



PARTY MANIFESTO EXTRACTS 2021

This document sets out:

1. For each of our three main priorities, the proposed wording which we submitted to Scotland’s five main political parties before they prepared their manifestos for the 2021 elections
2. The statements on those three issues which the parties published in their manifestos in April 2021

	Circular Economy	Green Belts	National Parks
APRS proposals	<i>We will bring forward world-leading legislation to support a circular Scottish economy, one that minimises waste and litter while building in resource efficiency. Manufacturers and importers will remain responsible for goods and all packaging at the end of their life, with incentives that promote reduction, then re-use, and then recycling.</i>	<i>We will give stronger protection to Green Belts and promote their positive management for climate, nature, landscape and recreation. We will encourage local authorities to extend existing Green Belts and to designate new ones, preventing development on Green Belt land if there is suitable brownfield land in their area.</i>	<i>Our National Parks lead the way in tackling the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis, promoting mental and physical health and well-being, boosting rural employment and celebrating the beauty of our world-class landscapes. We will extend these benefits to other parts of Scotland through a national strategy to designate at least seven more National Parks, starting with Galloway and the Borders, as part of a wider network of protected landscapes.</i>

	Circular Economy	Green Belts	National Parks
Conservatives	<p>We would bring forward a Circular Economy Bill early in the next Parliament. This will set new targets for reducing our raw material usage, especially those that are single use or difficult to recycle. Alongside this, we will invest in our recycling capacity and fund the creation of a Centre for Circular Economy Excellence to drive the rollout of best practice in business, public sector, the third sector and communities. We will establish a Circular Economy Awards Scheme to recognise innovation in reuse and waste reduction. We will ensure that public procurement is used to incentivise the delivery of our environmental targets and enhance our circular economy.</p>	<p>As we have seen during the pandemic, green spaces are essential for our mental wellbeing and physical health. For many people, our Green Belts provide this escape and they also protect our natural landscape from expanding development. We will strengthen protections for Green Belts, both to protect the land and encourage the development of brownfield sites in cities and towns.</p>	<p>Scotland has two national parks, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs and the Cairngorms. Nearly twenty years on from their creation, we would create Scotland's third national park in Galloway and consider other proposals for further parks.</p>
Greens	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a Circular Economy Bill with targets to reduce our overall consumption of raw materials, our carbon footprint, and a duty to produce Resource Reduction Plans • Move towards a circular economy whereby all packaging and products sold in Scotland must be readily able to be reused, repaired, or recycled, with producers responsible for the costs of managing their products throughout their lifecycle 	<p>The Scottish Greens will continue to fight to ensure green space is protected from unsuitable development and will use the planning system to ensure that all new development results in a positive benefit for wildlife and the natural environment. Changes to local taxation will also encourage redevelopment of brownfield land as a priority ahead of greenfield land.</p>	<p>The Scottish Greens will deliver an ambitious programme of reform and expansion of our National and Regional Park network. We will create at least two new National Parks and one new Regional Park. We will invest in our new and existing parks so that they have an adequate ranger service and more powers to deliver its goals. We will deliver a programme of public and community land acquisition so that more of our Parks are publicly owned and managed in the public interest. As in the last Parliament, we will also oppose developments which exploit and degrade our National Parks for profit.</p>

	Circular Economy	Green Belts	National Parks
Labour	<p>Scottish Labour supports measures that deliver a circular economy, including introducing a Circular Economy Bill and obligations on the producers of waste and annual material flow accounts. This includes the introduction of deposit return schemes and regulatory action to eliminate plastic cigarette filters, as well as supporting global campaigns to tackle abuses in the global fashion supply chain.</p>	<p>No reference</p>	<p>Scottish Labour will support the designation of new National Parks (including coastal, marine and city parks), recognising that National Scenic Area designation is insufficient.</p>
Lib Dems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will introduce a Circular Economy Law including targets that reduce the emissions produced in creating everything we consume, and use other parts of our programme, to achieve: • Comprehensive assessment, monitoring and reporting of Scotland’s material, land, carbon and water footprints. A duty to produce a Resource Reduction Plan, updated every five years. • Better use by public sector bodies of circular economy principles in their procurement strategies. • New targets for repurposing, repair and reuse to drive manufacturers towards system change, supported by the enterprise agencies for people wanting to launch relevant businesses in their area. • Ambitious targets for the collection of post-consumer textiles, 	<p>Our intentions for the new national planning framework are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure access to green, open spaces, wildlife corridors and woodland is available to every community. • Protect green belts and gaps between settlements for the long-term benefit of local communities, the climate and nature. • Create a Brownfield First policy, under which planning applicants should demonstrate that no brownfield land is available for their proposal before permission can be granted on greenfield sites. 	<p>We support development of a new national strategy to designate more national parks, as part of a wider network of protected landscapes.</p>

	Circular Economy	Green Belts	National Parks
	<p>accompanied by the rollout of necessary infrastructure, and the implementation of measures to encourage the fashion industry to increase the recycled fibre content in fabrics and yarns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitments from industries including food and drink, agriculture, energy, construction and facilities management sectors, along with major public sector resource consumers such as the NHS, to adopt circular economy approaches and reduce waste and environmental impact. • More use of international influence to establish global standards on product design 		
SNP	<p>We will bring forward a Circular Economy Bill to advance Scotland's ambitions for the circular economy through measures which will encourage reuse of products and reduce waste. The bill will tackle our reliance on single-use items and include measures to tackle textile pollution/fast fashion. As we build Scotland's circular economy we must concentrate our efforts on reducing, recycling and reusing resources. With this and our world leading climate change targets in mind, we commit to reviewing the role that incineration plays in Scotland's waste hierarchy.</p>	No reference	No reference