



UK General Election 2017 manifestos

Introduction

This briefing note gives details of the UK General Election 2017 manifestos published up to 18th May. A further briefing will be prepared when other manifestos are published.

Those published to date are:

- [Conservative Manifesto](#) Forward Together: Our Plan for a Stronger Britain and a Prosperous Future
- [Labour Manifesto](#) For The Many, Not The Few
- [Liberal Democrat](#) Change Britain's Future
- [Plaid Cymru](#) Action Plan 2017

Conservative Manifesto

Download the full manifesto here: <http://bit.ly/2pOzfnT>

Top line messages

The Conservatives say they will:

- Introduce a new plan for funding social care
- Increase NHS funding by a minimum of £8bn in real terms over the next five years
- Ensure that the NHS and social care system have the nurses, midwives, doctors, carers and other health professionals that it needs
- Lift a ban on new grammar schools

Health

The Conservative Party say they will increase NHS spending by a minimum of £8 billion in real terms over the next five years. They also say they will:

- ensure that the NHS and social care system have the nurses, midwives, doctors, carers and other health professionals that it needs.
- make it a priority in negotiations with the European Union that the 140,000 staff from EU countries can carry on making their vital contribution to our health and care system.
- ensure that the NHS has the buildings and technology it needs to deliver care properly and efficiently.
- enable more care to be delivered closer to home, by building and upgrading primary care facilities, mental health clinics and hospitals in every part of England.
- implement the recommendations of the Accelerated Access Review to make sure that patients get new drugs and treatments faster.
- support the Five Year Forward View.
- back the implementation of the plan at a local level, through the Sustainability and Transformation Plans, providing they are clinically led and locally supported.
- hold NHS England's leaders to account for delivering their plan to improve patient care.
- review the operation of the internal market.
- make non-legislative changes to remove barriers to the integration of care, in time for the start of the 2018 financial year.
- introduce a new GP contract to help develop wider primary care services.
- support more integrated working, including ensuring community pharmacies can play a stronger role to keep people healthy outside hospital within the wider health system.
- legislate to reform and rationalise the current outdated system of professional regulation of healthcare professions, based on the advice of professional regulators.
- encourage the development of new roles and create a diverse set of potential career paths for the NHS workforce.
- reform medical education, including helping universities and local health systems work closer together to develop the roles and skills needed to serve patients.

- strengthen the entitlement to flexible working to help those with caring responsibilities for young children or older relatives.
- introduce new services for employees to give them the support they need, including quicker access to mental health and musculoskeletal services.
- make clinical outcomes more transparent so that clinicians and frontline staff can learn more easily from the best units and practices, and where there is clear evidence of poor patient outcomes, we will take rapid corrective action.
- ensure patients have the information they need to understand local services and hold them to account.
- empower patients, giving them a greater role in their own treatment and use technology to put care at their convenience.
- continue to expand the number of NHS approved apps that can help monitor care and provide support for physical and mental health conditions.
- expand the use of personal budgets.
- provide a truly seven-day healthcare service.
- make sure patients receive proper consultant supervision every day of the week with weekend access to the key diagnostic tests needed to support urgent care.
- ensure hospitals can discharge emergency admissions at a similar rate at weekends as on weekdays, so that when someone is medically fit to leave hospital they can, whichever day of the week it is.
- retain the 95 per cent A&E target and the 18-week elective care standard.
- extend the scope of the CQC to cover the health-related services commissioned by local authorities.
- legislate for an independent healthcare safety investigations body in the NHS.
- recruit up to 10,000 more mental health professionals.
- require all medical staff to have a deeper understanding of mental health and all trainees will get a chance to experience working in mental health disciplines.
- improve standards of care for those with learning disabilities and autism.
- work to reduce stigma and discrimination and implement in full the Transforming Care Programme.
- improve the care we give people at the end of life.

Social Care

On social care, the Conservatives say they will:

- align the future basis for means-testing for domiciliary care with that for residential care.
- introduce a single capital floor, set at £100,000. This means people will always retain at least £100,000 of their savings and assets, including value in the family home.
- extend the current freedom to defer payments for residential care to those receiving care at home, so no-one will have to sell their home in their lifetime to pay for care.
- reduce loneliness and promote technological solutions to prolong independent living, and invest in dementia research.
- give workers a new statutory entitlement to carer's leave.

Mental Health

On mental health, the Conservatives say they will:

- make the UK the leading research and technology economy in the world for mental health
- reform laws to ensure that those with mental illness are treated fairly and employers fulfil their responsibilities effectively.
- introduce a Mental Health Bill, putting parity of esteem at the heart of treatment.
- amend health and safety regulations so that employers provide appropriate first aid training and needs assessment for mental health.
- train one million members of the public in basic mental health awareness.
- recruit up to 10,000 more mental health professionals.
- require all our medical staff to have a deeper understanding of mental health and all trainees will get a chance to experience working in mental health disciplines.
- publish a green paper on young people's mental health before the end of this year.
- reform Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services so that children with serious conditions are seen within an appropriate timeframe and no child has to leave their local area and their family to receive normal treatment.

Children and families

On children and families, the Conservatives say they will:

- institute a capital fund to help primary schools develop nurseries where they currently do not have the facilities to provide one.
- publish a green paper on young people's mental health before the end of this year.

- introduce mental health first aid training for teachers in every primary and secondary school by the end of the parliament
- ensure that every school has a single point of contact with mental health services.
- reform Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services so that children with serious conditions are seen within an appropriate timeframe and no child has to leave their local area and their family to receive normal treatment.
- demand all local authorities be commissioners of the highest-quality family support and child protection services, removing these responsibilities from the weakest councils and placing them in trust.
- ensure that councils provide consistency of care and cannot relocate vulnerable children far from their home when it is not in their best interests to do so.
- improve the family justice system.

Education

On education, the Conservatives say they will:

- continue their programme of free schools, building at least a hundred new free schools a year.
- prohibit councils from creating any new places in schools that have been rated either 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement' by Ofsted.
- lift the ban on the establishment of selective schools, subject to conditions, such as allowing pupils to join at other ages as well as eleven.
- conduct a review of school admissions policy.
- strengthen the teaching of literacy and numeracy in the early years so that all pupils get the best possible start in life.
- build on the phonics screening test.
- consider how Ofsted can give parents more information on what their children are being taught.
- bear down on unnecessary paperwork and the burden of Ofsted inspections
- increase the overall schools budget by £4 billion by 2022.
- continue to protect the Pupil Premium to support those who need it.
- replace 13,000 existing technical qualifications with new qualifications, known as T-levels, across 15 routes in subjects including construction, creative and design, digital, engineering and manufacturing, health and science.

Justice

On justice, the Conservatives say they will:

- create a new legal framework for prisons, strengthening the inspectorate and ombudsman to provide sharper external scrutiny.
- create a national community sentencing framework that punishes offenders and focuses on the measures that have a better chance of turning people around and preventing crime.
- introduce dedicated provision for women offenders.

They also say that:

- prisons must become places of safety, discipline and hard work, places where people are helped to turn their lives around. They should help prisoners learn English, maths and the work skills they need to get a job when they leave prison, whilst providing the help prisoners require to come off drugs and deal with mental health problems.

Disabilities

On the disability gap, the Conservatives say they will:

- get 1 million more people with disabilities into employment over the next ten years.
- give employers the advice and support they need to hire and retain disabled people and those with health conditions.
- legislate to give unemployed disabled claimants or those with a health condition personalised and tailored employment support.

Labour Manifesto

Download the full manifesto here: <http://bit.ly/2pZTxGY>

Top line messages

Labour say they will:

- commit to over £30 billion in extra NHS funding over the next Parliament
- re-introduce bursaries and funding for health-related degrees
- increase the social care budgets by a further £8 billion over the lifetime of the next Parliament
- introduce a fairer funding formula for schools that leaves no school worse off

Health

On the NHS, Labour commit to over £30 billion in extra funding over the next Parliament through increasing income tax for the highest 5% of earners and by increasing tax on private medical insurance.

They also say they will:

- halt and review the NHS 'Sustainability and Transformation Plans', and ask local people to participate in the redrawing of plans with a focus on patient need rather than available finances.
- create a new quality, safety and excellence regulator – to be called 'NHS Excellence'.
- work towards a new model of community care that takes into account not only primary care but also social care and mental health.
- increase funding to GP services to ensure patients can access the care they need.
- make sure that autistic people are able to access the whole of their community and to put an end to social isolation - an ambition to make our country autism-friendly.
- ensure that everyone with a long-term condition will have the right to a specialised care plan, and access to condition-management education.
- guarantee access to treatment within 18 weeks, taking 1 million people off NHS waiting lists by the end of the next Parliament.
- guarantee that patients can be seen in A&E within 4 hours.
- deliver the Cancer Strategy for England in full by 2020.
- increase funding to GP services to ensure patients can access the care they need.
- halt pharmacy cuts and review provision to ensure all patients have access to pharmacy services, particularly in deprived or remote communities.
- ensure all NHS patients get fast access to the most effective new drugs and treatments
- ensure high-quality, personalised care for people approaching the end of their life
- will fund free parking in NHS England for patients, staff and visitors – by increasing the tax on private medical insurance premiums.
- boost capital funding for the NHS, to ensure that patients are cared for in buildings and using equipment that are fit for the 21st century.
- reverse privatisation of our NHS and return our health service into expert public control.
- repeal the Health and Social Care Act

On NHS staff, they say they will:

- scrap the NHS pay cap, putting pay decisions back into the hands of the independent pay review body.
- legislate to ensure safe staffing levels in the NHS.
- reintroduce bursaries and funding for health-related degrees.
- immediately guarantee the rights of EU staff working in our health and care services.
- make it an aggravated criminal offence to attack NHS staff.

On public health, Labour say they will focus on child health, pledging to:

- bring in a new government ambition for our children to be the healthiest in the world
- fight health inequalities to break the link between child ill-health and poverty.
- introduce a new Index of Child Health to measure progress against international standards, and report annually against four key indicators: obesity, dental health, under-fives and mental health.
- set up a new £250 million Children's Health Fund.
- increase the number of health visitors and school nurses.

On mental health, Labour say they will:

- ring-fence mental health budgets
- invest in early intervention by increasing the proportion of mental health budgets spent on support for children and young people.
- ensure that access to a counselling service is available for all children in secondary schools.
- ask the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) to evaluate the potential for increasing the range of evidence-based psychological therapies on offer.

Social care

On social care, Labour say they will:

- increase the social care budgets by a further £8 billion over the lifetime of the next Parliament, including an additional £1 billion for the first year.
- build a National Care Service alongside the NHS, with a shared requirement for single commissioning, partnership arrangements, pooled budgets and joint working arrangements.

Education

On early years, Labour say they will:

- roll out educational provision for early years children as part of a National Education Service
- maintain current commitments on free hours and make significant capital investment during the first two years of government, to ensure that the places exist to meet demand.
- transition to a qualified, graduate-led workforce, by increasing staff wages and enhancing training opportunities.
- halt the closures and increase the amount of money available for Sure Start.

On schools, Labour say they will:

- introduce a fairer funding formula that leaves no school worse off, while redressing the historical underfunding of certain schools.
- deliver a strategy for children with SEND based on inclusivity, and embed SEND more substantially into training for teachers and non-teaching staff.
- abandon plans to reintroduce baseline assessments and launch a commission to look into curriculum and assessment.
- not spend money on free schools and grammar schools and oppose any attempt to force schools to become academies.
- require joined-up admissions policies across local schools to enable councils to fulfil their responsibilities on child places, to simplify the admissions process for parents and to ensure that no child slips through the net.
- invest in measures to close the attainment gap between children from different backgrounds.
- extend schools-based counselling to all schools to improve children's mental health.

Justice

On prisons, Labour say they will:

- recruit 3,000 more prison officers and review the training and professional development available.
- insist on personal rehabilitation plans for all prisoners.
- review the provision of mental health services in prisons.
- continue to innovate and incentivise local authorities, police forces and probation services to engage effectively with young people at risk of drifting into anti-social or criminal
- embed restorative justice practices across all youth offending institutions.

People with disabilities

With respect to people with disabilities. Labour pledge to:

- tackle discrimination, remove barriers and ensure social security delivers dignity and empowerment
- work with employers, trade unions and public services to improve awareness of neurodiversity in the workplace and in society.
- give British Sign Language full recognition as a recognised language.

Liberal Democrat Manifesto

Download the full manifesto here: <http://bit.ly/2rqzMtq>

Top line messages

The Liberal Democrats say they will:

- invest £6bn in the NHS and social care.
- produce a national workforce strategy, to ensure that we never experience a shortage in the numbers of GPs, hospital doctors, nurses and other professionals that the NHS needs.
- invest nearly £7bn in children's education

Health

On the NHS, The Liberal Democrats have committed to invest £6bn in the NHS and social care, funded with an immediate 1p rise on the basic, higher and additional rates of Income Tax, and to direct this additional investment to the following priority areas in the health and care system: social care; primary care (and other out-of-hospital care); mental health and public health

They also say they will:

- in the longer term, and as a replacement for the 1p Income Tax rise, commission the development of a dedicated health and care tax
- introduce a statutory independent budget monitoring agency for health and care, similar to the Office for Budget Responsibility
- expand evening and weekend opening to meet the needs of local patients, encouraging online, phone and Skype appointments
- support GPs to come together to collectively provide services such as out-of normal-opening-hours appointments
- use innovation funding to promote GP-led multidisciplinary health and care hubs, including mobile services to keep people out of hospital
- encourage GPs and other community clinicians to work in disadvantage areas through our Patient Premium – which would give incentive payments to clinicians.

On staffing, the Liberal Democrats say they will:

- guarantee the rights of all NHS and social care service staff who are EU nationals to stay in the UK
- end the public sector pay freeze for NHS workers
- reinstate student nurse bursaries
- protect NHS whistle-blowers
- produce a national workforce strategy, to ensure that we never experience a shortage in the numbers of GPs, hospital doctors, nurses and other professionals that the NHS needs.

Mental health

On mental health, the Liberal Democrats say they will:

- ring-fence funding from within the 1p Income Tax rise, to provide additional investment in mental health
- guarantee that people will not wait more than six weeks for therapy for depression or anxiety
- ensure no young person will wait more than two weeks for treatment when they experience a first episode of psychosis
- increase access to clinically- and cost-effective talking therapies.
- examine the case for introducing a dedicated mental health service for children and young people
- end out-of-area placements, ensuring those admitted to hospital for mental ill-health are able to be treated close to home
- roll out the Liaison and Diversion programme nationally, helping to identify people who have mental health problems, learning disabilities, substance misuse or other vulnerabilities when they first come into contact with the criminal justice system.

Public health

On public health, the Liberal Democrats say they will:

- publish a National Wellbeing Strategy
- keep public health within local government, and reinstate the funding cut from public health budgets by the Conservatives.

Social care

In addition to the health and social care funding commitment above, on social care, the Liberal Democrats say they will:

- implement a cap on the cost of social care
- give the NHS a legal duty to identify carers and develop a Carer's Passport scheme.

On health and social care integration, the Liberal Democrats have said they will:

- establish a cross-party health and social care convention
- move towards single place-based budgets for health and social care by 2020
- remodel the health care funding system to eliminate perverse incentives, by moving away from payments for activity and introducing tariffs that encourage joined-up services.

Education

On education, the Liberal Democrats say they will:

- invest nearly £7bn in children's education – increasing school budgets and the Pupil Premium to protect against rising costs and pupil numbers
- introduce a "fairer" national funding system so that no school loses money
- ensure that identification and support for special educational needs and disabilities takes place as early as possible
- ensure all new policies should have an assessment of how they affect pupils who have special educational needs and ensure they adhere to duties under the Equality Act
- give local authorities "proper democratic control" over admissions and new schools
- repeal the rule that all new state-funded schools must be free schools or academies
- encourage local head teachers with a strong record to play a key role in school improvement
- reverse all cuts to front-line school and college budgets, protecting per-pupil funding in real terms
- introduce a curriculum entitlement which will include Personal, Social and Health Education
- make the curriculum the responsibility of an Educational Standards Authority
- prioritise primary progress measures instead of floor thresholds and work with the profession to reform tests at 11, preventing curriculum narrowing in upper Key Stage 2
- ensure collaboration between leading education and family organisations to improve the flow of information between home and school

Justice

- introduce a Victims' Bill of Rights that will create a single point of contact for victims in the criminal justice system, increase victims' access to information about their cases, and give victims the right to request restorative justice rather than a prison sentence.
- introduce a presumption against short prison sentences and increase the use of tough, non-custodial punishments including weekend and evening custody, curfews, community service and GPS tagging.
- promote community justice panels and restorative justice that brings victims and wrongdoers together to resolve conflict, reduce harm and encourage rehabilitation.
- extend the responsibility of the Youth Justice Board to all offenders under 21, giving it the power to commission mental-health services.
- transform prisons into places of rehabilitation, recovery, learning and work, with suitable treatment, education or work available to all prisoners;
- adopt a holistic approach to prisoners with multiple problems, and ensure that courses started in custody can be completed on release.

Plaid Cymru Manifesto

Download the full manifesto here: <http://bit.ly/2qn3Wjf>

Top line messages

Plaid Cymru say they will:

- train and recruit an additional 1,000 doctors and 5,000 nurses for the Welsh NHS in the next decade
- introduce a social care rescue plan which will help people to live independently and increase the role of community hospitals
- provide free full-time nursery places for all three year olds and raise education standards in schools

Health and social care

Plaid Cymru's manifesto includes the following pledges on health and social care:

- a world-class health service that works.
- train and recruit an additional 1,000 doctors and 5,000 nurses and establish a medical school in the north of Wales.
- a social care rescue plan to help people to live independently and increase the role of community hospitals
- a carers' contract to support those who care for others.
- a target to save 10,000 lives over ten years, through a range of measures from public health actions and promoting individual lifestyle changes, whilst also ensuring earlier diagnosis of disease and better access to life-saving treatments.
- we will continue to call for increased funding and improved access to trained counsellors and therapists in the community to improve support for people with mental health conditions.

Education

Their manifesto includes the following pledges on education:

- free full-time nursery places for all three year olds, part of a three point plan for tackling child poverty, which will also include measures to end fuel poverty through reduced household bills and scrapping the bedroom tax.
- raise education standards, by pledging to pay teachers a more competitive salary and improving teachers' training to allow them to reach higher qualifications and perform better.
- guarantee employment, education or training for any person under-25 looking for work and the creation of a new network of specialist National Colleges of Vocational Education, for 14+ and post-compulsory education.
- increase the availability of Welsh language education from nursery, to further and higher education right through to adult learning and act to help achieve the steps in our 'Reaching the Million' framework for the Welsh language.

People with disabilities

Plaid Cymru say they will support and encourage disabled people into employment without facing threats of sanctions.