Scotland’s Future is Scotland’s Choice

This is the manifesto of the SNP (Scottish National Party). A Manifesto says what we will do if we are elected.

This has been a difficult year.

We had to give up things we did not expect to. To protect our NHS. To protect Scotland. This election is about how we recover from Covid.

It is about the nation we can be. Building a caring, equal society.

We can all live better as part of a strong, healthy economy that supports itself.

We can make opportunities for our young people. We can tackle climate change and play our full, independent part in the world.
Our future must not be decided by Boris Johnson.

We have the leadership we need in Nicola Sturgeon.

In our manifesto, we have the vision for a fairer, healthier, greener, and wealthier Scotland. Scotland's future is Scotland's choice.
An SNP Government will re-open our society whilst continuing to fight the virus.

Our plan to fight the virus has four key parts:

**Test and Protect**
Run by the NHS and not a private company. It will quickly test people and trace contacts. This is important to stop the spread.

**Protective Measures**
Maintain protective measures like 2 metre distancing so we keep ourselves safe.

**New strains**
We must stop the virus, and new strains, getting back into Scotland.

**Vaccines**
We must make sure we vaccinate as quickly as possible.

By doing this, we can get back to a world that feels a little bit more normal.
As we recover from Covid we have the chance to shape our future. We can decide if we want to go back to the way things were before. Or go forward to something new. Something better.

That decision does not belong to Boris Johnson, Westminster, or the Tories. The best people to decide are the people who live here. The people of Scotland have the right to decide our own future.

Vote for the SNP to:

Choose Scotland’s Future in an Independence Referendum. Give people in Scotland the right to choose their own future. The referendum should be held once the current Covid crisis has passed.

Make Human Rights part of Scots law. This will protect people’s rights and give them the ability to ask the courts to take action if they are broken.

Give ordinary people a greater voice. Make a Citizens’ Assembly which brings ordinary people together to look at issues we face as a country.
A Caring Society

The NHS is a valued public service. We are aware of the efforts NHS staff make to keep us safe.

The SNP believes in a society that cares for everyone equally. A society that responds to each person based on their need, not their wealth or their status. That is the kind of society we can be.

Vote for the SNP to:

- Increase NHS funding.
- Give a fair pay rise to NHS staff. Offer Scotland’s NHS staff a 4% pay increase. Not the 1% offered by the Tories.
- Create a new National Care Service and increase investment in social care.
- Scrap all non-residential social care charges for everyone who needs support.
Give care staff a fair National Wage.

Make NHS dentists free at the point of use and protect free prescriptions.

Double investment in sport and active living.
An Equal Society

It is clear that the harm caused by the pandemic is not felt the same by everyone. As we recover, we want to build a fairer Scotland. Everyone should feel valued and we should support vulnerable people.

We want Scotland to be a country where no one has too little to live on. Where food banks are a thing of the past and children never go hungry. We believe all children should get the best start in life, no matter their background.

And we believe justice should be available for all equally and fairly.

Scotland can choose to be that country.

Vote for the SNP to:

Work towards a Minimum Income Guarantee, making sure that everyone in Scotland can live healthy full lives.

Build a childcare system that provides care before and after school, all year round. This will be free for the least well-off families.
Tackle child poverty by making the Scottish Child Payment to £20 per child per week.

Give a cash grant of £520 for every family with children who get free school meals until the full rollout of Scottish Child Payment is complete.

Invest more money to end homelessness and rough sleeping.

Appoint a Victims’ Commissioner to give an independent voice to victims and witnesses. Do a review of services available for victims of crime.

We will introduce ‘Bairns’ Hoose’. This is to better support children and young people in the criminal justice system.
Living Better

We do not just want to go back to the way things were before Covid. We can invest in our communities and make them stronger.

We want local communities to have services closer to home and to have more say in the decisions that affect them.

We believe that we must invest in better, greener transport links and homes.

We believe Scotland can choose to live better.

Vote for the SNP to:

Build more affordable homes.

Invest to find greener ways to heat our homes and buildings.

Make sure that ScotRail will be owned by the people of Scotland.

Extend free bus travel to everyone under 22.
Spend more of the transport budget on walking and cycling.

Support all communities to become 20-minute neighbourhoods. These are communities where everyone can meet their daily needs within a 20-minute return walk from their home.

Make a new Land Reform Bill that helps communities to buy land and double the Scottish Land Fund.
The economy and finances

Our plans for a more equal and caring society can only work if we have a healthy economy.

Scotland faces real economic challenges from Covid. This has been made worse with Brexit. Jobs and livelihoods are on the line.

Through all of this, we believe Scotland can take opportunities. Compete globally and grow. By investing in new businesses and technology we can create good, new and green jobs.

Vote for the SNP to:

Freeze Income Tax.

Fund the Young Person’s Guarantee of a university, college, apprenticeship, training place or job for every young person who wants it.

Invest in a Green Jobs fund to support new and better opportunities for green jobs.
Increase spending on our infrastructure. This is the basic physical and organisational structures we need for the operation of society.

Look at changing to a four-day-week with a fund to allow companies to try and measure its benefits.

Keep the Small Business Bonus, invest in manufacturing and boost research and development.

Create a Scottish Food agency to promote food and drink.

Support farming and food production.

Set up a new source of arts funding.
Land of opportunity

We believe everyone should have a fair start in life. Everyone should get a good education and access to opportunities.

We believe Scotland should be a land of opportunity. For too many people and children that is not true. They face barriers to learning and are held back from opportunities.

We want Scotland to be the best place to grow up.

Vote for the SNP to:

Remove barriers to learning by giving every pupil their own laptop or device and a free internet connection.

Make sure no child is hungry by providing free school breakfasts and lunches to every primary school pupil, all year round.

Recruit more teachers. This allows teachers more time out of the classroom to prepare lessons and improve their skills.
Recover from Covid by investing more money to close the school learning gap and invest in children’s wellbeing. Set up a programme of summer activities to allow them to socialise, play and reconnect.

Use recommendations to review the curriculum. The curriculum is the lessons and content taught in schools.

Start using the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child within the first six months.

Support young people by removing council tax for under 22s.
A Net Zero Nation

The climate emergency is a crisis. We must act now.

Scotland must end its role in climate change by 2045. We must do it in a way that is just and fair. We have the opportunity to design a better future.

Vote for the SNP to:

Take more steps toward becoming a Net Zero nation. This means the amount of greenhouse gases we put into the atmosphere and the amount we take out will add up to zero.

Support a world changing agreement at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) which will be held in Glasgow in November 2021.

Double the Climate Justice Fund over four years. We launched this in 2012 to help tackle the effects of climate change in the poorest, most vulnerable countries.

Use renewable or zero emissions heating.
Reduce the use of cars.

Provide free bikes for all children of school age who cannot afford them. Remove most fossil fuel buses from public transport. Create a greener, more affordable railway.

Support the development of farms use of renewable energy. Double the amount of land used for organic farming.

Start our Deposit Return Scheme for single use drinks containers next year to improve recycling.

Invest more money in our natural economy to help tackle the biodiversity crisis. Biodiversity is the variety of plant and animal life.
Scotland in the world

Scotland is a welcoming and inclusive nation. Our relationships with the rest of the world are good. They help promote human rights and are crucial in the fight against global challenges like climate change.

We believe we have a strong role to play in the world just now and as a fully independent country soon.

Vote for the SNP to:

Re-join the European Union.

Increase the International Development Fund. This is a fund to fight against poverty, injustice and inequality internationally.

Develop an International plan for Gender Equality.

Make it law that all public bodies must take responsibility for the short and long-term impacts of their decisions.
Set up a Migration Service for Scotland to help support people to settle into communities. Migration is when a person moves from one country to live in another.

Support making an Institute for Peacekeeping. This builds on Scotland's role in resolving conflict.