LIBERTY



Vote for Human Rights

About Liberty

- We are a group of ordinary people standing up to power.
- We stand up for people whose rights are being threatened.
- We campaign for everyone in the UK to be treated fairly.

• We campaign for everyone to be treated with dignity and respect.



I Vote for Human Rights



Join the movement

We are asking the Government to:

- Protect our human rights
- Respect our human rights



The **General Election** is coming up. General elections are a time of hope. They are a chance to build the society we all want to live in.

General Election: this is when adults across the UK vote for the people they want to represent them in the Government.





To reach this goal, we are calling on the next Government to protect and respect our human rights.

What we want the next Government to do:

1. Protect everybody's rights and freedoms



Our human rights laws help to protect people every day. But in recent years, politicians have been attacking these laws. We don't want to live in this kind of society.



We looked at the latest polls. Over 8 in 10 people say that the Government must protect everyone's rights and freedoms. They must do this in an equal way.

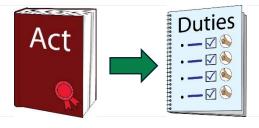
Polls: here this means a survey which asks people in the UK for their opinions about politics.



This means that whoever wins the election must:

 Protect our Human Rights Act.

Human Rights Act: this is a law that sets out the rights and freedoms that everybody in the UK must have.



The Human Rights Act makes sure that **public authorities** have a duty by law to respect our rights.

Public authorities: this means government organisations that carry out work and services for the public.



The Human Rights Act gives us all the power to stand up to public authorities in court if they do not respect our rights.



The next Government must also:

 Make sure that the UK can stay in the European Convention on Human Rights

European Convention on Human Rights: this is an agreement that aims to protect human rights and political freedoms in Europe.



This Convention makes sure that governments face consequences when they treat us badly.



The next Government must also get rid of laws that attack the rights of people who move to the UK.

People who move to the UK: here, this means people who move to the UK because their home country is unsafe. They cannot go back to their home country because their life and freedoms are at risk there.



We want the Government to get rid of these laws:

- Rwanda Act
- Illegal Migration Act
- Nationality and Borders Act

Rwanda Act: this law says that Rwanda is a safe country for refugees. Under this law, the Government could send people who have moved to the UK to Rwanda. This could put them in danger.

Illegal Migration Act: this law takes away the rights of people who move to the UK. It takes away their right to become a British citizen.

Nationality and Borders Act: this sets out the Government's plan for new laws around asylum and immigration. These laws get rid of rights for people who move to the UK.



These laws are shameful. They have taken away basic human rights from people who move to the UK.

2. Treat everybody with dignity and respect



We want the Government to build a society where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. The latest polls show that around **9 in 10** people want this.



For years and years, governments have been trying to solve social issues in the wrong ways.

Governments have been giving police forces more power. People often experience police forces as racist, sexist and violent. They have given them more ways to criminalise people.

Racism: this means treating somebody in an unfair way because of their race or ethnicity.

Sexism: this means treating somebody in an unfair way because of their sex or gender.

Criminalise: here, this means when the Government makes something illegal. This means that certain groups or people are more likely to be treated as criminals by law.



Punishing people is not a good way to solve issues that affect so many people's lives.



Punishing people is not a good way to deal with inequality. It is not a good way to deal with **poverty** or **neglect.**

Poverty: this means when a person does not have enough money or support to meet their basic needs. For example, having enough money for housing, clothing and food.

Neglect: this means when a person does not get the care and support that they need to live a good life.



We think that:

 The next Government must end policing practices that harm people. This means things that the police do that affect certain groups in an unfair way.

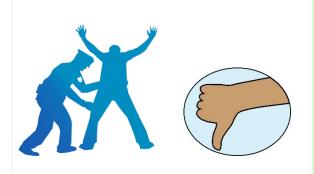


For example, practices that have an unfair effect on racially marginalised groups.

Racially marginalised groups: this means people living in the UK who are from non-white communities.



Also, the Police have powers to stop and search people. They can do this even if they don't suspect the person of a crime. This is wrong.



The Police also have powers to **strip search** people. Strip searching someone does not treat them as human beings. It can cause trauma. It must be stopped.

Strip search: this means when the Police can force a person to take all their clothes off. This is so that they can search for items that they think might be hidden on their body.



Over the years, the Police have been given more access to **tasers**. This is wrong and must be undone. Only trained firearm officers should be allowed to carry tasers.

Taser: this is a weapon that fires out electric currents.



 The next Government must get rid of Joint Enterprise prosecutions. These affect young black men and boys in an unfair way.

This criminalises them because of who they are friends with.

Joint Enterprise prosecutions: this means saying somebody is guilty of a crime because they supported or helped with it. Even if the person has not actually carried out the crime, they are still seen to be just as guilty as the person who did it.



 The next Government must stop using police surveillance technology in an unfair way.

Police surveillance technology: this means any technology that the Police use to collect information about a crime or a suspect.



Get rid of police technology that is used in an unfair way especially against communities of colour.



For example, get rid of facial recognition technology. This means technology that can identify a person from their face.



 The next Government must stop the criminalisation of poverty. Do this by getting rid of The Vagrancy Act.

The Vagrancy Act: this says that is against the law to sleep rough or to beg.

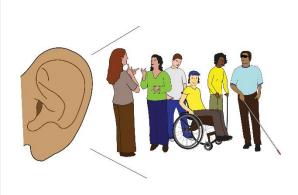




They should also stop using these laws to punish people who sleep rough or beg:

- Public Spaces
 Protection Orders
- Community Protection Notices

3. Make sure that everybody can stand up to people in power



We all want people in power to listen to our worries. We want them to build a better future for us and the people we love. This is true for us all, no matter who we vote for.



But in recent years, governments have tried to make it harder for us to make ourselves heard. They have made it harder for us to challenge the decisions made by people in power.





 Get rid of police powers to clamp down on noisy protests.



This includes **offences** that aim to make protesting harder. For example, **locking on** should not be an offence.

Offence: here, this means an action that is against the law.

Locking on: this means when a person locks themselves to a gate or building as a form of protest.



Making protesting an offence drags people into the **criminal justice system.** There is no need for this.

Criminal justice system: this means the government organisations that work together to deal with crimes. For example, the Police and the courts.

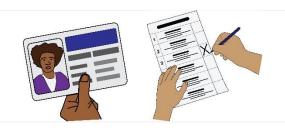


The next Government must also:

 Protect the rights of workers and trade unions. Get rid of laws that take away their rights to go on strike.

Trade unions: this means when a group of workers get together to protect and push for their rights.

On Strike: here, this means a type of protest when people stop going to work. They stop going to work until they are given the working conditions that they are asking for.



 The next Government must get rid of Voter ID.

Voter ID: here, this means the law that says that you must show ID when you go to vote. For example, a passport or driving licence. This affects marginalised groups in an unfair way.



The next Government must push for a democracy.

Everyone must be able to take part.

Everyone must be able to make sure that people in power are meeting their responsibilities.

Democracy: this means a system of politics where the people have a say in how the Government is run.



Take part!

Click on the link below to sign the pledge to vote for human rights:

Sign the pledge to vote for human rights

Pledge: this means a promise to do something.

This document was put into Easy Read by the Empower Team at People First.

You can visit their website here: www.peoplefirstltd.com

Information is Power!

