

What a UKIP Government will do for Northern Ireland



Policies for People

2015 Westminster Election Manifesto

National & Local Assurances

*Peace, Prosperity, Protection
and Power where it belongs,
with the People*

The National Health Service

UKIP will ensure the full return and emphasis on TOTAL PATIENT CARE. This should take precedence over the various administrative initiatives or research and analysis of social care campaigns which have little or no impact on total patient care and cost the tax payer hundreds of thousands of pounds per year.

- UKIP will ensure the NHS is free, at the point of need, for all Northern Ireland residents. UKIP will demand a better deal for carers.
- UKIP will ensure that GPs' surgeries are open at least one evening per week, where there is demand for it.
- UKIP opposes plans to charge patients for visiting their GP.
- We will ensure that visitors to the UK, and migrants until they have paid NI for five years, have NHS-approved private health insurance as a condition of entry to the UK.
- UKIP opposes the sale of NHS data to third parties.
- We will ensure foreign health service professionals coming to work in the NHS are properly qualified and can speak English to a standard acceptable to the profession.
- UKIP will amend working time rules to give trainee doctors, surgeons and medics the proper environment to train and practise.
- There will be a duty on all health service staff to report low standards of care.

Prioritising Education and Skills

Subject to academic performance, UKIP will remove tuition fees for students taking approved degrees in Science, Medicine, Technology, Engineering and Maths on the condition that they work in their discipline and pay tax in the UK for five years after completion of their degrees.

- UKIP will scrap the target of 50% of school leavers going to university.
- Students from the EU will pay the same fee rates as international students.
- UKIP is committed to creating an education system that works for every child, irrespective of their background or academic ability.
- UKIP will actively protect existing Grammar Schools from any change in their status.
- UKIP wants to see a range of secondary schools, grammar, vocational and technical schools, all with a new sense of mission built around the need to train a skilled workforce to generate new businesses and attract inward investment.
- UKIP will introduce an option for students to take an Apprenticeship Qualification locally instead of four non-core GCSEs which can be continued at A-Level. Students can take up apprenticeships in jobs with certified professionals qualified to grade the progress of the student.
- Schools will be investigated by the NI Education and Training Inspectorate on the presentation of a petition signed by 25% of the parents or Governors.

Controlling and Managing our Borders

- UKIP recognises the benefits of limited, controlled immigration.
- UKIP will leave the EU, and take back control of our borders. Work permits will be permitted to fill skills gaps in the UK jobs market.
- We will introduce an Australian-style points system to control immigration. This system will treat all migrants equally, wherever they come from in the world.
- Time-limited work permits will be granted to fill skills gaps in the UK jobs market.
- Migrants must have approved health insurance. They will only be eligible for benefits, or able to apply for permanent residence, after they have paid tax and National Insurance for five years.
- UKIP will reinstate the primary purpose rule for bringing foreign spouses and children to the UK.
- UKIP will not offer an amnesty for illegal immigrants or those gaining British passports through fraud.
- UKIP will return to the principles of the UN Convention of Refugees which serves to protect the most vulnerable.
- UKIP will regularly review the immigration impact on Northern Ireland communities relevant to numbers, school places, health appointments, benefits and crime.

Protecting Jobs and Increasing Prosperity

- We would review all legislation and regulations from the EU (at least 3,600 new laws since 2010) and remove those which hamper British prosperity and competitiveness.
- We would negotiate a bespoke trade agreement with the EU to enable our businesses to continue trading to mutual advantage.
- UKIP would not seek to remain in the European Free Trade Area (EFTA) or European Economic Area (EEA) while those treaties maintain a principle of free movement of labour, which prevents the UK managing its own borders.
- We would reoccupy the UK's vacant seat at the World Trade Organisation, ensuring that we continue to enjoy 'most favoured nation' status in trade with the EU, as is required under WTO rules.

Employment and Small Businesses

- Businesses will be able to prioritise young British workers.
- We will take action to help end late payments by big companies.
- UKIP will grow Northern Ireland's small business confidence.
- We will conduct a skills review to better inform our education system and qualifications.
- Councils will be encouraged to provide more free parking for the high street.
- Planning regulations and licences will be simplified for commercial property vacant for over a year.

Repairing the UK Economy & Benefiting Northern Ireland

- UKIP will increase the personal allowance to at least £13,000 so those on minimum wage will not pay tax.
- We will introduce a 35p income tax rate between £42,285 and £55,000, whereupon the 40p rate becomes payable.
- Inheritance tax will be abolished.
- When we leave the EU, UKIP will prevent large corporations choosing which country to pay their tax in. They must then pay their full share of UK taxes.
- UKIP will not introduce a Mansion Tax.

Building a Positive Prosperity

UKIP are committed to ensuring Northern Ireland's equitable share in the UK's prosperity growing its economy and offering opportunities to improve the quality of life, attain the highest standards of Education, look after pensioners and build a better local economy. UKIP respect the Northern Ireland work ethic and recognise the difficulties in recovering from 40 years of terrorism. Prosperity in Northern Ireland is a UKIP priority. UKIP will include in Northern Ireland's prosperity the Welfare of innocent terrorist victims.

Local Housing

UKIP will prioritise 'brownfield sites' and empty homes over the green belt to create housing. We will also give the final say about whether large-scale developments should be built to local people, and make sure local people are given priority for social housing. We will also tackle homelessness.

Welfare and Childcare

- UKIP opposes the bedroom tax because it operates unfairly, penalising those who are unable to find alternative accommodation and taking insufficient account of the needs of families and the disabled.
- Child benefit is only to be paid to children permanently resident in the UK and future child benefit to be limited to the first two children only.
- UKIP will ensure there is an initial presumption of 50/50 shared parenting in child custody matters and grandparents will be given visitation rights.
- UKIP supports a simplified, streamlined welfare system and a benefit cap.
- UKIP will outlaw local tax-dodging and benefit fraud.

Reducing Debts We Leave To Our Grandchildren

- UKIP will leave the EU and save at least £8bn pa in net contributions.
- UKIP will cut the foreign aid budget by £9bn pa prioritising disaster relief and schemes which provide water and inoculation against preventable diseases.
- UKIP will scrap the EU-driven HS2 project which is uneconomical and unjustified.
- UKIP will make cuts to Westminster departments and their running costs where it is clear they do not deliver value for money.
- UKIP will fight for a better deal for savers, pensioners and families.

Agriculture and Fishing

UKIP will stand up for Northern Ireland Farmers and Fishermen. No farmer will be worse off when the country votes to leave the EU. Fishermen will be better treated. UKIP is committed to removing the bungling, unelected bureaucratic stranglehold Brussels has on Northern Ireland's farmers. UKIP pledge to eliminate the administrative restrictions associated with the EU. Northern Ireland has the world's best Agri-Food industry, let's keep it that way.

UKIP is committed to returning the sea to the local fishing industry. UKIP pledge to ensure that British waters are reserved for British-owned, registered and crewed vessels. UKIP remain solidly supportive of lifelong opportunities for those working in the fishing industry and their local communities. UKIP recognise that both Farming and Fishing are tough careers which should provide better rewards for today and future generations. UKIP will fight to protect farming and fishing and maintain these industries to the fore of economic investment.

Law & Order

- UKIP will reverse the government's opt-in to EU law and justice measures, including the European Arrest Warrant and European Investigation Order. We will replace the EAW with appropriate bi-lateral agreements.
- UKIP will not give prisoners the vote.
- Foreigners who commit crimes in Britain will be deported.
- UKIP will withdraw from the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights.
- We will repeal the Human Rights Act and replace it with a new British Bill of Rights. The interests of law-abiding citizens and victims will always take precedence over those of criminals.

Culture

- UKIP recognises and values a unifying British culture, which is open and inclusive to anyone who wishes to identify with Britain and British values, regardless of their ethnic or religious background.
- UKIP will ensure that the law is rigorously enforced in relation to 'cultural' practices which are illegal in Britain, such as forced marriages, FGM and so-called 'honour killings'.
- We will review the BBC Licence Fee with a view to its reduction. Prosecution of non-payments of the Licence Fee would be taken out of the criminal sphere and made a civil offence.
- UKIP will amend the smoking ban to give pubs and clubs the choice to open smoking rooms properly ventilated and separated from non-smoking areas. Workers will not be required to enter when these areas are in use.
- UKIP opposes the prevention of local legal expressions of cultural identity by the Parades Commission.

Energy

- UKIP will repeal the Climate Change Act 2008 which costs the economy £18bn a year.
- UKIP supports a diverse energy market including coal, nuclear, shale gas, geo-thermal, tidal, solar, conventional gas and oil.
- We will scrap the Large Combustion Plant Directive and encourage the re-development of British power stations, as well as industrial units providing on-site power generation.
- UKIP supports the development of shale gas with proper safeguards for the local environment. Community Improvement Levy money from the development of shale gas fields will be earmarked for lower council taxes or community projects within the local authority being developed.
- There will be no new subsidies for wind farms and solar arrays.
- UKIP will abolish green taxes and charges in order to reduce fuel bills.

Transport

UKIP will push for a proper local transport system which meets the passenger's needs. Community transport and disability requirements remain our priorities. UKIP will stop wastefulness by public transport carriers.

- UKIP will maintain concessionary bus passes.
- UKIP will require foreign lorries to purchase a Britdisc, before entry to the UK, in order to contribute to the upkeep of UK roads and any lost fuel duty.
- UKIP will ensure that speed cameras are used as a deterrent and not a revenue raiser for local authorities.

Military Covenant

- UKIP will offer those who have served in the Armed Forces a job in the police force, prison service or border service, with priority given to those who have served for at least twelve years.
- UKIP will change the points system for social housing to give priority to ex-service men and women and those returning from active service.
- A Veterans Department will bring together all veterans services to ensure servicemen and women get the after-service care they deserve.
- Veterans are to receive a Veterans' Service Card to ensure they are fast tracked for mental health care and services, if needed.
- All entitlements will be extended to servicemen recruited from overseas.
- UKIP supports a National Service Medal for all those who have served in the armed forces.

The Northern Ireland Office

UKIP will work to return to the Northern Ireland Office representation in the form of a Secretary of State and Ministers who are reliable Unionists. UKIP will demand that the N.I.O. act and perform its duties in a manner which defends and upholds Northern Ireland's status within the UK. UKIP will influence a N.I.O. presence, 'supportive' not neutral negative on Northern Ireland's constitutional position.

The UKIP Role at Westminster

- UKIP will appoint a Northern Ireland spokesperson – A Shadow Secretary of State and a Secretary of State are all within UKIPs commitment to the Northern Ireland people.
- As Scottish & Welsh Offices are served by Scottish & Welsh MPs – so too will the Northern Ireland Office be served by UKIP Northern Ireland MPs.
- UKIP MPs will not just turn up for an hour for Northern Ireland Question Time to be seen on camera. UKIPs MPs will play a full role in Parliamentary business. UKIP will give Northern Ireland an influential voice equal to other regions in Government programmes.
- UKIP MPs will wholeheartedly represent the Northern Ireland Farming & Fishing industries interests.
- UKIP MPs will be to the fore in representing Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Industry interests of Northern Ireland, boosting every opportunity to grow each sectors economy through working with the devolved Assembly.
- UKIPs MPs will maintain current outlets for trade across the United Kingdom and Europe. UKIP will also open wider access with Commonwealth, USA and South American trade areas for better business opportunities and Apprenticeships and Education opportunities.
- UKIP will pursue the investigation of recruitment of able young people wishing to pursue a career in the Armed Forces.
- UKIP will not allow Northern Ireland to be treated or viewed as some kind of regional side kick within the Westminster set up.
- UKIP can be relied on to cement Northern Ireland's position within the United Kingdom and strengthen its constitutional links.

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NORTHERN IRELAND

In the past Northern Ireland has been isolated from decisions taken at Westminster by ineffective local representation.

On May 7th 2015 the nation votes for a U.K. Government. It is your United Kingdom and it is time to tell the stale old tired argumentative parties what you think of them!

UKIP want our country back.
Don't you? Now's your chance.

A vote for UKIP is a vote for UKIP.