



Manifesto 2016

A Wales that Works for you



Summary

Welsh Liberal
Democrats 
Democratiaid
Rhyddfrydol Cymru

Our Vision for Wales



Our vision for 21st Century Wales is straight forward. Wales should be a dynamic, innovative and vibrant economy; a nation, proud of our past yet confident of our future and our place in the world.

To get there, politics in Wales needs nothing short of a revolution.

Time and time again, people have told us they feel let down by an out-of-touch Government in Cardiff Bay. The Welsh Liberal Democrats share this frustration. We still believe that decisions need to be made closer to people, as that is the best way to deliver our vital public services. But in 17 years of continuous Labour Government, they have failed to get even the basics right.

People have similar aspirations now as they did when our National Assembly was first established. As a minimum, they expect their government to deliver effective public services. But we all had hoped for more – innovative policies enabling Wales to outperform its neighbours. We have been sorely disappointed on both counts.

It is time for Wales to have politicians that listen and then work to solve problems.



Welsh Liberal Democrats

A Wales that works for you



This manifesto is a roadmap for an ambitious, optimistic and pioneering Wales, based on our values and our nation's needs.

- We all want NHS staff to have the time to care for our loved ones, which is why the Welsh Liberal Democrats will ensure safe staffing levels across the NHS, by putting **more nurses** in our hospitals and in our communities.
- We all want teachers to have the time to teach our children properly, which is why the Welsh Liberal Democrats will deliver **smaller class sizes** in our schools.
- We all want secure jobs and homes to build a better life, which is why the Welsh Liberal Democrats will create an **Opportunity Economy** that helps businesses to grow and assists people to buy their own homes. We believe that if you have ambition, you should have the best opportunity to succeed.

For over 150 years, Welsh Liberals have fought for fairness on behalf of local communities. We're still doing that today. We used our influence in the Assembly to secure major investment in schools through our Pupil Premium, thousands of new apprenticeships, and improved access to life-saving NHS treatments. These were all policies delivered despite being in opposition with five AMs.

The more votes and AMs we have, the more we can do for you. And, never forget, it was the Welsh Liberal Democrats who fought the outrageous £10,000 Assembly Member pay hike.

Welsh Liberal Democrats are the outsiders, working on the inside. We are the outsiders, working on your side.

We understand that people are increasingly fed up of politicians lecturing them. This manifesto turns that on its head; it's a manifesto full of fresh ideas and ambition that shows we are listening.

This is a manifesto for Wales - a Wales that works for you.



Kirsty Williams, Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats

A Wales that Works for You

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Our Vision for the Economy



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I have hopes for my future. Yes, I want work for now but I don't want my career to be washed out in 10 years' time because the Welsh Government lacks the foresight to plan for the jobs of the future. It is time for a government that is ambitious for Wales, not one that harks back to the past.

- Caitlin, Newport

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“

We all want secure jobs and homes to build a better life. The Welsh Liberal Democrats will create an Opportunity Economy that helps businesses to thrive. We believe that if you have ambition, you should have the best opportunity to succeed.

The economic challenges facing Wales didn't develop over a single Assembly Term but now is the time to get real. We are facing a crisis in our steel industry, the lowest wages in Britain and initiative after initiative from Welsh Government that just isn't helping. We need a long-term 'Sustainable Growth Strategy' that creates a resilient economy, where no-one is left behind. That means tackling the structural problems in our economy - creating a business environment that faces out to the world and has the confidence to make Welsh products and services globally successful. We need to support our key industries, steel chief amongst them. Only then will the Welsh Liberal Democrat ambition of an **Opportunity Economy** be realised.



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- Eluned Parrott, candidate for Cardiff Central

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Establish a Welsh Development bank to support small businesses

To change the fate of the Welsh economy, we will set up a Welsh Development Bank with three, clear aims; to bring together finance and support for small businesses seeking to grow; to develop export markets for Welsh businesses; and to draw in funding for major infrastructure projects.

2 Create a transport, digital and social infrastructure fit for the modern world

Accessible and affordable infrastructure is vital in helping to reduce isolation and ensure people can access services. We will look not just at transport infrastructure, but digital and social infrastructure too.

Public transport is expensive and often infrequent. We will create regional transport authorities to meet local need by re-regulating the buses, deliver major projects like the South Wales metro, and improve connections so you can get to work on time.

The digital revolution has changed every aspect of our lives. Wales has the lowest level of superfast broadband of anywhere in the UK and unacceptably poor levels of mobile coverage. The current snail's pace of delivery will not be tolerated by the Welsh Liberal Democrats, and we'll hold negotiations with BT Openreach for a timetable of delivery. We will work with businesses, OFCOM, infrastructure owners and network operators to improve mobile coverage and digital inclusion across Wales.

3 Building a skilled modern workforce by investing in apprenticeships and universities

The success of the Welsh economy must be measured by the opportunities we create for everyone. We've secured new apprenticeships for 5,000 young people in Wales. We will continue this momentum by creating tens of thousands of new apprenticeship places. We will equip Welsh workers with the skills they need by supporting in-work training and build a highly skilled, modern workforce to help Wales prepare for the future. We will encourage entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity by investing in technology transfer from our universities and colleges to create new 'Made in Wales' businesses, with the capacity to create jobs for now and for future generations.

Fact: Wales' economy is dramatically lagging behind the rest of the UK – our employment is lower than England and Scotland; we have the least productive economy in the UK; and the highest child poverty levels outside London. (Source: StatsWales)

Our Vision for Education



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I don't want my son taught in an over-crowded classroom. I trust teachers to know what is best for my child and I want them to have the time, resources and freedom to be able to do their jobs properly.

”

- **Kate, Cardiff**

“

We know that a good education sets a child up for life. Their achievements, skills, even their future happiness, hinge on giving children the very best start in life. We will place our trust in educators and make sure that teachers have the freedom to teach and leaders have the ability to lead their schools to success.

"We also have to make sure education is accessible for all, meaning our further and higher education systems have to be there to support people of all ages and build on research to help our economy grow.



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- **Aled Roberts, lead candidate for North Wales**

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Reduce infant class sizes to 25

Class sizes in Wales are some of the highest in the developed world, yet evidence shows that children do better in smaller classes, particularly at an early age. We would introduce a 'Class Sizes Reduction Fund' to ensure that infant classes normally contain no more than 25 pupils, to give teachers the time to focus on a child's individual needs, which we believe is central to raising standards.

2 Expand the Pupil Premium

We believe every child deserves a great start in life and are determined to make sure our education system nurtures the best in everyone. Wales performs worse than the rest of the UK in international rankings, schools are underfunded and too many children are failing to learn the skills they need.

We have already secured over £282m for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, through our Welsh Pupil Premium, giving over 65,000 children each year the extra support they need to get ahead in life. The Welsh Liberal Democrats will continue to increase this funding to close the gap between children from poorer and wealthier backgrounds from the early years upwards and ensure schools are properly funded.

3 Increase access to university

The Labour Government's tuition fees policy is draining our universities of funding and leaving students without the support they need. We recognise that it is living costs, not tuition fees, which are the biggest barrier to people applying to go to university. We will introduce a 'Student Living Support Grant' for all Welsh domiciled pupils, no matter where they study.

Fact: International rankings show that schools in Wales perform worst in the UK in reading, maths, and science.

(Source: OECD Programme for International Student Assessment)

Our Vision for Health and Social Care



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My late husband was recently in hospital. I saw that some staff were so overworked that they struggled to give basic care, like giving him a glass of water when needed. I'm proud of our NHS, but the staff shouldn't be put under pressure like that – it is obvious, something is really wrong.

”

- Janet, Swansea

“

Wales' NHS has been used as a political football for too long. We would establish an independent NHS Commission to look at how our future health services are delivered.

For too long patients' views have been side-lined. Our plans for the NHS have your views at heart, which means more nurses on our wards, better mental health services and prompt appointments with your GP at a time that suits you.

”



- Dr Victor Babu, candidate for Clwyd West

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Ensure there are more nurses on Welsh hospital wards

Nurses in Wales have more patients to care for than any other part of the UK. We believe nurses must have the time they need to care for our loved ones, so that patients receive the treatment they deserve.

Kirsty Williams' More Nurses Bill, which recently became law, makes Wales the first country in Europe to introduce safe staffing levels. We will build on this success by expanding this law to include maternity wards, mental health wards and community care teams.

2 Improve access to your GP

Too often people in Wales cannot get an appointment with their GP. We believe that patients should be guaranteed the best treatment, in the right place, at the right time to meet their health needs. We will invest £10m in a GP Access Fund to improve access to general practice including through extended opening hours and innovative ways of providing care services.

3 End mental health discrimination

For too long mental health has been stigmatised and ignored. Waiting times for young people with mental ill-health in Wales are getting worse under Labour. We will legislate to put mental health care on an equal footing with physical health in our NHS and reduce waiting times.

Fact: Nearly 40% of people say it is difficult to see their GP. (Source: National Survey for Wales health report)

Our Vision for Housing



“

I'm 28, work full time on a reasonable salary and I'm struggling to save up for a deposit. I look at my parents' generation, and everyone could afford a home at my age. My generation have to delay our plans, whether that is starting a family or putting down roots, in a way our parents wouldn't have ever considered. Some days it seems like I'll never have a home of my own, because I'm paying so much in rent and fees.

”

- Emma, Cardiff

“

For too long Wales hasn't been seen as a place where people can fulfil their dreams and ambitions: we need to change that. We are the only party that will make sure an extra 20,000 affordable houses are built in Wales by 2020, while also introducing support to help people achieve their dream of owning their own home.

”



- Peter Black, lead candidate for
South Wales West

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Fund 20,000 extra affordable homes by 2021

For decades, successive Conservative and Labour governments have not built enough homes, leaving us with a crippling undersupply of housing while demand for social housing has soared. We believe that every person should be able to provide a secure environment for their family. We will set a target of 20,000 affordable homes, increasing the Social Housing Grant from £35 million to £75 million per year to provide funding.

2 Help first time buyers get on the ladder

Saving for a deposit and securing a loan is a huge barrier before even hoping to buy a first home. We will help first-time buyers to get on the property ladder through an innovative new 'Rent to Own' model. First-time buyers will steadily build up a share in their home through monthly payments equivalent to rent until they own the property outright after 30 years, just like a normal mortgage. We will aim to deliver at least 2,500 Rent to Own homes over an Assembly term.

3 Protect and empower tenants, especially those who are vulnerable

Tenants should not expect poor standards, poor maintenance, or weaker rights than homeowners. We will take action to protect vulnerable people in the private housing sector, with a cap on letting agency fees and rent increases, a dedicated housing tribunal with the power to mediate on disputes, and more information for tenants and homeowners on their rights and responsibilities.

Fact: The average house price is 6.6 times the average annual salary in Wales. (Source: Office of National Statistics)

Our Vision for the Environment and Energy



“ We've all seen the floods across Wales in recent months. We know that climate change is happening now, and we have to take action now to make sure it doesn't get worse. ”

- Rhys, Aberystwyth

“ Our changing climate affects all of us. We must prepare for the possible impacts, such as flooding as well as taking action to reduce emissions. The Welsh Liberal Democrats have always been the most environmentally aware of the major Welsh parties and we are fully committed to the fight against climate change, which means investing in renewable energy and green jobs. ”



- William Powell, lead candidate for Mid and West Wales

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Enshrine renewable energy and greenhouse gas targets in law

Tackling climate change offers an opportunity to build a stronger, greener economy here in Wales. At present global warming is still projected to be well above the threshold set by scientists to avoid irreversible damage. We will set a target for net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and to produce all our electricity from renewable sources by 2025, with a carbon impact assessment for all new laws to assess their environmental impact.

2 Support community energy projects

Small and micro-scale energy ownership and generation is vital to empower communities and individuals to meet their energy needs from diverse sources, especially solar and hydropower. We will encourage this by ensuring microgeneration projects are considered with a presumption in favour of development, given priority access to the grid and enabled to sell energy within their own locality.

3 Introduce a drinks container Deposit Return Scheme

Wales throws away far too much. We need to make sure we minimise waste by reducing, reusing, and recycling wherever possible. We will introduce a Deposit Return Scheme, so customers will receive a small cash payment when they when they return drinks bottles to a collection point.

Fact: Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales rose by 10% between 2012 and 2013, while emissions fell in England and Scotland.

(Source: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory)

Our Vision for Communities, Social Justice and Local Government



“

It was devastating when the last local pub was closed, as the post office had before. But what was worse was knowing there was nothing our community could do to stop it. The local council was no more than a talking shop, distant and unaccountable when we needed them the most.

”

- Jackie, Llangattock

“

Welsh Liberal Democrats believe in putting people in charge of what happens in their community and in re-invigorating local councils so they deliver for Wales. We'll make sure communities can come together and protect the assets that make their community a home, by protecting the last pub, the village shop, or the local swimming pool.



”

- Cllr Chris Holley, candidate for Swansea West

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Give more powers to communities

We want to empower local communities and promote a flourishing system of democratic local government where power exists at the most viable local level. We will give more powers to communities by devolving new powers to community councils and give local authorities new powers over public health, regeneration, strategic transport and economic development.

2 Reform local government to make it more accountable and transparent

We will introduce a fair voting system for all local elections to ensure people get the politicians they voted for and deliver more accountable, transparent councils and better public services.

3 Enable you to protect vital community assets

We will strengthen the capacity of communities to protect local interests by passing a Community Bill of Rights to empower communities to take initiative over their local services and assets. This will include a 'Right to Bid' to ensure that assets of community value can be kept in public use and remain an integral part of community life. We will introduce the 'Right to Build' to allow local communities to propose small-scale, site-specific, community-led developments, putting communities in charge of building the housing they need. We will give community councils the automatic right to bid to take over services that local authorities are closing.

Fact:

11 pubs close every month in Wales – while in England over 1,200 pubs have been protected as assets of community value and forty-five communities have successfully taken ownership of their local pub.

(Source: CAMRA)

Our Vision for Rural Communities



“

The Labour Government in Cardiff Bay has forgotten about us, just as the Tory government in London has turned its back on Wales. They don't understand what it's like to live in rural Wales. We feel left behind, as more and more of our services close, and more projects are announced for the English cities - we need someone to speak up for us.

”

- Gurleen, Llandrindod Wells

“

Welsh Liberal Democrats have represented rural communities for over 100 years – we are as much a part of rural life, as rural life is a part of us. Rural Wales is in our DNA, which is why we want to see prosperity across all of Wales, not just near the M4.



”

- Elizabeth Evans, candidate for Ceredigion

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Increase recruitment into rural GP surgeries

One of the most pressing concerns anyone has is getting the care they need, when they need it, where they need it. We are fighting to protect local health services, so that people in rural areas do not have to travel miles to access care. We will establish a centre of excellence in rural healthcare, focus recruitment into GP surgeries, and provide more placements in rural practices and hospitals.

2 Increase the number of rural apprenticeships

Young people in our rural communities need to have access to proper careers and jobs. We want to see our rural areas as places of opportunity. We will work with the agriculture, renewable energy and tourism sectors to supply more apprenticeships in rural Wales.

3 Support rural services, like banks, schools, broadband and mobile infrastructure

Just because someone lives and works in rural Wales does not mean that they do not need or want high speed broadband. The Welsh Liberal Democrats believe modern infrastructure is a must everywhere in Wales. A thriving rural community needs local services and community facilities. We understand the changes needed to support a living, working countryside. We have stood up for rural Wales for over 100 years, and will maintain our commitment to rural Wales in the next Assembly. We will encourage community budgeting to combine services to keep them in communities. We will support community banking and deliver broadband connectivity to more remote rural areas by allowing use of Welsh Government land and promoting alternative technologies.

Fact: 35% of rural communities in Wales have poor or very poor broadband quality.

(Source: Wales Rural Observatory)

Our Vision for Agriculture



“ Governments have let down farmers for decades. Our nation's food security depends on farmers, but we have seen farm gate prices fall to such low levels in recent years, along with a growing burden of red tape, that it is placing rural livelihoods at risk. ”

- **David, Llanbister**

“ Welsh Liberal Democrats are passionate about protecting Wales' proud farming tradition in order to protect the land and natural environment, safeguard food security and create flourishing rural communities. We must ensure that farmers are incentivised to farm in an environmentally-sensitive way and promote the benefits of European Union membership for agriculture, such as the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), Rural Development Plan (RDP) and access to tariff free export markets. ”



- **Jane Dodds, candidate for Montgomeryshire**

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Promote share farming and succession planning, ensuring the survival of the family farm

More needs to be done to support and encourage young people to enter the farming industry. We will promote succession planning to combine the experience of the older generation with the energy of the younger generation to drive business forward and encourage share farming to help young people get their foot on the farming ladder.

2 Ensure dedicated support for hill farming

Hill farmers are vital to the well-being of their local communities and the management of our upland environment, yet they remain unappreciated and unrewarded by a government that ignores farmers' role as stewards of the countryside. We would deliver a dedicated 'Areas of Natural Constraint' scheme to support those farming in moorland areas and help them diversify into more profitable areas of farming.

3 Provide more small-scale grants to farmers to enable them to diversify, reduce their carbon emissions, and improve their resilience and competitiveness

Effective agri-environment schemes are vital to protect farmers from market volatility and reward high standards of environmental practice. Sadly, Glastir has been a source of confusion and frustration for many farmers, with low take up and an over bureaucratic application process. We need to simplify existing schemes and ensure that farmers receive payments on time. We would offer more small-scale, accessible grants for farmers to invest in animal welfare, reducing carbon emissions, flood mitigation, more efficient IT and increased diversity and profitability.

Fact: Average farm business income in Wales is forecast to decrease by nearly 16% this year, and 40% for dairy farms. (Source: StatsWales)

Our Vision for Taxation



“ I'm happy to pay my fair share in tax to pay for decent schools and hospitals, but I also need to make sure I have enough left at the end of the month to be able to save for the future. There must be a way to get a fairer balance. ”

- **Chris, Montgomeryshire**

“ Liberal Democrats in government delivered tax varying powers to Wales as we believe this will bring much needed accountability to our political system. This will enable Wales to be more creative in its approach to tax and more responsive to Wales' needs. Our vision of an Opportunity Economy looks to reduce the tax burden where possible to help people get on in life, while ensuring we have the financial resources to deliver top quality public services. ”



- **Veronica German, lead candidate for South Wales East**

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Reduce the tax burden for Welsh workers

We will not increase income tax. Instead, our long-term aim will be to reduce the income tax burden for the low and middle income earners when Government expenditure is increasing again.

2 Cut council tax for energy efficient homes

Poorly insulated homes means higher bills for residents and holds us back in the fight against climate change. Council tax is already a high burden for many. We will cut council tax by £100 for homes that have their energy efficiency rating improved by two bands or more.

3 Ensure business rates drive positive investment and support economic growth

Business rates are one of the greatest fixed costs for start-up businesses and are a huge burden for existing business. We will establish a relief fund for new occupants of empty premises and we will remove plant and machinery from the rateable value of premises, which will support many businesses, including our steel industry.

Fact: Over 1.2 million people will have had a £905 tax cut since 2010 because Liberal Democrats secured higher personal allowances. (Source: Treasury Figures)

Our Vision for Political Reform



“

I don't have a lot of time for politics or politicians - they all just seem to be out for themselves, never listening. I have to work hard in my job. I expect the people who represent me to do the same. I'm looking for someone with a plan to clean up politics and make sure politicians listen to the people who put them there.

”

- **Luke, Blackwood**

“

People are sick to death of politicians lecturing them about what to think, while ignoring the views of the very people they are meant to represent. In contrast, we listen to our communities, which is why we were the only party to vote against the outrageous £10k hike in Assembly Members' pay. The system needs a shake-up; we will give people the power to recall their Assembly Member, if they are found to have behaved dishonourably.

”



- **Brendan D'Cruz, candidate for Blaenau Gwent**

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Restore trust in politics

Politics and politicians have a bad reputation - from expenses scandals, to voting for pay increases, many politicians have lost the respect of their constituents. We want to clean up politics and make our politicians accountable to the people who elected them. We will enable you to recall your AM for wrongdoing, clean up the Ministerial Code, and link AM pay to public sector pay.

2 Ensure fairer elections with fair votes

Our voting system needs to change to deliver maximum power to voters. We will lower the voting age in Wales to 16, strengthen citizenship education, establish a National Youth Assembly for Wales, and introduce a fair voting system.

3 Deliver more powers for Wales

We have always been at the forefront of devolution. We endorse the Silk Commission's proposals in full as the next step in Wales' devolution but this does not represent the sum total of our ambitions for devolution. The Welsh Liberal Democrats will continue to seek further powers and Home Rule for Wales, within a Federal UK.

Fact: Assembly Members voted to increase their salary by £10,000, an increase of 18% - only the Welsh Liberal Democrats voted against. (Source: National Assembly voting record)

Our Vision for the Welsh Language and Culture



“

Wales has a rich culture and heritage, but ever more frequently it is becoming difficult to participate in it. Funding for the arts is always the first thing to be cut, with theatres, libraries and museums closing all around us - this a quick fix to save pennies at the cost of losing our culture. Our music and our culture is intrinsic to our wellbeing.

The Welsh language is important to us as part of that culture. We always wanted our family to learn Welsh but it's hard to find the chance to be involved and use the language in our community. Everyone should be able to live, work and study in Welsh if they want.

”

- **Gretchen and Danny, Rhyl**

“

Everyone should feel a part of our beautiful and diverse culture and heritage, and we must make sure that our visitors can benefit too. We have to stop the decline of cultural events, and help support venues to become sustainable.

Speaking Welsh shouldn't be restricted to certain communities, but all people living in Wales should be enabled and encouraged to speak Welsh if they wish to - it has to be promoted as a living language, one that everyone should be able to learn and use.



”

- **Sara Lloyd Williams, candidate for Arfon**

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Create a Wales Cultural Endowment to fund the arts

Wales has a bold and dynamic cultural life, which all people in Wales should feel connected to. In order to support a rich cultural life in Wales, we will create a Wales Cultural Endowment to build a sustainable funding base for the arts. We will establish the endowment and, over time, it will build it to a level where it can be used to fund all non-commercial cultural events in Wales, relieving pressure on Welsh Government budgets.

2 Ensure everyone has the opportunity to learn Welsh

The Welsh language is an inherent strand of the fabric of our country but still feels inaccessible to too many. We believe that learning Welsh should be open to all. We will reform the teaching of Welsh in English medium schools, launch an intensive national campaign to encourage more parents to choose Welsh language education and make sure oral language skills suitable for the workplace are embedded in the Welsh language curriculum - to ensure everyone who wishes to speak Welsh can do so.

3 Campaign to cut VAT on tourism

Our culture, history and heritage all act as powerful attractions for tourists from the rest of the UK and around the world. At least 100,000 people are employed in the industry in Wales. To support this important industry, we want to see the VAT cut on visitor accommodation and attractions from 20% to 5%.

Fact: At least 100,000 people are employed in the tourism industry in Wales, 9% of the workforce.

(Source: StatsWales)

Our Vision for an Internationalist Wales



“ It's awful seeing politicians demonising refugees, they are innocent people who have been forced out of their homes to find safety. We need to share responsibility with our European neighbours, not shy away from it.

”

- Jen, Vale of Glamorgan

“ We believe Wales should take our place on the world stage, and work together through the UK, EU and UN in order to spread peace and stability worldwide. We believe we are stronger together, and are better off leading in the EU, not leaving it. We believe we must show compassion to those less well off than ourselves, in a world full of chaos and turmoil.



”

- Rhys Taylor, candidate for Rhondda

The Welsh Liberal Democrats will:

1 Campaign for Wales to lead, not leave, the EU

With the referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union fast approaching, Welsh Liberal Democrats are proud to be united for IN. Wales benefits from EU membership, receiving £144 million more every year in investment than membership costs us. We have always combined our recognition of the essential role of EU membership with a constant drive to make EU institutions more democratic, efficient, and transparent.

2 Double the international development budget

We are stronger when we work together. In Westminster, Liberal Democrats were responsible for ensuring the UK meets the UN target of pledging 0.7% of GDP towards foreign aid, and enshrined this in law. Wales should play our role in international development, building genuine partnerships with the developing world, involving marginalised groups in Wales, supporting cultural exchanges, and helping people out of poverty. We will cement Wales' position as a globally responsible nation.

3 Establish Wales as a 'Nation of Sanctuary'

We are privileged to live in relative security and liberty - and we must show our values of compassion to those in greatest need. Immigration and asylum are the responsibility of the UK Government, however there is much more that could be done to create a culture of hospitality and welcome for people seeking sanctuary. We will use devolved powers over equalities, housing and social care to make sure that all people living in Wales, including asylum seekers and refugees, are treated with equal respect and care across the country.

Fact: Almost a third of doctors in Wales studied outside the UK. (Source: General Medical Council)

Welsh Liberal Democrats

A Wales that works for you

