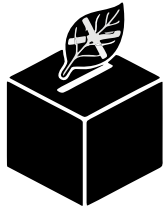


Climate and Nature



What are the pledges for the Scottish Election 2026?

Reform UK



- **Scrap all SNP** Net Zero related targets, subsidies + quangos.
- **Prepare to rehabilitate** North Sea gas as our primary energy system.
- **Enable fast-tracking** of permissions for hydro, micro-hydro, geothermal, open-cast coal mining, + electrical network infrastructure, especially on brownfield/ industrial sites, keeping protections for Scotland's nature and considering local communities.
- **End ban on** new nuclear facilities.
- **Encourage creation of** hedging + tree lines on farms by restarting the fence + hedge grant scheme.
- **Replace farm carbon** audits with outcome based measurement.
- **Stop poorly managed** forestry and rewilding schemes + develop a longterm plan for planting extensive native woodlands.
- **Stop massive solar** + battery farms.
- **Stop plans to** phase out oil boilers.
- **Stop future offshore** wind farms which harm fishing grounds + migratory birds.

Scottish Conservatives



- **Scrap 2045 target**, drop any policies imposing costs on households in order to meet it.
- **Overturn SNP's opposition** to new oil + gas, lobby the Labour Govt to reverse their ban.
- **Scrap SNP's Just Transition Fund**, replace with Affordable Transition Fund to cut costs for consumers + protect jobs.
- **Overhaul Scot Govt** energy policy so main objective is to lower costs for homes + businesses, not Net Zero.
- **Support all forms** of energy generation, ensuring local communities have final say on each project.
- **Establish fund to** support households who are off-grid + struggling with the increased energy costs they face.
- **Close down SNP's** international climate change budget so that we can spend this money on priorities at home.

Scottish Green Party

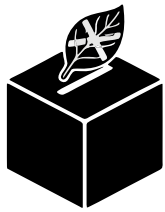


- **Get back on** track to deliver net zero by 2045 + launch climate action delivery programme.
- **New legal framework** to sue govts for failing to meet legally-binding climate targets.
- **Bring forward Scottish Corporate Accountability and Ecocide Bill** + set up Scottish Environmental Court.
- **Fully-funded worker-led** transition plans to support communities + economic sectors.
- **Immediate end to** new oil and gas extraction + nuclear power development.
- **Increase Nature Restoration Fund** to £200m.
- **Establish Climate Adaptation Fund** to deliver Scottish National Adaptation Plans.
- **9,000 ha new** native woodland a yr + 45,000 ha+ peatlands a yr.
- **£600m investment programme** in onshore and offshore wind, tidal and solar energy.
- **Bring back Heat in Buildings Bill** to decarbonise homes by 2045.
- **Expand locally-owned** district heat networks.
- **New Scottish Community Wealth Fund** for equitable distribution of wealth generated by renewable energy.
- **Pay for people** to install heat pumps, solar panels + other green heating technologies.

Ahead of the **Scottish National Elections on 7th May 2026** the East Lothian Climate Hub have compiled the pledges of the six main parties represented in the Scottish Parliament concerning nature, climate and the environment.



Climate and Nature



What are the pledges for the Scottish Election 2026?

Scottish Liberal Democrats



- **Take action needed** now to achieve net zero by 2045 with detailed roadmap.
- **Launch emergency insulation** programme + catch-up zones for areas furthest behind.
- **Bring forward Fairer Heating Bill** + accelerate rollout of climate-friendly heating systems.
- **Invest in low-carbon** heat networks + potential for connecting whole towns.
- **Aim to double** training for qualified installers of renewable technology.
- **Re-write rules** so people get more money from renewable energy generated nearby.
- **Quadruple amount of** energy from solar in this Parliament.
- **Remove Scot Govt** opposition to nuclear.
- **New Clean Water Act** + replace old standards with modern enforceable regulation.
- **Expand woodlands with** 50%+ native species, connect existing woodlands + increase planting in urban areas.
- **Embrace circular economy** + reduce waste.
- **Double penalty for** littering + new penalties for flytipping.

Scottish Labour Party



- **Take action needed** to achieve net zero by 2045.
- **Create national warm** homes programme, with one-stop community centres providing advice + support.
- **Expand use of** community energy networks.
- **Continue electrification of** Scotland's railways + develop fast intercity rail.
- **Support expansion of** renewable energy in Scotland, cut decision times + support grid building through planning reforms, increase community ownership.
- **Work with aviation** sector + heavy industry to develop low carbon fuel.
- **Set clear nature** targets using powers from Natural Environment Act.
- **Establish a Marine Recovery Fund.**
- **Sustainable deer management,** supporting communities to supply venison to local markets.
- **Reward farmers for** nature-friendly practices.
- **Expand native woodlands** annually, balancing needs of timber industry.
- **Support sustainable +** data-informed fisheries, consulting on inshore marine management to protect fish stocks + marine environments.

Scottish National Party



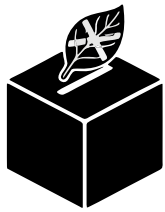
- **Climate Change Plan** until 2040: reduce emissions, opportunities for new jobs + economic growth, improved infrastructure + energy security.
- **£500m Just Transition Fund.**
- **Match fund Wood Foundation's** donation for transition in North East.
- **Expand Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)** to £15m.
- **New ScotWind Wealth Fund** so future generations gain from renewable wealth.
- **Accelerate investment in** offshore wind, solar + other technologies.
- **Call on UK Govt** to make North Sea oil + gas project decisions on rigorous evidence-led, case-by-case basis.
- **Call to replace** Energy Profits Levy with a fairer system.
- **Nature-friendly farming:** increase Tier 2, 3 + 4 support.
- **£15m in flood** mitigation + prevention.
- **Restore 400,000 ha+** peatland by 2040.
- **Support heat networks** + public bodies to prioritise community bids for renewable leases.
- **18,000 ha new** woodland a yr by 2029, 40%+ new native woodland by 2045.
- **National deer management.**

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The Cost of Living

What are the pledges for the Scottish Election 2026?



LIVING COSTS

Reform UK



- **Lower taxes, phase out LBTT**, cut public spending, overhaul SNP's social security to ensure that work always pays more than welfare.

Scottish Conservatives



- **Grow economy**, more well-paid jobs, cut taxes, reduce energy bills, support breakfast clubs for all primary pupils, funded childcare from 9months+ for working parents.

Scottish Green Party



- **Rent controls**, reduce travel costs, comprehensive Universal Basic Income pilot, free prescriptions, more funded childcare from 6months+, shift more of tax burden onto wealthy.

HOUSING

- **Target 75,000 affordable homes** over 5yrs, restore local connection rule for housing, repeal SNP rental regulations for new tenancies, enhance LLP for increased community say.

- **Abolish tax on primary residences**, oppose rent controls + reduce costly housebuilding regulations.

- **Build 15,700+ social homes** a yr, strengthen rent controls, act on empty homes, all new homes to meet net zero standards, aim to end homelessness by 2040.

TRANSPORT

- **End the "war on the motor car"**, fix potholes, abolish ULEZ, 10yr plan to upgrade major trunk roads, 10yr modernisation programme of railways.

- **National pothole fund**, trunk road upgrades, bridge restoration fund, cut active travel budget, redirecting funding to pavement + road maintenance.

- **Expand free bus travel** to everyone, introduce £2 bus fare cap for transition, abolish first class on ScotRail, bring more buses under local control, 10% of national transport budget for active travel.

HEALTH

- **Keep NHS free** at point of need, new Scottish Healthcare Reform Commission, improve workforce plan, expand community + GP services, shift to prevention strategy in persistent health inequalities.

- **48-hour GP access** guarantee, reduce NHS waiting times, open treatment centres + increase procedures, prevent closure of any local health facility or community hospital during lifetime of next Scottish Parliament.

- **Increase GP investment**, aim for one GP per 1,000 patients, recruit more staff, end dental charges, embed community links workers who can help patients with issues such as poverty, housing + isolation.

EDUCATION

- **Scrap Education Scotland**, move to knowledge-based curriculum, restore standardised testing, ban mobile phones, support head teachers with strong discipline.

- **Protect traditional exam-based learning**, more classroom assistants, new Pupil Equity Funding to support pupils from poorest backgrounds, restore discipline, ban on mobile phones.

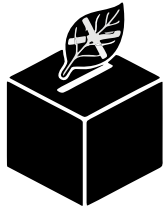
- **Raise school starting age** to 7, reduce class sizes, cut teacher workload, expand free school meals, reduce role of high-stakes exams, expand free school meals + free breakfast clubs in every primary.

Ahead of the **Scottish National Elections on 7th May 2026** the East Lothian Climate Hub have compiled the pledges of the six main parties represented in the Scottish Parliament concerning the cost of living, housing, transport and education.



The Cost of Living

What are the pledges for the Scottish Election 2026?



LIVING COSTS

Scottish Liberal Democrats



- **Cut energy bills** through insulation + cleaner power, help working families with childcare, support unpaid carers, use job transition loans to improve earnings.

HOUSING

- **25,000 homes a yr**, re-establish social renting as long-term option, Help to Renovate loan scheme + reforms to planning/derelict sites, develop a new programme for Net Zero New Towns.

TRANSPORT

- **Ferries Bill, Dangerous Roads Programme**, Transport for London-style bus model, tap-and-go ticketing, expand ScotRail services + establish commuter-friendly guarantee.

HEALTH

- **Establish 10yr NHS Workforce Plan**, 900 extra patient-facing staff in GP practices + neighbourhood teams, expand NHS dentistry, grow mental health services + improve social care support.

EDUCATION

- **2,000 more pupil support assistants**, action on insecure teacher contracts, smartphone-free schools, more specialist ASN support, play-based learning until 7 + developing family support hubs.

Scottish Labour Party



- **Expand energy support** schemes, keep cost of public transport down, breakfast clubs in all primary schools, reduce costs of childcare.

- **125,000 new homes** by 2031, including 50,000+ affordable homes, increase supply of mid-market rent housing, create Ending Homelessness Unit, increase LBTT threshold to £200,000 for first time

- **£350 million potholes** fund, local bus services back under public control, no return to peak fares for rail travel, continued rail electrification + fast intercity rail corridors.

- **Reduce waiting times** by enabling patients to access appointments + treatment in other health boards with space to treat them, 1,000 more care at home packages, end 8am rush for GP appointments, pay care workers £15/hr.

- **2,000 recovery teachers** for children who have fallen furthest behind, 1,500 classroom assistants, new national standards for numeracy + literacy, mobile phone ban, enforceable National Behaviour Charter for pupils.

Scottish National Party



- **Price caps on** essential food items, expand heating payments, continue free university tuition + prescriptions, all kids from 9months to end of primary school help with childcare.

- **110,000 affordable homes** by 2032, £10,000 support for first-time buyers, new tenant rights e.g. first refusal when properties sold, £50m homelessness fund.

- **£2 bus fare cap**, rail fare freeze, major road investment, continued public transport expansion + easier EV charger installation, £2.5m bike repair scheme.

- **£10bn NHS infrastructure** plan, 26week maximum wait target, expansion of GP access, new national appointment system, increased mental health + rehab services, prioritise women's health.

- **Maintain teacher numbers** + Teacher Jobs Guarantee for 3yr min, expand additional needs support, support inclusive education, introduce classroom mobile phone ban + protect free university tuition.

Ahead of the **Scottish National Elections on 7th May 2026** the East Lothian Climate Hub have compiled the pledges of the six main parties represented in the Scottish Parliament concerning the cost of living, housing, transport and education.

