

Chartered Institute of Taxation / Association of Taxation Technicians – 2017 General Election tax tracker

As the parties publish their manifestos ahead of the General Election on 8 June, we highlight the tax policies being put forward



	Conservatives	Labour	SNP	Liberal Democrats
Personal taxes	<p>Increase income tax personal allowance to £12,500, higher rate to £50,000 by 2020</p> <p>2015 manifesto pledges of no rise in national insurance/income tax replaced by statement of intent to lower tax and simplify tax system</p> <p>Introduce one-year holiday on Employer National Insurance Contributions for firms hiring service personnel after they leave service</p>	<p>Introduce new 45 per cent of tax for those earning £80,000 and 50 per cent rate for those earning above £123,000</p> <p>No rises in income tax for those earning below £80,000 a year</p> <p>No increase in personal National Insurance Contributions</p> <p>Introduce “excessive pay levy”, a 2.5% charge on personal earnings above £330,000 and 5% above £500,000</p>	<p>Increase additional rate of income tax from 45p to 50p on incomes over £150,000 (across the UK)</p> <p>Oppose any increases in National Insurance</p> <p>Abolish married couple’s allowance</p> <p>Support reversal of reductions to bank levy and introduce a tax on bankers’ bonuses</p>	<p>1p increase across income tax rates (ring-fenced for NHS and social care in England). Develop dedicated health & care tax as long-term replacement for 1p income tax rise</p> <p>Abolish married couple’s allowance</p> <p>Long-term aim to raise employee NI threshold to income tax threshold</p> <p>Reverse increase in the inheritance tax threshold</p> <p>Return Capital Gains Tax to 18% and 28% and scrap Capital Gains Tax extended relief</p> <p>Full-scale review of burden of taxation and spending between generations to ensure greater fairness</p>
Business taxes	<p>Reduce Corporation Tax (CT) to 17% by 2020</p> <p>Devolve CT to Northern Ireland (NI) when NI Executive proves fiscal stability</p> <p>“Full review” of business rates system to reflect trends in online shopping, more frequent revaluations, explore introduction of self-assessment in valuation process</p> <p>Further incentives under the Enterprise Investment Scheme and Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme to help inventors/start-up businesses</p> <p>Building upon tax arrangements for creative industries, including creative industries tax credits scheme</p>	<p>Increase headline rate of CT to 21% in 2018/19, 24% in 2019-20 and 26% in 2020-21</p> <p>Reinstate the small profits corporation tax rate</p> <p>Review of business tax reliefs and tax-planning structures like trusts</p> <p>Scrap quarterly reporting for businesses with a turnover of under £83,000</p> <p>Reform business rates, tailored measures for rural councils and extend £1,000 pub relief to small music venues</p> <p>Maintain apprenticeship levy, increasing employer flexibility</p> <p>Introduce financial transactions tax</p>	<p>Oppose further reductions in Corporation Tax</p> <p>Phase in introduction of Quarterly Digital Tax Reporting over five-year period and consider industry calls for exemptions to digital reporting to non-incorporated or VAT-registered businesses</p> <p>Ensure UK government takes action on taxation of late life oil and gas assets/incentivise oil and gas companies diversifying into renewables</p> <p>Double Employment Allowance to ease costs on businesses hiring new workers</p>	<p>Raise corporation tax to 20%</p> <p>Reform corporation tax to benefit smaller businesses & prevent multi-nationals profit shifting. Consult on moving from profit based CT to tax based on sales/turnover</p> <p>Introduce “start-up allowance” for new businesses</p> <p>Review Business Rates to reduce burdens on small businesses, prioritise for future tax cuts</p> <p>Support the Creative Industries Council and tailored industry-specific tax support</p>
Indirect and property taxes	<p>No increases to level of VAT</p> <p>Residents can veto large council tax rises through referenda</p>	<p>No increases to VAT rates, maintain exemptions for children’s clothes, books and newspapers, and public transport fares</p> <p>Remove VAT exemptions for private school fees</p> <p>Increase Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) to 20%</p> <p>Implement sugar tax (soft drinks levy)</p> <p>Undertake review into reforming council tax and business rates, in favour of options such as a land value tax</p> <p>New levy on purchases of UK property by offshore companies/trusts</p>	<p>Oppose VAT increases and back the continuation of VAT-exemption on essential items</p> <p>Examine a reduction in VAT for the hospitality sector</p> <p>Remove VAT from sanitary products</p> <p>Extend VAT exemption to Scotland’s emergency services</p> <p>Freeze Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) increases</p> <p>Review alcohol tax to better reflect alcohol content</p> <p>Secure continued exemption from air passenger taxes on Highlands and Islands flights</p>	<p>Consider implementation of Land Value Taxation</p> <p>Establish a coherent tax and regulatory framework for waste, reinstate landfill tax escalator, extend lower rate, and consult on introducing incineration tax</p> <p>Enable local authorities to levy up to 200% council tax on second homes and ‘buy to leave empty’ investments from overseas</p> <p>Remove requirement to hold local referenda for council tax changes</p> <p>Introduce 5p charge on disposable coffee cups</p> <p>Legalise cannabis and generate tax from sales</p>
Tax compliance	<p>Legislate for tougher regulation of tax advisory firms</p> <p>Take a more proactive approach to transparency and misuse of trusts</p> <p>Improve HMRC’s capabilities to stamp down on smuggling</p> <p>Take further measures to reduce online fraud in VAT</p>	<p>Introduce a Tax Transparency and Enforcement Programme, close down tax loopholes</p> <p>Restore preferred creditor status for HMRC</p> <p>Reduce incentives to self-incorporate by increasing CT</p> <p>Close ‘Mayfair Tax’ (private equity) and Eurobond ‘loopholes’</p> <p>Clamp down on umbrella agencies and the use of Advanced Thin Capitalisation Agreements</p> <p>Strengthen GAAR into a General Anti-Avoidance Rule</p> <p>No public contracts for firms that avoid their taxes</p> <p>Introduce strict standards of transparency for crown dependencies and overseas territories, including a public register of owners, directors, major shareholders and beneficial owners for all companies and trusts</p>	<p>Push for formal, independently chaired review of the Office for Tax Simplification (OTS) recommendations not adopted by UK Government</p> <p>Support moratorium/review of HMRC office closures</p> <p>Beneficial ownership of companies and trusts to be made public</p> <p>Back measures to improve tax transparency of major international companies</p> <p>Support action to tackle international tax avoidance and campaign for new tax treaty with Malawi</p>	<p>Remove distortions, loopholes and excessive reliefs including reforms to Capital Gains Tax and dividend tax relief and refocusing entrepreneurs’ relief</p> <p>Tough action against corporate tax evasion and avoidance, introduce a General Anti-Avoidance Rule</p> <p>Set a target for HMRC to reduce tax gap and invest in staff. Anti-avoidance measures could bring in £2.5bn extra per year</p> <p>Lead international action to ensure global companies pay fair taxes in developing countries, including tightening anti-tax haven rules, requiring large companies to publish tax payments profits in countries of operation</p>

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	Green	UKIP	Plaid Cymru
Personal taxes	<p>Introduce a wealth tax on the top 1% of earners</p> <p>Phase in abolition of the cap on employees' national insurance</p> <p>Inheritance taxed according to the wealth of the recipient</p> <p>End the sale of personal data, such as health or tax records, for commercial or other ends</p>	<p>Raise the income tax personal allowance to at least £13,500 and the higher rate threshold to £55,000 by end of the next parliament</p> <p>Restore the personal allowance to those earning over £100,000 when economic conditions allow</p> <p>No increase in Class Four National Insurance or taxes for the self-employed</p> <p>Raise inheritance tax threshold to £500,000 per person, transferable for a married couple or those in civil partnerships</p>	<p>While not explicitly mentioned in the manifesto, the party backs the introduction of a 50p top rate of tax and increases to the national insurance threshold</p>
Business Taxes	<p>Reinstate higher level of corporation tax for large businesses.</p> <p>Introduce a "Robin Hood tax" on high value transactions in the finance sector</p>	<p>Cut business rates by 20% for with rateable value less than £50,000. 50% cut in business rates for firms in coastal enterprise zones</p> <p>No quarterly tax returns</p> <p>Revoke 1964 London Convention on Fishing to prevent tax revenue losses from fishing and ancillary industries</p>	<p>Devolve corporation tax powers to the Welsh Assembly</p> <p>Targeted tax discounts for new and existing businesses in Wales</p> <p>Review existing system of business rates, with preferred option based on business turnover</p>
Indirect and property taxes	<p>Introduce Land Value Tax trial to encourage use of vacant land and reduce speculation</p> <p>Help first-time buyers by aiming for house price stability and abolishing buy-to-let tax breaks</p> <p>Remove VAT from sanitary products</p>	<p>Remove VAT from hot takeaway food, women's sanitary products and domestic energy bills / domestic fuel</p> <p>Scrap green levies, reducing household energy bills by £170 a year</p> <p>Fund cut in VAT by trading with EU on WTO terms, generating £11bn in import tariffs</p> <p>Freeze air passenger duty. When possible, reduce and scrapping entirely</p> <p>Freeze Insurance Premium Tax</p> <p>Prevent diesel drivers from being penalised through higher taxes, parking fees, or emissions' zone charging. End road tolls</p>	<p>Devolve powers over VAT and Air Passenger Duty to Welsh Assembly</p> <p>Targeted reductions in VAT to boost Welsh tourism industry</p>
Tax compliance	<p>Ensure that everyone "pays their fair share of tax" and there is a crackdown on "tax dodging"</p> <p>Invest in more staff at HMRC to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the body</p>	<p>Close tax loopholes allowing businesses to pay tax in EU or associated country they choose</p> <p>Bring in any further measures necessary to prevent large multinational corporations using aggressive tax avoidance schemes</p>	<p>Oppose the centralisation of HMRC offices in Wales</p>

Northern Ireland parties	
Party	Key tax and related policies
Democratic Unionist	<p>Increase income tax personal allowance</p> <p>Reduce corporation tax to at least 12.5%</p> <p>Back UK wide tax policy improvements to encourage economic growth in Northern Ireland</p> <p>Support efforts to deliver a better deal for Northern Ireland business from the Apprenticeship Levy</p> <p>Maintain Industrial De-Rating and Small Business Rates Relief</p> <p>Abolish Air Passenger Duty</p> <p>Cut VAT for businesses in the tourism industry</p>
Sinn Fein	<p>Secure fiscal powers for Northern Ireland to build a "prosperous and fair economy"</p> <p>Northern Ireland to be designated special status within the EU to ensure continued access to EU markets, funding and support; want a range of fiscal measures to mitigate impact of Brexit including changes to EU fiscal rules, exception to EU State Aid rules</p>
SDLP	<p>Qualified support for devolution of corporation tax to Northern Ireland Executive</p> <p>Abolish Air Passenger Duty</p> <p>Support VAT reduction for tourism industry</p> <p>'Bespoke status' for Northern Ireland keeping the whole of the island of Ireland within the European Economic Area and maintaining the Common Travel Area</p> <p>Oppose cuts to tax credits and benefits</p>
Ulster Unionist	<p>There is very little about tax in the UUP manifesto, which focuses on the party's approach to Brexit negotiations.</p> <p>The party's 2015 manifesto backed devolving and reducing corporation tax, zero tolerance on tax evasion and simplified PAYE processes for small businesses. The party also backs a cut in VAT to boost the tourism sector.</p>
Alliance	<p>Increase income tax-personal allowance</p> <p>Simplification of payment/administration of income tax and national insurance</p> <p>Support International Financial Transactions Tax and retaining UK Banking Levy</p> <p>Review tax relief schemes to ensure they are fit for purpose/not being exploited</p> <p>Reform rules which allow companies to avoid tax in both the UK and developing countries</p> <p>Improve transparency through public reporting of companies' tax activities</p> <p>Wider VAT exemptions including zero-rating sanitary products and sunscreen, and lower rates for hospitality and housing renovation</p> <p>Reduction/abolition of Air Passenger Duty across UK</p>