

「RALLY FOR」  
「GROWTH」

# **GENERAL ELECTIONS 2024**

## **PARTY MANIFESTOS – SUMMARY GUIDE**

# Economy & Tax



- Reducing employee National Insurance from 12% to 6% by 2027 and abolishing the main rate for self-employed National Insurance.
- The new Triple Lock Plus guarantees that both the State Pension and the tax-free allowance for pensioners will rise with the highest of inflation, earnings, or 2.5%. This policy ensures that the State Pension remains tax-free and supports pensioners' financial security.
- Extending full expensing to leasing, abolishing National Insurance for small businesses, and supporting SMEs through a 10-point plan.
- Committed to maintaining public sector net debt and borrowing below 3% of GDP by 2029-30.
- No increase in corporation tax, support for small businesses through lower taxes and reduced administrative burdens.



- No increase to VAT, National Insurance, or Income Tax
- Close loopholes in ending non-dom tax regime for the super-wealthy
- Retain the triple lock for the state pension
- Cap corporation tax at the current level of 25 per cent, the lowest in the G7, for the entire parliament, and we will act if tax changes in other countries pose a risk to UK competitiveness.
- Take action on late payments to ensure small businesses and the self-employed are paid on time. Labour will improve guidance and remove barriers to exporting for small businesses.
- Reform of the British Business Bank, including a stronger mandate to support growth in the regions and nations, will make it easier for small and medium sized enterprises to access capital.
- Labour will also reform procurement rules to give them greater access to government contracts.



- Work with partners in international forums, including the OECD and the UN, to tackle international corporate tax avoidance for the benefit of all countries and make the case for increasing the global minimum rate of corporation tax to 21%
- Reversing Conservative tax cuts for the big banks, restoring Bank Surcharge and Bank Levy revenues to 2016 levels in real terms.
- Increasing the Digital Services Tax on social media firms and other tech giants from 2% to 6%.
- Introducing a 4% tax on the share buyback schemes of FTSE-100 listed companies, to incentivise investment.
- Boost small businesses by abolishing business rates and replacing them with a Commercial Landowner Levy to help our high streets. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Support pensioners by protecting the triple lock so that pensions always rise in line with inflation, wages or 2.5% – whichever is highest.



- Oppose both Conservative and Labour plans for continued public spending cuts.
- Devolution of tax powers to Scotland to create a more progressive tax system. This includes proposals for reforming National Insurance, windfall taxes, and VAT to support public services and economic growth.
- Scrapping the two-child benefit cap, implementing a guaranteed essentials system, and ensuring fair compensation for the WASPI women affected by pension inequalities.
- Devolution of borrowing powers to invest in a just transition and support a bespoke migration system for Scotland.
- Protect pensions by maintaining the triple lock and move to deliver a wellbeing pension. We will oppose any further increases in the state pension age.

# Devolution



- Extend the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for another three years, delivering a further £540 million a year for communities across Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Expand the Long-Term Plan for Towns, supporting a further nine towns in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland with £20 million endowments to make long-term improvements over 10 years.
- Maintain the Community Ownership Fund for another three years, enabling community groups across Scotland, Wales 72 and Northern Ireland to continue accessing funding to save community assets which are at risk of being lost.
- Continue the Multi-Sport Grassroots Facilities Programme throughout the next Parliament so sports facilities in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can access vital investment.
- Oppose a second Scottish independence referendum and independence.



- Labour will renew opportunities for the Prime Minister and Heads of Devolved Government to collaborate with each other. As recommended in the Report of the Commission on the UK's future, we will establish a new Council of the Nations and Regions. This will bring together the Prime Minister, the First Ministers of Scotland and Wales, the First and deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland, and the Mayors of Combined Authorities.
- The next Labour government will also ensure that UK-wide bodies are more representative of our nations and regions. UK trade negotiators will work with devolved governments to promote our fantastic businesses and services internationally. Labour will restore decision-making over the allocation of structural funds to the representatives of Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
- Oppose a second Scottish independence referendum and independence.



- Transfer greater powers away from Westminster and Whitehall, introduce a written constitution for a federal United Kingdom with strong voices for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and oppose a second Scottish independence referendum and independence.



- The SNP's primary goal is achieving Scottish independence. They argue that Scotland's potential is constrained under the UK, citing economic mismanagement, austerity, and Brexit as key failures of Westminster governance. They propose a future where decisions about Scotland are made in Scotland, promoting a fairer and more prosperous society.
- The SNP is committed to rejoining the European Union to mitigate the adverse effects of Brexit. They outline the benefits of EU membership, including freedom of movement, trade facilitation, access to funding, and participation in programs like Erasmus+.



# Net Zero & Environment



- The party pledges to take a pragmatic approach to net zero, avoiding new green levies or charges while accelerating the rollout of renewables. This approach seeks to balance environmental goals with affordability for consumers.
- The manifesto outlines support for farmers and fisheries to enhance food security. This includes protecting agricultural land from solar farms and investing in sustainable farming practices.



- No new petrol cars from 2030 with switch to electric models
- 'Proper, time-limited' windfall tax on oil and gas companies.
- Work with private sector to double onshore wind, triple solar power and quadruple offshore wind by 2030.
- Force UK-regulated financial institutions and FTSE 100 companies to produce credible green plans.



- Invest in renewable power so that 90% of the UK's electricity is generated from renewables by 2030.
- Appoint a Chief Secretary for Sustainability in the Treasury to ensure that the economy is sustainable, resource-efficient and zero-carbon, establish a new Net Zero Delivery Authority to coordinate action across government departments and work with devolved administrations, and hand more powers and resources to local councils for local net zero strategies.
- Restore the UK's role as a global leader on climate change, by returning international development spending to 0.7% of national income, with tackling climate change a key priority for development spending.



- Demand the devolution of new borrowing powers to invest in a just transition and that the new UK Government match our £500m Just Transition Fund for the North East and Moray to help build on the region's world-renowned expertise, create jobs, foster innovation and deliver a fair and managed transition to net zero.

# Skills & Education

- Give young people the skills and opportunities they deserve by introducing mandatory National Service for all school leavers at 18, with the choice between a competitive placement in the military or civic service roles
- Fund 100,000 high-quality apprenticeships for young people, paid for by curbing the number of poor-quality university degrees that leave young people worse off. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Protect children by requiring schools to ban the use of mobile phones during the school day and ensuring parents can see what their children are being taught, especially on sensitive matters like sex education. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Transform 16–19 education by introducing the Advanced British Standard, enabling young people to receive a broader education and removing the artificial divide between academic and technical learning.

- End tax breaks for private schools to raise £1.5 billion in tax revenues.
- ‘National Excellence Programme’ for school improvement focused on pupils who leave without level 3 qualifications. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- £347 million teacher recruitment fund to fill ‘over 6,500 vacancies and skills gaps’, including by improving career pathways and addressing workload issues. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Get rid of discretionary age bands in the minimum wage rules and banning zero hours contracts.
- Committed to devolving adult skills funding to Combined Authorities, empowering local leaders to have greater control of skills development in their areas, alongside a greater role in supporting people into work. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)

# The Party Manifestos

- Invest in high-quality early years education and close the attainment gap by giving disadvantaged children aged three and four an extra five free hours a week and tripling the Early Years Pupil Premium to £1,000 a year. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Reinstatement of maintenance grants for disadvantaged students immediately to make sure that living costs are not a barrier to studying at university. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Create new Lifelong Skills Grants, giving all adults £5,000 to spend on education and training throughout their lives, and aim to increase them to £10,000 in the future when the public finances allow. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)

- The SNP commits to maintaining free university tuition in Scotland, contrasting their stance with other UK regions where students incur significant debts.
- Propose measures to empower workers, including banning zero-hours contracts, ending ‘fire and rehire’ practices, and repealing the Minimum Service Bill.
- Advocate for increased maternity pay and the promotion of shared parental leave.

# Immigration



- Introduce a legal cap on migration to guarantee that numbers will fall every year, so public services are protected while bringing in the skills our businesses and NHS needs.
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- Stop the boats by removing illegal migrants to Rwanda.
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- Work with other countries to rewrite asylum treaties to make them fit for the challenges we face.



- Create new Cross-Border Police Unit to tackle criminal people smuggling gangs.
- Scrap the Rwanda deportation plan
- Ban on hiring from overseas for companies who break employment law.
- Set up a new returns and enforcement unit – with an additional 1,000 staff, to fast-track removals.
- End dependence on overseas workers in some sectors with workforce and training plans



- Scrap the Conservatives' Illegal Migration Act and their Rwanda scheme, uphold the Refugee Convention, and provide safe and legal routes to sanctuary for refugees.
- Extend the participation of devolved administrations in the development of the evidence base for UK-wide policy on work permits and student visas, helping ensure rules are sensitive to the skills needs of every corner of the UK and every sector of the economy.
- Replace the Conservatives' arbitrary salary threshold with a more flexible merit-based system for work visas, with the relevant department working with employers in each sector to address specific needs as part of a long-term workforce strategy that also focuses on education and training to address skills gaps from within the UK.
- Exempt NHS and care staff from the £1,000-a-year Immigration Skills Charge, and reverse the Conservatives' ban on care workers bringing partners and children.



- Scrap the Rwanda scheme and stand firm against the demonisation of migrants.
- Devolve powers to create a bespoke migration system for Scotland that values those who decide to work, live, study and invest here and allows us to address our specific demographic and economic needs.



# Infrastructure & Transport



- Key initiatives include expanding gigabit broadband coverage, reallocating HS2 savings to regional transport projects, and promoting electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Invest £36 billion in local roads, rail and buses to drive regional growth, including £8.3 billion to fill potholes and resurface roads, funded by cancelling the second phase of HS2.
- Continue to directly invest in communities across Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, protect the UK's internal market and the integrity of our United Kingdom
- The manifesto commits to increasing defence spending to 2.5% of GDP by 2030 to protect British interests domestically and internationally.



- Developing a ten-year infrastructure strategy, aligned with our industrial strategy and regional development priorities, including improving rail connectivity across the north of England.
- Create a new National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority, bringing together existing bodies, to set strategic infrastructure priorities and oversee the design, scope, and delivery of projects.
- Labour will make a renewed push to fulfil the ambition of full gigabit and national 5G coverage by 2030.



- Make it cheaper and easier for drivers to switch to electric vehicles by rapidly rolling out far more charging points, reintroducing the plug-in car grant, and restoring the requirement that every new car and small van sold from 2030 is zero-emission.
- Freeze rail fares and simplify ticketing on public transport to ensure regular users are paying fair and affordable prices. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)
- Significantly extend the electrification of Britain's rail network, improve stations, greatly improve disabled access, reopen smaller stations and deliver Northern Powerhouse rail.
- Boost bus services by giving local authorities more powers to franchise services and simplifying funding, so that bus routes can be restored or new routes added where there is local need, especially in rural areas. (APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY)



- Protect the NHS from Westminster privatisation through the 'Keep the NHS in Public Hands' Bill.
- Boost NHS spending by a minimum of £10bn extra each year to address rampant inflationary pressures and improve performance. This investment into NHS England would generate an additional £1bn annually for NHS Scotland to help meet increasing demand.
- Overturn the £1.3 billion cut to Scotland's capital budget, advocating for increased investment in hospitals, schools, transport, and infrastructure to promote economic growth and achieve net-zero targets.