

Recent Manifesto pledges in favour of devolution

The [2019 Conservative Party Manifesto](#)

"We remain committed to devolving power to people and places across the UK. Our ambition is for full devolution across England, building on the successful devolution of powers to city region mayors, Police and Crime Commissioners and others, so that every part of our country has the power to shape its own destiny. We will publish an English Devolution White Paper setting out our plans next year."¹

Labour Party, [National Policy Forum](#)

"The UK remains more centralised than virtually any comparable country. There remains a monopoly of power in Westminster, which desperately needs to be spread across every town, city, region and nation of the United Kingdom. It's clear we need a new constitutional settlement and a large-scale devolution of power and resources to address these regional inequalities... the future of devolution must also be guided by the principle that power for making decisions is held at the lowest level necessary so that those who are most affected can have the most influence."²

Liberal Democrats, [What Liberal Democrats Believe](#), Autumn 2021

"We aim to disperse power as widely as possible throughout society. This implies decentralising power to local government and to the nations and regions of the UK. The UK's departure from the EU has destabilised even further the uncomfortable, and sometimes adversarial, relationships between the different governments within the UK. Liberal Democrats are committed to a federal UK in which power and resources are shared fairly and genuinely between its component nations, while retaining the strong strategic advantages of the Union, and the unique powers of local government."³

SNP, [SNP Manifesto 2021](#)

"We remain committed to participative democracy and to creating space for genuine public involvement in decision making. Going forward we will run annual Citizens' Assemblies to look at some of the more complex issues we face as a country. We will bring together a cross section of people from across our country to discuss topics such as reform of Council Tax and the role of local government, assisted dying and decriminalisation of drugs... We will also encourage local Citizens' Assemblies that consider community issues and propose local solutions."⁴

¹ Get Brexit Done, Conservative Manifesto, December 2019.

² Devolution and the Constitution after coronavirus, National Policy Forum 2020, Justice and Home Affairs.

³ What Liberal Democrats Believe, Online Autumn Conference, September 2021

⁴ Scotland's Future, SNP, 2021.

Plaid Cymru, [Manifesto 2021](#)

“The Covid pandemic has demonstrated that local authorities are our most effective arm of government in terms of policy delivery, whether in the fields of public health, education, or economic intervention. Accordingly, we will seek a new collaborative relationship between the Welsh Government and the 22 Welsh unitary authorities on the basis of co-production in policy creation and delivery.”⁵

⁵ Let us face the future together, Plaid Cymru, 2021.