

Methodist Public Issues Election Briefing July14

Policy	National	Greens	Labour	Māori Party
Poverty Inequality	<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.</p> <p>A growing economy will mean that wages could increase 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>Raise minimum wage to \$15 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>Raise Minimum Wage with Living Wage for core public service workers</p> <p>Child Poverty Reduction and Eradication Bill</p> <p>←Lower power prices through a single state-owned electricity purchaser</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</p> <p>Financial literacy</p> <p>Whole of government policy</p>
Children	<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>Implement a Universal Child Benefit</p> <p>Invest in schools as clusters through 'Schools as Heart'. Health and Welfare services in Decile 1-4 Primary and Secondary Schools</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 Early Childhood Education 25 hrs p. wk.</p> <p>Subsidized child care</p> <p>Whanau ora, social & housing</p> <p>Cross-Party accord to keep whānau free from all forms of violence</p>
Housing	<p>Make land available. Remove compliance costs and speed RMA Consents. Loans through Kiwi Saver for first home buyers</p> <p>Extend insulation to low income houses & WOF</p> <p>Investing \$2.9 B in Housing NZ for 500 new homes & 3000 bedrooms added to existing homes</p>	<p>Home for Life package with progressive home ownership</p> <p>Warrant of Fitness for rentals plus insulation scheme</p> <p>Capital Gains tax to curb speculation</p>	<p>Build 100,000 affordable homes</p> <p>Restrict Foreign buyers</p> <p>Exempt first home buyers from loan ratio requirements</p> <p>Healthy Homes guarantee for rental houses</p> <p>Capital Gains Tax, family home exempt</p>	<p>Ensure health and safety standards for rental housing</p> <p>Iwi provider housing plans with provider capability building</p> <p>Support rural housing</p>

Acknowledgements: Spanz, Winter 2014, Issue 48; and sources from party policy websites and data collected from policy briefings & announcements, Government budget

	National	Greens	Labour	Māori
Climate Change	<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>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</p> <p>Invest in public transport and rail in Auckland. Pull back on motorway investment.</p> <p>Power policy – an accord with Labour to bring prices down, increase energy efficiency and facilitate clean energy. Solar in homes policy</p> <p>‘Contract and Convergence’ to bring emissions down. Mitigation policies for climate impacts.</p> <p>Assist Pacific communities prepare for sea level rise and hazards. Support resilience for habitats, food and livelihoods.</p>	<p>Integrate environmental policy with economic development</p> <p>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</p> <p>Revise Emissions Trading Scheme and manage carbon price to be effective in reducing carbon emissions</p> <p>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>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>
Water	<p>National Standards for Water quality at ‘Secondary Contact’ – wading.</p> <p>Support major irrigation & 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 & 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 & 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>

	Internet Mana	New Zealand First
Poverty Inequality	<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</p> <p>Raise minimum wage. 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</p> <p>Greater parental responsibility for those receiving benefits, with social agency help to achieve this</p>
Children	<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>Improve living standards for vulnerable families and at risk children through policies for equality</p>
Housing	<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</p> <p>All new housing developments of more than 10 houses to be 50% for affordable housing</p> <p>Increase government support for NGO quality social housing providers</p>	<p>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</p>
Climate Change	<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>
Water	<p>Improve quality of waterways and self-sufficiency of food production</p> <p>Transfer RMA powers to hapū activate Kaitiakitanga responsibilities over waterways and environmental management generally. Maintain mauri of all water bodies</p> <p>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. Wastewater to be treated to food gathering standard and discharged onto land not rivers/sea</p>	<p>Opposed to asset sales and conflict over water rights</p>