



SNP LGBTI Equality Manifesto 2017

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The SNP is committed to securing full equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex people - and we have a proud record of championing LGBTI rights in government and at Westminster.

Equality and human rights are fundamental to our values and aims as a progressive social democratic party, and under the SNP Scottish Government Scotland has become one of the best countries in the world for LGBTI equality.

We have delivered Scotland's progressive equal marriage and hate crime laws, we have given record funding to LGBTI equality organisations, and we have driven forward equality in our public services - but we know that there is still more to do.

This manifesto sets out our commitments, for the UK general election, to secure LGBTI equality in those areas of responsibility that remain reserved to the Westminster parliament.

A vote for the SNP on June 8th is a vote for a strong team of SNP MPs that will champion LGBTI equality at Westminster, and work hard to make Scotland the best country we can be.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicola Sturgeon".

Nicola Sturgeon
First Minister



Twelve priorities for LGBTI equality

Devolve equality law

SNP MPs will continue to demand the full devolution of equality law so that the Scottish Parliament has the powers to protect and extend LGBTI equality.

Discrimination protections

While equality law remains reserved to Westminster SNP MPs will push the UK government to reform the law, and extend the protected characteristics, so that all LGBTI people are fully protected from discrimination and harassment, including multiple discrimination.

Same-sex pension rights

SNP MPs will also seek reforms to equality law to stop pension companies from discriminating against same-sex spouses by paying them much smaller survivor's pensions than mixed-sex spouses.

Gender recognition

The SNP Scottish Government is already committed to reviewing and reforming gender recognition laws, in line with international best practice, so that all transgender and non-binary people are able to access their human right to legal gender recognition. SNP MPs will also press the UK government to match the Scottish Government's commitment to legislation within this parliament.

Non-binary recognition

In addition to reforming gender recognition law, SNP MPs will push the UK government to allow non-binary people to record their gender as "X" on passports and all other UK-wide records and identity documents.

Intersex equality

SNP MPs will press for intersex people and organisations to be fully consulted on changes to the law and policy to introduce effective protections for intersex people's human rights.

PrEP

Scotland is the first of the UK nations to approve the provision of Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) by the NHS to prevent HIV. We will support efforts to have PrEP made available on the NHS in the rest of the UK too.

Turing Law

At Westminster the SNP successfully pressured the UK government to pass a 'Turing Bill', which pardoned deceased gay and bisexual men convicted for same-sex sexual activity that is now lawful. SNP MPs will press the UK government to go further, and match the Scottish Government's commitment to extend an automatic pardon to gay and bisexual men who are still alive today and have such records.

Protecting human rights

SNP MPs will oppose any attempt by the UK government to roll-back equality and human rights, including attempts to scrap the Human Rights Act, withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), or water-down the Equality Act.

Asylum

SNP MPs will press for reforms to ensure that people forced to flee persecution because they are LGBTI have access to asylum in the UK, are not held in arbitrary detention, and are treated in a fair manner with dignity and respect.

International rights

The advancement of LGBTI equality and human rights should be an integral part of UK foreign policy. SNP MPs will support the establishment of a special envoy to promote the rights of LGBTI people, and to work across government to help alleviate the discrimination and persecution faced by LGBTI people in Chechnya and around the world.

Leadership

The SNP will never shy away from speaking out for LGBTI equality. We have shown strong leadership in government and at Westminster. We are proud to have the highest proportion of LGBTI candidates of any major party at this election, and a united team that are fully committed to securing LGBTI equality.

A vote for the SNP on June 8th is a vote for a strong, united and effective team of SNP MPs that will act as champions for LGBTI equality and progressive causes, to make Scotland a fairer and more equal country for all.

LGBTI equality in devolved areas

LGBTI equality is a key priority for the SNP Scottish Government, and we have made huge progress in recent years in those areas that are devolved to the Scottish Parliament.

We have delivered some of the most progressive equal marriage and hate crime laws in the world, we have given record funding to Scottish LGBTI equality organisations, and we are driving forward LGBTI equality in our public services and across society.

At the 2016 Scottish Parliament elections we set out our commitments for LGBTI equality in devolved areas. We have committed to reforming gender recognition laws, introducing a Turing law, tackling hate crime, and bullying in schools, improving gender identity services, keeping blood donation rules under review, and to making further progress for LGBTI equality in key areas such as education, health, policing, justice, sport and culture.

Scotland is one of the best countries in the world for LGBTI equality and together we can make it even better.





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word and get out the
vote by visiting***

www.vote.scot

**Be a voter on June 8 and #VoteSNP
Polls open 7am - 10pm**

