

100 broken SNP promises

March 2011



1. **“reduce class sizes in Primary 1, 2 and 3 to eighteen pupils or less” - SNP Manifesto, page 52**
 Promise broken. This pledge has been dumped and by December 2010, over 78% of children were in the same size class or larger.
2. **“match the current [Labour’s] school building programme brick for brick” - SNP Manifesto, page 53**
 Promise broken. The SNP have tried to claim credit for opening schools that were commissioned, paid for and started by the last Labour government. The number of schools they have commissioned falls significantly below the 250 set out in Labour’s school building programme – and none are yet open.
3. **“The SNP believes there should be an end to the automatic release of offenders. We support the recent legislation in this area and in government will drive forward this important area” - SNP Manifesto, page 63**
 Promise broken. Kenny MacAskill stated in PQ answer on 14th January: “the draft budget does not contain specific funds to finance the implementation of section 18 of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010”.
4. **“scrap the Council Tax” - SNP Manifesto, page 6**
 Promise broken.
5. **“introduce a Local Income Tax set at 3p. This will apply at both the basic and higher income tax rate and will not be levied on savings income. Second homes will continue to be liable to local tax and will make the same level of contribution as present, with payments made through business rates.” - SNP Manifesto, page 20**
 Promise broken and withdrawn after extensive criticism.
6. **“replace the expensive and discredited Student Loans system with means-tested student grants” - SNP Manifesto, page 54**
 Promise broken.
7. **“Maintain teacher numbers in the face of falling school rolls to cut class sizes” - SNP Manifesto, p52**
 The number of teachers has fallen by nearly 3,000 since 2007 – and the number of classroom assistants fell too
8. **“increase the provision of free nursery education for 3 and 4 year olds by 50 per cent. That means increasing the entitlement from 400 hours a year to 600 hours a year” - SNP Manifesto, SNP Manifesto, page 51**
 Local authorities had not met the 600 hours target by 2010.
9. **“aim to decouple ownership and usage of cars. We will persuade and not punish car users to use other modes. We will take three specific measures each of which will bring about a modal shift” - SNP Manifesto, page 26**
 The Scottish Government website tells us that “The percentage of adults travelling by car has been consistently around 67%. Following a decrease in 2008 to 66%, the latest figures show a slight increase - with 67% of adults travelling to work by car or van in 2009. This has resulted in a borderline arrow change to ‘position worsening’.”

10. "Remove the burden of debt repayments owed to the Student Loans company by Scottish domiciled and resident graduates" - SNP Manifesto, page 54

Promise broken. Graduates still paying student loans.

11. "all parents and carers having the right to request flexible working" - SNP Manifesto, page 49

Promise broken. The SNP has not achieved this.

12. "support the increasing number of grandparents providing childcare for grandchildren under 3" - SNP Manifesto, page 49

Promise broken. Kinship care payments vary widely – and some local authorities do not pay them at all.

13. "deliver access to a fully qualified nursery teacher for every nursery age child" - SNP Manifesto, page 51

Promise broken. The TESS reports on 24 December 2010 that one in four children attending a nursery are in a "teacher-free zone". In council-run nurseries, one in twenty children has no access to a teacher, and in private nurseries run in partnership with local authorities, the figure is 49.5%.

14. "ensure parents can access information and support services in every community in Scotland" - SNP Manifesto, page 50

Promise broken. There is a postcode lottery across Scotland, with information and support services varying widely.

15. "Work to expand kinship care where possible and expand family group conferencing to the whole country" - SNP Manifesto, page 50

Promise broken. This was later clarified by SNP ministers to mean a £119 a week payment to kinship carers by 2008. By October 2010, these payments were not being made in large numbers of local authorities. Some councils make no payments, whilst others are as low as £23.

16. "An SNP government will support the development of mental health and wellbeing services, such as counselling and talking therapies, in each community health partnership area, backed with ring-fenced funding to health boards and local authorities." - SNP Manifesto, page 37

Broken promise. Local authorities across Scotland are being forced to make cuts in mental health and wellbeing services as a result of the SNP's budget settlement for local government. SAMH told the Scottish Parliament's finance committee in August 2009 that: *"we do not think that all of the challenges facing our services are directly caused by the recession: the removal of ring-fencing from mental health and Supporting People budgets has also had an effect... some local authorities are implementing necessary cuts in a short-sighted and possibly counterproductive manner... affecting its ability to provide services to communities... £2.7 million of apparently arbitrary funding cuts, made without appropriate planning or assessment of needs... they affect the service users whom we support. The problems also extend to health boards: last year SAMH was forced to close a successful service in Ayrshire after the local NHS Board withdrew funding, with little consultation with service users. We are now closing a service in Dundee following the withdrawal of funding; which involves £242,000 worth of budget cuts and affects 9 staff and 400 service users."*

- 17. "Create an Additional Support Fund to improve services for children with additional support needs, for example dyslexia and autism. This £10 million fund will be focused on providing continuous professional development for teachers. It will also ensure that initial teacher training emphasises early identification of additional support needs and that specialist training is rolled out to each and every teacher in Scotland." - SNP Manifesto, page 51**

Promise broken. In answer to a parliamentary question from November 2007 asking whether "the £10 million additional support for learning fund promised in the SNP manifesto will be additional to existing resources and in which financial year or years it will be made available", SNP ministers confirmed it would not be: "the additional support fund will be provided by means of a block grant. It is the responsibility of each local authority to allocate the total financial resources available to it on the basis of local needs and priorities".

- 18. "Headteachers will have the power to decide on the most appropriate class sizes in later years" - SNP Manifesto, page 52**

Promise broken. There is no specific legislation or regulations giving or allowing headteachers the power to decide on class sizes in later years and the position is largely unchanged.

- 19. "Place greater emphasis on teacher recruitment for the early years, languages and science" - SNP Manifesto, page 52**

Promise broken. There are 3,000 fewer teachers in post under the SNP than with Labour

- 20. "We will provide leadership and drive to promote the Curriculum for Excellence agenda. We will cut over-assessment and bureaucracy which gets in the way of quality teaching and learning." - SNP Manifesto, page 52**

Promise broken. The delivery of the Curriculum for Excellence has been beset by lack of leadership from ministers, failure to be explicit about the nature of the new curriculum, and the inability to convince many teachers about the benefits of change. The OECD's head of educational research, said of Scotland in 2010: "Too many leave school without qualifications or skills that matter in the labour market."

- 21. "the option of elective time in the school week, to free up time for vocational opportunities and allow pupils to pursue interests such as creative arts, community volunteering or sport" - SNP Manifesto, page 52**

Promise broken. This has not been pursued on a strategic basis.

- 22. "a moratorium on the sale of playing fields" - SNP Manifesto, page 10**

By the beginning of 2010, over 25.43 acres of playing fields had been sold off by local authorities, to the total value of £10,097,393.

- 23. "offer an alternative funding mechanism through the Scottish Futures Trust" - SNP Manifesto, page 53**

Promise broken. The Scottish Futures Trust is widely regarded as having failed, and the funding mechanism it proposes to operate is not an alternative funding mechanism to its predecessor.

- 24. "Deliver better value bonds to release more money to invest in the frontline" - SNP Manifesto, page 53**

Promise broken. These bonds are yet to see the light of day.

- 25. "guarantee in law the right to a Gaelic medium education at primary level, where reasonable demand exists, and actively pursue the Gaelic teacher strategy" - SNP Manifesto, page 53**
Promise broken. SNP ministers announced in November 2010 that it would not be considered in this parliament.
- 26. "widening access to Higher and Further education in Scotland" - SNP Manifesto, page 54**
Promise broken. Statistics from the Higher Education Statistics Agency show that the percentage of pupils from state schools in Scotland is below that in England, and that drop-out rates in Scotland are above those for other parts of the UK
- 27. "recognise the key role colleges play in the economy and in their communities and will help them develop this role as part of a revitalised life-long learning agenda" - SNP Manifesto, page 54**
Promise broken. Scottish Funding Council announces significant funding cuts for colleges in 2011-2012.
- 28. "work with employers to help them with the practical support they need to tackle skills shortages" - SNP Manifesto, page 54**
Promise broken. Age restrictions remain on many modern apprenticeships meaning grants unavailable to adults.
- 29. "dualling of key roads, such as the A9" - SNP Manifesto, page 25**
Promise broken. The A9 has not been dualled and has been pushed into the long grass.
- 30. "funding will be made available in the form of the government taking a stake in the artist's next work, with the government's share of any profits being reinvested in the creative sector." - SNP Manifesto, page 55**
Promise broken. Asked in November 2010 how much has been reinvested in the creative sector from Scottish Government profits from a stake in artists' work, SNP ministers confirmed that: "The Scottish Government has no mechanisms in place to profit directly from artists' work."
- 31. "modelling the film tax incentives that have been successful in Ireland, Canada and the United States, to bring more film production to Scotland" - SNP Manifesto, page 55**
Promise broken.
- 32. "BBC Scotland to retain more of the licence fee raised in Scotland, to determine its own broadcasting priorities and increase investment in programme-making in Scotland" - SNP Manifesto, page 56**
Promise broken. Broadcasters have rightly resisted instruction from politicians on how to spend the license fee. The arrangements for the license fee are set until 2017.
- 33. "We will encourage programme-makers, in both the BBC and independent sectors, to do more to market and promote Scotland's distinctive culture internationally" SNP Manifesto, page 56**
Promise broken. There is scant evidence of such support and the SNP's commissioned Homecoming film was initially broadcast only in Scotland.

- 34. "introduce a new grant enabling artists to reclaim the cost of the tax paid on work they have sold up to a maximum of £15,000" - SNP Manifesto, page 55**
Promise broken. Asked in November 2010 whether Creative Scotland will introduce a grant enabling artists to reclaim the cost, up to a maximum of £15,000, of tax paid on work that they have sold, Scottish Ministers confirmed that "While Scottish Ministers believe that the tax system should include tax breaks and incentives for artists, that is a matter for the UK Government."
- 35. "The sale of alcohol to underage Scots will result in the loss of a premises' license" - SNP Manifesto, page 60**
Promise broken. A parliamentary question from 2010 confirmed that the Scottish government does not know how many licenses were lost due to the sale of alcohol to children: "*The data on suspensions do not include the reason for suspension and it is therefore not possible to identify whether suspensions are due to a particular offence.*" Another parliamentary question from 2009 shows that of the 116 convictions for selling booze to children that year, the average fine was just £244.
- 36. "Reduce duplication by merging the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Scotland into Historic Scotland" - SNP Manifesto, page 57**
Promise broken. New chair and commissioners appointed in March 2010.
- 37. "Work with the UK government to increase and enhance Scotland's role across the full range of policy areas for which the Scottish Parliament has responsibility [in EU negotiations]" - SNP Manifesto, page 16**
Promise broken. International affairs remains devolved and the SNP's influence at Westminster is minimal.
- 38. "Engage positively and constructively with the UK government across a range of issues" - SNP Manifesto, page 17**
Promise broken. The attitude of the Scottish Government to the UK Government is confrontational, and rarely positive or constructive.
- 39. "transfer of responsibility for North Sea oil and gas to the Scottish Parliament" - SNP Manifesto, page 17**
Promise broken.
- 40. "Scotland Houses opened by Scottish business people internationally - similar to the one recently opened in Estonia. We propose £1 million kick-start funding to develop similar initiatives world-wide." - SNP Manifesto, page 17**
Promise broken. A parliamentary question from 2010 confirms that "the additional allocation of £1 million was returned by SDI for use in supporting other Scottish Government priorities."
- 41. "Make St Andrew's day a full national holiday" - SNP Manifesto, page 56**
Promise broken. It is an "optional" public holiday not taken by the majority of working Scots.
- 42. "Early discussions with the UK government to enable the Scottish Parliament to legislate on firearms" - SNP Manifesto, page 12**
Promise broken. Being pursued by the Calman process which the SNP oppose for political reasons.
- 43. "a consolidated Firearms Act designed for Scottish needs and Scottish circumstances" - SNP Manifesto, page 59**

Promise broken.

44. "Introduce a licensing scheme covering the sale, purchase and use of airguns" - SNP Manifesto, page 59

Promise broken. Being pursued by the Calman process which the SNP oppose for political reasons.

45. "If a child goes missing, then there will be a tough response with sex offenders in the area visited, and if necessary premises searched, without a warrant... There will be a traffic light system, with the police and Procurator Fiscal able to trigger a 'red alert' in a variety of circumstances in which case there would be all necessary steps to protect the local community." - p59

Promise broken.

46. "improve the working of the system of ASBOs" - SNP Manifesto, page 60

Promise broken. The ASBO scheme has fallen into disrepair.

47. "We will reinstate the Airborne scheme" - SNP Manifesto, page 62

Promise broken.

48. "offering Scots the opportunity to decide on independence in a referendum, with a likely date of 2010" - SNP Manifesto, page 8

Promise broken. No referendum has happened, even when opposition parties threw down the gauntlet.

49. "Cut... the size of the prison population" - SNP Manifesto, page 63

Promise broken. On 6 January 2011, the Scottish Government noted that "the figures for 2009-10 follow the sustained increase observed in the prison population since 2000-01." The prison population last year reached a new daily average high of 7,964.

50. "The presumption will be that an offender given a custodial sentence of less than 6 months will have that sentence turned into an equivalent punishment in the community" - SNP Manifesto, page 63

Promise broken. The SNP failed to bring forward this manifesto promise, instead introducing a presumption against sentences of less than three months, but with inadequate investment in community sentences.

51. "the creation of a wholly devolved Scottish civil service" - SNP Manifesto, page 15

Promise broken. The civil service in Scotland remains a part of the UK Home Civil Service under the leadership of the UK Cabinet Secretary. The Scottish Government website states that: "The civil service in Scotland remains part of the Home Civil Service."

52. "A 5% saving in prisons expenditure will deliver ... £35 million increase in [Criminal Justice Social Work] services" - SNP Manifesto, page 64

Promise broken. Prison expenditure has increased (although there is a significant cut proposed for this budget) and the equivalent budget has not increased by £35 million.

53. "the rebuilding of [Peterhead] prison" - SNP Manifesto, page 65

Promise broken. Peterhead Prison has not been rebuilt

54. "The Act of Settlement 1701 is discriminatory and has no place in a modern society. Accordingly we will seek agreement with the government in London on its repeal" - SNP Manifesto, page 66

Promise broken. No agreement with the UK Government has been achieved. The matter was in Labour's 2010 election manifesto

55. "new build houses should meet the same rigorous standards that exist in Scandinavia" - SNP Manifesto, page 30

Promise broken. The new energy standards in building regulations from October 2010 demand a thirty per cent reduction in CO2 emissions but this target would need to jump by an extra fifty per cent to match homes in Sweden. The Association for the Conservation of Energy said today that 'Scotland still has a long way to go to reach the Scandinavian energy standards that were promised in the SNP's 2007 election manifesto'.

56. "in the first 100 days of the SNP government, we will institute a Scottish Energy Efficiency Design award" - SNP Manifesto, page 30

Promise broken. This was finally done on day 643.

57. "mandatory carbon reduction targets of 3% per annum" - SNP Manifesto, page 29

Promise broken. These targets were not included on the face of the Bill, and significant delay means they will not be met until 2018, so no such targets will have met in the four years since the 2007 election.

58. "Quadruple financial support for family and community micro-generation schemes" - SNP Manifesto, page 31

Promise broken. The Energy Saving Trust advises that: "Following the popularity of the Energy Saving Scotland home renewables grant scheme, the high demand and successful allocation of grant funding means that the scheme closed to all new applications at 5.30pm on Friday 23rd July 2010....Continuing to fund grants is no longer sustainable given the increasingly tight constraints on the Scottish Government budget and therefore it is currently expected that the home renewables grant scheme will not be replaced."

59. "review the role of enforcement agencies SEPA and SNH. The SNP is proposing to merge these two agencies." - p69

Promise broken. This has not happened.

60. "increased production of organic food" - SNP Manifesto, page 71

Promise broken. The Soil Association's Organic Market Report 2010, notes that in 2009 sales of organic products in the UK decreased 12.9% on the year, and whilst there are no reliable separate figures for Scotland, "there were dramatic reductions in the area of land in conversion, which fell by ... 82.1% in Scotland"

61. "speed up the development of forest crofts" - SNP Manifesto, page 71

Promise broken. In 14 March 2010, The Herald reported that only one project for a forest croft has been approved, and no others are under consideration: "But four years since the former Lab/Lib Dem Scottish Executive confirmed it would allow the... Consequently there are now concerns that there are just too many obstacles for the vision of a new community of woodland dwellers to be realised."

62. "tackle transport costs for crofting areas" - SNP Manifesto, page 71

Promise broken. The SNP has not brought forward any concrete proposals that are in its legislative competency for reducing transport costs to crofting areas.

- 63. "the withdrawal from the Common Fisheries Policy" - SNP Manifesto, page 73**
Promise broken. This has not happened and Scotland remains part of the Common Fisheries Policy.
- 64. "replacing the Supermarket Code of Conduct with independent regulation to ensure that supermarkets give space to fresh local and seasonal produce" - SNP Manifesto, page 40**
Promise broken. Independent regulation of supermarkets has not been introduced
- 65. "cash-back worth £500, for example, to the average pensioner couple" - SNP Manifesto, page 20**
Promise broken. The SNP government has not provided cash-back to pensioner couples.
- 66. "Allocate 70 per cent of released resources to improve frontline services" - SNP Manifesto, page 9**
No proper definition of frontline services has been produced, but the manifesto confirms this includes "reducing class sizes", which has not happened (SNP Manifesto, page 20).
- 67. "Allocate 30 per cent of released resources to lower taxes" - SNP Manifesto, page 9**
The commitment to lower taxes relied on the replacement of the Council Tax with a Local Income Tax, which has not taken place.
- 68. "be among the top 15 most competitive countries in the world" - SNP Manifesto, page 20**
Promise broken. Scotland does not feature in the top 15 of the IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2010. There were 34 business start-ups per 10,000 adults in 2009, compared to a 2006 rate of 36 business start-ups per 10,000 adults.
- 69. "ensure that Scotland is the most competitive nation in the UK" - SNP Manifesto, page 20**
Promise broken. The Scottish Government website advises that "New business formation is a good indicator of how conducive we are to entrepreneurship in the business environment. At the moment, however, we lag behind the UK."
- 70. "match the growth rate of small European nations" - SNP Manifesto, page 21**
The Scottish Government's Scotland Performs website confirms that: "Annual GDP growth in Scotland is currently lower than in both the UK and the small EU. This reflects stronger GDP growth performance since 2009Q4 in the UK and, in particular, in the Small EU. Although Scottish GDP increased by 1.3% in 2010Q2, this follows a decline of 0.2% in 2010Q1 and growth of 0.1% in 2009Q4. As a result the latest annual figures still show a decline in GDP. Due to cyclical changes in short-term performance Scottish GDP growth may match or exceed UK and Small EU countries GDP growth - however, this may not mean that the underlying growth gap has been reduced."
- 71. "overall wealth and the proportion of national wealth held by each of the lowest six income deciles to increase" - SNP Manifesto, page 21**
Promise broken. The John Rowntree Foundation's report Monitoring poverty and social exclusion in Scotland 2010 found that: "By the first half of 2010, unemployment in Scotland had surpassed that in England, having been markedly lower at the start of the recession. low-income households from workless to in-work poverty.... During the recession, the proportion

of children in low-income households – the ‘child poverty rate’ – went up in Scotland by 2%, whereas it went down in England by 1%...There was no change during the recession in the numbers of working-age adults in low-income households in Scotland. However, in-work poverty did increase over the year, indicating a shift in the composition of low-income households from workless to in-work poverty.”

72. “adopt the Better Regulation Commission’s policy of ‘one in, one out’ meaning each new regulation must replace another” - SNP Manifesto, page 21

The SNP enterprise minister told the Scottish Parliament in a written question in 2007 that “we asked the industry-led Regulatory Review Group for their views on various aspects of the Better Regulation agenda...the group has made the recommendation to the government that a “one in one out” approach may not be wholly appropriate or realisable at present.”

73. “a minimum target of 20% of public sector contracts by value to be sourced from small and medium sized enterprises” - SNP Manifesto, page 22

Promise broken. No target has been set. During the financial year 2006-07, with Labour, the total percentage of spend awarded to SMEs through public sector contracts was 49.05%. In 2008-09 (the most recent figures available) it had declined under the SNP to 48.22%. In November 2010, the Federation of Small Businesses in Scotland warned that: “Small businesses across Scotland have already voiced concerns about the direction that public procurement is going... the drive toward aggregating contracts will result in less Scottish public money spent in our local communities.”

74. “increased use of flexi working in the public sector, and home working. Every public sector body will be required within 6 months of our taking office to explain what its policy is and what has been preventing it from doing more, and to provide an action plan of measures” - SNP Manifesto, page 26

Promise broken. In June 2008, SNP ministers sent out a questionnaire to public sector bodies asking about travel plans which included a question on flexi working. However this was sent more than a year after the 2007 election. In answer to a parliamentary question Scottish ministers advised that: ‘Of course there is a lot more to be done in terms of encouraging flexible working where appropriate across the public sector. The Scottish government is not in a position to direct other public bodies but is aiming to lead by example.’

75. “year on year, the journeys Scots make are greener, safer and easier” - SNP Manifesto, page 24

Promise broken. The percentage of adults travelling by car has been consistently around 67% and the latest figures show a slight increase. The SNP transport minister Stewart Stevenson presided over the December 2010 fiasco of journeys made by Scots as the M8 and M9 were closed for days.

76. “everyone should be able to have a secure, warm home at a cost they can afford. For many in Scotland today that remains out of reach. The Scottish Parliament has passed a raft of legislation to tackle homelessness and improve the quality of Scottish housing. Now it’s time to deliver.” SNP Manifesto, page 46

Promise broken. Scottish Government’s Scotland Performs website notes that “The supply of new housing fell by 16% (3,532 houses) between 2008/09 and 2009/10. The recession continues to impact adversely on the housing sector in Scotland, in particular, the level of private house building.... only 11,555 houses being built by the private sector in 2009-10 - this is the lowest figure in this sector since the early 1980s.”

77. "At least half of health board members will be elected by the public" - SNP Manifesto, page 36

Promise broken. Pilot schemes have taken place in Fife and Dumfries and Galloway but have not been extended elsewhere and half of health board members in Scotland have not been elected.

78. "ensure there is a renewable capability in each public building" - SNP Manifesto, page 29

Promise broken. This has not been done.

79. "ensure there is renewable generation in every Scottish school" - SNP Manifesto, page 29

Promise broken. This has not been done, and the SNP council in Edinburgh famously removed renewable generation from several new schools in inherited during the construction phase.

80. "a connection to an overland station at Edinburgh airport, avoiding the additional cost and risk of the proposed new hub station under the airport runway" - SNP Manifesto, page 25

Promise broken. The Edinburgh Airport Rail Link was cancelled following a parliamentary vote in September 2007

81. "introduce annual health and fitness checks in schools, by doubling the number of school nurses" - SNP Manifesto, page 39

Promise broken. This has not happened. Figures compiled by Labour from Freedom of Information releases show an increase from 308 to 330. At the current rate of progress, it would take 27 years for the figure to double.

82. "replace the current NHS clinical negligence scheme with a no-fault system of compensation" - SNP Manifesto, page 37

Promise broken. The SNP established a working group to consider the issue, but have failed to make any serious effort to introduce no-fault compensation.

83. "Reduce anti-depressant use by 10 per cent by 2009" - SNP Manifesto, page 37

Promise broken. Scottish Government statistics from September 2010 show an increase of 7% on the year. On 28 September 2010 Public Health Minister Shona Robison said: "The level of prescription of anti-depressants has increased over the past three years."

84. "Intensify initiatives to implement the conclusions of the Care 21 Report on the future of unpaid care in Scotland" - SNP Manifesto, page 39

Promise broken. The Care 21 Report made twenty-two conclusions and recommendations, not all of which have been implemented.

85. "additional funding to provide dedicated services for young carers" - SNP Manifesto, page 39

Promise broken. The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, Mapping of services to young carers in Scotland 2009, found that *"the research highlighted a 'patchwork' of service provision to young carers across the 32 local authority areas in Scotland and an uneven distribution of services within areas. The majority of the dedicated services are delivered by voluntary sector organisations and many rely on short-term charitable funding sources. The sustainability of many of the services is under threat."*

86. "The responsibilities of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth will be... more Scots in better paid jobs", - SNP Manifesto, page 8

Scotland's employment rate – once ahead of England – was at 70.7, per cent behind England at 71.2 per cent (for Q3 2010). Since the baseline position of 2006, the gap between Scotland's employment rate and the 5th highest OECD country has grown from 2.6 percentage points to 5.2 percentage points in 2009.

87. "by 2011 carers in greatest need will have a guaranteed annual entitlement to breaks from caring" - SNP Manifesto, page 39

Promise broken. The SNP did not include this matter in the concordat with local authorities, and has been unable to resolve the impasse to making this happen.

88. "providing personalised advice and information and making healthy choices more accessible" - SNP Manifesto, page 39

Promise broken. Personalised advice is not universally available for all Scots and healthy choices are not spread across all areas.

89. "immediately abolish prescription charges for people with chronic health conditions, people with cancer and people in full time education or training" - SNP Manifesto, page 40

Promise broken. Where as the Labour government introduced free prescriptions for cancer patients in England several years ago, the SNP government has not done so.

90. "we will abolish sportscotland and establish the 3 national centres currently run by sportscotland as not-for-profit trusts." - SNP Manifesto, page 41

Promise broken. Sportscotland has not been abolished.

91. "ensure that all primary school children receive free fruit and provide free fruit for pregnant women and pre-school children using the model of market-led pregnancy cards from the major supermarkets" - SNP Manifesto, page 40

Promise broken. The Scottish Government said in *Healthy Eating, Active Living* in 2008: "*We have considered our manifesto commitment to provide free fruit to pregnant women and children in pre school establishments. We have concluded that to best improve maternal and infant nutrition this commitment should be broadened out to include maternal and infant nutrition generally. We will provide NHS Health Boards with broad parameters within which to work with their partners, but intend that they will have flexibility within this to consider a range of interventions which best meet their local population's needs.*" The number of schools who have extended the previous Executive's scheme for free fruit for P1 and P2 pupils has fallen from 51% to 48%.

92. "ensure that every pupil has 2 hours of quality PE each week delivered by specialist PE teachers" - SNP Manifesto, page 41

Promise broken. This has not happened.

93. "Care services for disabled people and others should help maintain the independence of the individual by giving them greater choice over the ways in which their needs are met." - SNP Manifesto, page 38

Promise broken. The Self-Directed Support (Scotland) Bill, formally consulted on by the Scottish Government, was dropped from the final SNP legislative programme, and will now not become law in this parliament.

- 94. "children will be given free year-round access to council swimming pools" - SNP Manifesto, page 41**
Promise broken. This happens in two local authorities, both Labour
- 95. "a guarantee of 5 days outdoor education for every school pupil" - SNP Manifesto, page 41**
Promise broken. This does not happen.
- 96. "post-independence we plan to develop a fully integrated tax and benefit system to guarantee every citizen a minimum income" - SNP Manifesto, page 44**
Promise broken. There is no plan for any citizen minimum income guarantee, either pre- or post-independence
- 97. "opt for de-centralist policy solutions that devolve power to local level wherever that is possible" - SNP Manifesto, page 44**
Promise broken. The SNP government has famously removed decision-making from local people in a number of areas, such as the Trump development application, and the closure of schools in the area where the education minister hopes to stand for election.
- 98. "introduce 'Life begins' health checks for all men and women when they reach the age of 40, delivered through GP surgeries or local health centres" - SNP Manifesto, page 39**
Promise broken. After years of delay, this had been down-graded from health checks involving medical staff to a pilot scheme in one area where people can log onto a website to answer questions online
- 99. "prior to independence we will work to reduce dependency by improving educational and economic opportunities, particularly in areas of deprivation" - SNP Manifesto, page 44**
Promise broken. The John Rowntree Foundation's report Monitoring poverty and social exclusion in Scotland 2010 found that: "By the first half of 2010, unemployment in Scotland had surpassed that in England, having been markedly lower at the start of the recession... During the recession, the proportion of children in low-income households – the 'child poverty rate' – went up in Scotland by 2%, whereas it went down in England by 1%... There was no change during the recession in the numbers of working-age adults in low-income households in Scotland. However, in-work poverty did increase over the year, indicating a shift in the composition of low-income households from workless to in-work poverty."
- 100. "introduce a first time buyers' grant of £2,000, to help with the costs and outlays of buying their first home" - SNP Manifesto, page 46**
Promise broken. This has not happened.