

# Scottish Green Party General Election Manifesto 2017



We are the Scottish Green Party and you can vote for us in the **General Elections** on **June 8<sup>th</sup>**. This is our **manifesto**.



We have written down all the issues we think are important and would like to tell you about – this is known as a **manifesto**.



A **General Election** is when you can vote for who you want to become your Member of Parliament (MP). MPs work in parliament and make decisions that can affect the whole country



We believe the Scottish Green Party will speak up for the rights of everyone if we are elected.



This manifesto will tell you:

What we believe in.

What we will do if we win the General Election.

# An Economy For Everyone



The economy is how a country makes and spends its money.



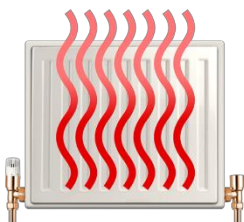
We will work to create a good economy which will give people a good standard of living but also not damage or pollute our environment – this is known as a **Low Carbon Economy**.



We will put money into making **renewable energy** like wind, wave and solar power. This energy can be used to create electricity and power our transport.



Creating more renewable energy will make lots of new jobs for people.



Renewable energy will make it cheaper to run our homes and businesses.



Renewable energy is cleaner energy which means there will be less pollution in our communities.

# Protecting Our Environment



Scotland is a country filled with great landscapes and wildlife. We will continue to make sure these are looked after.



We have been getting our energy by burning coal, oil and gas for many years – this has caused pollution and changes to our climate and weather.



We will stop using this kind of energy and instead put money into getting our energy in other ways such as from the wind, sea and sun. This is known as **renewable energy**.

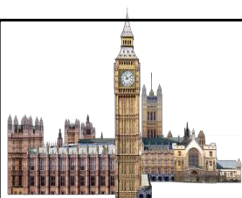


Renewable energy does not damage the planet and is cleaner and safer for the environment.

# Devolving Our Democracy



We think the way MP's are elected into government is unfair. We will change the voting system to make sure the way people have voted is represented more fairly in **Parliament**.



**Parliament** is the place where important decisions are made about running the country



We will make sure more disabled people are represented in Parliament.



We believe young people should have a say about the issues that affect them. We will lower the age you can vote to 16.



Scotland should have its own say on all the issues that affect our country. We will transfer the power to The Scottish Parliament and its local councils to make these decisions.



We will work for an equal number of men and women in parliament

# Membership to the EU



Britain is leaving the European Union (EU). This is known as **Brexit**. The EU is a partnership of countries.



Scotland voted to stay in the European Union (EU) we believe it should be allowed to stay a member if it chooses to.



We will continue to build a good relationship with the countries of the EU.



We will keep the rights that allow Scottish people to study, work, live and travel within its countries.



We will keep the European Union laws that we agreed to that protect the environment, people's well-being and workers' rights.

# Empowering Young People



We think all young people deserve a good education, we will work to make sure this is free and available to all.



We will raise ***the national minimum wage*** to the real living wage. We will make sure young people are not paid less just because of their age.



The ***national minimum wage*** is the minimum pay per hour workers are entitled to by law



Everyone deserves a good home. We will bring back housing benefit for people under 21 and help young people buying their first home by building more affordable homes.



We will give young people the right to travel and study anywhere in Europe



# Protecting Public Services



We believe that our **National Health Service (NHS)** should continue to be a free service run by the government.



**NHS** is short for **National Health Service**. It is a big collection of groups, places and people all over the country that will give you free help with your health.



We will put money into running good quality bus and rail services that can be used by everyone



We believe there should be no **inequality** in getting a good education and it should be available to everyone at all stages of people's lives.



**Inequality** is when some people don't have the same chances as others or are treated differently or unfairly because of things like having a disability, age or gender (being a man or a woman).



We plan to have a fairer tax and benefit system. We will create a **universal basic income** – which means everyone would be entitled to a payment that would cover their basic living needs.

# Delivering Equality



Human Rights are very important for everyone as they make sure people are treated in a good and fair way.



We will make sure all Human Rights are protected in the UK and not taken away because we are leaving the European Union.



We want to make sure that everyone has a basic income which is enough for them to live on.



We will stop unfair cuts to benefit money. These cuts are making life harder for people, especially disabled people and women.



We want to create a fairer more equal society for everyone.



# A More Just World



We will welcome **asylum seekers** into Scotland who are people that need to escape danger in their own country.



We think it is a good thing that people from other countries can live and work in Scotland. This makes our communities have more **diversity** and is good for our economy.



**Diversity** is when there is a mix of different kinds of people. For example, men and women, young and old people, people of different races, disabled and nondisabled people.



We think the world would be a safer place without nuclear weapons - We would save millions of pounds by getting rid of the Trident nuclear weapon system in the UK.



We will stand up to President Trump and his harmful views on climate change and human rights.

# Low-Carbon Energy



We will make sure money is given to creating renewable energy and support locally owned energy projects which help communities create cheaper energy for themselves.



We will continue fight against getting our energy from nuclear power plants which are unsafe and bad for our environment.



We will put money into more research that looks at having a clean and safe environment for everyone.



This document explains many of the things that the Scottish Green Party says it would do if we get elected in the 2017 Local Elections.



You can find out more information about the Scottish Green Party and our Manifesto on our website:

[www.greens.scot](http://www.greens.scot)



You can also phone us:

**08700 772 207**