

# The ALLIANCE

## The ALLIANCE manifesto for the 2026 Scottish Parliament election



## Easy Read



## What this manifesto is for



This is an Easy Read document about our **manifesto**.

A **manifesto** is a plan that says what we believe in and what work we want to happen.



There will be a Scottish Parliament **election** in 2026.

**This election** means that people will vote to choose someone to represent their local area in the Scottish Parliament.



The election is happening at a time when people are dealing with lots of difficult things including:

- half of adults in Scotland now live with a **long term condition**



A **long term condition** is a health issue that cannot be made better but can be managed with treatment.



- the number of unpaid carers continues to go up
- there is not enough money for the public services we need, like schools and hospitals



- **voluntary services** have more work than they can cope with

These are services that do not make money from helping people.

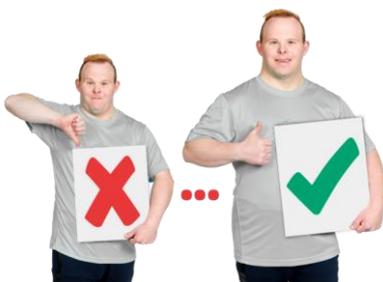
Our rights are not being protected.

If we all work together we can deal with the challenges Scotland faces.



In this manifesto we:

- are setting out our solutions to these challenges
- are asking Scotland's political parties to offer a vision of hope for the next 5 years





We want to see a Scotland that:

- is a leader in human rights
- has enough money to provide good services
- spends the money it has available in a fair and equal way



Working with voluntary organisations we want to make sure we have good social care and public services for everyone that:

- work to stop people getting ill
- support people all their life



The ALLIANCE and our members call for all political parties to make the commitments that are set out in the rest of this document.

## Scotland as a human rights leader



**Human rights** are freedoms that are protected in law.

They make sure we are treated fairly and with dignity.

### Include human rights in our laws



- pass a Scottish Human Rights Bill that puts a range of international human rights and **accountability** into Scots law



**Accountability** means making sure there are people and organisations who are responsible for making things happen.

- make it easier to put human rights into Scots law including the **United Nations** Convention on the Rights of Disabled People



The **United Nations** is an organisation that works with countries to keep peace and security across the world.



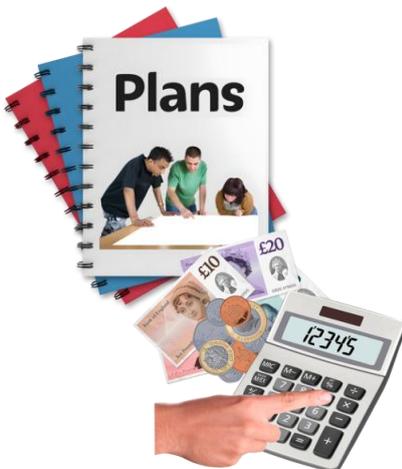
- give the Scottish Human Rights Commission more powers

Make sure it has enough money and staff to do its work well now and in the future.

## Follow, check and report on human rights



- make sure that Scotland's second National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP 2) is put into action



- follow United Nations human rights recommendations by:
  - making action plans
  - making sure organisations have enough money and staff



- make sure that equality and human rights data is gathered, checked and used when decisions are made



- have better ways to check that human rights are being protected using a national human rights tracker tool



## The right to health

- make sure that equality and rights are:
  - **mainstreamed** – this means equality and human rights are thought about at every stage when making decisions
  - part of all public services



- do work to support a Right to **Rehab** approach in local and community services



**Rehab** is something that will help you recover from a health condition.



- have a Right to **Palliative Care** approach across services

**Palliative care** means caring for or supporting someone who is at the end of their life or who has a terminal illness.

## Finances and an economy that treats people fairly



### Voluntary organisations working with us as equal partners

- funding from public sector organisations must be fair for voluntary organisations now and in the future



- give money back to Scottish voluntary organisations to cover the cost of higher employer National Insurance contributions



- know that voluntary organisations put money into the economy



- include voluntary organisations as equal partners when public services are made better and decisions are made about money



- include information from voluntary organisations when the Scottish Government's develops the relationship with the European Union

### **A human rights and wellbeing approach to finance and the economy**



- make sure money is spent in a way that supports and protects human rights

This should include a tax system that raises enough money to keep services going.



- get and use good equality and human rights data to check how the way money is spent is making a difference

## A fair approach to social security



- make the Scottish social security system better so it has more flexibility for unpaid carers



- work on the recommendations of the Independent Review of the Adult Disability Payment

This would make sure that human rights are at the centre of the social security system.



- make sure that money that comes to Scotland from the UK Government is enough to cover what is needed

## Social care



## Change social care

- have ways to check that social care services are equal and fair across all parts of Scotland

Make sure more money is put into social care to meet the demand for it.



- have better:
  - **standards** – these explain what level of quality people should expect from a service
  - **access** – make it easier for people to get services
  - quality and accountability



- stop care charges for people who are not living in care homes



- make sure that decisions about which services are needed and how they are put in place follow a human rights based approach



- make sure that voluntary organisations that give social care services have enough money



## Build a valued service where everyone has a voice

- make sure all Integration Joint Board members have equal rights and support



This should include full voting rights for representatives from lived experience, unpaid carer and voluntary organisations.



- involve people with lived experience and voluntary organisations in making changes to health and social care services



- have better pay and conditions for social care staff

- deal with **gender bias** in social care

**Gender bias** means that some people are treated unfairly based on their **gender** - if they see themselves as male or female or in a different way.



## Public services for everyone



### Meet everyone's communication and access needs

- develop a new **See Hear strategy** and create a Scottish Government Sensory Policy Unit so that different services work well together on this

The **See Hear strategy** is about Scottish services that support children and adults with deafness, visual impairments and deafblindness.



- provide a clear legal right to inclusive communication so that everyone can take part and have the same chance



- pass a Digital Inclusion Bill to make sure that Scotland uses technology and data in ways that are open, honest and fair

## Services that work for everyone



- strengthen reporting and the way that information is collected in Getting It Right For Every Child (**GIRFEC**) services

**GIRFEC** is Scotland's way of promoting and supporting the wellbeing of all children and young people and keeping them safe.



- make an older people's health and social care strategy and action plan

## Put money into making women's health better



- make sure all women in Scotland can get good, accessible healthcare when they need it

## Better support people with learning disabilities, autism and neurodiversity



- pass a Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodiversity Bill in the Scottish Parliament

## Strengthen prevention and lifelong support



**Prevention** services try to stop problems from happening or stop things from getting worse.

### Strengthen prevention



- make sure that policies about prevention are put into practice
- protect and put more money into the **Community Links Worker** way of working



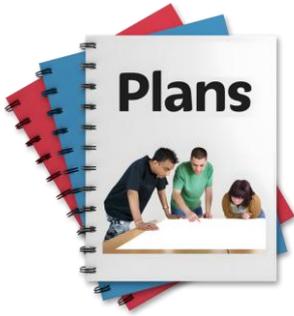
**Community Links Workers** work with doctors to help people with problems in their life that might affect how healthy they are – for example housing or money.



- keep the Self Management Fund and the projects it supports



This fund gives money to projects that have new ideas and plans to help people keep themselves healthy.



## Deliver good support for long term conditions

- new plans can add new work but they must also keep the actions needed for some conditions
- put more money into support for people with long term conditions
- develop a supportive approach to health and work



## A new approach to mental health

- develop rights based mental health and incapacity law by following the recommendations of the Scottish Mental Health Law Review
- put money into mental health services including more funding for the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund



- make the Living Well: Emotional Support Matters way of working happen



This supports the mental health and wellbeing of people with long term conditions and the voluntary organisations that work for and with them.

