

Scrapping the Bedroom Tax

We will vote for the immediate abolition of the unfair Bedroom Tax. Abolishing the Bedroom Tax would mean that the £35 million a year that the Scottish Government is spending to compensate those affected by it would be available to spend on other priorities. We would invest that money in measures to tackle - and eventually eradicate - food poverty.

Investing in education

We will guarantee the continuation of free university education in Scotland and support the reduction of tuition fees across the UK.

We will extend the availability of Educational Maintenance Allowance in Scotland to an additional 10,000 school pupils and 12,000 part time college students.

Opposing withdrawal from the European Union

At least 330,000 Scottish jobs – around one in seven of all jobs - are dependent on our membership of the single market. That is why we will oppose a referendum on membership of the EU. Being part of Europe is good for business and it supports jobs in Scotland and across the UK.

If an in/out EU referendum does go ahead, we will seek to amend the legislation to ensure that no constituent part of the UK can be taken out of the EU against its will. We will propose a 'double majority' rule - meaning that unless England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each vote to leave the EU, the UK would remain a member state.

Immigration policy that works for Scotland

Diversity is one of Scotland's great strengths. Effective immigration controls are important, but we must also remember that those who have come to Scotland from other countries make a significant contribution to our economy and our society.

We will support sensible immigration policies that meet our economic needs and, as a priority, we will seek the reintroduction of the post study work visa, so that those we have helped educate are able, if they so choose, to make a contribution to our economy.

More affordable housing

There is a substantial shortfall of affordable houses for rent across the UK.

The Scottish Government is on track to meet the commitment to 30,000 new affordable homes by 2016, but more needs to be done. We will back investment in an annual house building target across the UK of 100,000 affordable homes a year.

We will also continue our support for Help to Buy and shared equity to help people get a foot on the housing ladder.

A focus on job creation

We will support targeted reductions to employer's National Insurance contributions to support job creation and the extension of the Living Wage.

We will support an increase in the Employment Allowance from £2,000 per business per year to £6,000 per business per year, reducing the cost of creating and maintaining jobs.