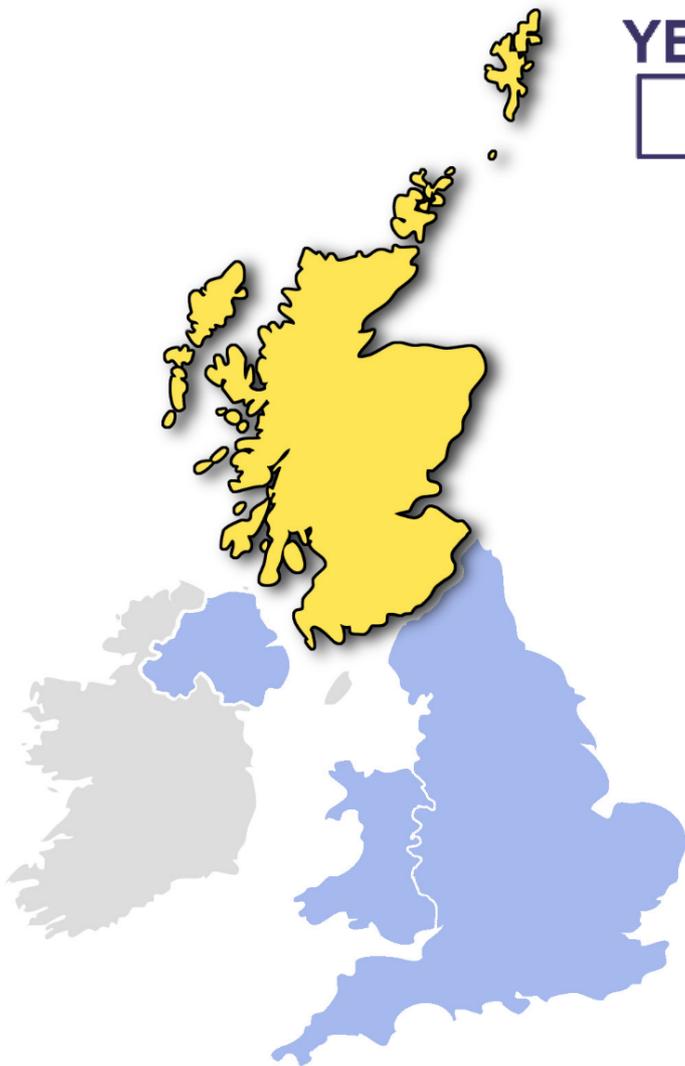


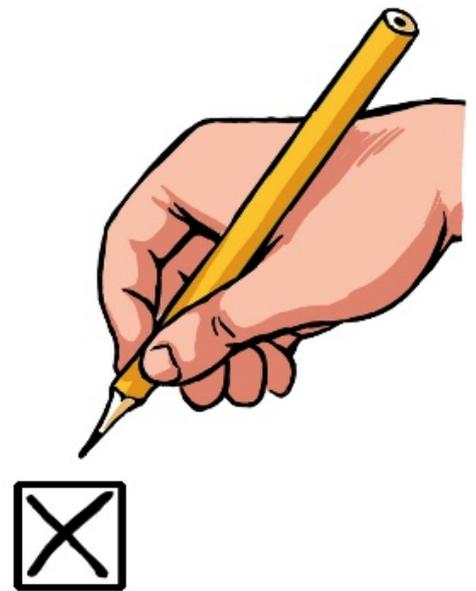
Renewing Democracy through Independence



YES



NO



Easy Read Summary





'Building a New Scotland' gives people information they need to make a choice in a referendum.



The Scottish Government thinks that people who live in Scotland have the right to decide if Scotland should be an independent country.



Scotland is a nation in the United Kingdom (UK). It has its own parliament and elected government. The Scottish Government believes that the wishes of the people of Scotland should be respected.



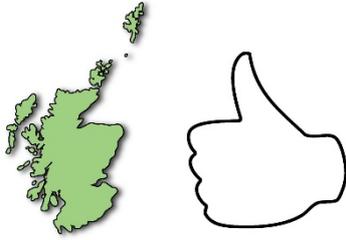
The UK has left the European Union (EU).



The UK's House of Commons and unelected House of Lords could change the powers of the Scottish Parliament.



The Scottish Government wants Scotland's decision-making to be respected.



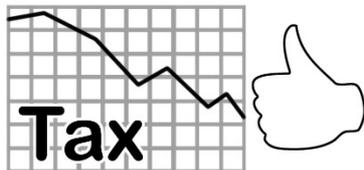
Scotland has already benefitted from decisions made by Scotland's Parliament and Scotland's Government.



These include free personal care for older people, no prescription and dental charges, free university education, and not making the NHS private



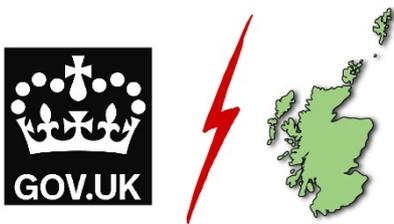
Families on low incomes have received help with the cost of living through the Scottish Child Payment scheme.



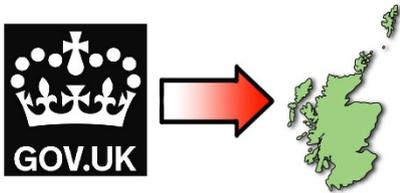
Using the limited powers available, Scottish Government decisions on tax have made a fairer system. Most Scottish taxpayers pay less than they would if they lived elsewhere in the UK.



The voting system for Scottish local and parliament elections is also fairer. The number of politicians from different parties in the Scottish Parliament is closer to how people voted.



The party in power at Westminster has 6 MPs for all of Scotland. They have not won an election in Scotland for almost 70 years



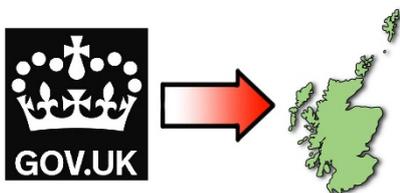
Only the UK's Government and Parliament can make decisions about some issues.



These include decisions on defence and whether Scotland should be in the EU, as well as most decisions on energy and environmental projects.



The UK Government makes most of the decisions on paying more or less tax, pensions and benefits like Universal Credit.



Some UK Government decisions have been bad for people in Scotland. There is more detail in the main paper.



For example, money from Scotland's North Sea Oil could have been invested and saved in a fund.

BREXIT



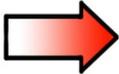
Scotland has been taken out of the EU but it voted to remain. The UK Government's Brexit deal is making it harder for people who live in Scotland to travel, work and do business in EU countries.



The UK Government has refused to give Scotland powers over migration. Migration is when people from one part of the world choose to live in another part of the world permanently.



Scotland is the only nation of the UK where it is forecast that the number of people of working age will reduce without a change in policy. We need to attract people from other countries.



Even if the UK Government gave more powers to Scotland, the power to make certain decisions would still stay at Westminster.



Most members of the Scottish Parliament want to give the people of Scotland the choice of independence in a referendum.



Independence will give Scotland the power to decide its future, with decisions made by governments the people of Scotland have voted for.