



Glasgow Labour

Manifesto

2012

Scottish  Labour

putting
Glasgow 
first!

Foreword by Gordon Matheson

I am tremendously proud to be Glaswegian. I am proud of our city, our people and our culture. And I am proud of Labour's record in transforming Glasgow.

Glasgow Labour has a proven record of achievement, including:

- being the first local authority in Scotland to introduce a living wage;
- introduction of the UK's largest and most successful modern apprenticeship scheme for school leavers;
- the rebuilding or refurbishment of every secondary school in the city;
- 15 hours free childcare for all 3 year olds before the rest of Scotland;
- provision of jobs for young people, graduates and the over 50s; and
- delivery of the 2014 Commonwealth Games for Glasgow.

And we have delivered all of this while freezing council tax for the last seven years.

Our actions have set Glasgow apart. We were the only major city in the UK where unemployment fell in 2011, and youth unemployment rose at a fraction of the Scottish and UK average. School attainment in the city is at all time high and the number of young people going on to university has risen for each of the last 10 years. Glasgow is now one of Europe's top financial centres, a tourist destination of international standing and the UK's top retail destination outside of London.

None of this has happened by accident.

But we have much more to do. This manifesto sets out both our record and our clear vision for the future. Our 100 policies are clear, ambitious and we will deliver every single one of them.

As well as our distinct vision for the next 5 years, Labour is unique as the only political party that will put Glasgow's interests first. We will work constructively with the UK and Scottish Governments but we are not beholden to them. Whether on welfare reform, cuts to housing or threats to vital local bus and train services, we are on Glasgow's side. No other party can say this. Labour will always put Glasgow first.



Gordon Matheson
Glasgow Labour Leader



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20 things we have done

- 01 Labour has guaranteed **every school leaver who qualifies a modern apprenticeship** – the biggest scheme of its kind in the UK.
- 02 Labour has **invested £550million** to rebuild and refurbish more than 100 schools and nurseries.
- 03 Labour has delivered a **7 year Council Tax freeze** and Glasgow was the first local authority in Scotland to introduce a council tax freeze in 2005.
- 04 Labour introduced the **Glasgow Living Wage**, making Glasgow the first local authority in Scotland to introduce a living wage, increasing the salary of 700 low paid employees by up to **£1100 a year**.
- 05 Labour bid for the **2014 Commonwealth Games** – and Glasgow will host the Games in 2014, delivering a spectacular event and a legacy for all Glaswegians.
- 06 Labour has **invested £1billion in housing**. Through stock transfer, Labour has delivered record investment in the city's housing stock.
- 07 Labour transformed the city's economy leading to the creation of **80,000 new jobs** in the city between 1995 and 2008.
- 08 Labour has introduced an Affordable Warmth Dividend providing **£100 payments** to help with fuel costs for all over 80s in the city.
- 09 Labour has established Glasgow as a tourist destination of international standing, with the refurbished Kelvingrove Gallery and the **£74million Riverside Museum** amongst the most popular tourist attractions in the country.
- 10 Labour is **providing jobs for young people, graduates and the over 50s** through the Commonwealth Jobs Fund and Commonwealth Graduate Fund.
- 11 Labour has provided **free access to sport** – free swimming for under 18s and over 60s, free golf for the under 18s and free bowling and tennis for all.
- 12 Labour has delivered **major transport projects** such as the East End Regeneration route and the M74 Extension – this was engineered, project managed and upfront funded by Glasgow City Council and delivered on time and under budget.
- 13 Labour has supported our young people to achieve record levels of school attainment with more than **90% of S4 pupils achieving 5+ Standard Grades in 2011**. In each of the last ten years, more young Glaswegians have gone to university.



- 14 Labour has achieved **huge physical regeneration of the city** including the Clyde Waterfront, Riverside Museum, Kelvingrove Gallery and the Commonwealth Games venues.
- 15 Labour has established internationally acclaimed **nurture classes** giving additional early support to our most vulnerable children.
- 16 Labour has taken **tough action on crime** with a focus on youth disorder and gangs. Our initiative on tackling gang activity has been hailed as an example for the rest of the UK and youth disorder offences have been **reduced by 69%** since 2006.
- 17 Labour is taking action to make Glasgow one of Europe's most sustainable cities by transforming the way the city deals with its waste to create **renewable energy**.
- 18 Labour has directly **funded 100 police officers** in Glasgow – making Glasgow the only Council in Scotland to do this.
- 19 Labour has delivered for our older people with initiatives such as council tax discounts for over 60s, free swimming, investment in priority bus routes, funding to help older people stay in their homes longer and **£73.5million of investment** in new care homes and day centres.
- 20 Labour has **provided 15 hours of nursery education** for all 3 and 4 year olds, making Glasgow the first local authority in Scotland to do so.

100 things we will do



- 01 Labour was the first council in Scotland to introduce a council tax freeze, and will continue to freeze council tax for the next 5 years.
- 02 Labour will continue to fight for Glasgow's Missing Millions – the resources taken out of the city by the SNP Government in business rates. The SNP take £70million each year out of the city. Your Labour council will fight to stop this rip-off.
- 03 Labour has forced the SNP to back down from £122million of savage housing cuts. The Scottish Government want an SNP Council who will roll over and let them take even more money from Glasgow. Labour is the only party who can stop this from happening.
- 04 Labour will campaign for a surface transport link to Glasgow Airport after the SNP scrapped the Glasgow Airport Rail Link. The SNP's 15 year fantasy capital wishlist contains no proposals to link the airport with the city. Labour will back our airport.
- 05 Labour will oppose the SNP cuts to our colleges, which will disadvantage our young people just when they most need help. We need fairness and more investment in skills and training during these difficult times, not SNP cuts.
- 06 Labour will support the citizens of Glasgow when others walk away. After the Tory/Lib Dem Coalition and SNP Government cut funding for initiatives such as winter fuel payments, support to get young people into employment and support for new air routes into the city, Labour stepped in. We will continue to put Glasgow first in everything we do.
- 07 Labour believes that Glasgow's communities should have more control over local bus services. We believe that buses should be regulated properly allowing local people the ability to shape services in their area. The SNP continue to oppose this.
- 08 Labour will continue to develop and act upon our citywide anti-poverty strategy.
- 09 Labour will target irresponsible dog owners who allow their dogs to foul our streets and parks, through tougher enforcement, working with residents and extra clean-ups.
- 10 Labour will crackdown on littering offences in communities across the city and introduce dedicated enforcement officers in every ward.
- 11 Labour will make Glasgow a Co-operative Council, setting a target for the number of co-operative business start-ups in the city, and will devolve power to our people.
- 12 Labour will introduce community budgeting, giving local people the power and resources to shape services in their area.
- 13 Labour will support credit unions to help them recruit new members by promotion in our schools, working with housing associations and co-operatives to encourage tenants to become credit union members, and providing advertising support.
- 14 Labour will provide longer term grant funding to third sector organisations in the city.
- 15 Labour will establish a Co-operative Unit to promote the development of co-ops and other social enterprises in the city.
- 16 Labour will support residents who want to establish and to manage their local community facilities.
- 17 Labour will listen to local communities – consulting with residents and listening to their priorities for their neighbourhoods.
- 18 Labour will ensure that our Council is transparent, broadcasting Council meetings live online, holding more meetings locally in our communities, and establishing a Public Petitions Committee.
- 19 Labour will work with Glasgow's faith groups to nurture relationships and to promote the use of Council and local faith group facilities for all.
- 20 Labour will make our communities safer and cleaner places to live by targeting gang violence and alcohol fuelled antisocial behaviour.

Crime & Antisocial Behaviour

- 21 Labour will continue to fund 100 additional police officers working in neighbourhoods across the city.
- 22 Labour will target anti-social behaviour hotspots and will defend the rights of decent citizens to enjoy their own homes in peace.
- 23 Labour will exercise licensing powers to tackle overprovision of fast food outlets, betting shops, off-sales, and the early opening of licensed premises.
- 24 Labour will increase the use of test purchasing to target off-sales selling to children and adults on behalf of children.
- 25 Labour will take tough action on underage drinkers who cause trouble in their communities, focussing on their parents' tenancy if the behaviour continues, and referring underage drinkers to social work child protection staff.
- 26 Labour will ensure that those serving 'Community Payback Orders' for alcohol-related crime will be forced to give something back to the communities affected by their behaviour.
- 27 Labour will not tolerate domestic abuse and will work with Strathclyde Police to ensure effective support and enforcement is available to families throughout the city living with abuse.
- 28 Labour will use those serving 'Community Payback Orders' to clean and maintain residential back lanes.



Culture and Sport

- 29 Labour will deliver a world-class Commonwealth Games which leaves a legacy for all Glaswegians.
- 30 Labour will never introduce charges for entry to our museums.
- 31 Labour will continue to provide free swimming for the under 18s and over 60s, free golf for the under 18s and free bowling and tennis for all.
- 32 Labour will extend free golf on Council courses to the over 60s.



- 33 Labour will introduce a "happy hour" at Council run 5 a side pitches, providing under 16s with free access.
- 34 Labour will create Glasgow's online museum and art gallery, putting all of the city's artworks and artefacts on a unique website, and will extend outreach work within the city's schools.
- 35 Labour will establish a network of running trails within the city's parks.
- 36 Labour will hold a year-long celebration of Glasgow's rich cultural life in 2014 to coincide with the Commonwealth Games.
- 37 Labour will host a service of celebration and a series of free events for citizens in June 2012 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.
- 38 Labour recognises the importance of football and football supporters to Glasgow's economy and identity. We will continue to develop a Football Action Plan to highlight and build on the positive aspects of the game.
- 39 Labour will build on our city's global reputation as Scotland's film capital and continue to market Glasgow as a premier location for film and television production.

Early Years

40 Labour will guarantee every child 15 hours of free childcare at the start of the term in which they turn 3 – up to 5 months earlier than present and worth up to £1500 for every child.

41 Labour will extend our Vulnerable Twos programme, offering support to more vulnerable children across the city, and will shift resources towards the early years and parenting support.



42 Labour will make Glasgow a “Nurturing City” – all teachers will be trained to make nurture an integral part of school life for all Glasgow’s children.

43 Labour will continue to roll out employability programmes, training early years staff to help parents into work.

44 Labour will open a further 10 family learning centres across the city.

Education

45 Labour will rebuild or refurbish your local primary school.

46 Labour will strive to achieve positive destinations for all of our school leavers, building on the huge progress made over the last five years.

47 Labour will build on the improvement in teacher numbers in the city compared to the Scottish average, delivering a pupil-teacher ratio which provides the best possible education for our children.

48 Labour will continue to raise attainment levels in our schools by improving the quality of learning and teaching – an approach which has already delivered record results for our children.

49 Labour will encourage children to study sciences at Standard and Higher grade so that they can become part of the city’s green industrial revolution.

50 Labour will introduce scholarships for pupils in partnership with businesses across the city, developing a curriculum tailored to their needs.

51 Labour will continue to provide breakfast clubs for all primary children and reform after-school care across the city, providing more places and reviewing subsidies.

52 Labour will expand opportunities for Glasgow’s young people to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and other appropriate programmes.



Environment



- 53 Labour will make Glasgow the most sustainable city in Europe over the next 20 years with social justice at its heart so that all our people benefit from a green future.
- 54 Labour will deliver an Energy and Carbon Masterplan for Glasgow which will provide the framework for shifting to a low carbon city. We will also create a Glasgow Energy Trust to develop new energy systems and ensure that the city gets a fair share of all revenues.
- 55 Labour will revamp and completely refurbish George Square.
- 56 Labour will lead the implementation of the Green Deal in Glasgow so that all our residents can have the most energy efficient homes.
- 57 Labour will develop an affordable warmth strategy for Glasgow and will “turn green red” by redistributing revenue from the wind farm and other sustainable developments to a Warm Glasgow fund.
- 58 Labour will put Glasgow forward for the prestigious Green Capital of Europe award for 2015 and use it to become an even greener city.
- 59 Labour will introduce new and sustainable District Heating systems to our city.
- 60 Labour will ensure that Glasgow meets and exceeds its carbon dioxide emissions target for 2020.
- 61 Labour will develop a centre for green building skills so that we can help our people and the construction industry to make the transition to a low carbon economy.
- 62 Labour will clean up derelict land and replace it with greenspace across the city.

Health

- 63 Labour will tackle Glasgow’s health inequalities and make our city a healthier home for all.
- 64 Labour will make Glasgow a Child-Friendly City through a formal partnership with Unicef and the Children’s Commissioner.
- 65 Labour will extend mandatory 20mph zones across the city, especially in residential areas and near schools.
- 66 Labour will tackle health problems related to overconsumption and overprovision of alcohol and work through our schools to reduce smoking rates amongst young people even further.



- 67 Labour will ensure that Council services and powers are used to protect and nurture our people’s mental health by working in partnership with the Scottish Association for Mental Health and Glasgow Association for Mental Health.
- 68 Labour will ensure that our services focus on supporting older Glaswegians to live at home with dignity and promote active ageing.

Housing

- 69 Labour will build 3,500 new homes over the next 5 years.
- 70 Labour will help first time buyers to secure their first home through an innovative mortgage deposit scheme.
- 71 Labour will call for more powers to deal with rogue private landlords, including the right to conduct 'spot-checks' on their property.
- 72 Labour will establish a Factoring Commission within one month of being elected to provide workable solutions for residents that are efficient, good value and fair.
- 73 Labour will support self-build home schemes, providing opportunities for people to learn a trade and own their own home.
- 74 Labour will work with social housing, financial advice providers, the third sector and faith groups to protect our people from the impact of the Coalition Government's unjust welfare reforms.

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Jobs, Skills and Economy

- 75 Labour will create 1000 new jobs each year for young people, graduates and the over 50s through the Commonwealth Graduate Fund and Commonwealth Jobs Fund.
- 76 Labour will ensure that the 2014 Commonwealth Games delivers a lasting economic legacy for the city, providing thousands of jobs and apprenticeships.
- 77 Labour will introduce a "Glasgow Guarantee" for all of our young people – providing every young person aged 16-24 with support in the form of an apprenticeship, training or work.
- 78 Labour has already provided more than 2000 young people with apprenticeships. We will increase the number of apprenticeships delivered by the Council every year.
- 79 Labour will make Glasgow a wireless city, providing a free wi-fi network across the entire city, and will increase uptake of broadband among social tenants.
- 80 Labour will continue to support and promote the Glasgow Living Wage to employers in the city, promote the use of Article 19 in procurement and lobby all levels of government to allow the living wage to be taken into consideration as a material factor in the procurement process.
- 81 Labour will hold a Science Expo on Glasgow Green in 2015 to coincide with the 250th anniversary of James Watt conceiving of the separate condenser as he walked on the Green.
- 82 Labour will continue to support responsible and ethical financial organisations by continuing to provide 100% non domestic rates relief to credit unions.



Support for the Vulnerable



- 83 Labour will provide an Affordable Warmth Dividend of £100 to all our people who are aged over 80 every winter.
- 84 Labour will develop an Independent Living Strategy in partnership with the Glasgow Disability Alliance and others.
- 85 Labour will invest even more in our Helping Heroes campaign and provide financial assistance and support to even more people with long term illnesses through our award winning Long Term Conditions Financial Inclusion project.
- 86 Labour will crackdown on loan sharks, campaign for action against high interest high street lenders, and encourage residents to use ethical and responsible financial services.
- 87 Labour will guarantee all children leaving our care a job or college place and focus on improving the educational attainment of looked-after and accommodated young people.
- 88 Labour will appoint a Carers Champion, directly involve carers in the development of services and introduce a Carers Card giving the thousands of carers across the city a series of discounts and entitlements to services.
- 89 Labour will increase payments to kinship carers by 25% and we will continue to lobby for carers' rights with the Scottish and UK Government.
- 90 Labour will let no child go unprotected – we will intervene early and robustly on behalf of children where parental abuse or neglect is detected and we will act solely in the interests of the child.
- 91 Labour will not tolerate hate crime – we will defend the rights of all our citizens to live their lives free of fear and discrimination.

Transport

- 92 Labour will vigorously campaign for the regulation of buses, giving local people more control of the services in their area. However, where bus companies scrap a service, Labour will work to establish new bus routes for these communities particularly where this will improve access to employment and training opportunities.
- 93 Labour will work constructively with commercial bus operators and community transport organisations to promote the growth of bus services in the city.
- 94 Labour will continue to increase spending on road maintenance, in particular the repair of potholes.
- 95 Labour will campaign robustly against any proposed closure of train stations in Glasgow.



- 96 Labour will implement a Smart Card to operate across all forms of public transport.
- 97 Labour will transform Glasgow into a city of active-living by encouraging walking for all and developing a network of cycling hubs in order to promote cycling throughout the city. We will also implement Glasgow's Strategic Action Plan for Cycling.
- 98 Labour will deliver the Fastlink service from the city centre to the SECC and the new Southern General Hospital.
- 99 Labour will work with industry partners to develop a network of charging points across the city for electric cars and bikes.
- 100 Labour will lobby Transport Scotland to fund a new rail terminal in our city which will support a high speed service to London and complete the missing Crossrail link.

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Labour's action plan for Glasgow

- ✓ Rebuild or refurbish your local primary school and provide up to **5 months of additional childcare** for all 3 year olds
- ✓ Build **3,500 new homes** for rent and help first-time buyers with mortgage deposits
- ✓ Create **1,000 new jobs** each year for young people, graduates and over 50s
- ✓ Employ enforcement officers to **tackle litter and dog fouling** in every neighbourhood
- ✓ Provide all over 80s with a **£100 winter heating payment** each year
- ✓ Campaign to **save bus routes** from the axe and regulate buses properly

Vote Scottish Labour Thursday 3rd May 2012

Glasgow Labour Party

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