

Liberal Democrats



change that works **for you**

BUILDING A FAIRER BRITAIN

This is our manifesto
It tells you what we will do if we
win the general election



easy read



We are **Liberal Democrats**.

Our leader is Nick Clegg.

We are a **political party**.



This means we are 1 of the groups who want to be the next **government** and run the country.



This manifesto tells you

- what we believe in
- what we will change if we become the next government.

If you want to find out more about us you can contact us



telephone 020 7222 7999



website www.libdems.org.uk

What we believe

Liberal Democrats believe in **fairness**.



Fair taxes

This means we all pay a fair amount of money towards things like the NHS, education and benefits.



A fair chance for every child

We think that all children should get the chance to have a good start in life.



A fair future

We want to make Britain greener and have more chances for people to get a job.

We think making Britain greener will help us to have more jobs for people.



Making Britain greener means

- doing things that save energy from heating and lighting
- cutting down on pollution from aeroplanes and factories
- looking after our seas and forests
- looking after animals and plants



A fair deal from politicians

We think the government should have to tell you why it does things

Why we think you should vote for us

Your money



We want taxes and benefits to be fairer.



Liberal Democrats will



Cut taxes by £700 for lots of people who work by not asking you to pay taxes on the first £10,000 you earn.



We will do this by

- making sure people who earn a lot of money pay fair taxes
- putting up taxes to do with aeroplanes and flying.



More about money



There have been a lot of problems in the world to do with money.



The last government borrowed lots of money.

We will sort out the money the government has borrowed by



- making banks pay more money on the profits they make.
Profit is money that the banks earn.



- Cut down the money the government spends on things that are not really needed.



We will make sure that pensions (money) for old people goes up when the money earned by people who are still working goes up.



Your job

We want business to do well and everyone that can work to have a job.

Liberal Democrats will

Have a 1 year plan that will help to make new jobs.

This plan will put money into

- Renewable energy. Renewable energy is power from things that do not run out. For example, energy from the wind.
- Turning houses that are empty back into homes for people to live in.



We will sort out the banks so that they can not use money in a way that is a risk to us.



We will have money that will be used just for important things like new railways and green energy.

Green energy is about making electricity in a way that does not hurt the environment, like getting power from the sea and wind.

We will give disabled people who can work a better chance of getting a job.



We will make changes to Access to Work so that disabled people can apply for jobs that already have money set aside to pay for equipment and other things they need to do the job.

Your life

We want to make sure schools and hospitals are as good as they can be.

Liberal Democrats will



- give schools money so that all pupils can be taught in smaller groups
- make sure more pupils can have 1 to 1 support.

We promise that all 5 year old children will get a Special Educational Needs assessment. This is a check to see if they need extra help to learn.



We will make sure teachers get extra training to help them teach children with special educational needs.



We will get rid of fees for going to university so everyone has the chance to go.



We will help the NHS use the money it has in the best way to make sure everyone gets good health care.

Your family



The Liberal Democrats will make sure that every family gets support.

Liberal Democrats will



- make sure both parents can share time off from work to look after a new baby
- make sure children who are at risk of being hurt or neglected get support



- make the Youth Service better. The Youth Service is services, groups and clubs for young people.
- offer a week's respite (short break) to everyone who spends lots of time caring for someone in their family who is ill or has a disability.

Your world



Liberal Democrats believe that Britain needs to help to make the world a better place for everyone.

We want to help look after the environment.

Liberal Democrats will do this by



- working with other governments in Europe
- saying no to nuclear power
- saying yes to power from the wind and sea.



We want to bring in rules about the way banks and business can use money to protect everyone's money.

We want to look after the people who are in the army, navy and air force. We call these people the armed forces



We want

- to pay people who work for the armed forces a better wage when they start.
- want the armed forces to have the right equipment.

More about your world

We want all the countries that have nuclear weapons to get rid of them. These are weapons that can kill millions of people and damage the world for ever.

We will get rid of the UK's nuclear weapons if other countries get rid of theirs.

We will save money now by ordering fewer nuclear weapons.

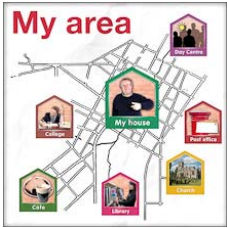


The next time there are big plans to change the way the United Kingdom works with the European Union we want everyone in Britain to have a say in it.



The European Union is the name for all the countries in Europe that work together. The European Union can make laws that all countries in the Union have to follow.

Your community



Liberal Democrats want every community to be a safe and fair place to live.



To do this we will

- have 3,000 more police walking around
- make the immigration system fair. Immigration is when people from other countries come to Britain to live and work.



- spend money on public transport like trains and buses.
- make it cheaper to travel by train



- make sure there are more homes that people can afford to live in and keep warm.



- keep local post offices open.

- look after the parks and other open spaces where you live.

Your say



Liberal Democrats will make big changes to the way the country is run so that everyone has more of a say.

To do this we will



- make the voting system fairer
- stop individuals and companies giving political parties lots of money
- give people the power to sack their MP if the MP is not following the rules about how to do their job
- give the Welsh Assembly and the Scottish Parliament more power to run their countries
- make sure more decisions about how things are done are made locally and not by the government



- have a new law called a Freedom Bill to stop government spying on our personal lives and checking up on what we do.



England, Scotland and Wales



Liberal Democrats have always said it is important for people in Scotland and Wales to have control over how their country is run.



Many of the decisions made in parliament in Westminster are only about England.



The Liberal Democrat Party in Scotland and Wales will do things in a way that is right for those countries. This may mean doing things differently from what we do in England.



This manifesto is about what a Liberal Democrat government in Westminster would do.



change that works for you

BUILDING A FAIRER BRITAIN

Published and promoted by Chris Fox on behalf of the Liberal Democrats, both at 4 Cowley Street, London, SW1P 3NB



**Thanks to Photosymbols for the pictures.
Mencap made this manifesto easy read.
Neither Photosymbols nor Mencap support the
views of any one political party.**