



Fife Centre for Equalities
GE2017 Manifesto Comparison:
Equality and Human Rights Frameworks



A. FCE position on Equality: General Election 2017

Fife Centre for Equalities wants to see an equal society that values common goals as well as differences. We want everyone to be included no matter who they are, where they live or whether they wish to be labelled. As an independent charity, we monitor long-term and UK-wide equality trends that have been highlighted at UK/National as well as Fife-area levelⁱ (e.g. [Equality Groups in Fife](#), 2016-2017).

As a follow up our [General Election 2017 Equality Hustings](#), we build on the questions asked to candidates on the day and put also forwards the UK-wide equality issues highlighted below. We ask the representatives of all political parties to consider what policies they would put in place to protect the people of Fife as office bearers of the future UK Government in how they:

- How to **evidence and assess** the degree of fairness (or unfairness) present for different groups in societyⁱⁱ
 - For instance, the Race Equality Frameworkⁱⁱⁱ will monitor one of out of nine protected characteristics of the Equality Act that experience discrimination, prompting for a wider approach
- How to deal with the entrenched attainment gaps in **education**
 - This, particularly in the case of BAME and gypsy traveller children and young people^{iv}
- How to increase fairness in recruitment, development and reward of **employment** across section
 - With particular focus on gender segregation and unequal pay across industry sectors^v
- Improving **living conditions** for community safety and cohesion
 - including how to popularise **safes places**^{vi} across the protected characteristics and how to deal with **hate crime, harassment and abuse**^{vii}
- The issue of diminishing diversity in **politics**^{viii}, **democratic participation** as well as the **access to justice** following the cuts to legal aid^{ix}
- How to provide equal access to **health and care services** that treats all people with dignity
- Impact on the economy of Brexit and related changes to immigration patterns
 - Particularly as the OBR forecasted £6 billion shortfall in tax receipts due to fall in immigration to the UK by 2020-2021
- And finally, how do we balance **civil liberties and public safety** in the current climate of fear of terrorism



Fife Centre for Equalities (FCE) aims to build a collective voice to champion equality, diversity, inclusion and social justice across Fife and beyond. FCE is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in Scotland No. SC536028 and registered Scottish Charity No. SC046683.

Address: Fife Centre for Equalities, New Volunteer House, 16 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1XT

Telephone: 01592 645 310 **Website:** www.centreforequalities.org.uk

B. Manifesto comparison: how do the parties address long-term equality issues?

Below is a comparison of how the respective manifestos directly address the equality trends, taking into account 3 or 6-yearly intervals at UK/National level (i.e. data from EHRC [Is Britain Fairer](#) / [Is Scotland Fairer](#), 2016) and also yearly at Fife-area level (2016-2017)^x.

Please note: the comparison below does not necessarily consider topics that have featured in media and news up to including the last days of the election campaign but instead focusses on a range of long-standing issues. Also, this is comparison of how the manifesto's pledges correlate to the EHRC's [Equality Measurement Framework](#) and [Human Rights Measurement Framework](#) and not FCE's position.

Life Domains and related Policy Areas	#GE2017 Party Manifestos			
	Scottish Conservative and Unionist: Forward, Together	Scottish Labour Party: Together we are stronger	Scottish National Party: Stronger for Scotland	Scottish Liberal Democrats: Change Britain's Future
Legal security and physical security ; right to Life Including: Crime, Fear of crime, Gender-based violence, Hate crime	*	***	**	***
Health, Care and support Includes: Health demographics, Mental Health, Caring Responsibility, Childcare	*	**	***	**
Education Includes: Attainment, Bullying in schools	~	***	**	**
Employment and economy Includes: Taxation, Gender Balance, Equal Pay, Exploitation, Employment rates, Modern Apprenticeships + Transport, Environment, Energy	**	***	***	***
Standards of living Includes: Welfare, Pensions, Wealth inequality, Poverty & life outcomes, Home Ownership, Housing Standards	**	***	***	***
Power and voice ; the Individual & society Includes: Foreign Policy, Defence, Brexit, Immigration, Tax Evasion, Human Rights Act, UK political reform, IndyRef2	**	**	***	***

KEY	***	**	*	~
=	=	=	=	=
	equality issues explicitly tackled / leading policy	issues acknowledged and/or explicitly addressed	acknowledgement of issues and/or partially addressed	little recognition of issues / unclear or no policy position addressing equality

C. Breakdown by policy area

This section breakdowns trends in equality, summarising in [positive trends in blue](#) and in [negative trends in red](#) and highlights respective manifesto pledges by political party.

1. [Legal security](#) and [physical security](#); the right to [Life](#)
Including: **Crime, Gender-based violence, Hate crime**

PROS: Homicide rates overall have fallen, as well the proportion of adults reporting as victims of violent crime, sexual and domestic violence. In terms of community safety, there has been a fall in proportion of people who feel unsafe being alone at home at night, or walking alone in the local area after dark. Confidence in the criminal justice system increased and the use of police use of stop and search has been reviewed recently reformed^{xi}.

CONS: Police-recorded hate crime in relation to disability and sexual orientation increased. People more likely to report feeling unsafe are women, disabled people, older people and people who had never worked or were long-term unemployed. Confidence in the criminal justice system was noticeably lower for disabled people and older people. Across the UK, overcrowding in prisons still persists. The stigma towards Gypsy/Travellers and Roma people remained, also indicated by figures in hate crime. Harassment of LGB people and ethnic minorities also continued.

Scottish Conservative and Unionists:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global effort to close down online spaces for those who abuse children, incite violence or propagate hate speech p38 • National infrastructure police force, bringing together the Civil Nuclear Constabulary, the Ministry of Defence Police and the British Transport Police p44 • Incorporate the Serious Fraud Office into the National Crime Agency p44 • (UK) 10000 more prison spaces, however 20000 fewer UK police officers since 2010
Scottish Labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Istanbul Convention - disability hate crime and violence against disabled women reported annually with national action plans p58 • support for the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Bill p105

<p><u>Party:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • zero tolerance approach to hate crime p107 • new guidance for relationships and sex education that is LGBTI inclusive p108 • end racism and discrimination against Gypsy/Travellers and Roma communities p109 • sign the UNCRPD into UK law p109 • make terminal illness a protected characteristic under the Equality Act p110 (UK) Commitment to 10 000 new police officers
<p><u>Scottish National Party:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support for Police Scotland at current levels and increase in police numbers p5 • tax relief for Police Scotland. (p.19) • Private Member's Bill Protecting women and girls from gender-based violence p32 • demand full devolution of equality law to the Scottish Parliament p37 • action plan for implementation of UNCRPD p37
<p><u>Scottish Liberal Democrats:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce intolerance, including anti-Semitism, and hate crimes alongside organisations such as Show Racism the Red Card, the Anne Frank Trust UK, and Kick It Out; tackle the growing incidence of Islamophobic hate crime p7 • End Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service paying VAT on their purchases p49 • Permit intercepts where justified and permit surveillance of those suspected of serious crime p50 • Support increase community policing (i.e. England and Wales) with additional £300m a year to local police forces, end the 1% cap on police pay rises.

2. Health, Care and support

Including: **Health demographics, Mental Health, Caring Responsibility, Childcare**

PROS: Gap in life expectancy between men and women narrowed, greater decrease in this gap in Scotland compared to England and Wales. Proportion of young people drinking once a week fell as proportion of young people smoking.

CONS: Life expectancy is lower for both men and women in the most deprived areas of Scotland. Lack of evidence on life expectancy for people sharing protected characteristics other than gender. Increasing proportions of women describing their health as bad or very bad. Self-reported health status worse for Gypsy/Travellers and older Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi women. Increase

in the proportion of adults aged 25 to 34 at risk of poor mental health. Suicide rate is higher for men and for people living in deprivation. Little improvement in public attitudes to mental ill health.

<p>Scottish Conservative and Unionists:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase NHS budget by whichever is highest: 2%, inflation or Barnett p63 • focus on mental health and acute problems interventions p54 • introduce Frank's Law and improve support for dementia sufferers under 65 p54 • increase number of BAME organ donors to cut the long waiting times for patients from those groups and save more lives p54 • new child bereavement leave entitlement p63 • extend Equalities Act protections against discrimination to mental health conditions that are episodic and fluctuating p55
<p>Scottish Labour Party:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health and social care professionals to receive ongoing training to understand and meet the needs of LGBTI patients and service users p108 • end the 1 per cent pay cap p69; adopt in full UNISON's Ethical Care Charter 70 • Back the Frank's Law campaign to ensure under 65s with dementia receive free care p70 • Increase free childcare; fund a breakfast club in every primary school in Scotland p39 • support the Scottish Association for Mental Health's (SAMH) call for a 10-year plan for improving mental health services p72
<p>Scottish National Party:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase NHS Scotland funding by £2 billion by end of parliament p6 • Universality of disability payments • against any further privatisation of the NHS p6 • childcare to 30 hours per week p6 • developing and implementing the Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Strategy p16 • Mental Health Strategy including increasing the mental health workforce and improving delivery of child and adolescent mental health services p 17
<p>Scottish Liberal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing new preventative health measures across the UK, helping people keep healthy p10 • Scotland to receive a fair share of the receipts from a 1p increase in the income tax paid on dividends p11 • (UK) 1p on all income tax rates to secure a £6 billion boost to secure the future of the NHS p11

<u>Democrats:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the training of frontline public service professionals and promote the roll-out of mental health champions in settings such as schools p13 • End the stigma and discrimination surrounding mental health issues p13 • raise the amount people can earn before losing Carer's Allowance from £110 to £150 a week, and reduce the number of hours' care per week required to qualify p14 • strategy to tackle childhood obesity p14
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3. Education

Including: **Attainment, Bullying in schools**

PROS: Educational attainment in schools improved and exclusions from school fell as well as percentages of men and women with no qualifications. The percentage of people aged 25 and over with a degree increased.

CONS: Gypsy/Traveller pupils still have the lowest educational attainment rates. Children from poorer backgrounds performed less well than their peers and attainment of looked after children was well below that of other pupils. Exclusion rates remained high for Gypsy/Travellers, boys, and pupils with additional support needs (ASN). The proportion of NEETs not changed over time. Bullying an issue for disabled, and lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) children and young people. Women and disabled people remained more likely to have no qualifications.

<u>Scottish Conservative and Unionists:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reset general education to focus on traditional subjects and core knowledge p50 • Review the Curriculum for Excellence p50 • separate curriculum development and inspections; create a new independent inspectorate p50 • reforms to the one-size-fits-all model; range of government-funded but autonomous schools p50 • Apprenticeship frameworks expanded to help access and close disparities between genders, ages, disabled people or care leavers p50
<u>Scottish Labour Party:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tackle bullying of LGBTI young people by initial and ongoing training on LGBTI issues students p108 • more money for the Scottish government to invest in arts education p93 • bring together organisations such as sportscotland, the Scottish Sports Association and the Scottish Sports Volunteer Forum to create a Sports Volunteer Fund aimed at supporting people to go on coaching courses, child protection courses and mentoring schemes p97

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reform the Equality Act 2010 to ensure it protects trans people; zero tolerance approach to hate crime p107 • tackle bullying of LGBTI young people by teachers receiving initial and ongoing training on the issues students face and how to address them p108
Scottish National Party:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppose grammar schools p6 • National Improvement Framework, the Scottish Attainment Challenge and a £120 million Pupil Equity Fund p6 • Tuition free university p6 • Increase childcare to 30 hours p19 • Expand the Education Maintenance Allowance p19
Scottish Liberal Democrats:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Penny for Education” – secure £500 million investment for education p17 • Expand early education; expand Pupil Premium p17 • Oppose introduction of national testing p20 • support the need for lifelong learning p20 • Education Scotland to be split between policy and inspection p20 • End the 1% cap on teachers' pay rises p25

4. **Employment** and economy

Including: **Taxation, Gender Balance, Equal Pay, Exploitation, Employment rates, Modern Apprenticeships**

PROS: Increased recognition of human rights violations resulting from trafficking, forced labour, servitude and exploitation

CONS: Women were less likely to be in work than men, and those women who were in work were less likely to be in senior positions or in part-time work. Age-related employment gaps widened, young people less likely to be in work. Unemployment rates increased more for disabled people than for non-disabled people and also significantly higher for BAME people compared with White people. Modern Apprenticeships showing gender segregation and low levels of access for ethnic minorities and disabled people.

<p>Scottish Conservative and Unionists:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal allowance increase to £12,500 by 2020; threshold for the higher rate of income tax to £50,000 p16 • tax increases not ruled out • improve take-up of shared parental leave and help companies provide more flexible work environments that help mothers and fathers to share parenting p54 • Apprenticeship frameworks expanded to help access and close disparities between genders, ages, disabled people or care leavers p50 • new integration strategy, which will seek to help people in more isolated communities to engage with the wider world, help women in particular into the workplace p53 • extend Equalities Act protections against discrimination to mental health conditions that are episodic and fluctuating p55 • 1 million more people with disabilities into employment over the next ten years across the UK p55
<p>Scottish Labour Party:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a Scottish Investment Bank with £20bn for local projects and small businesses p17 • require firms supplying national or local government to meet the high standards we should expect of all businesses: paying their taxes; recognising trade unions; respecting workers' rights and equal opportunities; protecting the environment; providing training, and paying suppliers on time p18 • expect suppliers to reduce boardroom pay excesses by moving towards a 20:1 gap between the highest and lowest paid p18 • remove barriers that prevent young people, especially girls, from entering science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) p43 • In too many sectors, opportunities are overwhelmingly filled by young men p43 • enhance the powers and functions of EHRC, making it independent to effectively challenge discrimination; reinstate the public sector equality duties p104 • workplace risk assessment for pregnant women mandatory so necessary adaptations can be made p106
<p>Scottish National</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30,000 new modern apprenticeships by the end of the parliament p19 • Abolish fees of Employment Tribunals p34 • back Women and Equalities Committee's recommendation to strengthen the law to protect women from discriminatory redundancies and practices p34

<p><u>Party:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal pay audits should cover gender, race and disability. SNP MPs will support lowering the threshold to 150 employees, from the current level of 250 employees, and the introduction of sanctions, including fines, for employers that fail to comply with the law p34 • public authorities with more than 20 employees to provide gender pay gap reports every two years; equal pay statements every four years providing policies on equal pay and occupational segregation and include reporting on gender, disability and race p34 • change in the Equality Act to strengthen and change the law that currently allows employers to have different dress codes for men and women p34 • introduce a proper legal right to breastfeed in the workplace p35
<p><u>Scottish Liberal Democrats:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the need for lifelong learning p20 • build on the forthcoming Taylor Report p29 • scrap employment tribunal fees p29 • ‘good employer’ kitemark covering areas such as paying a living wage, avoiding unpaid internships and using name-blind recruitment p29 • set a genuine living wage across all sectors p29 • create a formal right to request a fixed contract and consult on introducing a right to make regular patterns of work contractual after a period of time p29 • Extend the Equality Act to all large companies with over 250 employees, requiring them to monitor and publish data on gender, BAME, and LGBT+ employment levels and pay gaps p47 • Extend the use of name-blind recruitment processes in the public sector and encourage their use in the private sector; Require diversity in Public Appointments p47 • Shortlists including at least one BAME candidate; Extend requirements on companies to strengthen responsibility for supply chains, with focus on good practice in tackling modern slavery, including training for police and prosecutors in identifying and supporting victims and implement the Ewins’ report recommendations on domestic workers p47 • Develop a government-wide plan to tackle BAME inequalities, and review the Equality and Human Rights Commission to determine whether it is effectively fulfilling its role and whether its funding is adequate p48 • Increase accessibility to public places and transport by making more stations wheelchair accessible, improving the legislative framework governing Blue Badges, setting up a benchmarking standard for accessible cities, and bringing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • into effect the provisions of the 2010 Equality Act on discrimination by private hire vehicles and taxis p48 • Outlaw caste discrimination p48
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5. **Standards of living**

Including: **Welfare, Pensions, Wealth inequality, Poverty & life outcomes**
Home Ownership, Housing Standards

PROS: Fall in the proportion of households that did not meet the Scottish Housing Quality Standard and in proportion of children living in those households. Homelessness and number of households in temporary accommodation fell.

CONS: Poverty closely related to poorer outcomes living conditions, overcrowding, crime in the neighbourhood. Income poverty persistent for women, ethnic minority groups and families with disabled members. Household wealth of the top 10% almost 100 times higher than the net wealth of the poorest 10%. Three-quarters of Bangladeshi children, and half of Black African children in Britain grow up in poverty. Over 1 in 4 of families with disabled people live below 60% median income: 29% of those with a disabled adult, 28% of those with a disabled child and 38% of those with both. 60% of women reaching state pension age in 2008 were entitled to less than the full basic state pension, compared to 10% of men. Average hourly pay declined in Scotland, steepest declines were for younger workers.

<p><u>Scottish Conservative and Unionists:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the National Living Wage to 60 per cent of median earnings by 2020 and then by the rate of median earnings p18 • act to ensure that the interests of employees on traditional contracts, the self-employed and those people working in the ‘gig’ economy are protected p18 • Give more power to the Pensions Regulator p20 • legislate to make executive pay packages subject to strict annual votes by shareholders p20 • United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund once the UK left the EU based on the Conservative’s Industrial Strategy p35 • private landlords and businesses who deny people a service on the basis of ethnicity, religion or gender are properly investigated and prosecuted p54 • design a Scottish disability benefits system p55
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace pensions triple lock with guarantee that increases after 2020 to match inflation and average wages p62 • Protect Winter Fuel Payments from means tests (contrasted to England & Wales) p62 • Keep other pensioner benefits, including free bus passes and TV licences p62 • ensure all families who lose a baby are given the bereavement support they need, including a new entitlement to child bereavement leave (contrasted to England & Wales) p62 • 100,000 additional homes over the next five years p65
Scottish Labour Party:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrap sanctions regime, bedroom tax, cuts to Bereavement Support Payment p57 • reinstate housing benefit for under 21s p57 • Scrap PIP assessments p58 • Keep the pension triple lock, winter fuel allowance and free bus passes p59 • Increase employment and support allowance by £30 per week p58 • Increase carer's allowance by £11 a week p58 • oversee housebuilding programme since the war, investing to build over a million new homes p62 • guarantee Help to Buy funding until 2027 p63 • Introduce a real Living Wage of £10 an hour p70 • equal pay audit requirements on large employers to close pay gap of BAME workers p109 •
Scottish National Party:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • against means-test of disability benefits p36 • Protect triple lock and Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) campaign p7 • Reversal of cuts to Employment and Support Allowance p32 • Continued support of Child Poverty Bill; establish Poverty and Inequality Commission p32 • Bill addressing socio-economic duty of the Equality Act p33 • Oppose cuts in Bereavement Payments and Widowed Parents' Allowance p33 • Restore Housing Support for 18 to 21 y/o p33 • Repeal Trade Union Act 2016; Ban zero hour contracts p34 • Increase minimum wage to level of Living Wage p34 • back the Women and Equalities Committee's recommendation to strengthen the law to protect women from discriminatory redundancies and practices p34

[Scottish Liberal Democrats:](#)

- build 300,000 new homes a year by 2022 p24
- create a formal right to request a fixed contract and consult on introducing a right to make regular p29
- patterns of work contractual after a period of time.
- Keep the triple lock on pensions and free bus passes p39
- Withdraw eligibility for the Winter Fuel Payment from pensioners who pay tax at the higher rate (40%) p41
- reversing cuts to housing benefit for 18-21-year olds and increase the rates of Job Seeker's Allowance and Universal Credit for those aged 18-24 at the same rate as minimum wages p41
- Reverse cuts to Employment Support Allowance to those in the Work-related Activity Group p41
- Scrap the 'bedroom tax' and Work Capability Assessment p41
- Allow councils to charge 200% council tax on foreign-owned empty homes
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6. **Power and voice**; the Individual & society

Including: **Brexit, Immigration, Human Rights Act, UK political reform, IndyRef2**

PROS: Legislation same-sex marriage introduced, Public acceptance of people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual continued to rise. Most people felt they could rely on the support of family, friends and neighbours. Small improvements to the gender balance of our elected representatives, greater gender diversity in the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly than in the UK Parliament. Increased political participation (including of young people) and an increased proportion of people perceiving that they can influence local decisions. British Sign Language (Scotland) Act was passed in 2015.

CONS: Women and ethnic minorities remain under-represented in Parliament and other political institutions. Young people display declining levels of political activity and engagement in decision-making bodies. A minority of adults aged under 25 now vote at general and devolved elections, and the proportions are falling. MPs from the General Election 2015: 29% of MPs were female, 53% over 50 years old, 6% from non-white backgrounds and one-third from fee-paying schools (vii).

<p>Scottish Conservative and Unionists:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double the Immigration Skills Charge levied on companies employing migrant workers, to £2,000 a year by the end of the parliament p23 • no longer be members of the single market or customs union p36 • not repeal or replace the Human Rights Act during Brexit or until 2019 p37 • control of borders and reduction of immigration to annual net migration in the tens of thousands p48 • oppose Scottish Referendum p30 • No decision-making powers taken back to Westminster p33 • Reform asylum system p40 • retain the first past the post system of voting for parliamentary elections and extend this system to police and crime commissioner and mayoral elections; repeal the Fixed-term Parliaments Act. p43 • retain the current franchise to vote in parliamentary elections at eighteen p43 • reform to allow the retirement of peers and the expulsion of members for poor conduct p43 • review the honours system p44
<p>Scottish Labour Party:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrap the Brexit White Paper and replace with emphasis on retaining single market and the customs union p28 • seeking to stay part of Horizon 2020 p29 • raised issues around immigration in terms of how vital migrants are to the Scottish economy p31 • migration management systems to identify labour and skill shortages p32 • honouring the spirit of international law and our moral obligations by taking our fair share of refugees p33 • Protection for working migrants whatever their ethnicity or religion p32 • end indefinite detentions, distinguish between migrant labour and family attachment, and will continue to support the work of the Forced Marriage Unit p32 • reinstate the Migrant Impact Fund and boost it with a contributory element from the investments required for High Net Worth Individual Visas p32 • Oppose a second independence referendum p68 • pledged to protect the Human Rights Act p80 • reduce the voting age to 16 p101 • Make the second chamber at Westminster democratically elected, and end the hereditary principle p101

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reform of internal disciplinary procedures to make them firmer and fairer, and an expansion of training to tackle anti-Semitism p109 • appoint dedicated global ambassadors for women’s rights, LGBTI rights and religious freedom to fight discrimination and promote equality globally p114
Scottish National Party:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • full reinstatement of the Post-Study Work Visa scheme p18 • support the ERASMUS+ programme of international student exchanges p18 • reinforce the right of the Scottish Parliament to decide when a referendum should happen p29 • Oppose any attempts by the to scrap the Human Rights Act and withdraw the UK from the ECHR p30 • equality law reforms to ensure same-sex couples have equal pension rights and protected characteristics are expanded to ensure all LGBTI people are fully protected from discrimination and harassment p37 • support as possible for disabled people, and people of all classes, races and gender identities to stand for election to the House of Commons p41 • support the EU in the pursuit of the objectives outlined in the EU Global Strategy, particularly in the cross-cutting themes of Human Rights, Women, Peace and Security and Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment p46 • promote the rights of LGBTI people throughout the world as an integral part of UK foreign policy p47 • urge the UK government to take action on the recommendations of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees including implementing a National Refugee Integration Strategy p47 • urge the UK government to work with the devolved administrations, local authorities and local communities to provide services for asylum seekers p47 •
Scottish Liberal Democrats:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a referendum on the final Brexit deal, with the option to remain in the EU p6 • guarantee the rights of EU nationals in the UK; maintain membership of the Single Market p7 • Support the principle of freedom of movement between the UK and EU - the right to work, travel, study and retire abroad p7 • Introduce a Digital Bill of Rights that protects people’s powers over their own information, supports individuals over large corporations, and preserves the neutrality of the Web p48 • End the ministerial veto on release of information under the Freedom of Information Act p48

- Allow high-skilled immigration to support key sectors of the economy p51
- Remove students from official migration statistics p51
- Welcome 50,000 Syrian refugees over five years p52
- vote against any attempts to scrap the Human Rights Act or withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights remove students from the official migration statistics p52
- Establish a centrally-funded Migrant Impact Fund to help local communities to adjust to new migration and meet unexpected pressures on public services and housing p52
- Offer asylum to people fleeing countries where their sexual orientation or gender identification p52
- Champion the rules-based international order, which provides a strong basis for multilateral action to address the world's most pernicious problems including poverty, armed conflict, disease, climate change, and the abuse of human rights including forced marriage, so-called 'honour' killings, and Female Genital Mutilation p55
- Introduce votes at 16 for all elections and referendums across the UK p62
- Introduce the Single Transferable Vote for electing MPs across the UK p62
- Introduce legislation to allow for all-BAME and all-LGBT+ parliamentary shortlists p62
- Oppose Scottish independence referendum p64

SOURCES

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Scottish National Party Manifesto 2017: <https://www.snp.org/manifesto>



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- ^v REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT PATTERNS IN SCOTLAND: STATISTICS FROM THE ANNUAL POPULATION SURVEY 2016 <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00518423.pdf>
- ^{vi} Report of Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion. Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00506074.pdf>
- ^{vii} Information and Statistics on Equality Groups in Fife 2016 (Feb 2017). Fife Council. <https://www.fifedirect.org.uk/publications/index.cfm?fuseaction=publication.pop&pubid=BAB6891C-97E4-726D-36F03FE6467CDEA9>
- ^{viii} Commons Briefing Papers: [Social background of Members of Parliament 1979-2015](#)
- ^{ix} The implications for access to justice of the Government's proposals to reform legal aid - Human Rights Joint Committee <https://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt201314/jtselect/jtrights/100/10004.htm>
- ^x Fife Centre for Equalities – Equality Reports. <https://centreforequalities.org.uk/tag/equality-reports/>
- ^{xi} Code of Practice on the Exercise by Constables of Powers of Stop and Search of the Person in Scotland <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00512924.pdf>



Fife Centre for Equalities (FCE) aims to build a collective voice to champion equality, diversity, inclusion and social justice across Fife and beyond. FCE is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in Scotland No. SC536028 and registered Scottish Charity No. SC046683.

Address: Fife Centre for Equalities, New Volunteer House, 16 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1XT
Telephone: 01592 645 310 **Website:** www.centreforequalities.org.uk