



National MANIFESTO

30th Anniversary Edition

LIVING DOCUMENT
REVISION 4



INTRODUCTION

Onwards and Upwards to a True Sovereign Nation

This year the United Kingdom Independence Party celebrates its 30th Anniversary. We are proud of our successful campaign for a democratic referendum that gave people a voice to leave the federal European Union and to restore the United Kingdom's sovereignty. However, as we reflect on our party's achievements, this anniversary marks something of a turning point for the Party as the issues we face today are very different from those of 1993.

We believe that, since 2016, our government has failed to take back control of our laws or our borders. The small boats crisis is proof that leaving the ECHR and 1951 UN Refugee Convention is essential. The Withdrawal Agreement is a disgrace; it still gives the EU and the ECJ too much say in Northern Ireland and in our fishing grounds. To regain full sovereignty over our own country, we are prepared to scrap the Withdrawal Agreement and withdraw from the ECHR.

We remain true to our core principle, which is for a sovereign, self-governing United Kingdom. Never again, to make any Treaty or to join any international organisation that involves the imposition of foreign laws and the surrender of any part of our sovereignty. We stand for free markets, financial responsibility and small State while supporting a vibrant low-tax economy where businesses can thrive and take advantage of the great opportunities now open to our nation since we left the EU.

We in the UK Independence Party are proud to have developed a common-sense manifesto, which has evolved to take account of new developments. There are still too many major issues in domestic politics where the Establishment parties remain united in opposition to the opinions and interests of ordinary people and where they pursue very expensive policies that have no mandate from the voters.

We are seeing undemocratic activist groups with huge funding and good lawyers successfully block national infrastructure and important policy reforms. This makes a mockery of the democratic processes. Our Party aims to give the people a democratic voice. Accordingly, key components of our new manifesto are our push for democratic referendums to stop Net Zero, abolish the House of Lords, change the unrepresentative Voting System and restore Capital Punishment.

We will continue to speak up for the silent majority, who the globalist Establishment routinely ignores. We are the only party that will legislate to control the population level as a balance between immigration and emigration and protect the countryside from rampant over-development. We will uphold freedom of speech and expression, traditional British culture and values. We will end suffocating culture of political correctness and the effect of cancel culture.

We will encourage new home building for sale, for rent, and for the homeless, end the green agenda, make energy as cheap as possible, be tough on crime, reform the BBC, reform the NHS, re-build the military, reform education, and continue to fight for full independence from the EU and other interfering bodies.

In the next general election, the UK Independence Party will offer the public a choice to vote to restore common sense politics to the United Kingdom.

NEIL HAMILTON

LEADER of UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY

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SECTION 1 - UK & GOVERNANCE

1.1 The United Kingdom.

We will protect & save The Union.

Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland Protocol/Windsor Framework arrangement is an abomination. It continues to split the UK.

The UK entered the European Union as one single entity but left it with a trade border down the Irish Sea. This affects trade and even postal parcels moving between two integral parts of the UK and leaves Northern Ireland in the European Union's single market. Northern Ireland is therefore subject to laws emanating from the EU and enforced by the European Court of Justice. This contravenes the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement, that guaranteed no change in the constitutional position of Northern Ireland without the express consent of its people.

By imposing this unconstitutional trade barrier between Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Protocol is damaging trade between each and hence it is also harming both economies. Article 16 of the Protocol enables the British government to unilaterally suspend the Protocol's operation where it is causing economic, societal, or environmental difficulties.

The UK should trigger Article 16 as a means of scrapping the Protocol to reinstate the position of Northern Ireland as a sovereign part of the United Kingdom.

The UK should resurrect the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill.

If the EU declines to negotiate, then the UK should unilaterally withdraw from the Northern Ireland Protocol/Windsor Framework so as to do away with the border presently in the Irish Sea.

- The Party will trigger Article 16 of the Northern Ireland Protocol within the Withdrawal Agreement to encourage the EU to negotiate over problems still arising from the implementation of the Northern Ireland Protocol, despite the claims made about the Windsor Framework. Further, we will prepare the ground by bringing the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill back to Parliament. In the event of intransigence by the EU, which is likely, we will withdraw unilaterally from the Protocol/Windsor Framework.

Devolution

The ever-increasing devolution of powers to the devolved administrations is a one-way ratchet to the ultimate break-up of the UK.

This could happen due to at least three sources of instability.

1. The devolved nations could continue to push for greater autonomy and ultimately for independence as they grow even more used to exercising power using ever more subsidies from England, for which they are not properly accountable. In fact, those subsidies seem able to be diverted to support anti-UK activities.
2. English-taxpayer subsidies to the devolved nations are enormous - in Wales they amount to well over 20% of the entire income of Wales. Devolution creates pressure within England for reduced subsidies, which are seen as an unfair attempt to buy-off nationalism, even though they embolden it.
3. A general election could result in a UK Government formed with a minority of seats in England and dependent upon MPs from Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland to make up its Commons majority. In this scenario it is hard to see an Opposition party with a majority of English seats, or the voters of England (85% of the UK population), accepting the legitimacy of a UK Government. **See Section 1.4 Political Reform.**

NHS prescription charges are free in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland but not in England. Scotland also offers cheaper university fees than England. Devolution creates added layers of politicians and officials and so weakens accountability, as the devolved assembly can always seek to blame the UK for their own self-generated failings.

This issue is dormant whilst the UK Government has a large overall Commons majority and an even larger majority in England. However, the Party believes the constitutional issue cannot be shirked and that the half-way house of devolution is fundamentally unstable.

- The Party will stop Welsh, NI and Scottish MPs from voting on English laws so that there is comparability with the devolved administrations who pass devolved laws without the votes of English MPs.
- The Party will stop the devolution of power to the Welsh and Scottish parliaments with the objective of winding them up with the intended approval of the electorates in the UK and devolved nations.
- The Party will review the Barnett Formula, which was first used in 1978.

Judicial Sovereignty

Parliamentary sovereignty has been diluted by Northern Ireland's continued membership of the EU single market and therefore still being subject to ECJ jurisdiction, and the UK's adherence to the European Convention on Human Rights. The final arbiter of the law being the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg (ECHR).

Whilst an EU member, the UK Parliament had no power to over-rule or amend the ECJ's decisions. This gross infringement of British sovereignty was central to our successful Brexit campaign. But Britain remains a member of the Council of Europe which oversees and enforces the European Convention on Human Rights, a legally binding treaty with a remit that is far broader than was ever exercised by the EU. Although required by the Lisbon Treaty of 2009 the EU has not become signatory to the ECHR. It doesn't want its laws to be applied to itself by the ECJ.

Judgements from the ECHR, particularly over the last twenty years have had a profound impact on constraining social, economic, and political policy in the UK. This is intolerable in a modern democracy where the people rather than a foreign court, must be sovereign. For example, the ECHR required the UK to give the vote to some prisoners, despite longstanding domestic legislation against it and public opinion that remained firmly opposed to it.

In recent years judges in Strasbourg have given binding legal rulings on abortion, asylum, criminal sentencing, deportation, extradition, homosexuality, immigration, marriage, military discipline, policing, pollution, prison discipline, social security, suicide, transgenderism, and much else besides.

These political and moral issues must be decided by politicians responsible to the UK electorate, not by unaccountable judges appointed by international bodies.

- The Party will end the influence of all international bodies over our justice system and remove unnecessary protection for foreign nationals whilst continuing to protect the rights of UK citizens under UK law.
- The Party will scrap the Human Rights Act 1998 (HRA) which incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK law and extends entitlements to foreign nationals. This makes it practically impossible to deport foreign criminals.
- The Party will ensure that all laws covering anti-UK activities, such as facilitating illegal immigration into the UK are based on an extraterritorial basis. So that those who involve themselves in such activities abroad, can be arrested and charged should they ever enter, or return to, the UK after conducting such activities.

Supreme Court

The Blair government's Human Rights Act 1998 weakened British democracy by making the European Convention on Human Rights an overarching British law to which all other laws should defer. An explosion of human rights cases over the last two decades has had a profound effect on British law and has empowered the British judiciary to apply Strasbourg inspired norms. Judicial restraint has yielded to judicial activism. UK judges have become used to acting as quasi-politicians, political overlords of the democratic process.

The most damaging example of judicial overreach occurred in 2019 when the anti-Brexit campaigner, Gina Miller, persuaded the Supreme Courts that the Prime Minister's decision to prorogue Parliament was unlawful. Never before had judges, ruled that a quintessentially political issue, proroguing Parliament, could be quashed by the law.

Instead of answering to the people for an exercise of political power the Prime Minister had to answer to Lady Hale and her ten judicial colleagues in the Supreme Court.

This US inspired judicial activism trumped centuries of judicial restraint, during which judges had deferred to politicians on matters of 'high policy', because they respected Parliament's supremacy and the government's democratic mandate. The judgement was delivered by the then Court President, Baroness Hale, a notoriously 'woke' left-wing ex-academic who relished her moment of power by wearing a noticeable, spider brooch lauded by The Guardian as emblematic of 'the web she had spun to trap an unruly government'.

In recent years, the judiciary has become too powerful and too political. They have tended to reflect the values and norms of a global Brexit-loathing elite.

- The party will make the UK Supreme Court the final arbiter of UK law and it will be guided solely by statutes and secondary legislation made by our elected representatives.
- The Party supports a **UK Bill of Rights**, justiciable in the Courts, but capable of amendment by legislation should Parliament disagree with a Supreme Court judgement.
- The Party will ensure that judges are appointed based on legal merit and their ability to reflect, as Lord Denning used to put it, the views of the man on the Clapham omnibus, namely the views of the democratic majority.
- Judicial independence is fundamental to our constitution, but the corollary is that judges respect the supremacy of Parliament and do not indulge in political grandstanding. The Brexit process provided several instances of this unacceptable conduct, with the fair assumption that the judges were overwhelmingly Remainers threatening the reputation of judiciary for political impartiality.
- We will support Parliamentary confirmation hearings for justices of the Supreme Court, where their political and social attitudes can be openly examined.

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

Government policy is often influenced and steered by NGOs, which receive government funding and campaign for unrepresentative, left wing, woke and globalist causes. This is undemocratic.

- The Party will withdraw government funding for NGOs that campaign for unrepresentative woke, politically correct causes.
- The Party will review charity law and will remove the recently added notions of 'human rights' and 'equality and diversity' - which have become ciphers for left-wing politics- from being charitable purposes.

1.2 Local Government.

Efficient, accountable, and cost-effective services.

Local government is arguably as important as national government because delivery of most day-to-day services that residents rely upon is by their local authority rather than by Westminster. It is, therefore, vital that local government throughout the UK is both efficient and accountable to the people it serves.

The prime focus of local government should be on the smooth running of local services such as planning, housing, education, local refuse and recycling, parks, leisure facilities, transport, libraries and keeping local people safe. These services must run effectively and efficiently before councillors even think about spending money on vanity projects and needless climate emergencies.

- Non-essential jobs and the grossly inefficient and overpaid local government administration must be abolished.

Council Tax & Business Rates

Keeping Council Tax low is only possible by cutting excessive allowances for councillors; limiting executive pay and bonuses, keeping advertising and promotion budgets to a minimum; building partnerships with neighbouring councils to reduce costs; abolishing non-essential jobs; cutting red tape and, ending the promotion of woke and politically correct causes.

- The Party will act to cut allowances, pay, and bonuses for Councillors and Council staff, and have non-essential booklets, magazines and newspapers from councils stopped.
- The Party will stop all local government authorities from using taxpayers' money for political expenditure such as promoting or supporting woke and politically correct causes.

Businesses have premises, staff costs, regulations to meet and with business rates as well they cannot compete with on-line traders. Some high street stores provide services that cannot be obtained on-line but must run at a profit.

- The Party will abolish all business rates based on rentable value of property and replace it with a Local Tax based on 10% of business net profit.

It would require submission of business accounts to Council in duplicate of those submitted to HMRC. It might also encourage the Council to reduce parking costs to stimulate high street trade because that results in higher business profit and tax. The Council gets the Local Tax, and it is likely that many businesses,

will pay less as will pay more. It also favours the small shops so might help slow the decline of the high street, or even reverse it where businesses are no longer presently viable because of punitive business rates and higher parking charges.

Recycling & Waste

Many Councils have changed collections of recycling and waste to once every three weeks to cut costs.

- The Party will ensure a minimum frequency for all recycling and waste collections of once a fortnight.

Tip Taxes

Many councils are imposing additional charges at recycling centres for disposal of domestic waste from household alteration, DIY, and large items. This leads to an increase in fly tipping especially in rural areas. Residents pay for local recycling, rubbish, and waste services through council tax.

- The Party aims to make all domestic (non-commercial) waste services free at the point of delivery. There should be no additional taxes or payments for householders in recycling centres.

Local Democracy

Many local issues are decided by a limited number of Councillors representing a major party and only sometimes conducted with a local consultation which often allows councils to bulldoze through contentious local proposals such as out-of-town supermarkets, incinerators, major housing developments or construction of vanity projects.

- The Party will ensure binding local referenda to decide on contentious issues.

Cabinet System and Elected Mayors

Many councils have reverted to Leader and Cabinet Style management of council policy, which excludes the main opposition and minor party Councillors from the process. This places far too much power in the hands of too few people.

- The Party opposes the 'cabinet' system of local governance and advocates a return to a committee system, which brings more openness and transparency, thus facilitating cross-party collaborative working.
- The Party will scrap all directly elected mayoral posts, including 'Metro Mayor' and other forms of combined authority mayor including for the Greater London Assembly, which would appoint its own chairman.

Party Whip

The community is 'boss', and our councillors should be free to use their own judgement and to serve the wishes of those who elected them.

- The Party will not apply the whip to its councillors and will give its elected councillors the freedom to vote as they choose.

Statutory Duties

There are many statutory duties placed on local government, which consume most of the available Council Tax & Business Rate revenue that can be raised within the governments cap on increases in these taxes.

- The Party will carry out a review of the countless statutory duties placed on local government, to assess possible ways to reduce the cost burden on councils and taxpayers.

Social Care Costs

Social care costs borne by council taxpayers are unaffordable. A large proportion of council tax goes to social care, which remains unreformed and is severely underfunded. Councils in England now spend almost two-thirds of their budgets on social care (almost £4bn more than 10 years ago). This leaves less money in the budget to pay for other essential services. Councils have a further duty to support, house, and safeguard unaccompanied child asylum seekers, but they do not receive enough money from the government to meet the costs of doing so. Where children turn 18 while in council care, the authority must continue to provide support until the age of 25 but government funding 'drops significantly' at this point.

- The Party will make a recommendation in Section 7 of this manifesto **Taxation & Spending** to modify Council Tax. All adults in residence must pay towards the cost of Social Care.

Spending Control

Council Procurement Cards, which operate like credit cards, encourage over-spending and waste. Staff should stick within agreed limit budgets.

- The Party will review the use of Council Procurement cards and introduce restrictions on use and limits of spending.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)

Since the introduction of Public Space Protection Orders in 2014, they have been abused by Local Authorities to curtail lawful protest and criminalise free speech. As an example, the Ealing PSPO was used to outlaw silent prayer.

- The Party will repeal all Public Space Protection Orders.

Climate Emergencies

To assist the UK government reaching Net Zero by 2050, many councils are voluntarily declaring Climate Emergencies. Councils are diverting money from improving local services and spending it by limiting road use for cars, buying electric council vehicles, fitting solar panels on council buildings, and evictions of small farmers for re-wilding or for solar arrays.

- The Party opposes councils declaring 'Climate Emergencies'.

1.3 Civil Service Reform.

The Civil Service serves itself, not the people.

It has worked as the clandestine arm of a politically correct establishment, staffed largely by left wing, metropolitan and elitist graduates. It has stood in the way of democratic choice, and it is institutionally committed to maintaining the status quo at all costs.

Historically, the Civil Service resisted holding a referendum to leave the EU, failed to plan for a 'leave' outcome and dragged its feet even when the UK public voted to leave. It is being hopelessly ineffective in defending the UK borders during the small boat invasion in the English Channel and is woefully feeble in sending back immigrants when they enter the country illegally. It is also politically opposed to ridding us of unwanted EU laws on the statute book.

Too often, the unelected, Civil Service has opposed, frustrated, or defeated policy changes sought by democratically elected UK governments. It has even stood in the way of well-intentioned government manifesto commitments, which never see the light of day because the Civil Service effectively smother them with red tape.

Time for Change

The Civil Service should provide an important service to support the creation and implementation of government policy and it should be beneficial to creating good legislation. However, as currently constituted, the Civil Service is nothing but a left-wing delaying mechanism, a huge drain on the public purse and it is long overdue for change.

- The Party will reform the UK Civil Service to improve its efficiency, effectiveness, professionalism, staffing and legitimacy with a view to achieving improved democratic accountability.

Accountability and Oversight

The Civil Service as currently constituted, is a law unto itself. There is no democratic accountability, transparency, or democratic oversight. The Party will reform the Civil Service to rectify this and make it accountable to the Public. All registered voters will have a say in its management. Civil Servants are dirt employees of the public, who pay their salaries. The public are entitled to expect their employees to give good value for taxes and be fit for purpose.

- The Party will require the Civil Service to publish an annual report and audited accounts. We will give the Public the right to submit questions to senior executives at least annually and to receive answers. We will organise a public vote to accept or reject the annual report and accounts.
- The Party will legislate to subject Senior Civil Service executives to public election at every General Election and we will give the Public the right to vote out underperforming executives. Similar to parliamentary elections, the Civil Service Board will be bound to accept the outcome of a majority public vote.
- The Party will publish the job descriptions of every Civil or Public Servant which will clearly state the employee has a duty to punctually and efficiently implement all instructions given by the elected responsible government minister.
- The Party will subject all Civil and Public Servants to a tough and fully transparent annual performance appraisal process, with ministerial oversight.
- The Party will name, shame or sack public servants who fail to meet their targets and objectives. Procedures and expectations must conform to those of employees in private industry or business. We will demote or fire ineffective, slow, or non-compliant officials.
- The Party will introduce an inspection regime, independent of the Civil Service Commission and government, to make regular (at least annual) checks and critical reviews of staffing levels, remuneration, operations, and financing. We will ensure full transparency so that the media and public can read all such inspection reports without exception.

Cost of the Civil Service, Value for Money

According to the Taxpayers' Alliance, between March 2016 and March 2023 Civil Service employment increased from 418,340 to 519,780, a jump of 101,440 or 24.2% - the sharpest increase in at least 50 years. The size of the Civil Service is now 6.7 times the size of the British Army.

Civil Service Unions have negotiated ever-higher salaries, bonuses, and pay-offs for senior mandarins, some of whom earn more than the elected UK Prime Minister. The bloated Civil Service spends taxpayers' money to employ people in woke, politically correct jobs, many of which are of no value to taxpayers. Non-jobs waste taxpayers' money and they get in the way of real work.

- The Party will prioritise on delivering a service that works efficiently for the benefits of UK majority population.
- The Party will eliminate unnecessary red tape, bureaucracy, and administration.
- The Party will ensure that no Civil Servant or Public Servant can earn more than the Prime Minister.
- The Party will impose a cap on all Civil Service pay-offs.
- The Party will eliminate roles that simply exist to promote woke, politically correct causes.
- The Party will eliminate 'race related' roles especially those relating to a person's skin colour and woke politically correct non-jobs such as 'equality, diversity and inclusion officers' or staff training in 'critical race theory'.

Staffing and Recruitment

The Civil Service has become a clandestine pressure group working to undermine and weaken the elected government. It has manipulated its working practices in such a way that it has been able to discredit and bring down elected government ministers.

- The Party will broaden Civil Service recruitment. We need more working-class representation.
- The Party will insist that Civil Servants hold UK citizenship. We will not recruit anyone holding foreign nationality including dual nationality because, it is a conflict of loyalties. Recruitment must be exclusively from established UK resident citizens and representing all regions of the UK.
- The Party will give preference in recruitment to those who have lived and worked outside the M25 metropolitan bubble for a significant time. They must be willing to work anywhere within the UK.
- The Party will ensure that at least one quarter of Civil Service recruitment is of candidates with direct experience of the wider world, business, and commerce.
- The Party will establish a fast and efficient Civil Service employee grievance procedure to conform to the expectations and standards that the public expect of any normal employment situation in the private sector. Civil Servants wishing to raise a grievance against an elected government minister must do so, in private, within 30 days, failing which the complaint will become inadmissible.
- The Party will introduce an independent arbiter to consider, review, and decide on staff grievances.

1.4 Political Reform.

Electoral Reform.

All votes matter.

In the UK, we have different types of voting systems depending on the type of election. For parliamentary and in council elections, we have the 'First Past the Post' (FPTP) where the winner takes all. Anyone who does not support the winning party gets no political representation at all.

In regional assembly and some other elections, we use a 'Proportional Representation' system (PR), where parties win seats in proportion to the number of votes they actually receive. Under this system, smaller parties can gain representation in proportion to their votes, so minorities do have some political representation and hence, a voice.

The First Past the Post electoral system for parliamentary and local elections is archaic and designed to perpetuate the existence of a few major parties. It pays lip service to democracy and effectively excludes minor parties.

The Party aims to give the electorate a choice to replace the FPTP system with a form of PR, so that they can confidently vote for a party or candidate that they genuinely support. It should not be necessary for people to vote tactically just to keep out a candidate or party they do not want.

- The Party will organise a first referendum, to keep the existing FPTP system or to choose a group of three or four types of PR.
- If the electorate choose PR, we will then hold a second referendum to choose which of the types of PR to implement.

In September 2018, the High Court ruled that the Electoral Commission, misinterpreted the rules before the EU referendum took place and gave erroneous advice to a 'leave' campaign, which allowed it to break the law without it being aware. It also carried out biased investigations into members of the pro-Leave Campaigns who were all innocent of wrongdoing.

- The Party will abolish the partisan Electoral Commission which is unfit for purpose. We will scrap the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 and we will restore the system that operated under the previous impartial Representation of the People Act.
- The Party will improve enforcement of the criminal law covering electoral frauds and offences. Sentences are generally very modest, and, in many cases, those investigated by the police are often just given a police caution, despite being a serious crime with far-reaching consequences. There is a very low conviction rate. Law enforcement authorities do not pursue such offences with sufficient vigour.

Voting Eligibility

Currently there are different eligibility requirements to vote throughout the UK and for different types of election. We believe this to be unfair, confusing, and out of date. The Party will replace current legislation in order to provide a single set of voting rules applicable to all elections and referendums throughout the entire UK, including those within the devolved administrations.

- The Party will legislate to ensure, that only UK citizens, qualifying Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Republic of Ireland who are over 18 years of age who are registered to vote and who are not subject to any legal incapacity to vote, can take part in any UK elections.
- The Party will not change the current voting arrangements for British Overseas citizens.
- The Party does not support electronic voting in UK elections. We will ensure that physical counting of all votes continue.
- The Party supports photographic identification at polling stations to vote and we will campaign against any attempt by any future governments to remove this legal requirement.
- The Party will legislate to end postal voting fraud by restricting postal votes to only those with a valid reason for needing one (for example, students, and armed services, the aged, disabled, or infirm).

- The Party will legislate for all Students, to register to vote only at their habitual or parental home and not in the constituency where they are temporarily resident for educational purposes. If it is impractical to return home to vote, they will qualify for a postal vote but in their home constituency.
- The Party will legislate so that any MP who changes their party affiliation from that of their election must resign their seat and stand for re-election.
- The Party supports the Representation of the Peoples Act 1983, which forbids serving prisoners from being able to cast votes in any elections. The Party deplores past unsuccessful attempts by the ECHR to force the UK government to give prisoners the vote.

House of Lords

No Votes Matter

The House of Lords is the Upper House in our two-tier Parliament. As currently constituted it is an affront to democracy. Once full of rich landowners and the titled peers who had some appetite to uphold British culture and heritage, it is now full of unelected members who are mostly woke, politically correct, left wing and anti-democratic.

Blair's Labour Government passed the House of Lords Act 1999 to remove most hereditary Peers leaving a rump of 92 until a second phase of reform was complete. This second stage of reform never happened, and the ensuing Conservative government did nothing.

The Blair reforms led to the Upper House growing out of all proportion. Currently, it has 777 sitting members, and it is the only Upper House of any two-tier parliament in the world to be larger than its Lower House. It now comprises mostly unelected, often failed and unwanted retired mainstream MPs, plus their friends, party donors and out of touch religious patriarchs. They all get a plum job for life receiving attendance fees and travel expenses and we have no way to get rid of any of them. It has become an affront to democracy.

Serious problems emerged after the 2016 referendum, when the people voted by a majority to leave the European Union. The House of Lords forcefully opposed this democratic decision and it later vigorously resisted implementing tough laws to control our borders to end waves of illegal immigrants arriving by boat from France. In a typical, modern democracy, power lies with the people and its elected representatives in the Lower House. However, in the UK, the unelected Lords are effectively a law unto themselves and they do not take the peoples views or wishes into account in their deliberations.

- The Party objective is to reform the existing House of Lords to bring it up to date and make it fully accountable to the people.
- The Party will hold a yes/no referendum to abolish the existing appointed House of Lords and to replace it with an Upper revising Chamber. **Anyone registered to vote in UK general elections will be eligible to stand for election to the new Upper House** on a 4-year cycle; voting will be by proportional representation and there will be no more than the number of MPs in the Lower House which currently stands at 650.

Devolved Assemblies and Regional Governments

Save the Union

- The Party believes that only the Parliament of the United Kingdom should make laws within the UK.
- The Party does not support regional governments or devolved administrations.
- The Party will hold a yes/no referendum with the objective of winding up the Welsh and Scottish Parliaments and ending devolution powers. This referendum must involve the electorates of the entire UK.
- Prior to a referendum on the abolition of the Welsh and Scottish Parliaments we will stop Welsh, Scottish and NI MPs in Westminster from voting on English laws. **See Section 1.1 Devolution.**

Police and Crime Commissioners, Metro Mayors, elected Mayors

Pointless layer of Expensive Bureaucracy

- The Party will scrap the costly, devolved political posts of Police and Crime Commissioners, Metro Mayors, and elected Mayors which add nothing of value to the democratic process.
- The Party will return their functions to democratically elected central government or to local councils. **See Sections 1.2 The United Kingdom and 2.2 Police, Criminal Justice, Punishment and Prisons.**

Transparency and Trust

Transparency and trust are vital to democracy.

Good information management and recordkeeping are vital for that transparency and trust in a democracy.

- The Party will ensure that record keeping is adequately funded and resourced.
- The Party will review and improve regulations around record keeping in the public sector.
- The Party will improve freedom of information and access to public records, particularly closing loopholes currently used to withhold information which should legitimately be available to the public.
- The Party will ensure that data protection and other information rights legislation remains fit for purpose.
- The Party will provide the essential records and evidence that the public need to rebuild and maintain trust in government and diminish the threat to representative democracy.
- The Party will review and clarify the current mishmash of legislation governing the collection, preservation and retention and ensure that it fully covers digital records and considers the way in which the digital world has impacted the work of government.
- The Party will consider whether police records across the UK should be public records and covered by public record legislation, as they are in Scotland.

1.5 FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

For too long the UK's national interests have taken second place behind international institutions, global big business, and foreign unions. This has led to elite, unelected international bodies having too much influence and control over the domestic policies of our democratically elected Parliament. The key points of the Party's thinking on foreign policy are as follows:

- The Party's key ambition is that the only laws that should apply within the UK territory are those wholly made by the UK Parliament, i.e., by the people's elected representatives who must always put the interests of the UK and of our own citizens first.
- The Party strongly opposes foreign interference with the internal affairs of the UK, its politics, its culture, or its laws. Our approach on foreign affairs is to put our own people, our own culture, and our own national interests first.
- The Party's policy is that the UK shall not make any treaty or join any international organisation, which involves in any way surrendering any part of our national sovereignty.
- The Party will remain an active member of the United Nations and will work to avoid international wars, resolve global crises, and help with natural disasters. Nonetheless, the Party strongly opposes the UN and its agencies playing the role of an unelected 'one world government'.
- The Party will stop the UN meddling in our domestic affairs to impose their worldwide political, cultural, and economic ambitions on our own people. The UN has strayed well beyond its remit with the woke global governance agenda, which now includes pressing people to use gender-neutral language to 'help create a more equal world' making unrealistic speeches about climate change, global warming or protecting the planet amongst other things.
- The Party will withdraw from all international treaties, conventions and 'compacts' that make our borders porous and immigration control impossible. For example, we will withdraw from the UN's Refugee Convention 1951, and the UN Global Migration Compact.
- The Party believes that the remit of the unelected World Health Organisation (WHO) is to give advice on health matters, and we will not let it impose worldwide decisions without the democratic consent of the UK people.
- The Party will remove the UK from all international Climate Treaties.

The UK remains a member of the Council of Europe, which oversees and enforces the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

- The Party opposes the UK's adherence to the ECHR. The Party opposes unaccountable judges appointed by this unelected foreign body taking political and moral decisions affecting the UK, in precedence to our democratically elected government. The Party will restore this right exclusively to our own democratically elected Parliament. The Party believes that the UK Supreme Court should have the final say on these matters and not the ECHR in Strasbourg.
- The Party will never make any Treaty or join any international organisation, such as the World Economic Forum (WEF), which could involve in any way surrendering any sovereignty. The WEF has no official or democratic legitimacy. The Party opposes the WEF, whose values undermine competition, democracy, and our national sovereignty.
- The Party generally opposes the international liberal establishment imposing woke, politically correct social and economic programmes on the entire planet without respect for national sovereignty or democracy.
- In office, the Party will conduct a full strategic foreign policy review to ensure that we can protect our nation, our overseas territories, and our vital interests.

- The Party respects the democratic right of all sovereign nations to act in their national interests. Our policy is non-interference with the affairs of other nations, except where a country presents a specific threat to our own national life or directly threatens a UK citizen.
- The Party seeks constructive relations with foreign countries, especially our allies.
- The Party supports peaceful resolution of actual and potential wars, whilst respecting our own national interests and the interests of relevant third parties. It is in the national interest of the UK to ensure that foreign wars do not lead to large numbers of people losing their homelands, as this can lead to unsafe migration to the Western World.
- The Party considers NATO membership to be in the UK's national interest as a defensive alliance.
- The Party will ensure that the UK continues to share its defence and security capabilities with allied nations.
- The Party will not involve the UK in international conflicts unless clearly shown to be in the national interest, or if required under treaty obligations or under international laws governing the protection of civilians.
- The Party rejects the idea of the UK becoming a member of any combined European military force. **See Section 2.3 Defence.** This does not prohibit co-operation of the UK military with NATO or our European allies, if in our own national interests.
- The Party considers foreign criminals, illegal immigrants, visa over-stayers and suspected foreign terrorists to be undesirable. We will give them no right to remain and aim to deport them to their country of origin, or departure, or to a third country without delay or question. **See Section 2.1 Immigration.**
- The Party will impose a lifetime ban on re-entry to the UK for foreign criminals and, where possible, make agreements with foreign countries so that their citizens can serve their criminal sentences in their own countries.

Migration from poor and developing countries is undesirable. It does not help the countries migrants leave behind. The western world has been giving developing countries support for generations, but the demand is never-ending, often due to corrupt governments, and there is limited new money available.

- The Party believes it is up to the citizens of developing nations to take back control from their corrupt or incompetent governments and to help themselves.
- The Party encourages locally based sustainable projects in developing countries run by their own governments, local banks and local corporations and funded through the money markets or by charitable donations. Providing jobs and improving life in developing countries will cut the level of migration to Western countries.

In government, the Party will match all public donations, including donations in the millions of pounds by the Red Cross, Rotary, Freemasons Grand Charity, and other major relief charities to supply emergency shelter, food, and aid to foreign countries for disaster relief.

The government should not be committed to a percentage of Gross Domestic Product as Foreign Aid until such time as it runs a budget surplus. Foreign aid must not be given to any country with an economy greater than one fifth of that of the UK.

- The Party supports Foreign Aid for emergency humanitarian relief but will not reconsider a foreign aid target until our economy is back to running a budget surplus.

Under international law, the UK has full sovereignty over our territorial waters, up to 12 nautical miles and full sovereign rights below the surface of the sea in our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

- The Party will safeguard our sovereignty and sovereign rights over our seas and will remove foreign vessels from our fishing grounds. We will not give vessels acting for foreign operators or with foreign crews any rights to fish in our waters or to acquire such rights by negotiation.

Since 2019, the EU has only allowed UK Financial Services the standard arrangement for third countries. This means that the UK Financial businesses only have limited right to operate in the EU and European Economic Area markets.

- The Party will not allow EU/EEA firms to operate within the UK territory, unless the EU unconditionally reciprocates.
- The Party will stop big foreign-owned multinational businesses meddling in UK politics. They make huge tax efficient profits from sales into the UK. It is unacceptable for them to skew our political narrative using money they make from an unsuspecting UK public.
- The Party considers foreign takeovers of UK companies to be bad for the UK. We aim to reverse the loss of UK jobs and manufacturing to foreign shores, and we will encourage companies to bring jobs home, especially those essential to the UK economy and national defence.

SECTION 2 - SECURITY

2.1 Immigration.

The Party believes immigration in the UK is out of control.

According to the ONS in 2012 the population of the UK was 63.7 million and by mid-2020 it had then risen to 67.1 million, making the UK the most densely populated country (over 20 million population) This represents an unsustainable growth.

In the period March 2012 to March 2020 net migration was in the region 240,000 to 360,000, then by December 2020 it had fallen to 100,000 for the year due to Covid. Since December 2020 net migration has gone ballistic and in the year to December 2022 it was 606,000.

Of people granted visas in 2014, by 2021 a large number had expired but the people had not returned home. Of these, 90% of students and 80% of workers, had overstayed. Only 12% of families overstay.

The following four **measures added 588,600 visas granted in the year ending 2022.**

- The **work visa scheme for overseas students** with no job offer or salary requirement.
- The **Graduate work visa.**
- The backdoor chain **visa grants** to family of people on other visas.
- The **Resettlement schemes.**

Past governments' failed immigration policies have led to too many new people arriving with alien values, poor education, poor language skills, incompatible cultures, low potential for employment and a reliance on State Benefits.

The Party supports population stability and will legislate to set an annual immigration ceiling to counter any change in population numbers in the preceding year.

Migration Control

The UK must withdraw from all the international instruments that make borders porous and immigration control impossible. Although it is the hallmark of a sovereign state that it can control its entrants, this power has been ceded in recent decades, to international bodies, lawyers, and people-smugglers.

- The Party will withdraw from the **UN's Refugee Convention 1951**, which makes borders porous to all migrants, including economic migrants, who claim asylum. This convention, which was originally intended to resettle displaced Europeans after the War, and which was then adapted as an instrument of Cold War policy is no longer fit for purpose.
- The Party will withdraw from the **European Convention on Human Rights** and repeal the **Human Rights Act 1998**, as these provisions elevate the rights of foreign criminals over those of the host community. They make it impossible for the nation to control and police its borders.
- The Party will withdraw from the **Global Migration Compact**, which when approved by the UN in 2018, was rejected by five countries that recognised the importance of national borders: the Czech Republic, Hungary, Israel, Poland, and the USA.
- The Party will ensure primacy of UK law over all laws and directives issued by global institutions and make the UK Supreme Court the final judicial arbiter on human rights and immigration cases.
- The Party will further legislate, if necessary, to ensure that our immigration policy can withstand all legal challenges from the Pro-Immigration Lobby.

Legal Immigration

Exceptionally, we may grant new temporary immigration or visa approvals only to seasonal workers in the agriculture or hospitality sectors, even if this means exceeding the monthly immigration ceiling. We will permit this only when a significant shortage of workers exists in these sectors. Temporary visas will be for short-term contracts not exceeding 180 days duration (non-renewable), with a high minimum income requirement and they must not deprive available UK workers of a job.

- Temporary seasonal workers must leave the country immediately at the end of their contract period. We will not allow temporary workers to remain in the UK for ANY reason. Any application for a return visit will require a fresh visa application made from outside the UK. Farmers and Hoteliers will be responsible for billeting the workers they require, and terms and conditions will apply.
- The Party will require all applicants to make new work and study visa application before entry and we will significantly increase fees charged for all visas.
- We will scrap the points-based system and substitute a quota system.
- The Party will abolish 'settled status' which grants EU nationals residences with indefinite leave to remain in the UK after living here for 5 years.
- **We would put a five-year moratorium on immigration for unskilled workers, which will enable the unemployed already living here to find work and those already working here to see wage growth.**
- We will include true refugees escaping oppression or war as part of the immigration ceiling.
- We may allow immediate family members to join approved immigrants who are working but within the annual immigration ceiling.
- We will limit work visas to ensure that each immigrant will fill an essential skilled position that no available UK resident could fill in the short term and the visa will be time limited.
- Foreign students with an offer of a place from a recognised education institution will not automatically receive a study visa. We will limit study visas to ensure that immigrants do not deprive UK residents of educational opportunities. Educational visas where granted, will be time limited and with no automatic right to stay after completion of a course of study. **We will not allow family members to join foreign students enrolled on study courses.**
- We will ensure that skill shortages will immediately initiate increases in the related educational and training programme. **See Section 5 Education.**
- We will ensure that where shortages exist due to emigration, the terms of employment and training are improved to achieve better retention.
- We will limit work and study visas to ensure that each migrant has private health insurance (unless covered by a reciprocal medical treatment agreement with their country of origin). Migrants will have access to the NHS for emergency procedures only. **See Section 4 NHS.**
- We will impose strict quotas in respect of each visa category with strict time limits on each visa to ensure that the number of new immigrants does not exceed the immigration ceiling. This will force immigration officers and the Home Secretary to exercise their discretion to ensure that visas are granted only to the most deserving and most useful people.
- We will limit work and study visas to ensure that each adult immigrant not attending an accredited English language course has adequate written and spoken English.
- We will limit work and study visas to ensure that countries with hostile cultures cannot use immigration to exert power and influence.
- The Party will reject visa applications for security reasons, i.e., known foreign criminals, public safety, and national security threats.

- The Party will not permit persons arriving in the UK without a visa to pass through border control. Undocumented migrants will not be given a grace period to regularise their immigration status.

Assimilation

We will not accept future immigrants unless they demonstrate a willingness and ability to integrate into the traditional culture shared by the inhabitants of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. **See Section 10.1 Protecting our Heritage.**

- The Party will deny migrants the right to claim social housing or benefits until they have been a tax-paying resident in the UK for five continuous years.
- The Party will deny citizenship to migrants until they have worked in the UK for five continuous years and have adequate written and spoken English.
- Migrants who are not UK citizens will not have the right to vote in any UK elections or referendums, apart from a small number of exceptions. **See Section 1.4 Electoral Reform.**

Accountability

Immigration is too big and too important an issue to be covered by the Home Office, which should focus on law and order and other issues that affect UK citizens.

- The Party will create the post of Secretary of State for Migration and Population. This cabinet member will oversee the balance of immigration and births with emigration and deaths to maintain a stable UK population and to generally oversee our policies.

Legacy Asylum Seekers, those already here

Whilst recognising the difficulties, our policy will be to deport failed asylum seekers and illegals to their country of origin, port of departure or a safe country.

- The Party opposes any amnesty for failed asylum seekers and illegals.

What we would do:

- **We will scrap** the endless appeals system. There will only be one attempt at using Legal Aid or No win No fee.
- **We will scrap** the legislation allowing those who have been waiting 12 months for a decision on their asylum claim (through no fault of their own) taking up jobs on the shortage occupation list. Government admits it has no record of numbers that are working.
- **We will rescind** the asylum status of formerly successful asylum seekers who apply to visit their home country for a holiday. As they are no longer under threat of persecution, they should return to help re-build their country.
- **We will set** ambitious targets (including a bonus system) for Border Force to detect and arrest illegal immigrants, convicted immigrants, and over-stayers within the UK, through regular checks on communities, institutions, and workplaces. Those arrested will be moved to a Reception and Transport Vessel under guard.
- **We will create a Government Data Base** for all "Legacy Asylum Seekers" this will be created as a result of finger printing, iris scans, biometric testing of blood group, DNA, and wrist x-rays. Such tests not only allow identities to be checked in future, but will also reveal likely country of origin, age, and any health issues or communicable diseases.
- **We will** commence deportation and segregation immediately where screening has highlighted criminals, bogus claimants, imposters claiming they are underage, and those from safe countries.
- **Options:** This will apply to any bogus asylum seeker, illegal immigrant, convicted immigrant or over-stayer. They would be given an option to fly to any country that would accept them and receive a gratuity of £200. They will not be allowed to return to the UK in future for any reason.

- **'The Legacy Asylum Seekers'** For those awaiting asylum decisions, irrespective of their asylum claim status and where there is capacity in the Falkland Reception Centre, they will be transported there via floating reception and transport vessels. **Commencing with those currently housed in hotels.**
- **Overstayers:** We will tighten up recording of immigration and emigration so that overstayers can be identified immediately from a central database and officers sent out the next day to find and deport them.

Illegal Immigration: OUR SEND THEM BACK POLICY

International Cooperation

The Party wants to see an end to illegal immigrants crossing from France. Until this happens:

The Party will consider the following actions:

- Stop sending taxpayers' money to France.
- Withdraw all French fishing licences.
- Withdraw import licences for all French wines.
- Withdraw all licences for French banks to operate within the UK.
- Consider further action against France if the illegal crossings don't stop.

Stronger Border Control

- **Border Guard:** We will relieve the existing Border Force of all responsibility for guarding the national borders. As described in the Defence Section of our Manifesto, we will provide five in-shore vessels manned by a dedicated Border Guard. This will protect our oil fields, fisheries, help deal with illegal migrants at sea and deal with any other insurgencies. **See Section 2.3 Defence.**
- We will downgrade the existing **Border Force** to administer such things as passport control desks at ports and airports, and to detect visa 'over-stayers'.

Turn-Round Strategy

- **Nautical barriers:** We will turn back the boats by erecting a nautical defence mechanism consisting of several moveable floating barriers at sea sufficient to deal with the numbers arriving. The design will be unsurmountable and will not allow any hand or foothold. Barriers will be 100 metres long, towed into position by high power, 40ft Ridged Inflatable Boats (RIBs) and placed exactly on the international border with French waters by means of nautical GPS. Barriers will be able to move quickly to block the progress of illegal vessels.
- **Control Centre:** A "mother ship" stationed 500m behind the barriers will control the positioning of barriers using secure communications. It will control unmanned airborne vehicles, which will identify migrant boats, their course, and their projected international border crossing point. It will be registered under a flag of convenience, to avoid it being UK territory and to eliminate potential asylum claims.
- **Crew:** The crew will be civilian contractors, highly trained and equipped with body cams to record all operations. They will be under the control of the Border Guard.
- **Life Saving:** The intention of the turn back policy is to stop people entering UK territory illegally. Potential intruders must stay on the French side at all times. It will be the responsibility of the French to rescue them at sea. The mothership will inform the French Coast Guards of the co-ordinates and that there are inflatable vessels with occupants that require their attention on their side of the border.
- **Legality:** Legal opinion confirms this scheme is lawful.
- **Evasion:** Any illegal immigrants evading the barriers or any other border control and making it into UK territory will be an illegal entrant and subject to arrest. We will send them to temporary accommodation in a floating **reception and transport vessel** under guard.

- **Floating Reception and Transport Vessels:** As capacity is reached the vessel would set sail for a Reception Centre in the Falkland Islands. It is anticipated that a vessel will set sail every 10 days.
- **A Government Data Base** will be created as a result of finger printing, iris scans, biometric testing of blood group, DNA, and wrist x-rays. Such tests not only allow identities to be checked in future, but will also reveal likely country of origin, age, and any health issues or communicable diseases. These tests will take place during the trip to the Falkland Islands.
- **Asylum:** The Party policy is unequivocal, we will not permit illegal immigrants to remain on UK territory, and that they cannot claim asylum from within the UK.
- **West Falklands Reception Centres:** We will house illegal immigrants in a reception centre we would build on the West Falkland Island. Unaccompanied minors will be housed in a separate facility there. Immigrants wishing to claim asylum would be sent to these comfortable centres whilst their claims are processed. They would be free to come and go.
- **Manning our beaches:** We will protect our shoreline in areas we consider hot spots and likely entry points, with surveillance cameras and in some cases manned outlook posts. **Small airports** will also be subject to greater monitoring.
- **Temporary Holding Areas:** We will establish secure holding areas with guards and bars at all likely entry points on UK soil. Border Guard will be responsible for the transportation of those apprehended to a floating reception and transport vessel.
- **Options:** Should any adult claimant not wish to stay in the West Falkland facility or return to their home country they would be given an option to fly to any country that would accept them, and they would receive a gratuity of £200.

The Party aims to end illegal immigrants attempting to enter the UK.

To ensure this happens The Party will:

- Work to identify and clampdown on people smuggling networks.
- Make it harder to illegally secure work on the black market.
- Negotiate many more returns agreements with third countries.

After illegal immigrants have been returned to their home country or taken up any option offered there will be absolutely no route back for these individuals to the UK.

It is crucially important in order to stem the flow of illegals to totally change their expectations of how they will be treated when they arrive.

2.2 Police, Criminal Justice, Punishment & Prison.

Police

Race and political bias

Political influence on policing means it has become racially biased, with police treating offenders from one racial group differently to another. The training that officers now receive, focuses on political philosophy instead of law enforcement. For example, police officers are taught about the causes of crime which is often blamed on capitalism.

Police officers now actively support and participate in political protests, such as the Black Lives Matter demonstrations in 2020 when officers dropped to their knees in deference to demonstrators who burned the British flag. Climate change groups such as Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil are treated more favourably than groups who profess a patriotic or conservative viewpoint.

The police now routinely hold informal records of incidents known as 'non-crime hate incidents' (NCHI). People who are recorded in this system are not informed and have no method of putting forward a defence. Responding to a Daily Telegraph freedom of information request the police in England and Wales logged 119,934 non crime hate incidents between 2014 and 2019. These records can affect a person's job prospects, even though they have not been convicted of, or charged with, a criminal offence.

- The Party will end the culture of politically correct policing and review and alter police training resources to remove racial and political elements. The UK is policed by the consent of the people, and we will ensure that remains so.
- The Party will bar police officers from taking sides in political demonstrations or protests.
- The Party will make sure that Police Forces prioritise and investigate real crimes against people and property. People should not be pursued and harassed by the police for telling jokes or for expressing what are perceived to be politically incorrect opinions. All non-crime hate incidents should be abolished, and such records must be scrapped and discontinued.

Lawless UK

Current levels of lawlessness are a national scandal.

Once upon a time, the UK felt a safe place to live. People could leave their front door unlocked and walk the streets without feeling constantly threatened. We used to know and talk to our local bobby on the beat, and we could rely on a police officer to come out quickly when needed and to solve and punish crimes.

Things have changed. Now people do not feel safe going to bed at night or walking through town and city centres. Violence is a regular occurrence. Youths roam round with baseball bats or sledgehammers. We hear of senseless murders, rapes, muggings, thefts, drive-by shootings, stabbings, sex offences, and streets covered in blood. We see graffiti, fly-tipping, mattresses lying across paths and rubbish thrown about everywhere.

If we put the clock back to the 1950s, it would have been unheard of to witness 8 stabbings and 75 attacks on police officers (including sexual assaults) at a major public festival like the Notting Hill Carnival or to visit towns or cities and see not a single white face in sight. Different cultures have entered the country since the 1950s.

Many new arrivals have brought in very different standards of behaviour. We see youths furtively walking the streets wearing hoodies and face coverings, which make identification nigh impossible. Vandalism, drug dealing, drug taking, and street drinking add to the general feeling of lawlessness and insecurity. Gangs of youths often stand on street corners threatening passers-by, and some estates are virtually 'no-go' areas.

This is the new lawless UK.

There is little respect for the police. Hardly surprising when people see woke police officers in rainbow cars or dancing the Macarena at gay pride events. The Police run away from trouble and do not enforce the Law. They stand by and refuse to uphold the Law at woke illegal protests such as Just Stop Oil.

- The Party supports a stronger police presence across the UK to keep the public safe.
- The Party believes that crime must never pay.
- The Party will get police back out on the streets.
- The Party will double down and fight back against lawlessness.
- The Party believes we must restore our lost sense of community and spirit.
- The Party believes we need to make anti-social behaviour unacceptable again.
- The Party will focus on regenerating run-down estates, boarded up shops and lost infrastructure.

Violent Crime

Crime, including violent crime, is rising while policing is simultaneously degraded. In terms of crime prevalence, the homicide rate (murder and manslaughter) in England and Wales has significantly increased from 9.3 per million in 2012 to 11.7 per million in 2022. In 2022 4 out of every 10 homicides was a knife crime, which is the highest annual total since the ONS started its homicide index in 1946.

Ref: Homicide in England and Wales: year ending March 2022, ONS. Violent crime has been on the rise. In London, for example, the number of violent crimes against the person increased from 123,000 in 2013 to 228,000 in 2021, a staggering increase of 85% in eight years.

- The Party supports police officers having powers to stop and search all suspects if they have reasonable grounds to think they are carrying drugs, a weapon, stolen property, items used in connection with theft or to use to commit criminal damage.

Funding & staffing

The priority of HM Government should be the protection of the citizens. The police should be adequately funded and paid. Cuts in police funding have led to a significant drop in the number of officers on our streets.

- The Party will increase police numbers in England and Wales by at least 10,000 above the Government pledge of recruiting 20,000, to reflect rising population, rising crime, and cuts to the service of over 23,000 officers by the Government since 2010.
- The Party will scrap Police and Crime Commissioner posts along with their expensive offices together with deputies, chief executives, chief finance officers and a host of other highly paid officials and return oversight of police services in England and Wales to boards made up with locally elected councillors.
- The Party does not favour any further merging of Police forces. Larger forces are more distant from their local populations and more vulnerable to political control. The UK Independence Party believes policing should be seen as a local function. We would hold the Metropolitan Police and Police Scotland as examples of the dangers involved.
- The Party will keep police training in-house at Police Training Colleges. Recruiting will be from across the social spectrum. There is no need for policing to become a degree entry profession.
- The Party will reverse the decision taken in 2013 by David Cameron's Coalition Government which introduced direct entry to the senior ranks of policing, thus ending 180 years of tradition, which holds that all recruits to the police start their careers as constables.
- The Party will review and audit the actions and policies of all chief constables and issue new requirements, reflected in this manifesto, that must be adhered to.
- The Party will investigate the implementation of a system of public accountability for senior police so that they must explain to the wider public why they do not pursue specific criminal suspects.

Criminal Justice

The criminal justice system in the United Kingdom has deteriorated. It prioritises political positioning and is effectively a tool for the imposition of political ideals.

The judiciary has also shown itself to be politically biased and has interpreted human rights laws to protect foreign criminals while disregarding the threat they may pose to the British population. Foreign rapists and terrorists remain in the United Kingdom, even after conviction and deportation orders, and their legal defence is funded by the very taxpayer whose safety they threaten.

Criminal trials can take years to reach court, causing immense disruption and trauma to victims and witnesses and keeping their lives on hold.

When criminals are convicted, sentences are often short, cut in half, or do not reflect the seriousness of the offence - this is particularly the case in terms of sexual offences. Convicts found guilty of rape or child sex abuse cases are often jailed for a short time, if at all. Furthermore, violent sex offenders have been jailed alongside female prisoners, leading to assaults on vulnerable female convicts. A Ministry of Justice report in 2020 declared at least seven sex attacks in prison by transgender inmates on biological females.

The British public, while aware of many of the problems in the justice system, are alienated from it. For example, following the Rotherham scandal of 2015, and subsequent similar revelations, no police officers were held accountable, leaving the public in a powerless and vulnerable position. As it stands, police are not accountable to the public, and thus, there is little incentive for them to act to the highest standards.

In essence, justice is not being done, is not seen to be done, and the public has no direct power to influence change. The Crown Prosecution Service has consistently shown itself to be unfit for purpose.

- The Party will return prosecutorial powers to police forces and their prosecution lawyers.
- The Party will enforce the law of the land without exceptions for the accommodation of illegal foreign cultural practices.
- The Party will ensure that the appointment of judges is based on the merit of legal experts and proven impartiality, with no extra, woke, politically correct requirements.
- The Party will scrap the Human Rights Act 1988 (HRA) which incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into UK law and extends entitlements to foreign nationals. The ECHR makes it practically impossible to deport foreign criminals. The Party will make the UK Supreme Court the final arbiter of English/Scottish law and it will be guided solely by Statute enacted by our elected representatives.
- The Party will uphold the principles of 'innocent until proven guilty' and that judgment in criminal cases must be based on objective evidence and not subjective feelings.
- The Party will repeal all hate speech laws which undermine these fundamental principles and are designed to criminalise comments based on whether a complainant feels offended.
- The Party will introduce legislation that clarifies and enhances the rights and abilities of UK citizens to defend their person, family, and property from physical attack.

Sentencing

Currently, most prisoners usually serve only half their sentence in prison and the rest on licence under probation. For violent offenders, prison sentences should mean what they say, with a maximum of 10% of their sentence served on licence for good behaviour subject to the discretion of prison governors and independent review.

The Sentencing Act 2020 requires Courts, when sentencing adults, to have regard to five principles: punishment, crime reduction, rehabilitation, public protection, and reparation. The last four principles are difficult to apply and are often manipulated by offenders seeking to distract the court from the objective of punishment.

- The Party will require sentences to be governed by one principle only: the need to punish the offender, so that the punishment fits the crime.
- The Party will reintroduce treason laws that are fit for purpose.

- The Party will carry out a full review of sentencing of sex offenders and increase sentences for those convicted of rape or other sexual offences.

The Party supports the proposals for a whole life term for those who kill police officers and other emergency workers, whilst on duty. We also support the new government proposal to expand the use of whole-life sentences handed down to the most serious offenders. We also support new laws proposed by the Ministry of Justice that criminals be made to attend sentencing hearings, by force, if necessary.

Capital Punishment

The British Isles used different forms of Capital punishment from ancient times until the second half of the 20th century. The last executions in the UK took place in 1964.

In 1998, Parliament voted to ratify the sixth Protocol of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), which prohibits capital punishment except 'in time of war or imminent threat of war'. This exception was removed when section 21(5) of Labour's Human Rights Act 1998 came into force on the 9th of November 1998.

On the 10th of October 2003, effective from 1st of February 2004, the UK under Labour, acceded to the 13th Protocol to the ECHR, which prohibits the restoration of the death penalty while the UK remains bound to the ECHR.

The world has changed since 1998, and not for the better. The question of whether to restore some form of capital punishment is now gaining public traction. According to a poll conducted in August 2023 by Redfield & Wilton public support to restore the death penalty was as follows.

- 49% - any murder
- 52% - murder of a Royal
- 54% - murder of a police officer
- 59% - terrorist
- 59% - multiple rapist
- 59% - multiple murderer
- 63% - child murderer

The Party believes that Government must respect the will of the people. We believe that a General Election is incapable of deciding this question and implementing the decision, due to inbuilt institutional bias within the political establishment.

- The Party will campaign for a YES/NO referendum to determine public support to reinstate the offence of capital punishment.
- The Party will consider a YES decision by referendum as a mandate to exit the European Convention on Human Rights and repeal the Human Rights Act 1998 in order to implement the democratic decision of the UK electorate, and to choose by a further referendum which offenses qualify for that punishment.

Prisons

Our internal national security has been weakened again and again. It is the Party's intention to draw a line under the cuts suffered by our prison service and provide it with adequate resources. Our prison service is in disarray with extremist Muslim groups dominating life inside prison walls.

- The Party will make it a priority to re-establish prison capacity. We will not risk allowing sentencing or parole hearings to be influenced by a lack of prison spaces.
- The Party opposes the privatisation of the prison system and will reverse the process. All prisoners shall be held in the custody of Officers of the Crown with adequate funding, and pay, and answerable to the Home Office.
- The Party would seek to deport foreign criminals who would then have a lifetime ban on re-entry to the UK.
- The Party supports the segregation of prisoners who propagate criminality or are found to be radicalising other inmates or become prison gang leaders, to make sure the prison system is not a breeding ground for the propagation of gang culture and spread of radical Islam.

2.3 Defence.

Defence of The Realm

The party will make the first duty of government the defence of the realm, its territory, airspace and waters, its people, and its vital interests. We will not get involved in international conflicts unless they are clearly shown to be in the national interest or are required under treaty obligations or the international laws governing the protection of civilians. The Party is concerned by the growing authoritarian nature of government and the possibility that the armed forces, like the police, will be used against the citizens of this country contrary to national sovereignty. This must never happen.

Armed Forces

The Armed Forces are an instrument and a demonstration of our national sovereignty; to hand control of defence and security to another body, especially an unelected body like the EU Commission, fatally damages that sovereignty.

- The Party will withdraw from any involvement in EU collective defence and security arrangements, including Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), the European Defence Fund (EDF), the European Defence Agency (EDA), the Capability Development Mechanism (CDM), the Coordinated Annual Review of Defence (CARD) and the Common Security and Defence Plan (CSDP).
- The Party will ensure that UK defence governance remains firmly under the control of UK human judgement and will never become independently autonomous with the overuse of artificial intelligence for example.

Defence Deterrence

Deterrence is the best form of defence. But it must address all forms of threat whether they be: nuclear, conventional, cyber or a hybrid form that often connects terrorism with corruption and organised crime. Deterrence is also necessary to maintain the rules of international conduct against those who seek to undermine them.

- The Party will maintain our current independent nuclear deterrent and its successor, with at least five submarines.
- The Party will adopt hyper-sonic, Mach-8 plus nuclear missiles and other novel methods of attack will be adopted so that our deterrent does not become strategically irrelevant and always remains credible to our enemies.
- The Party will commit to a full programme of military replacement and upgrade.
- The Party will develop and expand the use of artificial intelligence and cyber warfare techniques.
- The Party will cancel and decommission the UK Space Command, which is unaffordable and diverts resources from where they are really needed.
- The Party will appoint a new Director of National Intelligence within the MOD, with control over funds and the power to coordinate properly the activities of all intelligence-gathering, security, and counter- intelligence agencies.
- The Party will protect our vital national assets, such as telecommunications and energy generation. These assets will never be allowed to fall under the control of foreign companies or powers.

Defence Capability

There are many gaps in the UK's defence capability examples are: anti-submarine warfare; low, medium, and high- level air defence; amphibious capability; armour and anti-armour. As a result, the army is not equipped for high intensity warfighting. Britain's Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force have been so reduced in size that they could not take the field against any serious opposition. Hardware and virtual capabilities, however important, cannot replace boots on the ground in many areas, not least in securing a population faced by a low-tech insurgency or terrorist campaign, or from a Russian-style hybrid campaign.

The Party will conduct a full strategic foreign policy, intelligence, defence, and security review to ensure that we can protect our nation, overseas territories, and our vital interests. This will consider our future defence requirements and the size and shape of expansion of our armed forces and intelligence services to meet the threats from China, Russia, North Korea, Iran, Afghanistan, and Islamic non-state extremist aggressors in the real world and digital realm.

The Party will establish a new Minister on a temporary basis, to head this review which will further consider:

1. Restructuring of the MOD to ensure that it acts as a department of state and a strategic level headquarters. This will include returning control of decision-making to qualified military professionals, acting under political control. This restructuring will ensure the correct division of responsibilities between the MOD, the Permanent Joint Headquarters (PJHQ) and service commands.
2. Ownership of assets between the services to ensure coherence of command and control, and best value for money.

The UK cannot rely on foreign powers to supply our armed forces with essential military grade satellite navigation data.

- The Party will invest in a UK global satellite navigation system, that will provide the encryption and accuracy of positioning required for a modern military machine, while also freely providing suitable data for civilian users.

Defending our Territorial Waters

- The Party will commission five in-shore vessels to guard against threats to our territorial waters, our oilfields, and our fisheries; and to help deal with illegal migrants, five in-shore vessels will be provided to and manned by Border Guard. **See Section 2.1 Immigration.**

Security and NATO

- The Party will ensure that the UK continues to share its defence and security capabilities with other nations such as through NATO, the transatlantic special relationship, and the Five-Eyes (USA, UK, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand) agreement on intelligence sharing. Our strong historical links with India, other Commonwealth countries in Asia and Africa, in the Arab world and with Israel will be energetically pursued.

NATO as currently organised is highly inefficient and over-provided with command-and-control structures, at the expense of hard power.

- The Party will join with partners to reduce NATO's inefficiencies.
- We will expect all NATO members to honour their commitment to contribute a minimum of 2% GDP to defence discussions would be initiated to align spending to specific capability gaps.

Defence Procurement

Defence procurement has been failing for years, is wasting resources, and not delivering what is needed in a timely manner.

- The Party's defence review will institute a root-and branch change in the way equipment is procured to ensure best value for money.

- We will legislate to mandate that UK armed forces equipment including aircraft, missiles, warships, and vessels etc., must be built in the UK using British steel, designs, and components wherever possible, so that manufacturing capacity and expertise is retained and developed to benefit the national economy.
- The Party will ensure that new military contracts for equipment, training, projects, and development are ended to nations that have low standards in human rights, or which export Islamist and Marxist or other totalitarian ideology around the world.

Manpower and Training

As of 1st April 2023, the strength of the UK Regular Forces was **142,560**.

- Royal Navy/Royal Marines 32,840
- British Army 77,540
- Royal Airforce 32,180

Over many years the recruitment and training of armed service personnel has been neglected and their management has disrespected their professionalism.

- The Party will return control of recruitment to the military. Armed forces careers centres should not have been outsourced.
- The Party will also end whole-fleet management of fighting vehicles.
- The Party will end the pay-as-you-dine cafeteria system, dubbed by some service personnel as 'save as you starve' and return to the traditional method of taking a set amount per month directly out of pay for meals in military messes. With meals remaining free for those on training exercises and operations.
- The Party will return the management of ranges and training areas to service commands, all with proper funding levels.
- Recognising the importance of reserve forces, the Party will return the reserve forces to their 2000 footprint in terms of their basing and visibility. Reserve forces can only be increased and maintained by making them local and easy to join. All Reserve units will be paired with regular counter partners.

Terms of Service

If we are to increase our armed forces – and we must – military service must be attractive and well rewarded. Service personnel should not be discriminated against by the tax system because they serve their country.

- The Party will increase the authority of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body and ensure that service pay, and terms of service are of a standard calculated to increase the attraction of the Armed Forces as a career.
- The Party will exempt all service personnel on duty overseas, including the Border Force, intelligence, and security services, from income tax in line with practice in other nations and in civilian employment.
- The Party will guarantee up to 4 years university degree level education fees to all successful university applicants either before the start of a service career, subject to the completion of the required term of service, or at its conclusion. This will be on a basis of one year's university tuition fees, while these remain in force, for each two years of military service in the regular or reserve forces.
- The Party will place the greater provision of medical care for serving personnel under the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre. **See Section 9.4 Welfare of Veterans.**

Defence Stocks

- We will legislate, if necessary, to ensure that UK defence company shares are not hindered on a London listing, by any Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investment policies.

SECTION 3 – INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1 Energy.

Gas & Electricity

Gas presently supplies around 750GWh of energy in the winter months for heating homes alone. It is simply impractical to replace this readily available supply with say hydrogen that will need 3 times as much energy to produce it.

The 20 million cars on the road each working day produce around 750GWh of energy and there is no way even a fraction of this number could be switched to electric. The total generation of the national grid is 45GW and demand varies from 20GW in the early hours of a summer day and up to the full 45GW in the winter. Most evenings, spring to autumn, there is 5-10GW available to charge between 0.7-1.3 million electric cars. 19 million people will have to give up driving.

Human Emissions of CO₂ year 2020

China, USA & India together produce half the world emissions of CO₂, but the population of India is huge compared with its emissions. The percentage of world CO₂ in column 2, is divided by the population in column 3, to produce column 4, which is the percentage of World CO₂ per million people in that country. The following table shows that India is at the bottom of the league and below the average of all the other people of the world. The UK is in 14th place and languishing well below the other major economies.

Population data is obtained from.

<https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/population-by-country/>

Percentage of World CO₂ is obtained from

<https://www.worldometers.info/co2-emissions/co2-emissions-by-country/>

COUNTRY	PERCENTAGE	POPULATION	CO ₂ / M-P
SAUDI ARABIA	1.7	32.4M	0.052
CANADA	1.45	36.3M	0.052
AUSTRALIA	1.16	24.3M	0.048
USA	15	323M	0.043
RUSSIA	4.65	145M	0.032
SOUTH KOREA	1.45	51M	0.028
JAPAN	3.47	128M	0.027
GERMANY	2.17	82.2M	0.026
IRAN	1.8	79.5M	0.023
POLAND	0.83	38M	0.022
CHINA	29.2	1414M	0.02
SOUTH AFRICA	1.1	56.2M	0.02
ITALY	1.0	60.7M	0.016
UK	1.0	66.3M	0.015
FRANCE	0.9	64.7M	0.014
TURKEY	1.0	79.8M	0.012
REST OF THE WORLD	25.0	3870M	0.0065
INDIA	7.1	1324M	0.005

In the period 2010-2020 the World human population grew by 12% while the CO₂ level grew by 6.4%. There was no dip in growth of either during Covid, so CO₂ is not linked to the burning of fossil fuels and is increasing 1% every 1.56 years.

The UK unilaterally pursuing NET ZERO will severely damage the domestic and industrial sectors and will drive heavy industries abroad, just exporting CO₂ emissions, a process that is already occurring. Pursuit of NET ZERO will destroy our way of life and our economy and the World CO₂ emissions will continue to rise anyway.

- **The Party believes the citizens of the United Kingdom should have a yes/no referendum on 'Net Zero' by 2050 without delay.**

The Covid pandemic shut down much of industry and CO₂ omissions dropped significantly. After Covid. industry increased again back to pre-Covid levels. Since then, the world shortage of gas has caused the use of coal to surge and CO₂ with it. No figures more recent than 2020 can be found on the internet.

For energy security we need to use existing UK resources of primary fuels such as gas, and coal. There is no sensible reason for us not to use these primary fuels while China and India continue to do so. We also need nuclear, and solar arrays - especially on buildings. No amount of wind turbines and solar farms will obviate the need for a continuous supply of energy from fossil fuels and nuclear reactors.

Also, it is unreasonable to give up petrol fuelled motorcars and replace them with expensive electric vehicles for which there will never be enough electricity for everyone to own and use one and only have a 7-year battery life span.

Our Policies will within 10 years provide total energy security for the UK with a continuous rated generation of 50GW when it is windy or still or when the Sun shines or is cloud covered. This will be a combination of coal, natural & shale gas, and nuclear-powered electricity-generating stations.

Climate Treaties

The Party will reject NET ZERO by removing the UK from the terms of all Climate Treaties especially the Paris Climate Agreement COP-2016 under which carbon emissions as certificates for each tonne of CO₂ are traded between high and low emitting countries and producers.

Coal

- The Party will repeal the Climate Change Act 2008 that required carbon capture and storage when burning coal. This will facilitate the reintroduction of coal mining and coal fired power stations as Carbon Capture is not practical or financially viable and is unnecessary.

Decarbonisation

- The Party will also repeal the Energy Act 2013, which started setting targets for decarbonisation.

CO₂ reduction deadlines

- The Party will also repeal the Renewable Energy Directive 2018, which set a target of 32% reduction of CO₂ by 2030 and Net Zero by 2050.

Smart Meters

Smart meters do not work reliably, often failing to show the display in the household after switching supplier, and also will enable the national grid to shut off supply to the user. Also, they do not function after communications protocol changes from 3G to 4G and soon to be changed again to 5G.

- The Party will repeal the Smart Meter Act of May 2018, which has already failed to reach its target of total replacement of traditional meters by 2020.

Environmental Levies

- The Party will remove the index linked Environment Levy of 20% charged by all the large energy utilities and added to electricity bills. We will remove carbon tax & environmental levy from all energy bills.

Continuing with Gas

- The Party will campaign that all new houses continue to be connected to the gas network. We also oppose the replacement of efficient, reliable, and cheap gas boilers with noisy, inefficient, and expensive external air source heat pumps.

Coal Mining

- The Party will permit the reopening of coal mines and the creation of new ones bringing life and jobs and money back to the towns of Wales and Northeast England. Coal as well being a primary fuel is also used for the creation of plastic and can be processed into both gas and oil, increasing our energy independence.

Coal for Power Stations

- The Party will oversee the conversion of the Drax Power Station from burning uneconomic imported wood pellets back to burning coal and will re-commission the six by 0.6GW turbine to give a continuous output of 3.6GW. Other smaller stations will also be built or recommissioned to add a further 6.4GW to continuous generation.

Fracking for Gas

- The Party will grant licences to increase substantially the hydraulic fracturing of shale rocks to make us self-sufficient for gas within 10 years to fill the gap caused by the removal of the ageing nuclear stations from service.

Nuclear stations

- The Party will institute a program of building up to 16 new mini nuclear stations recently proposed by Rolls Royce and capable of producing continuous 0.44GW day and night at a building cost of £2bn each. That is 7.0GW of continuous generation with a lifespan of 60 years to complement the 3.2GW of generation from Hinkley Point C station bringing the nuclear contribution to 10GW within in the next 10 years.

Subsidies for Renewables

- The Party will remove subsidies for wind and solar farms. Land suitable for agriculture or grazing should be returned to farming. Wind farms will no longer receive payments when shut down during periods of high wind.

Solar for Homes

- The Party will encourage builders to give buyers the option of a solar array before the tiles are fitted to the new house. The systems should include battery back up to improve self-sufficiency to about 50%. This means the halving of electric bills.

Thorium Nuclear Reactors

- The Party will sponsor the development of small nuclear stations running on thorium salt, which is a cheap, plentiful, and safe material. This has potential for export to countries as an alternative to uranium reactors that can and would be used for the creation of weapons.

Drilling for Oil

Crude Oil is one of the most useful natural products in the world. If the UK stopped drilling for it, we would have to import it from elsewhere.

Crude oil passes through a furnace evaporates a variety of oil derivatives at different temperatures.

Ref: <https://www.bpf.co.uk/plastipedia/how-is-plastic-made.aspx>

Petroleum Gas / Gasoline / Naphtha / Paraffin and Kerosene / Deisel / Fuel Oil / Lubrication Oil / Grease and Wax and Bitumen. Just keep Oil!

- The Party will continue to issue licences for drilling rigs in the sea or on land to ensure the UK is self-sufficient as long as stocks last.

Hydrogen

Producing hydrogen by Steam Reformation emits more CO2 than burning an equivalent amount of natural gas. Producing hydrogen by electrolysis requires 3 times the energy input that is returned by burning the hydrogen. This makes hydrogen gas 3 times the price of a unit of electricity. Natural gas is about 14p per kWh. Petrol without fuel duty is 23p per kWh, with fuel duty it is 39p per kWh. Electricity from the grid is about 50p per kWh. Hydrogen gas by electrolysis is £1.50 per kWh. Hydrogen gas is not a solution.

3.2 Housing.

Demand Exceeds Supply

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) estimates that in 2022, 1.2 million people migrated into the UK and 557,000 people emigrated from it, leaving a net migration figure of 606,000 as of the end of June 2022. Against this backdrop, there were only 46,700 new home completions in the 12 months to March 2023 according to Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs). This situation is out of control and must stop.

Activity in the UK housing market has weakened during the first half of 2023. This slowdown has been driven by a number of factors, including the cost-of-living crisis, weaker real incomes, the tightening of monetary policies via higher interest rates, and of course by uncontrolled immigration.

The UK does not have a housing problem so much as a demand problem, with demand largely fuelled by mass immigration. Hence, one of our key Party objectives is to reduce population growth to zero, by stopping mass immigration, to reduce and stabilise housing demand. **See Section 2.1 Immigration.**

- The Party will end mass immigration, and in particular illegal immigration, for whatever reason, without which it is impossible to cure the housing shortage.

Our Housing Priorities

The Party aims to promote and encourage those who aspire to improve their personal situation and those who seek to be self-reliant, whilst providing protection for those genuinely in need. Hence the Party supports all its aspects, including owner occupied, private rental, and social housing.

Owner Occupation

In the past young people who aspired to buy their own homes had good jobs, good qualifications or learnt a trade. Now half of young people go to university and come out with a degree and a £25,000 to £50,000 Student Loan. Only a small number will ever be able to pay back the Student Loan and save for a deposit on a house.

- The Party will encourage fewer young people going to university and more to undertake student apprenticeships, to become skilled and qualified while earning and not accumulating debt.

When Labour came to power in 1997, Gordon Brown the Chancellor gave control of interest rates to the Bank of England with a remit to keep down underlying inflation. This then led to decades of low interest that encouraged people to risk more on mortgages, thereby allowing the house prices to keep rising. Interest rates should be controlled by the government to control house inflation.

- The Party will take back control of interest rates to keep down house price inflation.

There is no incentive for any builder to build houses or homes that will sell below the existing market value. There needs to be a lower cost entry into the housing market for first time buyers. The solution is Park Homes. These can be owned privately on parks that include an annual maintenance charge and so are normally well kept providing a good environment for families.

- The Party will encourage the development of Park Homes for owner occupation.
- The Party will end the foreign ownership of residential property for investment or rent except for UK citizens temporarily working abroad because foreign ownership inflates house prices, increases demand, and reduces the supply of properties for genuine owner occupation.
- The Party will not permit immigrants to purchase any UK residential properties until they gain UK citizenship, have paid full taxes on their worldwide income for at least 5 years, and have been resident in the UK for over 5 years.

Private Rental Market

A successful private rental sector is good for property owners, renters and the economy and it helps social mobility. However, renters are more likely to live in lower quality homes, have lower incomes, and no savings.

Lack of sufficient homes to rent has caused runaway rental costs. Tenants are being evicted at the end of 6 months tenancies so the landlord can set a higher price for new tenants. Conversely landlords often lose money from tenants who do not pay their rent and have to go to court at great expense to evict them.

Millions of homes built between the wars are now well below standard with many not even including a damp proof course in the walls. The vast majority could never be made to achieve a satisfactory Energy Performance rating. Despite this, government policy associated with its green agenda puts pressure on landlords to bring their properties up to at least a C rating and to install inefficient air source heat pumps. This will devastate the rental market and it is causing a huge number of landlords to sell up and leave the market.

Government policy associated with its green agenda is going to devastate the rental market. This is now causing a huge number of landlords to sell up and leave the market.

- The Party welcomes the proposed government Renters (Reform) Bill 2023, which in all probability will abolish Section 21 'no fault' evictions to give tenants greater security in their homes. It is necessary though to allow free market rents to be charged by landlords.
- The Party will encourage institutional investors such as insurance companies to build to let. There is a genuine need for more homes to rent brought to market by providers who wish to stay in the market for the long term in order to generate a reliable stream of income, thereby providing tenants with secure long-term accommodation.
- The Party will require all assured shorthold tenancies to have a minimum term of 12 months, rolling forward by mutual consent.

Social Housing

We need social housing for the vulnerable.

After property disposals and demolitions, many local authorities end up with a net loss of social housing every year, despite a rising population. The current waiting list for social housing stands at 1.2 million. Therefore, most applicants have to go into temporary housing or may even become homeless.

- The Party will provide protection for those genuinely in need.
- The Party supports the provision of Council Housing or Social Housing for vulnerable homeless people, the incapacitated, and the genuine poor. Such provision will be subject to strict means testing on an annual basis with no right to remain should their circumstances improve.
- The Party will end queue jumping of social housing waiting lists by recent arrivals and others over those who have spent years on those lists. As a condition of granting a work or study visa, or granting asylum, we will require all immigrants to demonstrate that they have somewhere to live throughout the period of their proposed stay, without taking up social housing so badly needed by UK citizens.

Right to Buy

- The Party supports Right- to- Buy for public sector tenants of over three years standing.
- The Party will restrict the discount available to tenants to a maximum of 20% of the current market value on condition that such properties cannot be sold for a minimum of five years and can never be rented out by the original tenant.

Temporary Housing and Homelessness

The number of families living in temporary accommodation now stands at its highest since records began in 1998. Councils spent at least £1.6 billion on temporary accommodation in the latest year, according to official figures.

- The Party will remove the obligation to provide temporary housing from council taxpayers and use the same money to better advantage to get families into long term affordable housing.

Far too many people become homeless after receiving eviction notices and the number is rising. Many cannot pass affordability tests on new rentals after eviction, despite a faultless record of rental payments. This often means there is no alternative than to place them into inappropriate temporary accommodation, potentially sharing a room or sleeping rough on the streets until they get to the top of the housing list. In some cases, temporary accommodation may not even be in the local area in which children go to school.

- The Party will support UK citizens who become homeless through no fault of their own.
- The Party will ensure that no homeless UK citizen is receives a lower standard of housing than given to any illegal immigrant.
- The Party will not provide any form of housing or temporary accommodation to any immigrant out of the public purse.
- The Party strongly believes that no homeless immigrant should receive better treatment than our own homeless citizens and that the government's first priority must be to house our own homeless people before even considering the needs of any immigrant.
- The Party strongly condemns government attempts to house immigrants on barges, disused military bases or in hotels. It is irresponsible for any government to let any immigrant enter the country without a clear plan to fulfil his or her housing needs from the moment of arrival.

Student Housing

University Towns often suffer from Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMO) where at least three students live in one house forming different households, but sharing one toilet, bathroom, or kitchen with other students. Universities should be encouraged to build student accommodation on campus to protect local dwellings from conversion into HMOs to the detriment of the availability of local housing stock for permanent occupation and of local amenities. Universities should be further constrained from expanding to the detriment of the availability of land required to house local residents.

- The Party will empower local authorities to block the conversion of private housing into HMOs.
- The Party will empower councils in university towns to refuse planning permission for student accommodation where such would conflict with housing needs of local residents.

Planning Permissions

- The Party will give priority to approving new affordable housing developments.
- The Party will encourage the building of modular housing, which is inexpensive to build, and highly energy efficient.
- The Party will encourage councils to allocate land for mobile home parks.
- The Party will encourage local authorities to preserve the character of our towns, and villages, especially those with historic, heritage or cultural links by rejecting insensitive development. In planning, we will require developers to use materials and styles appropriate to their surroundings.
- The Party will prioritise applications for building new homes on brownfield sites and will reject applications for housing developments on agricultural land or existing green spaces.
- The Party will strongly support and uphold the democratic right of existing local residents to object to new planning developments affecting their communities. Councils and planning inspectors must give high priority to the concerns of local people in arriving at their decisions.
- The Party will legislate to compel Central Government to obtain local planning approval to house illegal immigrants within local communities, if this involves change of use, and we will give every local council ward a legal right to object and veto such approvals.
- The Party will reject planning applications for student accommodation if they conflict with housing needs of established local residents.

Housing Development

There is a lack of new affordable housing developments, and we aim to make it easier to build in the right places.

Too many people live on vast estates with few services and many people need to commute long distances for both work and leisure.

- The Party will regenerate residential areas in cities and towns, which past governments abandoned to many years of high-density, insensitive developments, and which provide shameful living conditions.
- The Party will prohibit new housing developments on agricultural land, and we will protect urban green spaces from development. We will direct building of new developments to brownfield sites, especially those with disused, poorly developed, or dilapidated buildings within the boundaries of established towns and cities.
- The Party will make grants available to regenerate and clean-up disused industrial land and legislate for Central Government to fund the cost of site clearance, where there is no viable alternative.
- The Party supports conversion of disused shops and other commercial buildings to flats or maisonettes or for small business use.
- The Party supports higher density housing in urban areas.
- The Party supports affordable housing developments.
- The Party priority is to construct higher buildings, such as small flats and maisonettes. With the current shortage of land, building higher is the only way to increase the supply of affordable homes. However, the Party will ensure that such developments provide a healthy environment and good standard of living, to avoid them turning into ghettos. To be clear, we do not favour high-rise developments.
- The Party will demand optimal standards of construction in all new home building including heat insulation, noise insulation, and fire prevention. We will ensure that building regulations keep people safe, for example with suitable fire escapes.
- The Party opposes the flawed energy and 'climate' targets being placed on property developers and owners, for example we would scrap the unnecessary cost of installing compulsory heat pumps in new homes.

Planning Policy

The Party deplores the Government's delay in announcing a new National Planning Policy Framework.

- The Party will ensure that democratically elected local planning authorities have the final say on all developments subject to full consultation with residents directly or indirectly affected by building projects.
- The Party opposes imposing artificial building quotas on local authorities or zoning designed to impose new builds on communities by removing any pretence of autonomy from local authorities.
- The Party will prevent central government from dictating the contents of local development plans.
- The Party will legislate to prevent Central Government over-riding local planning decisions.
- The Party will protect all prime agriculture land and publicly owned woodland from development and treat it as green belt. Self-sufficiency in food production is a high Party priority. The Party will not approve housing developments on prime agricultural land surrounding towns and villages. **See Section 6.1 Farming.**

Home Loans

The Party will encourage lenders to negotiate lower monthly repayments or payment holidays with mortgage holders who experience payment difficulties. However, this alternative to repossession is not available to renters who usually cannot negotiate with a property owner.

If mortgage lenders grant loans against high multiples of salaries this increases demand and drives up house prices. This creates the risk of people losing their homes due to repossessions when loans become unaffordable due to interest rates rising too far.

- The Party will control the salary multiples by which banks and building societies can make housing loans.

If mortgage lenders grant too high a loan against the value of a property during good economic conditions, while prices are rising, this means there will be little or no equity in the property. This will increase the risk of people losing their homes due to repossession if they subsequently cannot afford repayments at a time when prices start to fall.

- The Party will control the loan to value multiples by which banks and building societies can safely make housing loans.

Property Taxes

With severely limited housing stock, the need to own a primary residence is higher than the need to own a second home whether for holiday use, to rent or as an investment. The purchase of UK residential property by foreign owners (or by other non-residents) for occasional residence or investment deprives UK citizens of available housing stock and inflates prices.

- The Party will focus on using our housing stock to provide homes for our own people, to add value through home ownership rather than for investment of wealth transfer.

Stamp Duty Land Tax

- The Party will remove stamp duty on primary residences costing up to £500k. For primary residences above £500k, at 2%. This will significantly reduce the cost of first time buying or moving to a new property. **See 7.1 Taxation & Spending Section.**

Buying a second or additional home usually carries a 3% surcharge on top of the standard rate of stamp duty.

- The Party will substantially increase the current surcharge for second or additional homes.
- The Party will substantially increase the current surcharge for non-resident purchases.

Currently, investors can make tax-free capital gains on second homes. This makes it very attractive to buy a residential property for investment rather than to live in.

- The Party will remove all exemptions that allow the possibility of making a tax-free Capital Gain on any second home. Our priority is to support owner-occupation.
- The Party will close all loopholes for avoidance of Council Tax on second homes, or any other home if not used as a principal place of residence. We will allow no exemptions for second homeowners who register their property as a business and then let it out through agents or Airbnb, in order to avoid council tax by using small business rates relief.
- The Party will allow 100% Council Tax exemption for UK resident homeowners who are away from home temporarily working abroad.

Property-owners

There is ever increasing demand for private rentals due to rises in interest rates which is causing some people to experience difficulties securing mortgages, The fall-off of demand for owner occupation means landlords can be selective. They may turn away those on low incomes because someone else comes along who is more creditworthy and can cover a higher rental cost.

Historically, many property owners routinely increase rents each year, to keep up with inflation or market demand, even when interest rates were relatively low. The situation has now changed, because proprietors often finance their property through loans and suffer interest rate rises as well as from taxation. Interest rate rises force them to raise rents to ensure they do not lose money on rentals.

- The Party puts the needs of the tenant first but recognises that proprietors are businesses and not charities. Often the interests of the property owner and tenant are incompatible.
- The Party cannot support any form of rent control, as this would interfere with the operation of free markets.

Official Land Holdings

- The Party will identify Central and Local government land holdings, which are not being utilised, and release them for housing development if there is no viable or sustainable reason to keep the land.
- The Party opposed the government's Help-to-Buy scheme, which has now ended. We believe such schemes distort the market by artificially inflating house prices, so we have no plans to introduce a comparable scheme.

Brownfield Sites

Within many of our cities are sites that have derelict buildings and contaminated land with oils and chemicals, which lie unused while pressure is ongoing to build estates on greenfield sites out of town. This is madness when the brownfield sites are often in desirable locations.

- In government we will purchase brownfield industrial sites, remove building materials and iron and steel structures, and sell them for scrap, then decontaminate and level the site, and offer it for sale for redevelopment subject to the planning consent of the local authority.

3.3 Transport.

Bringing sanity back to the movement of people and goods.

Roads

We will fight back against the war being waged on motorists across the UK by individual Local Authorities.

The rising pollution levels in cities are not caused by more traffic, and over the last 20 years vehicles have become so much cleaner than earlier ones. The pollution levels are rising because side streets used to shorten routes have been blocked off with planters and bollards, traffic lanes have been taken away from cars and vans and given to buses, taxis, and cyclists and remain largely unused.

To halve pollution at a stroke we need to give the lanes back to cars and vans to get traffic moving again.

Traffic Movement

- The Party will return to general use all Bus & Cycle lanes, which are largely unused and cause massive congestion in normal car lanes.
- We will remove all Low Emission Zones, and Ultra Low Emission Zones, and remove planter and bollards which have turned streets into dead ends with planters and bollards. All these things increase journey times and actually increase overall pollution levels.
- The Party will amend the Highway Code to reduce the ludicrous and impractical 1.5m (6 feet) clearance when overtaking bicycles to a sensible 75cm (2-foot 6 inches).

Punitive Charges

- The Party will stop all forms of congestion charge including Low Emission Zones (LEZ) and Ultra Low Emission Zones (ULEZ) and will repeal any county council rules creating 15-minute cities. UK diesel car owners pay 0.65 Euro per litre while the rest of Europe pays 0.40 Euro per litre. Cyclists are freely given lanes of their own, which are virtually unused, for which they pay nothing.

Fuel Price and Duty

- The Party will ensure that petrol and diesel fuel duty including VAT is capped to 50% of the price at the pump. 99-octane Petrol to be priced the same as diesel. We are against the introduction of ethanol in petrol as it is being produced from crops grown in areas endangering declining species. It is also being grown in Africa just as revenue for the governments whilst their populations are starving.

Speed Limits

- The Party will restore default national speed limits throughout the UK. We would support lower speed-limits only in crowded neighbourhoods, or, where there are genuine safety issues. Let's get vehicles moving again.

Motorways

- The Party will reinstate hard shoulders on motorways for use as breakdown safety lanes.

Diesel & Petrol Vehicles

- The Party will repeal any ban on the sale of new diesel and petrol vehicles.

Electric Vehicles

- Electric Cars are a failed experiment and only a minority will ever buy them. There will never be enough electricity available to justify a nationwide network of charging points. The Party will discourage the ownership of these vehicles by making all charging points payable at normal electric price.

E Bikes and E Scooters

- E Bikes should be registered with a plate and with insurance, just like motor bikes. They must only be used on the road or on dedicated cycle lanes, never on the pavement. Protective head gear must be worn.

- E Scooters can use cycle lanes, or pavements in streets with low pedestrian numbers. They must not be used on the road or in pedestrianised shopping precincts or other areas.

Park & Ride Schemes

- The Party will support existing park and ride schemes and encourage many more to be built.

Rail

HS2

- The Party will cancel **HS2** whatever its state of construction. There is no way when it is finished that it will ever run at a profit nor pay back any of its investment so its existence will continue to be a drain on the Treasury, and make competing tracks run at a greater loss.

Old Branch Lines

- The Party will support the reopening of old branch lines possibly being transformed into Metros or tramways where this can alleviate overloading on city roads and there is no possibility of improving the road network.

Air Travel

Additional Runways

- The Party will oppose a third runway at Heathrow, which has already reached capacity for access roads and parking facilities.
- The Party proposes these to be added to other smaller airports that have commuting capacity by roads already in existence or easily added. Flight capacity should only be increased if this is not going to produce unacceptable levels of noise to residents in the flight paths.

SECTION 4 - THE NHS

The NHS is suffering from a crisis of mismanagement.

Funding Issues

The NHS is in crisis, not just from a lack of adequate funding but because of the inefficient use of funds and ever-increasing demand from an ageing population and foreign nationals. The NHS is a national health service not an international health service. It is open to widespread abuse by non-UK citizens. Open borders have had a major impact on existing NHS resources.

We are concerned that health outcomes in the UK are worse than amongst our neighbouring countries.

- The Party will require a commission to be set to investigate and draw comparisons with France and Germany to understand the reasons why the UK is falling behind in health provision.
- The Party is firmly committed to the NHS as a service 'free at the point of delivery', and we would not consider privatisation. However, unlike the Labour Party and some other socialist style parties, we are not ideologically opposed as to the use of some private enterprise either within it or to complement it where this can improve cost effectiveness or efficiency.
- The Party will end 'health tourism' by foreign nationals.
- The Party will ensure that any new arrivals, migrants, or visitors into the UK have private health insurance. Visitors to the UK must have private health insurance as part of the visa process unless specific reciprocal agreements are in place.
- The Party will abolish prescription charges for residents across the UK. The annual cost of about £750 million can be more than offset by the ending of health tourism.

Outsourcing of NHS work

The private sector does not employ its own doctors in the main; they are NHS workers doing sessions in the private sector to earn more money and enable patients to queue jump.

To remove the current lack of confidence that the NHS can provide a comprehensive and responsible service, we must use the expertise of the clinical staff that work in private health care. The main objective is to get waiting times down.

- The Party would strengthen the ability of the NHS commissioners to make use of private sector capacity and expertise.

Staffing

The NHS has huge waiting lists for radiography, hip and knee replacements, cataract surgery, heart, cancer treatments etc. There are many hospitals half empty, some have empty wings that have never been used. Lack of funds to employ staff or no qualified staff to employ? There is clearly a shortage of qualified medical staff.

- The Party will greatly expand the number of medical school places until we are training enough Doctors and Dentists for our needs.
- The Party will prioritise UK resident nationals for enrolment to medical schools.
- The Party will encourage the recruitment of hospital doctors and GPs by waiving repayment of tuition fees while they work as medical health professionals in the NHS. This excludes administrators. After 20 years of service any debt would be cancelled.
- The Party will prioritise training our own NHS workers, rather than relying on recruiting medical staff from abroad or paying extortionate agency costs.
- The Party will embark on a massive advertising campaign to recruit new staff.
- The Party will open high street recruitment offices.
- The Party will use NHS recruitment visits to Secondary Schools to encourage careers in the medical profession. We would also set up extra 'Health career development' classes.

- The Party will act to get retired medical professionals such as doctors, nurses, anaesthetists, technicians, ambulance drivers back into the workforce.
- The Party will require all medical professionals to keep their professional skills up to date but would scrap bureaucratic continuing professional development procedures within the NHS which are nothing more than a box-ticking exercise.
- The Party will reform the General Medical Council. While recognising its important role in regulating doctors in the United Kingdom and protecting the public, we would encourage it to better understand the stresses on individual Doctors, allow a broader range of opinion from doctors, and stop adherence to a 'Politically Correct doctrine'.
- The Party will prioritise a big drive to reduce waiting lists by providing more surgical theatre time there by making sure operations get done in timely fashion.
- The Party will stop the cancellation of operations and shutdowns of theatres for staff to attend mindfulness and yoga sessions.
- The Party will make certain that government invest in our own people.

Care in the Community

Care is only as good as the carer and in Britain there is room for improvement. Ever since the Blair government expanded higher education so that 50% of school leavers went to university, those who are suited to caring have often been undertrained, undervalued, under paid and in short supply. Instead of investing in carers, governments have expected and allowed employers to recruit people from overseas to work in the care sector, and some of them have poor English.

- The Party will champion the role and rights of carers, who are the mainstays of good quality care. Having reduced the number of school leavers who go to university, we will encourage more people to train for the fulfilling role of being a care worker. **See Section 9.2 Equality, Disability and Poverty.**
- The Party will encourage more people to train within care homes and to achieve NQV Level 2 as a minimum before going to clients' homes to provide a service.

Nursing Education and Training

Before university-based nursing degrees in 1986 students did not pay student fees. The health service paid student nurses a minimum salary and accommodation was available at a reasonable cost. Tuition was provided by specialist nurses on site and students had practical placements for 3 months in various settings providing them with the opportunity to implement training, clinical skills and care for patients, residents and individuals needing their care skills. Resulting in a qualification as a State Registered Nurse or a State Enrolled Nurse. Students had to pass end of year exams, hospital final, and a final exam.

To qualify as a State Registered Nurse, students completed a 3-year course. The entry criteria being 'O' levels and an interview in the 1980's. The qualification included management. Qualified State Registered Nurses had to prove competence and pay to retain registration.

To qualify as State Enrolled Nurses, students completed a 2-year course. The entry criteria being 'O' levels and an interview in the 1980's. This training fitted easily into most lifestyles and family commitments.

Today good vocational nursing staff reach a point in their careers where to progress they must join the administration, over half of NHS staff are administrators, these unnecessary posts strip away the nursing capacity. This bad practice must stop.

We believe it is time to return to common sense and re-introduce past training method for nursing staff.

- The Party will remove the current requirement for a nursing degree although this would remain an option.
- The Party will re-introduce State Registered Nurses (SRNs), their training will be tailored to individual career goals.
- The Party will re-introduce State Enrolled Nurses (SENs) and create a 1-year foundation care course which could be a basic qualification for care.

- The Party will ensure that student nurses become part of the workforce in hospitals and other care settings.

Hygiene and General Patient Care

Why are filthy hospitals getting Excellent ratings from the Care Quality Commission (CQC)?

- The Party will replace the CQC which is politicised and not fit for purpose.
- The Party will ensure that surprise visits and inspections are made on a regular basis.
- The Party will bring cleaning, laundry, and catering back in-house for ALL hospitals. This ownership provides an incentive to perform well.
- The Party would be proactive in Public Health Campaigns to encourage people to take responsibility for better care of their health.
- The Party will scrap hospital car parking charges wherever possible.

Overpaid Bosses

The pay statistics show that there are now more than 2,000 managers within the NHS who are being paid six-figure salaries. Administrators are too costly for their qualifications, and we have too many admin staff who are not very productive.

- The Party will identify and remove all administration functions and staff.
- The Party supports most senior nurses to manage staff in wards.
- The Party will not allow NHS managers, especially at failing hospitals, to continue to rake in the cash. Administrators must be held accountable for poor performance and accept cuts to their salary if it can be proved they have been negligent.
- The Party believe that senior doctors should be able to take the administrator to task for failures affecting patient safety or their ability to perform their work effectively.
- The Party wants local community and cottage hospitals reinstated and permanently staffed to avoid stressful miles of travel by patients and their visitors.
- The Party opposes the creation of non-medical, woke politically correct positions such as diversity officers.
- The Party will scrap hospital car parking charges wherever possible.

GP Practices

It is agreed that GPs should be properly paid but they must do the job. At the height of the Pandemic GPs refused to see patients and they closed their surgeries; some had not reopened more than 18 months later. Many still only offer telephone consultations or Skype calls.

Failure of GPs to see patients in a timely fashion means A&E departments being overloaded. Doctors should see patients and request admissions where necessary. Patients should not be forced to admit themselves via A&E. GPs not seeing patients has also led to both misdiagnosis and failure to spot signs of serious illness.

- The Party will ensure that GPs give their patients a choice between face to face, phone or Skype consultations.
- The Party will stop the long-time lapses between tests and results and feedback.
- The Party will encourage the concept of 'My Family Doctor' who knows his patients and end the 'See anyone' culture. Doctors are rewarded to prescribe particular drugs and perform particular treatments. Doctors should be expected to apply their clinical judgement as to what is best for their patients in return for their capitation fee. There is a suspicion that drug companies are pitching directly to the DHSS.
- The Party will ensure there are better controls on conflicts of interest as some doctors will change what they prescribe if given a financial incentive to do so.

Many doctors decided to go part time because of the taxation on their prospective pensions. In the March 2020 Budget, the Government announced increases in the income thresholds for the tapered Annual Allowance. Most but not all doctors are now removed from the effect of the taper relief. Doctors are still subject to a potential 25% tax on the proportion of their pension savings in excess of the Lifetime Allowance before their pensions can be paid.

- The Party will insist on further reform and flexibility in pension scheme rules so that we do not lose valuable professionals before their retirement age.

Dentists

Originally the NHS intended to provide dentistry treatment to the whole of the UK population, free at the time of need. Since 1951 ever increasing charges have been applied and the treatments available under the NHS are diminishing.

The dreadful amount of administration, red tape and quotas make dentistry not viable. Dentists` have left the system. Many small independent dentists work for privately consolidated groups.

Finding an NHS dentist has become virtually impossible.

- The Party will work with dentists to find an incentive to bring them back to the NHS.
- The Party will review the list of NHS authorised treatments.
- The Party will ensure that dentists receive adequate remuneration for NHS treatments.
- The Party will make dental treatment affordable to all.

Health Emergencies

A UK Independence Party led government would take strong action to mitigate health emergencies such as pandemics and epidemics. In doing so, we would adhere to our cores belief that everyone has an absolute right to live in a free and democratic society. We therefore oppose compulsion for anyone who elects not to comply with official advice.

- The Party will take reasonable measures to control the spread of infection, such measures will be proportionate and will not involve compulsion.
- The Party may take advice from unelected international organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), but we reserve the right not to comply with such advice if it restricts the freedom of individuals.
- The Party respects the right of individuals to exercise their bodily autonomy, such as the right to refuse medicines or vaccinations.
- The Party opposes the use of experimental vaccines on the general public.
- The Party opposes penalising individuals who exercise their right to say 'no'.
- The Party opposes measures that require people to 'show their papers' against their will to evidence their state of health or their personal vaccine status.
- The Party opposes businesses having the power to decline entry to their premises or access to goods or services based on an individual's vaccination status.

Lockdowns make no difference whatsoever. All they do is delay the transmission of a virus but at a serious cost to the wider economy. They put peoples' financial stability at risk, and they adversely affect peoples' mental health.

- The Party opposes any form of lockdown.

The wearing of masks has questionable benefits, there is no proof that face masks are effective in stopping the transmission of any virus.

- The Party opposes compulsory face masks, except in theatres and zones of moderate infection.

SECTION 5 – EDUCATION

All children should be taught grammar and spelling.

Education is so dumbed down that it mostly fails to inspire, challenge or train. All children should be taught grammar and spelling; to read poetry and printed books, facts and dates; British history as a celebration of events and great people who explain our past and inspire our future; manners and respect for their teachers.

Sixteen-year-olds should be expected to work or learn a skill or trade unless they have the inclination and ability to progress to a rigorous programme of further or higher education. According to the Times Education Commission, education systems across the UK are 'failing on every measure' and 60% of parents do not believe schools prepare pupils for work.

School Curriculum

The school curriculum must enable students to fulfil their potential, whether of hand, heart, or brain, rather than, as at present, being geared towards developing only the academically most able. A report by the Education Select Committee noted in 2021, some have been neglected more than others as, 'white working-class pupils have been let down by decades of neglect in the English education system'. Some UK schools and academies are removing historical novels and traditional musical instruments as part of a disingenuous agenda to 'decolonise' curriculums and collections.

- The Party opposes selective removal of historical literature or cultural material from places of learning.
- The Party will prioritise teaching the history of the British Isles to all children in all UK schools and promote respect for our national flag and institutions.
- The Party believes the role of schools and academies is to educate our young to be aware and proud of UK history and heritage.
- The Party is concerned at the staggeringly high number of foreign languages now spoken in some UK schools. Failing to communicate in English cannot be good for social cohesion.
- The Party will reorient the school curriculum around subjects and lessons that will enable students to leave school with the ability to think for themselves and to have a basic understanding of English, maths, science, and British history.
- The Party will encourage the teaching of foreign languages in primary schools and a broader range of languages such as Russian and Mandarin at secondary level and British Sign Language.
- The Party will encourage competition in schools, particularly in sport, to reverse the practice of recent years which has viewed competition as inherently bad.
- The Party supports the rights of parents to home-school their children if they choose to do so.
- The Party will support and fund free schools, provided they are open to the whole community, uphold British values and do not discriminate against any section of society.
- The Party believes in freedom of choice in education and therefore supports continuation of the charitable status of private schools.
- The Party will provide every pupil with access to a laptop or tablet.
- The Party will take action to eliminate regional disparities in education.

Primary Schooling

The pattern for learning is established in primary schools and children have been badly affected by the unnecessary closure of schools during the Covid pandemic. Schools are sometimes set up without adequate access to local playing fields and some schools have sold or built on them.

- The Party will require primary schools to focus on developing literacy and numeracy and to develop intellectual skills.

- The Party will require primary schools to have adequate and easy to access playing fields so that schoolchildren can readily engage in and enjoy competitive sport.

Secondary Schooling

The most recent Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) tests show that educational standards of 15 years olds in the UK lag behind top performers like Canada, China, and Estonia. The tests, run by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, cover three disciplines and with the UK coming 14th in reading, 14th in science and 18th in mathematics.

Standards must improve so that our brightest children can become the inventors, engineer, scientists, and technicians that this country needs. We are falling behind, particularly in manufacturing, engineering, and digital expertise.

Selective Education

Grammar schools, which select on academic ability at the age of 11, are a proven path to social mobility for working class children and an excellent way of raising academic standards. Their demise since the 1970s shows how Conservative and Labour governments have put a misplaced ideology before proven success.

The Labour Party under Blair banned grammar schools in their School Standards and Framework Act 1998. In 2016 Theresa May said she would end the ban on new grammar schools, but this pledge was quickly scrapped. In 2022 Liz Truss also said she would lift the ban but that never happened either.

- The Party will repeal the prohibition on the creation of selective grammar schools.
- The Party will allow high-performing comprehensives to become selective grammar schools.
- The Party will support comprehensives that do not become grammar schools to provide school children with the education and skills that they and society need.

The UK is always short of people with the skills needed to undertake work in the national interests and constantly demand imported workers to do jobs that our own young people should be able to do.

- The Party will educate our children and young people to develop practical skills to thrive in business and technical careers.
- The Party will support the building of more technical and agricultural colleges we appreciate that some students have an aptitude for technical rather than academic subjects and they will benefit from gaining a technical qualification rather than an academic degree. Transfer to such colleges would be at sixteen.

Higher Education

Higher education cannot be reformed without first reforming its funding mechanism. The cap on fees has led to preferential access being given to foreign students paying full fees for courses costing more than the government's cap; these are also the strategic courses required to drive our economy as well as assisting many of our young people to reach their full potential.

- The Party will allow universities to charge fees which are no more than the economic cost of providing a given course. The Party will ensure that qualifying students receive scholarships up to full fees for courses deemed of strategic importance to the economy.
- For courses of no strategic value or for which an overabundance of students enrol, repayment of fees will be required in the period following graduation.
- Universities will be required to publish the number of years post-graduation for an average student's total earnings for each course to surpass those had they not attended university.
- Students who receive scholarships will be required to work in the same field in the UK for a British employer or for a British employer abroad for twice the duration of their course, failing which repayment of fees will become due.
- Some vocational courses such as teaching and nursing will have fees paid by the state. Students will be required to work in the public sector in their vocation for twice the course duration.

Foreign Students

There has been a surge in student visas. The UK for university issued almost 500,000 sponsored study visas in June 2023, a 23% rise from 2022. Indians accounted for nearly one-third at 142,848, a 54% rise and a substantial increase of 49,883 compared to 2022. This figure is seven times higher than in 2019.

- The Party believes competition from well-healed foreign students for university places is fundamentally unfair to the typical UK students.
- The Party will give priority to UK students.
- The Party will not automatically grant study visas to foreign students, we will limit study visas to ensure that immigrants do not deprive our own young people on educational opportunities.

Further Education

Although further education offers a springboard for adults who wish to improve their education, training, and skills after leaving school, this is a neglected educational sector. It is also a sector that can play a key role in enabling local people to provide the skills that their local economy needs.

- The Party will protect the future further education budget in real terms.
- The Party will promote a local approach for the integration of skills with economic growth strategies, adapted to the needs of each individual community across the country.

Examinations

School and university grades have been devalued over many years by a combination of grade inflation and a preference for assessments over traditional exams. The problem intensified during the Covid pandemic where teacher assessments replaced exams. The Party believes that traditional exams are usually the fairest and best way of assessing academic standards and it will encourage exam boards to adopt this method as the norm. So, to help eliminate grade inflation: -

- The Party will limit each grade to a fixed percentage of annual entrants, which will not vary from year to year. This will make grades meaningful and enable students and employers to know the value of grades regardless of when it was taken.
- The Party supports the traditional academic thresholds of up to 40% Fail, up to 60% Pass, up to 80% Credit and up to 100% Distinction, to be made up of the average of Tutor Marked Assignments and End of Term Examination.

Woke, Political Correctness

We must end the cancer of woke, political correctness in schools or we will put the future of our country at risk. Education has become a key battleground in the culture war. Many State and privately-run institutions are run by the woke.

A report from the National Education Union said there is an 'urgent' need to 'decolonise' every subject and every stage of the school curriculum. Many debates on university campuses have seen speakers, particularly from the centre-right, banned from speaking and many academics are too afraid to express 'conservative' opinions.

The government is promoting woke teaching by requiring schools to teach about lesbian and gay sex and transgender issues. Now our schools are indoctrinating children with attitudes such as LGBT+, gender politics, trans rights, climate change, immigration, woke racism, and radical feminism and they have disrespected parental rights by allowing school children to be vaccinated without parental consent.

- The Party will repeal the Equality Act provisions that make race, sex, sexuality, and gender protected characteristics as part of a drive to stop the left-wing indoctrination of young minds.
- The Party will not allow schools to undermine parental rights.
- The Party will not allow schools to expose children to transgender theory, self-identification, or gender fluidity or to employ teaching methods that promote sexual activity in children.

- The Party will defund academic institutions that promote woke ideology, divisive identity politics, de-platform speakers or censor debates by removing Government financial support.

Teachers' Conditions

Teachers are bogged down in paperwork and in performing bureaucratic exercises which detract from teaching time.

- The Party will decrease the paperwork teachers deal with, such as unduly elaborate individual lesson plans, excessive data collection, overly prescriptive internal assessment, and dialogue-based marking schemes.
- The Party will radically overhaul teacher training courses and refocus the training of educators to use successful traditional teaching methods that focus on facts and excellence.

Support for Special Needs

Too many British schoolchildren struggle with learning disorders that are diagnosed too late. Others do not receive the special support they need. The pandemic was a 'disaster' for young people, both in terms of their mental health and the widening of the disadvantage gap.

- The Party will ensure teachers receive training on how to identify pupils with special educational needs. We will introduce special educational needs modules in all teacher training courses and make it easier for teaching staff to access specialists who can access special needs.
- The Party will employ special needs counsellors in every school.
- The Party will tackle the unacceptable waiting times for diagnostic assessment.
- The Party will reverse the policy of closing schools for special needs children. Some children with special needs really depend on their schools. There must be no stigma attached to these schools.

SECTION 6 – FOOD, FARMING & THE COUNTRYSIDE

6.1 Farming.

Save our farmland for sustainable food production.

Common Agricultural Policy

The UK's long membership of the European Union led to the decline of the UK agricultural sector. Before we joined the EEC, which evolved into the EU, we produced three quarters of our own food with additional temperate food produce originating mainly from Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

After joining the EEC in 1972, the UK became subject to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which gave priority to subsidising inefficient French food production on enormous farms. The CAP was the most expensive component of the EEC, and we were the second highest contributor to it.

Mainly, because of our membership of the CAP, the proportion of home-produced food declined to nearer 40% and the decline of our agricultural industry led to the closure of agricultural colleges, fewer young people entering the agricultural industry and a consequent ageing of the active farming community.

New Challenges

The UK now employs about 5.4% of our total land area for farming crops. Since 2019 when the UK left the EU, our agricultural sector has faced new challenges. The spread of COVID-19 was unprecedented, a shock for farmers and added to the problems they faced due to the cost of net zero, the cost-of-living crisis and the energy crisis. In addition, farmers had to contend with free trade deals with low-cost foreign food producers, subsidised food imports due to Boris Johnson's free trade deal with the EU, poor government, and seasonal labour shortages.

Rural communities were told to produce high quality food at knock down prices, install green energy installations and crops whilst competing for land with property developers who, enabled by Government, would build houses on every piece of green space they can find. The combined force of these events caused financial losses, which drove some farmers out of business, and it will take time for the industry to recover.

- The Party will re-invigorate the UK agriculture sector after its years in the doldrums of the CAP by giving our farmers the freedom and incentives to produce as much of our food as they can.
- The Party will ensure that the Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), would focus on food self-sufficiency rather than on the environment and land management.

Food

Food security and self-sufficiency is of primary importance to avert future shocks in prices and supply. The UK population is rising exponentially due to high levels of immigration, and we are increasingly reliant on food imports.

- The Party aims to cut our dependency on food imports and to become self-sufficient in food production.
- The Party will appoint a government minister with specific responsibility for farming and food production.

Wind turbines and solar arrays are inefficient and are a misuse of prime agricultural land. Wind turbines are a threat to wildlife as they do kill birds and bats as well as harming the environment. Valuable agricultural land must return to producing crops and other foodstuff.

- The Party will bring all farmland into food production and will reject misuse of farmland for hosting electricity generating equipment or for re-wilding.

There are constant pressures to concrete over prime agricultural land and to build new housing developments to cope with never-ending population growth due to mass immigration.

- The Party opposes the sale of green belt, farmland, publicly owned woodland, and that owned by the National Trust for housing.
- The Party will reward farmers for producing wholesome food not for owning land or for land management.
- The Party will give farmers a free hand in the management of their land and not subject them to continual government interference.
- The Party will stop local authorities selling Council owned farms and ensure that such farms are let to aspiring farmers on a Farm Business Tenancy of not less than 15 years.
- The Party will compensate farmers directly through support payments related to production to enable them to compete with foreign producers using lower standards or lower costs of production. Such support using intervention pricing would be capped at £100,000 and set at a level such that the smaller family farms were fairly rewarded for their contributions to our food security.
- The Party will grant compensation payments if bad weather severely damages the harvest.
- The Party will strengthen the powers of the Groceries Code Adjudicator to ensure that farmers receive a fair price for their produce.
- The Party supports the establishment of Food Enterprise Zones to create added-value businesses to promote primary food production.
- The Party will re-examine the use of neonicotinoid insecticides, which the EU banned and make an informed decision regarding the reintroduction of their use.
- The Party supports the use of leguminous cover crops and will encourage 3 or 4-field crop rotation including grazing to naturally sustain soil health and maintain nitrogen levels.
- The Party will subsidise the costs of artificial fertiliser to compensate farmers for the excessive energy costs in its manufacture.
- The Party supports the use of bio digesters, which get rid of waste more efficiently and the residue is good fertiliser.
- The Party will permit farmers to spread sludge dredged from rivers onto adjacent land for soil enrichment.
- The Party will assist farmers and landowners through local drainage boards to manage rivers flowing through their lands to prevent flooding.

Workforce and Skills

Employment in the UK farming industry has been steadily decreasing for decades. Farmers say they are unable to get the workforce they need to operate efficiently. Our agricultural industry will face difficulties until farmers can attract UK citizens to work on farms.

Only 1% of the 60,000 seasonal workers picking fruit and vegetables in 2022 were British. (Source: National Farmers Union). The other 99% came from Eastern Europe. Shortages of casual labour can have a catastrophic effect on the agricultural industry.

- The Party will encourage higher pay rates to make it more attractive for UK workers to take up casual employment in the agricultural sector.
- The Party will allow temporary work visas for essential seasonal agricultural and hospitality sector workers. **See Section 2.1 immigration.**

Technology and Farm Equipment

Technological advancement should increase job opportunities in agriculture and bring other benefits. However, the initial shift to technologically advanced farming techniques will take time and will be expensive. Given the heavy financial losses incurred due to the pandemic, few farmers have the means to pay for it.

- The Party will improve agricultural education and skills training through an expansion of both graduate and non-graduate training through agricultural colleges and farm apprenticeships. Agricultural colleges will teach farming skills through farm placements as well as farm management. **See section 5 Education.**
- The Party will treat agriculture the same as a STEM subject with free tuition to practitioners. **See section 5 Education.**
- The Party will work hard to improve farm safety in the use of mechanical equipment particularly Power Take Off units attached to tractors.
- The Party will increase the penalties for stealing farm equipment.

Rustling

The Party will increase the police presence in rural areas as well as call for partnerships between police, communities, and other authorities.

- The Party will encourage the use of Tec Tracer paint which is a forensically coded sheep paint that deters the theft of livestock. This provides irrefutable evidence of ownership. The forensic codes are near impossible to remove but can easily be recovered and read by police.
- The Party will legislate to prohibit the use of ear tags, which can catch in hedgerows etc. and cause damage to the ears of animals. Rustlers can remove ear tags. We will replace ear tags with microchips in the same way as for dogs or horses.

Countryside

- The Party will make copies of the Countryside Code in booklet or leaflet form widely available at Tourist Information Centres and main public access points to farmland.
- The Party will abolish the Environment Agency as an overarching authority and replace it with Local Land Trusts with responsibilities for the management of farming, waterways, and publicly owned woodlands.
- The Party will make it a criminal offence to allow a pet dog off its leash in an area where livestock are grazing.
- The Party supports the planting of broadleaf trees by the Forestry Commission in preference to closely planted conifers.
- The Party will reinstate the general licence to allow farmers to control vermin.
- The Party will engage with the British Balloon Society to establish an all-encompassing register of land where the flying and landing of Hot Air Balloons is prohibited, except in an emergency. As well as crop damage, hot air balloons have the potential to cause stress to livestock.
- The Party will prohibit the sale and use of Chinese Lanterns. These can cause fires or be eaten by livestock causing suffering and fatalities if they land in rural areas.

6.2 Animal Welfare.

The British tradition is to be kind to animals.

Rishi Sunak promised to 'champion' a bill to ban live exports – the cramming of cattle and sheep onto trucks for horrific journeys overseas for slaughter or further fattening. But instead of sticking to his promise, the government dropped their own bill! Animals exported from the UK suffer stress, exhaustion, injury, and even death.

- The Party will end the practice of exporting live animals for slaughter or fattening.
- The Party will promote the highest standards of animal husbandry and outlaw the use of battery production. We will end the practice of keeping egg-laying hens in 'enriched cages' which are a euphemism for slightly bigger battery cages. We will end the practice of factory farming, which confines farm animals for their whole lives.

The UK has a shortage of Farm Animal Veterinarians. Trained vets treat animals to remedy their health problems and in extremis give them a humane death by lethal injection. Abattoirs deal in dead stock which is not the purpose of a vet.

- The Party will end the EU imposed practice of having vets in attendance at abattoirs and revert to the practice of having Local Authority Meat Inspectors in attendance instead.
- The Party opposes non-stun slaughter. We will remove religious exemptions allowing it to ensure that any transgression would be subject to prosecution under existing animal cruelty legislation. We will ensure that this law is rigorously enforced.
- The Party will allow imports of non-stunned meat products frozen or refrigerated, into the UK, to meet the needs of specific religions, subject to strict labelling requirements.
- The Party will ensure the strict labelling of all food in the UK to show its method of production, country of origin and method of slaughter.
- The Party will review and revise the protected animals list removing those now established in sustainable numbers and add those that require protection.

Trophy Hunting

The current UK government made a half-hearted effort to do its bit by introducing the Hunting Trophies Import Prohibition Bill. However, this Bill was not only stopped in its tracks by a small group of filibustering Peers, but it also contained a big loophole. Had it been passed by the Lords; it would only have applied to Great Britain. It would not have covered Northern Ireland, so it would not have been applicable across the whole of the UK.

- The Party will open dialogue with the Republic of Ireland and the EU Commission to ensure that a hunting trophy ban is put in place UK-wide.
- The Party aims to end all stalking and killing of wild animals to obtain part of the animal as a trophy.

6.3 Fishing

Successive Conservative prime ministers have betrayed UK fishing communities. Ted Heath took the UK into the EEC in 1972, and one of the most important reasons for leaving the EU was to reinstate our fishing industry. UK waters contain the world's richest marine resources but under EU Law, we had no choice but to allow EU boats to enter UK fishing grounds to plunder our fish. Despite the UK's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), its contiguous zone and territorial seas the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and EU fishing quotas took priority. Therefore, we had no choice but to share our fish stocks with the entire EU. UK fishermen quickly grew to resent the CFP, which also set the rules governing fishing.

EU overfishing depleted the UK's North Sea cod stocks by 84% between the 1970s and 2006, and the EU further reduced the UK's fishing quotas after the accession of Spain and Portugal to the EU. The EU then bribed UK fishermen to sell their quotas and scrap their vessels whilst it gave grants to Spaniards to acquire a fishing fleet. Hence, under the EU, our once important national offshore and onshore fishing industry and supporting communities went into almost terminal decline. Our current priority is to restore our national fishing industry to its former prominence.

- The Party will re-build and expand our onshore fish processing and fisheries support industries.
- The Party will provide government grants to acquire vessels and tackle to harvest our marine resource to qualified UK fishermen and their crews. Grants will not be available for shore-based organisations.
- The Party aims to encourage investors to re-build and expand the UK onshore fisheries support industry by offering incentives to UK based organisations that support the growth of our onshore processing and aquaculture sectors.

The UK government currently has a Minister of State for Food, Farming and Fisheries in the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) but no dedicated Minister with exclusive responsibility for the fishing industry or fishing communities.

- The Party will appoint a government minister with exclusive responsibility for fishing throughout the UK. Under devolution, such a Minister would only be responsible for England, which is absurd. Therefore, we would aim to remove this anomaly by ending devolution.

Having left the EU on the 31st January 2020, a second Conservative prime minister (Boris Johnson) let down UK fishing communities. The UK left the CFP in name only and failed to ensure that the withdrawal agreement with the EU stopped EU vessels operating within 6-12 nautical miles of the UK coastline. Instead, his government agreed a 5-year transition period with the EU, which allowed mutual access to our respective Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ). Under this agreement, our fishing fleet still has unequal access to EU coastal resources compared to the EU access to ours. UK trawlers did not receive an immediate and sizeable rise in the quota of fish they could net in UK waters. Instead, the quota allocated to EU vessels only gradually decreased by 25% but over five-and-a-half years.

The fisheries agreement between the UK and the EU is up for renegotiation in 2026. Until then, the UK is subject to annual negotiations with the EU for the right to harvest our fish for five years. At the end of this period, there is no mutual agreement at all. This is no basis on which to rebuild our fishing industry to its prominence prior to the UK joining the Common Market.

- The Party will ban EU vessels from operating within 6-12 nautical miles of the UK coast.
- The Party will relinquish the UK's right of access to EU waters in exchange for exclusive access to our own waters.
- The Party will ensure that **by the end of the five-year transition period** the UK will take full control of all maritime resources within our EEZ up to 200 nautical miles. UK crews and vessels will have priority for allocation of our fish, and we will substantially increase our capacity towards exploiting maritime resources within our EEZ, with full capacity **by the end of the decade**.

- The Party deplores that the government has left Northern Ireland's fishermen facing difficulties bringing seafood to Northern Ireland from Great Britain under the NI Protocol which governs movement of goods between the UK internal market and the EU single market.
- The Party insists that the problems surrounding implementation of Sunak's Windsor Framework must be resolved.
- The Party will negotiate new arrangements with the EU to eliminate the current bureaucracy and red tape faced by UK seafood exporters to the EU under the bad deal negotiated by the Conservative government. The process takes too long; there is too much paperwork between the UK and EU, and too many people involved.

Wind turbines and their associated cabling disturb the seabed. They are a hazard to fishing and to fishing boats. Offshore wind turbines are inherently expensive to install and maintain and they are reliant on subsidies to operate.

- The Party will remove all subsidies from offshore wind.

The government does not give sufficient priority to Fisheries Protection. Our EEZ has 773,676 square kilometres of sea: the fifth largest internationally. We have insufficient RN vessels to protect our fisheries as well as to protect our borders from invasion. The problem is the inadequate budget from DEFRA. Protecting our fisheries from foreign predation is a useful task but assisting illegal immigrants is not.

- The Party will focus on fisheries protection and detecting illegal fishing and its methods.
- The Party will not grant rights to vessels acting for foreign operators or with foreign crews to fish in our waters or to acquire the right by negotiation with our fishermen.
- The Party will focus on conservation to protect fishing grounds from exploitation.
- The Party will rapidly close areas to fishing on a temporary basis where juvenile fish are abundant. Such areas are not static, and we will need scientific survey vessels to patrol our fishing grounds to quickly decide and communicate decisions to fishermen and onshore authorities.
- The Party will replace quotas for white fish by monthly allocations of days at sea based on our own determination of the necessary Total Allowable Catch (TAC) per species to maintain fish stocks. We will not permit EU fisheries bodies to influence such quotas. We will require vessels to bring ashore all fish of legal marketable size to be recorded. Undersized fish can be discarded.
- The Party will outlaw quota trading without compensation.
- The Party will abolish Highly Protected Marine Areas, which interfere with the livelihoods of coastal communities.
- The Party will encourage methods of fishing which conserve marine resources and protect the seabed such as seine netting and long-lining by offering grants for equipment and with extra time at sea for vessels where required.
- The Party will abolish the Marine Management Organisation. Our EEZ contains fishing grounds not a wildlife park.
- The Party will establish inshore fishing zones for the exclusive use of vessels under 10 metres overall length which would not necessarily be constrained by days at sea.
- The Party will replace indiscriminate harvesting within six miles of the shore by pelagic trawlers by the use of craft up to 15m and methods such as purse seine and hook and line.

6.4 Environment.

Weather patterns are changing.

Human effect on the Weather

Weather patterns do change with the changing coastlines and particularly with land use by humans for crops. The crops draw water from the soil and by irrigation from rivers and lakes and change the albedo locally due to the green leaf energy absorption of chlorophyll.

Respiration of water from the leaves of the plants distributes and increases the humidity above the crop area. This has a direct impact on the rainfall in the area and downwind of the crops. There has always been evolving weather patterns and always will be.

We have to accept that putting more land to use for growing food and a rising level of CO₂ to stimulate growth is desirable to feed humanity but will change weather patterns. What we must not do is destroy habitats of endangered species in order to grow ethanol as cash crop to replace petrol and diesel.

- The Party will legislate to stop the use of ethanol in petrol and ban the use of biodiesel.

Rain and Rivers

Over 2000 years ago the Roman Empire dominated Europe and even came to Britain in AD43. Everywhere they went engineers-built viaducts to channel water to dry places and widened and dredged rivers and waterways for use in moving men and materials by boat. Also, they drained marshlands and water-meadows.

All was fine all over Europe with rivers coping with even the occasional exceptionally high rain events. Then in 2000 the EU brought out the Waterways Directive that declared that dredging rivers and waterways damage the river-bed ecology and must be stopped.

To further make this happen the spoil was classified as hazardous waste that could not be spread over adjacent land as had been done for thousands of years. Now it has to be disposed of in special hazardous waste areas at high cost.

Within 10 years nature had started to significantly silt up rivers and in winter they burst their banks causing destruction to homes built on water-meadows and flooding villages where the volume of water could no longer pass safely under bridges. This destroyed people's homes and possessions and made houses uninsurable and worthless. Nature was reclaiming the water-meadows.

Then a couple of years ago the Somerset Levels were severely flooded, the first time since the King's Sedgemoor Drain was built in 1791-95. So, in came the dredgers and huge pumps and pipes were installed to remove the unseasonably high-water levels.

In 2021 unusually high rainfalls in Europe have flooded huge regions of southern Germany. Nothing like this has happened for centuries and it isn't Climate Change, it is due to silted up rivers.

- The Party will repeal the Waterways Directive 2000 and its successor Waterways Directive 2017 and return to using traditional British methods of watercourse management and using the spoil to enrich the land.

Landscapes & Seascapes

Once not so long ago there were protests by environmental campaigners every time a bypass or new road project was planned, or work started. They said the concrete and tarmac despoiled the landscape and we must not cover the land with concrete.

Now those same environmentalists champion wind turbines that each need a foundation of reinforced concrete weighing 1000 tons. They despoil both landscape and seascape and are just several orders of magnitude more annoying than a well-manicured road with cars moving along it at high speed where previously other roads carrying those vehicles were slowly moving car parks.

It is hardly surprising that many farms are now turning over land for use by solar farms where they are guaranteed a renewable subsidy greater than the money to be earned growing crops or keeping livestock. How are we ever to become as self-sufficient as possible from our available farmland if it is not used for food?

- The Party will prevent further wind farms being built on land or offshore and have them removed from near motorways and major roads where they are an unsightly and dangerous distraction.

Plastic Waste

One of the highest profile waste products is plastic. According to Wikipedia, under the heading Plastic Waste it states that 8 million tons of plastic enters the World's oceans every year and it estimates that over 8.3 billion tons is already strewn across ocean floors.

A washing machine full load of polyester clothing will release about 700,000 micro-fibres into the wastewater supply, often ending up in the marine environment.

Seven Common types of Plastic

Type one Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) includes Polyester. Polyethylene (PE), commonly used in PET bottles, can be infinitely recycled. Polyester is recyclable up to 3 times and is known as rPET losing integrity each time but can be included in garments together with fresh PET. Recycling this immediately reduces waste and the final use version can be incinerated.

Type two and four High Density and Low-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and (LDPE) This is fully recyclable without structural degradation for re-use in its original form.

Type three Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) This is fully recyclable without structural degradation for re-use in its original form.

Type five Polyethylene (PE) This is fully recyclable without structural degradation for re-use in its original form.

Type six Polystyrene (PS) and Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) This is fully recyclable without structural degradation for re-use in its original application, though there is only one company in the UK, Regenthill in Andover, processing it.

Type seven Miscellaneous This includes Nylon that is hygroscopic, meaning water absorbent, causing it to swell and deteriorate when wet. Otherwise, it is fully recyclable. Also included is Polycarbonate, which is also fully recyclable without structural degradation for re-use in its original application. Other polymers in this category are used in small quantities and it is unknown if they can be recycled or incinerated.

There is no sensible reason why the UK and all other nations do not have sufficient recycling facilities. Plastic is just too useful to stop using but we must stop allowing it to end up in Earth's oceans, and dramatically reduce the amount going into landfill.

- The Party will put pressure on all businesses to use only recyclable packing materials and to switch from the use of brown plastic tape to paper tape with cotton weave, to seal packages.

- The Party will put pressure on local authorities to provide separate bins at recycling centres for all plastic, and to provide separate waste bins for household plastics.
- The Party will put pressure on the government to spend money on a programme of setting up industrial scale plastic recycling plants. The recycled plastic can then be sold back to plastic manufacturers. The money for this should be taken from wind and solar farms and carbon capture and storage infrastructure.
- The Party will put pressure on clothing manufacturers to use a significant amount of rPET in new products.
- The Party will insist that non-recyclable plastic be incinerated where possible so that only the smallest quantity needs to be buried deep in the land.

Rubbish & Recycling

An article in the Telegraph by Joe Shute on 18 May 2021 revealed that in 2020 the UK exported 688,000 tons of waste, with 209,642 going to Turkey, 65,000 going to Malaysia, and 38,000 tons going to Poland. The remaining 375,358 tons went elsewhere in the World but probably somewhere in Asia.

The problem of household and business waste should be dealt with in the UK, and not be exported worldwide, except to countries that can recycle it properly.

Household refuse is now carefully sorted by residents into black landfill, green recyclable, and brown food waste bins and presumed to be appropriately disposed of by local councils. The truth is that despite the worthy efforts of the residents, many councils continue to send well over 60% of it to landfill. Outrageous!

- The Party will put pressure on local authorities to increase recycling rates and incineration capacity to justify the efforts of residents in maximising the amount of waste that is recycled thereby reducing landfill or shipping waste overseas. A new goal for the Party 'Reduced Landfill'.

Items such as cloth, clothing, shoes, wood, and garden waste can be taken to a neighbourhood recycling centre, but many councils are now charging for disposal of soil, broken bricks, and sub soil, and even wood from DIY work. People feel they have already paid for refuse disposal and as a result there is then a great problem with fly-tipping on private land or council land where it costs unnecessary money to clear it up. Complete short-sightedness.

- The Party will demand that local councils stop charging for all forms of non-commercial domestic waste.

Urban Pollution

The rising pollution levels in cities are not caused by more traffic, and over the last twenty years vehicles have become so much cleaner than earlier ones. The pollution levels are rising because side streets used to shorten routes have been blocked off with planters and bollards, traffic lanes have been taken away from cars and vans and given to buses, taxis and cyclists and remain largely unused.

To halve pollution at a stroke we need to give the lanes back to cars and vans to get traffic moving again.

- The Party will return to general use all Bus and Cycle lanes, which are largely unused and cause massive congestion in normal car lanes.
- We will remove all Low Emission Zones, Ultra Low Emission Zones and remove planters and bollards which have turned streets into dead ends. All these things increase journey times and actually increase overall pollution levels.

SECTION 7 – THE ECONOMY

7.1 Taxation and Spending.

Balancing the books.

A Person can only spend more than they earn for a short period in the expectation of a surplus income in the long term to pay off the debt or an overdraft.

Businesses need cash flow and profits to survive, or else they will go bust. If a business is unprofitable, or lacks cash flow, it can often borrow money for a short time as long as the business is viable and if it has a chance of eventually returning to a profit and generating the necessary cash flow to survive.

Businesses are wealth creators.

Public Services do not make a profit and even though their generally well-paid staff pay Tax and National Insurance (NI), that is only like giving money to the EU and they give some back. **Public Services are wealth consumers.**

One ongoing issue facing the UK is the annual deficit, which is the amount the government annually spends on public services more than it receives in revenue and running at £70.7b in the year to April 2022.

The economy left by the Conservatives in 1997 was producing a year-on-year reduction of the annual deficit, that is the amount spent of Public Services compared to revenue. The trend peaked in 2001 with a surplus of £28.8b

Thereafter Labour started raising the amount spent on the NHS to keep the voters happy. Then the financial crash occurred in 2008 and Labour used the turmoil to go on a spending spree with every department and raising the deficit to £158b in 2009 which fell back a little to £132.4b by April 2010.

Public Expenditure

Departmental spending in £b

YEAR	2001	2004	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019	2022
Pensions	£73.40	£81.80	£93.90	£116.40	£139.20	£154.70	£164.70	£166.40
Healthcare	£54.30	£74.90	£94.70	£116.90	£124.30	£138.70	£152.90	£216.80
Benefits	£57.70	£61.00	£83.50	£111.70	£114.40	£112.90	£113.90	£137.90
Education	£46.40	£74.00	£74.00	£88.50	£87.90	£84.00	£88.10	£100.30
Defence	£29.90	£32.40	£36.60	£42.60	£42.20	£44.80	£49.70	£54.10
Protection	£20.20	£26.20	£30.30	£34.10	£31.50	£29.90	£32.70	£42.30
Transport	£9.20	£16.30	£19.90	£23.00	£19.10	£26.30	£32.60	£45.20
Admin	£8.70	£12.10	£16.80	£15.90	£13.50	£14.70	£15.00	£30.30
Misc & NGO	£39.20	£54.00	£72.60	£92.50	£55.10	£109.10	£149.90	£194.40
Loan Interest	£26.40	£22.50	£28.10	£30.70	£47.80	£45.70	£49.70	£70.70
TOTAL SPEND	£365.40	£455.20	£550.40	£672.30	£675.00	£760.80	£849.20	£1,058.40

Sales (GDP)	£1,022	£1,202	£1,405	£1,598	£1,702	£1,904.60	£2,163	£2,363
Income (GNI)	£394.20	£438.30	£533.50	£539.90	£617	£690.60	£792.00	£895.50
Real Deficit	-£28.80	£16.90	£16.90	£132.40	£57.80	£70.20	£57.20	£162.90
Total Debt	£316.70	£391.00	£497.80	£828.70	£1,186.00	£1,590.60	£1,765.40	£2,329.70

In the table below you will see that pensions which were the biggest proportion of Public Spending was reigned back when the government raised the pension age for woman to bring it in line with the men, to howls of protest. Then the further raising of the pension age from 65 to 67 has reduced spending again. Unless in a few years they raise the pension age to 70 the bill will start to rise again.

Healthcare was 13.4% of expenditure in 1997, now it is 20.5%. What has been for 72 years a sacred cow has now turned into a white elephant and the NHS is steadily falling behind on availability of nurses, doctors, dentists, hospital beds, operations for cancer and other surgery.

Benefits have come down due to Universal Credit limit, but Education, Defence, and Protection have all been cut. Loan interest as a percentage of spending has stayed much the same during the period.

Transport, Administration, and Misc & NGO's have all gone up with the amount of work outsourced to NGO's now at an all-time high. This is after David Cameron pledged to severely prune them.

Public overspend is increasing, and pay demands are growing. The overspend in 2022 was 18% above revenue. We are not living within our means.

Departmental spending as a % of Total Spend

YEAR	2001	2004	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019	2022
Pensions	20.1%	18.0%	17.1%	17.3%	20.6%	20.3%	19.4%	15.7%
Healthcare	14.9%	16.5%	17.2%	17.4%	18.4%	18.2%	18.0%	20.5%
Benefits	15.8%	13.4%	15.2%	16.6%	16.9%	14.8%	13.4%	13.0%
Education	12.7%	16.3%	13.4%	13.2%	13.0%	11.0%	10.4%	9.5%
Defence	8.2%	7.1%	6.6%	6.3%	6.3%	5.9%	5.9%	5.1%
Protection	5.5%	5.8%	5.5%	5.1%	4.7%	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%
Transport	2.5%	3.6%	3.6%	3.4%	2.8%	3.5%	3.8%	4.3%
Admin	2.4%	2.7%	3.1%	2.4%	2.0%	1.9%	1.8%	2.9%
Misc & NGO	10.7%	11.9%	13.2%	13.8%	8.2%	14.3%	17.7%	18.4%
Loan Interest	7.2%	4.9%	5.1%	4.6%	7.1%	6.0%	5.9%	6.7%
TOTAL SPEND	£365.40	£455.20	£550.40	£672.30	£675.00	£760.80	£849.20	£1,058.40

Overspend	-7.3%	3.9%	3.2%	24.5%	9.4%	10.2%	7.2%	18.2%
GNI/GDP	38.6%	36.5%	37.9%	33.8%	36.3%	36.3%	36.6%	37.9%
Debt/GDP	31.0%	32.5%	35.4%	51.8%	69.7%	83.5%	81.6%	98.6%

NHS Funding

The NHS cannot be allowed to consume ever more of the tax revenue, like a cancer. It is being well funded, but the money is being wasted on managerial and administration and on excessive payment for many drugs. Despite the media and public demand for more to be spent on it and a demand for similar expenditure on mental health as well, it cannot be allowed to eat further into the rest of departmental budgets.

A new scheme for funding the NHS must be found to control it and stop it being used as a political football at election time.

- The Party will change NI to National Health Insurance (NHI) to fund the NHS separately from other public expenditure, at a level equivalent to 18% of GNI.
- The Party will use the saving to increase funding to Education, Defence, and Protection.

Pensions

When the value using the triple lock rises to equal the take home pay of a person on minimum wage working a 37-hour week, it will thereafter remain linked to that wage, **See Section 9.1 Care for the Elderly. First bullet point.**

Taxation

Personal Tax

The current Personal Tax Allowance is presently £12,570. There are presently 3 basic tiers of tax at 20%, 40%, and 45%. The tax allowance is phased out for earnings over £100,000. The phasing out range splits the 40% range and turns 3 bands into 5.

£12,571 - £ 50,270	at 20%
£50,271 - £100,000	at 40%
£100,001 - £125,140	at 50%
£125,141 - £150,000	at 40% + £2,514
£150,001 and above	at 45% + £2,514

- The Party will get rid of the complex 5 tier system together with its 11,000 pages of tax law and replace it with a single flat rate of tax together with a generous personal allowance and only 550 pages of tax law.
- The Party will change the three tier tax rates to a single flat rate of 27% and raise the Personal Tax Allowance to £20,000.

Employed NI Contributions

National Insurance allowance is presently £9,569 for Employed people and rates applying from 6 April 2023 will be as follows:

£ 9,569 - £50,270	at 10.25%
£50,271 and above	at 2%

- The Party will charge £3.85 a week (£200 a year) NI Contribution for employed earning in the range £5,000 - £20,000 and a single rate of 15% above that income.

Employer's NI Contributions

Employer's NI contribution for each employee will be 15.25%. and the Party has no recommendation to change at the present time.

Self - employed NI Contributions

National Insurance allowance on profits for Self-Employed people is presently £6,515 and rates applying from 6 April 2023 will be as follows:

£6,515 - £9,568	at £3.05 a week
£9,569 - £50,270 class 4	at 10.25%
£50,271 and above	at 2%

Self-employed pay less because they don't get sick leave.

- The Party will charge £3.85 a week (£200 a year) NI Contribution for self-employed profits £5,000 - £20,000 and a single rate of 12% above that income.

The combination of the 27% flat tax together with the much higher rate of personal allowance and the single NI rates for employed and self-employed people will reduce deductions for earners on £15,000 by more than £1000, and for those on £20,000 by over £2,500 a year.

The tax tables have been worked out and low-and middle-income earners will pay less overall tax and NI except those earning £50,000 who will have to pay £111 a year more. The high earners will be asked for less, but most exemptions will have gone making it most likely they will pay more than they do now.

Tax Year (Fiscal Year)

Our fiscal year was originally in line with the Julian Calendar with the start of the year on Lady Day 25th March. When we changed to the Gregorian Calendar this corresponded to 6th April, so they just removed 12 days from that year.

According to Wikipedia, 35 Countries of the World start the fiscal year on 1st January or 1st July. There are 7 countries which start the tax year on 1 April and there are 4 totally out of sequence countries, Egypt on 8th July, Iran on 21st March, Nepal on 16th July, **and UK on 6th April.**

This means the UK government must create an additional set of accounts for its entry in the financial reports of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in line with the calendar year.

Private Companies, the Self Employed, and retired people liable for tax, pay in two instalments, 31st January, and 31st July. Most also make a payment in advance for the first half of next year's tax based on half the previous year.

- The Party will change the fiscal year to align with the calendar year. Tax returns will be made either by 31st December or by 30th June. Half-year payments in advance will be on the same dates so revenue is close to being correct for the year. **No more tax years such as 2021/2022 and alignment with 35 other major economies of the World.**

Council Tax

Keeping Council Tax low is only possible by cutting excessive allowances for councillors, executive pay and bonuses, keeping advertising and promotion budgets to a minimum, building partnerships with neighbouring councils to reduce costs, and abolishing non-essential jobs as well as red tape.

- The Party will act to cut allowances, pay, and bonuses for Councillors and Council staff, and have non-essential administrative jobs, booklets, magazines, and newspapers stopped.

Far too many people living within a local authority do not contribute to its financial budget. Presently Council tax assumes a home has two people in residence and applies a 50% charge to the property and 25% to each of the two people. For a single person in residence there is a 25% reduction in Council Tax.

- The Party will keep the Council Tax the same for a house and two residents but will add a Social Care precept of 5% for additional residents over the age of 18 years as correlated from DHSS, HMRC, and the Electoral Register.

Business Rates

Businesses have premises, staff and regulations to meet and with business rates as well they cannot compete with on-line traders. Some high street stores provide services that cannot be obtained on-line but must run at a profit.

- The Party will abolish all business rates based on rentable value of the property and replace it with a Local Tax based on 10% of business net profit.

This would require submission of business accounts to Councils in duplicate of those submitted to HMRC. It might also encourage the Council to reduce parking costs to stimulate high street trade because that results in higher business profit and tax.

The Council gets the Local Tax, and it is likely that many businesses, will pay less as will pay more. It also favours the small shops so might help slow the decline of the high street, or even reverse it where businesses are no longer viable because of punitive business rates and high parking charges.

Inheritance Tax

Assets bought out of taxed income should not be taxed again when their owners die. We will strike out the hated 'death' tax. It hits the middle classes hardest, those who have worked to provide for their dependents, because the wealthiest almost always manage to avoid paying it.

- The Party will abolish Inheritance Tax so that the wealth created by the parents can cascade down to their descendants for them to build on.

Stamp Duty Land Tax

Stamp Duty is presently charged at 0% for first time buyers on properties up to £300k and 5% for the price above that. For subsequent moves it is charged at 0% up to £250k value, then 5% above that to £925k, then 10% above that to £1.5M, and above that at 12%.

- The Party will remove stamp duty on primary residences costing up to £500k. For primary residences above £500k, 2%.

TV Licence

The BBC has become increasingly infested with left leaning management and presenters and has descended into a propaganda station for Climate activism and woke history denying and politically correct dogma of the Westminster bubble.

- The Party will scrap the TV Licence and force the BBC to become a subscription service.

Helping people back to work

The present benefit system allows people who could work full time to only work part time and claim the remainder from Universal credit. Unless these people are carers or have children that limits their available working hours they should not be entitled to Universal Credit.

Young Mums, especially single parents are presently limited in the number of hours because of only having 3 days' childcare per week. With a full 5 days of childcare, they are freed up from the constraints of young children and only need to solve taking the children to school and finding suitable after school activities for until 5 or 6pm.

- The Party will provide free childcare for 5 days a week to encourage more parents into full-time work. Free childcare will be self-funding through the reduced benefits bill.
- The Party will remove Universal Credit from those who are working part-time when they are available and capable of working full time.
- The Party will take more people out of income tax through our flat-tax system with a personal allowance of £20,000. **See Section 7.1 Taxation and Spending.**
- The Party will continue to support people with disabilities or with long-term health conditions who cannot undertake full-time work.

Foreign Aid

Foreign Aid was calculated as 0.7% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) but in 2021 it was reduced to 0.5% of GDP, to howls of protest from Labour and the Left. The government also has no mandate from the electorate to send taxpayer's money overseas as aid to countries, some of which have higher GDP than us. With Gross National Income (GNI) being 40% of GDP this equates to 1.25% of revenue.

- The Party will completely cut Foreign Aid until such time as we might again run an annual surplus then we might re-introduce it in line with contributions being made by other countries.

- If Foreign Aid is re-introduced, it will be on a percentage of GNI and not as a percentage of GDP and with no contributions to countries with economies greater than one fifth of ours.
- In government we will match all public donations, including donations in the millions of pounds by the Red Cross, the Freemasons, and other major relief charities to supply emergency shelter and food and aid to other countries for disaster relief.

Climate Change

The government has no mandate from the electorate to spend an ever-increasing amount of GNI on trying to mitigate Climate Change, with no hope of achieving it. It is borrowing money for the installation of a vast number of new offshore wind farms as well as paying subsidies from the Public Expenditure budget even when the turbines are shut down and not generating.

The government plans to switch the present Climate Levy of 20% on household electricity over to gas and wants to raise petrol and diesel fuel duty, but the country does not have even a fraction of the electricity needed to switch more than 3% of daily car usage to electric.

The UK has 1% of world population and emits less than 1% of global emissions of CO₂. The world has now returned from the effects of Covid but the war in Ukraine has caused serious loss of gas from Russia and there is a World shortage of energy.

The World energy generation is now increasing at 5% per year of which 45% is fuelled by coal. This means an increase of CO₂ emissions of 2.25% per year or 1% every 162 days. What is the point of Net Zero by the UK by 2050?

- The Party will cut the Climate Levy from household fuel bills thereby reducing them by one fifth and will scrap the £19bn of public expenditure on Climate change and remove subsidies from renewable power sources.
- The Party will stop any infrastructure development for carbon capture and storage, which would never have sufficient capacity long term anyway.
- The Party will continue to pay feed-in tariff at a rate not exceeding half of the average consumer cost of electricity and will not pay subsidy to wind or solar farms during periods of non-generation.

Admin & Other Miscellaneous

Even with excessive manpower and modern computers there is too much spending on Government Administration. There is also a growing amount of what is now termed here as Other Miscellaneous, and which previously was designated as Administrative Adjustments back in 2010. It is ill-defined on the UK Public Spending website and includes payment to Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs) and Quasi Non-Governmental Organisations (QUANGOs)

- The Party demands that significant expenditure under the title of Other Miscellaneous be itemised for public scrutiny.

HS2 Rail Line

The government also has no mandate from the electorate for the HS2 project, which was part of the EU pan European high-speed train network. It is estimated that if it continues to be built it will cost more than £100b and will have absolutely no hope of ever paying back the investment.

- The Party will cancel HS2 and use £2b a year of its £10b+ funding to do urgent upgrades on our motorways.

7.2 Digital Economy.

The Party strongly welcomes the advances made possible by digital technology. These have contributed to innovation, new business methods, significant increases in efficiency, advances in trade and industry and improved consumer choice. The Party welcomes the growth of the gig economy made possible by on-line platforms. **See Section 7.5 Employment and Enterprise.**

- The Party aims to create many thousands more jobs in the IT industry and to develop UK based manufacturing capabilities for computer hardware and software.
- The Party aims to make the UK the leading nation in which to start and grow a digital business. Vital to the UK becoming a leader in developing new technologies and high skilled jobs.

The Cashless Society Save Our Notes and Coins

The UK Government and Bank of England want to introduce a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) called a 'digital pound' to replace physical cash at some time in the future without consultation with the public.

A CBDC would be a virtual currency held, managed, stored, and exchanged through computer systems and the internet. **See Section 7.3 UK Financial Markets.**

- The Party is opposed to new CBDC, which is an unacceptable risk to money and how it is spent.
- The Party has concerns over privacy from a CBDC, and the potential for state surveillance of personal digital currency spending. Every purchase will have 'meta- data' linked to show the time and date of spending, where, and on what.

Computer systems would allow the State or third parties to build profiles on people's spending habits, in a way that is impossible when using cash. If meta-data falls into the wrong hands, the CBDC could give the government, or a hostile state or a hacker the ability to control personal spending habits and block transactions.

- The Party will not support a CBDC if people's privacy is not secure or if there is any possibility for the state or third parties to monitor or control people's spending. People must be free to spend their money how they choose.
- The Party has concerns regarding the security of databases and servers that would process digital currency transactions.
- The Party has concerns that the databases might link with other systems to monitor such things as a person's carbon footprint. This could mean the state could control their spending in a similar way to Chinese 'social scoring'.

There is potential to stop non-conformists buying travel tickets, restricting access to credit, cancelling banking services, refusing access to cash, being unable to buy and sell, applying differential interest rates to different classes of depositors, applying negative rates on those who hold large cash balances, cancelling all or part of cash balances, if accounts go dormant for too long.

People are using less cash in the UK due to payment cards and contactless payment methods. This is an excuse for banks and businesses to make it more and more difficult for people to use cash. There is strong public demand for cash and for high street banks to remain open to service cash transactions.

- The Party rejects the 'cashless society'. We will protect the continued use of cash and cheques.
- The Party will ensure continuing service by high street banks and building societies at local level.
- The Party will protect the elderly and vulnerable people and those on low incomes or those who cannot use a digital device or who cannot use a digital CBDC, but who will still need cash.

7.3 UK Financial Markets.

Low Tax, Free Market Economy

Principles

The Party believes in a low tax, free-market economy, open markets, freedom of contract and free competition. Free markets are vital to our national prosperity and produce the best economic results, they provide freedom to take advantage of opportunities, but they also mean big banks and financial institutions take responsibility for the financial consequences of their own potential failure.

We will never restrict the free movement of capital except in times of national emergency. We are committed to maintaining a strong and competitive UK financial services industry which is a vital component of the UK national economy.

- The Party will limit State regulation to the minimum, and, where appropriate. Keep it light-touch and predictable.
- The Party opposes the subsidised supply of financial services.

UK Control

The Party believes the UK financial sector should not fall under any form of foreign control.

- The Party will not permit any foreign government to control any part of the UK banking or financial services sector.
- The Party will ensure that executive, management, and staff vacancies in the UK financial services sector go to UK citizens, unless there is no suitably qualified UK citizen available.

Customers Freedoms and Confidentiality

Everyone expects their banks to keep their affairs private and to act fairly. However, Acts of Parliament, years under EU Law with over-zealous regulation have steadily reduced the common law duty of care, right to banking confidentiality and respect for a customer's individual freedoms.

Banks and financial institutions must stop sitting in judgement over the political or other views and private actions of their customers and, potentially closing their accounts without giving a financial written reason. They must not refuse to do business with any customer other than for reasons based strictly on a customer's credit worthiness, imprudent financial conduct or due to a customer's genuinely abusive behaviour.

- The Party will restore and uphold the absolute right to banking confidentiality by repealing all such limitations to common law rights imposed by Parliament.
- The Party will legislate to stop woke banks and financial institutions sitting in judgement over the political or other views and private actions of their customers, and potentially closing their accounts without giving a reason.

Protecting the Peoples' Savings

Most UK families and small businesses save money in a high street bank. A key focus of the Party's financial markets policy is to keep savings secure. Rightly, people expect to get their money back when they want it. If a highstreet bank uses their savings to invest in higher risk corporate, investment, or merchant banking this can lead to private customers losing money or at best requiring compensation.

- The Party will keep high street and investment banks separate to protect personal and small business savings.

Money Laundering

Financial crime works against the interests of honest, law-abiding citizens but assists illegal immigrants, bogus asylum seekers, criminals, terrorists, modern slavery, and child abusers.

- The Party will clampdown hard on money laundering activities.

Negative Interest Rates and Quantitative Easing

Negative interest rate policies and Quantitative Easing are tantamount to theft as they increase the money supply, eat into personal wealth and cause inflation. Inflation and free money are favourable to the government and financial sector, but detrimental to the individual.

- The Party will only use these tools in extreme circumstances, and they will be severely time limited.

Bank of England

The Bank of England's name is a misleading historical hangover. Established in 1694 as the English Government's banker, and nationalised in 1946, it is the central national bank of the entire United Kingdom (not just England).

- The Party will re-name the Bank of England as The UK National Bank.

UK Financial Services

Brexit was good for UK financial services. Combined business and financial services in 2022 made up 54% of all UK service exports to the EU. Financial services, valued at £16 billion, made up 16% of service exports to the EU, which was a 6% increase on 2021. **Source: Statistics on UK-EU Trade 11 May 2023 House of Commons Library.**

Only after years of fraught relations, the UK signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the EU on financial services in June 2023, which sets out plans for UK/EU cooperation. At the time of going to press, it is unclear if, or how, this will reinstate the ability of UK financial services firms to operate freely within the EU.

- The Party will not allow EU/EEA financial service firms to operate within the UK territory, unless the EU unconditionally reciprocates.

Market Failure

Banks must never again be allowed to use retail depositors or HMRC to help in any rescue strategy, as was the case in the banking crisis of 2010.

- The Party will require UK banks to maintain sufficient equity capital as a risk cushion. This will ensure that banks and financial institutions do not need to 'off-load' their business failures on to the taxpayer.
- The Party believes, that, in the case of impending insolvency, banks should be recapitalised by using shareholders equity capital and secondly by converting commercial debt to equity.

7.4 Digital Technology.

World-Wide-Web.

An open internet is essential to encourage individualism. It must function as a free market of ideas, goods, and services, with minimal interference and unproductive regulation.

- The Party intends to close the digital divide between the cities and the countryside. We aim to connect the whole UK with affordable ultra-high speed, including rural and remote areas, such as the West Country, The North of England and the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.
- The Party aims to expand free access to WI-FI in public facilities such as libraries, council and government offices, NHS facilities, shopping centres and car parks throughout the UK.
- The Party will use 5G wireless technology and satellite broadband as alternatives where physical fibre connectivity is not viable. However, we will conduct an extensive professional scientific investigation into potential health risks from 5G radiation and proceed with development only if we put these concerns to rest.

Social Media

The Party strongly endorses social media as a huge driver of personal expression and a means to expand political participation for people who have had no voice in the past.

- The Party will repeal the Online Safety Law which curbs freedom of speech online and enables the government to control everything people view or say on the internet.
- The Party aims to prevent social media providers restricting free expression or suspending people for 'wrong think'. This is a form of censorship, and we will direct such action, where necessary, to be authorised exclusively by relevant lawful governmental authorities.
- The Party opposes any ban on end-to-end encryption. We will make secure communications an inviolable right.

Data Protection

The protection of personal, commercial, and official data is essential in the digital era, and the Party supports common sense measures to achieve that.

- The Party will protect personal information, but we will repeal the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), This is an abomination of EU inspired bureaucracy and red tape.
- The Party will introduce an updated version of the UK's Data Protection Act to simplify and improve access to information and uphold an absolute right to privacy for everyone.

Developing IT and Digital Skills

IT now affects every area of our lives and the need for computer skills has never been greater. We support growth in our national technical skills and competence base.

- The Party aims to keep the UK at the forefront of cyber security and cloud-based technology. We will create a network of Cyber Training Academies to allow small businesses and individuals to learn digital skills.

Computer Manufacturing and the Risks

The UK has become too dependent on foreign manufacturers of IT products and services. This is an entrenched problem, and is a threat to our economy, but it will be difficult to reverse quickly.

- The Party aims to reduce the UK's independence on foreign manufacturers of IT products. We will take back control of IT product manufacturing and give preference and support to UK owned and controlled software and technology businesses. This will reduce the risk of foreign instigated security threats, will improve the employment prospects of UK workers, and encourage the development of an enlarged UK technology sector.

- The Party will encourage UK government and public services to use computer software manufactured by UK owned and controlled businesses, where possible. We will implement a system of central sourcing with strong, regular security checks to reduce the risk of 'backdoor' access to government data by hostile countries.

Digital Communications Infrastructure

There is a serious risk of foreign intrusion in our national communications infrastructure.

- The Party will not allow foreign ownership of UK telecommunication infrastructure, including 5G. and further advances.
- The Party aims to bring the entire 5G network under UK control.
- The Party will stop suppliers with connections to hostile countries being involved with our 5G infrastructure and will strictly control foreign participation in the 'core' 5G network.

Fighting Digital Crime

Digital crime is a major threat, and takes many forms such as hacking, denial of service attacks, fraud, impersonation, or planting malicious software.

- The Party aims to make the UK the global leader in modern crime fighting and detecting digital terrorism and cyber-attacks, using UK based technology skills.
- The Party advocates investment in investigative techniques and skills of the police to keep ahead of cyber attackers and terrorists using encrypted communications, and countering online cyber-crime, including child abuse, radicalisation, fraud, and cyber-crime.

Facial Recognition

Covert surveillance cameras and facial recognition software are a serious risk to individual privacy and liberty.

- The Party opposes the use of biometric identification, including systems that capture and log facial images, except for very limited purposes and only with the prior express consent of the individual. Where used in public spaces for crime prevention, there must be adequate warning signs.
- The Party backs the use of non-biometric methods of identification in preference to facial recognition where both methods are equally effective.

7.5 ENTERPRISE AND EMPLOYMENT.

Make Business Great Again.

Our Business Priorities.

The focus of our business policy is to help UK families clothe their children, put food on the table, pay the mortgage and pay university tuition fees rather than line the pockets of invisible big corporate shareholders in New York or Los Angeles.

- The Party will revive important industries, businesses, and communities such as agriculture, fishing, and mining.
- The Party will reduce or eliminate unnecessary business taxes, green taxes, scrap net-zero and the UK Emissions Trading Scheme due to start in 2024.
- The Party expects new international trade deals to be exclusively about trade and not an excuse for backdoor immigration.
- The Party will keep the dead hand of the State out of the way of innovation and job creation.
- The Party will help small business owners make money, keep costs down, avoid taxes, find business opportunities, and generate funds for growth.
- The Party supports free markets and private enterprise and rejects socialism in all its forms.
- The Party rejects public ownership of business unless self-financing and it makes sound economic and business sense. We would consider exceptions to protect vital national infrastructure businesses and essential services in jeopardy.

Regenerating our communities

In their 2019 manifesto, the Conservatives promised to level-up left-behind communities, but they reneged on that promise as soon as Sunak became Chancellor. Former thriving communities have become run-down and poor because past Labour and Conservative governments have continually allowed our once proud industrial, manufacturing and business base to decay.

- The Party will re-build our manufacturing and industrial towns by bringing back businesses and employment to them to create wealth.
- The Party will revive economic activity and employment in our former mining communities by reopening coalmines where viable. **See Section 3.1 Energy.**
- The Party will revive economic activity and employment in our former fishing communities by re-generating offshore fishing industry and their onshore support industries such as fish processing and distribution. **See Section 6.3 Fishing.**
- The Party will revive our agricultural industry and bring back jobs to agriculture by re-invigorating UK farming after its years in the doldrums of the CAP by giving our farmers the freedom and incentives to produce as much of our food as they can. **See Section 6.1 Farming.**
- The Party will train and fund Community Advisors to compliment the work in food banks. These will provide advice on employment, money management and debt, family breakdown, addiction, physical and mental health, and legal issues.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)

It takes willpower, stamina, and determination to run a small business. Small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are the lifeblood and backbone of the UK economy. According to the National Federation of Self Employed & Small Businesses, there were 5.5 million UK small businesses at the start of 2022.

By SMEs, we mean, independent UK owned firms employing < 250 employees. The small manufacturers, the small processing plants, the small traders, the small export-import companies, the small distributors, the shops, the pubs, the restaurants, the renters, the service companies, the plumbers, the carpenters, the financial advisers, the delivery firms, the gas fitters, the many self-employed, the many family partnerships and many more. We salute them all.

Many young people started their working life with a small or medium-sized business and around 25 per cent of white van owners are self-employed. As an independent sovereign nation, business and industry can become more confident. There is a world of opportunity for UK SMEs to trade globally now that we are free of EU rules.

Helping Small Business to Flourish

- The Party aims to provide an attractive trading environment for UK based SMEs to make it easy for owners to start new businesses, recruit staff, attract new investment and gain fair access to UK and international markets.
- The Party aims to make it harder for big multinational corporations to grow more powerful and force UK SMEs to close their doors. The Party will do everything we can to prevent that happening.
- The Party will introduce a national funding scheme to support small businesses to get the most out of their potential. Many small businesses, especially start-ups lack the cash to grow. Banks are often unwilling to lend due to lack of asset backing. Lack of available UK funding sources can lead to a potentially viable small UK business falling under the control of a foreign lender or investor, or, even worse, going under.
- The Party will abolish all business rates because they are now a major cause of the loss of high street shops and industrial estate businesses. **See Section 7.1 Taxation and Spending.**
- The Party will abolish Inheritance Tax so that the wealth created by the parents can cascade down to their descendants for them to build on.
- The Party will improve access to trade credit insurance, especially as it relates to exports, to remove the drag on growth for businesses struggling to secure loans and give small traders the confidence to expand their businesses.
- The Party will help local shops and traders by incentivising local authorities all over the UK to provide adequate parking facilities with at least 30 minutes of free parking in every town centre and local shopping parade.
- The Party will direct HMRC to conduct thorough investigations into big business and public sector bodies that repeatedly make late payments to SMEs. The Party will create an anonymous reporting system and we will levy fines proportionate to the number of delayed payments, which will escalate for repeat offenders.
- The Party will freeze Insurance Premium Tax. Previous governments have raised this tax as an easy way to generate extra revenue, yet SMEs cannot claim it back. These increases have been especially tough on SMEs.
- The Party will scrap needless regulation that obstructs businesses, costs them money, and makes them uncompetitive. We will allow maximum freedom, and we will maintain only essential regulation. We will reduce bureaucracy and red tape, the cost of which impacts more harshly on small and medium-sized enterprises than on big business. In particular, the Party will significantly reduce the burden of Health and Safety requirements on SMEs.

We welcome the growth of self-employment through the gig economy, made possible by on-line platforms. These provide opportunities and options for young people. They have led to flexible work practices, an increase in people working as independent contractors or self-employed workers and have made it easier for people in full-time employment to earn extra money on the side.

The gig economy has helped to develop new skills and has provide greater opportunities with more independence and freedom to choose when and where to work. We believe digital platforms which are often foreign owned and controlled have a responsibility to pay all UK statutory employment benefits, notwithstanding the specific working methods employed in the gig economy.

Expanding Jobs for UK Workers

The Party welcomes the end of free movement of EU workers, which means more opportunities for UK workers to improve and develop their skills.

- The Party will invest in the UK workforce.
- The Party will strengthen domestic technical skills training and apprenticeship programmes.
- The Party does not oppose foreign competition, but we will ensure that all foreign businesses that earn profits from UK sales pay the same rate of tax on their profits, as do UK domiciled businesses, irrespective of where the foreign business is domiciled.
- The Party will ensure that 'Made in UK' becomes a valued trademark of quality and proves that a product is manufactured 100% by UK workers with 100% UK manufactured components.
- The Party will legislate to mandate that UK armed forces equipment, including aircraft, missiles, warships, and vessels etc., must be built in the UK using British steel, designs, and components wherever possible so that manufacturing capacity and expertise is retained and developed to benefit the national economy.

UK Jobs and Manufacturing

About one in 20 people in the UK who want a job but cannot find one. Companies that offshore work to low-cost countries simply eat away the UK's industrial and commercial base putting our country at risk. Reversing the outflow of jobs from the UK will not occur quickly but we need to start somewhere to reverse the years of neglect. We will start as soon as we take power.

The United Kingdom is strategically dependent on cheap goods typically produced in the Far East. What happened to our former UK based manufacturers? Where did they go? Sadly, many closed, or were asset stripped, the victims of short-termism, and a rush towards offshoring and a cheap foreign work force.

We are concerned that the UK can suffer from serious shortages due to offshore supply chain problems in China and elsewhere. These can block the UK's ability to manufacture in particular high-tech products. These problems would start and end offshore, so we in the UK cannot do anything about them. Suppose the UK were fighting a war. How could we win if our 'enemy' blocks our vital supplies?

- The Party will reverse the loss of UK jobs and manufacturing to foreign shores.
- The Party will encourage companies to bring jobs back home; especially work essential to the UK economy and national defence.

UK Free Markets

The Party believes in free markets, but views foreign takeovers of UK companies, which occur with monotonous regularity, as bad for the UK. Mergers and acquisitions in the City of London are big business and financiers make huge sums of money out of them. When foreign owners take control of our valuable brand names and expertise, they often abandon the UK workforce and our national interests.

Predators give their word to the UK government that they will maintain UK plants, but these undertakings are unenforceable, often broken, and they usually make off with our valuable brands, patents and expertise.

- The Party will introduce a strict policy on domestic and foreign takeovers of UK listed companies and aims to prevent opportunistic takeovers. These merely line the pockets of the purchaser and financiers, lead to asset stripping, and add no value to the UK economy.
- The Party will require a purchaser to demonstrate in advance, that a proposed takeover has synergy with the business model of the target, and that it will add value within the United Kingdom.
- The Party will not allow a major takeover to proceed without legally binding undertakings from the purchaser to prevent it moving the acquisition offshore.
- The Party will not stand in the way of domestic or foreign takeovers of UK privately owned businesses, but we will ensure that these are subject to legally binding undertakings between the vendor and purchaser to respect the UK national interests.
- The Party will strive to eliminate all advantages that encourage companies to move work and jobs offshore. The Party will introduce an Offshoring Tax Act, which will cancel out such advantages and introduce generous tax breaks for those who bring them home.
- The Party will not subsidise non-viable businesses, for example solar farms, wind farms and other supposedly 'climate friendly' businesses, which are not commercially viable in their own right. If these businesses cannot generate profit in their own right, a taxpayer subsidy would be a form of socialism, which has no place in a capitalist economy.

The Party will unravel the part-privatisation of former nationalised industries such as the railways because we believe that company shareholders should take business risks themselves and put up their own capital. The State should not use taxpayers' money to subsidise any partly privatised business.

- The Party will ensure these businesses return to full private ownership, or we will fully nationalise them if they cannot survive on their own two feet without taxpayer support.

SECTION 8 - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

8.1 The Traditional Family Unit.

We must support families.

- The Party will scrap the 1929 Marriage Act that allows children to marry at 16 with parental consent. We will replace it with an Act to set the minimum age to marry when they reach adulthood at 18 years of age.
- The Party strongly supports the traditional concept of marriage and the family unit.
- The Party has no plans to change the legal status of same-sex marriage in the UK. Legislation to allow same-sex marriage in England and Wales took effect on 13 March 2014, in Scotland on 16 December 2014 and in Northern Ireland on 13 January 2020.
- The Party believes that marriage and the family unit are the glue to a stable upbringing, and the passing down of traditional culture, traditions, and identity from parents to their offspring.
- The Party will defend the traditional family unit, which keeps parents and children together. Stable, active, and intact families are the bedrock of a robust society, whereas broken families are more likely to be dependent on the state and to have poorer physical and mental health.
- The Party will support the traditional family unit through tax policy, benefits, and education.
- The Party will raise the Marriage Allowance which is currently capped at 10%, to 30% for married couples with dependent children so that the individual basic rate of Tax allowances of married couples with children are fully transferrable. **See Section 7.1 Taxation.**
- The Party will oppose moves to further re-define marriages to include incest, all relatives, polygamy, and multi-person marriages.

Family Breakdown

Family breakdowns occur for a variety of reasons. They cost the taxpayer around £50bn a year. The budget for family breakdown is bigger than the budget for Defence.

As a result, we are seeing alarming rates of children self-harming and suffering from poor mental health. The majority of young offenders come from broken homes. Nearly two thirds have drug and alcohol addiction problems, more than three in four have no educational qualifications and many young prisoners have mental health problems rooted in drug abuse.

The Party values the role a father plays in the life of any family, that critical role that encompasses provider, protector, leader, teacher, helper, encourager, and friend.

In particular, boys without a father are at greater risk than boys raised in a stable home with a father.

When fathers leave mothers to raise children on their own, this can lead to lack of parental discipline and increased levels of behaviour disorders in teenagers, potentially leading them to join gangs or become involved in criminal behaviour. The reasons for absent fathers can be many and varied, but a stable family life benefits all children.

When couples split, families divide into two separate households. A common outcome is poverty, which affects the children. Six out of ten lone parents need state support compared to one out of ten joint parents.

- The Party believes that it is in the best interest of children that parents stay together whilst their children are growing up.
- The Party recognises the contribution of single parents, carers and guardians who often care for children from broken homes. However, this cannot substitute for a child's own married parents and a stable family.

- The Party supports 'Parenting Programmes' as a useful tool to explore any chance there may be of saving a relationship or marriage.

Some parents have had a troubled life since childhood and enter parenthood with problems such as poverty, racism, or unsafe communities. In such cases, it is almost impossible to provide their children with stability.

- The Party believes that to help children become healthy responsive parents themselves we must promote their healthy development. This means that children of all abilities including those with special healthcare requirements need to grow up within a safe and loving home, which fulfils their social, emotional, and educational needs.

Parental Responsibility

At the end of 2018, there were 11,270 children in care due to family dysfunction. Once in care, too many children move around the system, regularly moving to places many miles away from home without the security of trusted adults they can build a relationship with and a school they can call their own.

- The Party will support reforms to provide the right conditions and environment that families across generations actually need.

The Party will insist that all local authorities offer parenting programmes specifically for parents of teenagers. There are existing models, 'Teen Triple P' being the most common but only 58% of local authorities offer a programme.

Any reasonable person would agree that stable families require support for parental responsibility, i.e., the right of parents to parent. However, for nearly forty years, the state has allowed doctors, schoolteachers, the courts, and other busybodies to override parental rights with the notion of "Gillick competence".

This legal precedent is named after Victoria Gillick who tried unsuccessfully to stop the NHS from prescribing contraceptives to her teenage children, under the age of 16. Hence, a judge created the idea that children sometimes know best.

Gillick competence is now used to allow children to make decisions independently of their parents such as to be prescribed contraception, be prescribed puberty blockers and hormones (putting them on an irreversible pathway to a 'sex change') and to receive the Covid jab.

- The Party will legislate to overturn the notion of Gillick competence to make parental responsibility paramount and to reinstate parents as a safeguard against the errant decisions of teenage children and the power of the state.

Sex and Gender Education for Under 18s.

The Party will ensure primary and secondary schools propagate traditional family values, because woke; anti-family propaganda has no place in our education system as it undermines the social order.

- The Party will end any educational programmes directed to children under 18, which promote or encourage any sexual activity for whatever reason.
- The Party will outlaw the promotion of transgender ideologies to children under 18.
- The Party will support factual biology lessons teaching scientific facts that there are two sexes: male and female, determined by anatomy and chromosomes. The Party opposes teaching any child unscientific concepts such as gender fluidity, which just confuse them.

Adoption v Surrogacy

There are hundreds of children waiting for loving homes. Adoption is not an easy or simple way to add a child to a family and it can be just as complex as the surrogacy process.

- The Party would alert adoption agencies to people who are considering surrogacy whether they be a two-parent family, a single man or woman, same sex couple or any other diverse mix.
- The Party would link the two services to explore possible matches.

Adoption

The Party accepts that adoption is not the right answer for every hopeful parent.

Most children need adoption because they have no family or the courts have removed them from their birth families, or their parents or wider families were unable to provide the care they need. These children will suffer loss, separation, and sadness in their young lives, even if adopted shortly after birth.

Many are brothers and sisters who need to be together. They come from a wide variety of different religious and ethnic backgrounds. Some may be disabled, and some are children whose future development remains uncertain.

In 2022, 2,950 children were adopted, a 2% increase from 2021. The average age of a child at adoption is 3 years and 3 months. In 2022, the average time between a child entering care and being placed for adoption was 1 year and 6 months, up from 1 year 4 months last year.

It then takes a further 9 months (on average) for an adoption order to be granted and the adoption to be completed. As of October 2022, there were 1,990 children waiting for adoption, 52% of these children have been waiting 18 months or more.

A family court judge will take the ultimate decision to place a child for adoption. This might involve taking a child from its legal parents against their will. Local authorities influence what happens in court, and many councils have targets for the number of children they aim to place in an adoptive family.

- The Party will end all quotas and targets for child adoption or removing children from their families. This is a morally repugnant practice. We do not support removing children from their parents except if overwhelmingly in the best interests of the child.
- The Party believes that any decision to place a child for adoption must focus solely on what is the right outcome for the child.
- The Party will introduce further safeguards into the operation of The Family Courts to ensure that they do not perpetrate injustices on the legal parents.
- The Party will repeal the law that forced Catholic and other Faith based adoption agencies to close for holding to their faith and traditional family values, we will encourage them to re-open.
- The Party will oversee an overhaul of the overly bureaucratic adoption system. Adoption is far cheaper for a council than a foster placement.

Surrogacy

Surrogacy has an important role to play in our society. It helps to create stable, two-parent families where that might not otherwise be possible. It enables relatives and friends to provide an unselfish gift to those who are not able to have a child themselves and can enable people to have their own genetically related children.

A global commercial surrogacy market has sprung up with inconsistency of laws around the world. In UK law, the birth mother is the legal mother even when using a donated egg. It is possible to transfer legal parenthood by parental order or adoption after the child is born.

The UK legal solution for resolving parenthood in surrogacy cases is a parental order. This court order makes the intended parent or parents the legal parents of the child and permanently extinguishes the parenthood of the surrogate and her spouse. Once a parental order is made, the birth will be registered to record intended parent/s as the legal parent/s and a new birth certificate will be issued.

The original birth certificate will be sealed as part of the Parental order and is accessible only to the child once they are over 18 (in a similar way to an adopted child).

- The Party will legislate for parenthood to automatically rest with the Intended Parents at birth. This is achievable by pre-conception, pre-birth approval.
- The Party will legislate for Surrogacy expenses not to be treated as income by the Department of Work and Pensions. Expenses recovered must not impact other income related entitlements.
- The Party will seek to reach international agreement because due to the differing attitudes to surrogacy, the door is open for the exploitation of the most vulnerable.

8.2 Childcare and Child Abuse.

We must stop letting children down. Let our Children be Children.

The legal definition of a child in England and Wales and Northern Ireland is someone who had not yet reached their 18th birthday.

- The Party will make sure that the age of consent remains at 16 and the state should not give active or passive acceptance to underage sex.
- The Party will ensure that abortion or contraception is not available to under 16s without informing parents and obtaining their consent.
- The Party will legislate to criminalise medical interventions for children under 18 associated with gender reassignment. This includes puberty-blocking hormones, cross-sex hormones, and surgical interventions for gender reassignment.

Child Care for Working Families

Working parents need childcare services such as holiday clubs, breakfast and after school clubs, child minders and nurseries. They currently get 30 hours of free childcare for 3 and 4-year-olds and there are plans to extend this to children aged between 9 months and 2 years by 2025. Nurseries face high demand and there is a lack of capacity in many areas, due to costs, staffing levels or space. Many are full, with a waiting list.

- The Party will support free childcare for working parents.
- The Party will support an expansion in capacity for nurseries to reduce waiting lists.

Job Opportunities for Young Parents

The present benefit system allows people who could work full time to only work part time and claim the remainder from Universal credit. Unless these people are carers or have children that limits their available working hours, they should not be entitled to Universal Credit.

Young Mums, especially single parents are presently limited in the number of hours because of only having 3 days' childcare per week. With a full 5 days of childcare, they are freed up from the constraints of young children and only need to solve taking the children to school and finding suitable after school activities for until 5 or 6pm.

- The Party will provide free childcare for 5 days a week to encourage more parents into full-time work. Free childcare will be self-funding through the reduced benefits bill.
- The Party will remove Universal Credit from those who are working part-time when they are available and capable of working full time.
- The Party will take more people out of income tax through our flat-tax system with a personal allowance of £20,000. **See Section 7.1 Taxation and Spending.**
- The Party will continue to support people with disabilities or with long-term health conditions who cannot undertake full-time work.

Child Abuse

The State has failed miserably to protect children from:

1. Child on Child abuse which can include harmful sexual behaviour as well as bullying.
 2. Child abduction in the context of exploitation and grooming.
 3. Online abuse and sexual exploitation. In many cases the offending remains online such as deceiving children into producing indecent images of themselves, participating in sexual chat, or engaging in sexual activity over a webcam. However on-line activity can also lead to offline offending.
 4. The state has failed to keep teenagers safe from harm from criminal gangs and trafficking.
- The Party will reverse the disgraceful cuts to childcare services.
 - The Party will make it a priority to achieve significant improvements in outcomes for children and families who are the foundation of our communities, and our shared future.

Vulnerable Children

The Children's Commissioner for England has accused the Government of 'letting down too many children'. She described the English Children's Services System as 'a tower of Jenga held together by Sellotape'.

A child becomes the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) if assessed as being at risk of harm. The UK has a growing number of children on CPPs and there were 50,920 children on them in 2022. Domestic violence by the parent is a common factor. The intention of CPPs is to ensure the child is safe, prevent them from suffering further harm and to promote the child's welfare, health, and development. Children living in the most deprived areas are 10 times more likely to be on a CPP than are children in less deprived areas.

Staff shortages and funding cuts have led to chaos in some county councils, with unqualified staff making key decisions on the frontline, and hundreds of cases left unassessed for weeks. The chronic shortage of experienced social workers has led to devastating outcomes.

The Party is horrified at Government negligence. It has let this situation fester and ignored NHS staff shortages. This is an enormous dereliction of duty towards children.

- The Party will immediately restore funding. Investing in our most vulnerable children must be a priority for any government.
- The Party will immediately investigate ways to fast track the training of Social Workers.
- The Party has pledged to open high street offices and visit secondary schools to encourage careers in the NHS. We will also use these visits to recruit much-needed Social Workers.
- The Party will examine the procedures involved in preparing CPPs to ensure that there is no over-focus on investigating potential abuse and neglect at the expense of providing real, practical support for struggling families.

Children with Special Educational Needs

Many young people in the UK struggle with learning disorders they are disadvantaged by late recognition of their specific difficulties, with many waiting for years from referral to diagnosis.

- The Party will prioritise early diagnosis, followed closely by appropriate support. This will reduce problems in schools. Our view is that early investment is more effective and saves money in the long term.

Mental Health

The pandemic put pressure on many people's mental health including pupils at every level in the education system. Concerns over mental health have escalated. A huge amount of mental health support in schools starts with awareness. Students need to be educated about mental health to be aware of the signs, so that they can know where to go for help and how to help others. Mental health initiatives in schools can lead to significant improvements in children's mental health, social and emotional skills and reductions in classroom misbehaviour, anxiety, depression, and bullying.

- The Party will introduce a GCSE mental health course option. This would help people to help themselves and others.

Childline

This service relies mainly on donations from supporters with around 20% of its funding provided by the government. Childline plays an important role in helping children and young people with mental health issues who did not meet the criteria for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. Every week since lockdown

Childline delivered over 2,000 counselling sessions with children concerned about their mental health and emotional wellbeing – totalling nearly 17,000 over 7 weeks. The top three concerns from young people are mental health and emotional health, family relationships and suicidal thoughts and feelings.

- The Party recognises the great importance of this 24-hour service, and we will significantly increase its funding and support.

Promotion of Gambling to Children

According to the January 2023 report on gambling from the Public Health England 0.5% of the UK population which is approximately 246,000 people are problem gamblers, and 2.2 million people are 'at-risk' gamblers who have their lives damaged by debt, depression, family breakdown and, in the worst cases, suicide.

Labour's Gambling Act of 2005 came fully into effect on the 1st of September 2007. It enabled the rich and powerful to exploit ordinary people. It embedded gambling in every aspect of our lives from the high street to radio, TV, and social media.

Subsequent efforts to make gambling safer such as tougher affordability checks and limits on online casino stakes, were not enough. There has been no significant reform of Gambling laws. Betting companies can still advertise to children on the radio during daytime.

- The Party will conduct an independent review of the impact on UK life of the betting industry; suitable legal limits on gambling and its promotion; the best form of regulation; and the powers, costs, effectiveness, and leadership of the Gambling Commission.
- The Party will aim to protect children and will not allow betting adverts on pre-watershed television or on the radio before 9 PM.
- The Party will rigorously enforce regulations relating to fixed odds betting terminals, which have harmed the UK's poorest communities.

SECTION 9 – CARE AND WELFARE

The UK Independence Party cares for those who need help.

9.1 Care for the Elderly.

The UK Independence Party will take good care of our elderly.

How we look after our older people and others who are vulnerable because of age or ill health is a mark of how civilised we are as a society.

- The Party will maintain the ‘triple lock’ on the state pension increasing it every year by either the inflation rate, average earnings including bonuses or 2.5%, whichever is highest, until the yearly value of the Basic State Pension (BSP) reaches the take home pay for 37 hours a week on minimum wage, where it will remain linked. The BSP will be exempt from tax and NI.
- The Party is committed to keep the winter fuel allowance, free bus passes, prescriptions, and eye tests for all over 60s, without means testing.
- The Party will reinstate ‘meals on wheels’ which have been scrapped in some areas. Frozen ready meals have replaced freshly cooked hot food.

It is scandalous that there is an increasing proportion of older people in the population with unaddressed social care issues. In 2019, the Conservative Government promised to ‘fix the crisis in social care once and for all with a clear plan’. That plan never emerged and the subsequent Covid pandemic demonstrated that we still need an urgent solution.

- The Party will undertake a thorough review of how to fund the increasing demand for social care. **See Section 7.1 Taxation and Spending.**
- The Party will introduce a ‘Dignity code’ to improve standards of professional care. We believe it is essential to treat the elderly and vulnerable with compassion and dignity.
- The Party will fund a co-ordinating service for older people in every county, combining resources from across the NHS, social services, community agents and the voluntary sector. No vulnerable person should feel isolated or alone and this service will be proactive in identifying and assisting those suffering from loneliness.
- The Party will pass an updated and amended version of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 to protect the interests of disabled people to secure for the whole United Kingdom the protections provided by the Equality Act 2010. **See Section 9.2 Disability, Equality and Poverty.**
- The Party will re-establish the Disability Rights Commission to oversee the enforcement of equal rights for disabled people. **See Section 9.2 Disability, Equality and Poverty.**

Good home care starts with dedicated home workers, who provide a lifeline to the most vulnerable in society. Long hours and low pay make an already challenging role more onerous. **See Section 9.2 Disability, Equality and Poverty.**

- The Party will protect services such as day care and home care.
- The Party will not allow the NHS or third parties under contract to employ home care workers on zero-hour contracts unless they are to the mutual benefit of employee and employer. We will not allow the NHS to pay less than the minimum wage due to them having to travel between appointments in their own time. We will insist they receive pay for the entire time they are on duty.
- The Party will stop the practice of organising home care visits to 15 minute periods. Currently these short visits are for specific tasks or checks, which are part of a wider support package. Short visits risk being rushed and not meeting the person’s needs.

Some elderly patients cannot survive at home even with a full care package. Loneliness and isolation kills. When the NHS is unable to move these patients on, we have 'bed blocking', which adds to the NHS crisis.

- The Party will move elderly people who have long-term or age-related illness out of NHS hospitals into government run centres (i.e., convalescent homes) or private facilities.

It is very worrying that more and more patients are having 'Do Not Resuscitate Orders' (DNRs) placed on them.

- The Party will stop DNR decisions (to hasten death) unless in the patient's best interests. Often, that may require an advance discussion with the patient or, if the patient lacks capacity, only after discussion with the power of attorney or the next of kin. Where this is not possible, the treating professionals must exercise their judgement but in a humane and professional way.

Patients, particularly older patients may be frightened and require reassurance. Confidence is important for patients to make a good recovery. NHS medical employees need to speak good English to know and communicate regularly with their patients. They need to become familiar with patients rather than patients seeing different NHS employees on every shift.

- The Party will support setting up more convalescent homes run by permanent senior qualified carers with good English language skills.

9.2 Equality, Disability and Poverty.

The UK Independence Party believes in equality for all.

Equality

With roots in left-wing causes and with much of it previously required by bureaucrats in Brussels, the Equality Act has motored cultural Marxists, from race baiters and radical feminists to trans-zealots, to cause division and disharmony. Equality law has done much to erode the reality of difference between men and women.

The Equality Act has facilitated arguments or requirements for no end of woke politically correct policies, such as:

- Less stop and search.
- Recruitment by diversity rather than merit.
- More pay for senior overpaid women, particularly the highest paid at the BBC.
- Prisoners housed with members of the sex with which they (supposedly) identify, even where they are convicted rapists of that sex, and regardless of whether they have taken hormones or undergone surgery.
- Turned the institution of marriage into a lifestyle choice that empowered the courts to allow people to choose between marriage and civil partnership.
- Mediocre men's sporting participants who become transgender women, sometimes topping the league in women's sporting events.
- The Party will repeal the **Equality Act 2010** because its protected characteristics of race, religion, sex, sexuality, and gender just fortifies the left in their politically correct views.
- The Party will shut down the **Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)** and the **Government Equalities Office**.

Disability

The disabled, due to physical or mental impairment, need genuine protection, which is not required on account of characteristics arising from features such as one's race, religion, sex, sexuality, or gender.

The latest estimates from the Department for Work and Pensions indicate that 16.0 million people in the UK had a disability in the 2021/22. Many are in a wheelchair, blind, or have a hearing aid, and many have non-visible disabilities.

- The Party will pursue policies to forge a society that makes reasonable adaptations so that those with physical or mental impairments can fulfil their potential and play a full role in society.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 worked well until repealed and replaced by Labour's Equality Act 2010, however, in Northern Ireland, the Disability Discrimination Act still applies.

- The Party will pass an updated and amended version of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 to protect the interests of disabled people to secure for the whole United Kingdom the protections provided by the Equality Act 2010. **See Section 9.1 Care for the Elderly.**

Many people with severe mobility problems rely on Blue Badge parking permits. Yet parking spaces for these permit holders are scarce and drivers who do not have valid Blue Badge status often abuse them.

- The Party will run a campaign to stop abuse of the Blue Badge parking scheme, encourage better enforcement of the rules and investigate ways of curtailing abuse.

Caring for the Disabled

Care is only as good as the carer and in Britain there is room for improvement. Ever since the Blair government expanded higher education so that 50% of school leavers went to university, those who are suited to caring have been under trained, undervalued and in short supply. Instead of investing in carers governments have expected and allowed employers to recruit people from overseas to work in the care sector and some of them have poor English.

- The Party will champion the role and rights of carers, who are the mainstays of good quality care. Having reduced the number of school leavers who go to university we will encourage more people to train for the fulfilling role of being a care worker.
- The Party will encourage more people to train within care homes and to achieve NQV Level 2 as a minimum before going to clients' homes to provide a service.
- The Party will support training and investment in home-grown care workers, and we will stop granting work visas to foreigners.

Investing in Food Banks

It is deeply regrettable that there is ever-increasing demand for food banks in 21st century Britain. If those who attend food banks are in such dire straits that they need food handouts, there is a high likelihood that they will also need additional support to deal with issues such as debt, family breakdown, addiction and poor physical or mental health. Many will need employment or legal advice.

- We will therefore contribute to the important work done by food banks and develop them into community advice centres for those most in need.
- The Party will train and fund the cost of 2,500 advisors to work in 2,500 food banks, so the poorest in our society have free and easy access to timely help in their hour of need.

9.3 Abuse and Exploitation.

The UK Independence Party will not turn a blind eye.

Forced Marriages

Forced marriage (as opposed to an arranged marriage) is unlawful. It became a criminal offence in the UK under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act June 2014.

In 2022, the government's Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) reported intervening in 302 cases relating to forced marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), or both. Of these cases, 297 related to forced marriage and 5 to FGM. 29% of the cases involved victims aged under 18 and 22% involved male victims.

In 2022 the FMU case studies identified 25 'focus countries', the top three being Pakistan, Bangladesh, and India.

It took until 2018, for just one successful prosecution and only rare attempts have been made since.

Under UK Law, a victim of forced marriage should be able to block their abuser's spouse visa application, by refusing to sign the sponsorship document. This makes the victim a '**reluctant sponsor**' meaning that the visa should not be issued. The hypocrisy of the Home Office has been heavily criticised for ignoring forced marriages whilst tediously searching for irregularities in applications from genuine couples.

Freedom of Information requests confirm that 56% of the departments responsible for children's social care do not keep records of those at risk of child marriage.

- The Party will champion the role and rights of carers, who are the mainstays of good quality care. Having reduced the number of school leavers who go to university we will encourage more people to train for the fulfilling role of being a care worker.
- The Party will encourage more people to train within care homes and to achieve NQV Level 2 as a minimum before going to clients' homes to provide a service.
- The Party will investigate the slackness of the Home Office and question why they are apparently scared of accusations of racism or cultural insensitivity when faced with a 'reluctant sponsor'.

Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery

Human trafficking is the process of trapping people using violence, deception, or coercion and exploiting them for financial or personal gain. It can take place within a single country or even within a single community.

Modern slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain and is present in every area of the UK. People can become entrapped and exploited in many forms, including being forced into county line drug supply, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude as cooks or cleaners and nannies, begging, crime, such as growing cannabis or dealing drugs, marriage, making clothes, serving food. According to the latest Global Estimates of Modern Slavery (2022), 49.6 million people worldwide live in modern slavery, in forced labour and forced marriage.

In the 2020 Leicester Garment Factory scandal, a spike of Covid 19 infections highlighted poor working conditions. The factory continued to operate during lockdown in squalid conditions with workers paid just £3.50 an hour, the UK minimum wage being £8.91 an hour for over 23-year-olds. The fashion industry is a significant polluter, and the copious supply of cheap fashion clothes depends on people working for poverty wages in squalid conditions.

The constant demand for cheap labour and exploitation keeps the traffickers busy. Traffickers often turn to websites to target vulnerable potential victims. The problems of mass immigration exacerbated by the slave traders threatens our national security, citizen safety and is a massive strain on local authorities.

- The Party will enforce stricter validity checks on websites offering jobs that could lead to exploitation and forced labour.

- The Party will set up a licensing scheme for UK textiles manufacturers and will prosecute and close any business that uses child or adult forced labour.
- The Party will call for “total abandonment” of fast fashion using cheap illegal practices avoiding employment law.
- The Party will review the responsibilities of local authorities. It is clear they are overwhelmed and cannot cope.
- The Party supports the call from Alexander Stafford MP for a Child Criminal & Sexual Exploitation Commissioner. The Party would ensure such a remit would include exploitation of children and adults.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Breast Flattening

The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 replaced the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Act 1985, extending the ban on female genital mutilation to address the practice of taking girls abroad to undergo FGM procedures and increased the maximum penalty from 5 to 14 years imprisonment. In 2015, the Law changed to include protection orders to safeguard potential victims of FGM and a legal requirement that healthcare professionals and teachers report cases of FGM in under-18s to the police.

The UK’s only centre dedicated to eradicating FGM, set up by Theresa May, when she vowed to end FGM “within a generation” receives referrals on girls at risk from FGM. It carries out assessments, takes out protection orders, and provides training to teachers, social workers, police officers and lawyers. In 2017, the centre expanded its remit to include Breast Flattening (another abuse linked to Faith or Belief).

It has had its funding stopped by the government, which shows that it is not taking FGM seriously. This heartless move has been made despite hundreds of new victims of FGM being identified every month and just one successful prosecution for the practice, despite being illegal in the UK for years.

- The Party will demand funding for the National FGM Centre be restored.

It is illegal to take girls who are UK residents overseas during ‘cutting season’. For thousands of girls in the UK, school holidays mean FGM “cutting season”. Girls who are cut face a lifetime of physical and emotional pain.

- The Party will make the raising of awareness of FGM a high priority.
- The Party will review the merits of FGM Protection Orders.

Despite the harm it causes, many women from FGM practising communities consider FGM normal to protect their cultural identity, but the issue of failing to prosecute cases of female genital mutilation must be addressed. FGM is a crime.

- The Party will ask why there are no prosecutions if this practice is a criminal offence in the UK.
- The Party will apply UK laws to protect women and children fully and impartially, irrespective of the culture, ethnicity, or religious beliefs of the perpetrators. The safety and welfare of the child is paramount.

Honour Based Violence and Murder.

Religion and tradition are no excuse for abuse and there is no honour in it.

Honour Based Violence is, broadly, a collection of practices, used to control behaviour within families, or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour.

The Honour based Violence Awareness Network estimates there are 12 honour killings of British girls in the UK each year. It stresses that there is little scriptural support for honour-based killings in any major religion and several high-status religious leaders have roundly condemned murders.

Labour's attempt to create a multi-cultural society has been too successful and we have incompatible cultures living parallel lives and observing different laws. It has even resulted in bringing barbaric cultural practices to the UK.

Third world customs and traditions have no place in the country. Woke police have been ordered to investigate these crimes with 'sensitivity'! Due to namby-pamby policing, they do not bring perpetrators to justice. Successive governments were too slow to act and the whole mess is now completely out of hand.

- The Party will investigate the failure of police to enforce UK law in culturally alien communities.

9.4 Veterans Welfare.

We value our Veterans.

Whenever HM Government calls on our brave armed forces to go into action on our behalf, they never let us down. We will not let them down. We will resource them properly and we will honour the Armed Forces Covenant.

- The Party will create a new Veterans Administration Department (VAD) as part of the Armed Forces Resettlement Scheme. This will have the resources to channel loans, grants, and access to free professional advice and mentors, to veterans who wish to set up a business after leaving the forces. This will be known as 'Boots to Business'

Those who have served in the armed forces need to have their needs and interests met. This department will be organisationally and financially separated from the MoD. Border Force/Guard employees and members of the intelligence and security services will also be included in its remit. Staff at the VAD will as a priority be staffed by ex-service personnel and be responsible for upholding the Armed Forces Covenant in co-operation with local government and charities. The Minister for VAD will promote and protect the interests of veterans in a variety of fields including housing, health care (including mental health), resettlement, education, and training.

- The Party will recognise the Veterans invaluable contribution to the defence of this country and fully uphold the Armed Forces Covenant and protect all Veterans.

The greater medical care of serving personnel will be under the provision of the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre. **See Section 2.3 Defence.**

Meeting the needs of Veterans

The Minister for Veterans and the Veterans Administration Department will oversee several specific policies to address the needs and interests of veterans.

Ensure the current Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Service continues and look at ways to improve the health and mental wellbeing support, especially where injuries have been sustained whilst on exercise and operations.

- The Party will build a new hospital called the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre, which will be solely for Armed Forces and Veterans. We will recruit military staff to run this facility.
- The Party, through the VAD will ensure that proper provision is made for mental health care for veterans, especially those who have served on active operations. The NHS will be obliged to provide fast-track mental health treatment and provision of services for veterans.
- The Party in government will guarantee the offer of jobs in the police, prison, fire, ambulance, coastguard and border services and the new Migration Control Department to former service personnel who have served for a minimum of five years. Subject to the future migration controls in the case of Commonwealth or overseas nationals who served in the British armed forces, veterans will be offered a job in accordance with their qualifications.

There is a strong link between mental illness and homelessness, especially among the unacceptably high numbers of veterans who are homeless.

- The Party, through the VAD, will take all measures necessary in cooperation with local authorities and the NHS to address this. Measures will include making available up to 500 affordable rental houses every year for veterans and building ten halfway house hostels for homeless veterans in the major cities: two in London, the rest in Glasgow, Cardiff, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Newcastle, Birmingham, and Bristol.

Staff for these halfway houses will primarily be resourced from former service personnel, who understand the complex issues of these veterans. Those veterans that require prosthetic limbs will be given the latest technology at government expense.

Hounding of Veterans

The Party believes that service personnel deployed on operations should obey established laws of war, especially those concerned with the protection of civilians. The Court Martial system should be used to police violations.

However, in recent decades the European Convention on Human Rights has been used to impose inappropriate burdens on the military which have caused many veterans to be hounded through mischievous claims for compensation, or unfounded allegations of criminal behaviour whilst they were in the service of the Crown, in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The problem is particularly grotesque when for those who served in Northern Ireland, sometimes more than forty years ago, some have faced show trials, while IRA and other convicted terrorists have been granted amnesty. The Overseas Operations (Service Personnel and Veterans) Act 2021 does little to address this problem.

- The Party will withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights and repeal the Human Rights Act 1998 to remove the legal basis for these claims.
- The Party will amend the Overseas Operations Act 2021 to ensure a finite time limit to compensation claims against service personnel and veterans.
- The Party rejects any measure that draws an equivalence between terrorist organisations and the armed forces of the Crown. The show trials against veterans who served in Northern Ireland must end.
- The Party will review the sentences of those currently held in prison under those circumstances and where appropriate, dismiss the sentence and ensure adequate compensation is paid.

Cold War Service

- The Party will issue a National Defence Medal to all Service Personnel who served during the Cold War period, defined as 1947 through to 1991.

Section 10 – CULTURE AND IDENTITY

The Party is culturally libertarian, and we oppose the cultural left.

10.1 Protecting our Heritage.

The Party is proud of our magnificent past and our global leadership. We salute the achievements of our forebears.

Our naval power led to voyages of discovery and the acquisition and settlement of overseas colonies, particularly in North America and the Caribbean.

The British Empire, at its height, encompassed almost a quarter of the world's landmass and a third of the world's population and was the largest empire in history. British influence-built roads and railways and gave education, sport, religion, and the English language to people in hitherto underdeveloped countries and Britain led the way in abolishing the slave trade.

Our global influence is still clearly visible in the 21st century. The present-day Commonwealth, established in 1965, takes in some 2.4 billion people, or a third of the global population. Its head is King Charles III the British monarch. It supports member countries in achieving development, democracy, and peace.

The foundation of the UK constitutional framework, legal system and legislature is on Judeo-Christian values.

Our Head of State is the Defender of the (Christian) Faith. We have an established Christian church and Church of England bishops sit in our Parliament. Most bank holidays mark a Christian festival. The Party believes that mass uncontrolled immigration from Islamic countries presents an increasing threat to our national heritage, traditions and that this risks loss of our cultural cohesion.

- The Party will protect our heritage.
- The Party will defend our historical legacy, protect the traditions passed to us from our forebears and keep them safe for our children and our children's children.
- The Party will never rewrite our own history.
- The Party will preserve the historic natural beauty of our islands.
- The Party will protect our countryside and the historic character of our towns and villages for the benefit of future generations.
- The Party will prevent the removal and erasure of any celebration of our nation's past.
- The Party will prioritise teaching history of the British Isles to all children in all UK schools.
- The Party will promote respect for our national flag and institutions.
- The Party will fly the Union Jack on all public buildings and schools.

We are concerned at the staggeringly high number of foreign languages now spoken in some UK schools. Failing to communicate in English is bad for social cohesion.

- The Party will promote the English language as a common ingredient that binds our society together.
- We will end the use of multi-lingual formatting on official documents; a problem motored by the **Equality Act**.

10.2 Freedom of Speech and Woke Political Correctness.

The UK has always been a free country and we believe in free speech.

Woke Political Correctness has gone too far. There must be freedom to express political, religious and other beliefs everywhere especially at work, on-line or in education.

Freedom of expression is the freedom that makes democracy possible. It facilitates the free exchange of ideas in the public square, without which democracy dies. In recent decades, left wing ideas intended in particular to silence those with orthodox or conservative views on race, religion, sex, sexuality, and gender have curtailed our right to speak freely.

Left-wing mobs on social media, politically correct regulators, woke police officers and other cancel culture zealots have conspired to distort political debate by turning Britain into a country with censorious overseers steeped in cultural Marxism.

People must be free to express political opposition to immigration without fear of retaliation by the intolerant hard left.

- The Party will repeal the **Equality Act 2010** because its protected characteristics of race, religion, sex, sexuality, and gender reinforcing division and fortifying the left in their politically correct views.
- The Party will shut down the **Equality and Human Rights Commission** and the **Government Equalities Office**.
- The Party will repeal the Online Safety Law which curbs freedom of speech online and enables the government to control everything people view or say on the internet.
- The Party will retain the protection given to 'philosophical belief' in the Equality Act 2010 and strengthen it to ensure that there is no discrimination in the workplace or elsewhere for expressing a political opinion.
- The Party will reform hate speech laws to restrict them to criminalising speech that actually incites a criminal response.
- The Party will repeal hate speech laws that are premised on subjective and easy to satisfy criteria such as by outlawing speech that is 'hateful', 'offensive' or 'disturbing'.
- The Party supports the right to freedom of conscience. People must not be compelled to endorse beliefs unless they agree with them.
- The Party believes in complete freedom of religion. People must be free to criticise any religion, belief, or belief system.
- The Party will ensure that the judicial system deals firmly with those who claim otherwise, such as those who attack schoolteachers for teaching about free speech.
- The Party will stop the Police investigating and recording non-crime hate incidents. We will ensure that the police and the Crown Prosecution Service only concern themselves with enforcing criminal speech that actually incites a criminal response.
- The Party will encourage the traditional British sense of humour. People must be able to tell jokes without fear of causing offence.

10.3 Cancel Culture.

We oppose cancel culture.

We aim to replace 'cancel culture' with a culture that values free speech. We must be free to express and debate political ideas without restriction.

The United Kingdom is a remarkable country, and we are an amazing people. The British people have helped to shape the modern world.

We make no apology for believing in the United Kingdom. The UK is the envy of the world for our richness of history, our democracy and liberty, our system of Common Law, our art, our architecture, our monarchy and our copious world-beating advances in science and technology. Our nation is a strong, proud, independent, sovereign nation and we believe that it should remain so.

- The Party opposes selective removal of historical literature or cultural material such as traditional musical instruments from places of learning as part of a disingenuous agenda to "decolonise" curriculums and collections.
- The Party will reinforce the role of schools and academies to educate our young to be aware of and proud of UK history and heritage.

Our schools must never teach '**national shame**'. Our schools must teach British achievements.

- The Party opposes universities disciplining lecturers for comments around race, gender or sexuality that are legal, but which some might consider offensive.
- The Party will have zero tolerance of anarchists who attempt to erase our history.
- The Party opposes Black Lives Matter. This hard left divisive campaign has increased racial tensions within the UK to the worst since the Second World War.
- The Party opposes divisive gestures like taking the knee, and comparable stunts designed to undermine the history and heritage of our country.
- The Party opposes slavery, but our history cannot be changed retrospectively or undone.

Slavery in Britain existed from the Roman period till after the Norman Conquest in 1066. Barbary Pirate and slavers from what is now Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya captured up to 1.25 million Europeans and sold them as slaves. In 1641, people in England's south coast towns petitioned King Charles I to protect them from abduction by the Barbary Pirates.

An Atlantic slave trade formed part of British history from 1640 until the Slave Trade Act 1807 abolished it in the British Empire. As a mark of respect, our forebears erected and paid for monuments and statues to celebrate important events or personalities from a time in our national past. No statue or monument is safe if modern extremists can re-interpret or discredit our nation's past with their own distorted view of slavery as only white on black, and our part in it.

- The Party will not allow activists to remove statues. It is deplorable that newcomers not born at the time should forcibly remove or deface them.
- The Party will resist re-naming buildings named after important historical figures.
- The Party will put protection orders on historic monuments and statues.
- The Party will mandate police to guard statues and monuments to stop mobs defacing them or dragging them down.
- The Party will not support renaming the Brecon Beacons.
- The Party will not support moving Sir Winston Churchill's Statue from Parliament Square.

10.4 Culture Wars.

We oppose the culture wars.

Our traditions and culture are under threat. The culture wars must be defeated. There must be no encouragement to confuse kids to 'change' sex, no training in unconscious bias, no tearing down of statutes or rewriting of history. In pursuit of these objectives the Party will at all times adhere to the principle of full equality before the law.

The Party shall conduct itself and its affairs in such a way that it does not discriminate against or in favour of any person on the grounds of their race, religion, ethnic origin, education, beliefs, sexual orientation, class, social status, sectarianism, or any other basis prescribed by law.

Further the Party shall at all times adhere to the principles of the rule of law, liberty, democracy, and respect for the human rights and the essential, traditional freedoms of the people of the United Kingdom and those under the protection of the United Kingdom.

- The Party rejects multiculturalism, the doctrine that encourages different ethnic and religious groups to retain and celebrate cultural difference at the expense of integrating into the majority culture.
- The Party will promote a unifying UK culture, open to anyone who wishes to identify with our nation and its values and culture, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity.

Multiculturalism, rebranded as 'diversity', means that every generation of migrants is a first generation, and it results in the divisiveness of parallel communities where minority communities have values and customs that conflict with British ones. Only a process of assimilation can overcome these divisions and form a cohesive nation. We can only achieve genuine inclusiveness by celebrating the best of British.

- The Party will scrap all diversity training and positive discrimination, as these are biased and hostile to our traditional identity.
- The Party rejects Critical Race Theory.
- The Party supports the expression of political opinions irrespective of race or gender diversity.
- The Party will disallow challenges to recruitment, or promotion decisions, on the grounds of ethnicity or similar. Employment decisions must be exclusively on merit.

Public institutions - such as the BBC, schools, universities, the NHS, and police forces - must return to discharging their paramount purpose, untrammelled by notions of diversity and political correctness.

- The Party will hold an independent national inquiry into the political correctness that treats some minority communities preferentially.

The widespread sexual abuse of vulnerable girls by grooming and rape gangs is a scandal covered up for many years. We will bring those in local government and the police who failed to protect children from rape gangs to account.

- The Party believes there is no such thing as gender, only biological sex.
- The Party will encourage the use of traditional British form of address and do not support those who wish to use pronouns.
- The Party will end the use of gender-neutral toilets in any setting because they are unsafe for women and girls.
- The Party will not support transgender women who have not undergone gender reassignment surgery having access to female-only spaces such as women's toilets, changing rooms or women's sports.

The Party will legislate so that:

1. Gender reassignment must occur only after age 18.
2. Discussion of transgender issues must take place in secondary rather than primary school and only with parental consent.
3. Trans-exclusionary radical feminists (TERFs) must be able to speak freely without reprisals.
4. Transgender women should have to obtain a doctor's note of approval to change their legal gender rather than be able to change it without a medic's approval.
5. We will not support transgender women using women's refuges for victims of abuse.

10.5 Mainstream Media Bias.

Working Against the People.

The mainstream media (MSM) is 'woke' and out of tune with the public. It promotes the heavily opinionated and one-sided values and beliefs of the out-of-touch metropolitan elite, with ideas that serve their interests at the expense of ordinary people. The mainstream media shows no sign of addressing this. The BBC, in particular, offers liberal biased news and political comment served-up by university graduates who have had no experience in the real world and who hold extreme left-wing views on the EU, globalism, net zero, immigration and illegal immigrants.

Regulations requiring impartiality are now antiquated and unenforceable. The Party will defund the BBC by legislating to change the BBC licence fee from a tax to a voluntary subscription. The licence fee is an outdated, regressive tax amounting to £3.5 billion a year, which unjustly penalises the poor and those who do not watch the BBC.

- The Party will break up and sell off the bulk of the BBC. We could retain the BBC World Service under Government control.
- The Party will legislate to prevent the BBC sending threatening letters to people who do not use their service and who choose not to pay the licence fee. Those who find the BBC's service unacceptable must be free from harassment.
- The Party will sell off Channel 4 on the commercial market. Channel 4 is a publicly owned, woke, broadcaster under the control of the Department of Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport. Although funded by advertising, any potential liabilities fall to the taxpayer.
- The Party welcomes independent, unbiased news channels such as Talk TV and GB News.
- The Party will legislate to prevent all BBC employees including independent contractors, such as sports commentators making public statements on politically sensitive subjects.
- The Party will legislate to prevent mainstream media broadcasters selecting only one or two candidates from mainstream parties to interview or appear on panels during election periods to the exclusion of the smaller parties. We will mandate that all parties' candidates, including independents get equal treatment and equal broadcast coverage during any election period.
- The Party opposes the tendency to positive discrimination and political correctness on MSM channels, which has reached ludicrous levels. The trend in TV adverts to show 'diversity' is a liberal, anti-white notion, out of proportion and unrepresentative of the UK population.
- The Party will bring the strict rules around broadcasting in the UK up to date. They are the responsibility of the Office of Communications Ofcom, the independent regulator. In theory, Ofcom is an unbiased regulator, but it has now become a form of thought police.
- The Party deplores Ofcom launching a political witch-hunt into GB News' 'Don't Kill Cash' campaign, which wants to stop the UK's transition to a 'cashless society' and its Mark Steyn programme which used official health data concerning the Covid-19 booster.
- The Party deplores Ofcom failing to take effective action against the woke BBC or other mainstream broadcasters, for example the BBC and Sky News biased reporting of the EU referendum, Brexit and Project Fear and BBC's Question Time which is invariably a party-political broadcast for the Labour Party.
- The Party will improve the present system whereby viewers can complain to Ofcom. We will stop blatant misuse by left-wing activists to lodge multiple complaints against right-wing TV stations and commentators.
- The Party will remove regulations requiring broadcast media to present political neutrality, to bring them in line with print and digital media.