

Election 2010: Manifesto commitments for the Voluntary and Community Sector



The Labour Party would:

- Promote greater public involvement in how Lottery proceeds are spent on good causes. They would return lottery funding to all four good causes, following the Olympic diversion.
- Support the role of mutuals, co-operatives and social enterprises, particularly in public services. They would expand support through the Co-operative Party, Business Link, enterprise education and the Regional Development Agencies.
- Look at new ways to support giving and philanthropy.
- Set up a 'Social Investment Wholesale Bank' using £75 million of Dormant Accounts money.
- Promote the transfer of buildings and land to the ownership or control of voluntary and community groups. They would also introduce a new fund for community ownership in 2010-11 for local pubs and social clubs.
- Launch a National Youth Community Service, with the goal that all young people contribute at least 50 hours to their communities by the age of 19.

Want to know more? Visit
www.labour.org.uk/manifesto

The Conservative Party would:

- Restore the National Lottery to its original purpose, reduce administration costs. They would ensure 100% of Big Lottery Fund goes directly to the voluntary and community sector. The Big Lottery Fund would receive 40% of total lottery funding.
- Support the role of mutuals, co-operatives and social enterprises, particularly in public services. Would encourage employee-led co-operatives and give communities the 'right to bid' to take over services currently run by the state.
- Look at new ways to support giving and philanthropy.
- Set up an independent 'Big Society' Bank, using Dormant Accounts money, leveraging private sector investment.
- Bring in a "community right to buy" scheme to give local people the power to protect any community assets that are threatened with closure.
- Introduce a National Citizen Service, a two month summer programme for 16-year olds, delivered by independent charities, social enterprises and businesses.
- Review the criminal records and vetting and barring regimes.
- Establish an Annual Big Society Day to celebrate the work of neighbourhood groups.

Want to know more? Visit
www.conservatives.com/manifesto

The Liberal Democrat Party would:

- Change the way the National Lottery is taxed – moving to a gross profits tax.
- Support the role of mutuals, co-operatives and social enterprises, particularly in public services. They would legislate to bring legal structures up to date and would appoint a Minister for 'mutuals'.
- Would introduce 'easy giving accounts' to allow people to operate charitable giving accounts alongside their current accounts.
- Would reform Gift Aid to operate at a single rate of 23 per cent.
- Review the criminal records regime ensuring volunteers need only one record that is portable, rather than multiple checks for each activity.
- Restore the right to protest by reforming the Public Order Act to safeguard non-violent protest.
- Encourage local authorities to provide youth services in partnership with young people and the voluntary sector.
- Encouraging participation in public services through elected Local Health Boards who would have the freedom to commission services for local people from a range of different types of provider, including staff co-operatives.

Want to know more? Visit
www.libdems.org.uk/manifesto