and private investment to transform cities and regional. (p31)
- Bring to market a £3 billion portfolio of projects including renewables, waste and construction ready for green finance investment. (p31)

- The SNP would aim to press for an increase in new woodland creation, working towards a target of 60 million trees planted annually in the UK by 2025, with 30 million of these in Scotland to help tackle the Climate Emergency and to support biodiversity and rural employment. The SNP would share Scotland's success in these area in an effort to drive up planting rates in the UK. (p31)
- The SNP would press the UK to accelerate action to decarbonise the gas grid- a critical recommendation of the CCC. (p32)
- Ensure that from 2024, all new homes must use renewables or low carbon heat. (p32)
- Press the UK to properly support the renewable industry or else devolve the power to Scotland. (p32)
- Oppose new nuclear power plants and prioritising investment on cleaner, cheaper forms of electricity generation. (p32)
- Allow offshore wind and solar power to bid for contracts for difference support. The SNP would support likes mature technologies like floating offshore wind and tidal stream generation. (p32)
- Ensure green energy projects get the long-term certainty needed to support investment. (p32)
- Deliver a wave of tidal energy industrial strategy with adequate funding. (p32)
- Allow onshore wind to compete for 'contracts for difference' support. (p32)
- Reform the punitive transmission charging regime that discourages investment in Scotland (p32)
- Set a clear timescale for the delivery of the interconnectors to Scotland's islands. (p32)
- Press the Tories to ditch their plan to quadruple the VAT on home solar and support a diesel scrappage scheme if trading in ultra-low emission vehicles. (p32)

## Liberal Democrats

- As part of the £130bn infrastructure projects will aim to empower all regions and nations of the UK and developing the climate-friendly infrastructure of the future (p16)
- A new National Industrial Strategy to transform the economy and develop Local Industrial Strategies within it that incentivise clustering by businesses and universities with particular specialisations (p16)
- Introduce an emergency ten-year programme to reduce energy consumption from all the UK's buildings (p17)
- Providing free energy retrofits for low-income homes (p65)
- Deliver a ten-year emergency programme to cut greenhouse gas emissions substantially straightaway and phase out emissions from the remaining hard-to-treat sectors by 2045 at the latest
- By 2030 they will generate 80 per cent of our electricity from renewables and cut energy bills and emissions by insulating homes, prioritising bringing 3.5 million households out of fuel poverty by 2025 (p7)
- Provide an additional £12 billion over five years to support these commitments, and ensure that the National Infrastructure Commission, National Grid, the energy regulator Ofgem, and the Crown Estate work together to deliver our net zero climate objective (p42)
- Require all new homes and non-domestic buildings to be built to a zero-carbon standard (where as much energy is generated on-site, through renewable sources, as is used), by 2021, rising to a more ambitious ('Passivhaus') standard by 2025 (p42)
- Increase minimum energy efficiency standards for privately rented properties and remove the cost cap on improvements (p43)
- Adopt a Zero-Carbon Heat Strategy (p43)
- Expand the market for green products and services with steadily higher green criteria in public procurement policy (p43)
- End support from UK Export Finance for fossil fuel-related activities, and press for higher environmental standards for export credit agencies throughout the OECD (p43)

- Support the Paris Agreement and persuade all countries to commit to net zero climate goals by the 2020 UN climate conference in Glasgow (p94)
- Set a binding, EU-wide net zero target of 2050, and continuing to take part in the EU's Internal Energy Market, to provide access to clean energy sources while keeping costs low (p94)
- Refuse to enter any trade agreements with countries that have policies counter to the Paris Agreement, including the Mercosur-EU free trade agreement because of the Brazilian government's actions in the Amazon (p94)
- Argue for an end to all fossil fuel subsidies world-wide and provide aid to developing countries to help them transition to clean sources of energy (p94)

## DUP

- The DUP will increase Northern Ireland Water's public education programmes to reduce water use (p5)
- Promoting the principle of Energy from Waste (p21)
- Ensuring the net zero commitment is fairly implemented and properly resourced, as to now weigh heavily on poorer sections of society (p21)

## Plaid Cymru

- Plaid Cymru will implement a Green Jobs Revolution to ensure that Wales makes the transition to becoming 100% self-sufficient in renewable energy by 2030 (p24)
- They are demanding that the UK Government allocate an additional 1 per cent of GDP per year to capital investment over the next ten year. They state this would allow for the investment of invest an extra £15 billion through a Welsh Green Jobs Revolution (p25)
- In addition, they will be pressing the Treasury to allow the Welsh Government to borrow on its account up to £5 billion for capital investment for green jobs (p25)
- This £20bn investment capacity would allow them to establish a National Reconstruction Fund (p25)
- They would consider expanding the Traws Cymru bus network with high-quality coaches powered by renewable sources of energy (p26)
- They would consider tidal Lagoons for Swansea Bay, Cardiff and Colwyn Bay (p26)
- They would consider building an Ynys Môn offshore windfarm (p26)
- They would consider building an Usk barrage (p26)
- They would consider a network of local energy grids for Wales by amending land use planning legislation to enshrine a fast-track route for community-owned energy schemes such as hydro-electric power projects (p26)
- They would consider a comprehensive £5bn Greener Homes programme to improve the energy efficiency of housing in Wales and reduce fuel poverty (p27)
- Develop plans for renewable energy that operate in harmony with nature by identifying ecologically sustainable sites for offshore and onshore wind energy development, as well as potential areas for solar and tidal energy development. (p62)
- Devolve all responsibilities for Wales' natural resources, such as the Crown Estates, Ofgem and the National Grid. (p64)
- Invest in the acquisition and development of new large scale generating and storage capacity projects through a renewables revolution (p64)
- Provide support for community energy initiatives (p64)
- Commission a national inventory of green energy potential in Wales, an "Energy Atlas for Wales", which will identify areas where development will have the least ecological impact (p64)
- Increase community ownership of renewable energy (p65)
- Establish a national energy agency, Ynni Cymru, which would be charged with realising Wales's green energy potential (p65)

- Fully realise marine energy potential including wave, tidal range and tidal stream energy. (p65)
- Seek a complete ban on fracking and new open-cast coal mines (p65)
- Oppose the development of new sites for nuclear power stations (p65)
- Oppose the use of pylons through National Parks and Areas of Natural Beauty, advocating the use of underground and undersea cables to carry electricity where feasible (p65)

## Brexit Party

- Cut VAT on domestic fuels, with a zero rate VAT on domestic fuel to reduce energy bills (p13)

## Housing and Local Communities

Housing pledges from the political parties have been making the front pages recently, this could be attributed to many of the policies being less cumulative in nature but instead more transformational. The Labour Party received a lot of attention after their announcement that they would want to build 150,000 council and social homes annually, with 100,000 of these built by councils for social rent. This sort of pledge is a huge commitment from the Labour Party, if implemented, this would be the largest council house building project since the 1960's. In similar vein, the Green Party also made a pledge to build 100,00 new council homes a year. Such commitments have been welcomed if the parties provide the funding needed to fulfil such a project. However, it can be argued that council housing is not the only form of tenure and that one solution to providing more comes could be the provision of inexpensive housing across a wider form of tenure, in order to provide more choice for the electorate. The Liberal Democrats announced a popular policy to help young people, in the help to rent scheme which provides Government tenancy deposit loans for first-time renters.

The Conservative Party, like all the political parties have committed to building more homes over the next Parliamentary term. However, the Conservatives focus more on home ownership, pledging a new First Homes scheme for first-time buyers, they seek to pursue policies to get the private sector building more which seems contrary to Labour's idea on housing. Labour believe that having affordable homes is a priority and argue that investment in social and council homes is necessary to ensure that as many people have an affordable home.

The Labour and Conservative Parties seem to have competing ideas of how to get people a home. This aside, it seems one of the biggest problems faced by the housing sector more generally is ensuring there are enough skilled workers in the UK who can fulfil ambitious housebuilding targets post-Brexit.

People want to see their communities getting investment and all the parties obliged by announcing a range of policies that could have positive impacts on communities. The Conservatives pledged the Community Ownership Fund to encourage takeovers of civic organisations under threat including pubs and football clubs. Labour have introduced a similar policy in listing pubs as assets of community value. Policies like this can help in empowering communities in saving important community hubs however, there is the worry that such a policy could put business off buying them themselves.

## Conservatives

- Cement an Opportunity Areas Programme to raise standards and support regeneration of public services in coastal communities (p43)
- Invest £500m in new youth clubs and services (p26)
- £250m cultural capital programme to support local libraries and regional museums (p26)
- £150m Community Ownership Fund to encourage local takeovers of civic organisations under threat, including football clubs, pubs and post offices (p26)
- Encourage a new market in long-term fixed rate mortgages (p29)
- Offer more homes to local families, enabling councils to users developers contributions to discount homes by a third for local people (p29)



- Extend the Help to Buy Scheme from 2021 to 2023 (p29)
- Reform leaseholds including implementing ban on sale of new leasehold homes (p29)
- Introduce a Better Deal for Renters, including abolishing 'no fault' evictions (p29)
- Bring forward a Social Housing White Paper to empower tenants and support the continued supply of social homes (p30)
  - Renew the affordable homes programme (p30)
- Introduce a stamp duty surcharge on non-UK resident buyers to fund rough sleeping programmes and initiatives (p30)
- Progress towards target of 300,000 new homes a year by mid-2020s (p31)
- Amend planning laws that ensure infrastructure is built before new homes, utilising a new £10bn Single Housing Infrastructure Fund (p31)
- Give communities a say in design standards for new developments (p31)
- Support high rise residential residents through the removal of unsafe cladding (p31)
- Protect and enhance the green belt and prioritise brownfield development (p31)

### **Stakeholder Reaction**

#### **Residential Landlords Association**

Landlords have welcomed the proposals in the Conservative manifesto to strengthen the possession rights of good landlords whilst accepting there is a need to protect tenants from unfair evictions.

David Smith, Policy Director for the Residential Landlords Association (RLA), said:

"We agree that the system for repossessing properties is in need of reform and support the Conservatives' proposals to strengthen the possession rights of good landlords."

"It is vital that the reforms are got right. At present it can take over five months for a landlord to repossess a property through the courts in legitimate circumstances. We will be keen to work with Ministers to establish a new system of repossession rights and the establishment of a dedicated housing court to ensure good landlords and tenants can secure justice swiftly in the minority of cases where something goes wrong."

"It is disappointing that there is no mention of reversing some of the tax changes hitting landlords which have resulted in a drop in investment in the market making it more difficult for tenants to find the housing they want. Longer tenancies for tenants will be meaningless without landlords entering and staying in the market long term."

#### **Shelter**

Polly Neate, chief executive at Shelter said, 'For the many families stuck renting privately today's renewed commitment to scrapping no fault evictions will be a huge relief.

'We also welcome the Conservatives' commitment to end rough sleeping within 5 years. The number of people forced to live on the streets has risen rapidly in the last decade and we desperately need bold action to tackle it.

'But you can't solve a housing crisis without homes. The missing piece from their plan is any investment in social housing. Without this the housing emergency will continue to deepen.'

## National Housing Federation

In response to Conservative Party manifesto, Kate Henderson, Chief Executive of the National Housing Federation, said:

"It's encouraging that the Conservative Party manifesto includes proposals on tackling the housing crisis. We welcome the commitment to renew the Affordable Homes Programme at the next fiscal event – we have been stressing the urgent need for certainty here, so we're glad to see that being reflected in the Conservative manifesto. The commitment to bring forward a Social Housing White Paper is something we are pushing for in our general election campaign, and it's good that this has also been recognised.

"We will work with the next government to conclude and evaluate the Voluntary Right to Buy pilot in the Midlands. We think it's important that this is done before any further pilots begin. For us it will be a success only if it helps tenants onto the housing ladder without any net loss of social housing."

## Labour

- Introduce a £1 billion Fire Safety Fund (p77)
- Create a new Department for Housing, make Homes England a more accountable national housing agency and put councils in the driving seat (p78)
- Set up a new English Sovereign Land Trust (p78)
- Introducing new zero-carbon homes standard for all new homes, and upgrade millions of existing homes to make them more energy efficient (p78)
- Review the planning guidance for developments in flood risk areas (p78)
- Deliver new social housebuilding programme (p78)
- Establish a new duty on councils to plan and build social and council homes in their area, and fund them to do so, with backing from national government (p78)
- End the right to buy (p79)
- Fund a new Decent Homes programme (p79)
- Build more low-cost homes reserved for first-time buyers in every area, including Labour's new discount homes with prices linked to local incomes (p79)
- Introduce a levy on overseas companies buying housing (p79)
- Give councils new powers to tax properties empty for over a year (p79)
- Take action to protect private renters through rent controls, open-ended tenancies, and new, binding minimum standards (p79)
- Cap rents with inflation (p79)
- Fund new renters' unions in every part of the country (p79)
- Labour will remove rules that require landlords to check people's immigration status (p80)
- Labour will remove rule that exclude people on housing benefit (p80)
- Provide councils with new powers to regulate short-term lets through companies such as Airbnb (p80)
- A national plan, driven by a prime minister-led taskforce, will aim to end rough sleeping within five years (p80)
- Create 8,000 additional homes for people with a history of rough sleeping (p80)



- Labour would raise the Local Housing Allowance in line with the 30th percentile of local rents, and earmarking an additional £1bn a year for councils' homelessness services (p80)
- A new national levy on second homes used as holiday homes to help deal with the homelessness crisis (p80)
- Labour commit to ensuring extra shelters are in place to save lives over winter (p80)
- Repeal the Vagrancy Act and amend antisocial behaviour legislation to stop the law being used against people because they are homeless (p80)
- Tackle the homelessness and rough sleeping crisis in the UK, ensuring that all strategies and services are tailored to understand needs unique to LGBT+ homeless people, particularly young people (p69)
- Public buildings will be modernised to ensure a reduction in their carbon footprint (p30)
- £150 billion Social Transformation Fund to replace, upgrade and expand our schools, hospitals, care homes and council houses (p30)
- Labour will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees, more efficient heating and insulation systems, greater reliance on renewable energy, including more solar panelling and a transition to electric paramedic vehicles, NHS fleet cars and hybrid ambulances (p32)
- Aim to restore council spending powers to 2010 levels over the lifetime of the Parliament (p49)
- Bring services – from bin collections to management of local leisure centres – back in-house within the next Parliament, improving service quality (p50)
- Introduce a 'rural proofing' process for all laws, policies and programmes (p50)
- Stop bank branch closures, ban ATM charges and give local government new powers to put empty shops to good use (p50)
- Review the option of a land value tax on commercial landlords as an alternative to business rates and develop a retail sector industrial strategy (p50)
- Stop Crown Post Office closures and bring Royal Mail back into public ownership at the earliest opportunity, reuniting it with the Post Office and creating a publicly owned Post Bank run through the post office network (p50)
- List pubs as Assets of Community Value so community groups have the first chance to buy local pubs when they are under threat (p50)
- Set up a Co-operative Development Agency with a mission to double the size of the co-operative sector (p51)
- Give local government greater freedom to set planning fees and require them to factor the climate and environmental emergency into all planning decisions (p51)
- Build a properly funded, professionally staffed National Youth Service, and guarantee every young person has access to local, high-quality youth work (p51)
- Launch a wholesale review of the care system, including kinship care, considering national standards such as a central register of foster parents and regulation of semi-supported housing (p51)

## Stakeholder Reaction

### Federation of Master Builders

The next government must collaborate with the private sector in order to deliver the homes that are needed, according to the Federation of Master Builders in response to the Labour Party's manifesto launched today.

Brian Berry, Chief Executive of the Federation of Master Builders (FMB), said: "This country is in dire need of a housing revolution to address the critical lack of homes that is hampering the very fabric of our society. It is therefore pleasing that Labour are placing the delivery of housing at the forefront of their manifesto commitments. However, if supply is to meet demand, there needs to be a strong collaboration between the public and private sectors as neither can deliver the required upsurge in delivery alone. Labour's manifesto places an overemphasis on the role of the state in supplying homes with very little detail on the role of the private sector in this endeavour."

Berry concluded: "One of the primary causes for the housing crisis is the decline in the number and output of small house builders with today's market dominated by a small number of very large players. Back in 1988, 40% of new homes were delivered by small local building firms compared with a mere 12% today. Reversing this decline and unlocking the potential of small house builders by streamlining and simplifying the planning process, improving access to finance, and freeing up small plots of viable land, would go a long way to resolve this critical issue."

### Institute of Economic Affairs

Responding to Labour's manifesto announcement, calling for the biggest council and social house building programme for decades, Head of Political Economy at the Institute of Economic Affairs Dr Kristian Niemietz said:

"While Labour is right to highlight the severity of the UK's housing crisis, the party is wrong to focus purely on the availability of social housing .

"There is no specific shortage of social housing in the UK, but rather a shortage of inexpensive housing in all forms, from privately rented accommodation to homes for first-time buyers.

"Rather than implementing separate policy measures for each subsector of the housing market, politicians would do better to focus on measures to increase the overall housing supply and improve affordability across the board.

"To do this they should reform our planning system, releasing scenically unattractive land which has been classified as greenbelt, and make sensible tax changes - such as fiscal devolution - which would strengthen incentives for local authorities to permit development.

"By making these changes, we would be able to boost supply enough to lead to house prices and rents falling, making accommodation far more affordable."

### Residential Landlords Association

Responding to the publication of Labour's General Election manifesto, David Smith, Policy Director for the Residential Landlords Association, said:

"Labour's plans would hurt tenants. It wants longer tenancies, yet is proposing nothing to encourage and support good landlords to stay in the market long-term. Whilst enabling tenants to remain in their property is a good thing, it needs to be matched by a system that gives confidence that landlords can swiftly regain possession of their properties in legitimate circumstances such as tenant rent arrears or anti-social behaviour . Nothing in Labour's plans provide that assurance.

"Its plans for rent controls linked to inflation are also nonsense. The Office for National Statistics has shown that rents are increasing by less than inflation. The Party has failed to heed the warning of the Labour Chair of Parliament's Housing Committee who has previously warned that rising rents will only be addressed when more homes are built. The party's former Housing Minister in Wales has also warned that rent controls serve only to reduce the quality of accommodation, choke off supply, and make it more difficult for tenants to find the homes to rent they need.

"We need to focus on providing more homes of every kind, including for private rent . Labour's plans will fail to achieve this."

## Scottish National Party

- Press the UK Government to reclassify the internet as an essential service and support affordable housing providers to make the service available (p.25)
- Urge the UK Government to fundamentally change their approach to housing asylum seekers. Accommodation must be safe, suitable and dignified and accommodation providers need to be held accountable for standards by local authorities (p.46)
- Work to ensure that Westminster protects the funding Scotland has benefited from through EU Structural and Social Funds (p.24)

## Liberal Democrat

- Creating a £50 billion Regional Rebalancing Programme to address the historic investment disparities between our nations and regions (p64)
- End the erosion of local government during and increase local government funding. (p26)
- Enable local authorities to bring in tourist levies to fund local tourism infrastructure (p17)
- Build 300,000 homes a year by 2024, including 100,000 social homes (p17)
- Reform building standards to ensure that all new homes built from 2022 have full connectivity to ultra-fast broadband (p18)
- Scrap the rule which allows developers to convert offices and shops into residential properties without planning permission (p20)
- Providing free energy retrofits for low-income homes (p65)
- Build at least 100,000 homes for social rent every year and to ensure that housebuilding reaches 300,000 new homes a year (p66)
- Introduction of a 130bn capital infrastructure budget to help investment in building new social homes (p66)
- Devolution of right to buy to local councils (p66)
- Build all new homes to zero-carbon standards (p66)
- Local Authorities would be able to increase council tax by up to 500 per cent when homes are being bought as second homes with a stamp duty surcharge on overseas residents purchasing such properties. (p66)
- Introduction of a Help to Rent scheme to provide Government-backed tenancy deposit loans for first time renters under 30 (p67)
- Promote the use of longer three-year tenancies with an inflation-linked annual rent increase built in (p67)
- Mandatory licencing to improve protections against rogue landlords (p67)
- Recognise tenant panels so that renters have a voice in landlords governance (p67)
- Introduce a cross-Whitehall plan to end all forms of homelessness (p67)
- Repeal the Vagrancy act so rough sleeping is no longer criminalised (p67)
- Introduce a statutory duty for providers of asylum support accommodation to refer people living in this accommodation who are at risk of homelessness to the local housing authority (p67)
- Exempt groups of homeless people and those at risk of homelessness from the shared accommodation rate (p67)

- Ensuring local authorities have the funds necessary to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act and to provide accommodation to domestic abuse survivors (p67)
- Introduction of a legal duty to ensure that those at risk of sleeping rough are provided with emergency accommodation (p67)
- Introducing a new 2bn rural services fund to enable the co-location of services in local hubs around existing local infrastructure (p68)
- Reform of the planning system to ensure that developers provide key local infrastructure including homes, schools, affordable homes, surgeries and roads (p 68)
- Investment of £500m for a youth services fund so local authorities can provide more services (p69)
- Provide local authorities with a duty and funding to provide accommodation for survivors of abuse (p70)

### Stakeholder Reaction

#### Labour Party

Responding to the Liberal Democrats on housing, a Labour spokesperson said:

"The Liberal Democrats have got their facts wrong.

"Labour has proposed the biggest council and social housebuilding programme since the 1960s, which would sit alongside homes built by the private sector.

"The Liberal Democrats can't hide from their responsibility for the huge cuts to housing investment which have fuelled our housing crisis.

"The only way to fix the housing crisis is through a mass programme of council and social housing - Labour is the only party which will do that."

#### Democratic Unionist Party

- The DUP support a Land Use Strategy for Northern Ireland including the implementation of the Sustainable Agricultural Land Management Strategy developed under DUP Agriculture Minister Michelle McIlveen. (p19)
- Develop a register of all publicly owned land in Northern Ireland (p.15)
- Modernise licensing laws to respect local communities and maximise opportunities for business (p.16)
- Increase investment in new social and affordable houses. The DUP has committed to an annual social housing target of at least 2,000 new units per year. (p24)
- The Dup supports the transformation of the NIHE into a strategic housing body. (p24)
- Reintroduction of the living over shops schemes. (p24)
- A town centre regeneration challenge fund to be established. (p24)
- Establish a community land trust scheme for affordable homes, with a long-term solution to the issue of affordability and assist community regeneration. (p24)

## Plaid Cymru

- An extra £20bn investment capacity through treasury allocation of capital investment would allow them to establish a National Reconstruction Fund (p25)
- They would consider a comprehensive £5bn Greener Homes programme to improve the energy efficiency of housing in Wales and reduce fuel poverty (p27)
- They would consider building 20,000 green social homes (p27)
- They would consider creating a new Urban Development Corporation for the Valleys and for the Arfor (coastal) region of rural west and north-west Wales (p27)
- They would potentially designate town centres across Wales as Opportunity Zones, with tax relief and capital investment to turn them into engines of localised green development (p27)
- They would consider establishing Employment Action Zones in rural and industrial areas with high unemployment where they would offer special exemption for employer National Insurance and enhanced tax credits for Research and Development (p27)
- Reform planning law to require impact on air pollution to be given greater weight in the planning system. (p66)
- Give communities the right to place pollution-monitoring equipment outside schools and hospitals. (p66)
- Place a greater emphasis on flood prevention in planning guidelines. (p66)
- Aim to build 20,000 new homes over the next five years (p43)
- Support new Council Housing and ensure the new build housing will be insulated to the highest standards and equipped with photovoltaics for electricity generation and solar water-heating. (p43)
- Support the comprehensive and detailed plan produced by the homelessness charity Crisis to end homelessness (save £34bn by 2014 of public spending) (p43)
- Abolish the Vagrancy Act of 1824, which makes homelessness a crime (p43)
- Support an approach based on Centrepoint's key principles to tackle youth homelessness. (p44)
- Create an overarching strategic framework for planning that prioritises sustainable development and protects against environmentally damaging development (p44)
- Reform the Local Development Plan system to ensure that development is far more collaborative, involving communities at a far earlier stage (p44)
- Create a Welsh-based Planning Inspectorate that is required to meet the needs of our communities and ensure that communities receive genuinely independent legal advice (p44)
- Ensure that perpetrator programmes are well funded in prisons and within probation teams in order to minimise the risk of this crime happening in future (p52)
- Ensure local authorities and social landlords provide more disabled friendly and lifetime housing suitably adapted to people's needs (p77)

- Plaid Cymru want to see tourism VAT on hospitality cut to 9% to put Wales ahead in the international tourism market (p87)
- Advocate for associate membership of the UN World Tourism Organisation (p88)
- Improve the tourist experience by ensuring that: there is joined-up services and knowledge so that tourists can stay close to events; hotels have access to the latest tourism information; public transport is available when required; and hotels provide the best quality of service, including the use of foreign languages (p88)
- Support the development of locally-run municipal camping sites in towns and cities (p88)
- Launch a Celebrate Wales year to simulate tourism across the country (p88)

## Green Party

- Aim to continue to pay Housing Benefit to those who received it before the introduction of UBI. (p50)
- Increase housing security for renters by bringing the levels of rent down, this would be achieved by facilitating rent controls on private tenancies. End no-fault evictions and make it easier to set up community led housing initiatives. (p51)
- Give communities the first chance to buy local land that comes up for sale by extending Scotland's Community Right to Buy policy to England and Wales. (p51)
- Building 100,000 new council homes a year built to the Passivhaus or equivalent standard. (p13)
- Empower local authorities to bring empty homes back into use (p 13).
- Improve the insulation of every UK home that needs more insulation by 2030 (p13).
- Reduce heating bills by improving the insulation of 1 million existing homes and other buildings a year. This will be a deep retrofitting of 10 homes by 2030 (p 14).
- Ensure that all eight million rented homes are A rated for energy efficiency by implementing a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard escalator to raise the minimum level allowed from the current E rating to A rating by 2030 (p 14).
- Remove VAT from UK hotel and holiday homes to attract more holidays within the UK (p18).
- Will shift property taxes from renters and tenant businesses to landowners and legislate to prevent these costs being onto renters. Phased in over ten years (p75)
- Right to defer the tax until the property is sold or transferred to be included in land taxation to protect low income landowners. (p75)
- Encourage local authorities to adopt a model of 15 per cent of local government contracts being granted to small and micro businesses. (p77)
- Ending the Help to Buy Programme and redirect funds to the Green Party's council home creation programme. (p80)
- Abolishing the current Right to Buy Programme and instead allow councils to set discounts locally and retain 100% of receipts to reinvest in new and existing homes. (p80)
- Change the planning system to prevent building on floodplains (p24)
- Allow councils to develop their own planning policies based on genuine local need and their requirement to support deliver of at least 100,000 new council homes a year nationally (p58)





- Strengthen Green Belt Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Sites of Special Scientific Interest protections for development (p58)
- Government funding to councils to be increased by £10bn a year to improve the frontline services they provide (p.41)
- Ensure annual, rolling multi-year financial settlements are available to councils (p.41)
- Access for councils to a £3bn a year climate adaptation fund, for councils who are facing the greatest threats of climate change (p.41)
- To provide councils with the powers to set their own housing targets (p.41)
- The Expansion of council powers to stop land banking through mechanisms including charging developers who sit on land where permission has been granted (p.41)
- Giving councils the powers to set planning fees locally (p.41)
- Fund councils to deliver more social housing through sustainable construction, renovation and conversion (p.41)
- Lift the local housing allowance and reconnecting rents for social housing tenants to average area rents (p.41)
- Support councils to provide better housing for disabled people including the creation of disability housing places (p.42)
- Provide clear guidance and training for councils to help homeless people including the support of a housing first approach and refocusing of council services on the area of homeless prevention and not that of crisis management in order to help tackle homelessness (p.42)
- Replace the first past the post system for Local Government with a proportional representation system (p.42)
- Legislation to be introduced to require councils to switch from a cabinet system to a committee system (p.43)
- The introduction of participatory budgeting to allow local people to decide how to allocate part of the council budget (p.43)
- New powers and resources for councils to provide environmental improvements and increase biodiversity (p.43)
- Support for councils in promoting waste prevention innovations and recycling (p.43)
- A requirement for councils to divest pension funds away from fossil fuel related investments (p.43)
- Defend the right of people of all faiths, including working with religious communities to defend the safety of places of worship (p61)

### **Stakeholder Reaction**

#### **Chartered Institute of Environmental Health**

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) has welcomed the commitments in the Green Party manifesto to ensuring warm and energy efficient homes and ending fuel poverty .

The Party's manifesto made a number of pledges on issues CIEH has been consistently campaigning on, such as housing standards, energy efficiency, air quality and food safety.

Amongst the Party's commitments is a new Clean Air Act, the creation of an Environmental Protection Commission, and a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard escalator to improve energy efficiency in the private rented sector .

The Party has also committed to maintaining environmental and food standards in any new trade deal the UK strikes with third countries.

Anne Godfrey, CIEH Chief Executive, said:

"There are some very promising pledges in the Green party manifesto that closely mirror the policy proposals in our own Manifesto for Environmental Health.

We were delighted to see the cast-iron commitment to making the elimination of fuel poverty, and the promotion of energy efficiency, national infrastructure priorities.

It is also heartening to see their pledge to maintain the UK's food and environmental standards as part of any future trade deal.

We continue to call on all political parties to commit to supporting environmental health and the policies in our manifesto."

## Brexit Party

- Simplify planning consents for Brownfield sites (p22).
- Change the funding model to make it easier for councils to borrow from central government to build council houses. (p22)
- Accelerate infrastructure grants funding to kick start schemes of marginal viability. (p22)
- Change the process for outline planning consent. (p22)
- Introduce more flexibility on the size and type of units as part of a development. (p22)
- Allow more flexibility in the number of affordable homes within a development scheme. (p22)

## Environment, animal welfare and agriculture

This election has been coined as a 'climate election'. Given that political and societal focus on the climate crisis is at an all-time high, it is unsurprising that mitigation measures feature heavily throughout the parties' manifestos. But with reports such as the IPCC's and UNEP's highlighting the urgent action that needs to be taken, party commitments will face great scrutiny, and a future government will not be let off lightly if they do not adhere to their commitments.

On Net Zero targets, despite the Committee on Climate Change's advice that the earliest credible date would be 2045 for Scotland and 2050 for the rest of the UK, some parties have set earlier goals than others, which illustrates a consensus on the end destination. But in light of the CCC's recommendations, whether earlier proposals such as the Green Party's and Labour's are achievable may be called into question, whilst the Conservatives could be labelled as lacking ambition.

An interesting political bargaining chip has been the ensuing tree-off, with all parties including the Brexit Party having made commitments to tree-planting programmes, coinciding with National Tree Week and perhaps utilised to capture the imagination of the environment-conscious voter. Friends of the Earth have stated that Labour's commitment to planting 2bn trees by 2040 is the most ambitious of all the parties, however, the Brexit Party and Plaid Cymru have failed to quantify this thus far.

On farming and agriculture, future farming payments have been intertwined with incentives to farm more sustainably and with environmental benefits in most manifestos, which is in line with recent discourse focussing on the need for farmers to play a greater part in the fight against climate change. However, detail is still lacking in some areas particularly regarding future trade deals for the sector. The Conservatives along with the Lib Dems have proposed to introduce the Office for Environmental Protection, whilst Labour has opted for an environmental tribunal, illustrating how the climate crisis has been positioned as front and centre to government policy.

As anticipated, animal welfare features heavily in party manifestos, and organisations will be pleased to see that commitments to toughening sentences for animal cruelty, along with enshrining the principle of animal sentience in law, have been brought back onto the political agenda amongst others. More specifically, for the first time since its introduction, the Conservatives have specifically pledged to make no changes to the Hunting Act which could set to reassure some voters who have previously felt deterred.

## Conservative

- Introduce tougher sentences for animal cruelty (p54)
- Crack down on the illegal smuggling of dogs and puppies (p54)
- Bring in new laws on animal sentience (p54)
- End excessively long journeys for slaughter and fattening (p54)
- Bring the ivory ban into force and extend it to cover other ivory-bearing species, and ban imports from trophy hunting of endangered animals (p54)
- Ban keeping primates as pets (p54)
- Bring forward cat microchipping, giving cat owners peace of mind and increasing the measures to tackle cat theft (p54)
- Deliver on the target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and ask partner countries to match the ambition (p55)
- Establish a new £500m Blue Planet Fund to help protect oceans from plastic pollution, warming sea temperatures and overfishing (p55)
- Extend the Blue Belt programme to preserve the maritime environment (p55)
- Set up new international partnerships to tackle deforestation (p55)
- Invest £4bn in new funding for new flood defences, electric vehicle infrastructure including a national plug-in network and gigafactory; and clean energy over the coming years (p55)
- Increase offshore wind capacity – offshore wind industry will reach 40GW by 2030 (p55)
- Invest £800m to build the first fully deployed carbon capture storage cluster by the mid 2020s (p55)
- Invest £500m to help energy-intensive industries move to low-carbon techniques (p55)
- Support gas for hydrogen production and nuclear energy, including fusion, as important parts of the energy system, alongside increasing our commitment to renewables (p55)
- Not support fracking unless the science shows categorically that it can be done safely (p55)
- Help lower energy bills by investing £9.2bn in the energy efficiency of homes, schools and hospitals (p55)
- Support clean transport to ensure clean air, as well as setting strict new laws on air quality; consult on the earliest date at which the phasing out of the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars can take place (p55)
- £100bn additional infrastructure spending, including £4bn for flood defences, £28.8bn in strategic and local roads, and £1bn in a fast charging network for electric vehicles (p27)
- Guarantee the current annual budget to farmers in every year of the next Parliament (p.42)
- Farmers must farm in a way that protects and enhances the natural environment and safeguarding high standards of animal welfare (p.42)
- Encourage the public sector to 'buy British' once Britain leaves the EU
- Increasing the annual quote for the Seasonal Agricultural Workers scheme from 2500 to 10,000
- Leave the Commons Fisheries Policy upon leaving the EU (p.42)
- Maintain funding for fisheries across the UK's nations (p.42)

- A legal commitment to fish sustainably and a legal requirement for a plan to achieve maximum sustainable yield for each stock (p.42)
- Establishment of a new independent Office for Environmental Protection and introduce legal targets for things like air quality (p.43)
- Invest in nature through a new £640m Nature for Climate fund (p.43)
- Build support for creating a Great Northumberland Forest which could reach an additional 75,000 acres of trees a year by the end of the next Parliament, and restoring peatland (p.43)
- Creation of new national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty and make the coast to coast path across the most beautiful areas of the North a National Trail (p.43)
- Introduction of a levy to increase the proportion of recyclable plastics in packaging as well as introducing extended producer responsibility (p.43)
- Ban the export of plastic waste to non-OECD countries, consulting with industry NGOs and local councils on the date by which this should be achieved (p.43)
- Crack down on waste that destroys the natural environment and kills marine life by increasing penalties for fly-tipping, making those on community sentences clean up their parks and streets (p.43)
- Introduce a deposit return scheme to incentivise people to recycle plastic and glass (p.43)
- No changes to be made to the Hunting Act (p.43)
- The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will be used to tackle inequality and deprivation across the entire four nations of the union, this will replace the EU Structural Funds and will have a minimum match the size of those funds in each nation (p.44)
- New freeports to benefit people from all four nations (p.44)
- Review alcohol duty to ensure that the tax system supports British drink producers (p.46)
- An oil and gas sector deal for Scotland in the move towards a net-zero economy (p.46)

### Stakeholder reaction

#### Campaign to Protect Rural England:

CPRE has welcomed the Party's commitment to enhancing and protecting the Green Belt, citing recognition of the health and wellbeing benefits of the countryside next door and its potential to help tackle the climate emergency, both of which were highlighted in CPRE's manifesto for the next government, published earlier this month. However, they also express disappointment at the lack of significant commitment to build more social homes, highlighting their importance for breathing "new life into rural communities".

Crispin Truman, Chief Executive of CPRE, the countryside charity, said:

"We welcome the Conservative Party's ongoing commitment to protect and enhance the countryside next door to our towns and cities, which is a crucial resource in tackling the climate emergency and improving the health and wellbeing of city dwellers.

"However, feted plans to invest in the environment must be spelled out in more detail, and soon. The planet and our countryside cannot wait any longer.



“Less positive is the lack of ambition in tackling the affordable housing crisis in rural communities, particularly the need to deliver significant numbers of social homes.

“We’re calling on the next government to invest £12.8 billion a year to provide genuinely affordable homes, including homes for social rent, with a fair proportion allocated for rural communities. This is the only way we can end the housing crisis once and for all.”

#### **The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health:**

The CIEH has welcomed the Party’s commitment to bringing the Environment Bill back to Parliament if elected. Further to this the Party’s manifesto also made a number of pledges in essential policy areas championed by CIEH in its Manifesto for Environmental Health. These include maintaining the UK’s food and environment standards as part of any new trade deals and prioritising energy efficiency and environmentally friendly homes.

Anne Godfrey, CIEH Chief Executive, said:

“When the election campaign began, we were clear that we wanted all political parties to commit to bringing the Environment Bill back to parliament if they formed a government. We are delighted that the Conservative Party have now openly committed to doing so in their manifesto.

“There are certainly improvements to be made to the Bill, such as ensuring the Office of Environmental Protection is truly independent and including legally-binding air quality targets in line with World Health Organisation guidelines. However, the Bill is a solid basis for progress on a number of areas and we believe it must return to parliament as soon as possible.

“We were pleased to see the Conservative Party pledge to maintain our food and environmental standards in new trade deals. However, we want them to go further and outline plans to not just maintain, but to improve these standards.

“Finally, the appreciation of the need to address widespread energy inefficiency in our housing sector is a welcome one and we await more detail on how the Party intends to take this forward.

We continue to call on all political parties to commit to supporting environmental health and the policies in our manifesto.”

#### **League Against Cruel Sports**

Leading animal welfare charity the League Against Cruel Sports has welcomed a commitment from the Conservative party in its manifesto, published today, to safeguard the Hunting Act.

By including the promise ‘no changes will be made to the Hunting Act’, the organisation states that the Conservatives have finally ditched previous promises to try to make fox hunting legal again.

Further to this, the League assert that in every election manifesto since the law was passed in 2004, the party has promised to reverse the law and make the bloodsport legal again.

However, In the 2017 general election Theresa May faced a backlash at the polls after she promised to hold a free vote on it. Returned to Number 10 with a diminished majority, the former PM later scrapped it.

Andy Knott, MBE, League Against Cruel Sports Chief Executive Officer, welcomed the move. He said: “The League has long been lobbying the Conservative Party to keep the ban in place. And while this pledge does not go anywhere near as far as Labour’s promises to strengthen the Hunting Act, it is nevertheless a significant step for the party and for the country-side.

“Animal welfare is an issue that can bring a country back together, united against hunting and other forms of animal cruelty, and it speaks volumes when a party that has spent the last 14 years loudly promising to overturn the hunting ban changes its position in this way.

“This general election we are calling on parties of all political colours to commit to protecting the welfare of wild animals by strengthening the Hunting Act, and we are campaigning hard to see more MPs in parliament who support animal welfare issues than ever before.”

#### Friends of the Earth:

Dave Timms, Head of Political Affairs at Friends of the Earth, said:

“The Conservative manifesto shows little enthusiasm for either HS2 or Heathrow expansion, but neither are they opposed. However there is a huge £28.8bn pledge for road building. £1bn on electric car charging points is welcome, but just reviewing the end date for combustion engine vehicle sales rather than bringing the date forward to 2030 is a cop out. Sitting on fences doesn't cut carbon pollution.

“Off-shore wind is rightly celebrated as a big part of moving to a zero carbon power system. Spending on desperately needed home insulation is promised but inadequate, and it doesn't even mention green-heating, on-shore wind and solar power. It's good to see a firm recommitment to the fracking moratorium, but there's nothing to stop the UK promoting and funding fossil fuels abroad. And there is no commitment to go faster than net zero emissions by 2050. Overall, despite some good policies its nothing like sufficient to stop the climate crisis.”

#### Labour

- Invest £6bn in retrofitting houses across Scotland as part of a Green Industrial Revolution (p84)
- Introduce a Climate and Environment Emergency Bill setting out robust, binding new standards for decarbonisation, nature recovery, environmental quality and habitats and species protection (p22)
- Introduce a new Clean Air Act, with a vehicle scrappage scheme and clean air zones, complying with World Health Organisation limits (p23)
- Provide an extra £5.6bn in funding to improve the standard of flood defences and respond to the increased risk of flooding (p23)
- Labour's Plan for Nature will set legally binding targets to drive the restoration of species and habitats (p23)
- Fully fund the Environment Agency and other frontline environment agencies and improve upstream river management (p23)
- Establish a new environmental tribunal to ensure that administrative decisions are consistent with environmental and nature-recovery obligations (p23)
- Create new National Parks alongside a revised system of other protected area designations (p23)
- Labour will maintain agricultural and rural structural funds but repurpose them to support environmental land management and sustainable methods of food production (p23)
- Labour will introduce A Right to Food and reduce food bank usage within a year and remove the need for them altogether in three years (p24)
- Establish a National Food Commission and review the Allotments Act (p24)
- Re-establish an Agricultural Wages Board in England (p24)
- Set maximum sustainable yields for all shared fish stocks (p24)
- Aim to achieve net-zero-carbon food production in Britain by 2040 (p24)



- Introduce an animal welfare commissioner, prohibit the sale of snares and glue traps, end the badger cull and ban the keeping of primates as pets (p24)
- Work internationally to end commercial whaling, ban the importation of hunting trophies of threatened species and boost police resources to tackle rural and wildlife crime (p24)
- Labour will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees, more efficient heating and insulation systems, greater reliance on renewable energy, including more solar panelling and a transition to electric paramedic vehicles, NHS fleet cars and hybrid ambulances (p32)
- Plant 2bn trees by 2040
- Create ten new National Parks

#### **Stakeholder reaction:**

##### **Campaign to Protect Rural England:**

CPRE highlighted their support for the Labour Party's ambitious commitments to addressing the housing crisis, and stated that it is vital that a fair share of the newly-proposed Social Transformation Fund goes to rural areas. The countryside has often been the poor relation for new social house building; at current build rates, it would take 130 years to provide everyone on rural council waiting lists with a home.

Further to this, CPRE welcome proposals to use brownfield sites first to protect the Green Belt. They continue by asserting that more new affordable homes should be built but they also want to see guarantees for good design and the wider environment. Labour's plans must also support an empowered and well-resourced planning system that enables local people to promote the development of the type of houses their communities need.

Crispin Truman, CPRE chief executive, said: 'We all have a right to a home we can afford to live in, wherever we are. But across our countryside, bus drivers, teachers and nurses – the people we need to keep rural areas running, and their families – are too often priced out of this opportunity.

'It's important that the next government works to help the countryside thrive, building the homes people need without damaging the environment.

Investment in homes that meet genuine community needs, and relating the affordability of new homes more clearly to average incomes, are a clear step in the right direction. CPRE will continue to work with our partners and supporters to hold all parties to account.'

##### **The League Against Cruel Sports:**

The League Against Cruel Sports has welcomed the move by the Labour Party to tackle fox hunting by strengthening the Hunting Act and boosting funding to allow police to successfully prosecute the perpetrators of wildlife crime. The League is urging other political parties to follow suit.

Martin Sims is a former head of the police's National Wildlife Crime Unit and now director of investigations at the League Against Cruel Sports.

He said: "We welcome the bold plans announced by the Labour Party to tackle wildlife crime and fox hunting by strengthening the Hunting Act, making it the effective deterrent it should always have been, and committing extra funding to allow police to successfully prosecute the perpetrators.

"I urge other parties to stand united against hunting, to pledge to finally stop the barbaric chasing and killing of foxes with packs of hounds that still takes place today, 14 years after the fox hunting ban came into force."

##### **On recklessness:**

"The hunts are deceiving the public about their activities by claiming they are following artificial trails or trail hunting, and the proposed introduction of a recklessness clause will be an effective mechanism for tackling this."



On loopholes in general:

“We support the moves to close down the loopholes and remove the exemptions that the fox and deer hunts are currently exploiting to kill British wildlife.”

On custodial sentences:

“Introducing custodial sentences for fox hunting would bring it in line with other animal welfare crimes, and will serve to be a more effective deterrent to those who insist on continuing to kill animals for ‘sport’.”

#### **Friends of the Earth:**

Dave Timms, Head of Political Affairs at Friends of the Earth said:

“Labour has set out a massive and credible commitment to transform the UK's housing, and energy systems, in the next decade to virtually end their contribution to climate change - with the cash to deliver it.

“There are also important pledges to end the funding of fossil fuel projects abroad, tax oil companies and prevent environmental standard from being undermined by trade negotiations. However, some commitments on cutting transport emissions - an essential part of getting to net zero - are vague or absent.

“Investment in free bus travel and the railways are great, but there is no firm commitment to ban the sale of petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030, and no end to HS2, the road building programme or airport expansion. These need addressing if Labour's policy pledges are going to meet its radical rhetoric on the urgency of the climate emergency.”

#### **Environmental Services Association:**

Executive Director of the Environmental Services Association, Jacob Hayler, said:

“Although Labour's position on recycling and waste occupies just three paragraphs of a manifesto exceeding one hundred pages, it is comforting to see that cross-party support exists for full cost extended producer responsibility. This policy, currently proposed as part of Defra's Resources & Waste Strategy, is a fundamental driving force towards higher recycling rates and a more resource efficient, sustainable, economy, and will have a profound impact on the way recycling and waste services are delivered.”

## **SNP**

- Expect any compensation arrangements for any farming sector in the UK to apply to Scotland equitably and fairly (p41)
- Press for all relevant UK government departments and agencies to apply for and achieve the Food for Life catering award and to purchase more quality Scottish food produced to current farm assurance standards (p41)
- Not allow the UK government to dismantle Scotland's GM-free status and commitment (p41)
- fight against any attempts to sell out Scotland's fishing communities through the Brexit process (p41)
- ensure that the 4,500 EU nationals working in the fishing industry remain (p41)
- will press for prioritisation to be given to seafood and fish exports leaving these islands and will press for the UK Government to fully fund any additional costs (p41)
- fight for Scottish control of Scottish fisheries (p41)
- If the UK leaves the EU, they will seek to protect fishing interests by insisting on Scotland playing a central role in future annual negotiations, and insist that access to Scotland's waters is not traded or that the UK does not enter into annual access arrangements (p41)
- seek to ensure that the same standards apply to all vessels fishing in Scottish waters and that the UK Government funds all appropriate, additional compliance measures arising from being an independent coastal state (p41)
- In the event of the UK remaining in the EU, the SNP will push for fundamental reform of the CFP to shift from a one size fits all fishing policy towards a policy which suits different fleets and different geography (p41)



- press for any rules, restrictions or obligations that apply to a Scottish vessel fishing in Scottish waters to apply equally to any other vessel permitted to fish in Scottish waters (p41)
- Press the Ministry of Defence to take responsibility for the environmental impact of military munitions as a polluter (p50)
- Tax incentives to enable people to make the switch to low-carbon heating systems more affordable. (p30)
- The re-design of vehicle and tax incentives to support industry and business investment in zero emission and sustainable transport choices- such as reduced VAT on bicycles and additional incentives for businesses and individuals to use Ultra Low Emission Vehicles and a reduction in VAT on energy efficiency. (p30)
- End the Treasury's 2 per cent tax on making people's homes warmer and greener. (p3)
- Prevent the UK Government taking devolved powers over farming or fishing or attaching strings to any future funding (p39)
- Make the UK Government pay all the costs to Scotland's rural economy resulting from Brexit (p39)
- Should the UK leave the EU, the SNP will continue to fight to prevent damaging tariffs and for affected sectors like seafood, fisheries and red meat to be fully compensated (p39)
- Press for a future deal with the EU that protects and enhances Scotland's high value agricultural outputs (p39)
- Seek UK Government investment to improve the whisky industry's connectivity and sustainability, including funding for low carbon projects. (p40)
- SNP MPs will support the Scottish Government's efforts to maintain current EU standards and regulations over animal and plant health (p40)
- Campaign to ban the import into the UK of any supposed trophy of any animal on the CITES list of endangered species (p40)
- Ensure funding over agriculture and rural policy is repatriated to Scotland if the UK leaves the EU and fight for fair funding for farmers (p40)
- Press the UK government to deliver the remaining £80m to Scottish farmers, and for the future funding due to Scotland of around £25m per year to be secured, no strings attached (p40)
- Press the UK government to increase confidence between farmers and crofters, their customers and consumers by strengthening the remit of the Groceries Code Adjudicator (p40)
- Press for any compensation arrangements for any farming sector in the UK to apply to Scotland equitably and fairly (p40)
- The party will support industry calls for firms to include climate change related disclosures in their annual reports and will back steps to put this onto a statutory basis (p27)
- SNP MPs would also support an easy to understand system of climate-friendly external auditing of firms, so that small investors can better understand the climate related risks of investments, including employee pension schemes (p27)
- The SNP want to press for a streamlined complaints and redress process related to miss-selling under the Coalition Government Green Deal (p27)
- Would call on the UK government to regulate to ensure fair delivery charges for rural communities, and stand up for those impacted by miss-selling, such as through the Equitable Life Scandal (p27)
- MPs from the SNP will call for the UK to accelerate to meet Scotland's climate change target - a 75 per cent reduction in emissions by 2035, net zero carbon emissions no later than 2040 and net zero of all emissions by 2045 (p29)
- Call for the UK to match Scotland's electric vehicle target of 2032 (p29)
- Would propose a Green Energy Deal that will ensure renewable energy schemes get the long-term certainty needed to support investment (p29)

## Liberal Democrats

- Deliver a ten-year emergency programme to cut greenhouse gas emissions substantially straightaway and phase out emissions from the remaining hard-to-treat sectors by 2045 at the latest.
- By 2030 they will generate 80 per cent of our electricity from renewables and cut energy bills and emissions by insulating homes, prioritising bringing 3.5 million households out of fuel poverty by 2025 (p7).
- Ensure that the environment is protected for future generations and create urgent action to tackle the climate emergency. (p27)
- An emergency programme to insulate all Britain's homes by 2030, cutting emissions and fuel bills and ending fuel poverty (p40)
- Invest in renewable power so that at least 80 per cent of UK electricity is generated from renewables by 2030 (p40)
- Ban fracking (p40)
- Invest in public transport, electrifying Britain's railways and ensuring that all new cars are electric by 2030 (p40)
- Require all companies registered in the UK and listed on UK stock exchanges to set targets consistent with the Paris Agreement on climate change (p40)
- Establish a general corporate duty of care for the environment and human rights
- Regulate financial services to encourage green investments, including requiring pension funds and managers to show that their portfolio investments are consistent with the Paris Agreement, and creating new powers for regulators to act if banks and other investors are not managing climate risks properly (p41)
- Establish a Department for Climate Change and Natural Resources (p41)
- Establish UK and local Citizens' Climate Assemblies to engage the public in tackling the climate emergency (p41)
- Create a statutory duty on all local authorities to produce a Zero Carbon Strategy (p41)
- Guarantee an Office of Environmental Protection that is fully independent of government (p41)
- Increase government expenditure on climate and environmental objectives (p41)
- Create a new Green Investment Bank and increase funding for Innovate UK and new Catapult innovation and technology centres on farming and land use and on carbon dioxide removal (p41)
- Provide an additional £12 billion over five years to support these commitments, and ensure that the National Infrastructure Commission, National Grid, the energy regulator Ofgem, and the Crown Estate work together to deliver our net zero climate objective (p42)
- Require all new homes and non-domestic buildings to be built to a zero-carbon standard (where as much energy is generated on-site, through renewable sources, as is used), by 2021, rising to a more ambitious ('Passivhaus') standard by 2025 (p42)
- Increase minimum energy efficiency standards for privately rented properties and remove the cost cap on improvements (p43)
- Adopt a Zero-Carbon Heat Strategy (p43)
- Expand the market for green products and services with steadily higher green criteria in public procurement policy (p43)
- End support from UK Export Finance for fossil fuel-related activities, and press for higher environmental standards for export credit agencies throughout the OECD (p43)
- Ban non-recyclable single-use plastics (p43)
- Extend the forthcoming EU 'right to repair' legislation for consumer goods (p44)
- Introduce legally binding targets for reducing the consumption of key natural resources and other incentives for businesses to improve resource efficiency (p44)
- Extend deposit return schemes for all food and drink bottles and containers (p44)



- Establish a statutory waste recycling target of 70 per cent in England (p44)
- Extend separate food waste collections to at least 90 per cent of homes by 2024 (p44)
- Introduce a Nature Act to restore the natural environment through setting legally binding near-term and long-term targets for improving water, air, soil and biodiversity, and supported by funding streams of at least £18 billion over five years (p44)
- Invest in large scale restoration of peatlands, heathland, native woodlands, saltmarshes, wetlands and coastal waters (p44)
- Support the Paris Agreement and persuade all countries to commit to net zero climate goals by the 2020 UN climate conference in Glasgow (p94)
- Set a binding, EU-wide net zero target of 2050, and continuing to take part in the EU's Internal Energy Market, to provide access to clean energy sources while keeping costs low (p94)
- Refuse to enter any trade agreements with countries that have policies counter to the Paris Agreement, including the Mercosur-EU free trade agreement because of the Brazilian government's actions in the Amazon (p94)
- Initiate negotiations within the UN for a legally binding international treaty on plastics reduction (p94)
- Argue for an end to all fossil fuel subsidies world-wide and provide aid to developing countries to help them transition to clean sources of energy (p94) • Provide greater resources for international environmental cooperation on climate change and on actions to tackle illegal and unsustainable trade in timber, wildlife, ivory, and fish (p94)
- Reduce basic agricultural support payments to the larger recipients and redeploy the savings to support the public goods that come from effective land management. (p45)
- Introduce a National Food Strategy. (p45)
- Support producers by broadening the remit of the Groceries Code Adjudicator and supporting them with access to markets. (p45)
- Significantly increase the amount of accessible green space, including protecting up to a million acres, completing the coastal path, exploring a 'right to roam' for waterways and creating a new designation of National Nature Parks. (p45)
- Give the Local Green Space designation the force of law. (p45)
- Protect and restore England's lakes, rivers and wetlands through reform of water management and higher water efficiency standard. (p45)
- Establish a 'blue belt' of marine protected areas covering at least 50 per cent of UK waters by 2030, in partnership with UK overseas territories. (p45)
- Create a new 'British Overseas Ecosystems Fund' for large-scale environmental restoration projects in the UK Overseas Territories and sovereign bases. (p45)
- Establish a £5 billion fund for flood prevention and climate adaptation. (p45)
- Introduce high standards for flood resilience for buildings and infrastructure in flood risk areas. (p45)
- Ensure that sustainability lies at the heart of fisheries policy. (p45)
- Increase the budget for the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, ensuring that agencies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency are properly funded. (p45)
- Enshrine the principle of animal sentience in UK law to ensure that due regard is paid to animal welfare in policymaking. (p49)
- Introduce stronger penalties for animal cruelty offences, increasing the maximum sentencing from six months to five years. (p49)
- Ensure that the National Wildlife Crime Unit is properly funded. (p49)
- Ban the sale of real fur. (p49)



- End the use of primates as pets. (p49)
- Clamp down on illegal pet imports. (p49)
- Establish an independent regulatory body for horse welfare to prevent the abuse and avoidable deaths of racehorses. (p49)
- Improve standards of animal health and welfare in agriculture, including a ban on caged hens, and promote the responsible use of antimicrobials. (p49)
- Develop safe, effective, humane, and evidence-based ways of controlling bovine TB, including by investing to produce workable vaccines. (p49)
- Minimise the use of animals in scientific experimentation, including by funding research into alternatives. (p49)
- Work within the EU to ensure that future trade agreements require high environmental and animal welfare standards. (p49)
- Legislate to ban the importing of hunting trophies where the hunting does not contribute to environmental protection. (p49)
- £5bn of initial capital for a new Green Investment Bank (p17)
- Introduction of a National Fund for Coastal Change to allow local authorities to efficiently manage their changing coastlines (p68)

**Stakeholder reaction:**

**Campaign to Protect Rural England:**

CPRE welcomes measures proposed in the Lib Dem manifesto to tackle the climate emergency, citing that their proposals provide a clear and coherent path to achieving net zero emissions with investment in renewable energy, commitments to provide free energy retrofits to low income houses, requirements that all new homes are built to zero-carbon standards by 2021, and a strong and funded commitment to nature restoration.

They continue by stating that, while the Liberal Democrats are correct to promote building more social homes, CPRE is disappointed that the manifesto did not include reference to affordability of housing. It also failed to mention designations such as National Parks, AONBs or Green Belts, which are vital to keep the countryside as a source of wellbeing and wonder for everyone, wherever they live.

Crispin Truman, CPRE chief executive, said: 'The climate emergency is the greatest challenge to the English countryside, but also a huge opportunity. There can be no further delay in reducing carbon emissions, and it is good to see political parties proposing bold but realistic steps to decarbonise large parts of the economy as soon as possible – from transport to housing, every sector has a role to play and government must lead the way.'

'The planning system is one of local democracy's most powerful and effective tools. With the support of local communities, it can protect and enhance the countryside next door to where people live, promoting an invaluable resource for addressing the climate emergency and improving health and wellbeing. Any party that fails to address this in their manifesto will struggle to promote the solutions on the ground needed to tackle the twin crises of housing and the climate.'

**Friends of the Earth:**

Commenting on the General Election manifesto launched today (20 November) by the Liberal Democrats, Dave Timms, Head of Political Affairs at Friends of the Earth said:

“The Liberal Democrats have unveiled numerous strong policies to address the climate emergency, especially when it comes to renewable energy, home insulation and forcing the to-often recalcitrant Treasury to play its role.

“They also have serious commitments and policies to restore our countryside, protect nature and stop plastic waste polluting our rivers, fields and oceans.

“But these green pledges are undermined by continued backing for expensive nature-wrecking HS2, leaving the door open to regional airport expansion and silence on need to end the destructive road-building programme.”

**Environmental Services Association:**

Executive Director of the Environmental Services Association (ESA), Jacob Hayler, said:

“The Liberal Democrats promise a Zero-Waste & Resource-Efficiency Act to stimulate a circular economy, although their proposals seem a little piecemeal. The Liberal Democrats pledge to eliminate single-use plastics within three years; introduce deposit return schemes for all food and drink containers; achieve better product design for repairability and re-use; introduce legally binding targets on the consumption of natural resources; and introduce a statutory national recycling target of seventy per cent. However, it is not clear how these changes are going to be achieved or incentivised, or how these policies will make the UK less reliant on volatile global markets for recycled product.”

**DUP**

- Through the 2021 Environmental Strategy for the first 30 years of Northern Ireland’s new century the DUP plan to ensure a raft of actions through the long-term plan. (p19)
- The DUP support a reforestation plan for Northern Ireland with a ‘one person one tree’ planting scheme in 2021 (p19)
- The development and implementation of a pragmatic Ammonia strategy will be supported by the party. (p19)
- The DUP supports the commissioning a new strategic waste infrastructure plan for Northern Ireland, driving up recycling rates and the circular economy approach to recycling. (p21)
- Supports following the Welsh model and including Incinerator Bottom Ash counting towards our recycling target. (p21)
- The DUP believe that future agriculture support should be outside the Barnett formula (p22)
- The DUP will not support trade agreements that allow the UK market to be “flooded with products that do not meet the high standards of food safety, environmental and animal welfare standards”. (p22)
- The commissioning of a new strategic waste infrastructure plan for Northern Ireland.
- Following the Welsh model and including Incinerator Bottom Ash counting towards recycling targets.
- A Single Waste Disposal Authority for Northern Ireland.
- An Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme.
- The DUP support a Northern Ireland Executive request for a formal recommendation from the CCC on a CO2 2050 target.
- Currently direct support for farms under the CAP is linked to land holding. The DUP believe that this should change and that future government policy needs to reflect the national need for food security and rewarding productive, sustainable farming systems and proven environmental benefit.
- Future agriculture support should be outside the Barnett formula – the significance and differences of farming communities across the UK cannot be reflected through a basic formula.



- The DUP will not support trade agreements that allow the UK market to be flooded with products that do not meet the high standards of food safety, environmental and animal welfare standards that are demanded of our farmers.
- Reform of the tax treatment of Conacre land should be undertaken so that there is a greater incentive for land owners to release land for productive farming.
- Animal health schemes, like the BVD eradication scheme, provide an important vehicle to driving efficiency on farms. This should be widened out to include Johne's disease in cattle. Tackling TB also needs a holistic approach, continuing with the status quo will not solve the problem and is at a massive cost to the taxpayer
- The DUP supports the creation of Environmental Protection based on the Food Standards Agency, which aims to provide the best use of resources and access to the highest degree of expertise. (p23)
- The DUP has stated that it is committed to introducing further legislation to improve animal care. This includes the introduction of Private Member's legislation banning circuses that contain wild animals. (p24)
- Introduce Finn's Law- with the aim of preventing those who attack and injure service animals from claiming the right of self-defence. (p24)
- Introduction of pet theft and pet kidnap as specific. (p24)
- Support a centrally compiled "Banned Offenders" Register for Northern Ireland. (p24)
- Increase the minimum sentence for animal cruelty to 5 years. (p24)
- A new examination scheme for how a scheme to micro-chip cats can be implemented. (p24)
- Create a public awareness campaign on the legislative protections for animals in Northern Ireland. (p24)
- Development of dedicated school resources for Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 pupils on the hard work involved in pet ownership. (p24)

## Plaid Cymru

- Bring forward legislation to tackle the extinction crisis, placing a legal obligation on this and future governments to act for the recovery of nature. (p62)
- Secure robust, independent governance and accountability processes to uphold the law and stand up for our environment. (p62)
- Support greater transition to organic and other sustainable farming systems. (p62)
- Support a UN Global Ocean Treaty capable of creating a network of ocean sanctuaries covering at least 30% of oceans by 2030. The party suggests that this involve an immediate moratorium on deep sea mining. (p63)
- Halt all further activity within UK exploration contracts. (p63)
- Establish a Ministry for the Future, with a Minister for the Future tasked with taking a long-term view of our environment. (p64)
- Increase the acreage of Welsh forestry. (p65)
- Aim for a minimum planting rate of 2,000 hectares a year from 2020, a target recommended by the UK Climate Change Committee. (p65)
- Examine the case for establishing a dedicated forestry organization to undertake the urgent task of addressing the Climate Emergency by planting more trees. The party will ensure that this policy is closely connected with agri-environment incentives for farmers. (p65)
- Create clean air zones in our towns and cities. (p66)
- Give communities the right to place pollution-monitoring equipment outside schools and hospitals. (p66)
- Set a national and regional plan to reduce air pollution in Wales. (p66)

- Ban single-use plastics. (p66)
- Ensure a Zero Waste Wales by 2030 through a combination of legislation and policy initiatives, such as Deposit Return Schemes, extended producer responsibility and use of planning laws, levies and taxmaking powers. (p66)
- Place a greater emphasis on flood prevention in planning guidelines. (p66)
- Invest in prevention work to reduce new and repeat flooding across Wales, utilising land management techniques such as planting new woodland to manage water retention in the uplands and prevent water run-off. (p66)
- Support a GMO-free Wales and the continuing moratorium on GM crops in the EU (p68)
- Demand the full powers over food labelling (p68)
- Plaid Cymru will retain a direct payment scheme, similar to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (p69)
- Plaid Cymru is calling for the devolution of powers relating to dog attacks on livestock (p69)
- To protect the Welsh fishing industry, Plaid Cymru is advocating for the UK to remain in the EU (p69)
- Supports the introduction of new legislation to regulate the sale of pet animals online to ensure that animals are protected (p70)
- Introduce legislation to fully ban the keeping of primates as pets (p70)
- Implement the recommendations of the Westminster Parliament's Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee on ending the breed specific legislation, as it fails to protect public safety and results in the unnecessary destruction of hundreds of dogs (p70)
- Introduce an online harm regulator with the powers to require social media providers to ensure that animal cruelty content is not shared on their platforms (p70)
- Strengthen legislation against illegal puppy imports (p70)
- Plaid Cymru will demand that future trade deals seek to strengthen rather than weaken animal welfare legislation (p71)

#### **Friends of the Earth:**

Commenting on the Plaid Cymru General Election manifesto launched today (22 November), Haf Elgar, Director of Friends of the Earth Cymru, said:

"We warmly welcome Plaid Cymru's pledge to create a zero waste Wales by 2030, with a commitment to the policies to make it happen.

"The manifesto contains an impressive list of green infrastructure projects, from tidal lagoons and warmer homes to bus and rail schemes to get the nation powered, warm and moving cleanly. And not a road building scheme in sight.

"Opposition to destructive UK schemes such as Heathrow airport and HS2 is also good to see. Though Wales' contribution to aviation emissions needs to be properly acknowledged.

"However, Plaid's proposals for tackling farming's contribution to the nature and climate emergency fall short of the mark, with a commitment to continuing direct farm subsidies rather than ensuring they are only for sustainable agriculture."

## Green Party

- Ban the production of single-use plastics for use in packaging and invest in research and development into alternatives to plastic (p 20).
- Develop and implement a reformed waste strategy where manufacturers and retailers are required to pay the full cost of recycling and disposing of the packaging they produce (p 20).
- Work with farmers to refocus farm subsidies to help farmers transition to more sustainable, diverse and environmentally friendly forms of land use, including organic farming, agroforestry and mixed farming, and away from intensive livestock farming. (P21)
- Provide farmers with grants to allow replacement of old high-emitting carbon farming machinery with low carbon machinery (p21)
- Grants will also be available to enable further improvements to farm buildings and infrastructure, to help farmers in the transition to agroecological farming
- Encourage the expansion and replanting of majority of hedgerows lost in the last 50 years through new subsidies (p21)
- Legislate to give farmers greater security of tenure, so that they can invest in sustainable improvements to their land, whilst ending the use of land as a tax shelter and encouraging new entrants into farming. (P21)
- Create new jobs in rural areas through the shift away from intensive farming towards smaller-scale, more people focussed food production and land management that respects nature. (P21)
- This will include investing in relevant training and skills (p22)
- Deliver reliable broadband and mobile internet through local council to better connect rural communities (p22)
- Establish a Land Commission to investigate the effects concentrated land ownership is having on food and farming systems, housing, local economies, cultures and livelihoods. (P22)
- Introduce a new Land Value Tax to ensure all land is taxed fairly (p22)
- Reduce pesticide and fungicide use by at least 50 per cent by overall weight by 2022, phase out all nonagricultural uses of pesticides, and immediately ban the most harmful substances. (P22)
- They will secure the protection for rural residents and communities from exposure to pesticides
- Strengthen the role of independent scientific advice and the application of the precautionary principle in the pesticide regulation and monitoring process (p22)
- Plant 700m new trees and aim for 50 per cent of all farms to be engaged in agroforestry by 2030 (p22)
- Support farmers to diversify their incomes through new forest management
- Through changes to the planning system, encourage the 'rewilding' of spaces to provide new habitats for wildlife. (P22)
- Maintain a moratorium on production and import of genetically modified (GM) foods, including food from animals fed on GM feed (p22)
- Establish a Food and Agriculture Research Council, promoting methods of food production and distribution (p22)
- Support research into the reduction of methane emissions from livestock and the conservation and development of high quality soils (p23)
- Encourage urban food growing through community farms and allotments, and through gardens (p23)





- Encourage the creation of new green spaces such as pocket parks and green roofs and walls (p23)
- Encourage urban gardeners to plan for wildlife through opting for grass and shrubs (p23)
- Incentivise changes in food consumption based on locally and sustainably produced food and 'less but better' meat and dairy consumption (p23)
- Including clear labelling to indicate carbon emissions, high animal welfare and intensive production methods
- Support the transition to plant-based diets by phasing in a tax on meat and dairy products over the next ten years to reduce the UK's carbon emissions from methane produced by livestock. (P23)
- The revenue from this part of the Carbon Tax will be recycled back into farming to help transition to more sustainable farming methods
- Promote initiatives to reduce food waste through education programmes and changing rules to allow food waste to be used for animal feed (p23)
- Legislate for a right to healthy food, including the creation of new providers to supply this food at affordable prices to schools. (p23)
- Deploy environmentally friendly flood management measures including tree planting and soil restoration in upland catchment areas (p23)
- Launch a public information campaign to educate the public about biodiversity loss and other climate emergency threats to encourage behaviour change (p24)
- Create a new ecocide law to prevent crimes against the natural environment (p57)
- Ban mineral extraction, road building and military training from all National Parks (p58)
- Encourage applications from communities for new Green Belt, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Park designations (p58)
- Create a new Environmental Protection Commission (EPC). This will be one integrated body to enforce environmental protections (p58)
- The Commission will enforce the ecocide law, a new Clean Air Act, which will set new air quality standards for the UK, and a new Sustainable Economy Act, including targets for new soil quality and biodiversity standards (p58)
- Develop a soil health monitoring programme for England, to match those in Scotland and Wales (p58)
- Increase funding for the Environment Agency and Natural England (p58)
- Immediately ban the most harmful pesticides (including glyphosate) and introduce new rigorous tests for pesticides (p58)
- Invest in peatland restoration and end both the burning of peatlands and use of peat in compost in horticulture. (p58)
- Enforce stricter penalties for water polluters and for water companies found to be extracting too much water (p59)
- Require water companies to invest in water conservation and in capturing water surpluses (p59)



- Restore access to the countryside by re-opening lost public rights of way and creating new ones (p59)
- Invest in ecotourism and associated schemes such as rewilding, habitat recovery and species reintroduction, creating new job opportunities (p59)
- Introduce new support for smallscale family farms and for new entrants to farming (p59)
- Farmers will be supported to adopt diverse uses for agricultural land and buildings, such as fitting solar panels on farm buildings and planting orchards and other woodland (p59)
- Incorporation of trees into farming, linking forestry and farming industries (p59)
- Demand a review of the Common Agricultural Policy as an EU member, advocating transition to sustainable farming (p59)
- Make at least 30% of UK domestic waters into fully protected marine protected areas by 2030 (p59)
- Work with British Overseas Territories (BOTs) to increase the 'blue belt' protecting BOTs' waters from commercial extraction, from the current 32% of coverage to 50% (p59)
- investing in schemes such as street planting of native trees, compulsory hedgehog holes in all new fencing and bee corridors.
- Introduction of a Carbon Chancellor to oversee the implementation of the Green New Deal (p.38)
- Ensure all Government departments work to meet the UK's commitments under the Paris agreement of 2015 (p.39)
- Support the introduction of an EU-wide carbon tariff on countries which are not reducing their carbon emissions in line with the Paris Agreement of 2015 (p.46)
- Guarantee the principle of animal sentience (p68)
- Ban all hunting including trail hunting; end artificial landscapes designed only for hunting and rewild the land; where necessary for ecological reasons humane culling will be licensed by Natural England; ban the use of lead ammunition and outlaw all forms of snaring (p68)
- End badger cull as it has proven ineffective; fund sensitive test to enable cattle vaccination and invest in better bio-security and badger vaccination (p68)
- Work towards an outright ban on animal testing; stop the use of primates in labs (p68)
- Enforce tougher regulation on animal transportation e.g. limit maximum travel time to 8h (p68)
- Advocate for European legislation to end factory farming, prohibit the routine use of antibiotics and ban killing of animals for sport (p68)
- Call on nations to declare the waters under their control havens for whaling (p68)
- Ban completely all cages and close confinement and deliberate mutilation of farm animals
- Help shoppers chose cruelty free food with mandatory labelling (p70)
- Enhance regulation and controls on breeding, sale and import with compulsory licensing applying to everyone working with animals; ban all those on the animal cruelty register from ever working with animals again. (p70)
- Encourage the use of companion animals in therapy and other treatments (p70)
- Create a new Commission on Animal Protection, responsible for overseeing all rules designed to protect animals from cruelty. (p70)

## Stakeholder reaction

### Friends of the Earth:

Dave Timms, Head of Political Affairs at Friends of the Earth said:

"This manifesto throws down the green gauntlet to the other parties. It sets out in detail a massive and urgent response to the climate emergency that encompasses radical change from the most detailed local policies to international interventions.

"The Green Party are proposing ambitious measures across the board; from help for other nations to deal with the climate emergency, to insulation and eco-heating for millions of homes to cut emissions and bills.

"They also face up to the things we shouldn't be doing, such as aviation expansion, and even have mandatory hedgehog holes in garden fences to help protect nature. The question this manifesto poses is not one of ambition but whether they could develop the skills and supply chains quickly enough to deliver."

### Environmental Services Association:

Executive Director of the Environmental Services Association (ESA), Jacob Hayler, said:

"In its Green New Deal for Industry, The Green Party manifesto evokes the Circular Economy as its guiding principle, and also pledges to implement full cost producer responsibility. In addition, it targets product design standards but, uniquely, singles out vehicles and a range of common household items for improvement, aiming for better durability, repairability and energy-efficiency. Interestingly, it is the only party to set out an intention to encourage a societal shift of ownership model to goods as services, although the manifesto doesn't say how this would be encouraged or incentivised in practice."

## Brexit Party

- Invest £2.5bn in Fishing and Coastal Communities (P10).
- Invest in the Environment: in addition to planting millions of trees to capture CO2, will promote a global initiative at the UN (P10).
- Create an obligation to recycle waste domestically and make it illegal for it to be exported across the world to be burnt, buried or dumped at sea (P10).
- Reduce import tariffs, allowing for an overall reduction of tariffs to zero on certain foods, footwear and clothing. (p13)

## Economy and Finance

Having started the election campaign with a spending competition amongst the main parties, the Conservative Party has fallen behind, probably paying heed to investors' concerns about the cost of future high borrowing level. Even more, the party has backtracked on the cut in corporation tax and committed for now only to raise the National Insurance threshold to £9,500 next year.

The Labour Party, on the other hand, was hugely ambitious and went beyond its 2017 plans to re-write the rules of the economic regime. Notably, there has been much focus on the Green New Deal, a Green Transformation Fund, and more details on the use of the funds under the IOFs policy, a profit-sharing scheme for non-dividend paying listed companies and an expansion of the financial transactions tax. The scale of the spending pledges and the new policies set alarm bells in the business community. But some economists [took](#) a different view arguing this injection of public spending is necessary, backing Labour's plans.

The Green Party was also very radical, calling for over a trillion pounds to be spent over the next five years in order to decarbonise the economy, which raises questions about availability of funding at this scale and the risks of this brusque transition to employment.

All parties took aim at business rates. The Lib Dems and Greens promised to do away with Business rates, and introduce a new levy for landlords, whilst Labour said it would review this alternative. It is uncertain what mechanism - if any - would be put in place to stop the levy from being transferred from landlords to the business through an increase of higher rents. The Brexit party said they would replace business rates with a simpler system, with any reductions funded by an online sales tax but stayed clear of providing an alternative. Similarly, the Conservatives called for rate reduction and committed to reviewing them. This issue is unlikely to go away irrespective of what the make out of the new government will be.

The SNP's progressive commitments - which could be interpreted as demands of the potentially new kingmaker in the next parliament - are likely to be welcomed by the Labour party. SNP called for increasing maternity and paternal leave and pay as well as encouraging fathers to take parental leave, which is likely to have positive effect towards reducing the gender pay and pensions pay gap. The two parties will likely concur on enforcing Equal Pay Standard and the commitment to basic banking at branches.

### Conservative

- Introduce a start-up visa to ensure that we can attract the entrepreneurs of the future (p22)
- The Government's fiscal rules means that public sector net investment will not average more than 3 per cent of GDP, and that if debt interest reaches 6 per cent of revenue, the Government will reassess its plans to keep debt under control. (p7)
- A Conservative Government will not seek to borrow to fund day to day spending but will invest thoughtfully and responsibly in infrastructure. (p7)
- Work with the market to deliver two million new high-quality jobs in clean growth (p55)
- A pledge not to raise the rates of income tax, National Insurance or VAT (P15)
- Raise the National Insurance threshold to £9,500 next year (P15).
- Expand start-up loans (p33)
- Through the Red Tape Challenge, the Conservatives will ensure that regulation is sensible and proportionate and considers the needs of small businesses (p33)
- Examine ways to improve the Apprenticeship Levy (p33)
- Increase the tax credit rate to 13 per cent and review the definition of R&D so that important investments in cloud computing and data, which boost productivity and innovation, are incentivised (p34)
- Review and reform the Entrepreneur's Relief (p34)

- Launch a review to explore how to support the self-employed (p34)
- Set out a new anti-tax avoidance and evasion law which will: double the maximum prison term to 14- years for individuals convicted of the most egregious examples of tax fraud; create a single beefed-up Anti-Tax Evasion unit in HMRC that covers all duties and taxes; consolidate existing anti-evasion and avoidance measures and powers; and introduces a new package of anti-evasion measures, including measures to end tax abuse in the construction sector, crack down on illicit tobacco packaging and further measures to avoid profit-shifting by multinational companies (p35)
- Implement the Digital Services Tax (p35)
- Strengthen the UK's corporate governance regime and reform insolvency rules and the audit regime so that customers and suppliers are better protected when firms go into administration (p35)
- Introduce legislation that protects pension pots from being plundered by reckless bosses (p35)
- Create a single enforcement body and crack down on any employer abusing employment law (p39)
- Workers have the right to request a more predictable contract and other reasonable protections (p39)
- Encourage flexible working and consult on making it the default unless employers have good reasons not to (p39)
- Deliver the Towns Fund to an initial 100 towns to improve their local economy (p26)
- Cut taxes for small retail businesses and for local music venues, pubs and cinemas (p26)
- £100bn additional infrastructure spending, including £4bn for flood defences, £28.8bn in strategic and local roads, and £1bn in a fast charging network for electric vehicles (p27)
- Reduce business rates via a fundamental review of the system (p26)
- Increase the Employment Allowance for Small Businesses (p32)
- Support start-ups via Government procurement (p32)
- Strengthen the Small Businesses Commissioner to tackle late payments by larger partners (p32)

#### Stakeholder reaction to the Conservative manifesto

Josh Hardie, CBI Deputy Director-General, said that “Businesses will be heartened by a pro-enterprise vision, while looking for even more ambition on areas such as access to skills, infrastructure and reaching net zero.

“But the inconvenient truth remains: sustainable economic growth will be risked if there is a needless rush for a bare bones Brexit deal that would slow down our domestic progress for a generation.

She argued that the National Skills Fund needs to be delivered in partnership with business and come hand-in-hand with a detailed new immigration system that gives access to the full range of skills and labour the economy needs.

“Significant investment in local infrastructure will drive growth and reduce regional inequalities. To get the UK moving, the next Government must match it with unequivocal backing for key projects like HS2 and Heathrow.”

Adam Marshall, director-general of the **British Chambers of Commerce**, said companies would be looking for more sweeping and detailed measures on the UK business environment and infrastructure should the Conservatives win the election. He added it was disappointing that there was no greater clarity on the future of “big-ticket items” such as the High Speed 2 rail line — the Tory manifesto concentrated instead on the proposed “Northern Powerhouse Rail” project linking cities in northern England. Mr Marshall also warned over the Conservatives’ promise to leave the EU without any extension to the Brexit transition period that is due to end in December 2020. “Businesses don't want yet another potential cliff edge,” he said.

The Adam Smith Institute, a free market think-tank, said that the Tory manifesto “overall . . . will not be enough to turbo-charge Britain's economy”.

## Labour

- Extra £20 bn of lending power for the Scottish national Investment Bank to deliver funds to local projects and Scotland's small businesses (p84)
- Work in partnership with the workforce and their trade unions in every sector of the UK economy to lead the transition to sustainability in their industries. (p12)
- Ensure that the costs of the green transition fall fairly and are mostly borne by the wealthy and those most responsible for the problem. (p12)
- Create a Sustainable Investment Board to bring together the Chancellor, Business Secretary and Bank of England Governor to oversee, co-ordinate and bring forward this investment to tackle climate change – involving trade unions and business. (p12)
- Ask the Office for Budget Responsibility to incorporate climate and environmental impacts into its forecasts so that the cost of not acting will be factored into every fiscal decision. (p13)
- Launch a National Transformation Fund of £400 billion and rewrite the Treasury's investment rules to guarantee that every penny spent is compatible with the UK's climate and environmental targets – and that the costs of not acting are fully accounted for too. (p13)
- Create a National Investment Bank, backed up by a network of Regional Development Banks, to provide £250 billion of lending for enterprise, infrastructure and innovation over 10 years. They will be mandated to lend in line with the mission to decarbonise our economy. Regional Development Banks will be governed by boards made up of key local stakeholder. Smaller loans will be available through a new Post Bank based in Post Office branches. (p13)
- Improve the fitness of financial authorities to mobilise green investment by giving them powers to manage the risk to financial stability posed by short-sighted investment in polluting assets. (p13)
- Change the criteria a company must meet to be listed on the London Stock Exchange so that any company that fails to contribute to tackling the climate and environmental emergency is delisted. (p13)
- Make sure that investment is spread evenly across the whole country, including giving powers and funding to every region and nation of the UK. (p14)
- Introduce a Local Transformation Fund in each English region, to be used exclusively to fund infrastructure projects decided at a local level. (p14)
- Place a National Transformation Fund Unit, a key part of the Treasury, in the North of England. (p14)
- Require all companies bidding for public contracts to recognise trade unions, pay suppliers on time and demonstrate equalities best practice. (p17)
- Champion exports from the environmental goods and services sector, building on the 300,000 jobs that the sector already sustains. (p17)
- Uphold the highest environmental and social regulations in all trade relations. (p17)
- Never downgrade standards as 'barriers' to trade. (p17)
- Cap the total amount that can be paid in overdraft fees or interest on a loan (p59)
- Introduce a Real Living Wage of at least £10 per hour for all workers aged 16 or over (p59)
- Use savings to public finances to help small business manage the extra cost of the Real Living Wage (p59)

Give workers a stake in the companies that they work for, and a share of the profits they help to create, by



- requiring large companies to set up Inclusive Ownership Funds (IOFs) (p60)
- Up to 10 per cent of a company will be owned collectively by employees, with dividend payment distributed equally among all, capped at £500 per year, and the rest being used to top up the Climate Apprenticeship Fund (p60)
- Explore other ways of responding to low pay, including a pilot of Universal Basic Income (p60)
- Self-employed people will benefit from policies such as free childcare and full-fibre broadband, face-to-face lending and business support through a Post Bank (p60)
- Develop collective income insurance schemes for self-employed (p60)
- Develop annual income assessments for those on Universal Credit (p60)
- Develop better access to mortgages and pension schemes (p60)
- Tackle late payments that leave small business and the self-employed waiting months to be paid, including banning late payers from public procurement (p60)
- Establish a Ministry for Employment Rights (p60)
- Bring together workers and employers to agree legal minimum standards on a wide range of issues such as pay and working hours (p61)
- Give everyone full rights from day one on the job (p61)
- Strengthen protections for whistleblowers and rights against unfair dismissal, with extra protections for pregnant women, those going through the menopause, and terminally ill workers (p61)
- End 'bogus' self-employment and create a single status of 'worker' for everyone apart from those 'genuinely' self-employed in business on their own account so that employers cannot evade workers' rights (p61)
- Ban overseas-only recruitment practices (p61)
- Introduce a legal right to collective consultation on the implementation of new technology in workplaces (p61)
- Ban zero-hour contracts and strengthen the law so that those who work regular hours for more than 12 weeks will have a right to a regular contract (p61)
- Increase wages through sectoral collective bargaining (p61)
- Require breaks during shifts to be paid (p61)
- Require cancelled shifts to be paid and proper notice for changes in hours (p61)
- Give all workers the right to flexible working (p61)
- Extend statutory maternity pay from nine to 12 months (p61)
- Double paternity leave to four weeks and extending pregnancy protection (p66)
- Ban the dismissal of pregnant women without prior approval of the inspectorate (p66)
- Require all large employers to have flexible working, including a menopause policy, and consider changes to sickness and absence practices (p66)
- Enable positive action for recruitment to roles where employers can justify the need for more diversity and introduce a right for all workers to request flexibility over their hours from the first day of employment (p66)
- Ensure that the single-sex-based exemptions contained in the Equality Act 2010 are understood and fully enforced in service provision (p66)
- Extend pay-gap reporting to BAME groups and tackle pay discrimination on the basis of race (p67)
- Commit the National Investment Bank to addressing discrimination in access to finance and take action to ensure that BAME and women business owners have access to government contracts and spending (p67)

- Require that all employers be trained to better support disabled people, while introducing mandatory disability pay-gap reporting for companies with over 250 employees (p68)
- End disability discrimination and update the Equality Act to introduce new specific duties including disability leave, paid and recorded separately from sick leave (p68)
- Recommend that the Equality and Human Rights Commission prepare a specific code of practice on reasonable adjustments to supplement existing codes (p68)
- regulate the labour market to stop the undercutting of wages and conditions, and the exploitation of all workers including migrant workers (p70)
- Labour will ask those who earn more than £80,000 a year to pay a little more income tax, while freezing National Insurance and income tax rates for everyone else (p29)
- Pledge to end the “unfairness” that sees income from wealth taxed at lower rates than income from work. They add that VAT is a regressive tax that hits the poorest hardest and guarantee no increases in VAT (p30)
- Launch a “crackdown” on tax avoidance and evasion (p30)
- Labour will take back all Public Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts over time (p30)
- When services are procured from the private sector, Labour will assess companies against best practice public service criteria, including provisions for collective bargaining, fair wage clauses, adherence to environmental standards, effective equalities policies, full tax compliance and application of pay ratios (p30)
- Enforce a maximum pay ratio of 20:1 (p30)
- £150 billion Social Transformation Fund to replace, upgrade and expand our schools, hospitals, care homes and council houses (p30)
- Labour will restore public sector pay to at least pre-financial crisis levels (in real terms), by enforcing pay rises yearly above-inflation rates, starting with a 5% increase (p30)
- Publish an infrastructure plan to return NHS England to the international average level of capital investment (p32)
- Labour will guarantee real-terms pay rises every year for health and care service workforces (p35)
- Agenda for Change terms and conditions will be put into law alongside safe staffing limits for all staff under Labour within health and social care (p35)
- A Labour government will review the tax and pension changes for the health and social care workforce implemented by the Tory government (p35)
- Defend workers’ ability to recover legal representation costs from negligent employers (p 47)
- Review the eligibility criteria for the criminal injuries compensation scheme (p47)
- Bring services – from bin collections to management of local leisure centres – back in-house within the next parliament, improving service quality (p50)
- Stop bank branch closures, ban ATM charges and give local government new powers to put empty shops to good use (p50)
- Review the option of a land value tax on commercial landlords as an alternative to business rates and develop a retail sector industrial strategy (p50)
- Enhance and protect consumer rights and maintain and improve safety standards (p50)
- Ensure local authority trading standards departments and other consumer protection agencies have the resources to enforce those rights and standards (p50)
- Stop Crown Post Office closures and bring Royal Mail back into public ownership at the earliest opportunity, reuniting it with the post office and creating a publicly owned post bank run through the Post Office network (p50)
- Set up a business development agency based in the post bank to provide free support and advice on how to launch, manage and grow a business (p50)



## Stakeholder

Carolyn Fairbairn, CBI Director General, said that “Labour’s default instinct for state control will drag our economy down, rather than lift people up. Policies ranging from major renationalisation and a four-day week to the ill-conceived plan to remove 10% of shares from public companies will hurt employers, employees, savings and pensions. It’s the most vulnerable in society who will pay the price for this economic experiment. Significant hikes in corporation tax, threats to important investment incentives and windfall taxes on oil and gas will set alarm bells ringing for globally mobile businesses.”

Following the FT’s editorial board warning that Labour’s agenda “adds up to a recipe for decline”, 163 economists signed [a letter](#) backing Labour’s plans to inject public investment towards decarbonisation arguing that a national investment bank would greatly help. The FT argued that the plans would shatter confidence and deter investment, stifle innovation and lock workers out of employment.

The City UK, a lobby group for the financial services sector, said that a new financial transactions tax that Labour estimates would raise £8.8 billion would be “bad for business, bad for investors, bad for savers, and bad for the economy”.

The Federation of Small Businesses claimed Corbyn had broken his promise not raise the small business corporation tax rate. The manifesto said it would reintroduce the “small profits rate” of corporation tax for companies with profits of less than £300,000 a year, setting it at 21 per cent a year. Mike Cherry, national chairman of the federation, said that “a small business owner making £40,000 could face thousands of pounds more in tax”.

Andy Chamberlain, from the Association of Independent Professionals and the Self-Employed, said that the manifesto “risks squeezing people out of self-employment altogether”.

David Buik, former market commentator at the City broker Panmure Gordon, said that raising corporation tax from 19 per cent to 26 per cent would “make businesses unprofitable overnight”

## SNP

- The Scottish Parliament will have full control of tax (including devolution of National Insurance) and social security policy and employment (p8)
- Support a crackdown on tax avoidance and evasion (p16)
- Back a **reduction in employers National Insurance contributions**, helping firms with the cost of creating new jobs (p16)
- Support reform of VAT, and press the UK to keep pace with the EU and scrap VAT on e-books and ejournals (p16)
- Increase the provision of paid leave for both parents and promote shared parental leave (p37)
- Increase maternity leave to one year (p37)
- Set maternity pay at 100% of average weekly earnings for the first 12 weeks, then 90% for 40 weeks or £150.00, whichever is lower. (p37)
- Increase shared parental leave from 52 to 64 weeks, with the additional 12 weeks to be the minimum taken by the father in order to encourage an increase in shared parental leave (p37)
- Introduce a principle of ‘use it or lose it’ – whereby the paternity leave cannot be transferred (p37)
- Introduce an extra statutory paid week of leave for every week their baby is in neo natal care (p37)
- Increase paternity rights by increasing the statutory weeks allowed as well as the weekly rate of Paternity Pay to 100% of average weekly earnings for one week then 100% for 2 weeks or £150.00 (whichever is lower) (p38)
- Introduce paid leave for six antenatal appointments for fathers (p38)
- Continue to press for extended legal protection against redundancy for pregnant parents those on shared parental leave, and adoption leave, and new parents for up to six months after their return to work (p38)
- Maintain their campaign for a three-month time limit for bringing a claim in redundancy cases to be extended to six months to allow parents more time to enforce their rights. (p38)
- Make the UK Government pay all the costs to Scotland’s rural economy resulting from Brexit (p39)
- Continue to fight to maintain Scotland’s membership of the EU to protect the future success of the



- food and drink industry (p39)
- Should the UK leave the EU, the SNP will continue to fight to prevent damaging tariffs and for affected sectors like seafood, fisheries and red meat to be fully compensated (p39)
- SNP MPs will press the UK Government to prioritise reciprocal recognition of PGIs to protect Scotland's iconic products and will work with the Scottish Government to create more PGI products (p39)
- SNP MPs will encourage reform of the UK excise duty structures and fairer tax for Scotch whisky. (p39)
- Seek UK Government investment to improve the whisky industry's connectivity and sustainability, including funding for low carbon projects. (p40)
- Encourage resolution of the EU-US situation as US tariffs would likely impact whisky, cashmere and shortbread and press the UK government to fund additional promotion and marketing in this vital export market for key Scottish produce (p40)
- Review the closure of HMRC offices in Scotland and across the UK (p21)
- Take immediate action, including reform of Companies House, to uncover the beneficial ownership of Scottish Limited Partnerships, other companies and trusts (p21)
- Introduce measures to improve the transparency of tax paid by international companies to ensure that they make a proportionate contribution to tax revenues (p21)
- Start multilateral efforts to address tax challenges from the digitalisation of the economy (p21)
- Further action by the UK government to tackle international tax avoidance (p21)
- Fully implement the 5th Anti-Money Laundering directive and a fit for purpose online retailer tax (p21)
- Conduct a review of the tax rules around intermediaries – known as the IR35 tax rule - and problems with implementation of the Loan Charge (p21)
- Launch a comprehensive inquiry into the digitisation of tax, to uncover the reasons for HMRC and UK Government delays that mean we still do not have the 21st century tax payments system that could help tackle avoidance and evasion (p21)
- Call on the UK Government to adopt a Fair Work First approach (p22)
- Press for the statutory living wage to rise to at least the level of the real living wage, and for an end to age discrimination (p23)
- Demand tougher action to close the gender pay gap, including introducing fines for businesses that fail to meet an agreed Equal Pay Standard (p23)
- Act on the Taylor Review findings to ensure those working in the gig economy can still get access to the employment rights others in secure employment have (p23)
- Press for a fit-for-purpose support service for small and medium sized businesses, to help firms navigate Brexit (p24)
- Back a rise in the National Insurance discount businesses receive – the Employment Allowance – when they increase employment from £3,000 per business per year to £6,000 per business per year (p24)
- Press the UK Government to introduce fit for purpose sector deals – including manufacturing – focussed on supporting productivity improvements right across the economy (p24)



- Demand the UK stops short-changing Scotland on city and region deals (p24)
- Urge the UK Government to deliver for all of Scotland through an early agreement to deliver Growth Deals for those areas of Scotland yet to receive them, and make up the shortfall in their investment in existing deals (p24)
- Support the call from the Shetland Islands, the Orkney Islands and the Outer Hebrides for a much more ambitious Islands Growth Deal (p24)
- Create a Scottish National Investment Bank (p24)
- Continue conducting work on the establishment of a National Infrastructure Company (p24)
- The party will support industry calls for firms to include climate change related disclosures in their annual reports and will back steps to put this onto a statutory basis (p27)
- SNP MPs would also support an easy to understand system of climate-friendly external auditing of firms, so that small investors can better understand the climate related risks of investments, including employee pension schemes (p27)
- The SNP want to press for a streamlined complaints and redress process related to miss-selling under the Coalition Government Green Deal (p27)
- Tackle late payments for small businesses (p27)
- Reverse burden of proof on senior bank managers (p27)
- Support a freeze of the Insurance Premium Tax (p27)
- Support cap on credit card interest rates and unauthorised overdrafts to be introduced, and lower the p on interest rates and charges for pay day loans (p27)
- Would call on the UK government to regulate to ensure fair delivery charges for rural communities, and stand up for those impacted by miss-selling, such as through the Equitable Life Scandal (p27)
- Support forcing banks to pay more to the Post Office when they leave it as the last place in town to do basic banking; support increases in the remuneration of postmasters (p27)
- MPs from the SNP will call for the UK to accelerate to meet Scotland's climate change target - a 75 per cent reduction in emissions by 2035, net zero carbon emissions no later than 2040 and net zero of all emissions by 2045 (p29)
- Call for the UK to match Scotland's electric vehicle target of 2032 (p29)
- Would propose a Green Energy Deal that will ensure renewable energy schemes get the long-term certainty needed to support investment (p29)

#### stakeholder reactions

CBI's Tracey Black said the business organisation shares the commitments to tackling climate change and reducing inequality, but warned that "Amidst the political and constitutional debate, we can't lose sight of what Scotland's economy really needs – devolved and central governments working together, using every lever at their disposal to stimulate growth and generate prosperity that benefits everyone in society. After three years of Brexit uncertainty, the last thing most Scottish firms want is further constitutional upheaval and another prolonged period of instability."

## Liberal Democrats

- Free childcare for all children with parents in work from nine months and for all children from two years, up to the time they start school (p8).
- Ensure that key services are properly funded and responsibly manage their budgets. (p26)
- Ensure the overall national debt continues to decline as a share of national income. (p26)
- Protect the independence of the Bank of England and keep the inflation target of two percent. (p26)
- Prioritise government spending on the issues that matter including mental health and schooling. (p27)
- Expand the British Business Bank to perform a more central role in the economy and support small and medium-sized businesses with access to capital (p16)
- The Liberal Democrats will increase borrowing to fund a £130bn package of infrastructure investment. (p17)
- £5bn of initial capital for a new Green Investment Bank (p17)
- Create a new 'start-up allowance' to help those starting a new business with their living costs in the first weeks of their business (p20)
- Require all government agencies and contractors and companies with more than 250 employees to sign up to the prompt payment code (p20)
- Expand the Future High Streets Fund (p22)
- Require all UK-listed companies and all private companies with more than 250 employees to have at least one employee representative on their boards with the same legal duties and responsibilities as other directors (p22)
- Introduce a general duty of care for the environment and human right for business (p22)
- Require binding and public votes of shareholders on executive pay policies (p22)
- Extend the scope of the existing 'public interest' test when considering approvals for takeovers of large or strategically significant companies by overseas-based owners (p22)
- Restore Corporation Tax to 20 per cent (p23)
- Abolish the separate Capital Gains Tax-free allowance and instead taxing capital gains and salaries through a single allowance (p23)
- Simplify business taxation to lower administration costs (p23)
- Replace Business Rates in England with a Commercial Landowner Levy based solely on the land value of commercial sites (p23)
- Introducing a General Anti-Avoidance Rule, setting a target for HM Revenue and Customs to reduce the tax gap and investing in more staff to enable them to meet it (p23)
- Improve the Digital Sales Tax to ensure tech giants pay their "fair share" (p23)
- End retrospective tax changes like the loan charge and review recent proposals to change the IR35 rules (p23)
- Scrap the Marriage Tax Allowance (p23) Establish an independent review to consult on how to set a genuine Living Wage across all sectors (p24)
- Establish a powerful new Worker Protection Enforcement Authority to protect those in precarious work (p24)
- Change the law so that flexible working is open to all from day one in the job (p24)

- Establishing a new 'dependent contractor' employment status in between employment and self-employment (p24)
- Set a 20 per cent higher minimum wage for people on zero-hour contracts (p24)
- Introduce a right to request a fixed-hours contract after 12 months for 'zero hours' (p24)
- Give people more power, with customers holding companies delivering services to account for their failures, and with communities able to take charge of aspects of their own local development – through, for example, establishing local banks and community energy cooperatives. (p82)
- Increase statutory paternity leave to up to six weeks and ensure that parental-leave is a right from day one, along with addressing inequalities faced by same sex couples (p76)
- Require organisations to publish parental leave and pay policies (p76)
- Push for at least 40 per cent of board members being women in FTSE350 companies and implement the recommendations of the Parker review (p76)
- Extend the Equality Act to all companies with more than 250 employees, requiring them to monitor and report on gender, BAME and LGBT+ employment levels and pay gaps (p76)
- Extend the use of name-blind recruitment processes in the public sector and encourage their use in the private sector (p76)
- Set targets for improving diversity in public appointments and require reporting against progress with explanations when targets are not met (p76)
- Develop a free, comprehensive unconscious bias training toolkit and make the provision of unconscious bias training to all members of staff a condition of the receipt of public funds (p76)
- Develop a government-wide plan to tackle BAME inequalities and review the funding of the Equality and Human Rights Commission to ensure that it is adequate (p76)
- Regulate financial services to encourage green investments, including requiring pension funds and managers to show that their portfolio investments are consistent with the Paris Agreement, and creating new powers for regulators to act if banks and other investors are not managing climate risks properly (p41)

### Stakeholders reaction

Carolyn Fairbairn, **CBI** Director-General responded positively saying: "The Liberal Democrats have been crystal clear that business is a force for good and many aspects of their manifesto will help enterprise flourish.

"Their commitment to work hand-in-hand with businesses to create a fairer and sustainable economy, for example by tackling regional inequality, supporting new parents and encouraging start-up businesses, is admirable.

"The UK is stuck in a productivity rut and greater innovation will be the key driver in turning that around, so modernising the R&D tax credit and aiming to raise R&D spend to 3% of GDP are highly =

However, she cautioned: "But there is a mixed picture when it comes to infrastructure. HS2 is a vital project for the country and one which the Liberal Democrats rightly support. But the third runway at Heathrow is equally important and kicking the can down the road with a moratorium on airport expansions is not a viable option for a leading economy. She also raised questions with regards to "some of the employment proposals".

## DUP

- Introduce of a high-quality business leaders programme to identify and train a core of political leaders (p.14)
- Create of a new industrial strategy underpinned by measures which enhance local companies strength in new supply chains (p.14)
- Overhaul of the non-domestic rating system to ensure it is fair and better supports the sectors most exposed to it (p.15)
- Extend Criminal Finances Act to Northern Ireland to enhance the tools available to address unexplained wealth. (p26)

## Plaid Cymru

- Ensure that future trade policy upholds social, health and environmental protections (p16)
- Ensure that all UK national parliaments are consulted throughout negotiations on future trade deals (p16)
- They are demanding that the UK Government allocate an additional 1 per cent of GDP per year to capital investment over the next ten year (p25)
- In addition, they will be pressing the Treasury to allow the Welsh Government to borrow on its account up to £5 billion for capital investment in green jobs (p25)
- They would consider establishing Employment Action Zones in rural and industrial areas with high unemployment where they would offer special exemption for employer National Insurance and enhanced tax credits for Research and Development (p27)
- They would potentially designate town centres across Wales as Opportunity Zones, with tax relief and capital investment to turn them into engines of localised green development (p27)
- Plaid Cymru opposes the use of Zero Hours Contracts and wants them banned (p27)
- Instruct the Independence Commission will undertake an analysis and produce recommendations on policies an incoming Plaid Cymru government should pursue over a ten-year period to ensure that the Welsh fiscal gap is reduced. (p57)
- Rebalance the UK economy to help sustain the economy through the Brexit and, redress geographic imbalances. (p59)
- Replace the Barnett Formula with an Office for Fair Funding. (p59)
- The manifesto suggests that funding for increased capital investment should be at least an additional 1 per cent of GDP per year (£20bn) for a minimum of ten years, funded by increased borrowing. Of this, the party suggests allocating an additional £1.5bn a year to Wales to fund the investment programme set out in this manifesto. (p59)
- Ensure that those who earn most – as individuals or as companies –make a fair contribution in taxes. (p59)
- Reverse the British Government’s planned cut on corporation tax. (p60)
- Restrict income tax relief on pension contributions to the standard rate of 20 per cent. (p60)
- Increase the employee rate of National Insurance Contributions for higher rate and additional rate taxpayers from 2 per cent to 4 cent raising an estimated £2bn a year. (p60)
- Ensure that Wales transitions to a low carbon, nature friendly economy. (p64)
- Task the Minister for the Future with developing a package of environmental and fiscal reforms to aid the transition to a greener economy, as well as encouraging private sector investment in new green technologies. (p64)



## Green Party

- Increase the Living Wage to £12 and extent it to workers aged 16 to 21. (p50)
- Gig economy workers would receive at least the current minimum wage, and have job security, sick leave, holiday pay and pension provision. (p51)
- Introduce legislation to ensure the maximum wage is paid to members of staff in an organisation should not exceed ten times that paid to lowest paid worker in the same organisation. (p50)
- All companies must recognise any union chosen by their workforce to represent them. (p51)
- Create an environment where everyone feels fulfilment in worthwhile employment by creating a shorter working week and better work life balance. (p52)
- Provide companies with grants to allow replacement of old high-emitting carbon equipment with newly developed low carbon equipment (p 19).
- Help create a network of regional mutual banks to provide funding for start-up companies (particularly co-operatives, community interest companies and other non-profit businesses) developing technologies which contribute to decarbonising the economy (p19).
- Require manufacturers to offer ten-year warranties on white goods to encourage repair and reuse (p 20).
- Increase the rate of Corporation Tax to 24 per cent, in line with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average. (p75)
- Increase the Bank Asset Tax. (p76)
- Establish HM Revenue & Customs as an independent agency of government, answerable to Parliament (p76)
- The anti-avoidance principle to be enshrined in UK tax law and oblige banks to provide information about companies automatically to HMRC. (p76)
- The Green Party will close down Corporation Tax loopholes by widening the definition of 'profit'. (p77)
- The party will require offshore companies to reveal their beneficial ownership before being accepted as competitors for publicly funded contracts. Full Corporate or Income Tax level to be used where beneficial ownership is not clear. (p77)
- The Green Party will explore who to tackle e tax avoidance channelled through British Overseas Territories and campaign for the EU to clamp down on n member state tax havens. (p77)
- Abolish the rule that allows nondomiciled residents not to pay tax on foreign income. (p77)
- Give small businesses access to lending at affordable rates, by helping to establish a network of regional mutual banks. (p77)
- Further free up funding by introducing credit guidance for traditional banks. (p77)
- Grant 15 per cent of government contracts to small and micro businesses by revise the government contract application process. (p78)
- Introduce fines for large companies that fail to pay small businesses on time. (p78)
- The Green Party will support small businesses in adopting full workplace rights and create new support for entrepreneurs and small business owners from BME backgrounds. (p78)
- Increase the Employment Allowance to £10,000 (p78)
- Promote and support an increase in co-operatives and community interest companies. (p78)
- A move away from GDP and consumption as key measures of economic success to indicators that measure human and ecological wellbeing (p.38)
- Simplify taxes, close tax loopholes and tackle avoidance (p73)
- Transform the tax system to deliver good public services and fund the Green New Deal (p73)
- Merge Employees National Insurance, Capital Gains Tax, Inheritance Tax, Dividend Tax and Income Tax into a single Consolidated Income Tax. (£20bn per year benefit) all income is treated in the same way for tax purposes. (p73)
- Tax income from investments/ assets at the same level as the taxation of income from work, through the Consolidated Income Tax. (p73) Replace the Income Tax threshold with Universal Basic Income. (p73)

- Replace the Income Tax threshold with Universal Basic Income. (p73)
- End the double taxation of pension funds, which are currently subject to Corporation Tax and then Income Tax when paid out to individual pensioners. (p73)
- Introduce a Land Value Tax (LVT), designed to redistribute wealth and help fix the housing market replacing business rates and council tax and others (National Non-domestic Rates, Stamp Duty on Land, Annual Tax on Enveloped Dwellings, Capital Gains Tax on land sales, Inheritance Tax on land and Income Tax on land for owner-occupiers.) LVT will capture the real value of the land and the increased value arising from improvements to it such as transport infrastructure (p74)
- LVT will charge the landowner a proportion of the capital value of the land each year (estimated at 1.4 percent) (p74)
- Legislate to prevent landowners passing these tax costs back to renters and tenants. (p74)
- Support employers to explore the benefits of offering menstruation and menopausal leave to workers (p62)
- A requirement for councils to divest pension funds away from fossil fuel related investments (p.43)

## Brexit Party

- Invest in High Streets: Replace business rates with a simpler system to assist small High Street retailers and leisure operators outside the M25, with any reductions funded by an online sales tax (p9).
- Abolish Inheritance Tax (IHT) (p9)
- Reduce import tariffs, allowing for an overall reduction of tariffs to zero on certain foods, footwear and clothing. (p13).
- Introduce a zero-rate corporate tax rate for the first £10,000 of pre-tax profits. (p14)
- Overhaul financial services regulation by cutting red tap and boosting lending to Small and Medium Enterprises. (p15)

## Brexit and Europe

This election was called because of the Brexit paralysis that has engulfed Westminster since the 2017 General Election resulted in a hung parliament, in which there was no mandate, no majority and no clear consensus for a way forward.

Each main party has entered the campaign with the aim of convincing voters that their solution to this crisis is the way forward but, whatever the result, it is very unlikely that Brexit will be resolved as a consequence of this election.

The Conservatives have made Brexit the key message of their campaign and manifesto: Get Brexit Done and Unleash Britain's Potential. They have pledged, that if they win a majority, they will pass their Withdrawal Agreement Bill and exit the EU before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020. This in itself would not 'Get Brexit Done' as the Government would then enter the transition period with the aim of negotiating a Free Trade Agreement with the EU in 11 months before this period ends on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. This is an extremely ambitious goal, however, with most FTAs with the EU taking a minimum of 3 years to negotiate. Contained in their manifesto is a commitment to not extend this transition period, meaning there is a very real risk the UK will crash out without a deal at the end of 2020.

This commitment to not extend the transition period is, in part, a consequence of pressure exerted on the Conservatives by the Brexit Party. The Brexit Party have always stated their preferred option is for a 'clean break' with Europe, meaning leaving on WTO terms. Their leader Nigel Farage made clear that the Conservatives Withdrawal Agreement was a betrayal of Brexit. Despite this, however, the party controversially announced they would not be standing candidates in the 317 seats the Conservatives won at the last election. As a result, their commitments in the manifesto on Brexit are perhaps less combative than they would have been and instead focus on the need to prevent a second referendum and the commitment that, with Brexit MPs in Parliament, the Conservatives would be held to account and no extension to the transition would be permissible.



Labour, having attempted to straddle two horses, have now committed to a second referendum. Before doing so, however, they have committed to negotiating a customs union-based deal and then passing this, and the referendum legislation, through Parliament before holding a referendum their deal and Remain within six months of office. Much to the consternation of many supporters, the leader of the Labour Party Jeremy Corbyn has stated he will remain 'neutral' in a second referendum, preparing instead to attempt to end the division Brexit has exacerbated and enact the result.

The SNP, Plaid Cymru and Green Party have all committed to a second referendum and have not ruled out supporting a Labour minority Government in order to achieve one. The Liberal Democrats, however, have committed to unilaterally revoking Article 50 in the event of a majority and have refused to support a Labour minority Government.

## Conservative

- Passing of their Withdrawal Agreement Bill to exit before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020
- Seek to negotiate a Free Trade Agreement with the EU before the transition period ends 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020
- Commitment to not extend the transition period beyond 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020
- Following the commitment to a UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the party will ensure that £500m of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is used to give disadvantaged people the skills they need to make a success of life (p37)
- Continued collaboration internationally and with the EU on scientific research including Horizon (p.40)
- Northern Ireland to enjoy the full economic benefits of Brexit including new free trade arrangements with the rest of the world (p.44)

## Labour

- Labour will rule out a no-deal Brexit and will end the no-deal preparations process (p89)
- Labour aims to offer a second referendum based on a new deal negotiated within six months (p89)
- The deal that Labour Party will pursue with the EU includes a permanent and comprehensive UK- wide customs union (p90)
- The UK would retain close alignment with the Single Market (p90)
- Maintain a dynamic alignment on workers' rights, consumer rights and environmental protections (p90)
- Continued participation in EU agencies and funding programmes, including scientific research and culture (p90)
- Clear commitment on future security arrangements with Europe, including access to the European Arrest Warrant (p90)
- The Labour Party would introduce a Withdrawal Agreement and Referendum Bill providing the legal basis to conduct and implement the outcome of the referendum result (p91).
- End the uncertainty created by the EU Settlement Scheme by granting EU nationals the automatic right to continue living and working in the UK. Helping to ensure reciprocal treatment for UK citizens living in the EU. (p91)
- Labour will make the case for reforming the EU if the second referendum results in remaining in the EU. (p92)
- Protect people in Northern Ireland from a hard border in future Brexit outcomes (p83)
- If the UK remains in the EU, freedom of movement would continue (p71)
- If the UK leaves the EU, freedom of movement will be subject to negotiations, but Labour would recognise the social and economic benefits that free movement has brought both in terms of EU citizens here and UK citizens abroad. These rights would be protected. (p71)
- Labour will guarantee universal healthcare by ensuring women's and children's health services are comprehensive, by protecting the rights of EU workers, other migrants and refugees and by ensuring all our services are made accessible to BAME, LGBT+ and disabled patient (p32)
- If the people confirm their decision to leave the EU, Labour would prioritise agreement of a new UK-EU Security Treaty (p44)

## SNP

- Stop Brexit – if that isn't possible, SNP MPs will act to protect Scotland's place in the single market and customs union (p24)
- Press for a fit-for-purpose support service for small and medium sized businesses, to help firms navigate Brexit (p24)
- Continue working with others to stop Brexit and retain criminal justice systems that we benefit from as a member of the EU. If this is not possible, the SNP will campaign to keep as many of the existing measures as possible to keep Scotland safe (p20)
- Continue to lead the campaign to ensure Westminster protects the funding Scotland has benefited from through EU Structural and Social Funds. Demand that the roles of the Scottish Government and Scotland's local authorities in dispersing these funds is protected (p24)
- Fight against any attempts to sell out Scotland's fishing communities through the Brexit process (p41)
- Ensure that the 4,500 EU nationals working in the fishing industry remain (41)
- If the UK leaves the EU, they will seek to protect fishing interests by insisting on Scotland playing a central role in future annual negotiations, and insist that access to Scotland's waters is not traded or that the UK does not enter into annual access arrangements (p41)
- In the event of the UK remaining in the EU, the SNP will push for fundamental reform of the CFP to shift from a one size fits all fishing policy towards a policy which suits different fleets and different geography (p41)
- Urge the UK Government to implement a declaratory system with proof of status in relation to EU citizens (p44)
- In an independent Scotland as part of the EU, would be a member of the world's largest trading block and the single market (p8)
- In an independent Scotland, money would not be wasted on priorities like Brexit (p8)
- Shall support a referendum on Brexit with remain on the ballot and if there is a situation where a no deal Brexit is the only option, then the SNP would support the revocation of article 50 (p10)
- Prevent a no-del Brexit (p39)
- Prevent Scotland's interests being used as bargaining chips in future negotiations with the EU or in any future trade agreement (p39)
- Continue to fight to maintain Scotland's membership of the EU to protect the future success of the food and drink industry (p39)
- Should the UK leave the EU, the SNP will continue to fight to prevent damaging tariffs and for affected sectors like seafood, fisheries and red meat to be fully compensated (p39)
- Press for a future deal with the EU that protects and enhances Scotland's high value agricultural outputs (p39)

## Liberal Democrats

- Stop Brexit, through immediate revocation of Article 50, and use the subsequent "Remain Bonus" to invest in public services. (p6).
- If the Liberal Democrats were unable to form a majority, they will continue to fight for a people's vote with the option to stay in the EU, and in that vote would campaign to keep the UK in the EU (p12).
- The Lib Dems will extend civic rights to all EU citizens who have lived in the UK for five years or longer, including the right to vote in all elections and referendums (p12).
- Use the £50 billion 'Remain Bonus' to invest in services and tackle inequality. (p26)

## DUP

- The DUP supports establishment of a dedicated fund for professional tribunal representation for appellants. (p19)
- Introduction of a high-quality business leaders programme to identify and train a core of political leaders (p.14)
- Creation of a new industrial strategy underpinned by measures which enhance local companies strength in new supply chains (p.14)
- An overhaul of the non-domestic rating system to ensure it is fair and better supports the sectors most exposed to it (p.15)
- Criminal Finances Act extension to Northern Ireland to enhance the tools available to address unexplained wealth. (p26)

## Plaid Cymru

- A pledge to stop Brexit and to hold a people's vote (p13)
- Wales should become an independent member of the European Union by 2030

## Green Party

- Unequivocally campaigning for Britain to Remain in the EU (p29 )
- Champion the introduction of an immediate final say on the terms of any Brexit deal, through a People's Vote, with Remain as an option on the ballot paper (p29)
- Guarantee the full rights of EU citizens and their families living in the UK, including the right to automatic settled status and ensure there is no rolling back of the rights and protections enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (p29)
- Rebalance power within the EU in favour of citizens and national self-determination.
- Campaign for change and reform in the EU by: (p30-32)
- Allowing Members of the EU Parliament to initiate Europe-wide legislation;
- Allowing groups of EU citizens to propose reforms to the EU treaties;
- Increase the transparency of European institutions, including the European Central Bank, with steps such as live streaming all meetings, and publishing minutes and key papers like trade negotiation documents;
- Open up the European Council by making positions taken by Member States public;
- Introduce a binding lobbying register for all EU institutions and set up an independent body to supervise its operation, as well as other rules on transparency and ethics;
- Champion reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, so that it promotes more sustainable farming methods.
- Press for a review of the Common Fisheries Policy in order to increase its sustainability;
- Advocate for the EU to prioritise policy areas where cross-border co-operation can help deliver real change;
- Linking up national Green New Deals, to pool renewable energy resources and share insights and expertise;
- Co-ordinating crackdowns on tax avoidance and evasion, so no one seeking to hide from tax rules can do so anywhere in the EU;
- Enforcing social rights and protections for citizens, such as a guaranteed minimum income for all workers;
- Reducing migration in the long term, by correcting imbalances caused by labour-market inequalities across Europe;
- Working for peace, security and human rights;
- Enshrine Freedom of Movement as a core principle of the EU;
- Extend the EU's Charter of Fundamental Rights to give women in all EU countries access to legal, safe and affordable abortion services;
- Reform European refugee policy, centring it on principles of humanity and compassion;
- Campaign for the operations of the EU to be centred in Brussels.

## Brexit Party

- Aim for a 'Clean Break' with Europe
- No extension of the transition period beyond 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020
- Maintain subsidies and grants paid by the EU to UK businesses such as framers, fisheries, universities and research bodies. (p14)

## Home Affairs and Immigration

As expected, the Conservatives rolled out their now-familiar policies on police officer recruitment and taking a tougher stance on crime. Labour have sought to draw attention to rises in violent crime under the Conservative administration and have committed to expand violent crime units in areas worst affected.

Perhaps what demands greater attention, however, is parties' attitudes to drug related offences. Labour, Plaid Cymru, the Greens and the Liberal Democrats all agree that the current hard-line approach to drugs isn't working. Labour nods to the potential decriminalisation of drugs by pledging a Royal Commission to develop a public health approach to substance misuse, similar to Plaid's commission to reform drug laws.

By contrast, the Liberal Democrats would take the more radical approach to fully decriminalise cannabis for over 18s. This policy first appeared in the 2017 manifesto and the party argues that it's the only way to help "break the grip" of the criminal gangs that profit from the drug trade.

Born at this year's Labour conference, maintaining freedom of movement made it into Labour's manifesto in two forms, each dependent on the result of the proposed second referendum. The manifesto did not go as far as the conference motion to "extend" free movement, possibly due to divisions within the party hierarchy on labour market regulation and how to respond to the "leave vote".

Despite Nigel Farage's desire to cut net migration to 50,000 per year, there is a distinct lack of detail within the Brexit Party manifesto. Instead, the party simply pledged to "reduce annual immigration", with no concrete targets outlined. The Conservatives have refrained from committing to a specific number immigration figure. This likely responds to previous failings to cut net migration to the "tens of thousands. It is also unclear how restrictive the proposed points-based system would be.

## Conservative

- Ban public bodies from imposing their own direct or indirect boycotts, disinvestment or sanctions campaigns against foreign countries. (p20)
- Introduce a points-based immigration system based upon the model used in Australia. (p20)
- Will create bespoke visa schemes for new migrants who will fill shortages in our public services, build the companies and innovations of the future and benefit Britain for years to come. (p20)
- Commit to improving the quality of evidence and data within Government about the types of barriers different groups face. (p23)
- Will continue to grant asylum and support to refugees fleeing persecution. (p23)
- Maintain support for a memorial recognising the contribution of the Windrush Generation in a prominent site in London. (p23)
- Put the Police Covenant into law and equip police with tasers and body cameras. (p18)
- Ensure that anyone charged with knife possession will appear before magistrates within days not weeks. (p18)
- Ensure that those who use a knife as a weapon should go to prison. (p18)
- Introduce tougher sentencing for the worst offenders and end automatic halfway release from prison for serious crimes. For child murderers, there will be life imprisonment without parole. (p18)

- Introduce tougher sentencing for the worst offenders and end automatic halfway release from prison for serious crimes. For child murderers, there will be life imprisonment without parole. (p18)
- Use “our new freedoms after Brexit” to prevent more foreign national offenders entering our country. We will cut the number of foreign nationals in our prisons and increase penalties to stop them returning. (p18)
- Strengthen the accountability of elected Police and Crime Commissioners and expand their role. (p19)
- Toughen community sentences, for example by tightening curfews and making those convicted do more hours of community payback to clean up our parks and streets. (p19)
- Create a new national cybercrime force and empower the police to safely use new technologies like biometrics and artificial intelligence, along with the use of DNA, within a strict legal framework. (p19)
- Look at the broader aspects of the UK constitution, including the ability of the security services to defend the UK against terrorism and organised crime is critical. (p48)
- Update the Human Rights Act and administrative law to ensure that there is a proper balance between the rights of individuals, UK national security and effective government. (p48)
- Allocate additional resources to tackle rural crime. (p43)
- Create a Safer Streets Fund, which will invest in preventative measures like new CCTV or community wardens. (p26)
- Repeal section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act 2014. (p48)
- Create 10,000 more prison places, with £2.75 billion already committed to refurbishing and creating modern prisons. (p19)
- Maintain the ban on prisoners voting. (p19)
- Conduct a “root-and-branch” review of the parole system to improve accountability and public safety. (p19)
- Tackle unauthorised traveller camps. (p19)
- Give the police new powers to arrest and seize the property and vehicles of trespassers who set up unauthorised encampments, in order to protect communities. Intentional trespass would become a criminal offence. (p19)
- Invest more in cybersecurity. (p53)

### Stakeholder reaction

**Labour:** “After a decade of the Conservatives cutting our NHS, police and schools, all Boris Johnson is offering is more of the same: more cuts, more failure, and years more of Brexit uncertainty.”

**Liberal Democrats:** “This country needs people to come here to keep our NHS and so many sectors properly skilled and staffed. The Conservatives’ approach to immigration is an insult to the millions who have come to the UK and made it their home. Immigration brings so much to our communities, culture and economy.”

### Labour

- Ensure that public-facing workers are protected by toughening the law against abuse and violence (p62)
- Implement recommendations of the Lammy Review to address the disparity of treatment and outcomes for BAME people within the criminal justice system (p67)
- Create an Emancipation Educational Trust to educate around migration and colonialism, and to address the legacy of slavery and teach how it interrupted a rich and powerful black history which is also British history (p67)
- Strengthen protection for religious communities and amend the law to include attacks on places of worship (including synagogues, temples, mosques and churches) as a specific aggravated offence (p67)
- Review current levels of funding for and access to the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme, maintain funding in real terms for the Community Security Trust, and consult on giving it statutory protection to ensure that religious communities have the support they need (p67)

- Regulate the labour market to stop the undercutting of wages and conditions, and the exploitation of all workers including migrant workers (p70)
- Scrap the 2014 Immigration Act introduced by the Tories with their Liberal Democrat coalition partners (p71)
- End indefinite detention (p71)
- Close Yarl's Wood and Brook House (p71)
- Contribute £20 million to a fund to support the survivors of modern slavery, people trafficking and domestic abuse (p71)
- Restore the overseas domestic workers' visa (p71)
- If the UK remains in the EU, freedom of movement would continue (p71)
- If the UK leaves the EU, freedom of movement will be subject to negotiations, but Labour would recognise the social and economic benefits that free movement has brought both in terms of EU citizens here and UK citizens abroad. These rights would be protected (p71)
- Uphold the right to a family life for British, EU and non-EU residents alike (p71)
- End the deportation of family members of people entitled to be in the UK and end the minimum income requirements (p71)
- Resume rescue missions in the Mediterranean, co-operate with the French authorities to put an end to the horrific camps, and establish safe and legal routes for asylum seekers (p71)
- Refugees in the UK will have the right to work, access to public services (p71)
- Recruit more police officers, police community support officers and police staff and recruiting 2000 more frontline officers than the Conservatives (p43)
- Work with police and crime commissioners to reform police funding to ensure local needs are met and reform of the police funding formula (p43)
- Enforce laws to protect the police and emergency workers from violent assault (p43)
- Retain local democratic accountability for police forces (p43)
- Work to eliminate institutional biases against BAME communities (p43)
- Ensuring better police training on domestic abuse and offences arising from coercive control, as well as historical abuses and other crimes (p44)
- Establish a royal commission to develop a public health approach to substance misuse, focusing on harm reduction rather than criminalisation (p44)
- Introduction of minimum legal standards of service for all victims of crime (p44)
- Ensure closer cooperation between the police and security services in counter terrorism operations (p44)
- Ensuring the powers exercised by the security services are proportionate and used in accordance with human rights (p44)
- Ensuring agencies are accountable as well as strengthening the powers of the Joint Intelligence and Security Committee (p44)
- Review of the Prevent programme to assess both effectiveness and potential to alienate communities and consider alternatives (p44)
- Review of the protect programme (p44)
- Review the structures and roles of the National Crime Agency, to strengthen the response to all types of economic crime, including cybercrime and fraud (p45)
- Review border controls to make them more effective (p45)
- Restore prison officer numbers to 2010 levels with a phase out of dangerous lone working (p46)
- Bring PFI prisons back in-house; there will be no private prisons (p47)
- Set new standards for community sentences and introduce a presumption against prison sentences of six months or less for non-violent and non-sexual offences (p47)

- Invest in alternatives to custody, e.g. Women's centres; expand problem-solving courts and plug the funding gap in the female offender strategy (p47)
- Reunify probation and guarantee a publicly run, locally accountable probation service (p47)
- Restore all early legal aid advice, including for housing, social security, family and immigration cases (p47)
- Recruit hundreds of new community lawyers, promote public legal education and build an expanded network of law centres (p47)
- Ensure legal aid for inquests into deaths in state custody and the preparation of judicial review cases (p47)
- Consult on the civil legal aid means-test levels and act on the criminal legal aid review (p47)
- Defend workers' ability to recover legal representation costs from negligent employers (p47)
- Review the eligibility criteria for the criminal injuries compensation scheme (p47)
- Halt court closures and cuts to staff, and undertake a review of the courts reform programme (p47)
- Facilitate a more representative judiciary (p47)
- Review funding for the Crown Prosecution Service (p47)
- Review the youth custody estate; tackle the disproportionate levels of BAME children in custody, strengthen youth courts and build on the Lammy Review (p47)
- Set new standards for tackling domestic and sexual abuse and violence, and appoint a Commissioner for Violence against Women and Girls (p47)
- Establish an independent review into shamefully low rape prosecution rates (p47)
- Establish a National Refuge Fund and reintroduce a domestic Abuse Bill (p48)
- Prohibit cross-examination of domestic violence victims by their abuser (p48)
- Introduce protections for victims of so-called revenge porn (p48)
- Introduce a no-fault divorce procedure (p48)
- Uphold women's reproductive rights and decriminalise abortions (p48)
- Establish public inquiries into historical injustices including blacklisting and Orgreave (p48)
- Consider a public inquiry in the case of Zane Gbangbola (p48)
- Require judicial warrants for undercover operations and retain the Mitting Inquiry into undercover policing (p48)
- Release all papers on the Shrewsbury 24 trials and 37 Cammell Laird shipyard workers and introduce a Public Accountability Bill (p48)

## Stakeholder reaction

**Priti Patel, Home Secretary:** "Corbyn's Labour talk about tackling violent crime is pure irony – they oppose giving our police the powers they need to keep us safe and would leave violent criminals on our streets.

"Labour's plans for more police officers are completely undeliverable. Corbyn's Labour are consistently soft on crime and would lead to an increase in violence rather than a reduction as they would restrict stop and search, scrap short sentences and decriminalise drugs.

"Only Boris Johnson and the Conservatives are committed to cracking down on violent crime by putting 20,000 more police officers on our streets and backing them to do their jobs."

## SNP

- In an independent Scotland, the rights of EU nationals will be safeguarded and strengthened (p42)
- Press for ratification of the Council of Europe's Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence – the Istanbul Convention – to have a clear timetable (p44)
- Continue freedom of movement (p44)
- Urge the UK Government to implement a declaratory system with proof of status in relation to EU citizens (p44)

- Oppose plans to introduce a minimum salary threshold that prevents people earning less than £30,000 from being admitted to the UK (p44)
- Continue to campaign for an extension to the no-deal three-year 'Temporary Leave to Remain' (p44)
- Oppose the Immigration Skills Charge (p44)
- Review of the citizenship application process, with a view to bringing down its cost and reducing its complexity (p45)
- Continue to urge the UK government to introduce a less restrictive approach to family migration, including the repeal of the minimum income requirements for family visas (p46)
- Press the UK government to end indefinite immigration detention (p46)
- Call for the UK government to pursue alternatives to detention (p46)
- Demand independent body make decisions on asylum applications in place of the Home Office (p46)
- Introduce fair asylum system (p46)
- Reopen Dubs scheme for unaccompanied children (p46)
- Create new scheme to ensure all families retain the right to remain together (p46)
- Create safe and legal routes for people to find protection in the UK (p46)
- Right to work for asylum seekers (p46)
- Call on the UK Government to follow UNHCR recommendations and commit to taking 10,000 people per year under the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement programme and to further commit to long term refugee resettlement beyond 2021 (p46)
- Urge the UK Government to fundamentally change their approach to housing asylum seekers (p46)
- Reform of the detention and asylum system for LGBT+ individuals escaping countries where homosexuality is still criminalised (p46)
- In an independent Scotland, economic and migration policy will be tailored to Scotland's needs (p8)
- Continue to call on the UK government to guarantee EU nationals' right to remain in the UK and for devolution of migration policy (p39)
- If the UK Government insists on creating a seasonal migrant workers' scheme, rather than retaining freedom of movement, they will press for it to meet the needs of workers and businesses in Scotland (p39)
- Continue working with others to stop Brexit and retain criminal justice systems that we benefit from as a member of the EU. If this is not possible, the SNP will campaign to keep as many of the existing measures as possible to keep Scotland safe (p20)
- Continue to demand the UK Government refunds the £175 million in VAT owed to Scotland's emergency services (p20)

## Liberal Democrat

- Devolve powers over youth justice, probation services, prisons and policing to Wales (p85)
- Stop Brexit and save EU freedom of movement (p77)
- Invest in officers, training and technology to prevent illegal entry at Britain's borders, assist seekers of sanctuary and combat human trafficking and smuggling of weapons, drugs, people and wildlife (p77)
- Make immigration detention an absolute last resort, introduce a 28-day time limit on detention and close seven of the UK's nine detention centres (p77)
- Establish a firewall to prevent public agencies from sharing personal information with the Home Office for the purposes of immigration enforcement and repeal the immigration exemption in the Data Protection Act (p77)
- Relocate policymaking on student visas and work permits from the Home Office to the Departments for Business and Education, and establish a new arms-length, non-political agency to take over processing application (p77)



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- Replace Tier 2 work visas with a more flexible merit-based system (p77)
- Introduce a 'Training up Britain' programme to make the most of migrants' skills (p77)
- Create a new two-year visa for students to work after graduation (p77)
- Reduce the fee for registering a child as a British citizen from £1,012 to the cost of administration (p77)
- Abolish the minimum income requirement for spouse and partner visas (p77)
- Waive application fees for indefinite leave for members of the Armed Forces on discharge and their families (p77)
- Enable people who came to the UK as children to apply for resident status (p77)
- Allow asylum seekers the right to work three months after their application (p78)
- Resettle 10,000 vulnerable refugees each year and a further 10,000 unaccompanied refugee children from elsewhere in Europe over the next ten years, and expanding family reunion rights (p78)
- Fund community-sponsorship projects for refugees, and reward community groups who develop innovative and successful ways of promoting social cohesion (p78)
- Offer asylum to people fleeing the risk of violence because of their sexual orientation or gender identification, end the culture of disbelief for LGBT+ asylum seekers and never refuse an LGBT+ applicant on the basis that they could be discreet (p78)
- Relocate asylum policymaking from the Home Office to the Department for International Development, and establish a dedicated unit to improve the quality and speed of decision making (p78)
- Provide free basic English lessons to refugees and asylum seekers and scrap the 16 hours per week rule with respect to financial support for those unable to work due to insufficient English (p78)
- Provide public health services to people as soon as they arrive in the UK, including maternity services (p78)
- Increase the 'move-on period' for refugees from 28 days to 60 days (p78)
- Investment of 1bn to restore community policing (p69)
- Ensuring that there is a public health approach to youth violence by identifying risk factors and treating them (p69)
- A one-hour target for handing over people suffering from a mental health crisis from the police to mental health services (p69)
- Fully funded 2 per cent rise for police officers to support recruitment and retention (p69)
- More resources for the National Crime Agency to tackle serious crimes (p69)
- Creation of a new Online Crime Agency to tackle illegal activity online (p69)
- End disproportionate use of stop and search (p70)
- Legislating for a statutory definition of domestic abuse (p70)
- Ratifying and bringing into law the Istanbul Convention (p70)
- Creation of a national rape crisis helpline (p70)
- Expansion of the number of refuges and rape crisis centres (p70)
- Replacement of police and crime commissioners with accountable police boards formed of local councillors (p70)

- Maintain European crime fighting tools such as Europol and the European Arrest Warrant (p70)
- Recruitment of 2000 new prison officers (p70)
- Reduce the numbers of people that are unnecessarily in prison by ending prison sentences for the possession of drugs for personal use and increasing the use of tough community sentences and restorative justice where appropriate (p71)
- Creation of Women's Justice Board (p71)
- Reformation of criminal record disclosure rules so people do not have to declare old and minor convictions (p71)
- Improvement of mental health support and treatment within the wider criminal justice system (p71)
- Ensuring all prison leavers are supported with somewhere to live, a bank account and employment or training (p71)
- Reduce overrepresentations of BAME backgrounds throughout the criminal justice system through promoting greater diversity and publishing data on ethnicity and publishing it to allow for analysis and scrutiny (p71)
- Stop the use of facial recognition surveillance by the police (p74)
- 500m investment to restore legal aid (p74)
- Provide the right for asylum seekers the right to work three months after they have applied and resettling 10,000 unaccompanied children in the UK over the next ten years (p74)
- Take more powers away from the home office and ending indefinite detention to scrap the hostile environment (p74)
- Decriminalise abortion across the UK while retaining the existing 24-week limit
- and legislate for access to abortion facilities within Northern Ireland (p61)

### Stakeholder reaction

**Christian Concern:** "Lib Dems propose to completely decriminalise abortion up to 24 weeks (p61). This will mean that babies in the womb are killed for any reason with no checks and balances. This would therefore legalise gender-selective abortion which means that Lib Dems propose to approve of this discriminatory practice.

"While not as extreme as Labour's proposal to decriminalise abortion right up to birth, this would still leave England and Wales with one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world."

### DUP

- Support the new mitigations package and regulations in Northern Ireland based on the updated report.
- Re-established the Assembly to fill the "dangerous vacuum of law and guidance that the Creasy legislation creates" (p18)
- Increase officer numbers to the level envisaged by the Patton Report (p26)
- Increase the use of Enhanced Combination Orders (p25)
- Further expand problem solving courts to reduce reoffending and reduce the long-term burden on the taxpayer (p25)
- Instigate greater use of Supervised Activity Orders (p25)
- Examine the impact of Community Payback order in Scotland (p25)
- Support efforts being pursued through the Tackling Paramilitarism programme including: intensify the positive work by agencies and the Education Authority in youth outreach, mentoring of young men and recovered assets to be injected back into local communities to reduce the brunt of conflict. (p25)

### Plaid Cymru

- Change the settled status application into a registration system, ensuring that all EU citizens who are resident in the UK before Brexit should have the right of permanent residence (p19)
- Create a Welsh Migration Advisory Service to ensure that a system exists to plug the skills gap (p19)
- Seek the devolution of migration policy so Wales can set its own migration quota (p19)
- Lead the call for an EU migration policy based on solidarity and shall ensure Wales can be a sanctuary for refugees fleeing war and persecution (p20)

- Ensure that Sexual Assault Referral Centres are properly funded with adequate training for the professionals that work there (p52)
- Ensure that counselling services are available and well-funded (p52)
- Ensure those within the Criminal Justice System are better informed and aware that rape can be between partners or between those that have been intimate in the past (p52)
- Work with Police and Crime Commissioners to ensure that all hate crime – including homophobic, racist and anti-disability hate crime, and online abuse – is treated as a serious offence by Welsh police forces and investigated appropriately (p53)

## Green Party

- Scrap the Home Office and create instead a Ministry for Sanctuary and a Minister of the Interior. The Ministry of Sanctuary would enforce migration rules with regard for human rights and the Ministry of the Interior would oversee domestic security with a full regard for human rights (p38)
- Create a new law on universal jurisdiction making it easier to prosecute those committing genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (p46)
- Focus on prevention of crime with community-based policing; invest in education, youth services and centres and employment (p65)
- Aim to halve prison population (p65)
- Significantly reduce the number of short-term prison sentences, replacing them with restorative justice projects (p65)
- Enhance rehabilitation services that have a track record of success (p65)
- Support and develop a network of specialist women's centres which offer pastoral support to women address the issues leading them to reoffend (p65)
- Integrate police forces more closely with the communities they serve by creating new community liaison and equality officers to work on positive relations and by putting more police on the beat. (p65)
- End the war on drugs, treat drug use as a health issue and put in place an evidence-based legalised, regulated system of drug control (p66)
- Taxes and licence fees on drugs (p66)
- Repeal the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 (p67)
- Pardon and expunge the criminal records of all individuals previously convicted for possession and small-scale supply of drugs. (p67)
- Enable medical research on psychoactive drugs for new treatments (p67)
- Make heroin available on prescription after medical assessment and provide safe facilities for users (p67)
- Regulate access for adults to stimulant and psychedelic drugs based on the evidence around harm reduction through pharmacies after consultation with pharmacist (p67)
- Make cannabis, labelled according to laboratory-tested strength, available to adults from licensed small businesses (p67)
- Allow for licensed Cannabis Social Clubs and home cultivation with a limited number of plants (p67)
- Prohibit commercial advertising of alcohol and all other drugs and introduce minimum unit pricing (p67)
- Set up an independent statutory body, the Advisory Council of Drug Safety, responsible for advising the government on changes to regulation and sourcing socially and ecologically sustainable supplies of opium and coca from the Global South. (p67)
- End the hostile environment, including ending indefinite detention and closing immigration detention centres (p60)
- Immediately suspend all deportation flights and allow refugees to live in the UK with the right to work whilst their applications are considered (p61)
- Create a new "humane" immigration system, including no minimum income rules for visas (p61)
- Guarantee migrants safe and discreet access to public services (p61)
- Create a 'Windrush Day' bank holiday, to celebrate the contribution of migration to British society (p61)



- Increase funding to support the prevention and prosecution of all hate crimes (p61)
- Give police greater training on hate crimes (p61)
- Make misogyny a hate crime across the UK and implement an intersectional approach that recognises the groups of women who are most at risk (p61)
- Increase funding to support the prevention and prosecution of all hate crimes (p61)
- Give police greater training on hate crimes (p61)
- Introduce a regulatory framework for online harms, ensuring that social media companies invest in technological solutions to address misogyny and online harassment (p62)

## Brexit Party

- Crack down on illegal immigration (p16)
- Reduce annual immigration, introduce a fair points system and always provide a humane welcome for refugees (p16)
- Increase police numbers (p16)
- Target County Lines drugs dealers, gangs and growth of knife crime (p16)
- Abolish distortive targets and introduce sentence 'range' for young offenders, to encourage rehabilitation (p16)

## Foreign Affairs, Defence and International Development

Trident has been a major sticking point for Labour throughout this election. Whilst the party supports its renewal, Jeremy Corbyn's historic personal hostility towards the programme has raised important questions about his willingness to use the system if he were Prime Minister and whether it is worth investing in if he is not.

The SNP passionately opposes Trident, regarding it as a waste of valuable financial resources. The party has said that not investing in a new generation of nuclear weapons would be a priority in exchange for offering support to Labour in the event of a hung Parliament. The Greens and Plaid Cymru both stand with the SNP on scrapping the UK's nuclear deterrent. The Conservatives, meanwhile, have committed to maintaining Trident and increasing the defence budget by 0.5 percent above inflation every year of the coming parliament.

After a Times splash that proposals were afoot to slash army to 60-65,000, Johnson was forced to confirm at the manifesto launch that the armed forces would not be cut. Even so, this commitment will mean little if chronic recruitment issues are not addressed.

One of their flashier policies was to set up a Space Command, a continuation of Johnson's preoccupation with space since becoming Prime Minister.

On foreign affairs, is broad consensus that in a post-Brexit world, the UK will have to bolster existing international alliances to effectively project UK influence. This is reflected in multiple party manifestos, with commitments to continue building relations with Commonwealth, UN, and NATO.

Multiple parties are also focussed on ensuring that trade and foreign relations respect human rights and play an active role in moving towards greater sustainability. This includes a commitment from the Liberal Democrats and Conservatives develop a Magnitsky-style sanctions regime (albeit, the parties take radically different approaches to achieve this) to help better sanction human rights abusers.

All main parties have pledged to keep the 0.7 percent commitment to UK Aid. How this aid is directed is also broadly similar amongst parties, with most prioritising spending on overseas education, health and climate change. The Liberal Democrats, Labour and SNP make specific references to upholding human rights abroad, whilst the Conservatives have placed a greater priority in helping countries becoming self-sufficient.

### Conservative

- Aim to have 80 per cent of UK trade covered by free trade agreements within the next three years, starting with the USA, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. (p57)
- Forge stronger trade links with the Commonwealth. (p57)
- Use export finance to increase UK businesses' access to emerging markets and engage diaspora communities in the UK with this agenda. (p57)
- Create up to ten freeports around the UK. (p57)
- Promote British business and UK exports. (p57)
- Dismantle barriers to trade and retake the UK's seat at the World Trade Organisation. (p57)
- Continue to be a champion of collective security, the rule of law, human rights, free trade, anti-corruption efforts and a rules-based international system. (p51)
- Bolster the alliances and institutions that help project UK influence and keep the country safe: the UN and the UN Security Council; NATO; the Commonwealth; Five Eyes; the G20; the G7; and the World Trade Organisation. (p51)
- Introduce new legislation to tackle the vexatious legal claims that undermine the Armed Forces and further incorporate the Armed Forces Covenant into law. (p52)

- Continue to acknowledge and commemorate the invaluable contribution of diaspora communities in previous armed conflicts. (p52)
- Recognise the contribution today made by those “beyond these shores” to armed conflicts, such as the Gurkhas. (p52)
- Reduce National Insurance contributions for employers if they employ ex-Service personnel. (p52)
- Offer wraparound childcare for Forces families. (p52)
- Introduce a Veterans’ Railcard. (p52)
- Offer a guaranteed job interview for veterans for any public sector role they apply for. (p52)
- Ensure that the democratic rights of people in Gibraltar, the Falklands and all our overseas territories are protected. (p53)
- Continue to exceed the NATO target of spending 2 per cent of GDP on defence and increase the budget by at least 0.5 per cent above inflation every year of the new Parliament. (p53)
- Modernise the equipment and improve the capability of the Armed Forces and intelligence agencies. (p53)
- Invest in training and equipping our Armed Forces. (p53)
- Maintain the Trident nuclear deterrent. (p53)
- Invest more in cybersecurity. (p53)
- Stand against terrorism and extremism around the world. (p53)
- Support the UK’s defence industry by investing in ambitious global programmes, including building the new Type 31 frigates in British shipyards such as Rosyth and a new generation of armoured vehicles, made in Britain. (p53)
- Set up the UK’s first Space Command. (p53)
- Continue to be a champion of collective security, the rule of law, human rights, free trade, anti-corruption efforts and a rules-based international system. (p51)
- Continue to support international initiatives to achieve reconciliation, stability and justice across the world, and in current or former conflict zones such as Cyprus, Sri Lanka and the Middle East, where the party maintains their support for a two-state solution. (p53)
- Further develop an independent Magnitsky-style sanctions regime. (p53)
- Stand up for the right of every girl in the world to have 12 years of quality education. (p53)
- Continue their campaigns to promote international media freedom and to eradicate human trafficking and the scourge of modern slavery. (p53)
- Support marginalised communities in the developing world, hosting the UK government’s first ever international LGBT conference. (p53)
- Seek to protect those persecuted for their faith and implement the Truro Review recommendations. (p53)
- Maintain the commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of GNI on development. (p53)
- Do more to help countries receiving aid become self-sufficient. (p53)
- End the preventable deaths of mothers, new-born babies and children by 2030. (p53)
- Lead the way in eradicating Ebola and malaria. (p53)

## Labour

- Immediately suspend the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen and to Israel for arms used in violation of the human rights of Palestinian civilians (p98)
- Conduct a root-and-branch reform of our arms exports regime (p98)
- Reform the international rules-based order to secure justice and accountability for breaches of human rights and international law (p98)
- Work through the UN and the Commonwealth to insist on the protection of human rights for Sri Lanka’s minority Tamil and Muslim populations (p98)
- Appoint human-rights advisers to work across the Foreign Office and government to prioritise a coordinated approach to human rights (p98)



- Rebuild climate expertise within the Foreign Office, putting climate diplomacy at the heart of foreign policy (P 99)
- Increase funding for UN peacekeeping operations to £100 million (p100)
- Whilst Labour supports the renewal of the Trident nuclear deterrent, they will also actively lead multilateral efforts under the obligations to the Non-Proliferation Treaty to create a nuclear-free world (p101)
- Pay a lump sum of £50,000 to each surviving British nuclear-test veteran to support them and their families with the health conditions they have suffered as a result of exposure to radiation (p101)
- Publish a Defence Industrial Strategy White Paper, including a National Shipbuilding Strategy, that keeps all Royal Navy and Royal Fleet Auxiliary shipbuilding contracts in the UK (p101)
- Establish a new Unit for Public Services within DfID, which will include increasing direct budgetary support to governments (p104)
- Support ongoing UN efforts to introduce a binding international treaty on business and human rights, and make companies legally accountable for failing to prevent human rights abuses or environmental damage in their operations and supply chains, including criminal liability in the most serious cases (p104)
- Triple funding for grassroots women's organisations and establishment of an independent ombudsman to tackle abuse in the development sector (p104)
- Provide a top-up of new and additional spending on international climate finance to bring the total to £4 billion a year (p104)
- Stop all aid spending on fossil fuel production overseas, redirecting it towards clean, renewable energy for all (P 104)
- Undertake a root-and-branch reform of CDC Group plc (DfID's principal vehicle for encouraging private sector investment in developing countries), transforming it into a green development bank mandated to fight poverty, inequality and climate change (p105)
- Implement UK arms export controls to the highest standard, putting an end to exports where they might be used in violation of human rights or international humanitarian law (p105)
- Introduce a War Powers Act to ensure that no Prime Minister can bypass Parliament to commit to conventional military action (p95)
- Conduct an audit of the impact of Britain's colonial legacy and understand the UK's contribution to the dynamics of violence caused by British colonial rule (p96)
- Invest an additional £400 million in diplomatic capacity to secure Britain's role as a country that promotes (p96)
- Invest an additional £400 million in diplomatic capacity to secure Britain's role as a country that promotes (p96)
- Establish a judge-led inquiry into the UK's alleged complicity in rendition and torture and the use of secret courts (p97)
- Allow the people of the Chagos Islands and their descendants the right to return to the lands from which they were removed (p97)
- Appoint a dedicated global ambassador to the Foreign Office on LGBT+ issues (p69)
- Guarantee universal healthcare by ensuring women's and children's health services are comprehensive, by protecting the rights of EU workers, other migrants and refugees and by ensuring all our services are made accessible to BAME, LGBT+ and disabled patient (p32)
- Ensure that all parts of the NHS, the treatment of patients, the employment of staff and medicine pricing are all fully excluded and protected from any international trade deals (p35)
- Use diplomatic services, aid budgets and international standing to promote peaceful solutions to conflicts and tackle the risks arising from poverty, natural catastrophes and population displacements (p44)

## Stakeholder reaction:

**Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament:** “Labour's manifesto is a missed opportunity to address the growing threat of nuclear war, a threat as serious and urgent as the climate crisis.

“The manifesto commits a future Labour government to the old cold war status quo on nuclear weapons. Replacing the Trident submarines – at a cost of at least £205 billion -means Britain possessing nuclear weapons for many decades to come, weapons which are already rendered obsolete as a result of technological advances, new forms of warfare and changing security threats.

“Labour's policy also ignores the UN 's nuclear ban treaty, which is the culmination of years of heroic work carried out by dozens of states. So significant is the achievement that the people behind it were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. Instead, Labour ignores this and says it's committed to the five-decade old nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which most experts agree has reached a dead-end on nuclear abolition.

“In many other respects, this is a radical manifesto taking a fresh look at many urgent problems for the United Kingdom, so why the business as usual, twentieth century approach to nuclear weapons?”

## SNP

- Oppose any attempts by the UK government to scrap the Human Rights Act and withdraw the UK from the ECHR (p44)
- Support an inquiry into the contribution and mechanisms that small nations and devolved administrations can develop to support the international rules-based order, including in relation to climate change, the use of new technology as well as the protection and promotion of the rule of law, human rights, peace-making and poverty alleviation both at home and abroad (p44)
- Demand Government keeps to spending of 0.7 per cent of GDP on overseas development assistance (p48)
- Call for Government to introduce a dedicated Climate Justice Fund (p48)
- Continue to work with international partners to progress a lasting peace settlement in the Middle East, pursuing a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine (p48)
- Press the UK government to remain committed – with EU partners – to the Iran nuclear deal (p48)
- Call on the UK to immediately withdraw from the Chagos Islands (p48)
- Call on the Government to use all diplomatic channels to protect the Anglo-Sino Agreement that underpins the rights of the people of Hong Kong (p48)
- Call on the Government to use all diplomatic channels to secure redress and justice for the Rohingya peoples that have been displaced (p48)
- Continue to call for recognition and protection for Kurdish minorities in Turkey, Iraq, and Syria (p49)
- Call on the UK government to carry out a new Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) (p49)
- Campaign to retain existing Scottish bases and regiments (p49)
- Build a cross-party coalition to scrap Trident (p49)
- Call for Commonwealth personnel in the UK armed forces and their families to receive indefinite right to remain during and after service in the UK military (p50)
- Press the Ministry of Defence to use vacant MoD homes to house homeless ex-servicemen (p50)
- Urge the UK government to immediately halt all military support and arms sales to regimes guilty of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law (p50)
- Press the Ministry of Defence to take responsibility for the environmental impact of military munitions as a polluter (p50)
- In an independent Scotland, money would not be wasted on priorities like nuclear weapons (p8)



## Liberal Democrat

- Defend international cooperation, work to secure peace and prevent conflict including via military intervention, supporting multilateral organisations like the UN and NATO 0.7 percent of GNI on aid: reducing poverty, defending human rights, protecting the environment and preventing violent conflict worldwide (p89)
- Increase the proportion of the aid budget committed to tackling climate change and environmental degradation (p92)
- Pursue a foreign agenda with gender equality at its heart; protect, defend and promote human rights for all, including LGBT+ individuals (p92)
- Work through international bodies for better regulation and scrutiny of international trade and investment treaties to ensure they do not worsen inequalities or undermine human rights (p92)
- Develop a comprehensive strategy for promoting the decriminalisation of homosexuality around the world and advancing LGBT+ rights (p 93)
- Control arms exports to countries with poor human rights records; suspend arms sales to Saudi Arabia (p89)
- Introduce a policy of “presumption of denial” for arms exports to countries listed as Human Rights Priority Countries in the FCO’s annual human rights report (p89)
- Work with European partners to introduce a European Magnitsky Act to enable sanctioning individuals and perpetrators of human rights abusers (p89)
- Suspend arms sales to Saudi Arabia in response to their consistent targeting of civilians in breach of international humanitarian law (p90)
- Develop a global educational strategy (p92)
- Increase overseas financial support for the ongoing refugee crisis, focussing on countries that have accepted millions of refugees (p89)
- Legislate to ensure there is a parliamentary vote before engaging in military action, while preserving the ability to engage in action in emergencies or under treaty obligation without requiring parliamentary approval (p90)
- Focus on R2P and establish new tests to ensure UK action has regional support, a reasonable prospect of success and a sound legal and humanitarian case (p90)
- Tackle extremism in the UK (p90)
- Cooperate internationally to stabilise Syria and provide humanitarian assistance (p90)
- Promote democracy and stability in Ukraine and neighbouring countries against an increasingly aggressive Russia by working with the EU, international partners and NATO (p 90)
- Reopen British national Overseas Passport offer to people of Hong Kong (p90)
- Spend 2 percent of GDP on defence; £3bn over the parliament after they would have stopped Brexit (p91)
- Recruit STEM graduates to be armed forces engineers, providing ‘golden handshakes’ of up to £10,000 (p91)
- Promote an international treaty on the principles and limits of the use of technology in modern warfare (p91)
- Maintain a minimum nuclear deterrent, whilst pursuing nuclear disarmament; continue with the Dreadnought programme, but procure three boats and moving to a medium-readiness responsive posture and maintain the deterrent through measures such as unpredictable and irregular patrolling patterns (p91)
- Support the Armed Forces Covenant and ongoing work to support veterans’ mental health (p91)
- Bring MoD in line with other landlords, giving tenants the same legal rights to repair and maintain as private tenants (p91)
- Ensure the UK and British Overseas Territories have publicly-accessible registers of beneficial ownership of companies registered in their jurisdictions (p92)
- Require UK-registered NGOs and organisations including the Armed Forces and defence contractors to report all instances of documented abuse overseas to government – reviewing, reducing, or refusing funding to organisations found in breach of these rules (p93)

- Establish an easy and appropriate reporting mechanism for abuse that makes clear that reporters and whistle-blowers will not be discriminated against for reporting abuse (p93)
- Support the current UN initiative to protect journalists– by funding UNESCO’s International Programme for the Development of Communication (p93)
- Work to abolish death penalty around the world; remove power of ministers to allow security and justice assistance in cases that could result in its use (p93)
- Work to end the use of torture around the world; conduct a full inquiry into the UK Government’s involvement in torture and rendition (p93)
- Appoint an Ambassador-level Champion for Freedom of Belief (p93)
- Initiate negotiations within the UN for a legally binding international treaty on plastics reduction (p94)
- Argue for an end to all fossil fuel subsidies world-wide and provide aid to developing countries to help them transition to clean sources of energy (p94)

## Plaid Cymru

- Scrap Trident (p61)
- Invest in Overseas Development Aid that supports a transition to ecologically friendly farming (p63)
- Require that imported palm oil comes from sustainable sources (p63)
- Legislate to end the importation of goods that have caused deforestation (p63)
- Ban imports of soy, beef and other agri-commodities from illegally deforested land (p63)
- The party says that future trade deals undertaken by the UK, whether inside or outside the EU, should maintain and enhance environmental standards, minimise the environmental footprint of trade and make trade terms explicitly subject to environmental and human rights commitments. Within this, there should be protections for vital global ecosystems and habitats such as the Amazon, and for indigenous people (p63)
- Plaid Cymru are determined to prevent the renewal of a weapon of mass destruction and to scrap Trident (p84)
- Ensure Welsh regiments are properly funded and looked after (p84)
- The decision to go to war should require the support of all four nations and demand that a vote is held in the Senedd prior to any UK-supported military intervention in foreign affairs (p84)
- Plaid Cymru will take responsibility for Welsh based veterans, in consultation with the Welsh Veterans Partnership (p84)
- Make sure that veterans receive excellent health care, including mental health care, and adequate housing (p84)
- Introduce a Wales International, responsible for attracting new businesses, talent and industry from around the world (p86)
- Establish a separate National Enterprise Agency responsible for development inside Wales. A particular responsibility for this new body will be to ensure equitable investment and sustainable development throughout Wales (p86)
- Publish a set of trade negotiation principles, including for labour and environment standards, and protection of the rights of cultural and language minorities (p86)
- Establish a formal relationship between the Welsh Government and the Consular Association in Wales as a starting point for developing a strategy to encourage more diplomatic representation in Wales, bringing together key businesses, with a shared objective of enhancing the Welsh economy (p87)
- Call for Welsh associate membership of UNESCO, the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the International Maritime Organisation (p87)

## Green Party

- Cancel the Trident nuclear weapons system and nuclear-powered submarines (p79)
- Join the United Nation’s Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (p79)



- Scrap the Ministry of Defence and replace it with a Ministry of Security and Peace which would promote peace as a key foreign policy objective (p39)
- Shut down the Government's arms sales activities (p39)
- Create a legal responsibility for Government to give individuals consular support (p39)
- Phase in an increase of foreign aid spending from 0.7% to 1% of GDP (p45)
- Prioritise the climate emergency and poverty in the international aid budget (p45)
- Ensure that all UK aid is aimed at the poorest (p45)
- Make finance and technology available to support developing nations in developing local Green New Deals (p45)
- Ensure that aid is increased through the form of electronic cash transfers in monthly payments for women in the developing world (p45)
- Ensure just supply chains for materials necessary for the Green New Deal (p46)
- Guarantee rights of indigenous and native people by securing their autonomy, land rights and human rights (p46)
- Establish and champion a treaty which established the Arctic, Antarctic and Amazon as World Nature Reserves (p46)
- Create an international law of 'ecocide' to prosecute for crimes against the natural environment (p46)
- Ensure all future trade deals maintain and enhance environmental standards, food standards and worker's rights (p46)
- End the practice of including investor – state dispute settlement mechanisms in trade and international agreements (p47)
- Ensure Parliament can vote on assessing the development impacts of trade and investment agreements (p47)

## Brexit Party

- Redirect 50% of the foreign aid budget (p8)
- Ensure that the UK maintains its commitment to spend 2% of GDP on defence (p16)
- Withdraw from the European Defence Union (p16)

## Education and Skills

As the country prepares for its third general election in five years, education is polling as the third most important issue amongst the electorate, behind the NHS and Brexit (YouGov). Whilst serious investment is a common feature across all manifestos, there are major differences in the competing visions parties are presenting.

The Conservatives responded to public disquiet by announcing a raft of funding increases in September. The manifesto seeks to reaffirm these commitments. IfS analysis suggests that real term per pupil funding will increase 7.4% by 2022/23, largely reversing cuts of 8% since 2009/10. This would represent an historically unprecedented spending squeeze. The announcement of a £3bn National Skills Fund could foreshadow major investment in further and adult education, with the Education Secretary recently subsuming the skills brief into his own portfolio. With the Prime Minister determined to “Get Brexit Done”, major investment in the UK’s domestic skills base is an unquestionable economic imperative. However, recommendations from the Augar Review are conspicuous by their absence.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats have developed similar policies across SATs, Ofsted and arts provision. Both have also developed ambitious proposals for lifelong learning in response technological advance, skills shortages and regional economic imbalance. Communities most at risk from automation are critical electoral battlegrounds for Labour. The party hope that increased opportunities to upskill and retrain, coupled with a massive regional investment strategy, could serve to restore pride in “left behind” towns and communities. In Higher Education, recent accounting changes mean that Labour’s commitment to abolish fees and reintroduce grants adds less to public spending than envisioned in 2017, approximately £6bn per full time cohort. Meanwhile, the Lib Dems have promised yet another review of higher education finance, with Augar seemingly consigned to the annals of history. No major political party has suggested reintroducing control on student numbers in England, although some observers have suggested this will be necessary to minimise the financial exposure of taxpayers.

### Conservative

#### Schools

- An extra £14bn in funding for schools, including at least £5,000 a year for each secondary school pupil and at least £4,000 for each primary school pupil. This also includes £780m in new funding to support children with Special Educational Needs next year
- Raising teachers’ starting salaries to £30,000 (p13)
- Back headteachers use of exclusions, with Ofsted playing a key role (p13)
- An expansion of ‘alternative provision’ schools for those who have been excluded, along with more school places for children with complex Special Educational Needs (p13)
- Offer an ‘arts premium’ to secondary schools to fund enriching activities for all pupils (p13)

#### Further, Technical and Adult Education

- Boost English language teaching to empower existing migrants (p23)
- Create a new National Skills Fund worth £3bn over the next Parliament. A proportion of this funding will be reversed for further strategic investment in skills and the party will consult widely on the overall design (p36)
- Invest almost £2bn to upgrade the entire further education college estate. There will also be 20 Institutes of Technology which connect high-quality teaching in science, technology, engineering and maths (p36)
- Strengthen universities and colleges’ civic roles by investing in local adult education and require the Office for Students to look at universities’ success in increasing access across all ages (p37)

## Higher Education

- Introduce a student visa to help universities attract talented young people and allow those students to stay on to apply for work here after they graduate (p22)
- Review the interest rates on student loan repayments with a view to reducing the burden of debt on students (p37)
- Explore ways to tackle the problem of grade inflation and low-quality courses and improve the application and offer system for undergraduate students (p37)
- Strengthen academic freedom and free speech in universities and continue to focus on raising standards (p37)
- Strengthen universities and colleges' civic roles by investing in local adult education and require the Office for Students to look at universities' success in increasing access across all ages (p37)

### **Bill Watkin, Chief Executive of the Sixth Form Colleges Association said:**

*Although today's manifesto does not contain a specific commitment on 16 to 18 education, the current government used September's spending round to make the first meaningful investment in sixth form education since 2010 and we are hopeful that a future Conservative administration would build on this progress. However, we are surprised that the manifesto has not earmarked any capital funding to deal with the sharp demographic increase in sixth form students. We estimate that an additional 260,000 16 to 18 years will be participating in education by 2028, so a capital expansion fund should be a major priority for the party that wins next month's election.*

### **Zamzam Ibrahim, NUS National President said:**

*The Conservative Party's manifesto shows their complete disregard for the interests of students. We were promised a full government response to the Augar review by the end of the year but all we have got is more promises to consider the recommendations carefully. Students need action now to abolish the extortionate fees that universities charge. They also plan to look at the interest rate on student loans, but reform to student finance must be bolder, as by itself reducing interest would only benefit the highest-earning graduates.*

*The manifesto promise to get Brexit done is an attempt to kid voters, masking the hard Brexit that Boris Johnson's deal entails. We need a People's Vote on the deal negotiated by the Prime Minister and guarantees to protect EU funding and student mobility of we are to find a way out of this dilemma.*

## Labour

### **Early Years and Youth Services**

- Reverse cuts to Sure Start and the creation of Sure Start Plus where there would be enough centres to provide a service in all communities, with focus on the under 2s (p38)
- Introduction of a two-term vision to make high-quality early years education for every child (p38)
- Extend paid maternity leave to 12 months (p38)
- Within a five-year period, all 2,3- and 4-year olds will be entitled to 30 hours of free preschool education per week, with access to extra hours at affordable subsidised rates (p38)
- Work to extend childcare provision to 1-year olds (p38)
- A transition to a qualified, graduate led workforce in child development and free training to the existing workforce in obtaining these qualifications (p38)
- Shall provide funding directly to early years providers to make things simpler and more sustainable for parents and providers (p38)
- Recruitment of 150,000 additional early years staff including special education needs-coordinators (p38)



- Build a properly funded, professionally staffed National Youth Service, and will guarantee every young person has access to local, high-quality youth work (p51)
- Launch a wholesale review of the care system, including kinship care, considering national standards such as a central register of foster parents and regulation of semi-supported housing (p51)
- Rebuild early intervention services and replace the troubled families programme with a stronger families programme, refocussed on long term support (p51)
- Protect and build on staying put for over-18s in care and the adoption support fund (p51)
- Schools
- £150 billion Social Transformation Fund to replace, upgrade and expand our schools, hospitals, care homes and council houses (p30)
- Labour will restore public sector pay to at least pre-financial crisis levels (in real terms), by enforcing pay rises yearly above-inflation rates, starting with a 5% increase (p30)
- Labour will establish a network of open access mental health hubs to enable more children to access mental health and recruit almost 3,500 qualified counsellors to guarantee every child access to school counsellors (p34)
- Labour will invest more than £1 billion in public health and recruit 4,500 more health visitors and school nurses (p34)
- Labour will ban fast-food restaurants near schools (p34)
- Introduction of a fairer funding formula for schools (p38)
- Provide schools with long-term funding and ensure that primary schools have maximum class sizes of 30 (p.39)
- Scrapping of Key Stage 1 and 2 SATs and baseline assessments and refocusing assessment on supporting pupil progress (p39)
- Introduction of an arts pupil premium to funds arts education for all primary school children (p39)
- Review the curriculum to cover subjects like black history and the environmental emergency (p.39)
- Ending the marketisation of the school system (p39)
- Budget and day-to-day decisions will be transferred back to schools, overseen by an accountable governing body with elected representatives (p39)
- Responsibility for delivery of education and support for young people will sit with local authorities, they will manage admissions. And have responsibility for school places, including the power to open schools (p39)
- All schools will be subject to a common rulebook, set out in legislation (p40)
- Replacing Ofsted and transferring responsibilities for inspections to a new body which shall be designed to drive school improvement (p40)
- A new teacher supply service will tackle the waste of funds going to private supply teacher agencies (p40)
- An end to 'off-rolling' to remove incentives for schools to let students fall out the system, by making the schools accountable for pupil outcomes (p40)
- Free school meals for all primary school children (p40)
- Return of the school support staff negotiating body and national pay settlements for teachers (p40)
- Closing of tax loopholes enjoyed by elite private schools (p40)

#### **Further, Technical and Adult Education**

- Make it easier for employers to spend the apprenticeship levy by allowing it to be used for a wider range of accredited training, in line with guidelines set by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education and government's wider priorities for the economy (p18)
- Launch a Climate Apprenticeship programme. Employers will be expected to allocate 25% of the funds in their Apprenticeship Levy accounts to training Climate Apprentices (p18)
- Create targeted bursaries for to women, BAME people, care leavers, ex-armed forces personnel, and people with disabilities to encourage them to take up climate apprenticeships (p18)

- Help small businesses by increasing the amount that can be transferred to non-levy-paying employers to 50% (p18)
- Create an online matching service to help levy-paying businesses find smaller businesses to transfer their funds to (p18)
- Align the base rate of per-pupil funding in post-16 education with key stage 4, providing dedicated capital funding to expand provision and bringing back the Education Maintenance Allowance (p40)
- Free lifelong entitlement to training up to level 3- and six-years training at levels 4-6 with maintenance grants for disadvantaged learners (p41)
- Ensuring that training delivers the right skills by giving employers a role in the design of qualifications (p41)
- Restoration of funding for speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses and restore and expand the Union Learning Fund (p41)
- Reform of existing careers advice, working towards an integrated information, advice and guidance system that covers the entire NES (p41)
- Reverse of the privatisation of further and adult education (p41)

### Higher Education

- Abolition of university tuition fees and the reintroduction of maintenance grants (p41)
- Develop a new funding formula for higher education that ensures all public HE institutions have adequate funding for teaching and research, widens access to higher education and ends the casualisation of staff (p41)
- Transform the Office for Students from a market regulator to a body of the National Education Service (p41)
- Introduction of post-qualification admissions in higher education (p41)

### **Eva Crossan Jory, NUS Vice President (Welfare) said;**

*"Treatment and prevention of poor mental health is a key concern for students and we welcome the Labour Party's manifesto commitment to funding action on mental health via the National Health Service. While welcoming a focus on ensuring parity of treatment for mental health, NUS is also asking for parity of treatment by postcode. Effective services and support must be available to students regardless of where they are studying or live."*

### **Deputy Chief Executive of the Sixth Form Colleges Association said:**

*"The Labour Party manifesto makes a very welcome commitment to Raise the Rate of funding for sixth form students and provide dedicated capital funding to expand provision – two of the recommendations in the SFCA election manifesto. As young people are now required to participate in education or training until the age of 18, there is no justification for the sharp reduction in education funding at the age of 16. Labour is also right to prioritise a capital expansion fund - we estimate an additional 260,000 16 to 18 years will be participating in education by 2028 - so preparing for this demographic increase is a sensible step. The combination of additional revenue and capital funding alongside an improved student support offer will be welcomed by our sector."*

### **ASCL General Secretary Geoff Barton said:**

*"This funding commitment has the potential to be a game-changer. It sets the bar for all political parties. Not only does it reverse the cuts which have caused so much damage to our schools and colleges, but it recognises that funding has to be increased to a level which matches the basic expectation on schools."*

*"We have analysed what it costs to ensure that every school is able to deliver a core curriculum in a building that is safe and well maintained, put a qualified teacher in front of every class, and meet necessary pastoral, safeguarding and special educational needs requirements. This is what the public expects and children deserve, and we are delighted that Labour has incorporated this modelling into its funding plans."*

**NAHT General Secretary Paul Whiteman said:**

*Education funding is a wreck. It will fall to whoever forms the next government to make repairs and guarantee sufficient money for the future. There isn't a school in England, Wales or Northern Ireland that has escaped. The school funding crisis has forced teachers and leaders to take a keen interest in politics in recent years because they've seen first-hand the heart-breaking impact the cuts have had on individual children. We now have a clear picture of Labour, Liberal Democrat and Conservative funding plans. There are clear differences in policy between each party. When teachers, leaders and parents go into the polling booth on 12th December, education will be at the front of their minds."*

**NEU Joint General Secretary Kevin Courtney said:**

*Parents and teachers should be excited by the education funding pledges made by Labour in its manifesto; this pledge matches the demands of the School Cuts coalition. There are almost a million children in classes over 30. Many lessons are not led by qualified teachers. There are schools that are only open four and a half days a week. There is a crisis in teacher recruitment and retention. Our analysis confirms that these figures can reverse the cuts, deal with historic underfunding in many areas of the country and deliver the policy ambitions that Labour outlines on class size and on having a qualified teacher in every class and supporting our teachers and teaching assistants better. In addition, it can fund huge improvements in early years and 16-19 provision.*

**Charlie James, on behalf of the National Society of Apprentices (NSoA), said;**

*Once again apprentices will ask whether they are to be included in the living wage revolution. Are we entitled to a fair days pay for a fair days work or is that just for other people. Labour was coy about whether their promise to deliver a living wage to everyone included us when it was announced in the summer, it's time to let us know. Apprentices have long identified the cost of travel being a barrier to success. We welcome the announcement that many of us will be able to get the bus for free.*

## SNP

- Urge the UK government to match their commitment to supporting low income families by introducing payments at key times in a young child's life as the SNP Scottish government have done with nursery and school payments of £250 as well as matching the new Scottish Child Payment (p38)
- Expand childcare into the school holidays for primary pupils from the poorest backgrounds. (p20)
- Continue to argue for Scotland to receive its fair share of education funding (p21)

## Liberal Democrats

### Early Years and Youth Services

- Free, high quality childcare for all children between ages of two and four, and those aged nine months and 24 months where guardians are working (p30)
- Increase funding for free hours to cover the cost of nursery provision (p32)
- Invest £1 billion a year in Children's Centres to support families and tackle inequalities in children's health, development and life chances (p32)
- Triple the Early Years Pupil Premium (to £1,000) to give extra help to disadvantaged children who are at risk of falling behind from the very beginning of their education (p32)
- Require all Early Years settings to have a training programme for staff, with the majority of staff working with children who are at risk of falling behind (p32)
- Each Early Years setting should have at least one person qualified to graduate level (p32)
- Introduce 'baby boxes' in England, as advocated by the Royal College of Midwives, to provide babies and parents with essential items to help and development (p32)





## Schools

- Increase teacher numbers by 20,000 (p8)
- Reverse cuts to school funding and employ an extra 20,000 schoolteachers (p30)
- End teaching to the test by scrapping mandatory SATs and replacing existing government performance tables of schools with a broader set of indicators (p30)
- Reverse cuts to school funding, allowing schools to employ an additional 20,000 teachers and reduce class sizes, restoring them to 2015 levels per pupil (p32)
- Invest to clear the backlog of repairs to school and college building so schools can be safe places to learn (p33)
- End the crisis in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities funding by allocating additional cash to local authorities (p33)
- Introduce a 'curriculum for life' in all state-funded schools (p33)
- Establish an independent body of education experts who will use the most up-to-date educational evidence to oversee any future curriculum changes (p33)
- Reduce unnecessary stress on pupils and teachers and end 'teaching to the test' by scrapping existing mandatory SATs (p33)
- Replace existing government performance tables with a broader set of indicators. (p33)
- Replace Ofsted with a new HM Inspector of Schools (p33)
- Protect the availability of arts and creative subjects in the curriculum and act to remove barriers to pupils studying these subjects, including by abolishing the English Baccalaureate as a performance measure (p33)
- Teach the core skills required for children including critical thinking, verbal reasoning and creativity (p33)
- Give local authorities with responsibility for education the powers and resources to act as Strategic Education Authorities for their area, including responsibility for places planning, exclusions, administering admissions including in-year admissions, and SEND functions. (p34)
- Create a level playing field by requiring MATs to undergo external inspection and allowing local authorities to open new Community Schools where needed. (p34)
- Oppose any future expansion of grammar schools and devolve all capital funding for new school spaces to local authorities (p34)
- Extend free school meals to all children in primary education and to all secondary school children whose families receive Universal Credit (p35)
- All teaching staff to be trained to identify mental health issues (p35)
- Specific individual responsible for mental health in schools (p35)
- Give schools a statutory duty to promote the wellbeing of their pupils as part of the inspection framework (p35)
- Promote pastoral leadership in schools and delivering high-quality sex and relationships education (p36)
- Require inclusive school uniform policies that are gender-neutral and flexible enough to suit different budgets (p36)
- Include teaching about how to use social media responsibly in our 'curriculum for life' and provide advice and support for parents on how to help their children protect themselves online (p36)
- As part of the overall £130bn infrastructure projects will invest in school capital to increase capacity and modernise (p17)
- Set a requirement for schools to introduce gender-neutral uniform policies and break down perceptions of subject gender-appropriateness (p75)
- Establish a national fund for projects that work in schools to raise the aspirations of ethnic minority children and young people (p76)

### Further, Technical and Adult Education

- Bring in a new 'Skills Wallet' for every adult in England giving them £10,000 to spend on training throughout their lives (p25)
- Expand the apprenticeship levy into a wider 'Skills and Training Levy' to help prepare the UK's workforce for the economic challenges ahead with 25 per-cent of fund raised by the levy going into a 'Social Mobility Fund' (p25)
- Develop new National Colleges as national centres of expertise for key sectors (p25)
- Identify and seek to solve skills gap such as lack of advanced technicians by expanding higher vocational training like foundation degrees (p25)
- Invest an extra £1 billion in Further Education funding, including by refunding colleges for the VAT they pay (p36)
- Introduce 'Young People's Premium' to help children from poorer families to remain in education and training beyond the age of 16 (p36)
- Introduce a national skills strategy for key sectors (p18)

### Higher Education

- Introduce a Student Mental Health Charter (p37)
- Reinstate maintenance grants for the poorest students (p37)
- Establish a review of higher education finance in the next parliament (p37)
- Increase national spending on research and development to three per cent of GDP (p18)
- Support innovation with a goal of doubling innovation spending across the economy, increase the Strength in Places Fund and creating more 'Catapult' innovation and technology centres (p18)
- Introduce a new two-year visa for students to work after graduation (p18)

#### **Claire Sosienski Smith, NUS Vice President (Higher Education) said;**

*There is much we welcome in the Liberal Democrats ' manifesto, but also many areas we think need further attention. It is promising that they have recognised the value of retraining through their proposed 'skills wallet' and greater funding for further education that would go some way towards increasing lifelong education in the post-16 system. However we do not need another review into higher education finance to tell us that the system must be reformed. The Liberal Democrats need to address the mistakes that they made during the coalition years that have left students straddled with enormous debts. We need a new education system that is truly lifelong, accessible and funded.*

#### **Kevin Courtney, Joint General Secretary of the National Education Union, said:**

*The National Education Union welcomes the fact that the Liberal Democrats ' manifesto has addressed many of the issues that the NEU has been campaigning on to ensure our children and young people get the education they deserve. We welcome the commitment to abolish primary SATs testing. These tests, beloved of the Government, cause enormous stress and narrowing of the curriculum – they do not produce useful information for teachers. Replacing SATs with moderated teacher assessment would be a big step forward, though we need to see more detail of how the 'lighter touch testing' element of these proposals would work.*

*We would like to see mention of Baseline Assessment and the other national tests expected at primary school such as the phonics check and times table tests. Unless these failing national primary tests are removed our youngest children will not get the broad and balanced curriculum and love of learning to which they are entitled. Replacing Ofsted with a new Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools and removing the punitive aspect of school inspection – such as forced academisation*

– is very welcome and will lift some of the high-stakes element of inspection from schools' shoulders.

Bill Watkin, Chief Executive of the Sixth Form Colleges Association said:

*"The Liberal Democrats' manifesto contains some very welcome commitments on post-16 education. Our understanding is that most of the £1 billion investment announced today will be used to Raise the Rate of funding for sixth form students. This would help to ensure that colleges and schools have the resources they need to provide every 16 to 18 year old with a high quality education – the fundamental aim of the Raise the Rate campaign. Schools have their VAT costs refunded but colleges do not – we estimate that the Lib Dem commitment to scrap this 'learning tax' would mean the average sixth form college had an additional £350,000 per year to spend on the front-line education of students. Increasing investment for schools and colleges, and reducing inequality between schools and colleges, will benefit all sixth form students, irrespective of where they choose to study".*

## DUP

### Early Years and Youth Services

- £5m per year to be invested over the next 10 years to tackle adverse childhood experiences (p13)
- Introducing a Childcare Act to provide 30 hours of free childcare for 38 weeks for 3-4-year olds, with the aim of introducing this for 2-4-year olds in the longer term (p14)
- To promote awareness training in youth organisations, sports clubs, churches and the community (p11)
- Prioritise the identification of special needs at an early age (p12)
- Support the introduction of a 0-3 strategy (p12)

### Schools

- Ensure education funding reaches the 'frontline' so every pupil in a classroom reaps the benefit (p13)
- Support the introduction of a strategic small schools initiative in order to ensure that parents in isolated communities are not left without realistic educational choices (p13)
- Reducing administrative burdens in schools through greater collaboration, co-ordination and central data to remove duplication of information requests (p13)
- A reform of the model of inspection to a collaborative and co-operative one with a two-way assessment process aimed at school improvement (p13)
- Clearer pathways for school leadership roles and improved recruitment and effective training of school Governors (p13)
- Introduction of a one-off investment of £2m which would train a teacher in each school to train pupils in coding (p13)
- Overhaul of the work experience system in schools to encourage greater skill and work awareness from a younger age (p15)
- Support resuscitation skills being taught in schools (p9)
- To enhance preventative work in schools on mental health (p11)
- Ensure that further training is given to teachers and assistants in area of special educational needs (p12)
- Ensure that subjects offered are tailored to the specific needs of pupils (p12)
- Improve training for teaching assistants (p12)



### Further, Technical and Adult Education

Introduction of an updated skills strategy which shall focus on key growth sectors aligned with the new industrial strategy (p15)

Reform the apprenticeship system to encourage employers to develop talent (p15)

Dedicate a greater focus to apprenticeships, entrepreneurialism and trades (p12)

## Plaid Cymru

### Early Years and Youth Services

- Rebalance the Welsh budget towards preventative, locally-delivered interventions across health and social services, education and support for families (p32)
- Work with childcare providers to ensure that sufficient Welsh language childcare is available in all parts of Wales (p39)

### Schools

- Provide an extra £300million a year for school and colleges, allowing for long-term planning. It will enable expansion of capital investment in new school-community hubs, together with developing new Welsh medium schools and 3-14 and 3-19 through-schools where there is local demand (p39)
- Fully utilise devolved powers over work conditions in the classroom to ensure teachers are allowed to dedicate their time to teaching, making the needs of the child and young person central (p39)
- Cut bureaucracy and remove all unnecessary interventions that disrupt the essential child/teacher relationship, concentrating on meaningful support, monitoring and accountability where necessary following a full review of current practice (p40)
- Ensure that world class teachers are attracted and retained by raising the formal standing of teaching as a profession through introducing mandatory continuous professional development (p40)
- Create a National Cooperative Agency for Supply Teachers which will ensure they receive the same entitlement to training and standards as classroom teachers (p40)
- Require schools to keep a register of bullying incidents related to sexuality, to take action where necessary and to involve students in anti-bullying initiatives (p77)

### Further, Technical and Adult Education

- Increase funding for degree apprentices in Wales (p41)
- Increase college lecturer pay in Wales to ensure parity with schoolteachers in terms of base hourly pay (p41)
- Establish a paid student officer position for each college to ensure student unions are securely established in the FE sector (p41)
- Make public transport free for all FE/6th form students and apprentices in Wales below age 21 in full time education or training (p41)
- All apprentices under the age of 21 should be partnered with a Further Education college to ensure appropriate support, including access to college days or off-site training/education for key skills or other appropriate education choices. (p41)
- Increase the availability of Welsh language education from nursery, to further and higher education (p72)

- Establish a National Academy for the Welsh tourism sector to provide hands-on learning from apprenticeships to degree level, offering world-class vocational and professional development for workers across the sector (p88)
- Introduce a Welsh Education Act to ensure that everyone in Wales has the right to receive Welsh-medium education (p72)
- Retain the post of Welsh Language Commissioner, ensuring that the Commissioner focuses chiefly on activities relating to setting and regulating Welsh Language Standards (p72)
- Establish a new high-status organisation to promote the Welsh language either at arms' length or embedded within the Welsh Government (p73)
- **Higher Education**
- Undertake a review of the funding offer for Welsh domiciled undergraduate and post graduate students in respect of both tuition fees and living costs (p40)
- Provide a subsidy to student's resident in Wales who wish to study in Wales (p40)
- Target groups and those studying subjects vital to the Welsh economy and public goals will pay no tuition fees in Wales, including those taking up key healthcare posts, studying science, engineering and technology subjects and students from particularly challenging backgrounds (p40)
- Guarantee to replace EU funding which supported research in higher education in the event of Brexit (p41)
- Protect inward and outward student mobility post-Brexit, including participation in Erasmus+ or any successor schemes and cross-border study on the island of Ireland (p41)

## Green Party

### Early Years and Youth Services

- Formal education will start at 6 years old. Those under 6 will remain in early years education with a focus on play (p56)

### Schools

- Rename 'Free School Meals' the 'School Meals Allowance' to tackle stigma (p23)
- Increase school funding by at least £4bn a year (p55)
- Ending academisation and bringing all schools back into the control of local authorities (p56)
- Replace OFSTED with a collaborative system of assessing and supporting schools locally (p56)
- Introduce an English Climate Emergency Education Act to support schools to teach young people about the urgency, severity and scientific basis of the climate and environmental crises, and to ensure youth voices are heard on climate issues (p56)
- Restore arts and music education in all state schools (p56)
- Half a day equivalent of sports in school per week for all children (p56)
- Remove charitable status from private schools and charge full VAT on fees (p56)
- Create a Nature GCSE to encourage children to value nature, and to grow a whole new generation of naturalists (p59)
- Implement a broader and decolonialised curriculum in school, focussing on histories from a diverse range of ethnicities and religions (p61)
- Properly fund training to support the delivery of comprehensive, age appropriate Personal Health and Sexual Education (PHSE) lessons in schools (p63)
- End the opt-out of LGBTIQ+ inclusive PHSE classes at school (p63)
- Increase training for school staff in spotting and stopping sexual harassment and bullying (p63).
- Fund schools to provide free eco-friendly sanitary products to pupils (p63)

### Further, Technical and Adult Education

- Invest £2bn a year in training and skills, including new apprenticeships, to help people transition to a low carbon economy (p19)
- Give local authorities the power to direct the newly created training and skills programmes. National government will also provide the funding and democratically elected local authorities will be given the power to decide how it should be spent (p19)
- Raise the funding rate for 16-17-year olds, followed by an annual rise in line with inflation (p57)
- Increase funding for adult education and create a new range of programmes integrated with Green New Deal training projects (p57)
- Fund councils so that they can provide training and skills for members of the community to equip them for jobs created by the Green New Deal (p41)

### Higher Education

- Fully fund every higher education student and scrap tuition fees (p57)
- Write off existing debt for former students who studied under the £9k fee regime (p57)

#### **AoC, Chief Executive David Hughes said:**

*It's pleasing to see the Green Party's strong commitment to reviving further education. It's clear that colleges are not being overlooked in this election because politicians are recognising the impact of skills and training on the community and the country. The particular focus from the Green Party on adult education is welcome because we must invest in everyone to be able to adapt as the labour market and society change.*

*Colleges do and will continue to play a huge role in tackling the huge social and economic issues of the day and creating a sustainable future. The Green Party's manifesto is ambitious on all these fronts, and rightly so, it sets a vision that addresses the climate emergency. A transformational, properly funded education system has the potential to work in an unprecedented way to make a difference now and in the future."*

#### **Kevin Courtney, Joint General Secretary of the National Education Union, said:**

*We welcome the Green Party's focus on ensuring that all children receive the basic elements of a good childhood - a decent place to live, safety and security in their community, time and space to play. These are essential prerequisites of children's learning.*

*The Green party has grasped the nettle on school funding, pledging to increase funding by at least £4 billion per year. This is a necessary step by all parties if we are to end the funding crisis which has blighted education in England since 2015, resulting in larger classes, fewer resources, less subject choices and reduced support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).*

*Further education colleges are drivers of social justice but for too long FE has been the poor relation of our education system, with over 30% reduction in overall funding in the last decade. We welcome the Green Party's pledge to enable the FE sector to expand its provision, raise and inflation-proof the funding rate for 16-17-year-olds and introduce a capital expansion fund for sixth form providers.*

## Brexit Party

### Schools

- Further expand parental choice (p9)

### Further, Technical and Adult Education

- Scrap the Apprenticeship Levy (p20)
- Introduce a new workable apprenticeship scheme (p9)

### Higher Education

- Require universities to incorporate an obligation to protect legal free speech (p7)
- Scrap interest on student loans, to improve the debt recovery rate (p9)
- Abolish the target for 50% of young people to attend Higher Education (p20)

## Electoral Reform and Devolution

The last two years have been what would charitably be described as a tumultuous time for the UK's unwritten constitution, as the inescapable maelstrom of Brexit placed it under greater pressure than ever before.

As a result, it comes as little surprise that the across the political spectrum, there has been a greater focus than ever before on reforms to the levers of state. Devolution and voting reform are top of the agenda for many of the smaller parties, with SNP and Plaid echoing one another with calls for an extension of powers in areas including drug legislation.

If and when the UK leaves the EU, expect calls for vast swathes of the powers previously held by Brussels to be transferred to Cardiff and Edinburgh, with the SNP in particular viewing it as an opportunity to gain one of the final domestic powers unavailable to them – immigration.

Despite the furore over social media, the Conservatives look set to continue their controversial agenda on voter ID's. This forms part of a wider strategy to formalise a number of aspects of the voting process, including an attempt to make it easier for British migrants abroad to vote in elections.

Labour's ambitious constitutional proposals are the most eye-catching. If elected, Jeremy Corbyn looks set to repeat the work of his predecessor Tony Blair and radically overhaul the House of Lords. From the start, Labour would look to abolish hereditary peers altogether, with the wider aim of eventually abolishing the House of Lords entirely and replacing it with an elected Senate of the Nations and Regions.

Where the two main parties do align is over a commitment to increasing infrastructure investment in northern England, with the Tories dusting off George Osborne's Northern Powerhouse project and Labour committing to their "one Yorkshire" campaign.

### Conservatives

- Ensure that Wales gets a fair deal, with major investments in infrastructure and industry and be a champion for Welsh exports and Wales's presence on the global stage. (p47)
- Negotiate a transformative Marches Growth Deal, focusing on cross-border infrastructure which supports the local and cross-border economy. This will build on the Western Gateway partnership already announced. (p47)
- Support Welsh institutions such as S4C, the National Library and Museum, the Urdd and the National Eisteddfod. (p47)
- Support the ambition for one million people in Wales to be able to speak Welsh by 2050. (p47)
- Get rid of the Fixed Term Parliaments Act. (p48)
- Ensure the UK has updated and equal Parliamentary boundaries. (p48)
- Continue to support the First Past the Post system of voting. (p48)
- Introduce identification to vote at polling stations and stop postal vote harvesting(p48)
- Introduce measures to prevent any foreign interference in elections. (p48)
- Make it easier for British expats to vote in Parliamentary elections. (p48)
- Get rid of the 15-year limit on their voting rights and maintain the voting age at 18. (p48)
- Publish an English Devolution White Paper setting out plans over the next year (p29)

- Ensure that no one is put off from engaging in politics or standing in an election by threats, harassment or abuse, whether in person or online. (p48)
- Ensure redundancy payments can be clawed back when high-paid public servants move between jobs. (p48)
- Consider the recommendations of Lord Dunlop's Independent Review into UK Government Union capability when it is published in working to strengthen the Union going forward (p.44)
- Look at the broader aspects of the UK constitution, including the relationship between the Government, Parliament and the courts; the functioning of the Royal Prerogative; the role of the House of Lords; and access to justice for ordinary people. Within a year, the part will set up a Constitution, Democracy & Rights Commission that will examine these issues in depth and come up with proposals to restore trust in UK institutions and in how UK democracy operates. (p48)
- Continue to work to re-establish the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly (p.44)
- Support the Northern Ireland Executive after Brexit in order to improve infrastructure, enterprise and tourism (p.44)
- Intends to devolve responsibility for corporation tax and consider the same for short-haul air passenger duty (p.44)
- Shall seek better ways of dealing with legacy issues that provide better outcomes for victims and survivors and do more to give veterans the protections they deserve (p.45)
- Build Northern Powerhouse Rail between Leeds and Manchester before focusing on Liverpool, Tees Valley, Hull, Sheffield and Newcastle (p27)

## Labour

- End hereditary principle in the House of Lords, and work to abolish the House of Lords in favour of Labour's preferred option of an elected Senate of the Nations and Regions (p81)
- Renewal of Parliament will be recommendations made by a UK-wide Constitutional Convention, led by a citizens' assembly (p81)
- On devolution, reiterate the commitment to One Yorkshire, and will make directly elected mayors more accountable to local councillors and elected representatives (p82)
- Re-establish regional Government Offices (p82)
- Repeal the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011 (p82)
- Reducing the voting age to 16, giving full voting rights to all UK residents and abandon voter ID plans (p82)
- Ban political donations from banning donations from tax avoiders and tax evaders (p82)
- Repealing the Lobbying Act 2014 (p82)
- Create a lobbying register covering both in-house lobbyists and think tanks and extending to contacts made with all senior government employees (p82)
- Increase the financial penalties available to the Electoral Commission and require imprints for digital political adverts (p82)
- Stop MPs from taking paid second jobs (p82)
- Overhaul the system of ministerial appointments to public office (p82)
- Extend the Freedom of Information rules to cover private providers of public services and ending the six-month time limit in which the Information Commissioner can prosecute the deliberate destruction of public records (p82)
- Labour will invest an extra £1.9bn in Northern Ireland (p83)
- A Labour government will fully implement new laws on equal marriage in Northern Ireland so that same-sex couples (p83)



- Work with parties in Northern Ireland to implement a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland as outlined in the Good Friday Agreement (p83)
- A Labour government would invest an extra £3.4bn in Wales (p84)
- A Labour government would invest £100 billion of additional resources over two terms in Scotland (p84)
- Increase women's representation across parliament by building on the Equality Act, passed by the last Labour government, and enact Section 106 so that all political parties publish diversity data about electoral candidates (p66)
- Reinstate the Access to Elected Office Fund to enable disabled people to run for elected office (p68)

## SNP

- In an independent Scotland, the rights of EU nationals will be safeguarded and strengthened (p42)
- Replace the first-past-the post system with the Single Transferable Vote system (p43)
- Vote for the abolition of the House of Lords (p43)
- Provide support for disabled people to stand for election (p43)
- Voting to extend votes to 16- and 17-year olds in Westminster elections (p43)
- Extend the franchise for Westminster elections to include EU citizens and all those with a right to remain in the UK (p43)
- Push for further devolution in regard to gender balance in parliament, including the option of adopting candidate quotas (p43)
- Support any further reforms that are effective in tackling sexism, bigotry or harassment in politics, including reporting by political parties on candidate diversity data (p43)
- Introduce legislation to establish an independent debates commission for televised political debates during all elections and referenda (p43)
- Scotland should be an independent country in a new partnership of equals with the rest of the UK and European Neighbours. A referendum on Scottish independence should be held in 2020 (p8)
- Shall seek a transfer of power such as a section 30 order under the Scotland Act to seek an independence referendum (p10)
- Demand the devolution of tax powers Scotland needs to make the system fairer (p16)
- Devolution of National Insurance to Scotland (p17)
- Demand the devolution of Misuse of Drugs Act to allow for the full range of effective
- Demand the devolution of Misuse of Drugs Act to allow for the full range of effective public health measures to tackle the drugs death crisis and, pending that devolution, demand the UK Government introduce a Supervised Drug Consumption Facility (p19)
- Prevent the UK Government taking devolved powers over farming or fishing or attaching strings to any future funding (p39)
- Continue to call on the UK government to guarantee EU nationals' right to remain in the UK and for devolution of migration policy (p39)

- Ensure funding over agriculture and rural policy is repatriated to Scotland if the UK leaves the EU and fight for fair funding for farmers (p40)
- Continue to lead the campaign to ensure Westminster protects the funding Scotland has benefited from through EU Structural and Social Funds. Demand that the roles of the Scottish Government and Scotland's local authorities in dispersing these funds is protected (p24)

## Liberal Democrats

- Devolve Air Passenger Duty to Wales on a fair playing field with Scotland and Northern Ireland (p85)
- Create a distinct legal jurisdiction for Wales to reflect growing divergence in law (p85)
- Devolve powers over youth justice, probation services, prisons and policing to Wales (p85)
- Urgently restore devolved institutions in Northern Ireland (p85)
- Acknowledge findings of Holtham Commission and address underfunding of Wales through Barnett formula (p86)
- Enact permissive legislation to empower groups of authorities to come together to establish devolved governance – for example to a Cornish Assembly or a Yorkshire Parliament (p86)
- Embarking on a radical redistribution of power away from Westminster to the nations, regions and local authorities, giving power to communities to hold local services to account and decide how their taxes are raised and spent. (p79)
- Introducing a written constitution for a federal United Kingdom (p79)
- Introduce proportional representation through the Single Transferable Vote for electing MPs and local councillors in England (p81)
- Give 16- and 17-year olds the right to vote in elections and referendums. (p81)
- Extend the right to full participation in civic life, including the ability to stand for office or vote in UK referendums, Local Elections and General Elections, to all EU citizens who have lived in the UK for five years or more. (p81)
- Enable all UK citizens living abroad to vote for MPs in separate overseas constituencies, and to participate in UK referendums. (p81)
- Introduce a legal requirement for local authorities to inform citizens of the steps they must take to be successfully registered with far greater efforts in particular to register under-represented groups; and ensure that the UK has an automatic system of inclusion in elections. (p81)
- Scrap the plans to require voters to bring identification with them to vote. (p81)
- Reform the House of Lords with a democratic mandate (p81)
- Enable Parliament to approve when Parliament is prorogued and how long for (p81)
- Ensure that a new Prime Minister and their programme for government wins a confidence vote of MPs (p81)
- Take a zero-tolerance approach to harassment and bullying in Westminster and legislate to empower constituents to recall MPs who commit sexual harassment. (p81)
- Legislate to allow for all-BAME and all-LGBY+ shortlists (p81)
- Bring into force Section 106 of the Equality Act 2010, requiring political parties to publish candidate diversity data. (p81)
- Decentralise decision-making from Whitehall and Westminster, by inviting local areas to take control of the services that matter to them most (p82)
- Give democratic local government enhanced powers to call on new income sources appropriate to their area to support local services and investment. (p82)
- Devolve further revenue-raising powers away from Westminster, to regions from Cornwall to North East England. They legislate to empower groups of authorities to come together to establish devolved governance and ensure that any powers devolved are matched by the funding to deliver on the needs of local people. (p82)
- Devolve more decision-making power over key levers of economic development including transport, energy, housing and skills. (p82)
- Cap donations to political parties and introduce wider reforms to party funding along the lines of the 2011 report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. (p82)

- Establish UK and local citizens' assemblies to ensure that the public are fully engaged in finding solutions to the greatest challenges faced, such as tackling the climate emergency and the use of artificial intelligence and algorithms by the state. (p83)
- Strengthen and expand the lobbying register and ban MPs from accepting paid lobbying work (p83)
- Extend the involvement of the Scottish Government and Welsh Government in the development of UKwide policy framework (p84)
- Include health and education departments of the Scottish and Welsh Governments in UK policymaking on drug policy and student visas (p84)
- Create a Joint Climate Council of the Nations to coordinate action to tackle the climate emergency. (p84)
- Improve joint ministerial work on new cross-cutting policies, such as the UK industrial strategy. (p84)
- Establish a dispute resolution process to resolve differences between the administrations (p84)
- Oppose a second independence referendum and oppose independence (p84)
- Allocate to the Scottish Parliament all of the powers set out in the Scotland Act 2016 (p84)
- Build on the recommendations of the Smith Commission by extending the accountability of UK-wide bodies such as the BBC and Ofgem to the Scottish Parliament. (p84)
- Continue to develop city deals in Scotland by bringing together all spheres of government. (p84)
- Review the UK excise duty structure to better support whisky exports. (p84)

## DUP

- Develop a Northern Ireland Reform Plan to be agreed by Executive parties across all aspects of Government and public services such as health, education, housing and justice, and exploring alternative models of delivery such as mutualisation (p.17)
- Removal of the obligation for an immediate election on resignation of the First/deputy First Minister which can incentivise instability (p.17)
- Review the number of special advisors and how they are appointed and regulated (p.17)
- Introduction of cross-party commissions with Ministers augmented by experts in order to address controversial issues (p.17)
- Introduction of a standard approach to the appropriateness for tabling Assembly Questions in line with Westminster (p.17)
- Establishment of a new system for Assembly expenses based on the Westminster Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (p.17)
- Review of the structure of sitting days so Assembly time is used more efficiently (p.17)
- A fund should be established for Centenary events which could be maintained as a legacy fund for signature and community projects. (p26)
- Restoration of the Assembly should be a priority. Upon the reformation of the Executive, the DUP pledge to bring forward legislation to address culture and language issues in Northern Ireland within a time-limited period. If this is not done in way that commands cross community support then the Executive would cease to exist. (p26).

## Plaid Cymru

- Fully utilise devolved powers over work conditions in the classroom to ensure teachers are allowed to dedicate their time to teaching, making the needs of the child and young person central (p39)
- Instruct the Independence Commission to draw up a Written Constitution for an independent Wales, as well as a Self-Determination Bill. (p57)
- Introduce a Self-Determination Bill, to include the creation of a new organization with a full-time secretariat, to oversee the process leading to the referendum. (p57)
- Set up a series of Citizens' Assemblies to inform the people of Wales on the wide-ranging issues and questions that the prospect of independence raises. (p57)

- Press for the devolution of financial powers to the Senedd, plus the transfer of justice, economic development, welfare and culture powers that are currently reserved to Westminster (p55)
- Call for the devolution of corporation tax as is the case in Northern Ireland (p55)
- Call for the devolution of Air Passenger Duty (p55)
- Call for VAT revenues be assigned to Wales as is the case in Scotland (p55)
- Increase the availability of Welsh language education from nursery, to further and higher education (p72)
- Introduce a Welsh Education Act to ensure that everyone in Wales has the right to receive Welsh-medium education (p72)
- Retain the post of Welsh Language Commissioner, ensuring that the Commissioner focuses chiefly on activities relating to setting and regulating Welsh Language Standards (p72)
- To promote the Welsh language, Plaid Cymru would establish a new high-status organisation, either at arms' length or embedded within the Welsh Government. This body will have responsibility for comprehensive language planning, the promotion and facilitation of the language in the community and will be empowered to guide policy development across all sections and levels of government (p73)
- Create an Economic Agency responsible for developing the economy of the western and northwest counties of Wales (p73)
- Schools will be required to keep a register of bullying incidents related to sexuality, to take action where necessary and to involve students in anti-bullying initiatives (p77)
- Establish a National Academy for the Welsh tourism sector to provide hands-on learning from apprenticeships to degree level, offering world-class vocational and professional development for workers across the sector (p88)

## Greens

- Replace the First Past the Post system for parliamentary elections with a proportional voting system (p35)
- Revive the role of democratic trade unions. (p37)
- Replace the First Past the Post system for local government with a fair and proportional voting system. (p35)
- Hold elections for half the Council every two years. (p35)
- Creating a fully elected House of Lords, where Members can be elected for a maximum of ten years with an election for half the house every five years. (p35)
- Give 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote and have a say on their future. (p35)
- Allow people to stand for elected office from the age of 16. (p35)
- Introduce job sharing in Government. (p35)
- Support women, non-binary people and those from minority ethnic backgrounds to stand in elections. (P35 -36)
- Require all political parties to report the diversity of their candidates. (p36)
- Implement a fair system of state funding for political parties to eliminate dependence on large private donations. (p36)
- Back a Citizens Convention and citizens assemblies to examine further ways to strengthen democracy, including developing a written People's Constitution and Bill of Rights. (p36)
- Give fuller voice to regional and national identities, holding a referendum on a Cornish Assembly and increasing the powers of the current National Assembly for Wales. (p37)
- Remove the cap on fines that can be imposed by the Electoral Commission on political parties that have been found to have breached electoral law. (p36)
- Strengthen the transparency rules on recording political lobbying and make the work of Think Tanks more transparent too. (p36)
- Explore measures such as new codes of conduct to embed compassion and co-operation in all aspects of public life. (p37)
- Introduce a public interest defence for breaching the Official Secrets Act and better protection for whistle -blowers. (p37)

- Protect the right to peacefully protest and prevent disproportionate police responses to protest. (p37)

## Brexit Party

- Reform the voting system to make it more representative (P6).
- Abolish the unelected House of Lords (P6).
- Make MPs who switch parties subject to recall petitions (P6).
- Overhaul the postal voting system to combat fraud and abuse (P6).
- Reform the Supreme Court – judges who play a role in politics must be subject to political scrutiny. Ensure political balance by broadening participation in the Selection Commission or conduct interviews by Parliamentary Committee (P6).
- Make the Civil Service more accountable to the public – we would require civil servants to sign an oath to act with political neutrality (P6).
- Introduce Citizens' Initiatives to allow people to call referendums, subject to a 5m threshold of registered voter signatures and time limitations on repeat votes (P7).

## Culture, tech, digital, media and sport

In a sector diverse enough to somehow include both 5G technology and professional darts, it can be hard to know where to begin with the sprawling DCMS brief. Juvenal spoke of “bread and circuses”, but the 2019 equivalent appears to be “broadband and football”, both of which feature heavily in the party manifestos.

Sport has always been viewed as a good way to grab positive headlines in an election campaign, and this year is no different.

Labour are led by Arsenal-loving Jeremy Corbyn and have thrown the most weight behind football policy. Team ownership is a particular focus, with proposals to give fans a greater say over the running of their teams and increased regulation of the “fit and proper person” test for football directors. Boris Johnson was always more of a rugby fan, but even his Conservatives are supportive of a UK and Ireland bid for the 2030 FIFA World Cup. No word on the World Cup bid from the SNP, although given Scotland’s dire fortunes on the pitch recently, this would at least offer a rare opportunity to qualify for a tournament.

Away from sport, there is a focus on connectivity. All parties are backing an expansion of digital services in some form and Labour’s pledge to nationalise aspects of BT is particularly eye-catching. Johnson has made broadband expansion a key aim of his Government ever since taking office, and has pledged to roll out gigabit broadband nationwide by 2025. Weak connectivity is a lightning-rod issue in many rural areas and, given the constituencies currently held by both parties, Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats would be foolish not to include pledges to improve rural internet access.

Assuming that everyone actually ends up with internet access eventually, the parties are all battling to find ways to regulate it. Online safety is an area that unites all parties and there is cross-party support for some form of legislative action to deal with online harms – regardless of the make-up of the next Parliament, we can expect action in this area.

## Conservatives

- Legislate to make the UK the safest place in the world to be online (p20)
- Review the gambling act to tackle issues around online loot boxes and credit card misuse (p20)
- Repeal section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act 2014. (p48)
- Will not proceed with the second stage of the Leveson Inquiry. (p48)
- Improve the use of data, data science and evidence in the process of government. (p48)
- Build on the UK’s fantastic track record of delivering major international sporting events – including supporting the upcoming Commonwealth Games, UEFA European Women’s Championships and Rugby League World Cup. (p51)
- Back a potential UK and Ireland bid for the 2030 FIFA World Cup. (p51)



Work with the UK's cultural institutions like the BBC and British Council to expand UK influence and project UK values. (p51)

Roll out of gigabit broadband across the country by 2025, with £5bn in funding already promised (p.43)

Will not proceed with the second stage of the Leveson Inquiry. (p48)

### Stakeholder Reaction

A Spokesperson for the [ISPA](#) backed any investment in gigabit broadband, but expressed scepticism at the likelihood of meeting the 2025 target with the proposed level of funding.

[Truespeed](#) CEO, **Evan Wienburg**, said that the “devil is in the detail” on broadband proposals and said that he was opposed to “wasteful overbuilding.”

### Labour

- Examine the governance and regulation, ownership rule and funding of football (p55)
- Review the ‘fit and proper person test’ for club owners and directors (p55)
- Legislate for accredited football supporters’ trust to be able to appoint and remove at least two club directors and purchase shares when clubs change hands (p55)
- Regulate safe standing in stadiums (p55)
- Ensure that a proportion of the Premier League’s television rights income is spent on grassroots football facilities (p55)
- Add the ICC Cricket World Cup to the list of crown jewel sporting events that are broadcast free-to-air (p55)
- Commission an independent review into discrimination in sport (p55)
- Curb gambling advertising in sports (p55)
- Introduce a new Gambling Act establishing gambling limits, a levy for problem gambling funding and mechanisms for consumer compensations (p55)
- Support and maintain the social capital values of public services (p55)
- Labour will enforce stricter rules around the advertising of junk food (p34)
- Creation of a co-ordinating minister to monitor cyber-readiness in relation to cyber security (p.45)
- Review the role and remit of the National Cyber Security Centre to determine whether it should be given powers as an auditing body (p.45)
- Ensure libraries are preserved for future generations and updated with Wi-Fi and computers; reintroduce library standards (p50)
- Deliver free full-fibre broadband to all by 2030 (p 52)
- Establish British Broadband, with two arms: British Digital Infrastructure (BDI) and the British Broadband Service (BBS); bring the broadband-relevant parts of BT into public ownership, with a jobs guarantee for workers (p53)
- Roll out the remaining 90–92% of the full-fibre network, and acquire necessary access rights to existing assets via the BDI; BBS will coordinate the delivery of free broadband in tranches as the full-fibre network is rolled out (p53)
- Make multinationals including tech giants pay for the operating costs of the public full-fibre network (p53)
- Enforce a legal enforceable duty of care to protect children online and establish a Charter of Digital Rights (p54)
- Introduce an Arts Pupil Premium to every primary school in England – a £160 million annual boost for schools to ensure creative and arts education is embedded in secondary education (p54)
- Create a £1 billion Cultural Capital Fund to transform libraries, museums and galleries (p54)
- Make the distribution of National Lottery funding more transparent (p54)
- Launch a Town of Culture competition (p54)
- Review the copyright framework to ensure fair remuneration for artists and content creators (p54)
- Protect free TV licences for over-75s (p54)

- Ensure a healthy future for all our public service broadcasters, including BBC Alba and S4C (p54)
- Address failures raised by the second stage of the abandoned Leveson Inquiry (p54)
- Ensure that Ofcom is better able to safeguard plurality of media ownership and set clearer rules on media ownership (p54)
- Address the monopolistic hold the tech giants have on advertising revenues and support vital local newspapers and media outlets (p54)
- Establish an inquiry into ‘fake news’ (p54)

### Stakeholder Reaction

BT chief executive Philip Jansen said the “ambitious” plan to renationalise parts of the network would cost nearly £100bn

The CBI said it was “not the way” to improve the UK’s broadband network

BT rival TalkTalk said it was holding off on a decision to sell its own infrastructure arm to see how the Labour plan pans out

In news that will surprise few, Prime Minister Boris Johnson criticised what he said was Labour’s “crackpot scheme”

### SNP

- introduce legislation to establish an independent debates commission for televised political debates during all elections and referenda (p43)
- The SNP will press for broadcasting responsibility in Scotland to be devolved to the Scottish Parliament with funding and authority moved from the BBC network to BBC Scotland. (p25)
- If Brexit happened the SNP would argue for a streamlined visa schemes for artists and performers which ensures people from across the world can come to Scotland to perform, work and collaborate (p25)
- Would fight to ensure Scotland does not face a return of mobile roaming charges after leaving the EU (p27)
- Call for greater devolution of gambling regulation to the Scottish Parliament and press the UK Government to stop underage gambling on video games (p28)
- The SNP call for a statutory duty of care and mandatory obligations online to tackle unsuitable content that can lead to self-harm and suicide, sexual exploitation, grooming, abuse and extremism (p28)
- SNP call for the appointment of a new independent Online Regulator with the ability to take action such as imposing heavy fines and blocking access to sites (p28)
- Support age verification for sites with lower age limits to bring them inline with existing rules for films (p28)
- Call on the UK Government to provide free and up-to-date expert resources to protect from online harms (p28)
- The SNP call for a levy on technology companies to fully fund the regulator and associated resources (p28)

### Liberal Democrats

- Introduce a compulsory levy on gambling companies to fund research, education and treatment of problem gambling (p56)
- Ban the use of credit cards for gambling (p56)
- Restrict gambling advertising and establish a Gambling Ombudsman (p56)
- Maintain free access to national museums and galleries (p37)
- Move towards introducing ‘safe standing’ at football clubs (p37)
- Support anti-racism and anti-homophobia campaigns in sport (p37)
- Set up a BBC Licence Fee Commission (p37)
- Maintain Channel 4 in public ownership (p37)
- Protect the funding and editorial independence of Welsh language broadcasters (p37)
- Protect sports and arts funding via the National Lottery (p37)



- Examine the available funding and planning rules for live music venues and the grassroots music sector, protecting venues from further closures (p37)
- Develop proposals with the BBC for investment to grow the World Service to reach more people across the world (p93)
- Create a Department of Digital, Culture, Media, Sport and Tourism, with a designated Minister of State for Tourism (p17)
- Introduce a programme of installing hyper-fast, fibre-optic broadband across the UK with a focus on rural (p17)
- Provide tailored industry-specific tax support, promoting creative skills and industry in digital start ups and the video games industry (p19)
- Allow companies to claim R&D tax credits against the cost of purchasing datasets and cloud computing (p19)
- Introducing a Lovelace Code of Ethics to ensure the use of personal data and artificial intelligence is unbiased (p19)
- Introducing a kitemark for companies that meet the highest ethical standards in technology development (p19)
- Convening a citizens' assembly to determine when it is appropriate for the government to use algorithms in decision-making (p19)
- Develop a mechanism to allow the public to share in the profits made by tech companies in the use of their data (p19)
- Mandate the provision of televised leaders' debates in general elections, based on rules produced by Ofcom. (p82)
- Introduce a Leveson-compliant regulator to be given oversight of both privacy and quality, diversity and choice in both print and online media and proceed with Part Two of the Leveson Inquiry. (p82)
- Expect the BBC both to provide impartial news and information, and to take a leading role in increasing media literacy and educating all generations in tackling the impact of fake news. (p83)
- Work towards radical real-time transparency for political advertising, donations and spending, including an easily-searchable public database of all online political adverts. (p83)
- Make algorithms used by the data companies available for close inspection by regulators acting for democratically elected governments, along with access for regulators to the programmers responsible for designing and operating them (p83)
- Review the need for any election safeguarding legislation that is needed to respond to emerging challenges of the internet age, such as foreign interference in elections. (p83)
- 2bn investment to ensure the provision of high-speed broadband across the UK (p.68)
- Investment in mobile data infrastructure to cover all homes (p.68)
- Introduction of a Lovelace code of ethics to govern the use of personal data and artificial intelligence (p74)
- End the collection of communications data and internet connection records (p74)



## DUP

- Regenerating built heritage in order to contribute towards tourism opportunities (p.16)
- Establishing the Institute of Ulster-Scots to drive forward a positive research and educational agenda for this vital strand of Northern Ireland's identity. (p.16)
- Designate a Northern Ireland library as one of the national depository libraries and redevelop it to fulfil its new role. (p.16)

## Plaid Cymru

- Prevent local authorities from cutting access to sports and leisure facilities or using community asset transfer of such facilities where doing so would put access at risk (p35)
- Demand the devolution of broadcasting to the Senedd. (p56)
- Maintain free entry to museums. Also create a National Digital Library for Wales and work with National Museums Wales to create a dedicated National Gallery for Contemporary Art (p74)
- Plaid Cymru would make 1st March a national St David's Day bank holiday in Wales (p74)
- Plaid Cymru is seeking the devolution of broadcasting so that the party can create a level-playing field with every other UK nation and give Wales the power to decide its own media and broadcasting policy (p74)

## Greens

- Introduce a Digital Bill of Rights that establishes the UK as a leading voice on standards for the rule of law and democracy in digital spaces and ensure independent regulation of social media providers. (p36)
- End the sale of personal data, such as health or tax records, for commercial or other ends. (p36)
- Reinstate free TV licences for over-75-year-olds (p36)
- Ensure that a suitable independent regulator is better able to safeguard a healthy plurality of media ownership, to undertake regular plurality reviews and to trigger remedies where necessary. (p36)
- Support, through new grants, the growth of a wider range of civic-minded local news publishers. (p36)
- Tighten the rules on media ownership. (p36)
- Reduce VAT on cultural sector activities to boost the sector. Including food and drink served in pubs, bars and restaurants, on hotel bookings and on theatre, music concert and museum and gallery tickets. (p78)
- Roll out high speed broadband. (p78)
- Transform Parliament including the language used, more promotion of cross-party work and introducing electronic voting (p.39)
- Introduction of a plan to ending bullying and sexual harassment in Parliament (p.39)

## Brexit Party

- Phase out the BBC licence fee (P7).
- Invest in digital infrastructure: partner with service providers to offer free base level domestic broadband in deprived regions and free Wi-Fi on all public transport (P9).

## Equality and Welfare

Overall, there have been consistent themes relating to equality across all manifestos. Maternity and paternity pay has been front and centre, as well as domestic abuse legislation- a direct result of the long-awaited Domestic Abuse Bill.

Reforming detention policy has been a big focus point for the Liberal Democrats, Labour and SNP in their manifestos who are keen to show a more 'human' approach to immigration in light of the Windrush Scandal and the rise of Immigration detention camps in the US and UK which flooded the news.

Once again, the Conservatives pledge to update the Human Rights Act, a less robust commitment taken from the 2015 manifesto which pledged to scrap the Act and replace it with a British Bill of Rights. This pledge has received a backlash from RightsInfo and law firms who state that the policy is "too vague" and "[a complete waste](#)", however the party have argued that it will specify that it doesn't apply to issues - including any death in the Northern Ireland Troubles - that took place before the Act came into force in October 2000. This restores the intended scope of the Act.

Turning to welfare there were no real manifesto surprises and compared to the NHS pledges, these public services haven't been able to command the same media clout. In a campaign centred around ending austerity the Conservative Party have pledged to continue the rollout of Universal Credit and promised a National Strategy for Disabled People before the end of 2020 with the promise that this would aim to improve the benefit system for disabled people.

Jeremy Corbyn's party would also scrap UC and bring about a set of immediate emergency reforms to the policy. The introduction of mandatory disability pay-gap reporting for companies with over 250 employees was promised by Labour. The Liberal Democrats have argued for a change to the welfare safety net to reduce child poverty through reducing the five week wait to five days on UC and removing the two-child limit and benefit cap.

### Conservative

- A tackling of unauthorised traveller camps. Give the police new powers to arrest and seize the property and vehicles of trespassers who set up unauthorised encampments, in order to protect communities. Intentional trespass would become a criminal offence (p19)
- People coming from the EU will only be able to access unemployment, housing, and child benefit after five years, in the way non-EEA migrants currently do (p23)
- No longer allow people to claim child benefit for children living overseas (p23)
- Review of the care system to make sure that all care placements and settings are providing children and young adults with sufficient support (p14)
- Establish a new £1bn fund to help create more high quality, affordable childcare, including before and after school and during the school holidays (p15)
- Keep the existing energy cap and introduce new measures to lower bills (P15)
- Extend the water rebate for those in the South West (p16)
- Keep the triple lock, the winter fuel payment, the older person's bus pass and other pensioner benefits (p16)
- Abolition of the tampon tax (p16)
- Continue the roll-out of Universal Credit, reducing the number of reassessments a disabled person must go through when a significant change in condition is unlikely (p17)
- Publication of a National Strategy for Disabled People before the end of 2020 (p17)
- Update the Human Rights Act and administrative law to ensure that there is a proper balance between the rights of individuals, our vital national security and effective government (p48)
- Ensure that judicial review is available to protect the rights of the individuals against an overbearing state, while ensuring that it is not abused to conduct politics by another means or to create needless delays (p48)
- Encourage flexible working and consult on making it the default unless employers have good reasons not to (p39)



- Invest £500m in new youth clubs and services (p26)

### Stakeholder Reaction

Andrea Williams, Chief Executive of **Christian Concern** commented that the Conservative Party has shown very little commitment to upholding traditional marriage or protecting vulnerable lives, mentioning specifically the new RSE regulations. He called on candidates to be questioned about their views and voting intentions on these issues.

### Labour

- End driver-only operated trains (p20)
- Develop annual income assessments for those on Universal Credit (p60)
- Give everyone full rights from day one on the job (p61)
- Strengthen protections for whistleblowers and rights against unfair dismissal, with extra protections for pregnant women, those going through the menopause, and terminally ill workers (p61)
- Give all workers the right to flexible working (p61)
- Double paternity leave to four weeks and extending pregnancy protection (p66)
- Enable positive action for recruitment to roles where employers can justify the need for more diversity and introduce a right for all workers to request flexibility over their hours from the first day of employment (p66)
- Ensure that the single-sex-based exemptions contained in the Equality Act 2010 are understood and fully enforced in service provision (p66)
- Commit the National Investment Bank to addressing discrimination in access to finance and take action to ensure that BAME and women business owners have access to government contracts and spending (p67)
- Extend pay-gap reporting to BAME groups and tackle pay discrimination on the basis of race (p67)
- Require that all employers be trained to better support disabled people, while introducing mandatory disability pay-gap reporting for companies with over 250 employees (p68)
- End disability discrimination and update the Equality Act to introduce new specific duties including disability leave, paid and recorded separately from sick leave (p68)
- Recommend that the Equality and Human Rights Commission prepare a specific code of practice on reasonable adjustments to supplement existing codes (p68)
- Implement recommendations of the Lammy Review to address the disparity of treatment and outcomes for BAME people within the criminal justice system (p67)
- End indefinite detention (p71)
- Work to eliminate institutional biases against BAME communities (p43)
- Ensuring better police training on domestic abuse and offences arising from coercive control, as well as historical abuses and other crimes (p44)
- Invest in alternatives to custody, e.g. Women's centres; expand problem-solving courts and plug the funding gap in the female offender strategy (p47)
- Restore all early legal aid advice, including for housing, social security, family and immigration cases (p47)
- Set new standards for tackling domestic and sexual abuse and violence, and appoint a Commissioner for Violence against Women and Girls (p 47)
- Prohibit cross-examination of domestic violence victims by their abuser (p48)
- Decriminalise abortions (p48)
- Implement recommendations of the Lammy Review to address the disparity of treatment and outcomes for BAME people within the criminal justice system (p67)
- Create an Emancipation Educational Trust to educate around migration and colonialism, and to address the legacy of slavery and teach how it interrupted a rich and powerful black history which is also British history (p67)
- Strengthen protection for religious communities and amend the law to include attacks on places of worship (including synagogues, temples, mosques and churches) as a specific aggravated offence (p67)



- Review current levels of funding for and access to the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme, maintain funding in real terms for the Community Security Trust, and consult on giving it statutory protection to ensure that religious communities have the support they need (p67)
- Champion the social model of disability throughout government (p68)
- Require that all employers be trained to better support disabled people, while introducing mandatory disability pay-gap reporting for companies with over 250 employees (p68)
- End disability discrimination and update the Equality Act to introduce new specific duties including disability leave, paid and recorded separately from sick leave (p68)
- Recommend that the Equality and Human Rights Commission prepare a specific code of practice on reasonable adjustments to supplement existing codes (p68)
- Reinstate the Access to Elected Office Fund to enable disabled people to run for elected office (p68)
- Adopt a British Sign Language Act, giving BSL full legal recognition in law (p68)
- Take steps to safeguard LGBT+ rights inside or outside the EU, such as retaining and promoting the Human Rights Act (p69)
- Tackle the homelessness and rough sleeping crisis in the UK, ensuring that all strategies and services are tailored to understand needs unique to LGBT+ homeless people, particularly young people (p69)
- Provide sufficient funding for schools to deliver mandatory LGBT+ inclusive relationships and sex education (p69)
- Fully fund sexual health services and roll out PrEP medication (p69)
- Appoint a dedicated global ambassador to the Foreign Office on LGBT+ issues (p69)
- Labour will guarantee universal healthcare by ensuring women's and children's health services are comprehensive, by protecting the rights of EU workers, other migrants and refugees and by ensuring all our services are made accessible to BAME, LGBT+ and disabled patient (p32)
- Labour will introduce mental health assessments in a maternal health check six weeks after birth (p34)
- Launch a wholesale review of the care system, including kinship care, considering national standards such as a central register of foster parents and regulation of semi-supported housing (p51)
- Rebuild early intervention services and replace the Troubled Families programme with a Stronger Families programme, refocussed on long term support (p51)
- Protect and build on Staying Put for over-18s in care and the Adoption Support Fund (p51)
- Replace the Social Mobility Commission with a Social Justice Commission, based in the Treasury, with wide-ranging powers the government to account (p64)
- Create a new Department for Women and Equalities, with a full-time Secretary of State
- Ensure all Government policies and laws are equality-impact assessed (p65)
- Establish a modernised National Women's Commission as an independent advisory body to contribute to government (p65)
- Ratify both the Istanbul Convention on preventing domestic abuse and the ILO Convention on Violence and Harassment at work (p65)
- Put class at the heart of Britain's equality agenda and create a new ground for discrimination on the basis of socio-economic disadvantage (p66)
- Make the state responsible for enforcing equal pay legislation for the first time (p66)
- New Workers' Protection Agency working with HMRC to ensure that employers take equal pay seriously and take positive action to close the gender pay gap (p66)
- Take action to close the gender pay gap by 2030 (p66)
- Require all employers with over 250 employees to obtain government certification on gender equality or face further auditing and fines. The threshold will be lowered to 50 by 2020, and the necessary additional support will be offered for small businesses. (p66)
- Increase paid maternity leave from nine to 12 months (p66)
- Double paternity leave to four weeks and extending pregnancy protection (p66)



- Ban the dismissal of pregnant women without prior approval of the inspectorate (p66)
- Require all large employers to have flexible working, including a menopause policy, and consider changes to sickness and absence practices (p66)
- Enable positive action for recruitment to roles where employers can justify the need for more diversity and introduce a right for all workers to request flexibility over their hours from the first day of employment (p66)
- Create a safer society for women and prioritise domestic abuse as a health issue, introduce 10 days of paid leave for survivors of domestic abuse, and ensure women's refuges receive the long-term sustainable funding they need (p66)
- Misogyny and violence against women and girls will become hate crimes (p66)
- Increase women's representation across parliament by building on the Equality Act, passed by the last Labour government, and enact Section 106 so that all political parties publish diversity data about electoral candidates (p66)
- Commission an independent review into the threat of far-right extremism and how to tackle it (p67)
- Extend pay-gap reporting to BAME groups and tackle pay discrimination on the basis of race (p67)
- Commit the National Investment Bank to addressing discrimination in access to finance and take action to ensure that BAME and women business owners have access to government contracts and spending (p67)
- Develop a cross-governmental National Strategy for Childhood focusing on health, security, well-being and poverty (p73)
  
- Scrap Universal Credit (p73)
- Implement an emergency package of reforms to mitigate the worst features of Universal Credit whilst new system is being developed (p73)
- End the five-week wait by introducing an interim payment based on half an estimated monthly entitlement (p73)
- Scrap the benefit cap and the two-child limit (p73)
- Pay childcare costs up front (p73)
- Introduce fortnightly payments and split payments (p73)
- Scrap bedroom tax (p73)
- Increase Local Housing Allowance (p73)
- Give effect to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and amend the Equality Act to reflect the social model of disability (p74)
- Stop Work Capability and PIP Assessments (p74)
- Increase Employment and Support Allowance by £30 per week for those in the work-related activity group (p74)
- Raise the basic rate of support for children with disabilities to the level of Child Tax Credits (p74)
- Increase the Carer's Allowance to the level of the Jobseeker's Allowance
- Implement Reasonable Adjustments Passport scheme (p75)
- Review retirement ages for physically arduous and stressful occupations (p75)
- Maintain the 'triple lock' and guarantee the Winter Fuel Payment, free TV licences and free bus passes as universal benefits (p75)
- Establish an independent Pensions' Commission, modelled on the Low Pay Commission, to recommend target levels for workplace pensions (p75)
- Legislate to allow the CWURoyal Mail agreement for a collective pension scheme to proceed and allow similar schemes (p75)
- Ensure that the pensions of UK citizens living overseas rise in line with pensions in Britain (p76)
- Strengthen protections for whistleblowers and rights against unfair dismissal, with extra protections for pregnant women, those going through the menopause, and terminally ill workers (p61)
- Extend statutory maternity pay from nine to 12 months (p61)
- Double paternity leave from two weeks to four and increase statutory paternity pay (p61)
- Review family-friendly employment rights, including rights to respond to family emergencies (p61)

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- Require employers to devise and implement plans to eradicate the gender pay gap, and inequalities underpinned by race and/or disability, or face fines (p61)
- Give statutory rights to equalities representatives (p62)
- Establish a Royal Commission to bring health (including mental health) and safety legislation up to date (p62)

### Stakeholder Reactions

Paul Johnson, Director at **Institute for Fiscal Studies** commented that “If the intention really is to scrap Universal Credit and replace it with an entirely new benefit system then, as the last decade has shown, this would come with the risk of huge administrative complexity and costs.”

### SNP

- Set maternity pay at 100% of average weekly earnings for the first 12 weeks, then 90% for 40 weeks or £150.00, whichever is lower. (p37)
- Increase shared parental leave from 52 to 64 weeks, with the additional 12 weeks to be the minimum taken by the father in order to encourage an increase in shared parental leave (p37)
- Introduce a principle of ‘use it or lose it’ – whereby the paternity leave cannot be transferred in order to encourage fathers to take the leave - while protecting maternity leave if a couple choose not to take advantage of the provision. (p37)
- Introduce an extra statutory paid week of leave for every week their baby is in neo natal care (p37)
- Introduce paid leave for six antenatal appointments for fathers (p38)
- Continue to press for extended legal protection against redundancy for pregnant parents those on shared parental leave, and adoption leave, and new parents for up to six months after their return to work (p38)
- Expand childcare into the school holidays for primary pupils from the poorest backgrounds. (p20)
- Reform of the detention and asylum system for LGBT+ individuals escaping countries where homosexuality is still criminalised (p46)
- Press for ratification of the Council of Europe’s Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence – the Istanbul Convention – to have a clear timetable (p44)
- Continue freedom of movement (p44)
- Urge the UK Government to implement a declaratory system with proof of status in relation to EU citizens (p44)
- Oppose plans to introduce a minimum salary threshold that prevents people earning less than £30,000 from being admitted to the UK (p44)
- Continue to campaign for an extension to the no-deal three-year ‘Temporary Leave to Remain’ (p44)
- Oppose the Immigration Skills Charge (p44)
- Review of the citizenship application process, with a view to bringing down its cost and reducing its complexity (p45)
- Continue to urge the UK government to introduce a less restrictive approach to family migration, including the repeal of the minimum income requirements for family visas (p46)
- Press the UK government to end indefinite immigration detention (p46)
- Call for the UK government to pursue alternatives to detention (p46)
- Demand independent body make decisions on asylum applications in place of the Home Office (p46)
- Introduce fair asylum system (p46)
- Reopen Dubs scheme for unaccompanied children (p46)
- Create new scheme to ensure all families retain the right to remain together (p46)
- Creation of safe and legal routes for people to find protection in the UK (p46)
- Right to work for asylum seekers (p46)



- Call on the UK Government to follow UNHCR recommendations and commit to taking 10,000 people per year under the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement programme and to further commit to long term refugee resettlement beyond 2021. (p46)
- Urge the UK Government to fundamentally change their approach to housing asylum seekers (p46)
- In an independent Scotland, economic and migration policy will be tailored to Scotland's needs (p8)
- Continue to call on the UK government to guarantee EU nationals' right to remain in the UK and for devolution of migration policy (p39)
- If the UK Government insists on creating a seasonal migrant workers' scheme, rather than retaining freedom of movement, they will press for it to meet the needs of workers and businesses in Scotland (p39)
- Continue working with others to stop Brexit and retain criminal justice systems that we benefit from as a member of the EU. If this is not possible, the SNP will campaign to keep as many of the existing measures as possible to keep Scotland safe (p20)
- Continue to demand the UK Government refunds the £175 million in VAT owed to Scotland's emergency services (p20)
- Urge the UK government to match their commitment to supporting low income families by introducing payments at key times in a young child's life as the SNP Scottish government have done with nursery and school payments of £250 as well as matching the new Scottish Child Payment (p38)
- Demand tougher action to close the gender pay gap, including introducing fines for businesses that fail to meet an agreed Equal Pay Standard (p23)
- The SNP will press for the UK government to take responsibility for licence fees for over 75s and ensure that free licences continue to be available. (p26)
- Would support legislation in the UK to ensure a 50-50 gender balance on public sector boards by 2020 (p26)
- SNP MPs would back move to ensure executive pension contributions are the same as for all workers in the company (p26)

## Liberal Democrats

- Improve disabled access to public transport via the Access for All programme (p49)
- Ensure local authorities have the funds necessary to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act and to provide accommodation to domestic abuse survivors (p67)
- Provide local authorities with a duty and funding to provide accommodation for survivors of abuse (p70)
- Free childcare for all children with parents in work from nine months and for all children from two years, up to the time they start school (p8)
- Change the law so that flexible working is open to all from day one in the job (p24)
- Extend the Equality Act to all companies with more than 250 employees, requiring them to monitor and report on gender, BAME and LGBT+ employment levels and pay gaps (p76)
- Extend the use of name-blind recruitment processes in the public sector and encourage their use in the private sector (p76)
- Set targets for improving diversity in public appointments and require reporting against progress with explanations when targets are not met (p76)
- Develop a government-wide plan to tackle BAME inequalities and review the funding of the Equality and Human Rights Commission to ensure that it is adequate (p76)
- Pursue a foreign agenda with gender equality at its heart; protect, defend and promote human rights for all, including LGBT+ individuals (p92)
- Work through international bodies for better regulation and scrutiny of international trade and investment treaties to ensure they do not worsen inequalities or undermine human rights (p92)



- Develop a comprehensive strategy for promoting the decriminalisation of homosexuality around the world and advancing LGBT+ rights (p 93)
- Offer free, high quality childcare for all children between the ages of two and four and those aged nine and 24 months where their guardians are at work (p32)
- Invest £1 billion a year in Children's Centres to support families and tackle inequalities in children's health, development and life chances (p32)
- Triple the Early Years Pupil Premium (to £1,000) to give extra help to disadvantaged children who are at risk of falling behind from the very beginning of their education (p32)
- Require all Early Years settings to have a training programme for staff, with the majority of staff working with children who are at risk of falling behind (p32)
- Introduce 'baby boxes' in England, as advocated by the Royal College of Midwives, to provide babies and parents with essential items to help and development (p32)
- End the crisis in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities funding by allocating additional cash to local authorities (p33)
- Give local authorities with responsibility for education the powers and resources to act as Strategic Education Authorities for their area, including responsibility for places planning, exclusions, administering admissions including in-year admissions, and SEND functions (p34)
- Extend free school meals to all children in primary education and to all secondary school children whose families receive Universal Credit (p35)
- Require inclusive school uniform policies that are gender-neutral and flexible enough to suit different budgets (p36)
- Remove VAT on sanitary products to end period poverty, and provide them free of charge in schools, hospitals, hostels, shelters, libraries, leisure centres, stadiums, GP surgeries, food banks, colleges and universities. (p75)
- Legislate to allow for all-BAME and all-LGBY+ shortlists (p81)
- Bring into force Section 106 of the Equality Act 2010, requiring political parties to publish candidate diversity data (p81)
- Support anti-racism and anti-homophobia campaigns in sport (p37)
- Offer asylum to people fleeing the risk of violence because of their sexual orientation or gender identification, end the culture of disbelief for LGBT+ asylum seekers and never refuse an LGBT+ applicant on the basis that they could be discreet (p78)
- Creation of Women's Justice Board (p71)
- Reduce overrepresentations of BAME backgrounds throughout the criminal justice system through promoting greater diversity and recording data on ethnicity and publishing it to allow for analysis and scrutiny (p71)
- 500m investment to restore legal aid (p74)
- Address inequalities in pension law for same-sex couples (p66)
- Introduce a right to a no-fault divorce (p74)
- The extension of limited legal rights to cohabiting couples (p74)
- Push for at least 40 per cent of board members being women in FTSE350 companies and implement the recommendations of the Parker review (p76)
- Extend the Equality Act to all companies with more than 250 employees, requiring them to monitor and report on gender, BAME and LGBT+ employment levels and pay gaps (p76)
- Extend the use of name-blind recruitment processes in the public sector and encourage their use in the private sector (p76)
- Set targets for improving diversity in public appointments and require reporting against progress with explanations when targets are not met (p76)





- Develop a government-wide plan to tackle BAME inequalities and review the funding of the Equality and Human Rights Commission to ensure that it is adequate (p76)
- Establish a national fund for projects that work in schools to raise the aspirations of ethnic minority children and young people (p76)
- Make immigration detention an absolute last resort, introduce a 28-day time limit on detention and close seven of the UK's nine detention centres (p77)
- Reducing the waiting time for a first benefit payment from five weeks to five days (p65)
- Removing the two-child limit and benefits cap (p65)
- Increasing work allowances and introducing a second earner work allowance (p65)
- Creation of a legal right to food in line with the Government's responsibility to ensure that existing and new public policy is audited for its impact on food security (p65)
- Reforms to Universal Credit in order to support the self-employed (p65)
- Abolition of the bedroom tax and the introduction of positive incentives in order to downsize (p65)
- Separating benefits administration from employment support and increased spending on training and education (p65)
- The introduction of an incentivised based scheme to replace the current sanctions system (p65)
- Reversing of cuts that have been made to employment support allowance for those in the work-related activity group (p65)
- Reintroduce the independent living fund (p65)
- Replacement of work capability assessments with a system run by local authorities (p65)
- Changes to bereavement allowance so that widows and widowers receive more support and extend payments to unmarried couples when a parent dies (p65)
- Retention of the triple lock on the basic state pension so that it can rise in line with the highest wages, prices of 2.5 per cent (p66)
- Compensating women born in the 1950's are compensated for Government failure to notify them of changes to the state pension age (p66)
- Free childcare for all children with parents in work from nine months and for all children from two years, up to the time they start school (p8)
- Investing £6 billion per year to make the benefits system work for people who need it and reducing the wait for the first benefits payment from five weeks to five days (p64)
- Introducing a principle of universal access to basic services: starting by building 100,000 social homes a year, ending rough sleeping and bringing in a new legal right to food (p64)
- Introduce a wellbeing budget basing decision on what will improve the wellbeing of economic and fiscal indicators. (p27)
- Appoint a Minister for Wellbeing making regular statements on the effects of government policy on overall wellbeing. (p27)
- Introduce a wellbeing impact assessment for all policy areas (p27)

- Introduce legal recognition of humanist marriages (p75)
- Tackle the rise in hate crimes by making them all aggravated offences, giving law enforcement the resources and training they need to identify and prevent them, and condemning inflammatory rhetoric by those with public platforms (p75)
- Provide funding for protective security measures to schools, places of worship and community centres that are vulnerable to terror attacks and hate crime (p75)
- Reform the Gender Recognition Act to remove the requirement for medical reports, scrap the fee, and recognise non-binary gender identities (p75)
- Introduce gender option 'X' on passports, and extend equality law to cover gender expression and identity (p75)
- Ensure accurate population data on sexual orientation and gender identity by including a question on LGBT+ status within the 2021 Census (p75)
- Increase accessibility to public places and transport through making them wheelchair accessible, improve the legislative framework governing blue badges, create a benchmarking standard for accessible cities and ban discrimination by private hire vehicles (p75)
- Introduce a British Sign Language Act to give BSL full legal recognition (p75)
- Remove VAT on sanitary products to end period poverty, and provide them free of charge in schools, hospitals, hostels, shelters, libraries, leisure centres, stadiums, GP surgeries, food banks, colleges and universities. (p75)
- End the so-called 'Pink Tax' to end the gender price gap (p75)
- Set a requirement for schools to introduce gender-neutral uniform policies and break down perceptions of subject gender-appropriateness (p75)
- Outlaw caste discrimination (p75)
- Increase statutory paternity leave to up to six weeks and ensure that parental-leave is a right from day one, along with addressing inequalities faced by same sex couples (p76)
- Require organisations to publish parental leave and pay policies (p76)

### Stakeholder reaction

Andy Chamberlain, Deputy Director of Policy at **IPSE (the Association of Independent Professionals and the Self-Employed)**, said: "By adopting our policies to clamp down on late payment, reform Universal Credit, scrap the loan charge and ensure fair pay for freelance parents, the Liberal Democrats have committed to truly support the self-employed. They have laid down a gauntlet for the other main parties, who must now step up to back Britain's freelancers."

### DUP

- £5m per year to be invested over the next 10 years to tackle adverse childhood experiences (p13)
- Introducing a Childcare Act to provide 30 hours of free childcare for 38 weeks for 3-4 year olds, with the aim of introducing this for 2-4 year olds in the longer term (p14)
- Further training is given to teachers and assistants in area of special educational needs (p12)
- The DUP supports the drawing from existing research such as the Radar report into Personal Independence Payments and the NIHR research on social security reforms and an update on the Evasion report (p18)
- Commitment to providing Baby Boxes from 2021 (p18)

### Plaid Cymru

- Support calls by the UK Mineworkers Pension Association to get the 50-50 split of pension surplus renegotiated (p30)
- Require the BBC to reverse the cuts to free TV licences (p30)



- Support keeping public toilets open to allow older people, and others, to visit town centres and other places of interest and maintain their independence (p30)
- Rebalance the Welsh budget towards preventative, locally-delivered interventions across health and social services, education and support for families (p32)
- Introduce a new £35 a week payment for every child in low income families, lifting 50,000 children in Wales out of poverty (p38)
- Free care and education for all 1-3 year olds, providing free full-day early years education to children between 1-3 years old, with an aim to use this first stage of education to ensure that all Welsh children become bilingual (p38)
- Impose statutory targets for reducing child poverty (p38)
- Press for welfare powers to be devolved and negotiate an appropriate fiscal framework in each case. This includes Personal Independence Payments, Winter Fuel Allowance, Sure Start Maternity Grant and Carers Allowance (p56)
- Launch a public information campaign to make clear what constitutes as consent and tackle rape culture (p52)
- Ensure that Sexual Assault Referral Centres are properly funded with adequate training for the professionals that work there (p52)
- Ensure that counselling services are available and well-funded (p52)
- Work to increase the participation of minorities and women in politics and public life (p53)
- Address the underlying socio-economic challenges faced by BAME communities, including providing funding for English and Welsh language tuition, to encourage successful integration in Welsh society (p53)
- Publish a human rights charter for Wales to protect the most vulnerable members of the communities. Will also seek devolution of responsibilities for equalities legislation to Wales (p76)
- Provide 40 hours free universal education and childcare to children above one will ensure that parents have the option of returning to work and save on the cost of childcare (p76)
- Support women and girls to follow careers in key growth areas, especially in STEM fields (p76)
- Create a mentorship schemes to increase the visibility of women in non-traditional occupations and senior roles and to increase girls' awareness of the many different paths available to them (p76)
- Introduce a gender balanced management boards in Welsh Government funded organisations (p76)
- Promote LGBT participation in sport as part of broader efforts towards healthier lifestyles and work with clubs and organisations to reduce homophobic, transphobic and sexist behaviour (p77)
- Establish sheltered employment schemes for those people who need a more supportive environment to return to work and work with accredited employers to create such schemes (p77)
- The party is committed to working with blind, partially sighted and deaf people and those experiencing hearing loss (p77)
- Protect the right to work of pregnant women and new mothers by supporting a legal ban on employers making a woman redundant throughout pregnancy, and until six months after return from maternity leave, other than in very limited circumstances, as called for by the charity Maternity Action (p78)
- Support the call to legislate to add reporting of retention rates for women returning from maternity leave to the existing 'gender pay gap' reporting regime (p78)
- Support parents' mental health after pregnancy and extend access to perinatal mental health services, including access to specialist mother and baby units within Wales (p78)

- Establish a local Parent Networks, inspired by the successful Mamma Gruppen initiative in Sweden (p78)
- Maternity and paternity pay and leave to be extended in the case of babies that are born prematurely (before 36 weeks' gestation) (p78)
- Free funerals for babies should be extended to cover those lost to early miscarriages (p78)
- Pass an Autism Act for Wales that adopts a rights based approach for people with autism, or who are suspected of having autism but are yet to receive a diagnosis (p78)

## Green Party

- Support councils to provide better housing for disabled people including the creation of disability housing places (p42)
- Support and develop a network of specialist women's centres which offer pastoral support to women address the issues leading them to reoffend (p65)
- Make misogyny a hate crime across the UK and implement an intersectional approach that recognises the groups of women who are most at risk (p61)
- Deliver a Green Universal Basic Income (UBI) which would consist of a weekly payment for everyone that intends to replace the current benefits system. (p49)
- Provide all pensioners with a weekly sum of £178 a week (p50)
- All adults would be a receipt of their full rate of UBI by 2025, with the first wave of people being women born in the 1950s (p50)
- Provide a special supplement to UBI for people with disabilities (p50)
- The Green Party also pledges to pay a full Carer Allowances to career on top of the UBI payment (p50)
- Replace the Universal Credit scheme (p50)
- New laws will be introduced to make it easier to take action against employers in unequal pay cases (p51)
- Close the gender pay gap by requiring all large and medium sized companies to carry out equal pay audits (p51)
- Install a 40 percent quota for women on major company boards (p51)
- Provide 35 hours a week of free childcare for all from the ages of nine months (p51)
- Phase in the introduction of a Universal Basic Income (UBI) to cover an adult's basic needs, which will be an unconditional payment (p26)
- Most income-related benefits will be replaced with UBI (p26)
- Adult rate of £89 per week (p26)
- Draw on income from the Carbon Tax to help to fund the UBI, using tax on carbon emissions to help meet the cost (p27)
- Implement additional payments above the basic adult rate of UBS (p26)
- Pensioners would receive a weekly payment totalling £178 (p26)
- Disabled people along with lone parents or lone pensioners would receive an additional supplement to their UBI (p27)

- Continue to cover rent for those already in receipt of Housing Benefit before the introduction of UBI (p27)
- Families earning under £50,000 per year would receive an additional supplement of £70 per week for each of their first two children and a further £50 per week for each additional child (p27)
- • Introduction of a Future Generations Act for England and a Minister for Future Generations to represent youth in Government (p38)
- Allow the Youth Select Committee to hold Government to account like any other committee (p38)
- Support councils in extending staying put arrangements in order for fostered young people to stay with foster parents until they are 21 (p42)

## Health and Social Care

While commentators would argue that this is a fundamentally 'Brexit election', increasingly the NHS and healthcare is being perceived as the most important issue. On the backdrop of these shifting electoral narratives and a looming 'NHS winter crisis', each of the major Party's have unveiled wide range programmes aimed at rejuvenating the health and social care system.

Perhaps most radical of these are the Labour Party's announcements. In addition to significant injections of funds towards the NHS and abolishing prescription charges in England, Jeremy Corbyn has displayed a hawkish tendency towards pharmaceutical firms and the pricing of medicines.

Indeed, not only have Labour sought to undermine the Conservative's Brexit campaign by delegitimising their trade negotiations with the US, but Labour has also announced a plan to establish a generic drugs company. Ostensibly the aim of this new agency would be to bring about cheaper drugs, however the implications this could have on the NICE appraisal system and private R&D expenditure have yet to be evaluated.

Labour has also sought to build a winning coalition among older voters by expanding social care provisions, such as introducing free personalised care for all older people. A move which will certainly be welcomed by members of the third sector – while also being keen to stress that a cross-party solution is needed to avoid failed attempts of the past.

The Conservative Party meanwhile, is building on its prior commitments to facilitating £20.5bn additional funding for NHS England. These increases in healthcare funding illustrate Johnson's efforts to shed the Conservative's image as an 'austerity heavy' Party.

Steering clear of their electoral pitfall in 2017, the Conservative Party has pledged to an additional £1bn of funding every year for social care services in addition to pledging to greater cross-party consensus around the issue. Potentially seen as a nod to the yet unreleased social care green paper which was promised during Theresa May's premiership. Moreover, efforts to combine social care efforts to tackle Alzheimer's have culminated in Johnson's pledge to double dementia funding if he is re-elected.

### Conservatives

- Make the UK the leading hub for life sciences after Brexit (p.40)
- Committed to ensuring migrants will contribute to the NHS – and pay in before they can receive benefits (p20)
- Create the NHS Visa to offer fast-track entry to doctors, nurses and allied health professionals meeting recognised standards with a job offer from the NHS (p20)
- Conservatives will require new arrivals to contribute to the funding of the NHS and will increase the health surcharge to ensure it covers the full cost of use (p23)
- Through charges commit to doubling the budget for the health tourism enforcement unit (p23)

- Committed to ensuring new GP and school places are delivered ahead of people moving into new housing developments (p23)
- enshrine in law a fully funded long term NHS plan within the first three months of the new term. (p9)
- Confirmation of a record £34bn per year by the end of the Parliament in additional funding for the NHS and to begin work on 40 new hospitals across the country. (p9)
- Boost early cancer diagnosis across 78 hospital trusts. (p9)
- Between 2018 and 2023, the Conservatives will raise funding for the NHS by 29 per cent. By the end of the Parliament. (p9)
- The Conservative Party aims to build and fund 40 new hospitals over the next 10 years. (p10)
- The Conservatives will aim to reduce health inequality. (p10)
- The Conservative Party will continue to repair PFI deals. (p10)
- Invest heavily in preventing disease as curing it. (p10)
- A core priority of a Conservative Government would be making sure the NHS workforce can grow and have the numbers it needs. (p10).
- Deliver 50,000 more nurses with studying receiving a £5,000-£8,000 annual maintenance grants every year during their course. (p10)
- Deliver 6,000 more doctors in general practice and 6,000 more primary care professionals. (p10)
- A commitment to improve staff morale. (p10)
- Commitment to new funding will deliver 50 million extra general practice appointments a year. (p10)
- Address the taper problem in doctors' pensions. (p10)
- Empower people with lifestyle related conditions such as obesity to live healthier lives and tackle childhood obesity. (p11)
- Continue to promote the uptake of vaccines through the national vaccination strategy. (p11)
- Improve the early diagnosis and treatment of all major conditions. (p11)
- Treat mental health with the same urgency as physical health. (p11)
- Make it easier for people with learning disabilities and autism to be discharged from hospital. (p11)
- Tackle gambling addiction. (p11)
- Improve NHS performance by bringing down NHS wait times. (p11)
- Use frontline technology to improve patients experiences. (p11)
- Support hospices by injecting an additional £25m to support 200,000 people at the end of their lives. (p11)
- Make the NHS the best place in the world to give birth and extending healthy life expectancy by five years by 2035. (p11)
- End unfair hospital care parking charges. (p11)
- The Government will clamp down on health tourism (p11)
- The NHS will not be on the table in negotiating new trade deals. (p11)
- Build a cross-party consensus on solving social care issues. (p11)



- Legislate so that patients suffering from mental health conditions, including anxiety or depression, have greater control over their treatment and receive the dignity and respect they deserve. (p11)
- £1bn extra of funding every year for more social care staff. (p12)

#### Stakeholder reactions

The **British medical Association** said the fact spending commitments in the manifestos do not meet the level of needs was “incredibly disappointing”.

Dr Jennifer Dixon, Chief Executive at the **Health Foundation**, said the absence of a detailed social care policy was “a shameful omission” and noted that funding commitments were “far short” of the 4 per cent projections.

The **King’s Fund** said the manifesto offered “a number of welcome NHS pledges” but highlighted that the frontline funding offer was less generous than the offers from the other major political parties.

**Nuffield Trust** Chief Executive Nigel Edwards said: “This manifesto contains some ambitious pledges on the NHS, but its failure to address social care threatens to undermine them.”

The **Scottish National Party** said the manifesto pledge on nurses had fallen apart in 24 hours and demonstrated the Conservative party “could not be trusted”.

The **Liberal Democrat Party** said the manifesto commitments on nurses were dishonest and highlighted NHS and social care cuts, putting lives at risk.

The **Labour Party** said the Conservative parking charges pledge was “another empty promise that shows just how out of touch” the policies are and the “country needs real change”.

**The Royal College of Nursing** said the commitment to recruit and retain 50,000 more nursing staff was the right level of aspiration. However, said “we need more detail of how and from where these future professionals are going to be found.”

#### Labour

- Labour will establish a generic drug company (p35)
- Labour promise that if fair prices are rejected for patented drugs they will use the Patents Act provisions, compulsory licences and research exemptions to secure access to generic versions, and will aim to increase the number of pharmaceutical jobs in the UK (p35)
- Establish a Royal Commission to bring health (including mental health) and safety legislation up to date (p62)
- Fully fund sexual health services and roll out PrEP medication (p69)
- £150bn Social Transformation Fund to replace, upgrade and expand our schools, hospitals, care homes and council houses (p30)
- Labour will restore public sector pay to at least pre-financial crisis levels (in real terms), by enforcing pay rises yearly above-inflation rates, starting with a 5% increase (p30)
- Labour’s urgent priority is to end NHS privatisation (p31)
- Labour will increase expenditure across the health sector by an average 4.3% a year (p32)
- Labour will call a moratorium on bed cuts (p32)

- Labour will repeal the Health and Social Care Act and reinstate the responsibilities of the Secretary of State to provide a comprehensive and universal healthcare system (p32)
- They will end the requirement on health authorities to put services out to competitive tender (p32)
- Labour will ensure services are delivered in-house and also bring subsidiary companies back in-house (p32)
- They will publish an infrastructure plan to return NHS England to the international average level of capital investment (p32)
- Labour will complete the confirmed hospital rebuilds and invest more in primary care settings, modern AI, cyber technology and state-of-the-art medical equipment, including more MRI and CT scanners (p32)
- Labour will ensure data protection for NHS and patient information, a highly valuable publicly funded resource that can be used for better diagnosis of conditions and for research (p32)
- Labour will ensure our NHS becomes a net zero-carbon service with an NHS Forest of one million trees, more efficient heating and insulation systems, greater reliance on renewable energy, including more solar panelling and a transition to electric paramedic vehicles, NHS fleet cars and hybrid ambulances (p32)
- They will ensure NHS data is not exploited by international technology and pharmaceutical corporations (p32)
- Labour will provide free annual dental check-ups (p32)
- Labour will end mixed-sex wards (p32)
- Labour will guarantee universal healthcare by ensuring women's and children's health services are comprehensive, by protecting the rights of EU workers, other migrants and refugees and by ensuring all services are made accessible to BAME, LGBT+ and disabled patient (p32)
- They will introduce mandatory standards for NHS in-patient food (p33)
- They will provide free hospital parking for patients, staff and visitors (p33)
- A Labour government would develop a planned model of joined-up community care (p33)
- They will allocate a greater proportion of overall funding to close-to-home health services and build interdisciplinary, patient-focused services across primary care, mental health and social care (p33)
- To support our transition to community health care services, they will expand GP training places to provide resources for 27 million more appointments each year and ensure community pharmacy is supported (p33)
- A Labour government would provide an additional £1.6 billion a year to ensure new standards for mental health are enshrined in the NHS constitution (p33)
- On mental health, Labour will invest £2 billion to modernise hospital facilities and end the use of inappropriate, out-of-area placements (p33)
- Labour will implement in full the recommendations set out in the independent review of the Mental Health Act (p33)
- They pledge to invest more in eating disorders services and ensure NICE guidelines on eating disorders are implemented (p33)
- They will ensure a 24/7 crisis service for psychological therapies (p34)
- Labour will implement a £845 million plan for Healthy Young Minds will more than double the annual spending on children and adolescent mental health services (p34)
- Labour will establish a network of open access mental health hubs to enable more children to access mental



- health and recruit almost 3,500 qualified counsellors to guarantee every child access to school counsellors (p34)
- Labour will introduce a Future Generations Well-being Act (p34)
- Labour will invest more than £1bn in public health and recruit 4,500 more health visitors and school nurses (p34)
- Labour will introduce mental health assessments in a maternal health check six weeks after birth (p34)
- Labour will ban fast-food restaurants near schools and enforce stricter rules around the advertising of junk food and levels of salt in food (p34)
- Labour will urgently put in place a vaccination action plan to regain our measles-free status in WHO listings (p34)
- Labour will fully fund sexual health services and roll out PrEP medication (p34)
- Labour will ensure that alcoholic drinks are labelled with clear health warnings and will review the evidence on minimum pricing (p34)
- They will implement a Tobacco Control Plan and fund smoking cessation services (p34)
- Labour will guarantee real-terms pay rises every year for health and care service workforces (p35)
- Agenda for Change terms and conditions will be put into law alongside safe staffing limits for all staff under Labour (p35)
- They will introduce a training bursary for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals (p35)
- A Labour government will review the tax and pension changes implemented by the Tory government (p35)
- Labour will ensure rewards and incentives match the areas of greatest health need (p35)
- Labour will ensure that all parts of the NHS, the treatment of patients, the employment of staff and medicine pricing are all fully excluded and protected from any international trade deals (p35)
- Labour promise to progress clinically appropriate prescription of medical cannabis (p35)
- They will abolish prescription charges in England (p35)
- Labour pledge to build a National Care Service for England (p36)
- Labour will provide free personal care, with the ambition to extend this provision to all working-age adults (p36)
- Labour will develop eligibility criteria to ensure services work for everyone, including people with complex conditions like dementia (p36)
- Labour will impose a lifetime cap on personal contributions to care costs (p36)
- Labour pledge that contracts for providing care will not be awarded to organisations that do not pay their fair share of taxes and do not meet our high standards of quality care (p36)
- Labour will increase the Carer's Allowance for unpaid full-time carers (p36)

## Stakeholder reactions

Responding Jon Skewes, Executive Director for External Relations at the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) welcomed commitments to putting the terms and conditions of Agenda for Change into law with safe staffing limits not just for midwives and improving maternal mental health commitments. Though noted the need for increase long-term funding and workforce shortages.

The King's Fund welcomed increased funding and the commitment to free personal care but noted a more larger social care solution was needed. They noted the intention to repeal the 2012 Health and Social Care Act would risk a damaging and distracting top-down reorganisation of the health service.

The Liberal Democrats question the maths of the Labour manifesto in the context of their current Brexit policy.

Director General at the Institute of Economic Affairs Mark Littlewood said "the Labour Party's plan to hike taxes and borrow hundreds of billions of pounds cannot end well for the taxpayer".

The Nuffield Trust have welcomed the commitment to a "comprehensive reform of England's failing social care system" and the NHS funding increases.

Dr Jennifer Dixon, Chief Executive at the Health Foundation, said: "Labour's funding plans provide a welcome recognition of the scale of the challenge facing the NHS. A 4.3 per cent uplift to the health care budget would address growing demand and support plans for future transformation of the health service – a much needed boost following a decade of austerity. Plans to reverse £1bn of cuts to the public health grant are also welcome."

NHS Employers welcomed the free personal care policy but said a long term plan for advance privatisation was needed.

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service have welcomed the commitment to decriminalise abortion in England and Wales.

Unite the Union called on voters to support Labour saying "When Labour wins nurses win, teachers win, manufacturing workers win, car workers win, young people win and pensioners win."

Jeremy Hughes, Chief Executive at Alzheimer's Society, welcomed the free personal care policy as a major step on reducing social care costs but said it would not eliminate the problem.

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) welcomed the funding commitment of £1bn into nursing higher education in England and said this must be forthcoming every year.

## SNP

- In an independent Scotland, the NHS will never be under threat from a UK Government trade deal with Donald Trump (p8)
- Close the health spending gap between England and Scotland, allowing Scottish Government to increase front line investment to NHS Scotland by more than £17bn by 2024/25 (p18)
- Demand that any future UK government pass a new National Health Service Protection Act, guaranteeing that trade deals do not undermine the founding principles of the NHS nor open it to profit driven exploitation (p18)
- The new law would also ensure that future trade deals would require the explicit consent of the Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly, and Northern Irish Assembly (p18)
- Demand the devolution of Misuse of Drugs Act to allow for the full range of effective public health measures to tackle the drugs death crisis and, pending that devolution, demand the UK Government (p18)
- introduce a Supervised Drug Consumption Facility (p19)
- Introduce an extra statutory paid week of leave for every week their baby is in neo natal care (p37)

## Stakeholder reactions

Commenting on the manifesto, Mary Ross-Davie, Director for Scotland at the **Royal College of Midwives**, said: "The RCM is committed to protecting the NHS and lobbying to ensure it has the funding needed to provide safe, high quality maternity care in all parts of the UK. We believe that Brexit will have damaging effects on the NHS and maternity services and have been consistent in our calls for a second referendum on the issue of UK membership of the EU."

### Liberal Democrats

- Invest £11 billion in mental health to expand access to therapies and increase the number of psychiatrists and specialist mental health practitioners (p9).
- Make mental health services 24-hour, including placing mental health liaison teams in all hospitals (p9).
- Implement all the recommendations of the Wessely review of the Mental Health Act (p55)
- Fully introduce Sir Stephen Bubb's 'Time for Change' report recommendations and ensure that Assessment and Treatment Units are closed urgently (p55)
- Establish a Student Mental Health Charter which will require all universities and colleges a good level of mental health provisions and services for students (p55)
- Develop a scheme to reward employers who invest in the mental wellbeing of their employees, piloting reduced business rates for employers who support employees' mental wellbeing and provide mental health first aid training to staff (p56)
- End the GP shortfall by 2025 by both training more GPs and making greater appropriate use of nurses, physiotherapists and pharmacists, and also phone or video appointments, where clinically suitable (p57)
- Review the NHS's future needs for all staff, and produce a national workforce strategy, taking the long view and matching training places to future needs (p57)
- Attract and support talented professionals from countries with developed health systems, with an ethical recruitment policy in line with World Health Organization guidance (p57)
- Implement the recommendations of Roger Kline's report into the lack of diversity in senior management in the NHS and commission a strategic analysis of racial discrimination in the NHS (p58)
- Support the changes to the Health and Social Care Act recommended by the NHS, with the objective of making the NHS work in a more efficient and joined-up way, and to end the automatic tendering of services (p58)
- Support the creation of a new Professional Body for Care Workers, to promote clear career pathways with ongoing training and development, and improved pay structures (p58)
- Introduce a new requirement for professional regulation of all care home managers, who would also be required to have a relevant qualification. The party will set a target that 70 per cent of care staff should have an NVQ level 2 or equivalent (currently levels are around 50 per cent) (p58)
- Introduce a statutory guarantee of regular respite breaks for unpaid carers, and require councils to make regular contact with carers to offer support and signpost services (p59)
- Provide a package of carer benefits such as free leisure centre access, free bus travel for young carers, and self-referral to socially prescribed activities and courses (p59)
- Raise the amount people can earn before losing their Carer's Allowance from £123 to £150 a week, and reduce the number of hours' care per week required to qualify for it (p59)
- Publish a National Wellbeing Strategy, which puts better health and wellbeing for all at the heart of government. Ministers from all departments will be responsible for implementing the strategy (p59)

### Stakeholder reactions

The King's Fund said "The Liberal Democrat manifesto commitment to an extra £7bn a year in health and care funding is welcome recognition of the need to invest in services after a decade-long funding squeeze. Thankfully the party has also resisted the temptation a huge reorganisation of the NHS, allowing health and care leaders to focus on improving services."

Dr Jennifer Dixon, Chief Executive of the Health Foundation, said: 'The Liberal Democrat's manifesto plans are a welcome shot in the arm for the NHS, but don't go far enough on fixing social care.'

Donna Kinnair, Chief Executive and General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, welcomed the pledges on mental health out of area appointments and the recognition of the removal of the nursing bursary on recruitment.

Jon Skewes, Executive Director for External Relations at the Royal College of Midwives (RCM), said: "These are positive commitments but as always we need to see the detail".

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service have welcomed pledge to decriminalise abortion and legislate for buffer zones around abortion clinics.

### • DUP

- Commitment to providing Baby Boxes from 2021. (p18)
- Enhanced regional perinatal mental health service with community teams and an inpatient mother and baby unit. (p18)
- Supports Perinatal Hospice Care (p18)
- Supports increasing the childcare provision to support parents and child development. (p18)
- The DUP support action to monitor and reduce air pollution and anticipate the need for national level action to benefit Northern Ireland. (p20)
- More cancer treatments including chemotherapy at local units outside Belfast (p9)
- The NHSNI will be built around expansion of new roles such as physician associates and advanced clinical practitioners. (p9)
- The NHSNI will be built around boundaries between professions becoming less rigid (p9)
- The NHSNI will be built around an enhanced role for both pharmacists and paramedics as envisaged in the Donaldson report, and other professionals including radiographers. (p9)
- Community pharmacy will play a greater role in health care provision, with the potential to become health and well-being hubs (p9)
- There will be further enhanced Acute Care at Home provision (p9)
- More community-based paramedics (p9)
- Autonomous neighbourhood nursing teams (p9)
- Greater access to new technologies for monitoring diabetes (p9)
- Collaborate with community/voluntary organisations to improve leisure opportunities for those with disabilities, including access to inclusive beaches (p9)
- Development of innovative approaches for dementia provision (p9)
- Enhance skills of administrative staff in GP practices (p9)

- Pursue means to minimise the indemnity burden on General Practitioners in Northern Ireland. (p9)
- Extend throughout Northern Ireland the multidisciplinary teams commenced through C&S funding. (p9)
- Maximising benefits from digital technologies with early introduction of a comprehensive electronic health and care record. (p9)
- Northern Ireland as a leader in e-health, precision medicine and quality and safety. (p9)
- More data analysts to help understand and identify opportunities for early intervention. (p9)
- Promote greater understanding and awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, mental
- Promote greater understanding and awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, mental wellbeing and suicide prevention among staff. (p9)
- Support expansion of the Family Nurse Partnership that works with first-time teenage mothers and their children. (p9)
- Fortification of flour with folic acid to reduce neural tube defects. (p9)
- Social and environmental prescribing encouraged including in situations of loneliness and social isolation. (p9)
- A new regional elective centre for neurological disease. (p10)
- 24/7 access to the full range of services for all stroke patients, with an Acute Stroke Unit at the Ulster Hospital. (p10)
- A four-site model for breast assessment services including one to serve the South and SouthWest of Northern Ireland. (p10)
- Better scheduling of operating lists to make theatres more productive. (p10)
- Open visiting in hospital wards and care facilities (p10)
- Work with independent healthcare providers to stabilise the sector so that it continues to play a key role in the Health and Social Care system. (p10)
- Request expert analysis on the potential benefits of independent price regulation within the care sector. (p10)
- Ensure an ongoing focus on tackling dementia including implementing the regional strategy and innovative approaches to improving services. (p10)
- Deliver appropriate support and advice for unpaid carers to help meet their financial, psychological and social needs. (p10)
- New multidisciplinary teams in primary care through investment from the DUP's Confidence and Supply funding (p11)
- Enhanced regional perinatal mental health service with community teams and a mother and baby inpatient unit. (p11)
- Community psychiatry for those with learning disability. (p11)
- Enhanced eating disorders provision. (p11)
- Network of dementia home support. (p11)
- Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health crisis management service. (p11)
- 24-hour multidisciplinary mental health liaison service including self-harm and substance misuse, across all acute hospitals. (p11)
- Enhanced regional addictions provision including timelier access to substitute prescribing. (p11)
- Step-down provision for alcohol-related brain damage. (p11)
- Additional investment in child and adolescent mental health services (p11)

- In terms of mental health provision, develop a range of community options for individuals to be directed to, and expand social prescribing. (p11)
- On mental health, to improve facilities and develop a range of alternative non-clinical settings. (p12)
- An enhanced role for peer support in mental health services. (p12)
- Continuing increasing investment in psychological therapies to significantly improve waiting times.
- Utilising technological solutions including online treatment options. (p12)
- Investing more in promoting physical health of those with serious mental illness. (p12)
- Full implementation of the Mental Capacity Act, permitting individuals to make their own decisions. (p12)
- The DUP is committed to maintaining the NHSNI as free at the point of delivery and ensuring it can face those challenges.
- The DUP will increase spend on health by at least £1bn by the end of the Assembly term in 2021, with the budgetary and commissioning cycle extended to three years.
- There will be a refocusing of resources into the community and primary care, including diagnostics, multidisciplinary teams and expanding first contact physiotherapy.
- The NI Executive will seek a fair, sustainable model for adult social care across the UK.
- Implementation of the 'Systems not Structures' (Bengoa) Report.
- Reduction of bureaucracy by passing legislation to abolish the Health and Social Care Board.
- Enhanced collaboration across organisations such as the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.
- Greater involvement for individuals in their care with full electronic access to medical records and information.
- A new model for learning disability services, which will be able to adapt to and embrace the findings of investigations and a public inquiry into the failings at Muckamore Abbey Hospital.
- Support expediting a new cancer strategy for Northern Ireland.

## Plaid Cymru

- Free Social Care at the point of need, delivered by a new and seamless National Health and Social Care Service. This will cost the Welsh Government an extra £300m a year (p29)
- Establish parity of pay and terms and conditions between Social Care and Health Care workers. (p29)
- Train and recruit an additional 1,000 doctors, 5,000 nurses, and 100 dentists for the Welsh NHS (p31)
- Offer financial incentives for new doctors in hard to recruit areas and specialisms (p31)
- Bring NHS agency staff spending down to 2013-14 levels (p31)
- Rebalance the Welsh budget towards preventative, locally-delivered interventions across health and social services, education and support for families. (p32)
- Provide for a 5% increase in mental health expenditure every year for the next decade (p32)
- Train mental health professionals to deal with interrelated and co-occurring substance use issues (p33)
- Extend multi-disciplinary cancer diagnostic testing to all parts of the country

- Create a Community NHS Rehabilitation Service, bringing together GPs, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, District and Community Nurses, Mental Health Counsellors, and Patient Advocates. It will be responsible for follow-up treatment and ensuring that other services such as social security and local authorities play their part in helping patients.
- Approve a new regulatory body for approves NHS managers, responsible for setting and improving professional standards for managers within the NHS (p36)
- Establish a new national whistleblowing procedure and enhanced protection for whistle-blowers in the NHS (p36)
- Introduce a Patients' Rights Charter to specify minimum standards of service for patients, including maximum waiting times before patients receive treatment (p36)
- Invest in the infrastructure needed to make the Welsh NHS a world class environment for conducting clinical trials (p36)
- Continue to push for Welsh participation in European Research Networks, and to ensure that Wales receives its fair share of research funding (p36)
- Ensure that qualifications for professionals working in the NHS are rigorous and compatible with EU standards (p36)
- Press for free movement of health professionals throughout the EU (p36)
- Support the publication of all clinical trials to ensure transparency in medical research (p36)
- Support efforts to increase the robustness of EU licensing of medicines, and stronger regulation against false health claims being made in product marketing (p36)
- Use technological developments to underpin modernised models of care to deliver better outcomes for patients as well as increasing efficient use of finance and human resources (p36)
- Ensure patient records are fully electronic within the next period of Government (p37)
- Ensure every patient has access to a Digital Health Service which will offer an app for appointment booking, contacting specialist over a secure messaging service and viewing lab results (p37)

## Green Party

- End the NHS internal market to reduce administrative costs in the health service (p80)
- Update the School Food Standards to reflect latest nutritional guidance as part of tackling childhood obesity. (p23)
- Increase funding for the NHS by at least £6bn per year each year, until 2030 (p54)
- £1bn a year in nursing higher education, allowing for nursing bursaries to be restated (p54)
- Repeal the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and abolish the internal market (p54)
- Allow local authorities to lead a 'bottom up' process, and services will be planned and provided without contracts through Health Boards, which could cover more than one local authority area if there were local support (p54)
- Reinstate the Health Secretary's duty to ensure that are enough health and care staff (p54)
- Focus on new community health centres pioneering preventative healthcare, closer to people's homes (p54)
- Ensure that tailored and specific provision is available for particular needs of Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer and Asexual (LGBTIQ+) and Black Minority Ethnic (BME) communities, children and adolescents, and older people (p55)
- Ensure that all forms of birth control are free, to give women a real choice of the birth control that works best for them (p55)

Ensure that PrEP – a daily pill which prevents HIV infection – is provided by NHS England without delay (p55)

Funding of an additional £4.5bn a year to allow councils to provide free social care to people over 65 who needs support in their own homes.



- Scrap health charging for migrants (p61).
- Ensure that all women are entitled to the care of a single midwife through prenatal care, birth and the first month of post-natal care (p62).
- Expand baby clinics (p62).
- Increase funding for areas of the NHS heavily relied on by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer and Asexual (LGBTIQA+) people (p63).
- Introduce a legal right to independent living for disabled people, overseen by a National Independent Living Support Service (p63).

## Brexit Party

- Maintain the NHS as a publicly owned service free at the point of use. (p17) • There should be no privatisation of the NHS. (p17)
- Support investment in medical research and development. (p17)
- Abolish all politically imposed hospital targets that distort clinical priorities. (p18)
- Re-open the nursing and midwifery profession to recruitment without the degree requirement. (p18)
- Introduce 24-hour GP surgeries. (p18)
- Have a national debate on the NHS involving MPs, doctors and experts. (p18)









Essential information and connections

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