

2021 Scottish Parliament Election – Comparison of manifestos and key priorities

	Scottish Labour	Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party	Scottish National Party	Scottish Liberal Democrats	Scottish Greens
	Scottish Labour 2021 Manifesto: Our National Recovery Plan	The Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party Manifesto 2021: Rebuild Scotland	SNP 2021 Manifesto: Scotland's Future, Scotland's Choice	Scottish Liberal Democrats 2021 Manifesto: Put Recovery First	Scottish Greens 2021 Manifesto: Our Common Future
Quality of the built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting stricter regulation of fire safety and building standards in high-rise buildings, including the use of cladding materials. - Establishing a National Housing Agency to implement a long-term housing strategy, including an adequate, mixed tenure supply of housing, and the acquisition of land and finance. - Reinstating the ability of public authorities to acquire land at existing use value for social homes, to unlock funds for infrastructure and development. - Revising mandatory minimum space, quality and energy performance standards in new and refurbished homes as part of a long-term housing strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banning the use of combustible cladding on buildings and undertaking an audit to identify all buildings in Scotland where combustible cladding is used, remediating them where necessary. - Amending planning laws so that the Scottish Government is not able to overturn local planning decisions and relaxing them to allow the redevelopment of long-term unoccupied business properties into housing. - Introducing a new national public gardens strategy, to redevelop brownfield sites in large towns and cities into new parks. - Supporting a communities' 'first right to buy' local business properties, to restore high streets. - Introducing a Compulsory Sales Order for long-term unoccupied properties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing £100m to support homeowners requiring an EWS1 Report, including a system of single assessment to determine what remedial work is necessary. - Introducing a new housing standard, set in law, by 2025 to cover all new and existing homes and including aspects such as repairing and safety standards, minimum space standards, digital connectivity, futureproofing and energy efficiency. - Introducing a Land Reform Bill with a pre-emption in favour of community buy-out where title to land is transferred. - Bringing forward new legislation to introduce Land Capture Value, to ensure changes of land use lead to a proportion of the increase in price being reinvested into the local community. - Allocating £50m to a Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme to ensure land is used for maximum community and environmental benefit, particularly in deprived areas. - Strengthening compulsory purchase powers for local authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changing planning regulations to make it easier for local authorities to adapt to post-pandemic circumstances and incorporate environment and community priorities into planning decisions. - Extending permitted development rights for urban derelict land and rural farm buildings to be converted into zero emissions homes and introducing Help to Renovate loans to bring derelict homes back into use - Creating a Brownfield First policy, under which planning applicants must demonstrate that no brownfield land is available for their proposal before permission can be granted on greenfield sites. - Prioritising land acquisition for communities by developing a localised service to assist self-builders and communities in securing land to meet housing demand. - Instituting a First Time Builders Fund, modelled on the Scottish Government's First Home Fund, to support population growth in rural areas where there is no existing housing stock available for purchase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewing the Scottish Housing Quality Standard to ensure it is fit for purpose. - Planning reform to include the climate as a material consideration in planning decisions and empower community-led development through Local Place Plans. - Making 15-minute neighbourhoods a key principle of Scotland's Planning Policy Framework. - Taxing vacant and derelict land and granting local authorities the power to issue Empty Property Use Orders. - Bringing forward a Land Reform Act to tackle monopolies, promote fairer management of land and regulate the sale of land, and commissioning a review of taxation and subsidies relating to land ownership.
Infrastructure & procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing a 'Better Business Scotland' certification scheme for businesses who want to work with the public sector to ensure they meet high standards, including a commitment to reach net zero. - Restructuring the Scottish National Investment Bank so it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building 60,000 new affordable homes, with two thirds allocated to social housing. The party will also aim to increase overall housebuilding across sectors to 25,000 per year by the end of Parliament. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building 100,000 affordable homes by 2032, with £3.5bn investment over the course of the parliament, supporting 14,000 jobs per year. - Investing £33bn in a 'National Infrastructure Mission', including the creation of a new National Infrastructure Company. The mission will fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build 60,000 affordable homes to help address homelessness. - Supporting the recommendations of the Infrastructure Commission that more emphasis must be given to the maintenance of public assets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting the building of 70,000 homes by 2026 and a further 50,000 by 2027, 70% of which should be for social rent. - Building 84,000 homes for social rent by 2032 and buying land at existing use value.

	<p>can provide investment in 'capital for good' projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopting a local first approach to procurement and using the Scottish National Investment Bank to support the creation of new local supply chains. - Allocating funding to repair the road and path network, repairing potholes and improving key routes such as the A83. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing £200m in a Road Maintenance Fund to repair potholes. - Introducing a 'Scotland First' approach to public procurement, to ensure that local jobs, skills development, and environmental and social impacts are considered. - Supporting SMEs by blacklisting companies that fail to pay supply chains on time. - Placing the Infrastructure Commission on statutory footing, and making it accountable to Scottish Parliament, to ensure investment in regional infrastructure. - Supporting freeport bids from ports across Scotland. 	<p>investment in new hospitals, rail infrastructure, community and town regeneration and digital infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing £1bn in the Scottish National Investment Bank. - Introducing a Community Wealth Building Act requiring increased local procurement from local authorities and public bodies. - Creating 20-minute neighbourhoods, including setting a national objective to increase the amount of housing within town centres and high-streets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting connectivity investment programmes such as the A9, A96 and for the A82 and A83 corridors - Ensuring community engagement plans are in place at the planning stage of major infrastructure projects. - Overhauling public sector procurement policies to ensure they support SMEs and fair employment practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requiring private mass housebuilders to provide a proportion of affordable housing built to the same standards as the rest of each development. - Investing £7.5bn in a green infrastructure programme over the next five years, funding public transport, renewables and energy efficient buildings. - Ensure enterprise and infrastructure funding is targeted at the low carbon economy and supports Scottish supply chains and setting conditions for Scottish content in supply chains where possible. - Aligning public procurement with good business principles.
<p>Education & skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introducing a Jobs for Recovery scheme, offering everyone under 25 who does not have a job a guaranteed position within the Scottish public sector with a wage paid for an average of six months by the Scottish Government, and a training guarantee of 20% of their time spent developing skills and seeking their next employment. - Introducing a new Scottish Skills Benefit, offering everyone unemployed or currently on furlough a £500 grant for retraining. - Introducing a Scottish Work Experience Guarantee for school age and further education students. - Creating 5,000 new apprenticeships in the next financial year, with subsidised wages to pay for all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing a 'Right to Retrain' account for every Scottish adult, allocating £500 to be spent on training each year. - Designing new 'Rapid Retraining' courses to provide rapid, short term training targeted at employment opportunities. - Creating a network of 'Job Security Councils' to tackle unemployment, by rapidly finding opportunities for laid-off workers. - Using the existing Apprenticeship Levy to 'deliver unlimited apprenticeship opportunities,' as well as expanding funding for Foundation and Graduate apprenticeships, removing limits on the number of funded apprenticeships available and guaranteeing off-the-job training for apprentices under 25. - Reviewing the post-18 education system to 'rebalance the relationship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing £500m to support new jobs and reskilling over the course of the next parliament. - Funding a Young Person's Guarantee of a university, college, apprenticeship, training place or job for every young person aged 16-24. - Investing £100m in a Green Jobs Fund over the next five years, including the creation of a Green Jobs Workforce Academy. - Building back up to target of 30,000 modern apprenticeship starts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing a job guarantee for 16 – 24-year-olds to give them access to either a job or training, through expanded support for apprenticeships, jobs offered through public agencies and new programmes for the creative industries. - Introducing £5,000 Scottish Training Bonds to help people change careers, targeted at those at risk of unemployment. - Creating 2,000 paid graduate internships with small businesses in 2021-22. - Investing in new, green skills to facilitate a just transition away from fossil fuels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expanding the Young Person's Guarantee to all under 30 and those working in fossil fuel industries. - Establishing a centre of excellence to deliver a technical skills programme for green manufacturing. - Retaining and growing the Green Jobs Fund and Green Jobs Workforce Academy. - Ensuring funding parity for further education. - Increasing support for apprenticeships and ensuring they pay at least the living wage and create opportunities for minority groups.

	<p>apprenticeships for the first 12 months, and new, local 'Share an Apprentice' schemes to be piloted in the construction sector.</p> <p>- Establishing core training funds to subsidise the cost of entering, training or completing continued professional development in areas of skills shortage.</p> <p>- Supplementary funding for the Kickstart scheme, to provide a further 6 months of subsidy for wages.</p>	<p>between academic and vocational education.'</p> <p>- Prioritising skills to improve energy efficiency within all new skills programmes.</p>			
Sustainability	<p>- Building 200,000 zero carbon social homes over 10 years.</p> <p>- Upgrading all homes to at least an EPC C or higher by 2030 and zero carbon by 2045 where possible. This will be financed by interest free loans and grant funding to low- and middle-income households.</p> <p>- Using the national housing agency to coordinate the roll out of retrofit measures and renewable heat forms.</p> <p>- Creating a statutory 'Just Transition Commission' to examine how the net zero transition can benefit those currently, or at risk of being, unemployed.</p> <p>- Introducing a Circular Economy Bill and obligations on the producers of waste and annual material flow accounts.</p> <p>- Introducing carbon impact assessments into all policy processes.</p>	<p>- Investing £2.5bn on improving the energy efficiency over the next 5 years, including a 'Help to Renovate' scheme for homeowners.</p> <p>- Amending the Fuel Poverty Act to require the Scottish Government to support all fuel poor households to reach EPC C by 2030 and reviewing and updating the EPC system.</p> <p>- Introducing a Circular Economy Bill in the next Parliament, setting targets for reducing raw material usage.</p>	<p>- Investing £1.6bn to decarbonising the heating of 1 million homes over the course of the next parliament.</p> <p>- Developing new standards through building regulations to require new buildings to use renewable or zero emissions heating from 2024.</p> <p>- Establishing a Zero Emissions Social Housing Task Force to advice on requirements to bring social housing to meet net zero, and measures to improve the energy efficiency of the private rented and owner occupier sectors.</p> <p>- Investing £95m to decarbonise the public sector estate.</p> <p>- Establishing a dedicated national public energy agency to coordinate the delivery of heat and energy efficiency work.</p> <p>- Investing £60m to decarbonise the industrial and manufacturing sectors.</p> <p>- Increasing the value of the existing Green Investment Portfolio from £1bn to £3bn.</p>	<p>- Meeting the Scottish climate change targets in full by 2045.</p> <p>- Moving 1 million homes to zero emission heating by 2030 through a new Energy Efficiency and Zero Carbon Bill.</p> <p>- Declaring home insulation, a national strategic priority and setting a target to have covered the whole country by 2030.</p> <p>- Investing in energy efficiency and low carbon heating, with a target of improving 80,000 homes per year during the first five-year programme and switching 1 million homes to heat pumps by 2030.</p> <p>- Setting a target for all new social housing to be built to Passivhaus standards by 2025 and increasing building regulations to require all new-build residential properties to meet EPC A by 2025 and Passivhaus by 2030.</p> <p>- Supporting the development of a centre of excellence for carbon capture and efficient energy generation, involving the construction and renewables industries.</p>	<p>- Allocating £3bn of the green infrastructure programme towards warm and zero-carbon homes and buildings including a large-scale deep retrofit programme.</p> <p>- Installing 500,000 heat pumps by 2030 using new green heat grants.</p> <p>- Requiring all new homes to meet Passivhaus or net zero standards from 2022, and requiring all private sector homes to meet EPC C at point of sale or major refurbishment from 2025.</p> <p>- Introducing a Scottish Quality Mark in partnership with the energy efficiency and domestic renewables sector and requiring publicly funded projects to comply with PAS 2035.</p> <p>- Supporting the partial replacement of corporation tax at the UK level with a carbon tax that increases over time in line with climate targets.</p> <p>- Creating a Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero to oversee the transition, as well as a climate, energy and just transition committee that reports to Scottish Ministers.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bringing forward a Circular Economy Bill to encourage reuse of products and reduce waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating an independent environment standards organisation to hold the Government to account and a specialist environmental court to facilitate faster environmental justice. - Introducing a Circular Economy Law with targets to reduce the emissions produced in creating consumable items and requiring a commitment from industries including construction to adopt a circular economy approach to reducing waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introducing a Circular Economy Bill with targets to reduce overall consumption of raw materials, carbon footprint, and a duty to produce Resource Reduction Plans
<p>Other key pledges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abolishing council tax and replacing it with an alternative based on property value and ability to pay. - Introducing a Home-Ownership Support Scheme to help those on low incomes purchase new and existing properties. - A 'High Street Bailout' plan, including business rate cuts on non-grocery retail premises. A targeted voucher scheme, offering £75 per adult to be spent in non-food retail shops will also be used to help boost highstreets. - Introducing a Business Restart Fund for sectors most affected by Covid-19 and repurposing Scottish Enterprise as a business recovery agency to help SMEs to recover and grow. - Offering a Business Transition Fund to provide growth opportunities to SMEs to identify new markets. - Increasing mental health funding to 11% of the total NHS budget, to match spending in England and Wales. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preventing a second independence referendum. - Implementing at least a 25% business rate relief in 2022-23 and undertaking a comprehensive review of business rates before the end of the next Parliament. - Permanently increasing the threshold for Land and Buildings Transaction Tax to £250,000, including for non-residential property, to support greater home ownership. - Restoring funding for the Help to Buy scheme. - Maintaining the poundage rate freeze until the 2023 revaluation. - Increasing mental health funding to 10% of the frontline health budget during the next Parliament and introducing a national student mental health action plan for universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers. - Delivering a programme of Community Investment Deals worth up to £25m each. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holding a second independence referendum after the Covid-19 crisis is finished. - Freezing income tax rates and bands and increasing thresholds by a maximum of rates of inflation. - Maintaining the current rates and bands of Land and Building Transaction Tax for the full parliamentary term and undertaking a full review of the Additional Dwelling Supplement. - Freezing Council Tax in 2021-22 and undertaking a review to make the system fairer. - Maintaining the Small Business Bonus scheme for the lifetime of the parliament, also extending the Business Growth Accelerator and the Fresh Start Scheme. - Working to deliver a Minimum Income Guarantee for every adult in Scotland. - Implementing a First Time Buyers' Fund to boost property deposits. - Developing a Rented Sector Strategy in 2021, to provide more affordable choices and greater protection to renters for all types of homes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing a system of Universal Basic Income. - Replacing the current Council Tax system to make it fairer. - Reforming business rates to support a land value element, to avoid penalising businesses which improve their properties. - Introducing Citizens' Assemblies to investigate policy issues and provide recommendations. - Supporting the transition to a four-day week. - Setting a target for 15% of new health spending to be directed to mental health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting the transition to a four-day week. - Supporting a fairer approach to income tax. - Enforcing a one-off windfall tax on pandemic profits made by larger companies. - Replacing Council Tax with a residential property tax related to actual value. - Introducing a 1% annual wealth tax for millionaires. - Establishing a Citizens' Assembly on taxation to explore how the system can be made fairer and greener. - Establishing a Private Rented Sector Regulator. - Providing targeted relief from the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax to housing co-operatives. - Allocating 10% of frontline health spend to mental health by 2026, providing an additional £235m funding a year.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Increasing mental health funding to 10% of the frontline NHS budget, with direct investment increasing by at least 25%.- Introducing a 'Percentage for the Arts' scheme which will create a requirement for a percentage of the overall cost of a construction project for new public buildings to be spent on community art commissions.		
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