

# The radical tax policies I'd be looking for if we had a...

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I am delighted Corbyn has backed the idea that he will [follow his party conference on a second referendum](#) today. Assuming that the conference is given a free vote there is no doubt that Labour party members will back the idea. That will enormously boost Labour, its membership and the belief that the members may actually be able to influence Labour Party policy, which will help many when it comes to voting.

But let's consider Labour's preferred option instead. This is a general election. Talk of it appears to be almost open now. When a minister [has to deny it this morning](#) the possibility that it is a real option was openly acknowledged.

I believe a general election is now the best way to settle the Brexit question. It would be best for the country, for democracy and for Europe and allay all the nonsense on there being no choice but see this through. So saying, I acknowledge that Brexit would be the absolute number one issue in any such election. But let me suppose for a moment that other issues might be considered. Let me just suggest some tax and related issues Labour might like to consider. The following is not a complete list. It's just a starter for 10 (or a bit more):

- \* Make income tax rates more progressive - including a 50% top rate  
[theguardian.com/commentisfree/2011/sep/07/should-the-50p-tax-rate-go](http://theguardian.com/commentisfree/2011/sep/07/should-the-50p-tax-rate-go)
- \* Reduce tax rates on those with lower income
- \* Increase corporation tax rates for larger companies  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2014/01/30/george-osbornes-10-billion-a-year-tax-giveaway-to-big-companies/](http://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2014/01/30/george-osbornes-10-billion-a-year-tax-giveaway-to-big-companies/)
- \* Create an alternative minimum corporation tax  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2016/09/30/time-for-an-alternative-minimum-corporation-tax/](http://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2016/09/30/time-for-an-alternative-minimum-corporation-tax/)
- \* Create a proper general anti-avoidance principle to underpin the attack on tax avoidance  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2012/06/20/why-we-need-a-genuine-general-anti-avoidance-principle-to-beat-tax-abuse-2/](http://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2012/06/20/why-we-need-a-genuine-general-anti-avoidance-principle-to-beat-tax-abuse-2/)
- \* Create a Ministry of Tax to ensure the effective management of the tax system as

part of overall fiscal policy [taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/09/05/a-ministry-of-tax/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/09/05/a-ministry-of-tax/)

- \* Improved measurement of the UK tax gap and increase the resources available to tackle it  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/10/26/i-would-love-the-uk-to-have-reliable-tax-gap-data-but-right-now-that-still-looks-like-an-aspiration-and-not-a-reality/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/10/26/i-would-love-the-uk-to-have-reliable-tax-gap-data-but-right-now-that-still-looks-like-an-aspiration-and-not-a-reality/)
- \* Introduce public country-by-country reporting to hold large companies to account for the corporation tax they should pay  
[concernedafricascholars.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/caploss07-murphy-14th.pdf](https://concernedafricascholars.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/caploss07-murphy-14th.pdf)
- \* Equalise capital gains tax and income tax rates  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/07/17/wealth-taxation-a-programme-to-tackle-the-crisis-of-inequality-that-we-face/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/07/17/wealth-taxation-a-programme-to-tackle-the-crisis-of-inequality-that-we-face/)
- \* Abolish capital gains tax Entrepreneur's Relief which is a pure subsidy for those already wealthy  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2015/11/17/why-we-dont-need-capital-gains-tax-entrepreneurs-relief/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2015/11/17/why-we-dont-need-capital-gains-tax-entrepreneurs-relief/)
- \* Remove the cap on income tax so that it is paid at full rate on all earned income - however much it goes up to  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/WealthtaxUK816.pdf](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/WealthtaxUK816.pdf)
- \* Remove pension tax relief at higher rate with the aim of reducing wealth inequality  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/03/01/in-the-last-ten-years-the-uk-has-subsidised-pension-saving-by-481-billion-wasnt-there-a-better-use-for-that-money/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/03/01/in-the-last-ten-years-the-uk-has-subsidised-pension-saving-by-481-billion-wasnt-there-a-better-use-for-that-money/)
- \* Remove higher rate charitable donation tax relief  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/01/31/time-to-reform-charity-tax-relief-2/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/01/31/time-to-reform-charity-tax-relief-2/)
- \* Introduce an investment income surcharge on unearned income as the equivalent of national insurance on such earnings  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/WealthtaxUK816.pdf](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/WealthtaxUK816.pdf)
- \* Add new council tax bands to make this tax more progressive, allowing reduction in rates at lower rates and its removal from those in receipt of benefits  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2016/12/13/there-is-only-one-acceptable-council-tax-solution-to-the-care-crisis-and-thats-to-create-more-higher-rate-bands/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2016/12/13/there-is-only-one-acceptable-council-tax-solution-to-the-care-crisis-and-thats-to-create-more-higher-rate-bands/)
- \* Abolish university tuition fees  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2010/10/11/tuition-fees-the-neoliberals-just-dont-understand-why-we-must-educate-our-undergraduates/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2010/10/11/tuition-fees-the-neoliberals-just-dont-understand-why-we-must-educate-our-undergraduates/)
- \* Write off student debt  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/05/09/to-get-young-people-to-vote-offer-to-write-off-student-debt/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/05/09/to-get-young-people-to-vote-offer-to-write-off-student-debt/)
- \* Create a National Investment Bank to build the new housing this country needs at affordable prices [greennewdealgroup.org/](https://greennewdealgroup.org/)
- \* Bring the control of all economic policy back under the control of the Treasury since monetary policy is now effectively inoperative in the UK  
[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/06/27/the-role-of-the-bank-of-england-the-debate-continues/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/06/27/the-role-of-the-bank-of-england-the-debate-continues/)

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- \* Remove the savings rate tax as ISAs already provide all the same benefits and this allowance complicates the tax system
- \* Restrict ISA investment to funds creating new employment and real investment in the UK

[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/05/31/its-time-to-scrap-isas-and-other-tax-related-savings-schemes/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/05/31/its-time-to-scrap-isas-and-other-tax-related-savings-schemes/)

- \* Replace inheritance tax with a wealth tax

[taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/03/25/its-time-to-tax-wealth/](https://taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2018/03/25/its-time-to-tax-wealth/)

- \* Pilot a Carbon Usage Tax commonspace

[.scot/articles/11614/10-steps-could-create-fairer-better-tax-system-independent-scotland](https://scot/articles/11614/10-steps-could-create-fairer-better-tax-system-independent-scotland)

I'm open to suggestions, and ones on ranking of priorities as well.