

## Methodist Public Issues Election Briefing July14

Policy	National	Greens	Labour	Māori Party
<p><b>Poverty Inequality Economy</b></p>	<p>Economic policy is for Growth through Agribusiness, with jobs coming from growth. Work is seen as the pathway out of poverty. No policy for jobs creation or lifting wages. A growing economy could lift wages relative to the inflation rate.</p> <p>Working for Families redistributes income to middle to low working families. Beneficiaries do not benefit from Working for Families</p> <p>Tight fiscal envelope and prospect of tax cuts for middle and low income</p> <p>Growing economy through doubling R&amp;D spending</p>	<p>Raise minimum wage to \$16.25 per hr. and encourage companies and agencies (eg Local Government) to pay Living Wage \$18.75 p.hr.</p> <p>Extend Working for Families by removing 'In Work Payment'</p> <p>Benefit levels become 'enough to live on'</p> <p>Lower power prices through → a single state-owned electricity purchaser</p> <p>Tight fiscal envelope with little expansion</p>	<p>Raise Minimum Wage to \$16.25 p.h. with Living Wage for core public service workers</p> <p>Best Start of \$60 per week per child includes beneficiaries</p> <p>The abatement for work while on benefit to lift from \$80 to \$160</p> <p>Child Poverty Reduction and Eradication Bill</p> <p>←Lower power prices through a single state-owned electricity purchaser</p> <p>Tight fiscal envelope with little expansion</p>	<p>Ministerial Advisory Committee on Poverty</p> <p>Encourage payment of Living Wage</p> <p>Support part time flexible work and training opportunities,</p> <p>Family payments though a different means than IRD</p> <p>Support for whanau debt repayment, with schemes such as microfinancing. Support financial literacy</p> <p>Whole of government policy on child poverty</p>
<p><b>Children Youth</b></p>	<p>Free Dr's visits for under 13 year olds.</p> <p>Budget allocations for children include \$20m for: rheumatic fever (illness of poverty)</p> <p>Extend Paid Parental Leave to 14 weeks</p> <p>Early Childhood Ed.</p>	<p>Free GP visits for all under 18 years. Implement a Universal Child Benefit</p> <p>Invest in schools as hubs with health checks and welfare support.</p> <p>Health nurses in Decile 1-4 Primary and Secondary Schools</p>	<p>Free GP visits and prescripts for up to 13 yr. olds</p> <p>'Best Start' for those not eligible for Paid Parental Leave, 3 yrs.</p> <p>Extend Paid Parental leave to 26 weeks</p> <p>Free ECE 25 hrs p wk. for 305 yr olds</p>	<p>Free health care up to 18 years. Free Early Childhood Education 25 hrs p. wk.</p> <p>Subsidized child care</p> <p>Whanau ora, social &amp; housing</p> <p>Cross-Party accord to keep whānau free from all forms of violence</p>

<b>Housing</b>	Home Start for first home buyers with Loans through Kiwi Saver Make land available. Remove compliance costs and speed RMA Consents. Extend insulation to low income houses & WOF Investing \$2.9 B in Housing NZ for 500 new homes & 3000 bedrooms added to existing homes	Home for Life package with progressive home ownership  Health Homes with increased security of tenancy. Warrant of Fitness for rentals plus insulation scheme  Capital Gains tax to curb speculation	Kiwi Plan -Build 100,000 affordable homes Restrict Foreign buyers  Exempt first home buyers from loan ratio requirements  Healthy Homes guarantee for rental houses Capital Gains Tax, family home exempt	Ensure health and safety standards for rental housing  Iwi provider housing plans with provider capability building  Support rural housing
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Acknowledgements: Spanz, Winter 2014, Issue 48; and sources from party policy websites and data collected from policy briefings & announcements, Government budget

	<b>National</b>	<b>Greens</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Māori</b>
<b>Climate Change and Economy</b>	<p>Reduce emissions to 5% below 1990 levels by 2020 with possible 20% target by 2020, and 50% by 2050 (but current level is 25% above 1990)</p> <p>Commitment to international binding agreement for 85% of emissions with major economies</p> <p>Global Research Alliance on Greenhouse Gases (GHG's) (40 countries). Research with Agriculture and GHG's and Sustainable Land Management and Climate</p> <p>Financial support to Pacific - \$80 m. over 3 years incl. \$65m for renewable energy (ODA?)</p> <p>Economic policy with 10 priorities eg: FTA's with Korea and TPPA Reform RMA Recruit skilled kiwis to NZ Double Rand D Spending</p>	<p>Further use of Genuine Progress measures to include environment and social indicators in economic reporting NZ support for achieving fair, effective and binding global agreement to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) pollution. Corresponding NZ policies include protection of Māori interests and disproportionate impacts Invest in public transport and rail in Auckland. Pull back on motorways Power policy – an accord with Labour to bring prices down, increase energy efficiency and facilitate clean energy. Solar in homes policy 'Contract and Convergence' to bring emissions down. Mitigation policies for climate impacts. Assist Pacific communities prepare for sea level rise and hazards. Support resilience for habitats, food and livelihoods. Carbon tax to replace ETS. Revenue from this to lower corporate tax to 27% and personal tax cuts and 40% on higher incomes above 140K Sovereign Wealth Fund for clean energy</p>	<p>Integrate environmental policy with economic development Future Proofing: Transition away from reliance on fossil fuels to high tech low carbon economy. Use of technology to develop renewable energy. Solar hot water scheme Revise Emissions Trading Scheme and manage carbon price to be effective in reducing carbon emissions Undertake a cross party risk assessment framework to ascertain NZ's exposure to risk and global threats, as proposed by <i>Wise Response</i> and other grps</p> <p>Full climate policy to be negotiated in the case of a coalition with Greens</p> <p>Higher income tax to 36% of income over 140K. ETS that works with real price on carbon Sovereign Wealth Fund for clean energy</p>	<p>Invest in sustainable solutions to power and petrol</p> <p>Government dis-incentive policies to reduce fuel consumption</p> <p>Continue funding Enviroschools</p> <p>Support communities and kaitiaki to restore quality of waterways</p> <p>Moratorium on off-shore drilling to enable full consultation, particularly with mana whenua. Management of risks of oil exploration and mining re climate and economic development</p>

<p><b>Water</b></p>	<p>National Standards for Water quality at 'Secondary Contact' – wading.</p> <p>Support major irrigation &amp; dam infrastructure schemes. \$40 million for irrigation as part of Business Growth Agenda primary exports by 5.5% p yr</p> <p>Anticipate RMA changes which include speeding resource consents</p>	<p>Water is a taonga and public good</p> <p>Encourage sustainable use and conservation</p> <p>Access to safe, secure supply of high quality, affordable water for drinking and sanitation</p> <p>Key decisions about water remain with elected bodies. Encourage councils to use resource consents for conversion to dairy or intensified land use to set limits on nitrogen and phosphate runoff</p>	<p>Sustainable use of water balanced with growth in exports</p> <p>Water quality standards based on 'healthy economy, healthy environment, healthy society'</p> <p>Recognition of ecosystem services and amenity values</p> <p>Support healthy aquatic and marine biodiversity</p> <p>Respect iwi interests in health &amp; management of water catchments.</p>	<p>Oppose changes to RMA that would compromise guardianship/kaitiakitanga. Iwi involvement in governance of freshwater</p> <p>Support Iwi investment in geothermal &amp; water power plants</p> <p>For energy efficiency, more efficient water pipelines</p> <p>Environmentally sustainable land use that does not degrade water systems</p>
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	<b>Internet Mana</b>	<b>New Zealand First</b>
<b>Poverty Inequality Economy</b>	<p>Abolish GST. Tax financial speculation, close corporate tax loopholes. Make the first \$27,000 earned tax free, then progressive tax system above this level.</p> <p>Keep power companies in public domain with social policies on water and power to keep costs down</p> <p>Work on introducing Universal Basic Income (and overhaul benefit system to end poverty and inequality). Raise Minimum Wage and Benefits</p>	<p>Keep National Superannuation at 65 without means test Living Wage for Government sector Raise minimum wage to \$17 per hr. Jobs with decent pay for Kiwi's first</p> <p>Royalties for the Regions – distribute a share of mining royalties to communities for jobs and new enterprise Greater parental responsibility for those receiving benefits, with social agency help to achieve this. Remove GST on food Lower tax rates on profits for exporters to 20%. Increase R and D incentives for business</p>
<b>Children</b>	<p>Comprehensive plan to end child poverty. Extend Paid Parental Leave to 12 months. Support quality preschool.</p> <p>Free public health and education services with free meals and health services in low decile schools. Increase funds for mental health and disability services</p> <p>Change Working for Families to include provision for children in beneficiary families</p> <p>Promote culture on nonviolence in homes, free counselling services for violence/abuse</p>	<p>Free Doctor's visits for all children</p> <p>Improve living standards for vulnerable families and at risk children through policies for equality</p>
<b>Housing</b>	<p>Affordable quality housing. Stop sale of State houses and build 10,000 new state houses per year. Keep rents to 25% of income. Capital gains tax on property investment</p> <p>Help first home buyers through Kiwibank Home Ownership Scheme, including a scheme for Māori All new housing developments of more than 10 houses to be 50% for affordable housing Increase government support for NGO quality social housing providers Restrict foreign purchasing of NZ property</p>	<p>Govt assistance for first home buyers Land bank sites for new housing and reasonable construction costs for new home builders</p> <p>Restrict absentee ownership of housing in New Zealand</p> <p>Supports social housing Restrict foreign purchase of NZ property</p>
<b>Climate Change</b>	<p>Integrate social, environment and economic policy</p> <p>Regulate farming practice to reduce GHG emissions and reduce environmental damage</p> <p>Phase out coal within 20 years. Invest in clean energy, including solar, wind and hydro at household and community levels. Public transport in rural areas</p>	<p>Accepts Climate Change with the need for policy responses</p>
<b>Water</b>	<p>Improve quality of waterways and self-sufficiency of food production Transfer RMA powers to hapū activate Kaitiakitanga responsibilities over waterways and environmental management generally. Maintain mauri of all water bodies Involve hapū in central and local government decision making on environment.</p> <p>Retain water as a public good. Support installation of water tanks on new houses.</p>	<p>Opposed to asset sales and conflict over water rights</p>

Wastewater to be treated to food gathering standard and discharged onto land not rivers/sea