Scotland’s General Election 2016 - Manifesto Summary

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Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party
Leader: Ruth Davidson

Link: http://www.scottishconservatives.com/policy/manifestos/

Additional Formats: available in ‘clear print’ and ‘large print’

Top lines –

- Aiming to lead opposition and scrutiny in the Scottish Parliament.
- Clear appeal for support from all those against a second referendum.
- Proposed a 10 point programme for opposition.

Health

- Protect and increase NHS funding.
- Increase support and funding for mental health services, greater use of ‘social prescribing’.
- Support for new models of Primary Care including ‘GP clusters’, additional funding for more early years focused health visitors.
- Consider devolving disability benefits to new health and social care partnerships to better support individual care.
- Increase support for people with dementia, especially those under 65.

Social care

- Crisis Family Fund to target help and early intervention tailored to support families.

Education

- Support for national testing and more early years teaching in literacy and numeracy.
- Expand availability of counselling services in Secondary schools.

Employment

- Halve the rate of unemployment for people with disabilities.

Criminal Justice

- Review ‘purposeful activity’ for inmates to improve rehabilitation.
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Scottish Liberal Democrats
Leader: Willie Rennie

Link: [http://www.scotlibdems.org.uk/manifesto](http://www.scotlibdems.org.uk/manifesto)

Additional Formats: available in ‘clear print’, ‘large print’ and ‘easy read’.

Top lines –

- Get Scotland back on track and fit for the future.
- Additional investment in education, skills and mental health.
- Frontline professionals need to be empowered.

Education

- Pupil Premium that provides extra support and better attainment.
- Propose a 1p increase in income tax rate to raise £½ billion for investment in education.
- Expand Early Years Learning in terms of both quantity and quality available.
- Invest in more foreign language assistants in schools.

Health

- Double the budget for Children’s and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).
- Train more mental health professionals for deployment in different settings and fund more therapies.
- Protect health budgets.
- Review provision of counselling in schools.
- Increase Primary Care funding and treble the Primary Care Fund.
- Public Service Leadership and Empowerment ‘Act’ to give professionals, including Allied Health Professionals, the right to exercise their skills in public services and improve those services. This will reduce the use of targets.
- Improve NHS workforce planning by annually reviewing performance in Parliament.
- Free personal care extended to cover people with dementia and other degenerative illnesses of all ages.
- Extend ‘social prescribing’ through GP’s including access to free exercise programmes.
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Scottish Green Party
Co-Convenors: Patrick Harvie & Maggie Chapman

Link: https://www.greens.scot/scotland-can

Additional Formats: available in ‘accessible version’.

Top lines –

- Need to be bolder to meet our aspirations.
- Scotland can create 200,000 ‘green jobs’.
- Health inequalities are holding back society.

Education

- Greater access to a qualified teacher in every nursery school.
- Recruit an additional 4,000 FTE teachers.
- Support for Learning teachers to be made promoted posts.

Health

- More power given to ‘senior healthcare professionals’, less paperwork and more time for CPD.
- Equitable resources for primary care to achieve early intervention and improve long-term outcomes.
- Support expansion of Healthy Start community based health projects.
- Identify and tackle child health issues including results of trauma.
- Equitable resource distribution between physical and mental health.

Social Care

- Use progressive taxation instead of charges to fund social care.
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Scottish National Party
Leader: Nicola Sturgeon

Link: http://www.snp.org/manifesto

Additional formats: available in audio, ‘large print’, Braille’ and ‘Easy Read’.

Top lines –

- Strong public services underpinned by a successful economy.
- SNP Government has protected Scotland from cuts.
- Trust people of Scotland to make the big decisions for the country.

Health

- Increase NHS revenue budget over inflation, reform and invest in primary care.
- 10 year plan and investment in mental health services.
- Implement new clinical strategy to develop specialist services and protect local services.
- Transform primary care with new GP contracts and multi-disciplinary community hubs.
- Extra 500 health visitors by 2018 and aim for every child to benefit from a health development check at 30 months.
- **New strategy for families with disabled children** to make sure they get the right support at the right time, and a **new strategy for child and adolescent health and well-being**.

Education

- Implement new National Improvement Framework to close attainment gap.
- Increase investment through Scottish Attainment Fund by £750 million with more decision making devolved to schools and head teachers.
- Continue to support ‘Bookbug’ and ‘Play Talk Read’, providing families with books and materials in the most deprived communities.
- The Attainment Challenge and Attainment Fund will be expanded to cover more children and secondary schools.
- **Head teachers will have resources to invest in how they wish to raise attainment** in their school, for example additional assistants, home link workers, out of school activities.
- **Continue with ‘Read, Write, Count’** to improve literacy and numeracy by providing books and materials for every p1-p3.
- Implement new legal duties and rights to support Gaelic Medium Education as part of ongoing commitment to stabilise and increase the number of Gaelic speakers.

Social Care

- Consider extending free personal and nursing care to those under 65 with dementia.
- Consult on new national guidance and a cap on social care charges.
- **New 3 year Dementia Strategy** to deliver better home based support.
- National strategy to tackle social isolation with a £500,000 fund.
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**Scottish Labour Party**

Leader: Kezia Dugdale

Link: [http://www.scottishlabour.org.uk/blog/entry/scottish-labour-manifesto-2016](http://www.scottishlabour.org.uk/blog/entry/scottish-labour-manifesto-2016)


Top lines –

- Use new powers to stop cuts and grow the economy.
- Will increase spending in real terms.
- Will use new tax powers to raise money for investment.

Health

- Prioritise tackling health inequalities.
- Guarantee a GP surgery appointment within 48 hours.
- Mental health to receive same priority as physical health.
- Develop dedicated neurological care and support services.

Social Care

- Guarantee a social care package within a week.
- Begin work to remove social care charges.
- National Loneliness Strategy to train key professionals in understanding and preventing social isolation.

Education

- Ensure the early years workforce has access to speech and language therapy skills to support parents with the basics of early language, and identify and refer children who need extra help.
- Ensure health visitors and others have access to specific opportunities for professional development around young children’s language development.
- Training and qualifications in language and communication development should become a strong ‘promotion pathway’ for the early years workforce.
- All Secondary schools to have access to qualified counselling services.