

For immediate release
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Employment Support Scotland calls on all parties to prioritise employment support for jobseekers

This week, Employment Support Scotland published its employment manifesto calling for all parties to commit to support jobseekers into high quality employment.

The manifesto was launched yesterday at a hustings event in Stirling, jointly held with the Scottish Training Federation. The hustings provided an opportunity for attendees to question the candidates from the Scottish National Party, Scottish Green Party and Scottish Liberal Democrat Party about the future challenges in the delivery of government-funded employment and training programmes and their party's policies to address them.

The Employment Support Scotland manifesto is calling on candidates of all political parties to commit to four principles: to provide opportunities for everyone to have access to fulfilling jobs paid above living wage rates; to ensure equality is a priority and tailor employment services to people who face the greatest difficulty accessing sustainable jobs; to invest in people and fund employability services to get the best return from people; and finally to work together to create a one-stop services approach to encourage collaboration to remove barriers in the jobs market.

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Notes to Editors

1. Employment Support Scotland, the ERSA network in Scotland, is the membership body for organisations delivering employment support in Scotland. Spanning the public, private and charity sectors, its members are committed to helping jobseekers enter and sustain work which suits their circumstances and fulfils their potential. Their services support young jobseekers, those with disability and health conditions and the long term unemployed. More information can be found [here](#).
2. The Employment Support Scotland manifesto can be found in full [here](#).
3. In the photo from l-r: John Wilson, Scottish Green Party; Laurie Russell, Employment Support Scotland Chair; John Watson, Scottish Liberal Democrat Party; Stuart McKenna, Scottish Training Federation; Dave Doogan, Scottish National Party.
4. The Employment Related Services Association is the membership body across the UK for providers of employment support. It has members drawn across the public, private and voluntary sectors, with over two thirds of its membership not for profit. More information can be found [here](#).