

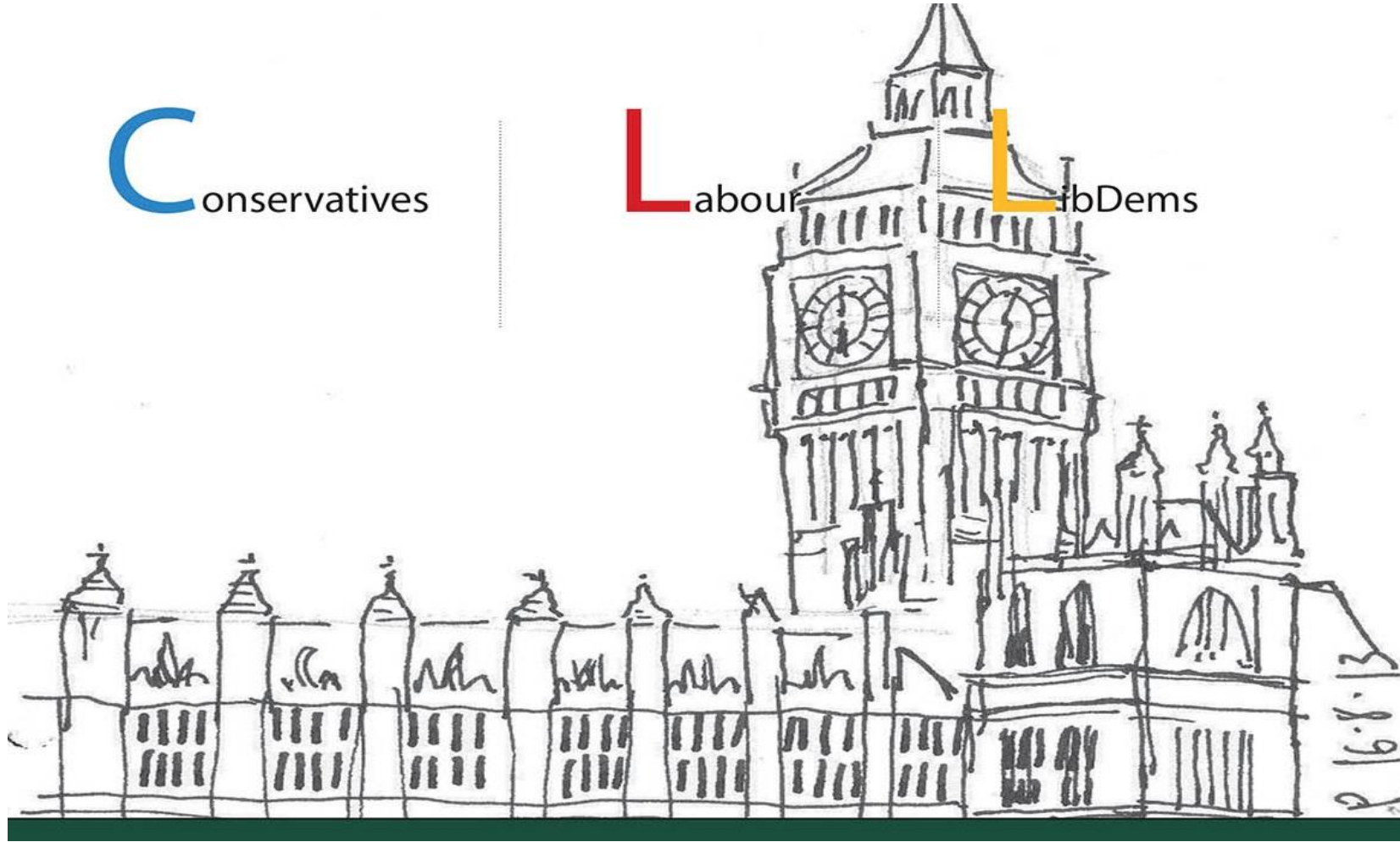
General Election manifestos 2019

What the main political parties say in relation to Gypsies, Roma and Travellers

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Accommodation		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle unauthorised Traveller camps. Propose giving the police new powers to arrest and seize the property and vehicles of trespassers who set up unauthorised encampments, in order to protect communities; • Make intentional trespass a criminal offence, and will also give councils greater powers within the planning system; • Reform shared ownership, making it fairer and more transparent; • Extend the Help to Buy scheme from 2021 to 2023; • Maintain a commitment to a Right to Buy for all council tenants. Increase number of homes being built. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a new social housebuilding programme of more than a million homes over a decade; • Propose to establish a new duty on councils to plan and build these homes in their area, and fund them to do so, with backing from national government; • Scrap the current bogus definition of 'affordable' and replace with a definition linked to local incomes; • Make available 8,000 additional homes for people with a history of rough sleeping; • Repeal the Vagrancy Act and amend antisocial behaviour legislation; • End rough sleeping within five years, with a national plan driven by a prime minister-led taskforce. 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build at least 100,000 homes for social rent each year and ensure that total housebuilding increases to 300,000 each year; • Allow local authorities to increase council tax by up to 500 per cent where homes are being bought as second homes; • Improve protections against rogue landlords through mandatory licensing; • Introduce a 'somewhere safe to stay' legal duty to ensure that everyone who is at risk of sleeping rough is provided with emergency accommodation and an assessment of their needs; • Increase Local Housing Allowance in line with average rents in an area.
Brexit		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Brexit Done. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft a new EU exit deal and put to a People's Vote. 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop Brexit.

Democracy and voter rights

Conservative

- Get rid of the Fixed Term Parliaments Act;
- Introduce identification to vote at polling stations;
- Introduce measures to prevent any foreign interference in elections;
- Repeal section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act 2014, which seeks to coerce the press;
- Do not proceed with the second stage of the Leveson Inquiry.

Labour

- Repeal the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011;
- Scrap voter identification bill;
- Reduce the voting age to 16;
- Address misconduct and the unresolved failures of corporate governance raised by the second stage of the Leveson Inquiry;
- Consider an inquiry into 'fake news';
- Strengthen Ofcom's powers;
- Repeal the Lobbying Act 2014 and overhaul the rules that govern corporate lobbying.

Liberal Democrats

- Introduce proportional representation through the Single Transferable Vote for electing MPs, and local councillors in England;
- Scrap voter identification bill;
- Give 16- and 17-year olds the right to vote in elections and referendums;
- Establish a legal duty on local authorities to inform citizens of how to register to vote;
- Bring into force Section 106 of the Equality Act 2010, requiring political parties to publish candidate diversity data;
- Introduce a Leveson-compliant regulator to be given oversight of both privacy and quality, diversity and choice in both print and online media;
- Proceed with Part Two of the Leveson Inquiry.

Domestic Abuse		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass the Domestic Abuse Bill; • Increase support for refuges and community support for victims of rape and sexual abuse; • Pass and implement a Victims' Law that guarantees victims' rights and support; • Pilot integrated domestic abuse courts that address criminal and family matters in parallel. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintroduce a Domestic Abuse Bill; • Ratify both the Istanbul Convention on preventing domestic abuse and the ILO Convention on Violence and Harassment at work; • Appoint a Commissioner for Violence against Women and Girls; • Establish a National Refuge Fund; • Improve the safety of the family court system for domestic violence victims and prohibit their cross-examination by their abuser; • Introduce 10 days of paid leave for survivors of domestic abuse; • Ensure women's refuges receive the long-term sustainable funding they need; • Misogyny and violence against women and girls will become hate crimes. 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislate for a statutory definition of domestic abuse that includes its effects on children; • Ratify and bring into law the Istanbul Convention; • Expand the number of refuges and rape crisis centres to meet demand; • Ensure sustainable grant-funding for specialist independent support services; • Give local authorities the duty and funding to provide accommodation and support for survivors of abuse; • Establish a national rape crisis helpline; • Ensure access to special measures for survivors in all courts and preventing direct cross-examination of survivors by their abusers.
Education & childcare		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30+ hours free childcare; 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30+ hours free childcare; • Invest an additional £4.5 billion pounds to all 2-4 year-olds; 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 hours free childcare; • Invest £1 billion a year in Children's Centres;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new £1 billion fund to help create more high quality, affordable childcare; • Raise teachers' starting salaries to £30,000; • Expand 'alternative provision' schools; • Back heads and teachers on discipline; • Back heads to use exclusions; help teachers tackle bullying; • £400 million for 16-19 education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintroduce Sure Start Centres; • create a National Education Service; • Introduce free school meals for all primary age children; • Scrap Key Stage 1 and 2 SATs; • Scrap and replace Ofsted; • Scrap Third level tuition fees and reinstate the grant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrap mandatory SATs; • Reverse cuts to school funding, employing an extra 20,000 schoolteachers; • Replace Ofsted with a new HM Inspector of Schools; • Reinstate maintenance grants for the poorest students; • Establish a review of higher education finance.
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Health and mental health

<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50,000 more nurses in 5 years; • Students nurses will receive a £5,000-£8,000 annual maintenance grant every year; • Increase the NHS surcharge paid by those from overseas; • Will treat mental health with the same urgency as physical health; • Legislate so that patients suffering from mental health conditions have greater control over their treatment. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase expenditure across the health sector by an average 4.3% a year; • Introduce a training bursary for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals; • Provide an additional £1.6 billion a year to ensure new standards for mental health are enshrined in the NHS constitution; • Implement in full the recommendations set out in the independent review of the Mental Health Act; 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £7 billion a year ring-fenced funding for the NHS and social care; • Transform mental health by treating it with the same urgency as physical health; • Publish a National Wellbeing Strategy.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double the annual spend on children and adolescent mental health services; • Free annual NHS dental check-ups; • Guarantee universal healthcare to all. 	
Human Rights, Discrimination and Equality		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Human Rights Act and administrative law and set up a <i>Constitution, Democracy & Rights Commission</i> that will examine these and other issues in depth; • Review EU legislation and regulations; • End the role of the European Court of Justice; • End Freedom of Movement for EU nationals. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a comprehensive Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community equality strategy to tackle persistent inequalities, in particular within housing, education and criminal justice; • End racism and discrimination against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities; • Create a new Department for Women and Equalities; • Equality audit all policies before, during and after implementation; • Enhance the powers and functions of the Equality and Human Rights Commission; • Keep the Human Rights Act and Convention on Human Rights; • End the Hostile Environment; 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain freedom of movement for EU nationals; • Maintain the Human Rights Act and the European Convention on Human Rights; • Scrap the Hostile Environment; • End indefinite detention and take powers away from the Home Office; • Make hate crimes aggravated offences.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant EU nationals the automatic right to continue living and working in the UK. 	
Prisons, Probations and Justice		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add 10,000 more prison places, with £2.75 billion already committed to refurbishing and creating modern prisons; Toughen community sentences; Conduct a root-and-branch review of the parole system; Introduce tougher sentencing for the worst offenders; Maintain the ban on prisoners voting from jail; Invest £500 million in youth services for young people; Make it easier for police officers to stop and search those convicted of knife crime. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackle the disproportionate levels of BAME children in custody; Review the youth custody estate, strengthen youth courts and build on the Lammy Review; Restore all early legal aid advice, including for housing, social security, family and immigration cases; Review the Prevent programme; Set new standards for community sentences and introduce a presumption against prison sentences of six months or less for non-violent and non-sexual offences; Invest in proven alternatives to custody, including women's centres, expand problem-solving courts and plug the funding gap in the female offender strategy; Legal aid for inquests into deaths in state custody; Recruit hundreds of new community lawyers; 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the overrepresentation of people from BAME backgrounds throughout the criminal justice system; Invest £500 million to restore Legal Aid; Adopt a public health approach to serious violence, including youth violence: Invest £1 billion to restore community policing, enough for two new police officers in every ward. Provide a £500m ring-fenced youth services; End the disproportionate use of Stop and Search; Introduce a presumption against short prison sentences; Increase the use of tough community sentences and restorative justice where appropriate; Establish a Women's Justice Board and provide specialist training for all staff in contact with

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build an expanded network of law centres; • Create and fund a National Youth Service. 	women in the criminal justice system.
Small businesses		
Conservative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut the burden of tax on business by reducing business rates; • Further reduce taxes for small retail businesses and for local music venues, pubs and cinemas; • New £3 billion National Skills Fund; support start-ups and small businesses via government procurement; • Launch a review to explore how we can better support the self-employed. 	Labour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle late payments that leave small businesses waiting months to be paid, including banning late payers from public procurement; • Reverse cuts to corporation tax while keeping rates lower than in 2010; • Ensure no quarterly reporting for businesses below the VAT threshold; • Self-employed people will benefit from a broad range of policies, from free childcare and full-fibre broadband to face-to-face lending and business support through Labour's Post Bank 	Liberal Democrats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace Business Rates in England with a Commercial Landowner Levy; • Create a new 'start-up allowance' to help those starting a new business with their living costs in the crucial first weeks of their business; • Prioritise small and medium-sized businesses in the rollout of hyper-fast broadband; • Expand the rights and benefits available to those in insecure forms of employment, such as offering parental leave and pay to the self-employed.
Social care		
Conservative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1 billion extra of funding every year for more social care staff and better infrastructure, technology and facilities. 	Labour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a National Care Service; • Repeal the Health and Social Care Act; 	Liberal Democrats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform the Health and Social Care Act as recommended by the NHS;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch a wholesale review of the care system; • Rebuild early intervention services • Replace the Troubled Families programme with a Stronger Families programme, refocused on long-term support to reduce the risk of children going into care; • Protect and build on Staying Put for over-18s in care and the Adoption Support Fund. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional funding for social care through taxation; • Establish a cross-party health and social care convention.
Taxes, contracts and wages		
<p>Conservative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will not raise the rates of income tax, National Insurance or VAT; • Increase in the National Living Wage to two thirds of average earnings, currently forecast at £10.50 an hour; • Increase the Employment Allowance for small businesses. 	<p>Labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freeze National Insurance and income tax rates for everyone earning under £80,000 p.a; • Reverse cuts to corporation tax; • Establish a Ministry for Employment Rights; • Introduce Real Living Wage of at least £10 per hour for all workers; • End zero-hours contracts and strengthen trade union rights; • No increases in VAT; • Greater protections for the self-employed. 	<p>Liberal Democrats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1p rise on the basic, higher and additional rates of Income Tax; • Restore Corporation Tax to 20 per cent; • Consult on how to set a genuine Living Wage across all sectors; • Establish a powerful new Worker Protection Enforcement Authority; • Setting a 20 per cent higher minimum wage for people on zero-hour contracts;

- Giving a right to request a fixed-hours contract after 12 months for 'zero hours';
- Strengthen the ability of unions to represent workers effectively.

Welfare and Universal credit

Conservative

- Continue the roll-out of Universal Credit;
- End the benefit freeze;
- Publish a National Strategy for Disabled People before the end of 2020.

Labour

- Scrap Universal Credit;
- Scrap the benefit cap and the two child limit;
- Introduce a right to food;
- Implement an emergency package of reforms to mitigate some of the worst features of UC while developing a replacement system;
- Pay childcare costs up front so that parents aren't forced to turn down work or get into debt to pay for childcare;
- Protect women in abusive relationships by splitting payments and paying the child element to the primary carer;
- End the digital barrier and offer telephone, face-to-face and outreach support.

Liberal Democrats

- Reform Universal Credit to be more supportive of the self-employed;
- Establish a legal right to food;
- Introduce a principle of universal access to basic services;
- Invest £6 billion per year to make the benefits system work for people who need it;
- Reduce the wait for the first benefits payment from five weeks to five days.