

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>

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>

Alternative formats: 'Large print', 'easy read', Braille and audio.

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.