

## **LGBTI Equality and the Independence Referendum**

### **Equality Law**

1. If there is a vote for independence, will your party support protecting equality in the written constitution of Scotland, including on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status?
2. If there is a vote to remain in the UK, will your party support further devolution of equal opportunities powers, as is already the case in Northern Ireland, so that Scotland can protect the progress that has been made in recent years and deal with the deficiencies of current equality law, including:
  - That discrimination on grounds of gender identity and intersex status are not fully covered
  - That unlike sex, gender reassignment, race and disability, there is no protection from harassment in the provision of goods, facilities and services for the sexual orientation protected characteristic
  - That same-sex couples are not currently entitled to equal pension provisions under private sector pension schemes

Would you support complete or partial devolution of equal opportunities powers?

3. In your view, would a vote for independence or a vote to remain in the UK be better for the future of equality law in Scotland, and why?

### **Leadership and Resources**

4. If there is a vote for independence, in what ways will your party ensure that Scotland commits adequate leadership and resources on efforts to secure LGBTI equality and human rights through public services (e.g. promoting equality in schools, tackling hate crime)?
5. If there is a vote to remain in the UK, in what ways will your party ensure that Scotland commits adequate leadership and resources on efforts to secure LGBTI equality and human rights through public services?
6. In your view, would a vote for independence or a vote to remain in the UK be better for the future of efforts to secure LGBTI equality and human rights through public services, and why?

### **Foreign Affairs and International Development**

7. If there is a vote for independence, how will your party ensure that Scotland has a strong influence promoting LGBTI equality and human rights around the world, for instance through diplomatic efforts and the provision of aid?

8. If there is a vote to remain in the UK, how will your party ensure that Scotland is able to play its part in promoting LGBTI equality and human rights around the world?
9. In your view, would a vote for independence or a vote to remain in the UK better enable Scotland to promote LGBTI equality and human rights around the world, and why?

### **Asylum**

10. If there is a vote for independence, will your party ensure that Scotland welcomes LGBTI people seeking asylum from their home country because of a well-founded fear of persecution on grounds of their sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status?
11. If there is a vote to remain in the UK, will your party support the improvement of the UK's asylum processes so that LGBTI people with a well-founded fear of persecution in their home country because of their sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status, can find asylum in the UK?
12. In your view, would a vote for independence or a vote to remain in the UK be better for the future of asylum provision in Scotland, and why?

### **Summary**

13. In your view, why should LGBTI people in Scotland vote for independence or vote to remain in the UK, both in terms of LGBTI equality and also more generally?