General Election 2019: Scottish National Party (SNP) manifesto science and education policies

Please note that we have summarised the party’s main manifesto only. You can find the manifesto in full here.

Climate and energy

Scottish National Party (SNP):

- Call for the UK to accelerate to meet Scotland’s climate change target of a 75% reduction in emissions by 2035, net zero carbon emissions “no later than 2040” and net zero of all emissions by 2045.
- Lobby the UK to accelerate action to decarbonise the gas grid - a “critical” recommendation of the Committee on Climate Change.
- Oppose new nuclear power plants and prioritise investment in “cleaner, cheaper” forms of electricity generation.
- Ensure that from 2024, all new homes use renewables or low carbon heat.
- Support industry calls for firms to include climate change related disclosures in their annual reports and back steps to put this onto a statutory basis.
- Reduce emissions from Scotland’s railways to zero by 2035.

Environment and ecology

Scottish National Party (SNP):

- Press the Ministry of Defence to “take responsibility for the environmental impact of military munitions as a polluter.”
- Campaign to ban the import into the UK of any supposed trophy of any animal on the CITES list of endangered species.

Agriculture and fisheries

Scottish National Party (SNP):

- Not allow the UK government to dismantle Scotland’s GM-free status and commitment.
- Support the Scottish Government’s efforts to maintain current EU standards and regulations over animal and plant health.
- Prevent the UK Government taking devolved powers over farming or fishing or attaching strings to any future funding.
- If the UK leaves the EU, seek to “protect fishing interests” by insisting on Scotland playing a central role in future annual negotiations, and insist that access to Scotland’s waters is not traded or that the UK does not enter into annual access arrangements.
In the event of the UK remaining in the EU, the SNP will push for fundamental reform of the Common Fisheries Policy to shift from a “one size fits all” fishing policy towards a policy which “suits different fleets and different geography.”

Food and drink

Scottish National Party (SNP):

- Press for the UK to introduce new rights including “a right to food for all” and to support and resource action which makes such a right “meaningful for people.”

Forestry

Scottish National Party (SNP):

- Aim to press for an increase in new woodland creation, working towards a target of 60 million trees planted annually in the UK by 2025, with 30 million of these in Scotland “to help tackle the Climate Emergency” and to support biodiversity and rural employment.

Diversity and inclusion

Scottish National Party (SNP):

- Demand “tougher action” to close the gender pay gap, including introducing fines for businesses that fail to meet an agreed Equal Pay Standard.