

# Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)

## Manifesto summaries: 2016 Scottish Parliament Election



| Policy Area        | Scottish Conservatives  | Scottish Labour   | Scottish National Party  | Scottish Liberal Democrats  |
|--------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                    | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>  | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>  | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>   | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>  |
| <b>NHS</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reintroduction of prescription charges with previous exemptions (list of exempt long term conditions would be expanded however)</li> <li>• Support full review of performance targets</li> <li>• Delayed discharge – support closer working with housing associations and info sharing with pharmacies to reduce this</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase NHS spending in real terms</li> <li>• Oppose privatisation</li> <li>• Four new major trauma centres in Scotland</li> <li>• Review and invest in hospital food</li> <li>• 500 additional health visitors</li> </ul>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase NHS revenue budget</li> <li>• Implement new national clinical strategy</li> <li>• 1,000 training places for nurses and midwives</li> <li>• 500 additional health visitors</li> <li>• Review health board structures</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Royal Colleges to address performance targets landscape</li> <li>• Call for publication of annual report and parliamentary debate on workforce planning</li> </ul> |
| <b>Social Care</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call for increased support for people living with dementia under age of 65</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an implementation group to consider ending social care charges</li> <li>• Guarantee a social care package within a week</li> <li>• Adopt UNISON's Ethical Care Charter</li> <li>• Review the strategy for looked after children</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest an additional £1.3bn from NHS to integrated health &amp; social care partnerships</li> <li>• All social care workers to be paid the living wage</li> <li>• Consult on national care charging guidance</li> </ul>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social care workers to be paid 'at least the living wage'</li> <li>• Extend provision of free personal care to people with dementia at all ages</li> </ul>                   |

|                     |  |   |  |   |
|---------------------|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Primary Care</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support role of pharmacy at heart of primary care, with expansion of Minor Ailment Service</li> <li>• Support moves towards GP clusters</li> <li>• Commitment to universal GP attached health visiting service, with recruitment of additional health visitors</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guarantee an appointment at a GP surgery within 48 hours</li> <li>• Give GPs the ability to form into 'clusters'</li> <li>• Invest in staff for local surgeries</li> <li>• Extend the minor ailment service</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruit at least 250 Community Links Workers to work in GP surgeries and direct to local services and support</li> <li>• A new Community Health Service</li> <li>• New GP contract</li> <li>• Multi-disciplinary GP hubs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treble allocation to the Primary Care fund</li> <li>• Increase resources available to 'deep end' GP practices</li> <li>• Extend rights of GPs to social prescribing</li> </ul> |
|---------------------|--|---|--|---|

|   |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Public Health, Prevention, Strategy and Research</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support improvements in appointment booking and cancellation processes</li> <li>• Explore potential of introducing fines for multiple missed appointments</li> <li>• Issue annual statement to people informing them of local services they can access</li> <li>• Greater choice for people on the location of, or type of their treatment</li> <li>• Additional support for 'social prescribing networks' and on provision of information to GPs about local services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a National Loneliness Strategy</li> <li>• Invest 'sugar tax' proceeds in after-school sports clubs</li> <li>• Actively pursue bringing sports events for all levels of physical ability</li> <li>• Implement a new Transplant Bill</li> <li>• Cut cancer waiting times and build on evidence from Macmillan's TCAT programme</li> <li>• Research funding for a cure to MS, MND, and other neurological diseases</li> <li>• Re-write the standards for neurological care</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescriptions and eye tests to remain free of charge and continued support of NHS dentistry</li> <li>• Implement the new Cancer Strategy</li> <li>• A new single national formulary (guidance on drug prescribing)</li> <li>• A new 3 year dementia strategy</li> <li>• New diet and obesity strategy</li> <li>• Diabetes Improvement Plan and a national outcome for diabetes</li> <li>• A national strategy to tackle social isolation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take forward recommendations of recently published Cancer Strategy</li> <li>• Maintain free prescriptions, eye and dental checks</li> <li>• Introduce legislation re opt-out organ donation system</li> <li>• Give community pharmacists greater autonomy to seek changes to prescriptions</li> <li>• Appoint Minister for Public Workforce Empowerment and amend National Performance Framework to ensure it enables empowerment</li> <li>• Expand role of Parliament's Public Audit Committee to consider target culture</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|--|--|

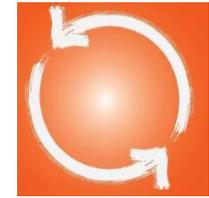
|   |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>End of Life Care</b></p>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support pilot of 'Partnership for Excellence in Palliative Support' (PEPS) services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of end of life and palliative care</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to palliative care support for "everyone who needs it"</li> <li>• A newly appointed national co-ordinator will review and advise on steps to improve childhood bereavement services</li> </ul> |   |
| <p><b>Local Government, Communities and Democracy</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for independent review of the funding mechanism for local government</li> </ul>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A single system to raise concerns about integrated services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review relationships between local authorities and health boards</li> <li>• Review and reform Community Planning Partnerships</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim to reverse centralisation, roll back top-down and target driven culture within public services</li> <li>• Give power to public sector workers to use professional skills to the fullest and lead local services</li> </ul> |

|                      |   |   |  |   |
|----------------------|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Mental Health</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support targeted funding and policy to achieve parity of esteem between mental and physical health</li> <li>• Ambition for dedicated mental health support in every GP practice and A&amp;E department 24/7</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 year plan for improving mental health services</li> <li>• A cabinet level responsibility for mental health</li> <li>• Focus on the links between poverty, deprivation and mental ill health</li> <li>• Invest in educational psychologists and community mental health professionals</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 year mental health plan</li> <li>• Ensure mental health and physical health are treated with parity</li> <li>• Recruit mental health link workers in GP practices</li> <li>• Promote the benefits of physical activity on mental health</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amend law to put mental and physical health on same statutory footing</li> <li>• 'Double support for services for young people'</li> <li>• Create new units for children and adolescents in Aberdeen and Inverness</li> <li>• Increase access to wider range of interventions, including talking therapies</li> <li>• Training bursaries for nurses, counsellors and psychologists</li> <li>• Every GP practice and A&amp;E department to have mental health professionals</li> <li>• Review of school counselling services and introduction of 'mental health champions' in every school</li> <li>• Increased support for people in police custody and prison settings</li> <li>• Explore establishment of 'Crisis Centres' (safe spaces for emergency support) and the 'Joint Cars' model</li> </ul> |
|----------------------|---|---|--|---|

|                                    |   |   |  |  |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Carers</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Align Carer's Allowance to same level as Jobseeker's Allowance</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a new role and office of Carers' Commissioner</li> <li>Up-rate the Carers' Allowance to equal Jobseekers' Allowance</li> <li>Support carers to stay in work</li> <li>Removing financial penalties for repeating a year in Further &amp; Higher Education</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase Carers Allowance to the same level as Jobseeker's Allowance</li> <li>A new strategy for families with disabled children</li> <li>Increase use of carer positive scheme</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uplift Carer's Allowance to same level as Jobseekers' Allowance</li> <li>Pilot scheme of Carers' leave</li> <li>Develop Carers health checks, provided by GPs</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Equalities and human rights</b> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stop cuts that entrench inequality</li> <li>Will appoint a Cabinet Secretary for Equalities</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights in the National Performance Framework</li> <li>All public bodies to evaluate their policies against duty to reduce inequalities</li> <li>Bring forward a Fairer Scotland Action Plan</li> <li>National Strategy for Young Disabled People</li> <li>Elected Office Fund to support disabled people</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend rights of disabled people, supporting autonomy and overhauling guardianship system</li> <li>Extend rights of people in care home settings to include access to outdoors, use of covert medication, provision of meaningful activities and special educational needs</li> </ul> |
| <b>Employability</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for Work Choice successor programme with increased funding</li> <li>Focus resources to support aim of halving the 'disability employment gap' in Scotland</li> </ul> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new labour market strategy</li> <li>Nationally designed, locally delivered employability services from 2018</li> </ul>  |  |

|                        |  |  |  |   |
|------------------------|--|--|--|---|
|                        |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage leading private sector companies to use Supported Businesses.</li> </ul>  |   |
| <b>Social Security</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fast tracking of support for people living with terminal conditions</li> <li>• Greater flexibility for people over frequency of payments and split payments</li> <li>• Explore how DLA/PIP and Attendance Allowance can be devolved locally and administered within context of Integration of Health and Social Care</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrap the bedroom tax</li> <li>• Create a new Scottish Social Security agency</li> <li>• Ensure that Universal Credit can be paid fortnightly instead of monthly</li> <li>• Establish a statutory Scottish Social Security Advisory Committee to review policy changes</li> <li>• People with long term or terminal conditions will not be asked to requalify for disability benefits</li> <li>• Abolish '84 day rule' which penalises recipients of DLA and Carer's Allowance after extended period of time in hospital</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new Social Security Agency with clear timescales for assessments and an accessible appeals process</li> <li>• Abolish bedroom tax</li> <li>• Maternity and Early Years Allowance</li> <li>• No means test or cut of disability benefits</li> <li>• Employment and welfare designed to take account of mental health conditions</li> <li>• Reform Universal Credit</li> <li>• Government-led campaign to encourage take up</li> <li>• Disability Benefits Assessment Commission to inform on automatic or lifetime awards</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace Work Programme and Work Choice with new schemes working with Skills Development Scotland, third sector, colleges and other agencies</li> <li>• Promote new partnerships with third sector to support employability of ex-offenders on release</li> </ul> |

|                  |  |  |   |   |
|------------------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Transport</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support extension of free bus pass scheme to community transport</li> <li>• Comprehensive national strategy to improve funding and support for community transport</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refresh the National Transport Strategy</li> <li>• Ensure communities have a say in influencing transport</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain concessionary bus pass</li> </ul> |
| <b>Other</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call for abolition of the Named Person initiative. Propose a targeted 'Crisis Family Fund' instead</li> </ul>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce three year rolling funding for third sector organisations where possible</li> </ul>                        |   |



| Policy Area                       | Scottish Green Party   | UK Independence Party (UKIP)  | Women's Equality Party  | RISE   |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
|                                   | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>   | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>  | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>  | <a href="#">Full manifesto</a>   |
| <b>NHS</b>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push to make healthcare jobs more attractive</li> <li>• Give senior healthcare professionals greater power over the operation and organisation of care</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-introduce the state enrolled nurse and fund return to practice training for those who have taken a career break.</li> <li>• Address gap between nursing numbers and demand.</li> <li>• Introduce long term planning and training projects for nurses and doctors by 2018</li> </ul> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free parking facilities and improved transport infrastructure to and from all NHS services</li> <li>• Project watchdog set up to monitor integration</li> <li>• Investigating viability of a publicly-owned pharmaceutical company</li> </ul> |
| <b>Social Care</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support introduction of a 'Living Wage Plus'</li> <li>• Demand improved working conditions for social care staff</li> </ul>                                       |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expect all care providers to pay employees at least the living wage</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring all care services back into the public sector</li> <li>• Assessments of need should be open to independent arbitration</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Primary Care</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all primary care services have the resources to improve shared working and caseloads, and that primary care provision is equitable</li> </ul>              |   |   |  |
| <b>Public Health / Prevention</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater focus on long-term targets for preventative care</li> <li>• Support 'comprehensive care plans'</li> </ul>   |   |   |  |

|   |   |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Local Government and Communities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Local Democracy Act, requiring local authorities to create local democracy and public participation plans to devolve decisions and budgets to a more local level</li> <li>• Champion new ways for public involvement in the legislative process</li> <li>• Call for a Democracy and Public Participation Duty, requiring public bodies to show that the public are consulted adequately</li> </ul> |  |  |   |
| <b>Mental Health</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fight for equal consideration for mental and physical health across all health and social care sectors</li> <li>• Fight for investment for a better understanding of the causes of mental health problems within mental health services</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give mental health parity with physical health</li> <li>• Offer appropriate treatment to address link between addiction and mental health</li> <li>• Offer direct access to specialist treatment for pregnant women and mothers with children under 12 months with mental health issues</li> <li>• Offer physical and wellbeing assessments to any person displaying mental health problems upon admission to hospital</li> <li>• Increase resources for mental health within the Justice system</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased funding for Community Psychiatric nurses</li> <li>• Mental wellbeing to be viewed with the same importance as physical health</li> </ul> |

|                                    |   |  |   |   |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Carers</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support a 50% increase in Carer's Allowance and press for a redesign</li> <li>• Explore introduction of a Young Carer's Grant</li> </ul>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the Carer's Allowance</li> <li>• Monitor implementation of Carers (Scotland) Act</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce a Living Income for unpaid carers</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Equalities and human rights</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote a co-produced Strategy for Inclusion of disabled people</li> <li>• Advocate for stronger Scottish regulations of the Public Sector Equality Duty and investment in the Equalities and Human Rights Commission in Scotland</li> <li>• Call for more rights-based training for police and staff within the justice system</li> <li>• Support creation of an independent social care tribunal system</li> <li>• Push to improve equality impact assessment and budget analysis</li> <li>• Support a written constitution aiming to protect rights for marginal groups and drive equality</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support creation of new post of Cabinet Minister for Women and Equalities</li> <li>• Strengthen Scottish regulations on the Public Sector Equality Duty</li> <li>• Increase capacity of public authorities to undertake an equal pay audit review</li> <li>• Review existing measures against hate crimes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-Sexism Bill</li> <li>• All new planning permission applications, whether public or private, to meet standards of accessibility</li> </ul> |

|                        |   |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Employability</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push for a new scheme, delivered on a non-profit basis, contracted locally to the public and third sector, which recognises the value of voluntary work and makes a genuine investment in participants' skills</li> <li>• Push for devolution and expansion of the Access to Work scheme</li> <li>• Campaign for new contracts to include a clause preventing providers from sharing information with DWP that leads to sanctions</li> </ul>                                 |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design a system of formal accreditation of skills and knowledge acquired through unpaid work, including caregiving</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>Social Security</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the setting up of a Social Security Commission</li> <li>• Fight for all PIP claims to be granted initially</li> <li>• Support for online or telephone procedures to be used rather than face-to-face assessments</li> <li>• Abolish repeat assessments for people with chronic or degenerative conditions</li> <li>• Review DLA and PIP</li> <li>• Address disproportionate impact of welfare reform on women/children</li> <li>• Reform Universal Credit</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opposed to the 'Bedroom tax'</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the most appropriate way to introduce split payments under Universal Credit</li> </ul>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an Economic Justice Fund</li> <li>• Immediate end to sanctions, workfare, and Work Capability Assessments</li> <li>• Establish a Scottish Universal Basic Income</li> </ul> |

|                  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Transport</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support re-regulation of buses, including a minimum level of service guarantee and requirements to make services fully accessible.</li> <li>• Support extension of free bus passes to unpaid carers and enhanced community transport</li> </ul> |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of a new National Mass Transit Service for Scotland</li> </ul> |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|

### About the ALLIANCE

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) is the national third sector intermediary for a range of health and social care organisations. It brings together over 1,500 members, including a large network of national and local third sector organisations, associates in the statutory and private sectors and individuals.

The ALLIANCE vision is for a Scotland where people of all ages who are disabled or living with long term conditions, and unpaid carers, have a strong voice and enjoy their right to live well, as equal and active citizens, free from discrimination, with support and services that put them at the centre.

[www.alliance-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk)