

2021 Senedd Election – Comparison of manifestos and key priorities

	Welsh Labour	Welsh Conservative Party	Plaid Cymru	Welsh Liberal Democrats	Wales Green Party
	Welsh Labour Manifesto 2021 – Moving Wales Forward	The Welsh Conservative Party Manifesto 2021 – A plan for recovery and change	Plaid Cymru Manifesto 2021 – Let us face the future together	Welsh Liberal Democrats 2021 Manifesto – Put Recovery First	Wales Green Party Manifesto 2021 – Transform Wales
Build quality and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving building safety to ensure that “people feel safe and secure in their homes.” - Developing a fire safety fund for existing buildings. - Campaigning for the Health and Safety Executive to be devolved to Wales. - Masterplans for towns and highstreets to coordinate economic opportunities and services. - Developing a register of empty buildings and help for small businesses to move into shops. - Launching a new 10-year Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan for a zero-carbon economy. - Delivering on the £100m Tech-Valleys programme and the £1bn dualling of the Heads of the Valleys road. - Progressing plans for a metro in North Wales and Swansea Bay. - Investing in major new bus infrastructure projects. - Investing £1.5bn in the next phase of the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme. - Building a new medical school in North Wales. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing a Fire Safety Fund to compensate leaseholders for fire safety works and eliminate unsafe cladding. - Reforming leasehold tenures, including a ban on the sale of new leasehold homes, to establish a redress system for leaseholders. - Committing to achieving and maintaining the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and introducing a Student Accommodation Quality Standard for halls of residence. - Building 100,000 new houses in the next decade, including 40,000 new social homes. - Overhauling the Welsh planning system “with new technology and cutting red tape whilst putting communities first.” - Allowing local communities to establish neighbourhood plans, to influence development in their areas. - Simplifying Section 106 contributions to speed up house building and ensure that developer contributions are used properly. - Investing £2bn to create modern infrastructure, including new roads and road upgrades, and green charging points. - Building five new and upgraded community hospitals and creating an NHS Hospitals and Buildings Recovery Fund. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reforming the planning system to prevent the creation of poor-quality sector new builds. - Replacing the Section 106 agreements with a single uniform community infrastructure levy. - £4bn extra funding in infrastructure to support economic recovery from Covid-19. - Tasking the National Infrastructure Commission, Development Bank and Future Generations Commissioner to turn its State of the Nation report into a detailed schedule of investable infrastructure projects. - Placing the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales on a statutory footing, widening its scope to include social infrastructure, and merging with the Design Commission for Wales. - Building or converting 50,000 public homes over the next five years – 30,000 council houses or other social housing, 5,000 cost-rental homes at intermediate rent, and 15,000 genuinely affordable homes to buy. This will include some 26,000 empty homes and empty spaces to be brought back into use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building 30,000 new social homes for rent. - Delivering reforms to protect people living in high rise buildings in Wales and preventing them from facing unfair costs. - Setting clear minimum standards for the private rented sector on accessibility and energy efficiency. - Introducing a Planning Act to change existing planning laws, ensuring that community interests are protected and making sure that Health Impact Assessments are embedded in planning decisions and decision-making. - Granting the Future Generations Commissioner powers to scrutinise and challenge planning decisions that are detrimental to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. - Replace Section 106 contributions with a Development Levy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building 12,000 new homes a year, the majority of which would be social homes, with all meeting the highest environmental and energy efficiency standards. - Implementing new, positive planning approaches, with a statutory requirement for local citizen engagement to create places with distinctive identities. - Advocating for a Land Value Tax and giving the public sector and not-for-profit housing organisations greater powers to buy land at agricultural price, to encourage developers to build houses rather than sit on land banks. - Abolishing the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and replacing it with direct public funding.

		<p>- Creating a freeport in North Wales and establishing a £20m Welsh Ports Development Fund.</p> <p>- Accelerating the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme.</p>			
<p>Education, skills and training</p>	<p>- Developing a Young Persons Guarantee which will give everyone under the age of 25 the offer of work, education, training, or self-employment.</p> <p>- Creating 125,000 'all-age' apprenticeships in the next Senedd term, working with unions to expand the use of shared and degree apprenticeships.</p> <p>- Expanding Personal Learning Accounts to allow flexible learning and the development of new skills.</p>	<p>- Expanding degree apprenticeships and providing 150,000 apprenticeships by 2026.</p> <p>- Introducing a Second Chance Fund for those who have left formal education to go back and study a level three qualification</p> <p>- Investing £100m in Further Education colleges and using Further Education to create apprenticeships.</p> <p>- Establishing an Institute of Technology in North Wales, focusing on STEM subjects.</p> <p>- Cutting tuition fees in half for Welsh students studying STEM and modern foreign languages subjects.</p> <p>- Introducing a compensation scheme for students whose courses have been disrupted by Covid-19.</p>	<p>- Supporting young people in employment through the creation of a National Employment Plan to set out the jobs needed to meet the Youth Guarantee. Particular focus on construction and in the low carbon economy.</p> <p>- Creating 60,000 new jobs over the course of the Senedd term. Including thousands of new jobs through a Welsh Green Deal.</p> <p>- Investing in major training programmes to tackle under-represented groups in areas such as construction</p> <p>- Conducting a Ministerial review of post-16 provision and placing vocation education on the same foundations as academic learning.</p> <p>- Developing a new Skills Framework for Wales to better match jobs to people and vice versa.</p> <p>- Setting a target of producing 5,000 additional STEM graduates a year.</p> <p>- Consulting with universities and employers about phasing out GCSEs, A levels and BTEC's – replacing with a Welsh version of the International Baccalaureate.</p> <p>- Ensuring all apprentices under the age of 21 are partnered with a Further Education college to ensure appropriate support.</p>	<p>- Expanding degree apprenticeships, including at postgraduate level, diversifying the subjects available and creating more routes into employment.</p> <p>- Addressing under-representation in apprenticeships by setting and meeting targets for disabled people and people from BAME backgrounds.</p> <p>- Embedding a right to lifelong learning through expanded Personal Learning Accounts which will give everyone in Wales access to free, flexible courses.</p> <p>- Working with the Further Education sector, employers, and key stakeholders to develop a vision for post-16 education that works in the best interest of learners and staff, providing flexible and valid qualifications.</p>	<p>- Widening higher and further education, and ensuring no fees are payable for initial degrees.</p> <p>- Providing more training and re-training opportunities as part of the Green New Deal, readily accessible to all with locally based delivery to supplement online learning.</p> <p>- Re-investing in Further Education sector and supporting apprenticeship routes into work at the Further Education stage.</p> <p>- Continuing the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for all young people who need it to continue their education.</p>

<p>Net zero and the environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building 20,000 new, low carbon social homes for rent, which Labour says will create thousands of green jobs through a “low-carbon housebuilding revolution.” - Creating a timber based industrial strategy to “develop and sustain the high value production and processing of Welsh wood.” - Creating a new National Forest and creating 30 new woodlands and harnessing the power of this Forest to build on progress towards creating a sustainable timber industry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting a target for Wales of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and a target for all new homes to be net zero by 2026. - Creating 15,000 new green jobs to make Wales the “green energy capital of the world”. - Vouchers of up to £5,000 for households to improve their energy efficiency, with the limit increased to £10,000 for households on low incomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Green New Deal - Bringing forward Wales’ zero carbon emissions from 2050 to 2035. - Banning fossil fuel in new homes from 2022 and by 2023 ensuring all will have be highly energy efficient. - Creation of a long-term energy efficiency infrastructure plan to retrofit the entire Welsh housing stock to higher environmental standards by 2050. This includes the retrofitting of 200,000 homes in the Senedd term. - Every home will be offered a free energy audit and recommendations on a conversion plan. - A programme of installing heat pumps, prioritising off-grid homes. - Increasing the level of investment in flood mitigation to £500m over the course of the Senedd term. - Ensuring all departmental budgets within Government are aligned with nature and climate restoration. - £6bn Green Economic Stimulus to help create 60,000 jobs. - Introducing a Nature Act with statutory targets to restore biodiversity by 2050. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating an investment package of £1bn per year to tackle the climate emergency, create green jobs and support supply chains. - Introducing a Green Homes Act to cut average household energy bills and build more energy efficient homes. - Investing in retrofitting existing homes to make them more energy efficient, to create jobs and save households money. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Green New Deal, to deliver net zero carbon emissions by 2030. - A Green Transformation Fund for Wales to finance Green New Deal Measures and decarbonisation. This fund will issue bonds to raise finance for the decarbonisation of existing houses and construction of new, net zero homes. - Ensuring sufficient ongoing investment to deliver the retrofitting of existing housing stock to meet the highest energy efficiency standards and removing the 5% VAT on refurbishment materials. - Requiring all new housing to be built to net zero standards. - Advocating for a carbon tax to help reduce Wales’ carbon emissions to net zero by 2030. - Strengthening existing Welsh Government commitments to a circular economy, including support for new re-use and repair hubs. - A new Planning and Environment Act, linked to the Well-being of Future Generations Act, to harmonise planning and environment law. - Ensuring a presumption against development in certain areas, including those at risk of flooding, previously undeveloped land, high quality agricultural land and important natural areas. - Using planning to prioritise the conservation, restoration and enhancement of valuable landscapes, including reforestation
--	--	---	---	--	---

					and the development of Welsh forestry and wood products , consistent with biodiversity.
Other key pledges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping the 1% increase in Land Transaction Tax charged on second home purchases. - Committing to no increases to Welsh rates of income tax until the economy has recovered from Covid-19, and to reforming Council Tax to make it fairer. - Helping businesses work cooperatively to support local supply chains. - Strengthening the autonomy and effectiveness of local government. - Prioritising investment in mental health services to support long-term pandemic recovery. The manifesto promises to “invest in our workforce, training people to provide early support with mental wellbeing and resilience.” - Creating an equalities legal service to provide support on unfair or discriminatory employment practices. - Implementing a Welsh language Communities Housing Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating 65,000 new jobs, 15,000 of which will be green. - Committing to a two-year Council Tax freeze and ensuring no new taxes during the next Senedd term. - Cutting Stamp Duty for first time buyers and raising the threshold to £250,000. - A ‘Jump Start’ scheme for micro businesses, paying the employer National Insurance contributions of two new employees for two years. - Cutting business rates for small businesses and creating a 3-year business rate holiday for SMEs. - Establishing ‘Innovate Wales’, based in North Wales, to support new and existing enterprises. - A Covid bounce back package, including a £2.5bn Rebuild Wales Investment Fund, and a dedicated Covid-19 Recovery Minister in the Welsh Government to oversee the coronavirus recovery. - Introducing a new Mental Health Act to update current legislation and undertaking a review of mental health services through a Commission on Mental Health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expanding Welsh firms’ share of public contracts from 52% to 75% of the public procurement budget. - Creation of Prosperity Wales, an arms-length development agency to focus on growing SME Welsh firms. - Enshrining the right to housing in law. - Making health equality the goal in Government, with emphasis on preventative measures that improve mental health. - Appointing Managers to co-ordinate town centre development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Piloting a nation-wide Universal Basic Income. - Freezing business rates for the life of the next Senedd, and work towards replacing them in the long-term with a fairer system. - Introducing a Business Rate Investment Relief Fund to support businesses to invest in productivity and decarbonisation. - Introducing an Economic Development Bill, to support businesses and promote high-value enterprise and investment. - Enshrining the right to affordable, safe housing in law. - Increasing mental health’s share of funding to 13% of all NHS spend by 2028. - Introducing a People’s Procurement Act, requiring local authorities to commission small local businesses and supply chains as a priority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocating for the immediate introduction of a Universal Basic Income. - Proposing a Green Wellbeing Economy that is geared to directly contributing to social and environmental wellbeing, that supports small local businesses and communities. - Advocating for a reset of the tax system to redistribute wealth from the rich to the poor, and to more adequately reward front-line work and prioritise the environment. - Creating price stability in housing by regulating to make speculation in housing less attractive and to increase the housing supply. - Committing to affordable, accessible, secure and decent housing as a human right. - Raising the legal status of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act, to ensure that more decisions are informed by wellbeing and environmental goals.