

FRAGOMEN

UK General Election 2019 and Immigration

A Fragomen Manifesto Compendium



Who's who: UK Party Leaders



CONSERVATIVE PARTY:

Who? Boris Johnson, Prime Minister and Leader of the Conservative Party since July 2019, and Member of Parliament for Uxbridge and South Ruislip.

What? Currently the governing party, in coalition with the DUP, having lost their majority of seats in the House of Commons at the 2017 general election.



LABOUR PARTY:

Who? Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party since September 2015 and Member of Parliament for Islington North since 1983.

What? A party that grew from the trade union movement and socialist parties of the nineteenth century. Labour was last in government between 1997-2010 under Tony Blair and Gordon Brown.



LIBERAL DEMOCRATS PARTY:

Who? Jo Swinson, Leader of the Liberal Democrats since 2019, and Member of Parliament for East Dunbartonshire since 2017 (following a previous period in Parliament from 2005 – 2015.)

What? A liberal political party, entered a coalition government with the Conservatives in 2010 until the 2015 general election, at which their support was dramatically reduced.



PLAID CYMRU:

Who? Adam Price, Leader of Plaid Cymru since 2018. A Member of the National Assembly for Wales since 2016, he was previously Member of Parliament for Carmarthen East and Dinefwr from 2001 – 2010.

What? A social democratic political party in Wales advocating for Welsh independence from the UK.



THE BREXIT PARTY:

Who? Nigel Farage, Leader of the Brexit Party since 2019.

What? A Eurosceptic party that became active in 2019 with an aim to ensure that the UK leaves the EU.



THE DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY:

Who? Arlene Foster, Leader of the Democratic Unionist Party since 2015, and Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly for Fermanagh and South Tyrone.

What? A unionist party that works to strengthen Northern Irish relations with the UK.



THE GREEN PARTY:

Who? Siân Berry and Jonathan Bartley, Co-Leaders of the Green Party of England and Wales since September 2018.

What? The party's ideology combines environmentalism with left-wing economic policies. They gained their first Member of Parliament, Caroline Lucas in 2010.

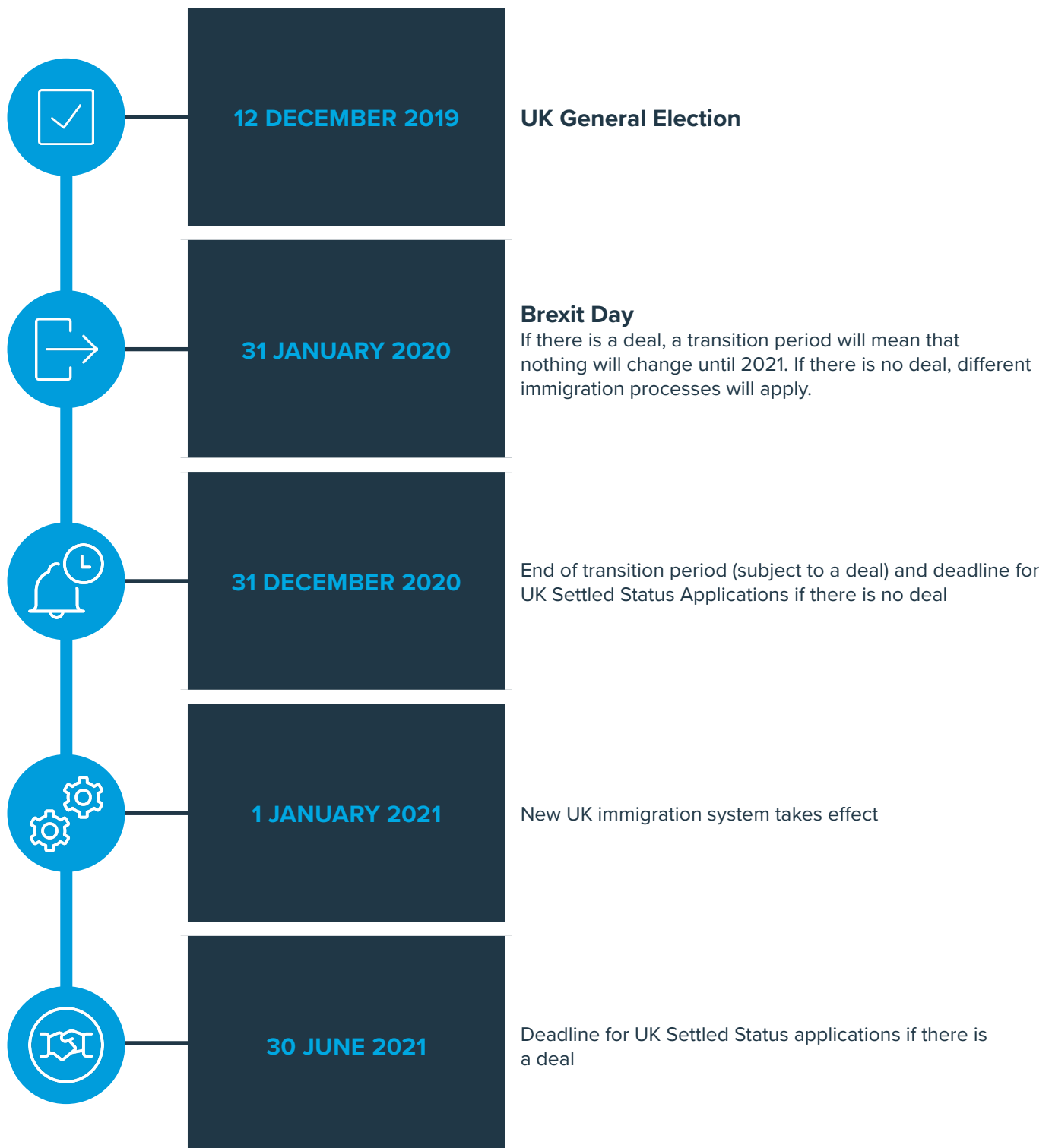


THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY:

Who? Nicola Sturgeon, Leader of the Scottish National Party, current First Minister of Scotland and Member of the Scottish Parliament since 1999.

What? A Scottish nationalist and social-democratic political party which supports and campaigns for Scottish independence.

UK General Election & Brexit Timeline

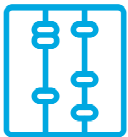




Conservative manifesto



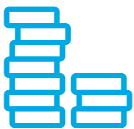
Leave the EU in January 2020, without any further referendums or renegotiations



Australian-style points based system with a priority for those with a “good grasp” of English, that have abided by the law in their own countries and have good education, qualifications and a job offer from the UK



Treat EU and non-EU citizens the same, as long as they meet their criteria



Want migrants to contribute to the NHS before they can benefit from it by increasing the Immigration Health Surcharge



NHS Visa – for qualified doctors, nurses and allied health professionals who have been offered a job by the NHS, with English language requirements, reduced fee and support to come with their dependants



Fast track entry for technology and science graduates from the best universities worldwide, and student visa to allow students to apply to continue working in the UK after graduating



Review and refine the rules around the start up visa and exceptional talent visa routes



Labour Party manifesto



Secure a new deal within three months of coming to power and then have a referendum on this deal within six months



Prevent a no deal Brexit



Potentially leave the door open to free movement if the UK were to leave the EU



Replace the EU Settlement Scheme with an “declaratory right” system for EU nationals that are currently in the UK – this would grant EU nationals the automatic right to live and work in the UK



Create a humane immigration system built on human rights, that meets the skills and labour shortages in our economy and public services



Restore the overseas domestic workers’ visa



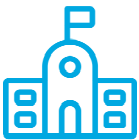
Reduce/remove the minimum income requirement for family visas



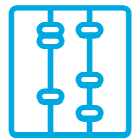
Liberal Democrat manifesto



Stop Brexit and save freedom of movement, or alternatively, have a people's vote with the option to stay in the EU



Non-political agency to take over application processing and Departments for Business and Education to takeover policy making on work permits and student visas



Tier 2 work visas to be replaced with a merit-based system and new work visa for students for two years after graduating



"Training Up Britain" – programme that would capitalize on migrant's skills



Reduce/remove the minimum income requirement for family visas



Allow Hong Kong nationals to travel to the UK freely and apply for residence as a result of the current political crisis.



Plaid Cymru manifesto



Devolved migration policy so that Wales can have their own migration quota



Hold a People's Vote on a revised deal



Want Wales to have full membership of the EU Single Market and to remain in the Customs Union



Welsh Migration Advisory Service – a system where the gaps in skills are filled, especially in agriculture and social care, and where the Welsh health service is protected from staff shortages



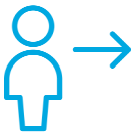
Turn the current EU Settlement Scheme application into a registration system instead. This would make sure that all EU citizens in the UK before Exit Day would have the right of permanent residents (instead of pre-settled status)



The Brexit Party manifesto



Priority is to leave the EU with a “Clean Break”, with no extended transition period



Stop human trafficking



Reduction of annual immigration



Fair points based system which would also take into account the skills gap and “wage stagnation”



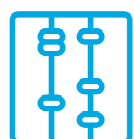
The Democratic Unionist manifesto



Want a deal that works for Northern Ireland with the rest of the UK when leaving the EU



No borders in the Irish Sea



Points based immigration system that attracts the best from around the world and addresses gaps in the labour market



The Green Party manifesto



Pro-European and want the UK to remain in the EU



Hold a People's Vote on a revised deal



No minimum income rules for family visas and full workplace rights for migrants



Abolish the powers under 2014 and 2016 Immigration Acts including Right to Rent Checks and the 'deport first, appeal later' rule



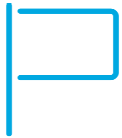
Remove the Immigration Health Surcharge



Reduce/remove the minimum income requirement for family visas

SNP

The Scottish National Party manifesto



Wants Scotland to become an independent, European country with devolved immigration powers



Wants Scotland to have full membership of the EU Single Market and to remain in the Customs Union with the protection of freedom of movement



Supports a second referendum and revocation of Article 50 if that is the only alternative to a No Deal



Wants the UK government to replace the EU Settlement Scheme with a declaratory system with proof of status



Opposes the £30,000 minimum salary threshold for Tier 2 visas



Remove the Immigration Skills Charge and opposes a similar charge being introduced for EU workers after Brexit



Reduce/remove the minimum income requirement for family visas



End visa fees for children