

# **The 2021 Scottish election manifestos and learning disabilities**

A report by the Fraser of Allander Institute

Easy read version



April 2021

# Who are the Fraser of Allander Institute?



We are a group of researchers who want to know more about life for people with learning disabilities in Scotland.



We wrote this report.

# What is this report about?



On Thursday 6 May there will be an election in Scotland.



We will vote for a new Scottish parliament.



This report tells you about what plans each party has that might help people with learning disabilities.



[Click here](#) if you want to know more about the election.



There are lots of parties you can vote for in the election.

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But this report only talks about 5 parties.



They are the most popular parties in Scotland.



They are

The Scottish Conservatives.



The Scottish Greens.



Scottish Labour.



The Scottish Liberal Democrats.

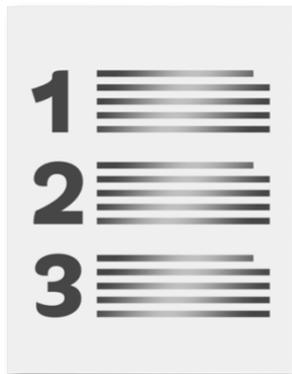


And the Scottish National Party.

# What is a manifesto?



Before the election every party writes a **manifesto**.



A **manifesto** is a list of promises.



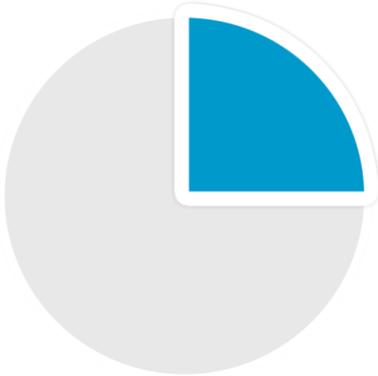
It tells us what each party will do if we vote for them.



This report tells you about what is in the **manifesto** of each party.



The parties make lots of promises in their **manifestos**.



But we only talk about some of them in this report.



We tell you about promises that we think are important for people with learning disabilities.



If you want to learn about other promises the parties have made you can read their **manifestos**.

## What do the parties agree on?



There are some things that all the parties want to do in the next five years.



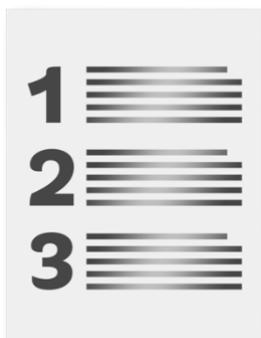
All the parties want to give more help to carers.



All the parties say they want us to recover from Covid-19.



All the parties want more money for the NHS and social care.



But the parties also make different promises.

# The Scottish Conservatives



This part of the report tells you about the promises made by the Conservatives.



The Conservatives will set up a company that gives disabled people a job.



They hope this will give disabled people the skills and experience to find new jobs.



But they do not say how they would pay for the company.



They want to change Carer's Allowance so that carers do not lose all of the benefit if they earn above £128 per week.



They will set up employability services for carers who are going back to work.



They will make sure that new bus routes are easy for disabled people to use.

# What is the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?



The **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** tries to make sure all disabled people are treated fairly.



It tells us what rights all disabled people should have.



It does not give disabled people new rights.



But it does tell the government what they should do to give disabled people equal rights.

# The Scottish Greens



This part of the report tells you about the promises made by the Greens.



The Greens will make all government announcements so that everyone can understand them.



For example this means easy read versions will be made more often.



They want the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** to be law in Scotland.



They think this will protect the human rights of disabled people.



They will make drama training easier for people with learning disabilities.



They want to increase Carer's Allowance from £76 to £105 per week.



They want to make it easier for disabled people to get a job.



But they do not say how they will do this.



They want to make transitions to adulthood better for young people.



But they do not say how they will do this.

**NATIONAL  
CARE  
SERVICE**



They want to set up a National Care Service.



This will mean the government is responsible for social care instead of local councils.

# Scottish Labour



This part of the report tells you about the promises made by Labour.



Labour want the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** to be law in Scotland.



They think this will protect the human rights of disabled people.



## COMMISSIONER



Labour will set up a commissioner for learning disabilities autism and neurodiversity.



They hope the commissioner will give people a voice in government.



They will make all government announcements so that everyone can understand them.



For example this means easy read versions will be made more often.

**NATIONAL  
CARE  
SERVICE**



Labour will set up a National Care Service.



This will mean the government is responsible for social care instead of local councils.



They would pay care workers £12 per hour.



They will get rid of charges for social care services that are done at home.



But it is not clear how they would pay for these things.



Labour will give the new Scottish Carer's Assistance benefit to more carers.



They will increase the payment of this new benefit.



But they do not say by how much.



Labour will give £5 per week to the poorest families with a disabled person.



They will give people with long term health conditions access to benefits for longer.



This means benefit reassessments will happen much less often.



Labour will set up a disability poverty target.



They hope this will help the poorest disabled people.



But they do not say how they will meet the poverty target.



Labour want all new houses to be accessible for everyone.



They will guarantee a job for all disabled people who want one.



They want a new law that gives every young person a transition to adulthood plan if they need it.

# The Scottish Liberal Democrats



This part of the report tells you about the promises made by the Liberal Democrats.

## LIB DEMS

Sometimes we call the Liberal Democrats the Lib Dems.



The Lib Dems will change the rules for children with learning disabilities.



They think this will stop children being restrained and secluded at school when this is not needed.



The Lib Dems will change the law around guardianship.



They want it to focus more on giving people support to make decisions.



**COMMISSIONER**

**MAYBE**

They will think about a commissioner for learning disabilities autism and neurodiversity.



They want the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** to be law in Scotland.



The Lib Dems will give more help to carers.



They will stop benefit reassessments for people with life long conditions.



**MAYBE**

They will think about increasing benefits to the poorest families with a disabled person.



The Lib Dems will make all government announcements so that everyone can understand them.



For example this means easy read versions will be made more often.



They will include disabled people when making employability schemes.



They want a new law that gives every young person a transition to adulthood plan if they need it.



They will get rid of charges for social care services that are done at home.

# The Scottish National Party



This part of the report tells you about the promises made by the Scottish National Party.



Sometimes we call the Scottish National Party the SNP.



The SNP will pass a new law for people with learning disabilities.



They think this will make sure that peoples' rights are protected.



But they do not tell us what will be in this law.



The SNP will set up a commissioner for learning disabilities autism and neurodiversity.



They hope the commissioner will give people a voice in government.



The SNP want the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** to be law in Scotland.



They will set up new Scottish benefits for disabled people and carers.



They will double the Carer's Allowance top up in December 2021.



The SNP will set up a new strategy for transitions to adulthood.



But they do not say what the strategy will be.

**NATIONAL  
CARE  
SERVICE**



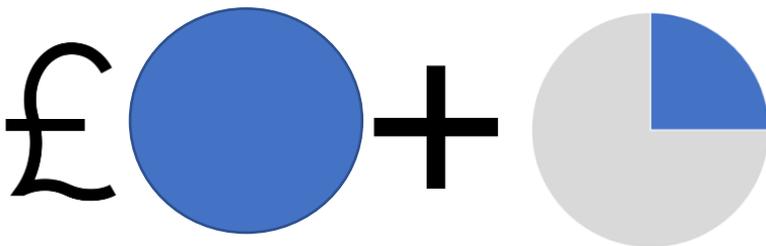
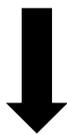
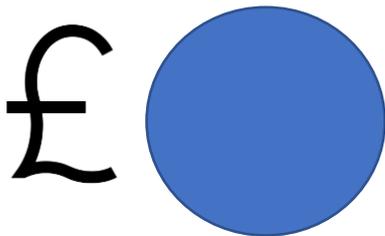
The SNP will set up a National Care Service.



This will mean the government is responsible for social care instead of local councils.



The SNP will get rid of charges for social care services that are done at home.



They will increase the money for social care by 25%.

## More information



All of the parties make lots more promises.



If you want more information here are the easy read manifestos.



[Click here](#) for the Scottish Conservatives.



[Click here](#) for the Scottish Greens.



Scottish Labour do not have an easy read manifesto.



[Click here](#) for the Scottish Liberal Democrats.



[Click here](#) for the SNP.

## Our website



You can read more  
information on our website.

Our website is

**[www.fraserofallander.org/learning-disabilities](http://www.fraserofallander.org/learning-disabilities)**

