









AT A GLANCE: UK PARTY MANIFESTOS COMPARED

With the UK general election set to take place on 12 December 2019, here is a summary of the key pledges made by the top two contenders – the Conservative party and the Labour Party.

	<u>CONSERVATIVE MANIFESTO</u>	<u>LABOUR MANIFESTO</u>
BREXIT AND THE EU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core mantra of “Get Brexit done” runs through the manifesto • Boris Johnson’s Brexit Deal to be put to UK parliament before Christmas, ratified by January 31 • Transition period to end in December 2020 • Tailor made trade deals for the UK • 80 per cent of UK trade to be covered by free-trade agreements within the next three years starting with USA, Australia, NZ and Japan • Aim to strengthen Commonwealth ties and retake seat at WTO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main slogan of “It’s time for a real change” • Within three months of coming to power, will secure a “sensible” deal • Within six months have a second referendum-offering the choice of remaining in the EU or leaving with a sensible deal • A more comprehensive UK customs union; closer alignment with EU single market and EU agencies; prioritise worker, consumer and environmental rights, clarity on security commitments-access to EU databases
BUSINESS AND THE ECONOMY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No increases in income tax, national insurance or VAT over the next five years • Raise the National Insurance threshold to £9,500 next year – representing a tax cut for 31 million workers • To keep costs down for small businesses – rather than hiking their taxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationalise railway system, water, mail, broadband internet and part of the energy system • Increase the main rate of corporation tax from 19 per cent to 26 per cent, and the small profits rate to 21 percent • Increase income tax for anyone earning over £80,000 per year • Freeze income tax, National Insurance and VAT for anyone earning under that amount

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public sector net investment to not average more than 3 per cent of GDP. If debt interest reaches 6 per cent of revenue, will reassess plans to keep debt under control. • Increase in the National Living Wage to two thirds of average earnings, currently forecast at £10.50 an hour • Continue roll out of Universal Credit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Force big multinationals such as Google and Amazon to declare their profits in the country where their economic activity occurs • Launch a £400 billion National Transformation Fund and a Local Transformation Fund in each English region to support infrastructure projects • Free full-fibre broadband by 2030
<p>CLIMATE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise environment in the next Budget • Target to reach Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 • A new £500 million Blue Planet Fund to help protect our oceans from plastic pollution, warming sea temperatures and overfishing • Will work with the market to deliver two million new high-quality jobs in clean growth • Invest £800 million to build the first fully deployed carbon capture storage cluster by the mid-2020s • Invest £500 million to help energy-intensive industries move to low-carbon techniques • Introduce a new levy on proportion of recyclable plastics in packaging • Support clean transport to ensure clean air, as well as setting strict new laws on air quality – will phase out the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars • Will keep our existing energy cap and introduce new measures to lower bills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kick-start a Green Industrial Revolution to boost job creation • Create a Sustainable Investment Board • Deliver the “substantial majority” of the emissions cuts needed to tackle climate change by 2030 • Introduce a Climate and Environment Emergency Bill setting out in law new targets for decarbonisation as well as environment and habitat restoration • Setup Green Transformation Fund - budget of £250 billion for 10 years dedicated to expanding renewable and low-carbon activities • Loans to help people buy electric cars • Create 1 million “green” jobs • Permanent ban on fracking • Windfall tax on oil companies • Investing in a new plastics remanufacturing industry

<p>HEALTH</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed £34 billion per year in additional funding for the NHS • Propose full-funded long-term NHS plan • Introduction of special “NHS visa” to train more NHS professionals • Have begun work on building 40 new hospitals across the country • Investing in hospital upgrades and new machines to boost early cancer diagnosis across 78 hospital trusts • 50,000 more nurses, 6000 more doctors, 6000 more primary care professionals. • Additional funding to deliver 50 million extra GP appointments per year • Clamp down on health tourism - new immigrants to contribute to NHS funding before using services • “The services the NHS provides will not be on the table” when the government negotiates trade deals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End NHS privatisation • Increase spending on health by 4.3 per cent a year on average • Additional £1.6 billion for mental health services • Enable 27 million more doctors’ appointments per year • Free annual dental check ups • Abolish prescription charges in England • Develop eligibility criteria that ensures our service works for everyone, including people with complex conditions like dementia • Make the NHS a net-zero-carbon service by improving heating and insulation and increasing reliance on renewable energy and electric vehicles • Plant an NHS forest of 1 million trees • Introduce model of joined up care between health services and community care • Extend paid maternity leave to 12 months
<p>DEFENSE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will continue to exceed the NATO target of spending 2 per cent of GDP on defence and increase the budget by at least 0.5 per cent above inflation every year • Invest in training and equipment for Armed Forces and intelligence agencies • Will maintain Trident nuclear deterrent programme • Invest more in cybersecurity and set up the UK’s first Space Command • Will support defence industry by investing in global programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the NATO target of spending at least 2 percent of GDP on defence • Increase funding for UN peacekeeping operations to £100 million Create a Climate Change Sustainability Committee to examine how to make defence more environmentally sustainable • Renew the Trident nuclear weapons program

<p>IMMIGRATION</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian style points-based system • “Fewer lower-skilled migrants” and reduced immigration • EU nationals living in the UK before Brexit - rights guaranteed • Asylum to refugees fleeing persecution • EU nationals after Brexit and non-EU nationals - treated equally when it comes to visas and non-contributory benefits. Will only be able to access unemployment, housing, and child benefit after five years, same as non-EEA migrants at the moment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU citizen rights to be maintained irrespective of Brexit outcome • Grant all EU nationals in the UK automatic right to continue living and working in the country • Extend family reunion rights to non-EU citizens • Close two major immigration removal centres • Replace the UK government’s EU Settlement Scheme with a voluntary declaratory system
<p>EDUCATION</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra £14 billion funding for schools • Raise teachers’ starting salaries up to £30,000 • Government contributions into the Teachers’ Pension Scheme also up • £3 billion for a new National Skills Fund for businesses and workers • £1 billion for childcare for before and after school and during holidays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools guaranteed long-term spending • Guarantee free education for everyone throughout their lives • Abolish tuition fees • Expand free childcare and increased funding for schools
<p>HOUSING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build “at least” 1 million new homes over the next five years • New First Home scheme under which properties would be sold at 30 per cent discounts to first-time buyers • Simplified shared ownership products • New stamp duty surcharge on non-UK residents buying property to help pay for schemes to tackle homelessness • Better Deal for Renters - abolishing ‘no fault’ evictions and only requiring one ‘lifetime’ deposit which moves with the tenant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new Department for Housing • Make Home England a more accountable National Housing Agency • 1 million social houses within a decade • Reform Help to Buy • Introduce a levy on overseas companies buying housing – local people given “first dibs” on new houses built in their area

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce a tax to punish developers for stalled housing developments• Claim to end rough sleeping in first five years of coming into power• Set up a new English Sovereign Land Trust with powers to buy land cheaply for low-cost housing in England. |
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