

THE VOICE OF ORDINARY PEOPLE



**SCOTLAND
GENERAL ELECTION
MANIFESTO 2011**



**BRITISH
NATIONAL
PARTY**

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Introduction



The devolved responsibilities of Holyrood are meaningless in a regime where most matters of national, regional and local importance are constrained by legislation emanating from the unelected group of EU commissioners who initiate approximately 75% of British and therefore Scottish laws.

Although it is an issue beyond the legislative abilities of Holyrood, all British National Party MSPs would use their influence to persuade Westminster to set Britain free by withdrawing from the European Union.

At best we will constantly remind the Scottish electorate exactly why many issues of policy cannot be enacted because of the limits placed upon Holyrood by the Directives and Regulations that originate from the institutions of the EU and which cannot be repealed by national parliaments.

British National Party MSPs will hold every political party and every politician to account for their pitiful and deafening silence on the two great unmentionables of our times; the multicultural society and the European Union. These have been imposed upon the electorate without any consultation or consent whatsoever and remain ominous and sinister projects undergoing continuous development. We will expose the scandals of the politically-correct spending of public finances and highlight corruption and inefficiency from within the Scottish Government.

There is much that can still be achieved through Holyrood and the British National Party is committed to working at all levels to achieve genuine equality of opportunity for the indigenous Scottish people, aspiring towards academic excellence, a healthy nation with homes fit for the 21st century, a thriving and prosperous small business environment to create new jobs to replace those lost through globalisation and a clean and pleasant environment for all to enjoy.

We believe that Holyrood serves a valuable purpose as a layer of devolved government within the UK. In keeping with this position, our party campaigns in England for an English Parliament with the same powers as Holyrood. Similarly, we would also change the title and status of the Welsh Assembly to the Welsh Parliament.

The British National Party is the voice of ordinary people who fear for their future and those of their children under the present government and the 'established' political parties, which have become the servants of the European Union and its politically-correct Orwellian ideology.

We are witness to the decline of the once proud Scottish nation, which as part of Britain, played a significant role in some of the most important developments in history, engineering, medicine, culture, music, art, law, constitutional development, Christianity and literary genius.

Its bravest forebears witnessed victory in battle on every continent; its brightest minds have constructed magnificent cathedrals, civic buildings, bridges, canals, railways and much else.

Today, many who have inherited this great legacy, are at last prepared to speak out about the betrayal of their nation. Their voice is one of common sense and is a reflection of the opinion of the overwhelming majority of the people of Scotland.

That voice must address the pressing issues that blight our nation and children's future. That voice is of the British National Party in Scotland.



Gary Raikes
British National Party
Scottish Regional Organiser

REBUILDING DEMOCRACY AND DISMANTLING STATE SURVEILLANCE

We believe in principle that power should be devolved to the lowest level that is sensible or practical, subject to economies of scale. In practice, this means that the greatest possible amount of political power should be devolved down to local council level.

The British National Party will oppose the imposition of compulsory biometric identity cards. We maintain it is not the task of the people of Scotland to justify our existence to the state; rather it is the task of the state to justify its existence to the people of Scotland.

We are committed to rescinding all anti-free speech laws and we will vigorously defend the right to freedom of assembly for all British citizens

We will work to restore the integrity of government organisations in their handling and security of personal details and the data of individuals. We will stop all such data being sent out of the country for 'processing', and we will end the abhorrent practice of government held data being sold to anyone who wishes to buy it.

We are committed to rescinding all anti-free speech laws and we will vigorously defend the right to freedom of assembly for all British citizens.

SLASH THE COUNCIL TAX BURDEN

A core aim of the British National Party is to create a society of 'stakeholders' and a representative popular democracy. The term 'No taxation without representation' is apt; rights come with responsibility.

In terms of central taxation, our policy is to reduce the tax burden on poorer and middle income families and reduce welfare dependency by encouraging people back to work.

This will be done by increasing the tax free band to £12,500. People who earn below £12,500 would still however be taxpayers, as they would be paying tax in the form of VAT, as an example.

Our aim with respect to local taxation is to cut the bills for all residents while also endeavouring to ensure that as many people as possible contribute, fairly, towards local taxation, under the principle that this encourages responsible citizenship and enhances stakeholder participation.

We would retain council tax as the primary local form of taxation. It is a property tax with a personal element and there is an existing method of collecting it. As it is based on property, it is practical for the local authority to assess the total local liability and so calculate its own budget.

Council tax as a source of local government revenue has fallen into disrepute primarily because the bills have risen so much. We need a system that is seen to be fair, which is not costly to the resident, contains the minimum of bureaucracy and which enhances local responsibility and accountability. Furthermore, it must encourage the independence and self-reliance of our local communities.

Most local residents will contribute towards local tax, but a sliding scale system which will protect the low-paid and pensioners must be introduced. This scale would cover a fair proportion of such vulnerable people's council tax liability.

British military personnel serving on active duty at home or abroad should be exempt from paying council tax. Likewise their spouses should also be exempt from this burden, as their loved ones are putting their lives at risk in the service of our country.

Two significant contributing factors to the ever-rising council tax are the central government's bloated, inefficient and wasteful bureaucracy and the increasing waves of asylum seekers and immigrants who have flooded into this country, with the specific blessing of the S'NP, and who place a huge burden on services and the welfare system.

A large proportion of the burden of paying for asylum seekers and other immigrants falls directly on local authorities (as has been admitted in a report commissioned by London Councils, compiled by the London School of Economics).

This is another reason for the significant hikes in council tax bills (which, not surprisingly coincided with a massive increase of immigration to this country, again, with the blessing of the S'N'P).

The presence of 'cheap' East European labour (which proponents claim brings economic benefit) in reality only adds to the cost of providing essential services, at a time of high native unemployment. In addition, this influx has increased local unemployment and benefit dependency amongst our own poor, which in turn increases the burden borne by our taxpayers.

Lastly, local authorities have implemented a range of costly politically-correct schemes and grants to ethnic minority and multi-cultural groups, causes, projects and initiatives, including foreign language courses and interpreters. The S'N'P has frequently been at the forefront of these initiatives, which well demonstrate the bogus nature of its claim to support the national interests of Scotland and the Scottish people.

All of these 'services' drain away financial resources that could be put to much better use and directly erode the social cohesion and culture of local communities.

The local authorities carry out these programmes either because they are legally obliged to do so in terms of central government or European regulation, or they do it for their own pernicious politically-correct, nation-destroying purposes.

British National Party MSPs will act as whistleblowers and we will bring the facts of these abuses to the public's attention and will reveal the vast amounts of money wasted on these programmes by the degenerate liberal-left consensus within Holyrood. We aim to be the eyes, ears and mouthpiece of ordinary taxpayers who are all too often treated merely as tax milch cows by the political elite.

The other form of local taxation is the National Non-Domestic Rate, which is levied on businesses. The NNDR is set by central government, billed and collected by local authorities, but with the revenue passed directly to central government where it is pooled and redistributed to local authorities based on a formula that establishes 'need.' We would continue with this practice.

Limited relief is available currently to 'village shops' and business that are deemed to provide an important local amenity. We would extend this to allow local authorities the discretion to provide relief from NNDR to a wider range of local high street shops, local Post Offices and locally important businesses that may provide local employment.

No form of rate relief would be allowed for out of town shopping malls, whose owners and those who lease such properties within benefit from considerable returns to scale. Instead, we shall introduce car parking levies on the operators of these premises, which they will not be permitted to pass on to their customers.

A HOME FOR ALL

We vigorously oppose the building of new houses on green belt land.

Although there is a serious housing shortage, we recognise that this is largely caused by the massive influx of bogus asylum seekers and economic migrants. Most of those who support new housing schemes indirectly facilitate the influx of these migrants.

We broadly support urban infilling, with brownfield land being re-utilised, but not where this would create too dense levels of urban development or where it would put too much strain on the local infrastructure (roads, schools, hospitals etc).

We would not necessarily oppose the redevelopment of factory or business units into residential accommodation and our stance would be taken on a case by case basis, with the wishes of existing local residents carrying the most weight in such decisions.

We oppose any further schemes to privatise the provision of public sector housing. Scotland's housing stock is part of the common wealth of the nation and as such we will take back under direct democratic control any public sector housing that has been disposed to housing corporations or housing associations.

We would, however, encourage the right to buy scheme. This is an excellent opportunity to create a responsible, stake-holding, property owning population.

A local authority would, however, be obliged to ensure that there is a sensible and fair proportion of rentable council housing available.

All revenues obtained from council house sales, moreover, should be made available to build new council houses, which will be available at affordable rents.

In principle we oppose the building of high rise housing and cheap concrete jungle estates, so beloved by Labour-run councils as a means of divorcing character and community from the people they purport to serve. These are dehumanising and destroy any community cohesion. Existing estates, where practical and with local support, will be bulldozed and replaced by housing built to foster neighbourliness and community.

Priority in the allocation of social housing should go to local people, with family connections to the area.

We would ensure that social housing occupancy and local residency prior to their signing up would be taken into account when former service personnel apply for homes. We would also give added weighting to the veterans of active military service to ensure that our war heroes are housed in decent homes rather than being left to rough it on the streets.

Asylum seekers and economic migrants should not qualify for social housing. Social housing should be reserved for British citizens only.

Asylum seekers should be housed in secure temporary accommodation until they can be returned to one of the safe countries through which they passed through to reach soft-touch Britain.

A HEALTHY NATION

Hospitals (and health service provision in general) should be brought under local democratic control.

Although the level of funding should be set by central government, local control of how the budget is spent is vital to ensure the proper provision of such services as local health centres, GP services and dental services.

It is also essential that there is local democratic control over the provision of such vital health services as casualty and maternity centres.

We stand opposed to any closures of hospitals or removal of hospital services. We would ensure the maintenance of all acute services currently under threat.

We will not tolerate health service provision based on a 'postcode lottery' system. Wherever we live in Scotland we should be entitled to receive the same (highest) standard of care as anywhere else in Britain

There should also be an efficient, readily available out-of-hours emergency service for accident and casualty cases, and for emergency out-of-hours dental treatment.

Currently, decisions are made by overpaid health service managers, who form part of an overpaid and overstuffed bureaucracy, with little regard for local opinion.

As a matter of principle, we oppose the recruitment of foreign staff in the health service. Inevitably, such personnel have been trained to a different standard compared to UK-trained staff. In addition, many are unable to speak English to the required standard and this means that they are not able to communicate effectively with many frail, vulnerable or elderly patients.

Finally, recruiting foreign health workers is a form of theft. It is totally immoral, and a shocking example of inverted racism to entice away health workers from countries that have a far greater need for these workers than we do. This matter of poaching African health workers was recently highlighted by the President of Mali in a speech to the EU Parliament.

We should be able to recruit and keep (through decent remuneration) our own staff in this country. Stealing staff from abroad is no solution.

The only exception would be the temporary employment of foreign specialists for use in training our health service staff to levels of excellence.

Standards should be raised in the health service by bringing back the sort of strict discipline and hierarchies that were the norm in the 1960s, where the matron oversaw responsibilities in her own ward.

This will include strict standards of cleanliness again that use to be the norm prior to the decline caused by Thatcherite 'market' policies and which will help to eliminate the shocking rates of MRSA which kill and infect thousands of patients every year, costing the health service a fortune in compensation.

The health service should only be there for UK citizens and those countries with which Britain has reciprocal agreements of an equivalent standard. 'Health tourism' is estimated to cost the UK taxpayer over £2bn per annum and must be ceased.

Superficial cosmetic and lifestyle treatments, such as sex changes, should not be provided free on the health service, at a cost to the taxpayer.

British citizens must not be placed at the back of the medical queue at doctor's surgeries, health centres, dentists or any other medical facility simply because asylum seekers, or economic migrants require expensive translator services during their treatment or consultation.

The revenue-raising exploitation of patients by management trusts using taxpayer funded resources is immoral. We will end such rackets as 'pay and display' hospital car parking, extortionate charges for incoming and outgoing telephone calls for patients and 'pay to view' TV for patients, etc. The victims, as always, are the elderly and poor, who can ill-afford such expenses when they visit sick relatives.

The bureaucracy of the health service and high salaried managers must be slashed dramatically so that more money is made available for expensive but vital treatments, more beds and more doctors and nurses.

With the health service being controlled by the local authorities and run on a day-to-day basis by experienced medical staff rather than by target obsessed managers, the current wasteful duplication of bureaucracy will be eliminated.

Many of Scotland's towns, cities and rural communities are blighted by drug use. We will build a network of drug rehabilitation clinics to assist in the war against this scourge.

In addition to helping addicts recover, we will also press for zero tolerance of all drugs in schools and other institutions and strict enforcement of that policy by the police.

We shall further adopt the strictest penalties to the pushers and distributors of drugs, which cost the taxpayer so much in terms of policing and rehabilitation of victims.

We will campaign tirelessly for the reversal of the medically and socially disastrous downgrading of cannabis, which has been proven to have detrimental long term consequences.

We shall also campaign for compulsory life sentences for the pushers of class A drugs such as heroin and crack cocaine.

We are aware of the adverse consequences of poor diet and the lack of exercise in terms of the health of the individual and we shall conduct a public education campaign to improve diet which, in time, will have advantageous results in terms of reduced hospital admissions.

EDUCATION

It is important that a uniform – which encourages spirit de corps – and a high standard of local education is provided for all throughout Scotland, set according to compulsory minimum standards.

In accordance with our aim to devolve democratic accountability to the lowest level, there should be a degree of local influence over local education policy. Parents and school governing bodies should together be able to have a say on what emphasis should be placed, and what proportion of a school's budget should be spent, on what priorities (apart from meeting a minimum standard of criteria).

Thus, parents themselves should be able to influence to a degree whether their school places more or less emphasis on language, science, music or sport facilities, for example.

Greater power should be devolved to parents through governing bodies with respect to the hiring and firing of staff (for example the incompetent or those who try to push their own agenda) and appointment of governors who, within limits, could set the curriculum and determine policy on school uniforms and corporal punishment (within strict criteria).

It is British National Party policy to enforce a degree of central direction in education in such matters as:

- The recreation of the Grammar School system. This is essential for the restoration of social mobility and provision of top quality academic education for bright pupils, regardless of family background, parental income or where they live. It is grotesque that egalitarian dogma has been allowed to create a situation where money buys educational advantage and poor children have less chance of a good education than they did in the 1930s.
- A return to traditional teaching methods with emphasis placed on the “Three Rs,” which are “Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic.”
- A return to discipline in the classroom.
- The reintroduction of competitive sports.
- The encouragement of healthy outdoor activity and opposition to the sale of sports fields.
- An emphasis on the appreciation of Scottish history and culture.
- A ban on politically-correct indoctrination.
- The re-introduction of Christian values as a benchmark in all schools as a foundation for a decent and stable society. In practical terms, we would insist on the reintroduction of Christian Assemblies in all schools.

While it is, in some instances, wholly appropriate to include study of foreign languages, customs, history, geography and religion, this should be done in the proper context.

Our educational establishments should be training people to be good citizens and useful employees in the workplace. Our children should leave school with the ability to compete and prosper.

Schools would become beacons in reviving and cherishing local history, traditions and culture.

Our universities should be centres of academic excellence.

Absolute numbers of graduates leaving university are meaningless if there are no relevant jobs for graduates.

Individuals and the nation in general may have benefited more if those individuals had undertaken a course at another centre of learning undergoing vocational training or trades apprenticeships.

Once in national government, we would provide all young people with the academic ability necessary to benefit from a university education.

Students who undertake courses of study in areas for which there is genuine economic or social need – especially the sciences, engineering, physics and technology – would receive full state-funding throughout their degree course.

We do not consider the provision of university degrees in courses such as ‘beach management’, game-keeping, and so on, as appropriate and we believe these are better provided by suitable colleges and learnt as apprenticeships.

We support a period of 9 months’ national service for those reaching 18 years old. We believe this will bestow benefits in terms of esprit de corps, discipline, the development of friendships, a greater appraisal of national life and reinvestment into the community.

We shall offer a choice between military service and community service. Those opting for the latter will, nonetheless, be provided with a period of military introduction of approximately four weeks.

Individuals would be free to refuse to undertake any form of National Service, but such a refusal to serve the community for the common good would result in the cancellation of the entitlement we would introduce for all who have satisfactorily completed their National Service to free university tuition or vocational training.

Until this policy becomes possible, British National Party MSPs will strive at every possible opportunity to minimise the current debt burden on students and graduates.

POLICING FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

The police force should be integrated into the community and work closely with locally elected representatives.

We call for local police stations to be manned for longer hours, instead of police services being centralised in often distant locations, remote from the communities they serve.

Police officers should be accommodated in social housing on council estates and other residential areas, where appropriate. This will provide a local police presence in these areas which will make them part of the community as well as offering the police free housing.

We do not agree with the recruitment of Community Support Officers who are undertrained and have too few powers. If there is a real need, more 'proper' police should be recruited, if necessary from the aforementioned officers, and police should be freed from attending to unnecessary paperwork and bureaucracy.

We will abolish all 'tax-trap' speed surveillance cameras on our roads, except those which are in clearly identified accident black spots. The revenue from such cameras will be used to fund support for accident victims, not to support government budgets.

We must support the victims of crime and be harsh with the perpetrators

We will restore proper policing of our roads. We also oppose any attempts by government or the EU to impose 'spy-in-the-car' devices for any purpose, whether for 'pay-as-you-drive' charging or for 'surveillance tracking' by the state.

In theory, we oppose the installation of CCTV cameras in our communities as we oppose all aspects of the surveillance state.

We believe in small government and individual liberty. However, the autocratic liberal regime has presided over a near total breakdown in law and order. This breakdown has been caused by a collapse in civic responsibility and, in certain areas, high immigration.

We live in a society where there is little or no pride in a local area, where there is little community spirit and where elderly people, the frail and the vulnerable are not valued but are viewed by significant sections of the population as 'easy targets'. Immigration is a contributory factor, which balkanises the nation state – as it is designed to do by central government and the EU.

To reduce crime we must rebuild the bonds that bind society together around shared values and a shared identity. Unfortunately, until this is done, we must rely upon CCTV cameras in our town centres.

We must have more visible policing and stricter sentencing.

We must support the victims of crime and be harsh with the perpetrators.

We are not so concerned with the rights of the guilty: they surrendered their civil rights when they engaged in law-breaking against the innocent – and hence the community as a whole.

The police should concentrate on the pursuit of proper criminals and should cease unnecessarily harassing motorists and other safe, easy to target (and basically law-abiding) people.

The police should not be bound by political correctness in targeting criminality, nor should they be swamped in red tape, particularly the form-filling imposed on them by the last Conservative government's PACE Act, which we are pledged to abolish.

We entirely oppose the extension of voting rights to prisoners, who forfeited their rights when they transgressed the law.

We wholeheartedly support the right of the householders and property owner to defend their property from intruders and criminals, regardless of the employment of force in support of such.

We believe that the vast prison population should be harnessed to provide labour for such community projects as improving sea defences, for example.

Until these measures can be implemented, British National Party MSPs will support any proposals which help to put more officers on the streets of our communities to fight crime. We oppose any proposals which make the police more remote, unaccountable or more powerful with regards to law-abiding citizens.

BUSINESS

The development of local businesses will be encouraged through rate relief planning laws.

We will ensure that business is not smothered in red tape and constant inspection by local snoopers and busybodies.

We are aware of the enormous weight of regulation which emanates from the EU and stifles initiative. Until we leave the EU – which is our ambition – we remain powerless to address this burden.

We will commission a review into the calculation and application of business rates by Scottish local authorities to ensure that Scottish based businesses are not disadvantaged compared to those operating in other parts of the UK.

We will ensure the survival of the traditional trades and crafts that have been passed down through the centuries

The rural/urban divide in access to the latest technology must be bridged. We are pledged financially to assist the roll-out of high-speed broadband telecoms services beyond our towns and cities. Rural communities should not be disadvantaged from gaining access to this vital tool.

We continue to promote our 'Living Treasurers' programme. Not all businesses are or need to be hi-tech. We will ensure the survival of the traditional trades and crafts that have been passed down through the centuries.

The wisdom inherent in the old crafts of weaving, musical instrument manufacture, stone-wall construction, farriers, saddlers and others, must never be lost. Under our programme, there will be Holyrood funding to allow these small enterprises and cottage industries to take on apprentices.

This will ensure that these skills are passed on and continue to develop quality products for the domestic and export markets.

SCOTTISH CULTURE

Culture is a much neglected but very important subject. We wish to create a society of stakeholders in which residents feel that culture forms an important part their community and that they in turn are a vital part of it.

Promoting the culture and the history of a district is a vital ingredient in helping to establish a local community feeling.

Local cultures have been developed over centuries of human interaction. The liberal regime has deliberately sought to destroy local particularism in a bid for conformity and dull uniformity. It has also sought to promote the culture and identity of minorities, at taxpayers' expense.

Mass immigration is particularly damaging to poor communities and areas, and to places where ancient local cultures are already under threat from globalisation.

It is therefore even more of a threat in Scotland than England, since we have an unusual concentration both of poverty and an endangered indigenous culture and minority language of our own.

British National Party MSPs will at all times base their policies and voting decisions on the principle that local people and the culture of local communities must be put first.

Promoting the culture and the history of a district is a vital ingredient in helping to establish a local community feeling

Local councils would be responsible for encouraging local festivals and officially celebrate events such as St Andrew's Day.

Local councils would also be required to celebrate and mark traditional festivals such as Easter and Christmas. No public body would be allowed to officially celebrate or mark a non-indigenous festival or holiday.

Local councils would not be expected to spend large sums of money on these events, but would act as sponsor to local voluntary efforts.

Schools libraries, museums and civic theatres would all be expected to contribute in different ways all year round to the cultural health of our local communities.

Culture is of course, not just a historic entity. Our unique culture needs to be kept alive in the face of globalisation and standardisation.

We will develop our key crafts and traditions through the 'Living Treasures' programme mentioned in the business policy section.

Languages such as Gaelic, Doric and Scots would be fostered and encouraged so as to ensure their survival.

Within the Gaelic speaking heartlands we would expect and encourage local councils to take active steps to ensure that house and job provision is weighted in favour of local Gaelic speakers and people born in the area.

We recognise that the preservation of local indigenous culture takes effort and money, and affirm that the price is worth paying.

British National Party Scotland would actively encourage the development of living participation spectacles, historic re-enactment and pageants.

Scotland is part of the western European family of nations and public sponsorship of the Arts in general must reflect that family association.

KEEPING SCOTLAND MOVING

Local authorities have a tendency to abuse their control over local roads by putting double yellow lines on all available spaces and charging for parking in every available plot.

This has the effect of killing commerce in town centres and driving trade to out of town shopping centres. It also penalises local residents and makes it difficult for people to visit relatives and so forth.

It is part of a control-freak attitude and also a mentality that seeks to make money by every possible means. Raising revenue in this manner is extremely regressive and hits the poor much harder than the well off, more of whom would tend to be able to afford garages and off street parking.

We would encourage free car parking, especially in our town centres, and where possible, adjacent to train stations. This would encourage trade in our town centres and encourage people to use public transport to commute to work.

There is also a mania for speed humps in inappropriate roads, which is a waste of resources, damages cars and increases pollution.

Bus and train transport should be integrated with sensible time-tabling.

Since large parts of Scotland are rural, we recognise the need to deal with the fast growing challenge of global oil depletion by a long-term programme to improve the reach, frequency and attractiveness of public transport, rather than punishing motorists with ever higher taxes which are then spent on projects other than transport. The electrification of our railways, and measures to increase the amount of freight moved by rail, are particularly important.

In Scotland, the politically-correct parties' war on the motorist is a crippling burden on the rural poor.

Public transport throughout Scotland must be seen as a not-for-profit service. We are committed to bringing essential monopoly transport services back into the public domain rather than allowing private companies to make large profits from government subsidies.

Where practical, freight should be switched from roads to rail and water transport. We will allow local authorities to gradually reduce the maximum permissible weight of goods vehicles on roads they themselves maintain.

The British National Party recognises the need for providing safe and accessible transport routes in rural areas and as such is committed to upgrading the A9 between Perth and Inverness and the A96 between Inverness and Aberdeen to dual carriageway status.

At present these arterial routes are accident black spots where loss of life has become an annual statistic.

FOOD FROM OUR FARMS

Scottish farmers and fishermen (and the rural communities that depend upon them) are under threat. They are endangered by the agricultural policies of the EU, and while Europe continues to hold sway over our food production, Holyrood is effectively powerless to provide the much needed assistance our communities need.

Our membership of the EU, which the old established parties support, including the S'N'P, has caused the depletion of our fishing stocks. Our ambition is to re-establish our 200 mile fishing zone, once we have departed the EU.

Scotland alone cannot withdraw from the EU, but as part of our national platform, we will engage a debate to remove all of the UK wholly from the EU.

We will continue to work with our neighbours in Europe on issues where we can be of assistance and where it is mutually beneficial.

Under the banner 'local is best' we will encourage (through legislative, financial means and public moral pressure) all public bodies to buy locally produced food for school, hospitals, police canteens, prisons and other outlets.

A government-sponsored Organic Foods Advisory body will be established to accelerate the switch to organic methods of food production.

We are committed to ban the horrific practice of Halal ritual slaughter anywhere in Scotland on the grounds of animal cruelty. In addition we will end the supply use and distribution of all Halal ritual slaughter derived products by all publicly funded organisations within Scotland.

This will include schools and educational establishments where Halal products are currently provided without the knowledge or consent of parents and children.

The plight of Scotland's fishermen must be urgently addressed. Holyrood has no jurisdiction over our coastal waters as this power lies with Europe.

The British National Party will introduce separate Ministers for 'Fisheries' and 'Agriculture'.

GLOBAL WARMING

The cult of 'global warming' or 'climate change' is a pretext to impose international governance and the imposition of taxes on the necessary use of fuel for domestic and industrial purposes. Huge expenditures on inefficient wind farms, to the detriment of essential winter services, have cost lives on Scottish roads, and caused the death of thousands of Scottish pensioners from hypothermia.

We support the use of naturally generated renewable energy, where it is efficient and cheap. We condemn the vast hidden subsidies to finance inefficient alternative energy schemes, which is costing UK consumers £12bn per annum in disguised charges to energy bills.

Scotland alone cannot withdraw from the EU, but as part of our national platform, we will engage a debate to remove all of the UK wholly from the EU

We note the fraudulent activities of the IPCC, including the falsified data employed to facilitate the impression of climate change in the same year that recorded the coldest UK December since 1890.

It is clear to us that a vast industry of well-paid bureaucrats, commercial and business concerns, bankers, green lobbyist, politicians and vested interests stand to gain handsomely from the concept of 'man-made climate change', which has never been properly debated or examined. Indeed, there is an enormous weight of evidence, which may be sourced via the internet, that questions the entire thesis of 'global warming'.

In common with the rest of the United Kingdom, however, Scotland does face a looming power shortage. This needs to be met by Holyrood working in conjunction with Westminster to institute an urgent programme for the building of new generations of clean coal-fired and ultra-safe molten salt nuclear reactors.

We also welcome and will encourage further innovation, research and development of effective alternative energy sources, particularly hydro-electric power generation on land and particularly at sea.

PLANNING AND LICENSING

As already stated, we oppose building on green belt land. We do not oppose the re-utilisation of buildings or sites of existing buildings for residential purposes, whether they are industrial, commercial or agricultural buildings.

We would give residents greater control over building on their own land, subject to local planning approval.

As a matter of policy, we would oppose planning applications to build or convert buildings into non-indigenous cultural or religious centres.

Planning applications for large out of town developments are unlikely to be granted, excepting where there is a pressing need in the interests of the wider community.

The anomaly that currently exists in the VAT regimes on housing construction will be removed. Currently building projects on Brownfield developments are liable for VAT whereas new builds on Greenfield sites carry no VAT, thereby encouraging developers to develop Greenfield sites.

We propose levying VAT on new developments and removing it from Brownfield developments thereby discouraging such intrusion onto Greenfield sites.

Recent flooding problems have been exasperated by the use of reclaimed wetlands, which has forced the natural drainage systems to seek alternate outlets. This has in turn caused major economic and social difficulties.

As a matter of policy, we would oppose planning applications to build or convert buildings into non-indigenous cultural or religious centres

These reclaimed areas also destroy the habitats of many native plants and animals which were already under threat. We will halt further use of such wetlands for building.

Schools, hospitals and the criminal justice systems by their very nature exist to serve the community and the nation. They cannot be bought and sold or operated in a conventional business way merely for profit.

Thus PFI (private funded initiatives) and PPP (public private partnerships) are generally of highly questionable worth for the long-term social and economic viability of the nation.

The concept that a consortium of banks, private institutions and developers should finance, for example, the construction of a hospital which the local NHS trust then must lease for the next 30 years, on highly restrictive terms, is morally wrong. It is also bad for public finances. The concept of ensuring maximum profit for the banks, finance institutions and developers is at odds with the provision of proper medical care in hospitals.

PFI's also have a detrimental impact on local government workers' jobs, pay and conditions of service. The British National Party will not enter into any further

PFI's and seek to renegotiate the contracts of existing initiatives with a view to lowering the burden of debt.

In general we would leave it to the local community to decide the appropriate level and hours of licensing for pubs and clubs. All areas are different; what is appropriate for Edinburgh would not necessarily be appropriate for a small village.

We do not believe this is an area upon which central government should decide, so complete discretion should be devolved down to local government level.

We are opposed to the smoking ban in public houses as it takes away any freedom of choice. Landlords should be able to decide if they wish to run smoking or non-smoking establishments, so long as a mechanically ventilated room is provided specifically for smoking purposes in the event of its re-introduction.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING

There should be weekly waste collections which must remain free. Charging will encourage illegal tipping which will cost more in terms of health problems and clean-up expenses.

Those arrested for fly-tipping will have their vehicles and/or equipment impounded and once convicted, these items will be sold to finance the clean-up of areas damaged.

Recycling should best be carried out weekly at the same time as the normal rubbish clearance takes place. It is inevitably the case that if it is not clear and completely obvious to residents when recycling collections occur, they are less inclined to recycle.

There should be weekly waste collections which must remain free

Local council tips/recycling centres should be open more regular hours and less inclined to turn people away who wish to leave items, which also encourages fly tipping.

Regional and national recycling businesses must be encouraged to recycle the materials collected. The current situation where millions of tonnes of recyclable material including plastics, circuit boards, steel and cardboard is shipped to China and India, makes a mockery of environmental concerns.

This situation can only be altered by using tax and regulation powers to stimulate demand for recycled materials rather than using the stick of charging for the removal of waste.

For example every single glass and plastic bottle made in or imported to the UK should be sold with a returnable deposit thereby turning every child in the country into an eager volunteer 'bottle recycling operative'.

We will enforce a zero tolerance on litter. It is neither pleasant nor safe for residents and tourists alike to see many of our beautiful town centres and coastlines, parks and gardens blighted by litter. We will replace financial fines for those litter louts with community service orders to participate in street, coast and park clean up operations.



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