

Unlock Democracy Manifesto

Unlock Democracy campaigns for real democracy protected by a new constitution. We want a society that ensures equality and justice for all, and a political system that reflects and upholds the values we collectively share.

Our manifesto sets out how we would clean up politics and start to rebuild trust.

We cannot delay. **We must Fix Politics Now.**

This is how we would do it.

- Replace the unrepresentative and outdated First Past the Post voting system.** We want a fair voting system for Westminster and all local elections, so that votes cast will better match seats awarded.
- Scrap the unelected House of Lords and replace it with an elected or partly-elected body.** To become a modern democracy and truly bring our politics into the 21st century, cronies, hereditary peers, and political donors must not have a place in our legislature.
- Take power away from Westminster.** We must devolve power to local communities and give the people a chance to shape their own lives. More decisions and lawmaking needs to happen in town halls, not Whitehall.
- Clean up politics in the UK.** Restrictions must be placed on MPs' second jobs. Dark money must not wash into our politics and electoral finance legislation should be tightened up to prevent this.
- Improve access to the ballot box.** 8 million eligible voters are excluded because they are not registered to vote. A system of Automatic Voter Registration is needed to give these voters their voice back.
- Dump unnecessarily restrictive Voter ID laws.** One voter being turned away on election day is one too many. We want to see the Voter ID requirement scrapped.
- Restore the independence of the Electoral Commission.** The UK's election watchdog should not have to comply with the Government's strategy. Its activities should be free from party influence.
- Introduce overseas constituencies so the voices of UK citizens abroad are heard.** At present, overseas voters are represented by MPs in constituencies people might have left 40 years ago. MPs representing overseas constituencies would ensure those voters' concerns are understood and acted on.

Finally, but **most important of all, Unlock Democracy campaigns for a written constitution** for the United Kingdom.

This constitution would enshrine our rights and freedoms in law, require the government to abide by international law, and lay out the powers of central, devolved and local governments so they cannot be unilaterally withdrawn.