## GENERAL ELECTION 2019

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Implications for energy policy

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#### **Election headline: Conservative party win significant majority**

#### **Key Messages:**

'We will start putting our deal through Parliament before Christmas and we will leave the European Union in January'.

'Only by establishing immigration controls and ending freedom of movement will we be able to attract the high-skilled workers we need to contribute to our economy'.

'The Conservatives will always back the brave men and women of our police and security services, which is why we will empower the police, backing the increased use of stop and search as long as it is fair and proportionate'.

364

seats'

'We must build the same level of consensus on social care as we have already built on the NHS'.

Boris Johnson in the Conservative manifesto: 'I guarantee...Reaching Net Zero by 2050 with investment in clean energy solutions and green infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions and pollution'.

\*provisional results, as at 8:30am on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019

#### Conservative

50,000 more nurses.

Lead the global fight against climate change by delivering on our world-leading target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

20,000 more police and tougher sentencing for criminals.

364 seats\*

'Get Brexit Done' wins the day as the Tories maintained their lead in the polls and win their largest majority since the 1980s. The Conservatives pledge to leave the EU before getting back to running the country.

Their unequivocal stance and simple message has hit home. The party have won a historic election taking seats that have never before returned a Tory MP.

The Conservative manifesto contained pledges to flight climate change and protect the environment.

Raising teachers starting salary to £30,000.

# Labour

Despite a narrowing in the polls, Labour lost seats cross their traditional heartlands. In the worst election result since Michael Foot's loss of 1983, Labour finished the election with just 203 seats, losing 59 from the 2017 election.

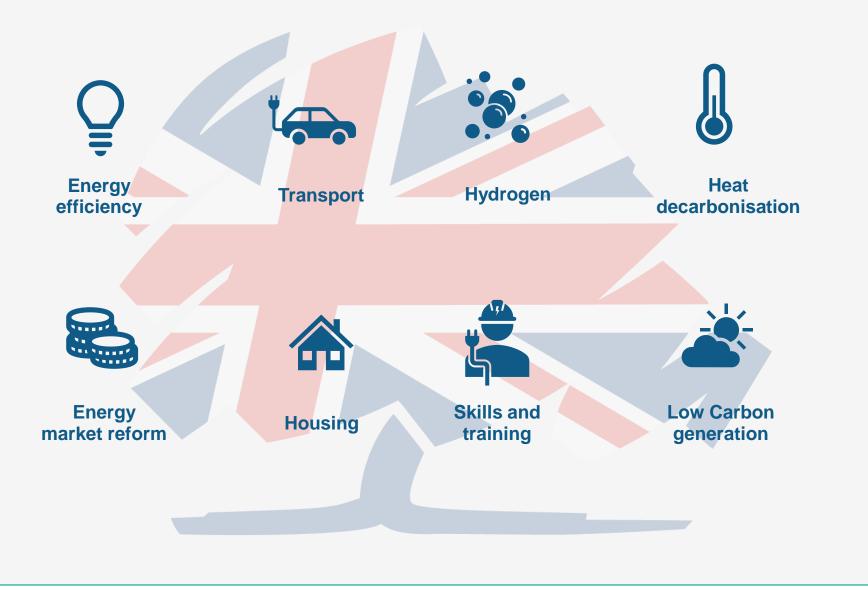
The Labour manifesto included ambitious policy proposals to address climate change.

> Introduce new Clean Air Act

Nationalise water, energy networks and rail. 203 seats\*

\*provisional results, as at 8:30am on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## **Conservative Energy Pledges**



### **Manifesto Pledges**

### Commentary

#### **Energy efficiency policy**

- Social decarbonisation fund: £3.8bn over 10-year period
- Homes upgrades grants: £2.5bn over 5-year period
- Committed to implementing and legislating for all recommendations of Hackitt Review
- Support high rise residential residents through removal of unsafe cladding

#### Heat decarbonisation

- Industrial Energy Transformation
  Fund: £500m over 8-year period to help energy intensive industries move to low-carbon techniques
- Committed to rolling out technologies including heat pumps, solar hot water and hydrogen, and to invest in district heat networks utilising waste heat

<sup>•</sup>The only really new things I can see from the party on housing are not in the manifesto itself but in the costings document that was published alongside it (Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund and the Homes Upgrade Grants)...

These are perhaps hints of what would have been in the Budget and spending review that never happened before the election but it seems strange that these promises did not make it into the manifesto itself – perhaps because the Tories feared questions about who will bear the costs for homes that do not qualify for grants' Jules Birch-Inside Housing

'This pledge to spend  $\pounds 2,860$  per household on improving the energy efficiency of social housing would affect 2.2m homes. But there's no mention of what would be done for those who own their own home.

The claim that households could save up to £750 a year on their energy bills sounds optimistic and could only apply to homes with terrible energy efficiency. The typical saving after such work on housing, experts say, tends to be more like £50.' <u>Katie Prescott</u>, BBC



#### **Skills and Training**

- Create new National Skills Fund worth
  £3bn over 5-year period
- Committed to helping workers retrain for industries of the future



#### **New Build housing**

- Progress towards target for 300,000
  new homes a year by mid-2020's
- Support modern methods of construction
- Support creation of new kinds of homes

with low energy bills

### **Manifesto Pledges**

### Commentary

#### Hydrogen

- CCS Infrastructure Fund: £800m over 3-year period
- Supports gas for hydrogen production and nuclear energy including fusion



#### **Transport**

- Invest £600 million over 6-year
  period in electric vehicle
  infrastructure
- Consult on earliest date at which phasing out of petrol and diesel cars can take place

'Both parties make significant promises on infrastructure for the production of zero-emissions vehicles... Nonetheless, the UK appears to be losing out on large-scale battery production, with the vast majority of recent private investments (from Chinese and Korean firms) in European battery production taking place in Eastern Europe...

While the cross-party ambition in this area should be commended, investment should be made carefully to avoid inefficient use of public funds, given the UK may be more competitive internationally in other goods and services such as smart-charging for electric vehicles and connected and autonomous vehicle testing. Funding decisions should consider the UK's competitiveness in a range of goods and services related to zero-emissions vehicles.' <u>Sam Unsworth</u>-London School of Economics

#### **Energy Market Reform**

- Oil and gas sector deal for Scotland
- Committed to maintaining existing energy price cap and the inter-fuel payment



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#### Low carbon generation

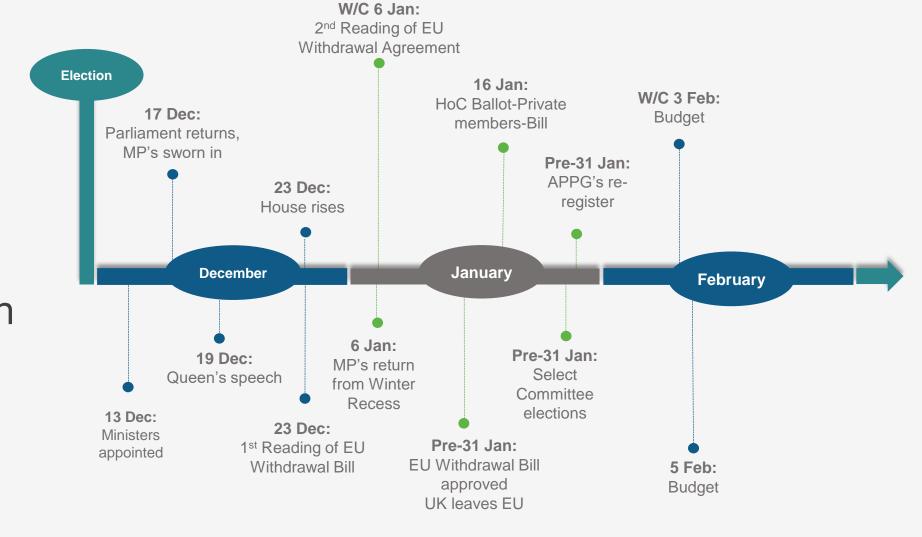
- Increase offshore wind capacity
  to 40GW by 2030
- Moratorium on fracking
- **£1bn Ayrton Fund** to develop affordable and accessible clean energy

'Measures on insulation and targets for offshore wind raise questions over what the Conservatives have done on such issues while in government. The number of homes being newly insulated collapsed in the past five years after the previous incentive system was abandoned, and the requirement for new homes to be built to zero-carbon standards was dropped in 2015.

Offshore wind is growing, but onshore wind farms – which are cheaper – are stymied by previous Tory governments' measures to make planning permission all but impossible, and there is no mention of solar power...On transport, the measures to support electric vehicles are for charging infrastructure rather than addressing the cost of the vehicles, and the road-building and repair budget dwarfs low-carbon transport spending...Campaigners say this does not add up to a plan to achieve zero-carbon by 2050'. <u>Fiona Harvey- Guardian</u>



Provisional post-election timeline



## 2020 Certainties

## Although we do not have a crystal ball, in 2020 expect to see...

- Brexit Withdrawal currently scheduled for end of January
- A Spending Review
- A new budget
- Uplift to Part L of the Building

**Regulations** - legislative requirement on the Minister responsible for Housing, regardless of changes in Whitehall departments

 COP26 - November in Glasgow chaired by former energy minister Claire Perry

#### Your newly returned/minted MP...

- The new Parliament is expected to meet next Monday 16th, with members being sworn in over Monday and Tuesday
- Parliamentary email addresses will not be active until MPs are sworn in.
- We advise delaying correspondence with your MP until January 2020.

