

# Labour's Manifesto 2019



## A Guide for Usdaw Activists



Usdaw for  
Labour

# For a future that works for all



#VoteLabour

## Key Pledges

- Introduce a living wage of £10 an hour.
- Build 150,000 council and genuinely affordable homes a year by the end of the first term.
- Create one million green jobs.
- Scrap Universal Credit.
- Ensure that 30 hours a week of high quality, accessible free childcare is available for all 2 – 4 year olds.
- Deliver free and fast full-fibre broadband for all.
- Support our local high streets and the communities that rely on them with an industrial strategy for retail.
- Create a National Care Service, with free personal care for over 65s.
- Create a National Education Service, which will include six years of free adult education and end university tuition fees.
- Bring the 'Big Six' energy companies, Royal Mail, and the railways into public ownership.

## Workers' Rights

- Employment rights to apply and protect workers from day one on the job.
- Four new public holidays.
- Statutory rights for equalities reps.
- End bogus self-employment.
- Protect all workers from extreme temperatures at work.
- Creating a Ministry for Employment Rights which will work to protect workers' rights and roll out new minimum standards across all jobs through improved negotiating and representation of workers.
- Commitment to no employment tribunal fees – because justice shouldn't have a price tag.
- Workers' representation on company boards.
- Repeal the Trade Union Act.
- Public inquiry into blacklisting and consigning it to the past.
- Stronger trade union rights, such as the right to access workplaces and making it easier to gain recognition.
- Ending the opt out of the EU Working Time directive and enforcing working time regulations.

## Jobs and Pay

- A £250 billion investment in a Green Transformation Fund to create jobs to tackle the climate crisis.
- A £150 billion Social Transformation Fund to create jobs to upgrade our schools, hospitals and council houses.
- Ban zero hours contracts.
- A £10 an hour minimum wage by 2020.
- Extending paid paternity leave from 2 weeks to 4 weeks.
- Extending maternity pay from 9 months to 12 months.
- A real-terms pay increase for public sector workers.
- Ending the gender pay gap by 2030.

## The Economy

- No increase in taxes for ordinary workers - only the richest 5% of people will see tax rises.
- Protection for high street bank branch closures
- Return Capital Gains Tax to 2010 levels to fund education reforms
- Investment of £250 billion for a Green Transformation Fund to transition our economy to meet the climate crisis
- £150 billion on a Social Transformation Fund to upgrade our schools, hospitals and build half a million council homes.
- A £250 billion investment through a National Investment Bank to back small and medium-sized enterprise and revitalise our economy.
- A financial transactions tax, clamping down on tax evasion and avoidance.
- Increase in corporation tax for the most profitable businesses to help fund public services.
- Public ownership of water and energy providers, as well as railways and Royal Mail.
- Intervention to ensure that technologies of the future are manufactured, assembled and installed here.
- Workers on the boards of businesses.

## Public Services & Public Ownership

- Ending privatisation and bringing services back in-house.
- Free social care in England for over 65s.
- 30 hours universal free childcare every week.
- A Sure Start centre in every community.
- Re-investing and ring-fencing youth centres and services.
- Public ownership of rail, Royal Mail, water and energy distribution and the national grid.
- Free, fast wifi delivered to all homes with part-nationalisation of telecoms.
- End the cuts to youth services, creating a national body with dedicated ring-fenced funding.
- 10,000 more police officers on our streets – one for every neighbourhood.
- Allow councils to seize abandoned shops to help revive struggling high streets.

## The NHS

- Free dental check-ups.
- Increase of spending by £26 billion.
- Putting our NHS back into public hands and ensuring it is not part of any trade deal.
- Scrap prescription charges in England.
- Ending hospital car parking charges.
- Investing £15 billion to rebuild hospitals.
- Restoring the nursing training bursary.
- More GP training places and more appointments.
- 4,800 additional health visitors and school nurses.
- Additional £1.6 billion funding for mental health treatment and support and a commitment that mental health will be treated with the same importance as physical health.

## Education

- Scrapping university tuition fees and reinstating maintenance grants.
- Introducing free school meals for all primary school pupils.
- Bringing back the Education Maintenance Allowance for 16-18 year olds.
- Reversing the cuts to school budgets and introducing a fairer funding formula.
- Making lifelong learning free: removing fees from adult learning.
- Investing in quality apprenticeships and reversing cuts to UnionLearn.
- A price cap on school uniforms.
- A new system of measuring school performance including abolishing Ofsted.

## Transport

- Bringing our railways back into public ownership and reopening branch line closures.
- Ending the expansion of driver only operations.
- Introducing legal duties to improve accessibility for disabled people.
- Reverse the cuts made to 3,000 bus routes since 2010 and funding new ones.
- Reopening branch line closures on the railways
- Enable local councils to bring bus services into public hands.
- Free bus travel for under 25s.
- Protecting free bus passes for pensioners.

## Housing

- Building 100,000 council homes a year.
- One million affordable homes to be built over 5 years.
- A low-cost home ownership scheme: discounted so mortgage payments are no more than a third of average local incomes.
- Making safe homes for all with sprinklers fitted in high-rise blocks.
- Giving tenants a vote on all proposed regeneration schemes.
- Scrapping section 21 no-fault evictions and establishing tenants' unions.
- Committed to 'Warm Homes for All', with loft insulation and double glazing.
- Suspend 'Right to Buy' and allow councils to re-purchase private-rented homes.
- Giving renters the right to have pets.

## Crime and Justice

- Abolish employment tribunal fees.
- Introduce a no-fault divorce procedure.
- Ensuring that public facing workers are protected whilst doing their jobs by toughening the law against abuse and violence.
- Reverse all cuts to legal aid-funded Early Legal Help within the first 100 days of a government.
- A new era for Law Centres – with funding for community-based solicitors.
- Immediately re-establish early advice entitlements in the Family Courts.
- Open inquiries into Orgreave and blacklisting, and release all papers relating to the Shrewsbury 24 trials and the 37 Cammell Laird shipyard workers.
- Reintroduce funding for the preparation of judicial review cases.

## Supporting Families

- A Sure Start centre in every community.
- 30 hours free childcare a week for all 2-4 year olds.
- Additional childcare hours to be available at affordable, subsidised rates.
- Free school meals for all primary-age children.
- Creating a National Care Service with coverage for all over 65s.
- Free, fast broadband connection to every home.
- Ending the benefit cap and the two child limit.
- A new Fair Food Act aiming to halve food bank usage within its first year of office.
- A price cap on school uniforms.



**You're better off  
with Labour**

## Social Security and Pensions

- Scrap Universal Credit, end sanctions and replace it with a system that ends poverty.
- Introducing a National Care Service, linked in with our NHS.
- Free social care provisions for all over 65-year olds.
- Reject further rises to the pension age and develop a flexible policy that respects contributions, variations in life expectancy and working conditions.
- Action to support WASPI women - extend pension credits and explore options for further transitional protections.
- Protect the triple lock state pension guarantee, winter fuel allowance and free bus travel.
- Implement the Ethical Care Charter, ending 15-minute care visits and providing care workers with paid travel time.
- Increase the Carer's Allowance for unpaid full-time carers.
- Reinstate free TV licenses for over 75s.
- Legislate so that accrued rights to basic state pension cannot be changed, but future benefits can be.

## Equalities

- Closing the gender pay gap.
- A Commissioner to tackle domestic and sexual violence.
- Close detention centres.
- Training on LGBT issues for all teachers and health professionals.
- Introduce an equal pay audit to tackle the pay gap for Black and Asian workers.
- Giving British Sign Language full recognition as a language.
- Appoint global ambassadors for women's rights, LGBT rights and religious freedom.

## Climate and Environment

- Tackle the climate emergency and meeting our international obligations including investing in a £250 billion Green Transformation Fund.
- Protect our environment, creating new parks and urban green spaces.
- Create 450,000 jobs by installing energy saving measures such as loft insulation and double glazing in almost all of the UK's 27 million homes.
- Legislating for a new Clean Air Act to tackle toxic air
- Investment in a low carbon energy system with solar, offshore and onshore wind and tidal.
- Ban fracking.
- Stop the sale of County Farms.
- Public ownership of energy providers.

## Brexit

- Preventing a disastrous 'No Deal' Brexit.
- Negotiating a sensible leave deal that protects our rights and the economy with the EU within three months and then putting that deal to the public within six months in a referendum alongside the option to remain.
- A Labour negotiated deal would include: a new UK-EU customs union, a close relationship with the Single Market, protections of the Good Friday Agreement with no hard border, securing the permanent rights EU nationals in the UK and UK nationals in Europe, and guarantees of workers' rights and environmental protections.

#VoteLabour

**Usdaw**  
*Union of Shop, Distributive  
and Allied Workers*

ULF LPM 1119 Nov 2019

Published and promoted by Paddy Lillis, General Secretary,  
Usdaw, 188 Wilmslow Rd, Manchester M14 6LJ;  
On behalf of The Labour Party, Southside, 105 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QT.