



Scottish Manifestos in Brief

Issues Affecting Older People

1. Conservative: “We will restore the contract between the generations, providing older people with security against ill health whilst ensuring we maintain the promise of opportunity and prosperity for younger generations.”
2. Green: “Redress pension injustice, with a pensions system for everyone and action to enable older people to continue to be active members of society.” “Stand up for everyone’s right to live with dignity, free from the fear of poverty.” (Scotland)
3. Labour: “We will change the culture of the social security system, from one that demonises people to one that is supportive and enabling.” “Labour will always be on the side of pensioners and will help ensure security and dignity for older people in retirement.”
4. Lib Dem: “We want Britain to be the best place in the world to save for, and enjoy, your retirement.”
5. SNP: “A vote for the SNP will strengthen Scotland’s hand against further Tory cuts and ensure that progressive policies, like those pursued by the SNP government in Scotland, are firmly on the agenda in Westminster.” “We believe that saving for a pension is the best route to a stable retirement.”
6. UKIP (*UK only – its Scottish manifesto appears to include nothing about older people*): “How we respond to older people is an indication of the kind of country we live in. We should take pride in making public investment into their care, regardless of their financial means.”

Triple Lock (*No statement mentions the indices to be used to determine wage or price inflation*)

1. Conservative: Maintain Triple Lock until 2020, when it would be replaced by a Double Lock (prices & wage inflation only – no 2.5% safety net)
2. Green: Universal basic income to end poverty trap and remove the stigma of benefits.
3. Labour: Maintain Triple Lock for the duration of the next Parliament (*the last Parliament survived two years!*)
4. Lib Dem: Maintain Triple Lock for the duration of the next Parliament

5. SNP: Will stand up for pensioners against any attempts to remove the Triple Lock
6. UKIP: Maintain the Triple Lock

State Pension Age

1. Labour: “The pension age is due to rise to 66 by the end of 2020. Labour rejects the Tories’ proposal to increase the state pension age even further, and will commission a new review of the pension age, specifically tasked with developing a flexible retirement policy that reflects both the contributions made by people, the wide variations in life expectancy, and the arduous conditions of some work.”
2. SNP: Oppose plans to increase State Pension Age beyond 66
3. UKIP: Talks of ‘over-60s’ when addressing benefits

Universal Benefits (Bus / TV / Winter Fuel)

1. Conservative: Bus Pass & TV licence for the duration of this Parliament; winter fuel not to be means tested, unlike rest of UK (*There is no mention of any age for receipt of universal benefits.*)
2. Green: no direct mention, but reference to free local public transport (*neither local nor public transport is defined – does it include rail?*) for young / students / disabled / older people.
3. Labour: Winter fuel payments & free bus passes at 60 guaranteed as universal benefits (*but no mention of TV licences*)
4. Lib Dem: No mention
5. SNP: No mention
6. UKIP: Committed to winter fuel / free bus pass / prescriptions / eye tests @ 60+ (*but no mention of TV*)

WASPI

1. Green: support campaign for transitional protections.
2. Labour: “Alongside our commitment to extend Pension Credit to hundreds of thousands of the most vulnerable women, Labour is exploring options for further transitional protections, to ensure that all these women have security and dignity in older age.”
3. SNP: “We’ll stand up for the women in Scotland, and across the UK, who have been short-changed by the Tory Government due to the accelerated timetable for increases in the women’s State Pension Age.”

OTHER ISSUES

1. Green: Low traffic neighbourhoods to encourage all ages and abilities to make local trips on foot, bicycle or mobility scooter
Warm homes
2. Labour: Restore confidence in workplace pensions.
3. Lib Dem: Review to consider a single rate of tax relief on pensions.
4. SNP: Support establishment of Independent Savings and Pension Commission to ensure pensions and savings policies are fit for purpose. Regular, affordable and simple savings schemes to provide secure income in retirement, instead of gimmicks like lifetime ISAs.
Extend auto enrolment
5. UKIP: Promote an early intervention, community based model for care to promote independence and well-being.
Support carer pay
Dementia Research

CAVEAT

The information in this paper is posted in good faith and has been taken from information taken from published manifestos.

The SPF cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies herein