



Our election manifesto 2021

Our common future



About us



We are a political party called the **Scottish Green Party**.

A **political party** is a group of people who share the same ideas about how a country should work.



We think we are the best political party to run the Scottish government.



Our manifesto tells you our plans for how we would make Scotland a better and fairer place for everyone. We call this **Our Common Future**.



We hope you like our plans and vote for us in the election on **Thursday 6 May 2021**.

What is happening now



The weather around the world is changing. It is called **climate change**.

Because of climate change we have:



- More floods



- Heatwaves



- Animals dying out



Climate change is caused by pollution.

Pollution mostly comes from burning things like coal, gas and oil.



We burn coal, gas and oil to:

- Make electricity



- Heat our homes



- Drive cars



We need to stop polluting the world.

If we don't, the climate will get worse and life will get harder for lots of people.



In Scotland the government does not have the powers it needs to:



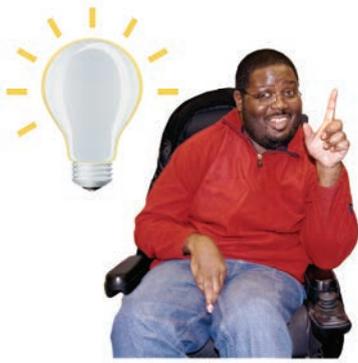
- Help stop climate change



- Build a fairer and **greener** society for everyone



Green means doing things in a way that does not harm the climate.



Here are our ideas about what we would do to change this.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure are some of the things we need to make the country work.

Things like roads, railways, electricity and gas supplies.



We will make sure the way we run our **infrastructure** also looks after our climate.



We will pay for new green ways of creating energy instead of burning coal, gas and oil.

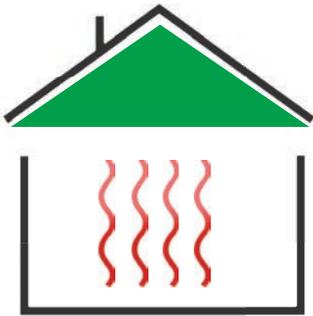


Green energy is things like:

- Use the wind, sun and waves to make electricity



- Have electric cars and public transport



- Make buildings and homes warmer so we don't have to use lots of gas to heat them



Doing this will help us to create more jobs for people.

Work and training



We will make sure people are paid fairly for the work they do.



We want people to work 4 days a week instead of 5 days. We would make sure people still earned the same amount.



We will make sure all young people are in work, education or training.

Fair taxes



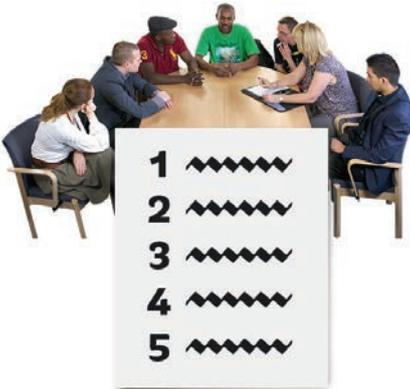
Taxes is money people pay to the government from their wages.



The government uses the money to pay for public services like health and social care.



We need more money to pay for public services.



We will make a **citizen's assembly**.
A **citizen's assembly** is a group of people who will tell us their ideas about taxes.



The assembly will help us to decide how we should pay for public services.



Rich

Poor

We will have a fair tax system.
Rich people will pay more tax than poorer people.



We will tax companies who have made lots of money because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.



We will stop Council tax. Instead we will ask people to pay a tax on their house.



This means more people will pay less than they do now.

Changing to green energy



We will stop burning coal, oil and gas.

Here are some of the things we will do to make green energy.



We will have more wind turbines on the land. This will make more energy from the wind.



We will spend money to build power stations that use waves to make electricity.



We will help people who work with coal, gas and oil to find new jobs. This could be in green energy.



We will begin to stop using oil and gas from the North Sea.

Transport

We want a transport system that is good for the environment.



We will:

- Make public transport cheaper



- Have free travel for everyone under 26



- Spend more money on helping people to walk and cycle more



- Have a **Green Rail for All** programme. This means running trains that don't damage the climate

We think the Government should run it.

Housing



We want everyone to have good housing.



We will have warm, comfortable and **green housing** for everyone.



We will make sure people renting have good quality and safe homes.



We will have more public housing for people to rent from their council or a housing association.

Improving Scotland's environment



We must stop harming our environment, wildlife and plants.

We will protect and look after Scotland's parks and countryside

Food and farming



The way we farm can be bad for the climate. We will work with farmers to help them farm in better ways.



We will make a new law called the **Good Food Nation Bill**. It will be about making sure we produce food without harming our climate.

Our seas and coast



We want to make sure we look after our seas and coast properly.



We will protect some fish and plants in the sea.



We will use the law to help our fishing industry work in a better way.

Land reform



We want to make sure Scotland's land is owned, used and accessible for the people of Scotland.

Protecting Scotland's animals



We want to make sure people treat all animals properly.



We will stop all fox hunting and shooting grouse. Grouse are a type of large bird.



We will make sure farm animals are looked after properly.

Scottish independence and Europe



We think Scotland would be better as an independent county.



We think Scotland should re-join the **European Union**.



World affairs

We think Scotland should have a voice in the world.



We will work to ban nuclear weapons.



We will help all countries to give people the Covid vaccine.



We will stop supporting companies who sell weapons to other countries for wars.

Education



We want a good education system that respects the rights of young people.



We will employ more teachers including support teachers for young people with extra needs.



Children will start school at age 7 instead of 4 like they do now.



We will have **kindergarten** schools for 3 to 6 year olds.

Kindergartens are where children can learn through playing rather than having formal lessons.



We will give free school meals in senior schools.



We will make sure colleges have what they need to teach students.



Health

We want everyone to have the best physical and mental health they can.



To help this happen we will:

- Put more money into NHS Scotland



- Make sure the NHS stays owned by the Government



- Help our health staff to recover from dealing with Covid-19



- Have a national care service that will pay carers properly



- Take action to deal with the causes of poor health

Causes like having no money, smoking or using drugs and alcohol.



Local government

We want local communities to have more of a say in government.



We will give more money and power to local councils



We will listen to local communities. We will use what they say in our plans to make Scotland better.

Social security



Social security helps people who find it difficult to manage.



We will give more money to families with children.



We will make sure benefits for people with disabilities and family carers are enough to help them live properly.

Treating people fairly



Some groups of people don't have the same chances as other people.

We will do things to make life fairer for:



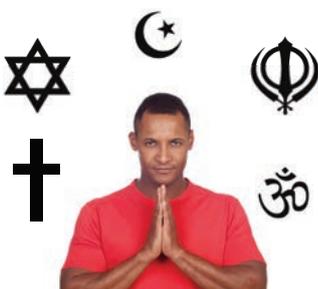
- Women



- People with disabilities



- People who are **LGBT+**
LGBT+ is short for **L**esbian, **G**ay, **B**isexual, **T**ransgender and others



- People of different religions and beliefs



- Gypsies and Travellers



- Refugees

Justice



We want to make sure our police service is really good and keeps people safe.



Some of the things we want to do are:

- Make Police Scotland answerable to the people of Scotland



- Let victims of domestic abuse get help to pay for a solicitor



- Improve the prison system

Culture

Culture services are things like music, art and drama. We think these things are very important.



We will spend money on music, art and drama in all areas of Scotland.

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