

The Programme for Government – Pledge by Pledge Analysis

Section 1: Banking

In recent years, we have seen a massive financial meltdown due to over-lending, over-borrowing and poor regulation. The Government believes that the current system of financial regulation is fundamentally flawed and needs to be replaced with a framework that promotes responsible and sustainable banking, where regulators have greater powers to curb unsustainable lending practices and we take action to promote more competition in the banking sector. In addition, we recognise that much more needs to be done to protect taxpayers from financial malpractice and to help the public manage their own debts.

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| 1 | BOTH | <p>We will reform the banking system to avoid a repeat of the financial crisis, to promote a competitive economy, to sustain the recovery and to protect and sustain jobs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Con: ‘We will reform the regulation and structure of the banking system to ensure lower levels of leverage, less dependence on unstable wholesale funding, and greater availability of credit for SMEs’ – p. 30• LD: ‘That starts with banking reform’ – p. 17 |
| 2 | BOTH | <p>We will introduce a banking levy and seek a detailed agreement on implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Con: ‘We will put in place a levy on banks.’ – p. 30• LD: ‘We would introduce a Banking Levy’ – p. 16 |
| 3 | BOTH | <p>We will bring forward detailed proposals for robust action to tackle unacceptable bonuses in the financial services sector; in developing these proposals, we will ensure they are effective in reducing risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Con: ‘empower the bank of England to crack down on risky bonus arrangements’ – p. 31• LD p16: ‘Ensure that the bonus system can never again encourage banks to behave in a way that puts the financial system at risk or offers rewards for failure’ – p. 16 |
| 4 | BOTH | <p>We want the banking system to serve business, not the other way round. We will bring forward detailed proposals to foster diversity in financial services, promote mutuals and create a more competitive banking industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Con: ‘increase competition in the banking industry, starting with a study of competition in the sector to inform our strategy for selling the government's stakes in the banks; and, as the government comes to sell off its holdings in the banks, offer a 'people's bank bonus', so that everybody in the country has the chance to buy a stake in the state-owned banks’ – p. 31• LD: ‘Break up the banks, to ensure taxpayers are never again expected to underwrite high-risk banking. We would establish a clear separation between low-risk retail banking and high-risk investment banking, and encourage the development of local and regional banks. We would introduce a Banking Levy, so that banks pay for their taxpayer guarantee, until the break-up is complete’ – p. 16 |
| 5 | CON | <p>We will develop effective proposals to ensure the flow of credit to viable SMEs. This will include consideration of both a major loan guarantee scheme and the</p> |

use of net lending targets for the nationalised banks.

- Con: 'We will create more diverse sources of affordable credit for small businesses, building on our proposals for a National Loan Guarantee Scheme' p . 31

- 6 BOTH We will take steps to reduce systemic risk in the banking system and will establish an independent commission to investigate the complex issue of separating retail and investment banking in a sustainable way; while recognising that this will take time to get right, the commission will be given an initial time frame of one year to report.
- Con: 'pursue international agreement to prevent retail banks from engaging in activities, such as large-scale proprietary trading, that put the stability of the system at risk' – p. 31
 - LD: 'Break up the banks, to ensure taxpayers are never again expected to underwrite high-risk banking. We would establish a clear separation between low-risk retail banking and high-risk investment banking, and encourage the development of local and regional banks' – p. 16
- 7 CON We will reform the regulatory system to avoid a repeat of the financial crisis. We will bring forward proposals to give the Bank of England control of macro-prudential regulation and oversight of micro-prudential regulation.
- Con: 'We will abolish Gordon Brown's failed tripartite system of regulation and put the bank of England in charge of prudential supervision' – p. 30
- 8 BOTH We rule out joining or preparing to join the European Single Currency for the duration of this agreement.
- Con: 'we will never join the Euro' – p. 81
 - LD: 'We believe that it is in Britain's long-term interest to be part of the euro. But Britain should only join when the economic conditions are right, and in the present economic situation, they are not' – p. 53
- 9 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will work with the Bank of England to investigate how the process of including housing costs in the CPI measure of inflation can be accelerated.
- Con: 'We will conduct a review in government, involving the Governor of the Bank of England, to consider the case for putting housing costs back into the inflation target. Given the fragility and uncertainty in financial markets, any change to the measure of inflation should be carried out in a careful and considered way, with extensive consultation' – *From Crisis to Confidence: Plan for Sound Banking*, July 2009, p. 5¹
- 10 CON We will create Britain's first free national financial advice service, which will be funded in full from a new social responsibility levy on the financial services sector.
- Con: 'launch Britain's first free national financial advice service, funded in full through a new social responsibility levy on the financial services sector' – p. 17
- 11 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We take white collar crime as seriously as other crime, so we will create a single agency to take on the work of tackling serious economic crime that is

¹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/07/Our_plan_for_sound_banking.aspx

currently done by, among others, the Serious Fraud Office, Financial Services Authority and Office of Fair Trading.

- Con: 'We will start work on the creation of a tough new Economic Crime Agency to crack down on white collar crime and sweep away the confused alphabet soup of agencies that are currently responsible for tackling serious economic crime.' – *Change for the Better in Financial Services*, April 2010, p. 3²

Section 2: Business

The Government believes that business is the driver of economic growth and innovation, and that we need to take urgent action to boost enterprise, support green growth and build a new and more responsible economic model. We want to create a fairer and more balanced economy, where we are not so dependent on a narrow range of economic sectors, and where new businesses and economic opportunities are more evenly shared between regions and industries.

- 12 BOTH We will cut red tape by introducing a 'one-in, one-out' rule whereby no new regulation is brought in without other regulation being cut by a greater amount.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will introduce regulatory budgets: forcing any government body wanting to introduce a new regulation to reduce regulation elsewhere by a greater amount' – p. 23
 - LD: 'Reduce the burden of unnecessary red tape by properly assessing the cost and effectiveness of regulations before and after they are introduced, using 'sunset clauses' to ensure the need for a regulation is regularly reviewed, and working towards the principle of 'one in, one out' for new rules' – pp. 19-20
- 13 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will end the culture of 'tick-box' regulation, and instead target inspections on high-risk organisations through co-regulation and improving professional standards
- Con: 'A Conservative government will encourage professional standards wherever possible and appropriate, before considering Government regulations instead. We will also consider and consult on a new model of professional co-regulation. This means replacing regulator-run public teams of inspectors with a model closer to financial controls and audits' – *Regulation in the Post-Bureaucratic Age*, October 2009, p. 19³
 - Con: 'Regulation should be focused on the problem and minimize side effects' – *The Arculus Review: Enabling Enterprise, Encouraging Responsibility*, May 2009, p. 8⁴
- 14 LD We will impose 'sunset clauses' on regulations and regulators to ensure that the need for each regulation is regularly reviewed.

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/04/Making_the_banks_work_for_the_people.aspx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/10/Cutting_the_burden_of_red_tape_on_business.aspx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/05/Businesses_need_better_not_more_regulation.aspx

- LD: 'Reduce the burden of unnecessary red tape by properly assessing the cost and effectiveness of regulations before and after they are introduced, using 'sunset clauses' to ensure the need for a regulation is regularly reviewed, and working towards the principle of 'one in, one out' for new rules' – pp. 19-20

- 15 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will review IR 35, as part of a wholesale review of all small business taxation, and seek to replace it with simpler measures that prevent tax avoidance but do not place undue administrative burdens or uncertainty on the self-employed, or restrict labour market flexibility.
- Con: 'A Conservative Government would undertake a full and fundamental review of small business taxation, including IR35.' – announcement by the then-shadow business minister Mark Prisk, March 2010⁵
- 16 CON We will find a practical way to make small business rate relief automatic.
- Con: 'make small business rate relief automatic' – p. 19
- 17 BOTH We will reform the corporate tax system by simplifying reliefs and allowances, and tackling avoidance, in order to reduce headline rates. Our aim is to create the most competitive corporate tax regime in the G20, while protecting manufacturing industries.
- Con: 'So, initially, we will cut the headline rate of corporation tax to 25p and the small companies' rate to 20p, funded by reducing complex reliefs and allowances. Over time, we hope to reduce these rates further. Our ambition is to create the most competitive tax system in the G20 within five years.' – p. 22
 - LD: 'Tackling tax avoidance and evasion' – p. 10
- 18 LD We will seek to ensure an injection of private capital into Royal Mail, including opportunities for employee ownership. We will retain Post Office Ltd in public ownership.
- LD p21: 'Give both Royal Mail and post offices a long-term future, by separating Post Office Ltd from the Royal Mail and retaining Post Office Ltd in full public ownership. 49 per cent of Royal Mail will be sold to create funds for investment. The ownership of the other 51 per cent will be divided between an employee trust and the government' – p. 21
- 19 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will seek to ensure a level playing field between small and large retailers by enabling councils to take competition issues into account when drawing up their local plans to shape the direction and type of new retail development.
- Con: 'We will ensure that a needs test is readopted, and will enable local councils to take competition issues into account when formulating their local plans.' – *Open Source Planning Green Paper*, February 2010, p. 19⁶
- 20 CON We will give the public the opportunity to challenge the worst regulations.

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/03/Conservative_tax_reform_to_aid_self_employed.aspx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/02/New_homes_and_jobs_through_Open_Source_Planning.aspx

- Con: 'And we will give the public the opportunity to force the worst regulations to be repealed' – p. 23
- 21 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will review employment and workplace laws, for employers and employees, to ensure they maximise flexibility for both parties while protecting fairness and providing the competitive environment required for enterprise to thrive.
- Con: 'We suggest the following ideas to help small business ... An Employment Law rewrite programme, codifying and consolidating existing rules and processes. This should include a thorough analysis of the effect of relevant European Law' – *The Arculus Review: Enabling Enterprise, Encouraging Responsibility*, May 2009, p. 22⁷
- 22 CON We will make it easier for people to set up new enterprises by cutting the time it takes to start a new business. Our ambition is to make the UK one of the fastest countries in the world to start up a new business. We will reduce the number of forms needed to register a new business, and move towards a 'one-click' registration model.
- Con: 'To encourage new businesses to start up, we will reduce the number of forms needed to register a new business – moving towards a 'one-click' registration model – to make Britain the fastest place in the world to start a business, and end the restrictions on social tenants starting a business from their homes' – p. 23
- 23 CON We will end the ban on social tenants starting businesses in their own homes.
- Con: 'end the restrictions on social tenants starting a business from their homes' – p. 23
- 24 CON We will promote small business procurement, in particular by introducing an aspiration that 25% of government contracts should be awarded to small and medium-sized businesses and by publishing government tenders in full online and free of charge.
- Con: 'aim to deliver 25 per cent of government research and procurement contracts through SMEs by cutting the administrative costs of bidding... publishing online all government tender documents for contracts worth over £10,000 via the Supply2Gov website' – pp. 20,23
- 25 CON We will consider the implementation of the Dyson Review to make the UK the leading hi-tech exporter in Europe, and refocus the research and development tax credit on hi-tech companies, small firms and start-ups.
- Con: 'We will implement key recommendations from Sir James Dyson's Review into how to achieve our goal of making Britain Europe's leading hi-tech exporter' – p. 16
- 26 LD We will review the range of factors that can be considered by regulators when takeovers are proposed.
- LD: 'We will restore a public interest test so that a broader range of factors than just competition can be considered by regulators when takeovers are

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/05/Businesses_need_better_not_more_regulation.aspx

proposed and we will ensure that the outcome of takeover bids is determined by the long-term shareholder base’ – p. 20

- 27 LD We will reinstate an Operating and Financial Review to ensure that directors’ social and environmental duties have to be covered in company reporting, and investigate further ways of improving corporate accountability and transparency.
- LD: ‘We will reintroduce the Operating and Financial Review, dropped in November 2005, to ensure that directors’ social and environmental duties will have to be covered in company reporting’ – p. 20
- 28 LD We will ensure that Post Offices are allowed to offer a wide range of services in order to sustain the network, and we will look at the case for developing new sources of revenue, such as the creation of a Post Office Bank.
- LD: ‘End the post office closure programme to keep post offices open in rural areas where they’re the lynchpin of community life, improve access to banking and help secure the future of the Post Office through a PostBank’ – p. 66
- 29 LD We will end the so-called ‘gold-plating’ of EU rules, so that British businesses are not disadvantaged relative to their European competitors.
- LD: ‘Put an end to the so-called ‘gold-plating’ of EU rules, so that British businesses are not disadvantaged relative to their European competitors’ – p. 20
- 30 CON We will support the creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships – joint local authority-business bodies brought forward by local authorities themselves to promote local economic development – to replace Regional Development Agencies (RDAs). These may take the form of the existing RDAs in areas where they are popular.
- Con: ‘We will give councils and businesses the power to form their own business-led local enterprise partnerships instead of RDAs’ – pp. 27-28
- 31 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will take steps to improve the competitiveness of the UK tourism industry, recognising the important part it plays in our national economy.
- Con: ‘We should never forget that in an era of globalisation, Britain’s tourism offer cannot be reproduced, outsourced or off-shored. Every pound invested in tourism is a pound invested in an industry that will provide sustainable jobs and prosperity for generations to come. Which is why instead of holding it back, we should be seeking to stimulate the greatest possible investment in tourism. I want a Conservative government to take a real lead on making this happen.’ – Speech by Jeremy Hunt, the then-shadow Culture minister, April 2009⁸

Section 3: Civil Liberties

We will be strong in defence of freedom. The Government believes that the British state has become too authoritarian, and that over the past decade it has abused and eroded fundamental human

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/04/~link.aspx?_id=7836950CE9B54920BAF8A2DDA23FF7AD&_z=z

freedoms and historic civil liberties. We need to restore the rights of individuals in the face of encroaching state power, in keeping with Britain's tradition of freedom and fairness.

- 32 BOTH We will implement a full programme of measures to reverse the substantial erosion of civil liberties and roll back state intrusion.
- Con: 'We will scale back Labour's database state and protect the privacy of the public's information. We will introduce a balanced approach to the retention of people's DNA and reform the criminal records system so it protects children without destroying trust' – p. 68
 - LD: 'Introduce a Freedom Bill. We will regulate CCTV, stop councils from spying on people, stop unfair extradition to the US, defend trial by jury, and stop children being fingerprinted at school without their parents' permission' – p. 74
- 33 LD We will introduce a Freedom Bill.
- LD: 'Introduce a Freedom Bill' – p. 74
- 34 BOTH We will scrap the ID card scheme, the National Identity register and the ContactPoint database, and halt the next generation of biometric passports.
- Con: 'We will scrap ID cards, the National Identity Register and the Contactpoint database' – p. 69
 - LD: 'Scrapping ID cards and the next generation of biometric passports' – p. 11
- 35 LD We will outlaw the finger-printing of children at school without parental permission.
- LD: 'stop children being fingerprinted at school without their parents' permission' – p. 74
- 36 LD We will extend the scope of the Freedom of Information Act to provide greater transparency.
- LD: 'extending Freedom of Information legislation to private companies delivering monopoly public services such as Network Rail' – p. 70
- 37 BOTH We will adopt the protections of the Scottish model for the DNA database.
- Con: 'The indefinite retention of innocent people's DNA is unacceptable, yet DNA data provides a useful tool for solving crimes. We will legislate to make sure that our DNA database is used primarily to store information about those who are guilty of committing crimes rather than those who are innocent. We will collect the DNA of all existing prisoners, those under state supervision who have been convicted of an offence, and anyone convicted of a serious recordable offence. We pushed the Government to end the permanent retention of innocent people's DNA, and we will change the guidance to give people on the database who have been wrongly accused of a minor crime an automatic right to have their DNA withdrawn' – p. 69
 - LD: 'Remove innocent people from the police DNA database and stop storing DNA from innocent people and children in the future, too' – p. 75
- 38 LD We will protect historic freedoms through the defence of trial by jury.
- LD: 'defend trial by jury' – p. 74

- 39 LD We will restore rights to non-violent protest.
- LD: 'Restore the right to protest by reforming the Public Order Act to safeguard non-violent protest even if it Offends' – p. 74
- 40 BOTH We will review libel laws to protect freedom of speech.
- Con: 'We will review and reform libel laws to protect freedom of speech' – p. 69
 - LD: 'Protect free speech, investigative journalism and academic peer-reviewed publishing through reform of the English and Welsh libel laws' – p. 74
- 41 CON We will introduce safeguards against the misuse of anti-terrorism legislation.
- Con: 'curtailing the surveillance powers that allow some councils to use anti-terrorism laws to spy on people making trivial mistakes or minor breaches of the rules' – p. 69
- 42 LD We will further regulate CCTV.
- LD: 'We will regulate CCTV' – p. 74
- 43 LD We will end the storage of internet and email records without good reason.
- LD: 'End plans to store your email and internet records without good cause' – p. 75
- 44 LD We will introduce a new mechanism to prevent the proliferation of unnecessary new criminal offences.
- LD: 'Halt the increase in unnecessary new offences with the creation of a "stop unit" in the Cabinet Office. Every department in Whitehall would have to convince this unit of the need for a new offence' – p. 75
- 45 COMP We will establish a Commission to investigate the creation of a British Bill of Rights that incorporates and builds on all our obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights, ensures that these rights continue to be enshrined in British law, and protects and extends British liberties. We will seek to promote a better understanding of the true scope of these obligations and liberties.
- Con: 'we will replace the Human Rights Act with a UK Bill of Rights' – p. 69
 - LD: 'Ensure that everyone has the same protections under the law by protecting the Human Rights Act' – p. 75

Section 4: Communities and Local Government

The Government believes that it is time for a fundamental shift of power from Westminster to people. We will promote decentralisation and democratic engagement, and we will end the era of top-down government by giving new powers to local councils, communities, neighbourhoods and individuals.

- 46 LD We will promote the radical devolution of power and greater financial autonomy to local government and community groups. This will include a review of local government finance.
- LD: 'Review local government finance completely as part of these tax changes' – p. 72

- 47 CON We will rapidly abolish Regional Spatial Strategies and return decision-making powers on housing and planning to local councils, including giving councils new powers to stop 'garden grabbing'.
- Con: 'We will abolish the entire bureaucratic and undemocratic tier of regional planning, including the Regional Spatial Strategies and building targets' – p. 64
- 48 CON In the longer term, we will radically reform the planning system to give neighbourhoods far more ability to determine the shape of the places in which their inhabitants live, based on the principles set out in the Conservative Party publication *Open Source Planning*.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will introduce a new 'open source' planning system' – p. 64
- 49 BOTH We will abolish the unelected Infrastructure Planning Commission and replace it with an efficient and democratically accountable system that provides a fast-track process for major infrastructure projects.
- Con: 'We will abolish the unelected Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) and replace it with an efficient and democratically-accountable system that provides a fast-track process for major infrastructure projects' – pp. 23-24
 - LD: 'Abolish the Infrastructure Planning Commission and return decision-making, including housing targets, to local people' – p. 65
- 50 CON We will publish and present to Parliament a simple and consolidated national planning framework covering all forms of development and setting out national economic, environmental and social priorities.
- Con: 'we will publish and present to Parliament for debate a simple and consolidated national planning framework' – p. 65
- 51 BOTH We will maintain the Green Belt, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and other environmental protections, and create a new designation – similar to SSSIs – to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities.
- Con: 'We will maintain national Green Belt protection, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), National Parks, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and other environmental designations which protect the character of our country's landscape' – p. 75
 - LD: 'Create a new designation – similar to Site of Special Scientific Interest status – to protect green areas of particular importance or value to the community' – p. 65
- 52 CON We will abolish the Government Office for London and consider the case for abolishing the remaining Government Offices.
- Con: 'We will abolish the Government Office' – p. 67
- 53 BOTH We will provide more protection against aggressive bailiffs and unreasonable charging orders, ensure that courts have the power to insist that repossession is always a last resort, and ban orders for sale on unsecured debts of less than £25,000.

- Con: 'ensure that no-one is forced to sell their home to pay unsecured debts of less than £25,000' – p. 17
 - LD: 'Make sure that repossession is always the last resort by changing the powers of the courts' – p. 62
- 54 LD We will explore a range of measures to bring empty homes into use.
- LD: 'Bringing 250,000 empty homes back into use' – p. 18
- 55 CON We will promote shared ownership schemes and help social tenants and others to own or part-own their home.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will make it easier for social tenants to own or part-own their home' – p. 66
- 56 LD We will promote 'Home on the Farm' schemes that encourage farmers to convert existing buildings into affordable housing.
- LD: 'Promote schemes for affordable homes like equity mortgages and 'Home on the Farm' which encourage farmers to convert existing buildings into affordable housing' – p. 67
- 57 CON We will create new trusts that will make it simpler for communities to provide homes for local people.
- Con: 'We will create new local housing trusts to allow communities to grant planning permission for new housing within villages and towns' – p. 66
- 58 LD We will phase out the ring-fencing of grants to local government and review the unfair Housing Revenue Account.
- LD: 'Review local government finance completely as part of these tax changes, including reviewing the unfair Housing Revenue Account system and the mainstreaming of central grants' – p. 72
- 59 CON We will freeze Council Tax in England for at least one year, and seek to freeze it for a further year, in partnership with local authorities.
- Con: 'To help Britain's families further, a Conservative government will freeze council tax for two years, in partnership with local councils' – p. 39
- 60 CON We will create directly elected mayors in the 12 largest English cities, subject to confirmatory referendums and full scrutiny by elected councillors.
- Con: 'So, initially, we will give the citizens in each of England's twelve largest cities the chance of having an elected mayor' – p. 67
- 61 CON We will give councils a general power of competence.
- Con: 'giving local councils a "general power of competence", so that they have explicit authority to do what is necessary to improve their communities' – p. 67
- 62 BOTH (NON-MANIFESTO) We will ban the use of powers in the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) by councils, unless they are signed off by a magistrate and required for stopping serious crime.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will restrict and restrain the exercise of any such powers by local councils. First, RIPA will be amended so that councils will only be allowed access to communications data for the

purposes of assisting investigation into serious crimes (those subject to a custodial sentence). Second, any request to access communications data will require the approval of the Council leader, thereby ensuring a measure of democratic accountability. Third, council access to such communications data will require the prior approval of a warrant by the magistrates courts, providing a judicial safeguard.’ – *Reversing the Rise of the Surveillance State*, September 2009, pp. 10-11⁹

- LD: ‘Unless RIPA is reformed it risks becoming a snoopers’ charter. Surveillance powers should only be used to investigate serious crimes and must require a magistrate’s warrant.’ – News item on Lib Dem website, March 2009¹⁰

- 63 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will allow councils to return to the committee system, should they wish to.
- Con: ‘A Conservative government will therefore amend existing legislation to remove the current prescription and allow councils to decide what particular structure they wish to adopt – including a return to the Committee system if they wish.’ – *Control Shift: Returning Power to Local Communities*, February 2009, p. 22¹¹
- 64 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will abolish the Standards Board regime.
- Con: ‘We will ... put the power to judge the behaviour of councillors back in the hands of their citizens by abolishing the Standards Board’ – *Control Shift: Returning Power to Local Communities*, February 2009, p. 3¹²
- 65 CON We will stop the restructuring of councils in Norfolk, Suffolk and Devon, and stop plans to force the regionalisation of the fire service.
- Con: ‘scrapping Labour’s uncompleted plans to impose unwieldy and expensive unitary councils and to force the regionalisation of the fire service’ – p. 67
- 66 CON We will impose tougher rules to stop unfair competition by local authority newspapers.
- Con: ‘we will tighten the rules on taxpayer-funded publicity spending by town halls’ – p. 68
- 67 CON We will introduce new powers to help communities save local facilities and services threatened with closure, and give communities the right to bid to take over local state-run services.

⁹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/09/Reversing_the_rise_of_the_surveillance_state.aspx

¹⁰ http://www.libdems.org.uk/news_detail.aspx?title=Goldsworthy%3a_Anti-terror_laws_used_by_councils_more_than_10%2c000_times&pPK=0bdcc4b8-2404-4aa7-855d-9f97c0f165a4

¹¹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/02/Its_time_to_transfer_power_from_the_central_state_to_local_people.aspx

¹² http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/02/Its_time_to_transfer_power_from_the_central_state_to_local_people.aspx

- Con: ‘our new “community right to buy” scheme will give local people the power to protect any community assets that are threatened with closure’ – p. 67
- 68 BOTH We will implement the Sustainable Communities Act, so that citizens know how taxpayers’ money is spent in their area and have a greater say over how it is spent.
- Con: ‘We will implement fully the Sustainable Communities Act, and reintroduce the Sustainable Communities Act (Amendment) Bill as government legislation, to give people greater information on, and control over, what is being spent by each government agency in their area – p. 68
 - LD: ‘Implement the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill, which gives local communities the right to propose actions in their area to improve sustainability’ – p. 73
- 69 LD We will cut local government inspection and abolish the Comprehensive Area Assessment.
- LD: ‘Scrap nearly £1 billion of central government inspection regimes on local councils.’ – p. 72
- 70 LD We will require continuous improvements to the energy efficiency of new housing.
- LD: ‘make sure every new home is fully energy-efficient by improving building regulations’ – p. 45
- 71 BOTH We will provide incentives for local authorities to deliver sustainable development, including for new homes and businesses.
- Con: ‘We will put neighbourhoods in charge of planning the way their communities develop, with incentives in favour of sustainable development’ – p. 63
 - LD: ‘Over time, we will seek to provide a greater degree of subsidy as resources allow to increase the number of new sustainable homes being built’ – p. 62
- 72 CON We will review the effectiveness of the raising of the stamp duty threshold for first-time buyers.
- Con: ‘That is why we will permanently raise the stamp duty threshold to £250,000 for first-time buyers, meaning nine out of ten of them will pay no tax on their first home purchase’ – p. 65
- 73 CON We will give councillors the power to vote on large salary packages for unelected council officials.
- Con: ‘give councillors the power to vote on large salary packages for unelected council officials’ – p. 62

Section 5: Consumer Protection

The Government believes that action is needed to protect consumers, particularly the most vulnerable, and to promote greater competition across the economy. We need to promote more responsible corporate and consumer behaviour through greater transparency and by harnessing the insights from behavioural economics and social psychology.

- 74 CON We will give regulators new powers to define and ban excessive interest rates on credit and store cards; and we will introduce a seven-day cooling-off period for store cards.
- Con: 'give the CPA new powers to define and ban excessive borrowing rates on store cards ... introduce a seven-day cooling off period for store cards' – p. 17
- 75 CON We will oblige credit card companies to provide better information to their customers in a uniform electronic format that will allow consumers to find out whether they are receiving the best deal.
- Con: require credit card companies to provide clear information – p. 17
- 76 LD We will introduce stronger consumer protections, including measures to end unfair bank and financial transaction charges.
- LD: 'Legislate to end unfair bank and financial transaction charges' – p. 42
- 77 LD We will take forward measures to enhance customer service in the private and public sectors.
- LD: 'Introduce a Universal Service Code to secure high quality customer service in the private and public sectors' – p. 42
- 78 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will introduce, as a first step, an Ombudsman in the Office of Fair Trading who can proactively enforce the Grocery Supply Code of Practice and curb abuses of power, which undermine our farmers and act against the long-term interest of consumers.
- Con: 'I've said today that we agree with the Competition Commission about the importance of ensuring that the Code of Practice in relation to Grocery Supply can be enforced and needs to be enforced by the creation of an Ombudsman' – announcement by the then-shadow DEFRA minister Nick Herbert, January 2010¹³
- 79 CON We will introduce honesty in food labelling so that consumers can be confident about where their food comes from and its environmental impact.
- Con: 'We will introduce honesty in food labelling, if necessary through legislation, so consumers can be confident about where their food comes from' – p. 80
- 80 CON We will increase households' control over their energy costs by ensuring that energy bills provide information on how to move to the cheapest tariff offered by their supplier, and how each household's energy usage compares to similar households.
- Con: 'We will increase consumers' control over their energy costs by ensuring that every energy bill provides information on how to move to the cheapest tariff offered by their supplier and how their energy usage compares to similar households' – p. 76
- 81 CON We will give Post Office Card account holders the chance to benefit from direct debit discounts and ensure that social tariffs offer access to the best prices

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2010/01/Nick_Herbert_The_New_Age_of_Agriculture.aspx

available.

- Con: 'give Post Office Card Account holders the chance to benefit from direct debit discounts, worth up to £150 a year' – p. 76

- 82 LD We will seek to extend protection and support to 'off-grid' energy consumers.
- LD: 'We will seek to extend protection and support to 'off-gas-grid' consumers' – p. 42

Section 6: Crime and Policing

The Government believes that we need radical action to reform our criminal justice system. We need police forces that have greater freedom from Ministerial control and are better able to deal with the crime and anti-social behaviour that blights people's lives, but which are much more accountable to the public they serve.

- 83 BOTH We will reduce time-wasting bureaucracy that hampers police operations, and introduce better technology to make policing more effective while saving taxpayers' money.
- LD: 'Reduce time-wasting bureaucracy at police stations with better technology that can be deployed on the streets' – p. 57
 - Con: 'A Conservative government will reduce the amount of paperwork that the police have to deal with' – p. 53
- 84 CON We will amend the health and safety laws that stand in the way of common sense policing.
- Con: 'amend the health and safety laws that stand in the way of common sense policing' – p. 53
- 85 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will seek to spread information on which policing techniques and sentences are most effective at cutting crime across the Criminal Justice System.
- Con: 'Better information on bail should be part of a broader agenda to enhance intelligent information-sharing between agencies and provide courts with higher quality information to aid their sentencing decisions' – *Public Safety First: Reducing the Risk of Offending by Suspects on Bail*, August 2008, p. 17¹⁴
- 86 LD We will have a full review of the terms and conditions for police officer employment.
- LD: 'Reform the police, with a full review of the very restrictive terms and conditions for police officer employment' – p. 57
- 87 BOTH We will introduce measures to make the police more accountable through oversight by a directly elected individual, who will be subject to strict checks and balances by locally elected representatives.
- Con: 'make the police accountable to a directly-elected individual who will set policing priorities for local communities' – p. 54
 - LD: 'Give local people a real say over their police force through the direct election of police authorities' – p. 57
- 88 CON We will oblige the police to publish detailed local crime data statistics every

¹⁴ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/08/Reforming_the_bail_laws.aspx

- month, so the public can get proper information about crime in their neighbourhoods and hold the police to account for their performance.
- Con: 'We will oblige the police to publish detailed local crime data statistics every month' – p. 54
- 89 CON We will require police forces to hold regular 'beat meetings' so that residents can hold them to account.
- Con: 'enable residents to hold the police to account in neighbourhood beat meetings' – p. 36
- 90 LD We will make hospitals share non-confidential information with the police so they know where gun and knife crime is happening and can target stop-and-search in gun and knife crime hot spots.
- LD: 'Make hospitals share non-confidential information with the police so they know where gun and knife crime is happening and can target stop-and-search in gun and knife crime hot spots' – p. 58
- 91 CON We will give people greater legal protection to prevent crime and apprehend criminals.
- Con: 'We will change the law so that anyone acting reasonably to stop a crime or apprehend a criminal is not arrested or prosecuted' – p. 91
- 92 CON We will ensure that people have the protection that they need when they defend themselves against intruders.
- Con: 'we will give householders greater legal protection if they have to defend themselves against intruders in their homes' – p. 53
- 93 BOTH We will ban the sale of alcohol below cost price.
- Con: 'ban off-licences and supermarkets from selling alcohol below cost price' – p. 52
 - LD: 'We support a ban on below-cost selling' – p. 33
- 94 LD We will review alcohol taxation and pricing to ensure it tackles binge drinking without unfairly penalising responsible drinkers, pubs and important local industries.
- LD: 'We will also review the complex, ill-thought-through system of taxation for alcohol to ensure it tackles binge drinking without unfairly penalising responsible drinkers, pubs and important local industries' – p. 33
- 95 CON We will overhaul the Licensing Act to give local authorities and the police much stronger powers to remove licences from, or refuse to grant licences to, any premises that are causing problems.
- Con: 'We will overhaul the Licensing Act to give local authorities and the police much stronger powers to remove licences from, or refuse to grant licences to, any premises that are causing problems' – p. 52
- 96 CON We will allow councils and the police to shut down permanently any shop or bar found to be persistently selling alcohol to children.
- Con: 'we will allow councils and the police to shut down permanently any shop or bar found persistently selling alcohol to children' – p. 52

- 97 CON We will double the maximum fine for under-age alcohol sales to £20,000.
- Con: 'we will double the maximum fine for under-age alcohol sales to £20,000' – p. 52
- 98 CON We will permit local councils to charge more for late-night licences to pay for additional policing.
- Con: 'we will permit local councils to charge more for late-night licences to pay for additional policing' – p. 52
- 99 LD We will promote better recording of hate crimes against disabled, homosexual and transgender people, which are frequently not centrally recorded.
- LD: 'Require better recording of hate crimes against disabled, homosexual and transgender people, which are frequently not centrally recorded' – p. 58
- 100 COMP We will introduce a system of temporary bans on new 'legal highs' while health issues are considered by independent experts. We will not permanently ban a substance without receiving full advice from the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.
- Con: 'We will introduce a system of temporary bans on new 'legal highs' while health issues are considered by independent experts' – p. 55
 - LD: 'Always base drugs policy on independent scientific advice' – p. 58
- 101 LD We will review the operation of the Extradition Act – and the US/UK extradition treaty – to make sure it is even-handed.
- LD: 'stop unfair extradition to the US' – p. 74

Section 7: Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport

The Government believes that a vibrant cultural, media and sporting sector is crucial for our well-being and quality of life. We need to promote excellence in these fields, with government funding used where appropriate to encourage philanthropic and corporate investment.

- 102 BOTH We will maintain the independence of the BBC, and give the National Audit Office full access to the BBC's accounts to ensure transparency.
- LD: 'Ensure that the BBC remains strong, free from interference and securely funded' – p. 37
 - Con: 'ensure that the National Audit Office has full access to the BBC's accounts' – p. 63
- 103 BOTH We will enable partnerships between local newspapers, radio and television stations to promote a strong and diverse local media industry.
- Con: 'We will sweep away the rules that stop local newspapers owning other local media platforms and create a new network of local television stations' p. 68
 - LD: 'Support a diverse regional and local media' – p. 37
- 104 LD We will maintain free entry to national museums and galleries, and give national museums greater freedoms.
- LD: 'Maintain free entry to national museums and galleries' – p. 36
- 105 BOTH We will work with the Scottish Government to deliver a successful

Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014, and ensure that the 2013 Rugby League and the 2015 Rugby Union World Cups are successful. We will strongly support the England 2018 World Cup bid.

- Con: 'work with the Scottish government to deliver a top-quality Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014; ensure that the 2013 Rugby League and the 2015 Rugby Union World Cups are successful; and, strongly support England's bid to host the 2018 Football World Cup' – p. 38
- LD: 'We are proud that Britain is hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012, and we support bids for other high-profile events such as the 2018 World Cup' – p. 36

106 CON We will work with the Mayor of London to ensure a safe and successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012, and urgently form plans to deliver a genuine and lasting legacy.

- Con: 'We will deliver a successful Olympics that brings lasting benefits for the country as a whole' – p. 38

107 LD We will examine the case for moving to a 'gross profits tax' system for the National Lottery, and reform the National Lottery so that more money goes into sport, the arts and heritage.

- LD: 'We will change the way the National Lottery is taxed from a ticket tax to a gross profits tax' – p. 36

108 CON We will stop wasteful spending by National Lottery distributors by banning lobbying activities and restricting administration costs to 5% of total income.

- Con: 'We will restore the National Lottery to its original purpose and, by cutting down on administration costs, make sure more money goes to good causes' – p. 37

109 LD We will use cash in dormant betting accounts to improve local sports facilities and support sports clubs.

- LD: 'Use cash in dormant betting accounts to set up a capital fund for improving local sports facilities and supporting sports clubs' – p. 36

110 CON We will encourage the reform of football governance rules to support the co-operative ownership of football clubs by supporters.

- Con: 'reform the governance arrangements in football to enable co-operative ownership models to be established by supporters' – p. 67

111 CON We will support the creation of an annual Olympic-style schools sport event to encourage competitive sport in schools, and we will seek to protect school playing fields.

- Con: 'including the vigorous promotion of competitive sports through a national Olympic-style school competition' – p. 37

112 LD We will cut red tape to encourage the performance of more live music.

- LD: 'Cut red tape for putting on live music' – p. 36

113 BOTH We will introduce measures to ensure the rapid roll-out of superfast broadband across the country. We will ensure that BT and other infrastructure providers allow the use of their assets to deliver such broadband, and we will

seek to introduce superfast broadband in remote areas at the same time as in more populated areas. If necessary, we will consider using the part of the TV licence fee that is supporting the digital switchover to fund broadband in areas that the market alone will not reach.

- Con: 'We will scrap Labour's phone tax and instead require BT and other infrastructure providers to allow the use of their assets to deliver superfast broadband across the country. If necessary, we will consider using the part of the licence fee that is supporting the digital switchover to fund broadband in areas that the market alone will not reach' – p. 27
- LD: 'Support public investment in the roll-out of superfast broadband, targeted first at those areas which are least likely to be provided for by the market' – p. 20

Section 8: Defence

The Government believes that we need to take action to safeguard our national security at home and abroad. We also recognise that we need to do much more to ensure that our Armed Forces have the support they need, and that veterans and their families are treated with the dignity that they deserve.

- 114 COMP We will maintain Britain's nuclear deterrent, and have agreed that the renewal of Trident should be scrutinised to ensure value for money. Liberal Democrats will continue to make the case for alternatives. We will immediately play a strong role in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, and press for continued progress on multilateral disarmament.
- Con: 'We support the decision to renew Britain's submarine-based nuclear deterrent, based on the Trident missile system' – pp. 83-84
 - LD: 'Rule out the like-for-like replacement of the Trident nuclear weapons system' – p. 51
- 115 CON We will aim to reduce Ministry of Defence running costs by at least 25%.
- Con: 'We will review the structure of the Ministry of Defence to reduce running costs by 25 per cent' – p. 84
- 116 CON We will work to rebuild the Military Covenant by:
- a) ensuring that Service personnel's rest and recuperation leave can be maximised;
 - b) changing the rules so that Service personnel only have to register once on the Service register;
 - c) exploring the potential for including Service children as part of our proposals for a pupil premium;
 - d) providing university and further education scholarships for the children of Servicemen and women who have been killed on active duty since 1990;
 - e) providing support for ex-Service personnel to study at university,
 - f) creating a new programme, 'Troops for Teachers', to recruit ex-Service personnel into the teaching profession;
 - g) providing extra support for veteran mental health needs; and
 - h) reviewing the rules governing the awarding of medals.
- Con: 'We will restore the Military Covenant and ensure that our Armed Forces, their families and veterans are properly taken care of' – p. 84
- 117 BOTH We will double the operational allowance for Armed Forces personnel serving

- in Afghanistan, and include Armed Forces pay in our plans for a fair pay review.
- Con: 'we will ... double the operational allowance' – p. 84
 - LD: 'Introducing fair pay audits for every company with over 100 employees to combat discrimination in pay' – p. 24
- 118 CON We will ensure that injured personnel are treated in dedicated military wards.
- Con: 'ensure our servicemen and women are treated in dedicated military wards in hospital' – p. 84
- 119 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will look at whether there is scope to refurbish Armed Forces' accommodation from efficiencies within the Ministry of Defence.
- Con: 'We will look at whether there is scope to refurbish Armed Forces' accommodation from efficiencies within the Ministry of Defence' – *Conservative Armed Forces Manifesto*, April 2010, p. 20¹⁵
- 120 LD We will support defence jobs through exports that are used for legitimate purposes, not internal repression, and will work for a full international ban on cluster munitions.
- LD: 'limit the sale of arms to dangerous regimes and work for a full international ban on cluster munitions... We will ensure that British arms are not sold to states that would use them for internal repression' – p. 54

Section 9: Deficit Reduction

The Government believes that it is the most vulnerable who are most at risk from the debt crisis, and that it is deeply unfair that the Government could have to spend more on debt interest payments than on schools. So we need immediate action to tackle the deficit in a fair and responsible way, ensure that taxpayers' money is spent responsibly, and get the public finances back on track.

- 121 CON We recognise that deficit reduction, and continuing to ensure economic recovery, is the most urgent issue facing Britain.
- Con: 'Cutting the deficit is the most urgent task we need to undertake if we are to get the economy moving' – p. 22
- 122 CON We will significantly accelerate the reduction of the structural deficit over the course of a Parliament, with the main burden of deficit reduction borne by reduced spending rather than increased taxes.
- Con: 'eliminate the bulk of the structural deficit over a Parliament... we will ensure that by far the largest part of the burden of dealing with the deficit falls on lower spending rather than higher taxes' – pp. 10, 22
- 123 BOTH We will introduce arrangements that will protect those on low incomes from the effect of public sector pay constraint and other spending constraints.
- Con: 'freeze public sector pay for one year in 2011, excluding the one million lowest paid workers' – p. 13
 - LD: 'Setting a £400 pay rise cap for all public sector workers, initially for two years, ensuring that the lowest paid are eligible for the biggest percentage rise' – p. 11

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/04/Conservatives_launch_Armed_Forces_Manifesto.aspx

- 124 BOTH We will protect jobs by stopping the proposed jobs tax.
- Con: 'stop Labour's jobs tax' – p. 9
 - LD: 'the increase in National Insurance Contributions is a damaging tax on jobs and an unfair tax on employees, so when resources allow we would seek to reverse it' – p. 76
- 125 BOTH We will set out a plan for deficit reduction in an emergency budget. We have created an independent Office for Budget Responsibility to make new forecasts of growth and borrowing for this emergency budget.
- Con: 'We will provide an emergency Budget within 50 days of taking office... we will set up an independent Office for Budget Responsibility to restore trust in the government's ability to manage the public finances' – p. 12
 - LD: 'an emergency budget and interim spending review would be held by no later than the end of June 2010 ... We will establish a Council on Financial Stability' – p. 77
- 126 CON We will make modest cuts of £6 billion to non-front-line services within the financial year 2010/11, subject to advice from the Treasury and the Bank of England on their feasibility and advisability. A proportion of these savings can be used to support jobs.
- Con: 'We will start by cutting a net £6 billion of wasteful departmental spending in the financial year 2010/11' – p. 13
- 127 LD We will hold a full Spending Review reporting this autumn, following a fully consultative process involving all tiers of government and the private sector.
- LD: 'Throughout the summer and early autumn a Comprehensive Spending Review of all departments would be conducted' – p. 77
- 128 BOTH We will reduce spending on the Child Trust Fund and tax credits for higher earners.
- Con: 'stop paying tax credits to better-off families with incomes over £50,000; cut government contributions to Child Trust Funds for all but the poorest third of families and families with disabled children' – p. 13
 - LD: 'Ending government payments into Child Trust Funds... Restricting tax credits' – p. 11
- 129 BOTH We will create strong financial discipline at all levels of government and place an obligation on public servants to manage taxpayers' money wisely.
- Con: 'We will create strong financial discipline at all levels of government and place an obligation to manage taxpayers' money wisely' – p. 29
 - LD: 'Creating a more cost-effective government' – p. 82
- 130 BOTH We will reduce the number and cost of quangos.
- Con: 'Any quangos that do not perform a technical function or a function that requires political impartiality, or act independently to establish facts, will be abolished' – p. 62
 - LD: 'Replace wasteful quangos... abolish unnecessary quangos' – pp. 30, 32

Section 10: Energy and Climate Change

The Government believes that climate change is one of the gravest threats we face, and that urgent action at home and abroad is required. We need to use a wide range of levers to cut carbon emissions, decarbonise the economy and support the creation of new green jobs and technologies. We will implement a full programme of measures to fulfil our joint ambitions for a low carbon and eco-friendly economy.

- 131 LD We will push for the EU to demonstrate leadership in tackling international climate change, including by supporting an increase in the EU emission reduction target to 30% by 2020.
- LD: 'Promote the transition to a low-carbon economy in Europe, by moving unilaterally and immediately to an EU emissions reduction target of 30 per cent by 2020' – p. 47
- 132 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will seek to increase the target for energy from renewable sources, subject to the advice of the Climate Change Committee.
- Con: 'One important way of accelerating that move away from dependence on imported oil and gas is to increase domestic renewable energy' – speech by David Cameron, June 2008¹⁶
- 133 CON We will continue public sector investment in carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology for four coal-fired power stations.
- Con: 'creating four carbon capture and storage-equipped plants, taking coal – one of the most polluting fuels of all – and transforming it into a low carbon fuel of the future'" – pp. 74-75
- 134 BOTH We will establish a smart grid and roll out smart meters.
- Con: 'a highly interactive network, based on a new smart grid that will interact with smart meters in people's homes, to manage supply and demand' – p. 74
 - LD: 'Crack down on waste from the water companies and introduce compulsory smart meters in areas of shortage' – p. 66
- 135 LD We will establish a full system of feed-in tariffs in electricity – as well as the maintenance of banded Renewables Obligation Certificates.
- LD: 'you will be able to sell the energy back to the National Grid at a profit, with a more attractive feed-in tariff than under current government plans' – p. 46
- 136 LD We will introduce measures to promote a huge increase in energy from waste through anaerobic digestion.
- LD: 'That means less packaging, more recycling, and a huge increase in anaerobic digestion to generate energy from food and farm waste' – p. 65
- 137 CON We will create a green investment bank.
- Con: 'so we will create Britain's first Green Investment Bank' – p. 32
- 138 BOTH We will retain energy performance certificates while scrapping HIPs.

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2008/06/David_Cameron_The_choice_isnt_between_economy_and_environment.aspx

- Con: 'We will also abolish Home information Packs, which have made a significant contribution to problems in our housing market... keep Energy Performance Certificates to help people improve the environmental rating of their property' – pp. 66, 76
 - LD: 'Scrap burdensome Home Information Packs, retaining the requirement for homes to have an energy performance certificate' – p. 62
- 139 BOTH We will introduce measures to encourage marine energy.
- Con: 'establishing at least two Marine Energy Parks' – p. 75
 - LD: 'Invest up to £400 million in refurbishing shipyards in the North of England and Scotland so that they can manufacture offshore wind turbines and other marine renewable energy equipment' – p. 46
- 140 BOTH We will establish an emissions performance standard that will prevent coal-fired power stations being built unless they are equipped with sufficient carbon capture and storage to meet the emissions performance standard.
- Con: 'creating four carbon capture and storage- quipped plants, taking coal – one of the most polluting fuels of all – and transforming it into a low carbon fuel of the future' – pp. 74-75
 - LD: 'Block any new coal-fired power stations – the most polluting form of power generation – unless they are accompanied by the highest level of carbon capture and storage facilities' – p. 46
- 141 BOTH We will cancel the third runway at Heathrow.
- Con: 'We will stop the third runway and instead link Heathrow directly to our high speed rail network, providing an alternative to thousands of flights' – p. 26
 - LD: 'Cancel plans for the third runway at Heathrow and any expansion of other airports in the South East' – p. 64
- 142 BOTH We will refuse permission for additional runways at Gatwick and Stansted.
- Con: 'block plans for second runways at Stansted and Gatwick' – p. 26
 - LD: 'Cancel plans for the third runway at Heathrow and any expansion of other airports in the South East' – p. 64
- 143 BOTH We will replace Air Passenger Duty with a per-flight duty.
- Con: 'reform Air Passenger Duty to encourage a switch to fuller and cleaner planes' – p. 26
 - LD: 'Replace the per-passenger Air Passenger Duty with a per-plane duty (PPD)' – p. 63
- 144 BOTH We will introduce a floor price for carbon, and make efforts to persuade the EU to move towards full auctioning of ETS permits.
- Con: 'We will reform the Climate Change Levy to provide a floor price for carbon' – p. 32
 - LD: 'Boost investment in clean energy by reforming the EU emissions trading scheme – bringing in a tighter cap on emissions, auctioning as many allowances as possible, and encouraging other European countries to increase the use of reserve prices in allowance auctions' – pp. 47-48
- 145 CON Through our 'Green Deal', we will encourage home energy efficiency

improvements paid for by savings from energy bills. We will also take measures to improve energy efficiency in businesses and public sector buildings. We will reduce central government carbon emissions by 10% within 12 months.

- Con: 'Rising energy costs hit families hard, so we will create a "Green Deal", giving every home up to £6,500 worth of energy improvement measures – with more for hard-to-treat homes – paid for out of savings made on fuel bills over 25 years' – p. 76

146 CON We will reform energy markets to deliver security of supply and investment in low carbon energy, and ensure fair competition including a review of the role of Ofgem.

- Con: 'To safeguard our energy security, we will reform the energy regulator Ofgem so that: it focuses on executing energy policy; it is tasked with monitoring the spare capacity in the energy market and making provisions for additional capacity where required; and its competition policy and consumer protection powers pass to the Office of Fair Trading.' – p. 75

147 CON We will instruct Ofgem to establish a security guarantee of energy supplies.

- Con: 'To safeguard our energy security, we will reform the energy regulator Ofgem so that: it focuses on executing energy policy; it is tasked with monitoring the spare capacity in the energy market and making provisions for additional capacity where required; and its competition policy and consumer protection powers pass to the Office of Fair Trading.' – p. 75

148 CON We will give an Annual Energy Statement to Parliament to set strategic energy policy and guide investment.

- Con: 'That means that Ministers will be unambiguously responsible for determining energy policy and delivering an Annual Energy Statement to Parliament to set a clear direction for energy policy' – p. 75

149 BOTH We will deliver an offshore electricity grid in order to support the development of a new generation of offshore wind power.

- Con: 'delivering an offshore electricity grid in order to support the development of a new generation of offshore wind power, and establishing at least two Marine Energy Parks' – p. 75
- LD: 'ensure that at least three quarters of this new renewable energy comes from marine and offshore sources' – p. 45

150 LD We will encourage community-owned renewable energy schemes where local people benefit from the power produced. We will also allow communities that host renewable energy projects to keep the additional business rates they generate.

- LD: 'Encourage community-owned renewable energy schemes where local people benefit from the power produced' – p. 21

151 LD As part of the creation of a green investment bank, we will create green financial products to provide individuals with opportunities to invest in the infrastructure needed to support the new green economy.

- LD: 'To help the transition to a green economy over the longer term, we will set up a United Kingdom Infrastructure Bank (UKIB) to attract private finance' – p. 18

- 152 CON We will work towards an ambitious global climate deal that will limit emissions and explore the creation of new international sources of funding for the purpose of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Con: ‘A Conservative government will work towards an ambitious global deal that will limit emissions and make available substantial financial resources for adaptation and mitigation’ – p. 74
- 153 COMP Liberal Democrats have long opposed any new nuclear construction. Conservatives, by contrast, are committed to allowing the replacement of existing nuclear power stations provided that they are subject to the normal planning process for major projects (under a new National Planning Statement), and also provided that they receive no public subsidy.
- We will implement a process allowing the Liberal Democrats to maintain their opposition to nuclear power while permitting the Government to bring forward the National Planning Statement for ratification by Parliament so that new nuclear construction becomes possible. This process will involve:
- a) the Government completing the drafting of a national planning statement and putting it before Parliament;
 - b) specific agreement that a Liberal Democrat spokesperson will speak against the Planning Statement, but that Liberal Democrat MPs will abstain; and
 - c) clarity that this will not be regarded as an issue of confidence.

Section 11: Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

The Government believes that we need to protect the environment for future generations, make our economy more environmentally sustainable, and improve our quality of life and well-being. We also believe that much more needs to be done to support the farming industry, protect biodiversity and encourage sustainable food production.

- 154 BOTH We will introduce measures to make the import or possession of illegal timber a criminal offence.
- Con: ‘introducing a new criminal offence under UK law for the import and possession of illegal timber’ – p. 79
 - LD: ‘a new law making it illegal to import or possess timber produced illegally in foreign countries’ – p. 49
- 155 CON We will introduce measures to protect wildlife and promote green spaces and wildlife corridors in order to halt the loss of habitats and restore biodiversity.
- Con: ‘In this vision, our homes require less energy and more of the energy we produce comes from renewable sources. Our countryside is better cared for, we conserve more natural habitats, and we create new green spaces and plant many more trees. Our landscape is protected and our wildlife is enjoyed by more people of all ages’ – p. 72
- 156 CON We will launch a national tree planting campaign.
- Con: ‘we will launch a national tree planting campaign’ – p. 78
- 157 LD We will review the governance arrangements of National Parks in order to increase local accountability.
- LD: ‘review the governance arrangements for National Parks and AONBs to

ensure that they are more accountable to local communities’ – p. 78

- 158 LD We will work towards full compliance with European Air Quality standards.
- LD: ‘We will aim to fully meet European air quality targets by 2012’ – p. 33
- 159 BOTH We will take forward the findings of the Pitt Review to improve our flood defences, and prevent unnecessary building in areas of high flood risk.
- Con: ‘we will take forward the findings of the Pitt Review to improve our flood defences, prevent unnecessary building in areas of high flood risk’ – p. 80
 - LD: ‘Stop major new housing developments in major flood risk areas’ – p. 66
- 160 BOTH We will examine the conclusions of the Cave and Walker Reviews, and reform the water industry to ensure more efficient use of water and the protection of poorer households.
- LD: ‘Address unfairness in water charges by consulting on the implementation of the Walker Review which recommended action to deal with regional unfairness in water charges’ – p. 42
 - Con: ‘We will reform the water industry, and bring in new measures to encourage businesses and households to value this precious resource more highly, and protect poorer households from excessive rises in water bills.’ – p. 80
- 161 BOTH We will work towards a ‘zero waste’ economy, encourage councils to pay people to recycle, and work to reduce littering.
- Con: ‘We will work towards a zero-waste society... encouraging councils to pay people to recycle’ – p. 76, 80
 - LD: ‘Set targets for “zero waste” ... That means less packaging, more recycling’ – p. 65
- 162 BOTH We will reduce the regulatory burden on farmers by moving to a risk-based system of regulation, and will develop a system of extra support for hill farmers.
- Con: ‘We will ensure a fair market for food suppliers – especially farmers – by reducing the burden of regulation’ – p. 80
 - LD: ‘Use the money freed by our reform to Single Farm Payments to provide extra support for hill farmers’ – p. 67
- 163 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will investigate ways to share with livestock keepers the responsibility for preparing for and dealing with outbreaks of disease.
- Con: ‘I believe that sharing the responsibility and cost of tackling animal disease with the farming industry is right in principle and could deliver public benefits’ – speech by the then-shadow DEFRA minister Nick Herbert, February 2010¹⁷
- 164 CON We will take forward the Marine and Coastal Access Act and ensure that its

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2010/02/Nick_Herbert_The_Conservative_agenda_for_farming.aspx

conservation measures are implemented effectively.

- Con: 'We will take forward the Marine and Coastal Access Act and ensure that its conservation measures are implemented effectively' – p. 77

- 165 CON As part of a package of measures, we will introduce a carefully managed and science-led policy of badger control in areas with high and persistent levels of bovine tuberculosis.
- Con: 'As part of a package of measures, we will introduce a carefully-managed and science-led policy of badger control in areas with high and persistent levels of bTB' – p. 79
- 166 BOTH We will promote high standards of farm animal welfare. We will end the testing of household products on animals and work to reduce the use of animals in scientific research. We will promote responsible pet ownership by introducing effective codes of practice under the Animal Welfare Act, and will ensure that enforcement agencies target irresponsible owners of dangerous dogs.
- Con: 'We will promote the highest standards of farm animal welfare ... We will work to reduce the use of animals in scientific research ... We will promote responsible pet ownership by introducing effective codes of practice under the Animal Welfare Act, and target irresponsible owners of dangerous dogs' – pp. 77-78
 - LD: 'End testing of household products on animals' – p. 43
- 167 CON We will ensure that food procured by government departments, and eventually the whole public sector, meets British standards of production wherever this can be achieved without increasing overall cost.
- Con: 'We will ensure that food procured by government departments, and eventually the whole public sector, meets British standards of production, wherever this can be achieved without increasing overall costs' – pp. 79-80
- 168 LD We will investigate measures to help with fuel costs in remote rural areas, starting with pilot schemes.
- LD: 'Undertake preparations for the introduction of a system of road pricing in a second parliament. Any such system would be revenue-neutral for motorists, with revenue from cars used to abolish Vehicle Excise Duty and reduce fuel duty, helping those in rural areas who have no alternatives to road travel' – p. 64
- 169 CON We will create a presumption in favour of sustainable development in the planning system.
- Con: 'We will create a presumption in favour of sustainable development in the planning system' – p. 23
- 170 CON We oppose the resumption of commercial whaling, will press for a ban on ivory sales, and will tackle the smuggling and illegal trade on wildlife through our new Border Police Force.
- Con: 'firmly oppose any resumption of commercial whaling and do all we can to ensure that the international moratorium stays in place... press for a total ban on ivory sales and the destruction of existing stockpiles... We will tackle the smuggling and illegal trade in wildlife through our new Border Police Force' – p. 77-78

- 171 CON We will bring forward a motion on a free vote enabling the House of Commons to express its view on the repeal of the Hunting Act.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will give Parliament the opportunity to repeal the Hunting Act on a free vote' – p. 70

Section 12: Equalities

The Government believes that there are many barriers to social mobility and equal opportunities in Britain today, with too many children held back because of their social background, and too many people of all ages held back because of their gender, race, religion or sexuality. We need concerted government action to tear down these barriers and help to build a fairer society.

- 172 LD We will promote equal pay and take a range of measures to end discrimination in the workplace.
- LD: 'Requiring name-blind job application forms to reduce sex and race discrimination in employment, initially for every company with over 100 employees... Introducing fair pay audits for every company with over 100 employees to combat discrimination in pay, for example against women' – p. 24
- 173 LD We will extend the right to request flexible working to all employees, consulting with business on how best to do so.
- LD: 'Extending the right to request flexible working to all employees' – p. 24
- 174 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will undertake a fair pay review in the public sector to implement our proposed '20 times' pay multiple.
- Con: 'The government plays an important role in helping to shape society, so if we win the election we will set up a fair pay review to investigate pay inequality in the public sector. ... We will ask the review to consider how to introduce a pay multiple so that no public sector worker can earn over 20 times more than the lowest paid person in their organisation.' – David Cameron, *Guardian* article, April 2010¹⁸
- 175 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will look to promote gender equality on the boards of listed companies.
- Con: 'A Conservative government would bring change to Britain's corporate boardrooms, introducing new rules to increase the proportion of female directors, and creating new opportunities for women to rise to the top.' – *A Contract for Equalities*, May 2010 (pre-election), p. 4¹⁹
- 176 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will promote improved community relations and opportunities for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, including by providing internships for underrepresented minorities in every Whitehall department and funding a targeted national enterprise mentoring scheme for BAME people who want to start a business.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will partner with Operation Black Vote to arrange internships in every single Whitehall department for young people

¹⁸ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/apr/08/david-cameron-conservatives-radicals>

¹⁹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/05/Our_contract_for_equality.aspx

from ethnic minority backgrounds.’ – *A Contract for Equalities*, May 2010 (pre-election), p. 16²⁰

- Con: ‘As part of our radical agenda to Get Britain Working, a Conservative government will fund a targeted national enterprise mentoring scheme for black people who want to start a business. This national mentoring programme will provide would-be black entrepreneurs with the advice, role models and targeted support they need to launch a start-up company.’ – *A Contract for Equalities*, May 2010 (pre-election), p. 17²¹

177 LD We will stop the deportation of asylum seekers who have had to leave particular countries because their sexual orientation or gender identification puts them at proven risk of imprisonment, torture or execution.

- LD: ‘End deportations of refugees to countries where they face persecution, imprisonment, torture or execution’ – p. 61

178 CON We will use our relationships with other countries to push for unequivocal support for gay rights and for UK civil partnerships to be recognised internationally.

- Con: ‘A Conservative government will always speak up for freedom and human rights’ – p. 86

Section 13: Europe

The Government believes that Britain should play a leading role in an enlarged European Union, but that no further powers should be transferred to Brussels without a referendum. This approach strikes the right balance between constructive engagement with the EU to deal with the issues that affect us all, and protecting our national sovereignty.

179 BOTH We will ensure that the British Government is a positive participant in the European Union, playing a strong and positive role with our partners, with the goal of ensuring that all the nations of Europe are equipped to face the challenges of the 21st century: global competitiveness, global warming and global poverty.

- Con: ‘We will be positive members of the European Union’ – p. 87
- LD: ‘We will ensure that Britain maximises its influence through a strong and positive commitment... Working together, the member states of the EU have a better chance of managing the impacts of globalisation, such as cross-border crime and environmental pollution’ – p. 52

180 CON We will ensure that there is no further transfer of sovereignty or powers over the course of the next Parliament. We will examine the balance of the EU’s existing competences and will, in particular, work to limit the application of the Working Time Directive in the United Kingdom.

- Con: ‘We will introduce a United Kingdom Sovereignty Bill to make it clear that ultimate authority stays in this country, in our Parliament’ – p. 88

181 CON We will amend the 1972 European Communities Act so that any proposed future treaty that transferred areas of power, or competences, would be subject to a referendum on that treaty – a ‘referendum lock’. We will amend

²⁰ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/05/Our_contract_for_equality.aspx

²¹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/05/Our_contract_for_equality.aspx

the 1972 European Communities Act so that the use of any passerelle would require primary legislation.

- Con: 'We will amend the 1972 European Communities Act so that any proposed future Treaty that transferred areas of power, or competences, would be subject to a referendum – a "referendum lock"' – p. 88

182 CON We will examine the case for a United Kingdom Sovereignty Bill to make it clear that ultimate authority remains with Parliament.

- Con: 'We will introduce a United Kingdom Sovereignty Bill to make it clear that ultimate authority stays in this country, in our Parliament... Conservative government will negotiate with our European partners... to return powers that we believe should reside with the UK, not the EU' – pp. 89-90

183 BOTH We will ensure that Britain does not join or prepare to join the Euro in this Parliament.

- Con: 'A Conservative government would never take the UK into the Euro' – p. 88
- LD: 'We believe that it is in Britain's long-term interest to be part of the euro. But Britain should only join when the economic conditions are right, and in the present economic situation, they are not' – p. 53.

184 LD We will strongly defend the UK's national interests in the forthcoming EU budget negotiations and agree that the EU budget should only focus on those areas where the EU can add value.

- LD: 'Campaign for continuing reform of the EU budget so that money is spent only on the things the EU really needs to do' – p. 53

185 LD We will press for the European Parliament to have only one seat, in Brussels.

- LD: 'Fight to stop MEPs having to travel to the Strasbourg Parliament every month, wasting €200 million a year' – p. 53

186 COMP We will approach forthcoming legislation in the area of criminal justice on a case-by-case basis, with a view to maximising our country's security, protecting Britain's civil liberties and preserving the integrity of our criminal justice system. Britain will not participate in the establishment of any European Public Prosecutor.

- Con: 'A Conservative government will negotiate for three specific guarantees – on the Charter of Fundamental Rights, on criminal justice, and on social and employment legislation – with our European partners to return powers that we believe should reside with the UK, not the EU... a Conservative government will not agree to the UK's participation in the establishment of a European Public Prosecutor's Office or permit its jurisdiction over the UK' – pp. 88-89
- LD: 'Keep Britain part of international crime-fighting measures such as the European Arrest Warrant, European Police Office (Europol), Eurojust, and the European Criminal Records Information System, while ensuring high standards of justice' – p. 53

187 CON We support the further enlargement of the EU.

- Con: 'press to keep the EU's doors open to those countries, including

Turkey, that wish to join, conditional on the rigorous application of the accession criteria’ – p. 86

Section 14: Families and Children

The Government believes that strong and stable families of all kinds are the bedrock of a strong and stable society. That is why we need to make our society more family friendly, and to take action to protect children from excessive commercialisation and premature sexualisation.

- 188 BOTH We will maintain the goal of ending child poverty in the UK by 2020.
- Con: ‘Getting people back into work is an essential part of realising the goal of eliminating child poverty by 2020’ – p. 18
 - LD: ‘Maintain the commitment to end child poverty in the UK by 2020’ – p. 39
- 189 CON We will reform the administration of tax credits to reduce fraud and overpayments.
- Con: ‘We will reform the administration of tax credits to reduce fraud and overpayments’ – p. 39
- 190 CON We will bring forward plans to reduce the couple penalty in the tax credit system as we make savings from our welfare reform plans.
- Con: ‘A Conservative government will end the couple penalty for all couples in the tax credit system as we make savings from our welfare reform plans’ – p. 39
- 191 CON We support the provision of free nursery care for pre-school children, and we want that support to be provided by a diverse range of providers, with a greater gender balance in the early years workforce.
- Con: ‘We support the provision of free nursery care for pre-school children, and we want that support to be provided by a diverse range of providers’ – p. 40
- 192 CON We will take Sure Start back to its original purpose of early intervention, increase its focus on the neediest families, and better involve organisations with a track record of supporting families. We will investigate ways of ensuring that providers are paid in part by the results they achieve.
- Con: ‘We will take Sure Start back to its original purpose of early intervention’ – p. 41
- 193 CON We will refocus funding from Sure Start peripatetic outreach services, and from the Department of Health budget, to pay for 4,200 extra Sure Start health visitors.
- Con: ‘We will provide 4,200 more Sure Start health visitors – giving all parents a guaranteed level of support before and after birth until their child starts school. This will be paid for out of the Department of Health budget and by refocusing Sure Start’s peripatetic outreach services’ – p. 41
- 194 CON We will investigate a new approach to helping families with multiple problems.
- Con: ‘set out a new approach to help families with multiple problems’ – p. 42

- 195 LD We will publish serious case reviews, with identifying details removed.
- LD: 'We will enforce the publication of an anonymised version of Serious Case Reviews to ensure that lessons are learned' – p. 40
- 196 CON We will review the criminal records and vetting and barring regime and scale it back to common sense levels.
- Con: 'we will review the criminal records and 'vetting and barring' regime and scale it back to common sense levels' – p. 70
- 197 CON We will crack down on irresponsible advertising and marketing, especially to children. We will also take steps to tackle the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood.
- Con: 'We will take a series of measures to help reverse the commercialisation of childhood' – p. 40
- 198 BOTH We will encourage shared parenting from the earliest stages of pregnancy – including the promotion of a system of flexible parental leave.
- LD: 'we will allow mums and dads to share parental leave between them... Give fathers the right to time off for ante-natal appointments' – pp. 38-39
 - Con: 'We will introduce a new system of flexible parental leave which lets parents share maternity leave between them' – p. 40
- 199 CON We will put funding for relationship support on a stable, long-term footing, and make sure that couples are given greater encouragement to use existing relationship support.
- Con: 'we will put funding for relationship support on a stable, long-term footing and make sure couples are given greater encouragement to use existing relationship support' – p. 40
- 200 CON We will conduct a comprehensive review of family law in order to increase the use of mediation when couples do break up, and to look at how best to provide greater access rights to non-resident parents and grandparents.
- Con: 'We will review family law in order to increase the use of mediation when couples do break up, and look at how best to provide greater access rights to non-resident parents and grandparents' – p. 40

Section 15: Foreign Affairs

The Government believes that Britain must always be an active member of the global community, promoting our national interests while standing up for the values of freedom, fairness and responsibility. This means working as a constructive member of the United Nations, NATO and other multilateral organisations including the Commonwealth; working to promote stability and security; and pushing for reform of global institutions to ensure that they reflect the modern world.

- 201 BOTH We will take forward our shared resolve to safeguard the UK's national security and support our Armed Forces in Afghanistan and elsewhere.
- Con: 'We are committed to succeeding in our mission in Afghanistan and will not leave our Forces without the resources they need to fulfil this goal' – p. 82
 - LD: 'we will be critical supporters of the Afghanistan mission' – p. 54
- 202 BOTH We will push for peace in the Middle East, with a secure and universally

recognised Israel living alongside a sovereign and viable Palestinian state.

- Con: 'we will support a two-state solution to the Middle East Peace Process' – p. 87
- LD: 'Remain committed to the search for a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. A sustainable solution can be reached in the context of two separate Israeli and Palestinian states' – p. 55

203 CON We will work to establish a new 'special relationship' with India and seek closer engagement with China, while standing firm on human rights in all our bilateral relationships.

- Con: 'work to establish a new special relationship with India ... seek closer engagement with China while standing firm on human rights' – p. 86

204 CON We will maintain a strong, close and frank relationship with the United States.

- Con: 'We will maintain a strong, close and frank relationship with the United States' – p. 86

205 CON We want to strengthen the Commonwealth as a focus for promoting democratic values and development.

- Con: 'strengthen the Commonwealth as a focus for promoting democratic values and development' – p. 86

206 CON We will work to promote stability in the Western Balkans.

- Con: 'promote stability in the Western Balkans' – p. 87

207 CON We will support concerted international efforts to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

- Con: 'support concerted international efforts to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon' – p. 87

208 CON We support reform of the UN Security Council, including permanent seats for Japan, India, Germany, Brazil and African representation.

- Con: 'support permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council for Japan, India, Germany, Brazil and African representation' – p. 86

209 CON We will work to intensify our cultural, educational, commercial and diplomatic links with many nations beyond Europe and North America to strengthen the UK's relations with the fastest-growing areas of the world economy.

- Con: 'We will renew and reinforce our engagement with the rest of the world and build up British influence by deepening our alliances beyond Europe and the United States, not only diplomatically but in culture, education, commerce and security' – p. 86

210 BOTH We will never condone the use of torture.

- Con: 'Torture is unacceptable and abhorrent, and we will never condone it' – p. 86
- LD: 'Hold a full judicial inquiry into allegations of British complicity in torture and state kidnapping as part of a process to restore Britain's reputation for decency and fairness' – p. 55

Section 16: Government Transparency

The Government believes that we need to throw open the doors of public bodies, to enable the public to hold politicians and public bodies to account. We also recognise that this will help to deliver better value for money in public spending, and help us achieve our aim of cutting the record deficit. Setting government data free will bring significant economic benefits by enabling businesses and non-profit organisations to build innovative applications and websites.

- 211 CON We will require public bodies to publish online the job titles of every member of staff and the salaries and expenses of senior officials paid more than the lowest salary permissible in Pay Band 1 of the Senior Civil Service pay scale, and organograms that include all positions in those bodies.
- Con: 'require public bodies to publish online the job titles of every member of staff and the salaries and expenses of senior officials paid more than the lowest salary permissible in Pay Band 1 of the Senior Civil Service pay scale, and organograms that include all positions in those bodies' – p. 62
- 212 CON We will require anyone paid more than the Prime Minister in the centrally funded public sector to have their salary signed off by the Treasury.
- Con: 'require anyone paid more than the Prime Minister in the public sector to have their salary signed off by the Treasury' – p. 62
- 213 BOTH We will regulate lobbying through introducing a statutory register of lobbyists and ensuring greater transparency.
- Con: 'The lobbying industry must regulate itself to ensure its practices are transparent – if it does not, then we will legislate to do so' – p. 59
 - LD: 'Curb the improper influence of lobbyists by introducing a statutory register of lobbyists, changing the Ministerial Code so that ministers and officials are forbidden from meeting MPs on issues where the MP is paid to lobby, requiring companies to declare how much they spend on lobbying in their annual reports, and introducing a statutory register of interests for parliamentary candidates based on the current Register of Members' Interests' – p. 71
- 214 BOTH We will also pursue a detailed agreement on limiting donations and reforming party funding in order to remove big money from politics.
- Con: 'We will seek an agreement on a comprehensive package of reform that will encourage individual donations and include an across-the-board cap on donations' – p. 59
 - LD: 'Get big money out of politics by capping donations at £10,000 and limiting spending throughout the electoral Cycle' – p. 71
- 215 BOTH We will strengthen the powers of Select Committees to scrutinise major public appointments.
- Con: 'give Select Committees the right to hold confirmation hearings for major public appointments, including the heads of quangos' – p. 63
 - LD: 'We will increase Parliamentary scrutiny of the budget and of government appointments' – p. 70
- 216 NEITHER (BOTH) We will introduce new protections for whistleblowers in the public sector.
- Con: 'We will strengthen legal protections for civil servants and public sector workers to ensure that whistleblowers are protected from being

punished by their employers, or being subject to other reprisals, when they identify government waste of the misuse of public money.’ – *Big Ideas to Give Britain Real Change*, April 2010, pp. 1-2²²

- LD: ‘my party would amend the Official Secrets Act to restore the public interest defence for whistleblowers that was originally removed by the Conservatives’ – speech by Nick Clegg, January 2010²³

- 217 BOTH We will take steps to open up government procurement and reduce costs; and we will publish government ICT contracts online.
- Con: ‘introducing a series of changes to ICT procurement to deliver better value for money’ – p. 63
 - LD: ‘With strong Treasury involvement, review all major defence procurement projects through the SDDR to ensure money is being spent effectively’ – p. 51
- 218 BOTH We will create a level playing field for opensource software and will enable large ICT projects to be split into smaller components.
- Con: ‘creating a level playing field for open source ICT in government procurement... opening up contracts to SMEs by breaking up large ICT projects into smaller components’ – p. 23
 - LD: ‘Better government IT procurement, investigating the potential of different approaches such as cloud computing and open-source software’ – p. 12
- 219 CON We will require full, online disclosure of all central government spending and contracts over £25,000.
- Con: ‘publishing in full government contracts for goods and services worth over £25,000’ – p. 63
- 220 BOTH We will create a new ‘right to data’ so that government-held datasets can be requested and used by the public, and then published on a regular basis.
- Con: ‘we will create a powerful new right to government data, enabling the public to request – and receive – government datasets in an open and standardised format’ – p. 61
 - LD: ‘extending Freedom of Information legislation’ – p. 70
- 221 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will require all councils to publish meeting minutes and local service and performance data.
- Con: ‘we will require all local councils to publish information like meeting minutes and local service data in a standardised format’ – speech by David Cameron, June 2009²⁴

²²

http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/04/~media/Files/Downloadable%20Files/Big%20ideas%20to%20give%20Britain%20Real%20change.ashx

²³

http://www.libdems.org.uk/speeches_detail.aspx?title=Nick_Clegg_calls_for_whistleblower_protection_to_be_restored&pPK=7956255e-ff96-4bbe-9b3a-fbafd82113e1

²⁴

http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2009/06/David_Cameron_Giving_power_back_to_the_people.aspx

- 222 CON We will require all councils to publish items of spending above £500, and to publish contracts and tender documents in full.
- Con: ‘apply these transparency principles to local government, with the threshold for publication of spending items and contracts set at £500, and for the publication of salaries the same as at the national level’ – p. 62
- 223 CON We will ensure that all data published by public bodies is published in an open and standardised format, so that it can be used easily and with minimal cost by third parties.
- Con: ‘All data will be published in an open and standardised format’ – p. 62

Section 17: Immigration

The Government believes that immigration has enriched our culture and strengthened our economy, but that it must be controlled so that people have confidence in the system. We also recognise that to ensure cohesion and protect our public services, we need to introduce a cap on immigration and reduce the number of non EU immigrants.

- 224 CON We will introduce an annual limit on the number of non-EU economic migrants admitted into the UK to live and work. We will consider jointly the mechanism for implementing the limit.
- Con: ‘setting an annual limit on the number of non-EU economic migrants admitted into the UK to live and work’ – p. 24
- 225 LD We will end the detention of children for immigration purposes.
- LD: ‘End the detention of children in immigration detention centres’ – p. 61
- 226 BOTH We will create a dedicated Border Police Force, as part of a refocused Serious Organised Crime Agency, to enhance national security, improve immigration controls and crack down on the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs. We will work with police forces to strengthen arrangements to deal with serious crime and other cross-boundary policing challenges, and extend collaboration between forces to deliver better value for money.
- Con: ‘we will create a dedicated border Police Force, as part of a refocused Serious organised Crime Agency, to enhance national security, improve immigration controls, and crack down on the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs. We will work with police forces to strengthen arrangements to deal with serious crime and other cross-boundary policing challenges, and extend collaboration between forces to deliver better value for money.’ – p. 54
 - LD: ‘Secure Britain’s borders by giving a National Border Force police powers’ – p. 60
- 227 LD We support E-borders and will reintroduce exit checks.
- LD: ‘Immediately reintroduce exit checks at all ports and airports’ – p. 60
- 228 CON We will apply transitional controls as a matter of course in the future for all new EU Member States.
- Con: ‘applying transitional controls as a matter of course in the future for all new EU Member States’ – p. 24
- 229 BOTH We will introduce new measures to minimise abuse of the immigration system,

for example via student routes, and will tackle human trafficking as a priority.

- Con: 'A Conservative government will strengthen the system of granting student visas so that it is less open to abuse' – p. 25
- LD: 'Prioritise deportation efforts on criminals, peopletraffickers and other high-priority cases' – p. 60

230 NEITHER We will explore new ways to improve the current asylum system to speed up the processing of applications.

Section 18: International Development

The Government believes that even in these difficult economic times, the UK has a moral responsibility to help the poorest people in the world. We will honour our aid commitments, but at the same time will ensure much greater transparency and scrutiny of aid spending to deliver value for money for British taxpayers and to maximise the impact of our aid budget.

231 BOTH We will honour our commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on overseas aid from 2013, and to enshrine this commitment in law.

- Con: 'A new Conservative government will be fully committed to achieving, by 2013, the UN target of spending 0.7 per cent of national income as aid. We will stick to the rules laid down by the OECD about what spending counts as aid. We will legislate in the first session of a new Parliament to lock in this level of spending for every year from 2013' – pp. 89-90
- LD: 'Increase the UK's aid budget to reach the UN target of 0.7 per cent of GNI by 2013 and enshrine that target in law' – p. 49

232 LD We will encourage other countries to fulfil their aid commitments.

- LD: 'We will hold the G8 to its Gleneagles pledges on aid, including on the 0.7 per cent target' – p. 49

233 BOTH We will support actions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In particular, we will prioritise aid spending on programmes to ensure that everyone has access to clean water, sanitation, healthcare and education; to reduce maternal and infant mortality; and to restrict the spread of major diseases like HIV/ AIDS, TB and malaria. We will recognise the vital role of women in development, promote gender equality and focus on the rights of women, children and disabled people to access services.

- Con: 'We support the Millennium Development Goals and will continue to work towards them... We will focus particularly on the rights of women, children and disabled people to access these services... a Conservative government will spend at least £500 million per year tackling malaria and will strongly support efforts to develop a malaria vaccine' – pp. 90-91
- LD: 'meeting the Millennium Development Goals is a vital first step... Prioritise health and education programmes which aim to promote gender equality, reduce maternal and infant mortality, and restrict the spread of major diseases like HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. We will focus effort on supplying basic needs like clean water.' – pp. 49-50

234 BOTH We will use the aid budget to support the development of local democratic institutions, civil society groups, the media and enterprise; and support efforts to tackle corruption.

- LD: 'Ban banks from facilitating the transfer of funds obtained by corruption' – p. 50
 - Con: 'Trade and economic growth are the only sustainable way for developing countries to escape poverty, which is why we will put maximum effort into achieving an ambitious, pro-development global trade deal. Our aid programme will help poor countries put in place the building blocks of wealth creation' – p. 91
- 235 CON We will introduce full transparency in aid and publish details of all UK aid spending online. We will push for similarly high levels of transparency internationally.
- Con: 'We will ensure British aid money is properly spent by publishing full details of British aid on the DFID website. This will include spending data on a project-by-project basis, published in an open and standardised format so that it can be used by third party websites. In addition, we will work to bring about improved transparency of aid spending by other development organisations' – p. 90
- 236 CON We will create new mechanisms to give British people a direct say in how an element of the aid budget is spent.
- Con: 'We will create a new MyAid Fund to allow British people a direct say on aid spending, as well as giving people in developing countries more say over how aid is spent in their communities' – p. 90
- 237 CON We will keep aid untied from commercial interests, and will maintain DfID as an independent department focused on poverty reduction.
- Con: 'We will maintain an independent Department for International Development (DFID) and keep aid untied from commercial interests' – p. 90
- 238 CON We will stick to the rules laid down by the OECD about what spending counts as aid.
- Con: 'We will stick to the rules laid down by the OECD about what spending counts as aid' – p. 90
- 239 LD We will push hard in 2010 to make greater progress in tackling maternal and infant mortality.
- LD: 'reduce maternal and infant mortality' – p. 50
- 240 LD We will work to accelerate the process of relieving Heavily Indebted Poor Countries of their debt.
- LD: 'Push for a renewed international effort on debt and support 100 per cent cancellation of the unpayable debts of the world's poorest countries' – p. 50
- 241 LD We will support efforts to establish an International Arms Trade Treaty to limit the sales of arms to dangerous regimes.
- LD: 'Support the establishment of an International Arms Trade Treaty' – p. 54
- 242 CON We will support pro-development trade deals, including the proposed Pan-

African Free Trade Area.

- Con: 'encourage the establishment of a Pan-African Free Trade Area, which has the potential to transform that continent's economies' – p. 91

- 243 CON We will support innovative and effective smaller British non-governmental organisations that are committed to tackling poverty.
- Con: 'establish a Poverty Impact Fund to support innovative and effective British poverty-fighting groups which do not currently qualify for government funding' – p. 91
- 244 CON We will explore ways of helping the very poorest developing countries to take part in international climate change negotiations.
- Con: 'explore ways to help the very poorest developing countries take part in international climate change negotiations' – p. 91
- 245 CON We will ensure that UK Trade and Investment and the Export Credits Guarantee Department become champions for British companies that develop and export innovative green technologies around the world, instead of supporting investment in dirty fossil-fuel energy production.
- Con: 'end Labour's use of the Export Credit Guarantee Department to support investment in dirty fossil fuel power stations, and instead use it to help spread new green energy technology to developing countries' – p. 91
- 246 CON We will provide a more integrated approach to post-conflict reconstruction where the British military is involved – building on the Stabilisation Unit in Whitehall and creating a new Stabilisation and Reconstruction Force to bridge the gap between the military and the reconstruction effort.
- Con: 'We will provide a more integrated approach to post conflict reconstruction where the British military is involved – building on the Stabilisation Unit in Whitehall and creating a new Stabilisation and Reconstruction Force to bridge the gap between the military and the reconstruction effort' – p. 91
- 247 LD We will review what action can be taken against 'vulture funds'.
- LD: 'We will also take measures against "vulture funds" and lobby for similar action at international level' – p. 50
- 248 LD We will support reform of global financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in order to increase the involvement of developing nations.
- LD: 'Support reform of the global financial institutions such as the World Bank and IMF' – p. 50

Section 19: Jobs and Welfare

The Government believes that we need to encourage responsibility and fairness in the welfare system. That means providing help for those who cannot work, training and targeted support for those looking for work, but sanctions for those who turn down reasonable offers of work or training.

- 249 CON We will end all existing welfare to work programmes and create a single welfare to work programme to help all unemployed people get back into work.
- Con: 'We will scrap Labour's failing employment schemes and create a

single Work Programme for everyone who is unemployed’ – p. 18

- 250 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will ensure that Jobseeker’s Allowance claimants facing the most significant barriers to work are referred to the new welfare to work programme immediately, not after 12 months as is currently the case. We will ensure that Jobseeker’s Allowance claimants aged under 25 are referred to the programme after a maximum of six months.
- Con: ‘Through *The Work Programme*, we will offer people targeted, personalised help sooner – straight away for those with serious barriers to work and at six months for those under 25’ – *Get Britain Working*, October 2009, p. 6²⁵
 - Con: ‘We will ... make sure you [jobseekers] get help as soon as you need it – straight away for those really struggling to find work, and after six months if you’re less than 25 years old’ – *A New Welfare Contract*, April 2010, p. 1²⁶
- 251 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will realign contracts with welfare to work service providers to reflect more closely the results they achieve in getting people back into work.
- Con: ‘Providers will be paid by results, driving up quality and encouraging innovation. The principle behind payment by results is simple: if you don’t place someone in a sustainable job, you don’t earn your fee.’ – *Get Britain Working*, October 2009, p. 6²⁷
- 252 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will reform the funding mechanism used by government to finance welfare to work programmes to reflect the fact that initial investment delivers later savings through lower benefit expenditure, including creating an integrated work programme with outcome funding based upon the DEL/AME switch.
- Con: ‘Changing Treasury rules to allow the so called DEL:AME switch will allow benefit savings in AME budgets to be used as payment to successful welfare to work providers traditionally funded out of DEL budgets. Once initial benefit savings have been paid to welfare to work providers, the savings associated with a lower benefit bill continue for the Exchequer, alongside further benefits such as increased National Insurance and Income Tax payments’ – *Get Britain Working*, October 2009, p. 58²⁸
- 253 CON We will ensure that receipt of benefits for those able to work is conditional on their willingness to work.
- Con: ‘people who refuse to accept reasonable job offers could forfeit their benefits for up to three years’ – p. 19

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/10/Radical_welfare_reform_to_Get_Britain_Working.aspx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/04/Ending_the_free_ride_for_those_who_fail_to_take_responsibility.aspx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/10/Radical_welfare_reform_to_Get_Britain_Working.aspx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/10/Radical_welfare_reform_to_Get_Britain_Working.aspx

- 254 BOTH We support the National Minimum Wage because of the protection it gives low income workers and the incentives to work it provides.
- Con: 'we will keep the minimum wage' – p. 20
 - LD: 'Set the minimum wage at the same level for all workers over 16 (except for those on apprenticeships)' – p. 40
- 255 CON We will re-assess all current claimants of Incapacity Benefit for their readiness to work. Those assessed as fully capable for work will be moved onto Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Con: 'We will reassess all current claimants of Incapacity Benefit' – p. 18
- 256 CON We will support would-be entrepreneurs through a new programme – Work for Yourself – which will give the unemployed access to business mentors and start-up loans.
- Con: 'We will support would-be entrepreneurs through a new programme – Work for Yourself – which will give unemployed people direct access to business mentors and substantial loans' – p. 20
- 257 CON We will draw on a range of Service Academies to offer pre-employment training and work placements for unemployed people.
- Con: 'draw on a range of Service Academies to offer pre-employment training for unemployed people' – p. 19
- 258 CON We will develop local Work Clubs – places where unemployed people can gather to exchange skills, find opportunities, make contacts and provide mutual support.
- Con: 'involve the development of local Work Clubs – places where people looking for work can gather together to exchange skills, find opportunities, make useful contacts and provide mutual support' – p. 19
- 259 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will investigate how to simplify the benefit system in order to improve incentives to work.
- 'We will simplify Labour's numerous and piecemeal programmes into one single back-to-work programme for everyone on out of work benefits' – News item on Conservative website, October 2009²⁹

Section 20: Justice

The Government believes that more needs to be done to ensure fairness in the justice system. This means introducing more effective sentencing policies, as well as overhauling the system of rehabilitation to reduce reoffending and provide greater support and protection for the victims of crime.

- 260 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will introduce a 'rehabilitation revolution' that will pay independent providers to reduce reoffending, paid for by the savings this new approach will generate within the criminal justice system.
- Con: [under the heading 'Our Rehabilitation Revolution'] 'We will never bring our crime rate down or start to reduce the costs of crime until we

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/10/Radical_welfare_reform_to_Get_Britain_Working.aspx

properly rehabilitate ex-prisoners. So when offenders leave prison, they will be trained and rehabilitated by private and voluntary sector providers. We will use the same approach that lies behind our welfare reform plans – payment by results – to cut reoffending, with organisations paid using savings made in the criminal justice system from the resulting lower levels of crime.’ – *Draft Crime and Justice Manifesto*, January 2010, p. 11³⁰

- 261 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will conduct a full review of sentencing policy to ensure that it is effective in deterring crime, protecting the public, punishing offenders and cutting reoffending. In particular, we will ensure that sentencing for drug use helps offenders come off drugs.
- ‘Our measures will restore confidence in the criminal justice system, re-design prisons for the 21st century, and launch a sentencing and rehabilitation revolution ... We will enforce Drug Rehabilitation Requirements’ – *Repair: Plan for Social Reform*, October 2008, pp. 6³¹
- 262 LD We will explore alternative forms of secure, treatment-based accommodation for mentally ill and drugs offenders.
- LD: ‘Move offenders who are drug addicts or mentally ill into more appropriate secure accommodation’ – p. 59
- 263 BOTH We will implement the Prisoners’ Earnings Act 1996 to allow deductions from the earnings of prisoners in properly paid work to be paid into the Victims’ Fund.
- Con: ‘We will implement the Prisoners’ Earnings Act 1996 to allow deductions from the earnings of prisoners in properly paid work to be paid into the Victims’ Fund’ – p. 53
 - LD: ‘Make prisoners work and contribute from their prison wages to a compensation fund for victims’ – p. 59
- 264 CON We will consider how to use proceeds from the Victim Surcharge to deliver up to 15 new rape crisis centres, and give existing rape crisis centres stable, long-term funding.
- Con: ‘We will use this Fund to deliver up to fifteen new rape crisis centres and give existing rape crisis centres stable, long-term funding’ – p. 53
- 265 CON We will carry out a fundamental review of Legal Aid to make it work more efficiently.
- Con: ‘We will carry out a fundamental review of legal aid to make it work more efficiently’ – p. 53
- 266 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will change the law so that historical convictions for consensual gay sex with over 16s will be treated as spent and will not show up on criminal records checks.
- Con: ‘David Cameron has announced that a Conservative government

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/01/~/_/media/Files/Activist%20Centre/Press%20and%20Policy/Briefing%20Documents/Draft%20Manifesto/DraftCrimeJusticeManifesto.ashx

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/We_will_reverse_Labours_skewed_priorities.aspx

would amend the law so that men with convictions for consensual gay sex would be able to apply to have those convictions omitted from their CRB certificate.’ – News item on Conservative website, April 2010³²

- 267 LD (NON-MANIFESTO) We will extend anonymity in rape cases to defendants.
- LD: ‘Conference therefore calls for ... A change in the law to prohibit the media from identifying anyone, directly or indirectly, about whom a complaint of rape has been made, until such time as they have been convicted’ – Policy motion carried at conference, September 2006, p. 29³³
- 268 BOTH We will introduce effective measures to tackle anti-social behaviour and low-level crime, including forms of restorative justice such as Neighbourhood Justice Panels.
- LD: ‘Give people a direct say in how petty criminals and those who engage in anti-social behaviour are punished by setting up Neighbourhood Justice Panels (NJPs)’ – p. 59
 - Con: ‘We will fight back against the crime and anti-social behaviour that blights our communities’ – p. 51

Section 21: National Security

The Government believes that its primary responsibility is to ensure national security. We need a coherent approach to national security issues across government, and we will take action to tackle terrorism, and its causes, at home and abroad.

- 269 CON We have established a National Security Council and appointed a National Security Adviser.
- Con: ‘We will create a National Security Council to oversee all aspects of our security... create a National Security Adviser’ – pp. 82-83
- 270 CON We have commenced a Strategic Defence and Security Review, commissioned and overseen by the National Security Council, with strong Treasury involvement. We will also develop and publish a new National Security Strategy.
- Con: ‘oversee a Strategic Defence and Security Review’ – p. 83
- 271 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will urgently review Control Orders, as part of a wider review of counter-terrorist legislation, measures and programmes. We will seek to find a practical way to allow the use of intercept evidence in court.
- Con: ‘A Conservative government will review and consolidate national security-related legislation to ensure its compatibility with fundamental rights and freedoms. As part of this process it will: ... review the Control Order system with a view to reducing reliance on it and, consistent with security, replacing it; continue to explore ways to allow the use of intercept as evidence in court cases to increase the chances of successful prosecution of terrorist suspects’ – *A Resilient Nation: National Security*

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/04/End_the_injustice_of_convictions_for_consensual_homosexual_sex.aspx

³³ <http://www.libdems.org.uk/siteFiles/resources/PDF/conference/Agenda%20book%20screen.pdf>

- 272 CON We will deny public funds to any group that has recently espoused or incited violence or hatred. We will proscribe such organisations, subject to the advice of the police and security and intelligence agencies.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will ban any organisations which advocate hate or the violent overthrow of our society, such as Hizb-ut-Tahrir, and close down organisations which attempt to fund terrorism from the UK' – p. 83
- 273 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We believe that Britain should be able to deport foreign nationals who threaten our security to countries where there are verifiable guarantees that they will not be tortured. We will seek to extend these guarantees to more countries.
- Con: 'One of the most obvious ways in which our Government can help prevent terrorist outrages in Britain is to deport foreign nationals who threaten our security' – Speech by David Cameron ('21st Century Challenges'), June 2006³⁵
 - Con: 'A Conservative government will ... review jurisprudence relating to ECHR to permit deportation of foreign nationals' – *A Resilient Nation: National Security Green Paper*, January 2010, p. 8³⁶

Section 22: NHS

The Government believes that the NHS is an important expression of our national values. We are committed to an NHS that is free at the point of use and available to everyone based on need, not the ability to pay. We want to free NHS staff from political micromanagement, increase democratic participation in the NHS and make the NHS more accountable to the patients that it serves. That way we will drive up standards, support professional responsibility, deliver better value for money and create a healthier nation.

- 274 CON We will guarantee that health spending increases in real terms in each year of the Parliament, while recognising the impact this decision will have on other departments.
- Con: 'We will increase health spending every year.' – p. 42
- 275 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will stop the top-down reorganisations of the NHS that have got in the way of patient care. We are committed to reducing duplication and the resources spent on administration, and diverting these resources back to front-line care.
- Con: 'We believe a new approach is needed if we are to improve the NHS for everyone, make sure it delivers people's rising aspirations for better healthcare and better service, and at the same time deliver value for taxpayers' money. As we explained in our NHS Independence and Accountability White Paper last year, this does not demand another massive structural change or reorganisation' – *Delivering Some of the Best Health in Europe: Outcomes not Targets*, June 2008, p. 6³⁷

³⁴ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/01/A_Resilient_Nation.aspx

³⁵ http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2006/06/Cameron_Balancing_freedom_and_security_A_modern_British_Bill_of_Rights.aspx

³⁶ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/01/A_Resilient_Nation.aspx

³⁷ http://www.conservatives.com/Policy/Responsibility_Agenda.aspx

- Con: 'We promise to end the damage caused by pointless and disruptive reorganisations of the NHS. We will ensure this stops, and we will not allow any meddling with existing local or regional structures' – *Renewal: Plan for a Better NHS*, September 2008, p. 31³⁸
- 276 LD We will significantly cut the number of health quangos.
- LD: 'So our first priority is to increase spending in some parts of the NHS by cutting waste in others. We have identified specific savings that can be made in management costs, bureaucracy and quangos' – p. 31
- 277 LD We will cut the cost of NHS administration by a third and transfer resources to support doctors and nurses on the front line.
- LD: 'So our first priority is to increase spending in some parts of the NHS by cutting waste in others' – p. 31
- 278 CON We will stop the centrally dictated closure of A&E and maternity wards, so that people have better access to local services.
- Con: 'We will stop the forced closure of A&E and maternity wards' – p. 44
- 279 CON We will strengthen the power of GPs as patients' expert guides through the health system by enabling them to commission care on their behalf.
- Con: 'We will strengthen the power of GPs as patients' expert guides through the health system' – p. 43
- 280 LD (NON-MANIFESTO) We will ensure that there is a stronger voice for patients locally through directly elected individuals on the boards of their local primary care trust (PCT). The remainder of the PCT's board will be appointed by the relevant local authority or authorities, and the Chief Executive and principal officers will be appointed by the Secretary of State on the advice of the new independent NHS board. This will ensure the right balance between locally accountable individuals and technical expertise.
- LD: 'Liberal Democrats would rename PCTs 'Local Health Boards'. The board would be directly elected and supported by professionals providing financial acumen and health expertise' – *Empowerment, Fairness, and Quality in Health Care (Policy Paper 84)*, January 2008, p. 19³⁹
- 281 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) The local PCT will act as a champion for patients and commission those residual services that are best undertaken at a wider level, rather than directly by GPs. It will also take responsibility for improving public health for people in their area, working closely with the local authority and other local organisations.
- Con: 'We will empower people and local communities, and work in partnership with business, Local Government, communities and families to deliver on a healthy living agenda – in schools, workplaces, local clubs and through NHS services' – *Renewal: Plan for a Better NHS*, September 2008, p. 28⁴⁰
 - Con: 'A new focus on public health through Local Area Agreements, incorporating direct local business involvement in campaigns to promote exercise, community sport and healthy lifestyles' – *Renewal: Plan for a*

³⁸ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/Our_plan_for_a_better_NHS.aspx

³⁹ <http://nickclegg.org/siteFiles/resources/PDF/conference/S08Health.pdf>

⁴⁰ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/Our_plan_for_a_better_NHS.aspx

- 282 LD (NON-MANIFESTO) If a local authority has concerns about a significant proposed closure of local services, for example an A&E department, it will have the right to challenge health organisations, and refer the case to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel. The Panel would then provide advice to the Secretary of State for Health.
- Con: 'we will stop the forced closure of A&E wards' – *Draft Health Manifesto*, January 2010, p. 8⁴²
 - LD: 'We will give people the power to have a say in how their local NHS is run and stop hospital closures in their area' – *Protecting and Improving the NHS*, March 2010, p. 2⁴³
- 283 LD We will give every patient the right to choose to register with the GP they want, without being restricted by where they live.
- LD: 'Giving every patient the right to choose to register with the GP they want, without being restricted by where they live' – p. 34
- 284 BOTH We will develop a 24/7 urgent care service in every area of England, including GP out-of-hours services, and ensure every patient can access a local GP. We will make care more accessible by introducing a single number for every kind of urgent care and by using technology to help people communicate with their doctors.
- Con: 'We will commission a 24/7 urgent care service in every area of England, including GP out of hours services, and ensure that every patient can access a GP in their area between 8 am and 8 pm, seven days a week. We will introduce a single number for every kind of urgent care – to run in parallel with the emergency number 999' – p. 44
 - LD: 'the right to access their GP by email' – p. 34
- 285 LD We will renegotiate the GP contract and incentivise ways of improving access to primary care in disadvantaged areas.
- LD: 'Reforming payments to GPs so that those who accept patients from areas with the worst health and deprivation scores receive an extra payment for each one they take' – p. 34
- 286 LD We will make the NHS work better by extending best practice on improving discharge from hospital, maximising the number of day care operations, reducing delays prior to operations, and where possible enabling community access to care and treatments.
- LD: 'Make the NHS work better by extending best practice on improving hospital discharge, maximising the number of day case operations, reducing delays prior to operations, and where possible moving consultations into the community' – p. 32

⁴¹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/Our_plan_for_a_better_NHS.aspx

⁴² http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/01/~/_media/Files/Activist%20Centre/Press%20and%20Policy/Briefing%20Documents/Draft%20Manifesto/DraftHealthManifesto.ashx

⁴³ http://www.etelligent.uk.com/etelligent/published/LIBDEMSEFEDERAL/siteFiles/resources/pdf/protecting_and_improving_the_nhs.pdf

- 287 LD (NON-MANIFESTO) We will help elderly people live at home for longer through solutions such as home adaptations and community support programmes.
- Con: 'we will stop the forced closure of A&E wards' – *Draft Health Manifesto*, January 2010, p. 8⁴⁴
 - LD: 'We will give people the power to have a say in how their local NHS is run and stop hospital closures in their area' – *Protecting and Improving the NHS*, March 2010, p. 2⁴⁵
- 288 LD We will prioritise dementia research within the health research and development budget.
- LD: 'Prioritise dementia research within the health research and development budget' – p. 32
- 289 LD We will seek to stop foreign healthcare professionals working in the NHS unless they have passed robust language and competence tests.
- LD: 'Make it illegal for a Local Health Board to allow a doctor to work in the UK without passing robust language and competence tests' – p. 35
- 290 CON Doctors and nurses need to be able to use their professional judgement about what is right for patients and we will support this by giving front-line staff more control of their working environment.
- Con: 'Doctors and nurses need to be able to use their professional judgement about what is right for patients, instead of being forced to follow bureaucratic processes that often put lives at risk' – p. 44
- 291 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will strengthen the role of the Care Quality Commission so it becomes an effective quality inspectorate. We will develop Monitor into an economic regulator that will oversee aspects of access, competition and price-setting in the NHS.
- Con: 'Healthcare needs to be regulated more effectively. We will strengthen the role of the proposed Care Quality Commission so it becomes an effective quality inspectorate ... We will also legislate to develop Monitor into an economic regulator that will oversee aspects of access, competition and price-setting in the NHS. Monitor will be given the statutory duty to be the economic regulator for the healthcare sector' – *Renewal: Plan for a Better NHS*, September 2008, p. 22⁴⁶
- 292 CON We will establish an independent NHS board to allocate resources and provide commissioning guidelines.
- Con: 'creating an independent NHS board to allocate resources and provide commissioning guidelines' – p. 44
- 293 CON We will enable patients to rate hospitals and doctors according to the quality of

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/01/~/_media/Files/Activist%20Centre/Press%20and%20Policy/Briefing%20Documents/Draft%20Manifesto/DraftHealthManifesto.ashx

http://www.etelligent.uk.com/etelligent/published/LIBDEMSEFEDERAL/siteFiles/resources/pdf/protecting_and_improving_the_nhs.pdf

⁴⁶http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/Our_plan_for_a_better_NHS.aspx

- care they received, and we will require hospitals to be open about mistakes and always tell patients if something has gone wrong.
- Con: 'Patients will be able to rate hospitals and doctors according to the quality of care they received' – p. 43
- 294 CON We will measure our success on the health results that really matter – such as improving cancer and stroke survival rates or reducing hospital infections.
- Con: 'we will measure our success on the health results that really matter – such as improving cancer and stroke survival rates or reducing hospital infections' – p. 43
- 295 CON We will publish detailed data about the performance of healthcare providers online, so everyone will know who is providing a good service and who is falling behind.
- Con: 'We will make the performance of the NHS totally transparent by publishing information about the kind of results that healthcare providers are achieving' – p. 42
- 296 CON We will put patients in charge of making decisions about their care, including control of their health records.
- Con: 'putting patients in charge of making decisions about their care, including control of their health records' –p. 43
- 297 CON We will create a Cancer Drugs Fund to enable patients to access the cancer drugs their doctors think will help them, paid for using money saved by the NHS through our pledge to stop the rise in Employer National Insurance contributions from April 2011.
- Con: 'we will create a Cancer Drug Fund to enable patients to access the cancer drugs their doctors think will help them' – p. 45
- 298 CON We will reform NICE and move to a system of value-based pricing, so that all patients can access the drugs and treatments their doctors think they need.
- Con: 'We want more people to access the drugs and treatments that would prolong or improve their lives by reforming the way drug companies are paid for NHS medicines' – p. 45
- 299 CON We will introduce a new dentistry contract that will focus on achieving good dental health and increasing access to NHS dentistry, with an additional focus on the oral health of schoolchildren.
- Con: 'we will introduce a new dentistry contract that will focus on achieving good dental health' – p. 45
- 300 CON We will provide £10 million a year beyond 2011 from within the budget of the Department of Health to support children's hospices in their vital work. And so that proper support for the most sick children and adults can continue in the setting of their choice, we will introduce a new per-patient funding system for all hospices and providers of palliative care.
- Con: 'We will provide £10 million a year beyond 2011 to support children's hospices in their vital work' – p. 46
- 301 LD We will encourage NHS organisations to work better with their local police

forces to clamp down on anyone who is aggressive and abusive to staff.

- LD: 'Clamp down on anyone who is aggressive or abusive to staff in accident and emergency departments' – p. 35

- 302 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We are committed to the continuous improvement of the quality of services to patients, and to achieving this through much greater involvement of independent and voluntary providers.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will ... Allow independent healthcare providers, as well as NHS Foundation Trusts and other NHS providers, the freedom to supply services to the NHS, if they can do so at the NHS price and NHS standards.' – *Renewal: Plan for a Better NHS*, September 2008, p. 4⁴⁷
- 303 CON We will give every patient the power to choose any healthcare provider that meets NHS standards, within NHS prices. This includes independent, voluntary and community sector providers.
- Con: 'we will give every patient the power to choose any healthcare provider that meets NHS standards, within NHS prices. This includes independent, voluntary and community sector providers' – p. 43

Section 23: Pensions and Older People

The Government believes that people deserve dignity and respect in old age, and that they should be provided with the support they need. That means safeguarding key benefits and pensions, and taking action to make it easier for older people to work or volunteer.

- 304 BOTH We will restore the earnings link for the basic state pension from April 2011, with a 'triple guarantee' that pensions are raised by the higher of earnings, prices or 2.5%.
- LD: 'We will restore the earnings link for pensions' – p. 38
 - Con: 'We will help stop the spread of means-testing by restoring the link between the basic state pension and average earnings' – p. 16
- 305 LD We will commit to establishing an independent commission to review the long-term affordability of public sector pensions, while protecting accrued rights.
- LD: 'Reforming public sector pensions to ensure that they are sustainable and affordable for the long term, with an independent review to agree a settlement that is fair for all taxpayers as well as for public servants' – p. 12
- 306 BOTH We will phase out the default retirement age and hold a review to set the date at which the state pension age starts to rise to 66, although it will not be sooner than 2016 for men and 2020 for women. We will end the rules requiring compulsory annuitisation at 75.
- Con: 'We will reward those who have saved for their retirement by ending the effective obligation to buy an annuity at age 75 ... We will look at how to abolish the default retirement age, as many older people want to carry on working' – pp. 17, 20
 - LD: 'Scrap compulsory retirement ages, allowing those who wish to continue in work to do so. Give you control over your own pension by scrapping the rules that compel you to buy an annuity when you reach 75.'

⁴⁷ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/Our_plan_for_a_better_NHS.aspx

- 307 BOTH We will implement the Parliamentary and Health Ombudsman’s recommendation to make fair and transparent payments to Equitable Life policy holders, through an independent payment scheme, for their relative loss as a consequence of regulatory failure.
- Con: ‘We will implement the ombudsman’s recommendation to make fair and transparent payments to Equitable Life policy holders, through an independent payment scheme, for their relative loss as a consequence of regulatory failure’ – p. 17
 - LD: ‘Meeting the government’s obligations towards Equitable Life policyholders who have suffered loss. We will set up a swift, simple, transparent and fair payment scheme’ – p. 13
- 308 LD We will explore the potential to give people greater flexibility in accessing part of their personal pension fund early.
- LD: ‘Giving people greater flexibility in accessing part of their personal pension fund early, for example to help in times of financial hardship.’ – p. 13
- 309 CON We will protect key benefits for older people such as the winter fuel allowance, free TV licences, free bus travel, and free eye tests and prescriptions.
- Con: ‘protect: the winter fuel payment; free bus passes; free TV licences’ – p. 39
- 310 CON We will simplify the rules and regulations relating to pensions to help reinvigorate occupational pensions, encouraging companies to offer high-quality pensions to all employees, and we will work with business and the industry to support auto enrolment.
- Con: ‘reinvigorating occupational pensions and working with employers and industry to support auto-enrolment into pensions’ – p. 16

Section 24: Political Reform

The Government believes that our political system is broken. We urgently need fundamental political reform, including a referendum on electoral reform, much greater co-operation across party lines, and changes to our political system to make it far more transparent and accountable.

- 311 LD We will establish five-year fixed-term Parliaments. We will put a binding motion before the House of Commons stating that the next general election will be held on the first Thursday of May 2015. Following this motion, we will legislate to make provision for fixed-term Parliaments of five years. This legislation will also provide for dissolution if 55% or more of the House votes in favour.
- LD: ‘Introduce fixed-term parliaments to ensure that the Prime Minister of the day cannot change the date of an election to suit themselves.’ – p. 70

- 312 COMP We will bring forward a Referendum Bill on electoral reform, which includes provision for the introduction of the Alternative Vote in the event of a positive result in the referendum, as well as for the creation of fewer and more equal sized constituencies.
- We will whip both Parliamentary parties in both Houses to support a simple majority referendum on the Alternative Vote, without prejudice to the positions parties will take during such a referendum.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will ensure every vote will have equal value by introducing 'fair vote' reforms to equalise the size of constituency electorates, and conduct a boundary review to implement these changes within five years' – p. 59-50
- 313 BOTH We will bring forward early legislation to introduce a power of recall, allowing voters to force a by-election where an MP is found to have engaged in serious wrongdoing and having had a petition calling for a by-election signed by 10% of his or her constituents.
- Con: 'a Conservative government will introduce a power of 'recall' to allow electors to kick out MPs' – p. 58
 - LD: 'We would introduce a recall system so that constituents could force a by-election for any MP found responsible for serious wrongdoing' – p. 71
- 314 BOTH We will establish a committee to bring forward proposals for a wholly or mainly elected upper chamber on the basis of proportional representation. The committee will come forward with a draft motion by December 2010. It is likely that this will advocate single long terms of office. It is also likely that there will be a grandfathering system for current Peers. In the interim, Lords appointments will be made with the objective of creating a second chamber that is reflective of the share of the vote secured by the political parties in the last general election.
- Con: 'We will work to build a consensus for a mainly-elected second chamber to replace the current House of Lords, recognising that an efficient and effective second chamber should play an important role in our democracy and requires both legitimacy and public confidence' – p. 60
 - LD: 'Replace the House of Lords with a fully-elected second chamber with considerably fewer members than the current House' – p. 70
- 315 BOTH We will bring forward the proposals of the Wright Committee for reform to the House of Commons in full – starting with the proposed committee for management of backbench business. A House Business Committee, to consider government business, will be established by the third year of the Parliament.
- Con: 'establishing a Backbench Business Committee to give the House of Commons more control over its own timetable; allowing MPs the time to scrutinise law effectively' – p. 60
 - LD: 'We will increase Parliamentary scrutiny of the budget and of government appointments and give Parliament control over its own agenda so that all bills leaving the Commons have been fully debated' – p. 70
- 316 CON We will reduce electoral fraud by speeding up the implementation of individual

voter registration.

- Con: 'We will swiftly implement individual voter registration, giving everyone the right to cast their vote in person and making it easier for UK citizens living overseas to vote' – p. 60

- 317 COMP We will establish a commission to consider the 'West Lothian question'.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will introduce new rules so that legislation referring specifically to England, or to England and Wales, cannot be enacted without the consent of mps representing constituencies of those countries' – p. 71
 - LD: 'Address the status of England within a federal Britain, through the Constitutional Convention set up to draft a written constitution for the UK as a whole' – p. 73
- 318 CON We will prevent the possible misuse of Parliamentary privilege by MPs accused of serious wrongdoing.
- Con: 'we will introduce a Parliamentary Privilege Act to make clear that privilege cannot be abused by MPs to evade justice.' – p. 58
- 319 CON We will cut the perks and bureaucracy associated with Parliament.
- Con: 'We will cut the perks and bureaucracy associated with Parliament to save over £100 million a year' – p. 58
- 320 CON We will consult with the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority on how to move away from the generous final-salary pension system for MPs.
- Con: 'We will consult with the independent Parliamentary Standards Authority on how to move away from the generous final-salary pension system for MPs' – p. 58
- 321 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will fund 200 all-postal primaries over this Parliament, targeted at seats which have not changed hands for many years. These funds will be allocated to all political parties with seats in Parliament that they take up, in proportion to their share of the total vote in the last general election.
- Con: 'We will fund 200 all postal primaries over the next Parliament. These funds will be allocated to all political parties with seats in Parliament that they take up, in proportion to their share of the total vote in the last General Election' – *Big Ideas to Give Britain Real Change*, April 2010, p. 4⁴⁸
- 322 CON We will ensure that any petition that secures 100,000 signatures will be eligible for formal debate in Parliament. The petition with the most signatures will enable members of the public to table a bill eligible to be voted on in Parliament.
- Con: 'with a Conservative government, any petition that secures 100,000 signatures will be eligible for formal debate in Parliament. The petition with the most signatures will enable members of the public to table a Bill eligible to be voted on in Parliament' – p. 59
- 323 CON We will introduce a new 'public reading stage' for bills to give the public an

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/04/~//media/Files/Downloadable%20Files/Big%20ideas%20to%20give%20Britain%20Real%20change.ashx

- opportunity to comment on proposed legislation online, and a dedicated ‘public reading day’ within a bill’s committee stage where those comments will be debated by the committee scrutinising the bill.
- Con: ‘And we will introduce a new Public Reading Stage for Bills to give the public an opportunity to comment on proposed legislation online’ – p. 59
- 324 CON We will improve the civil service, and make it easier to reward the best civil servants and remove the least effective.
- Con: ‘We will make it easier to reward the best civil servants and remove the least effective’ – p. 60
- 325 CON We will reform the Civil Service Compensation Scheme to bring it into line with practice in the private sector.
- Con: ‘We will reform the Civil Service Compensation Scheme to bring it more into line with practice in the private sector’ – p. 60
- 326 CON We will put a limit on the number on Special Advisers.
- Con: ‘We will put a limit on the number of special advisers and protect the impartiality of the civil service’ – p. 60
- 327 CON We will introduce extra support for people with disabilities who want to become MPs, councillors or other elected officials.
- Con: ‘We will introduce a £1million fund to help people with disabilities who want to become MPs, councillors or other elected officials with the extra costs they face in running for office.’ – pp. 60-61
- 328 CON We will open up Whitehall recruitment by publishing central government job vacancies online.
- Con: ‘We will open up Whitehall recruitment by publishing central government job vacancies online, saving costs and increasing transparency’ – p. 62
- 329 CON We will publish details of every UK project that receives over £25,000 of EU funds.
- Con: ‘publishing in full government contracts for goods and services worth over £25,000’ – p. 63
- 330 CON We will give residents the power to instigate local referendums on any local issue.
- Con: ‘we will give residents the power to instigate local referendums on any local issue if 5 per cent of the local population sign up’ – p. 66
- 331 CON We will stop plans to impose supplementary business rates on firms if a majority of the firms affected do not give their consent.
- Con: ‘We will stop Labour's plans to impose supplementary business rates on firms if a majority do not give their consent’ – p. 66
- 332 CON We will give residents the power to veto excessive council tax increases.
- Con: ‘they will also be able to veto any proposed high council tax increases’ – p. 66

- 333 CON We will continue to promote peace, stability and economic prosperity in Northern Ireland, standing firmly behind the agreements negotiated and institutions they establish. We will work to bring Northern Ireland back into the mainstream of UK politics, including producing a government paper examining potential mechanisms for changing the corporation tax rate in Northern Ireland.
- Con: 'In Northern Ireland, we strongly support the political institutions established over the past decade and we are committed to making devolution work. We will continue to promote peace, stability and economic prosperity and work to bring Northern Ireland back into the mainstream of UK politics. We will produce a government paper examining the mechanism for changing the corporation tax rate in Northern Ireland, in order to attract significant new investment' – p. 71
- 334 CON We will implement the proposals of the Calman Commission and introduce a referendum on further Welsh devolution.
- 'We will produce our own White Paper by May 2011 to set out how we will deal with the issues raised by Calman, and we will legislate to implement those proposals within the next Parliament... We will not stand in the way of the referendum on further legislative powers requested by the Welsh Assembly' – p. 71
- 335 LD We will review the control and use of accumulated and future revenues from the Fossil Fuel Levy in Scotland.
- LD: 'We will restore revenue to Scotland from the reserves of Registers of Scotland and from Scottish money paid to OFGEM under the Fossil Fuel Levy as one-off payments in the 2011 budget and give control of future revenues to the Scottish Government' – p. 73
- 336 COMP We recognise the concerns expressed by the Holtham Commission on the system of devolution funding. However, at this time, the priority must be to reduce the deficit and therefore any change to the system must await the stabilisation of the public finances. Depending on the outcome of the forthcoming referendum, we will establish a process similar to the Calman Commission for the Welsh Assembly. We will take forward the Sustainable Homes Legislative Competence Order.
- Con: 'We will not stand in the way of the referendum on further legislative powers requested by the Welsh Assembly. The people of Wales will decide the outcome and Conservatives will have a free vote' – p. 83
 - LD: 'Liberal Democrats will ... Give the National Assembly primary legislative powers so that it becomes a true Welsh Parliament. We also support passing on a greater number of responsibilities to the National Assembly ... Replace the current Barnett formula for allocating funding to the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish governments with a new needs based formula, to be agreed by a Finance Commission of the Nations' – p. 92
- 337 CON We will make the running of government more efficient by introducing enhanced Departmental Boards which will form collective operational leadership of government departments.
- Con: 'with senior management accountable to more rigorous departmental

Section 25: Public Health

The Government believes that we need action to promote public health, and encourage behaviour change to help people live healthier lives. We need an ambitious strategy to prevent ill-health which harnesses innovative techniques to help people take responsibility for their own health.

- 338 CON We will give local communities greater control over public health budgets with payment by the outcomes they achieve in improving the health of local residents.
- Con: ‘We will provide separate public health funding to local communities, which will be accountable for – and paid according to – how successful they are in improving their residents’ health’ – p. 47
- 339 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will give GPs greater incentives to tackle public health problems.
- Con: ‘In pilot areas, we will develop the system that determines GPs’ income, including fee-for-service and the Quality and Outcomes Framework, to align incentives with preventative health interventions, aiming to reduce people’s need for more serious treatment. We will use these pilots to assess the effectiveness of such new public health incentives for GPs, and to help us design general changes to the Quality and Outcomes Framework that will ensure GPs play a full role, alongside PCTs, local government and other providers to improve public health’ – *A Healthier Nation*, December 2009, p. 17⁴⁹
- 340 BOTH We will investigate ways of improving access to preventative healthcare for those in disadvantaged areas to help tackle health inequalities.
- Con: ‘We will increase access to vital drugs and services, and create a greater focus on preventing people getting ill in the first place’ – p. 42
 - LD: ‘Give priority to preventing people getting ill by linking payments to health boards and GPs more directly to prevention measures’ – p. 32
- 341 CON We will ensure greater access to talking therapies to reduce long-term costs for the NHS.
- Con: ‘increase access to effective “talking” therapies’ – p. 47

Section 26: Schools

The Government believes that we need to reform our school system to tackle educational inequality, which has widened in recent years, and to give greater powers to parents and pupils to choose a good school. We want to ensure high standards of discipline in the classroom, robust standards and the highest quality teaching. We also believe that the state should help parents, community groups and others come together to improve the education system by starting new schools.

- 342 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will promote the reform of schools in order to ensure that new providers can enter the state school system in response to parental demand; that all schools have greater freedom over the curriculum; and that all schools are held properly to account.
- Con: ‘A Conservative government will ... Create over 220,000 new school

⁴⁹ http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2010/01/A_Healthier_Nation.aspx

places. We will allow educational charities, philanthropists, existing school federations, not-for-profit trusts, co-operatives and groups of parents to set up new schools in the state sector and access equivalent public funding to existing state schools ... Expand the existing programme of Academies, which are themselves based on the model of City Technology Colleges introduced by the last Conservative Government. We will make it easier for educational charities, philanthropists, livery companies, existing school federations, not-for-profit trusts, co-operatives and groups of parents to set up new schools in the state sector and access public funding equivalent to the provision for existing state schools' – *Repair: Plan for Social Reform*, October 2008, pp. 11-12⁵⁰

- 343 BOTH We will fund a significant premium for disadvantaged pupils from outside the schools budget by reductions in spending elsewhere.
- Con: 'we will introduce a pupil premium – extra funding for children from disadvantaged backgrounds' – p. 50
 - LD: 'Increase the funding of the most disadvantaged pupils, around one million children. We will invest £2.5 billion in this 'Pupil Premium' to boost education opportunities for every child' – p. 26
- 344 CON We will give parents, teachers, charities and local communities the chance to set up new schools, as part of our plans to allow new providers to enter the state school system in response to parental demand.
- Con: 'we will enable parents to start new schools' – p. 36
- 345 BOTH We will support Teach First, create Teach Now to build on the Graduate Teacher Programme, and seek other ways to improve the quality of the teaching profession.
- Con: 'We will expand Teach First and introduce two new programmes – Teach Now, for people looking to change career, and Troops to Teachers, for ex-service personnel – to get experienced, high-quality people into the profession' – p. 48
 - LD: 'Improve teacher training by increasing the size of the school-based Graduate Teacher Programme and support the expansion of Teach First to attract more top graduates into teaching' – p. 27
- 346 LD We will reform the existing rigid national pay and conditions rules to give schools greater freedoms to pay good teachers more and deal with poor performance.
- LD: 'Reform the existing rigid national pay and conditions rules to give schools and colleges more freedom' – p. 29
- 347 LD We will help schools tackle bullying in schools, especially homophobic bullying.
- LD: 'Confront bullying, including homophobic bullying, and include bullying prevention in teacher training' – p. 27
- 348 CON We will simplify the regulation of standards in education and target inspection on areas of failure.

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2008/09/We_will_reverse_Labours_skewed_priorities.aspx

- Con: 'ensure failing schools are inspected more often – with the best schools visited less frequently' – p. 51
- 349 CON We will give anonymity to teachers accused by pupils and take other measures to protect against false accusations.
- Con: 'give teachers the strongest possible protection from false accusations' – p. 48
- 350 CON We will seek to attract more top science and maths graduates to be teachers.
- Con: 'pay the student loan repayments for top Maths and Science graduates for as long as they remain teachers, by redirecting some of the current teacher training budget' – p. 48
- 351 CON We will publish performance data on educational providers, as well as past exam papers.
- Con: 'publish all performance data currently kept secret by the Department for Children, Schools and Families; and ... establish a free online database of exam papers and marking schemes.' – p. 49
- 352 CON We will create more flexibility in the exams systems so that state schools can offer qualifications like the IGCSE.
- Con: 'allow all state schools the freedom to offer the same high quality international exams that private schools offer – including giving every pupil the chance to study separate sciences at GCSE' – p. 49
- 353 BOTH We will reform league tables so that schools are able to focus on, and demonstrate, the progress of children of all abilities.
- Con: 'So a Conservative government will reform school league tables so that schools can demonstrate they are stretching the most able and raising the attainment of the less able' – p. 49
 - LD: 'Reform league tables to give parents more meaningful information which truly reflects the performance of a school' – p. 28
- 354 CON We will give heads and teachers the powers they need to ensure discipline in the classroom and promote good behaviour.
- Con: 'We believe heads are best placed to improve behaviour, which is why we will stop them being overruled by bureaucrats on exclusions' – p. 48
- 355 BOTH We believe the most vulnerable children deserve the very highest quality of care. We will improve diagnostic assessment for schoolchildren, prevent the unnecessary closure of special schools, and remove the bias towards inclusion.
- Con: 'The most vulnerable children deserve the very highest quality of care, so we will call a moratorium on the ideologically-driven closure of special schools. We will end the bias towards the inclusion of children with special needs in mainstream schools.' – p. 50
 - LD: 'Guarantee Special Educational Needs (SEN) diagnostic assessments for all 5-year-olds, improve SEN provision and improve SEN training for teachers' – p. 27
- 356 BOTH We will improve the quality of vocational education, including increasing flexibility for 14–19 year olds and creating new Technical Academies as part of

our plans to diversify schools provision.

- Con: 'We want to develop proper vocational and technical education that engages young people and meets the needs of modern business. So we will establish Technical academies across England, starting in at least twelve cities' – p. 49
- LD: 'Give 14–19 year-olds the right to take up a course at college, rather than at school, if it suits them better' – p. 28

357 COMP We will keep external assessment, but will review how Key Stage 2 tests operate in future.

- Con: 'We will keep Key Stage 2 tests and league Tables' – p. 49
- LD: 'Scale back Key Stage 2 tests at age 11, and use teacher assessment, with external checking, to improve the quality of marking' – p. 28

358 COMP We will ensure that all new Academies follow an inclusive admissions policy.

- Con: 'make sure Academies have the freedoms that helped to make them so successful in the first place' – p. 51
- LD: 'We will ensure a level playing field for admissions and funding and replace Academies with our own model of "Sponsor- Managed Schools"' – p. 29

359 LD We will work with faith groups to enable more faith schools and facilitate inclusive admissions policies in as many of these schools as possible.

- LD: 'We will ensure that all faith schools develop an inclusive admissions policy and end unfair discrimination on grounds of faith when recruiting staff' – p. 29

Section 27: Social Action

The Government believes that the innovation and enthusiasm of civil society is essential in tackling the social, economic and political challenges that the UK faces today. We will take action to support and encourage social responsibility, volunteering and philanthropy, and make it easier for people to come together to improve their communities and help one another.

360 BOTH We will support the creation and expansion of mutuals, co-operatives, charities and social enterprises, and enable these groups to have much greater involvement in the running of public services.

- Con: 'Giving public sector workers ownership of the services they deliver is a powerful way to drive efficiency, so we will support co-operatives and mutualisation as a way of transferring public assets and revenue streams to public sector workers' – p. 29
- LD: 'We believe that mutuals, co-operatives and social enterprises have an important role to play in the creation of a more balanced and mixed economy' – p. 21

361 CON We will give public sector workers a new right to form employee-owned co-operatives and bid to take over the services they deliver. This will empower millions of public sector workers to become their own boss and help them to deliver better services.

- Con: 'We will encourage them to come together to form employee-led co-operatives and bid to take over the services they run. This will empower millions of public sector workers to become their own boss and help them

to deliver better services’ – p. 29

- 362 CON We will train a new generation of community organisers and support the creation of neighbourhood groups across the UK, especially in the most deprived areas.
- Con: ‘We will use cabinet office budgets to fund the training of independent community organisers to help people establish and run neighbourhood groups’ – p. 36
- 363 CON We will take a range of measures to encourage charitable giving and philanthropy.
- Con: ‘We will introduce new ways to increase philanthropy, and use the latest insights from behavioural economics to encourage people to make volunteering and community participation something they do on a regular basis’ – p. 37
- 364 CON We will introduce National Citizen Service. The initial flagship project will provide a programme for 16 year olds to give them a chance to develop the skills needed to be active and responsible citizens, mix with people from different backgrounds, and start getting involved in their communities.
- Con: ‘That is why we will introduce National Citizen Service’ – p. 37
- 365 CON We will use funds from dormant bank accounts to establish a ‘Big Society Bank’, which will provide new finance for neighbourhood groups, charities, social enterprises and other non-governmental bodies.
- Con: ‘We will strengthen and support social enterprises to help deliver our public service reforms by creating a Big Society Bank’ – p. 35
- 366 CON We will take a range of measures to encourage volunteering and involvement in social action, including launching a national day to celebrate and encourage social action, and make regular community service an element of civil service staff appraisals.
- Con: ‘To stimulate social action further, we will transform the civil service into a ‘civic service’ by making sure that participation in social action is recognised in civil servants’ appraisals; launch an annual Big Society Day to celebrate the work of neighbourhood groups and encourage more people to take part in social action’ – p. 36

Section 28: Social Care and Disability

The Government believes that people needing care deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. We understand the urgency of reforming the system of social care to provide much more control to individuals and their carers, and to ease the cost burden that they and their families face.

- 367 CON We will establish a commission on long-term care, to report within a year. The commission will consider a range of ideas, including both a voluntary insurance scheme to protect the assets of those who go into residential care, and a partnership scheme as proposed by Derek Wanless.
- Con: ‘So we will allow anyone to protect their home from being sold to fund residential care costs by paying a one-off insurance premium that is entirely voluntary’ – p. 46

- 368 LD We will break down barriers between health and social care funding to incentivise preventative action.
- LD: 'Integrate health and social care to create a seamless Service' – p. 32
- 369 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will extend the greater roll-out of personal budgets to give people and their carers more control and purchasing power.
- Con: 'The big boost you can give people is putting power and control right into the hands of parents, carers or those with disabilities - through personal budgets and direct payments. That means that instead of giving a little bit of money from health, a little bit from education, a little bit from children's services, we say 'here is the total budget for you or your child, you choose how it's broken down.' And instead of insisting on separate, bureaucratic bank accounts for that money, it is right people should be paid directly if they choose' – Speech by David Cameron, July 2009⁵¹
- 370 CON We will use direct payments to carers and better community-based provision to improve access to respite care.
- Con: 'We will support carers, and those they look after, by providing direct payments to help with care needs and by improving access to respite care.' – p. 46
- 371 CON We will reform Access to Work, so disabled people can apply for jobs with funding already secured for any adaptations and equipment they will need.
- Con: 'We will also reform Access to Work, so disabled people can apply for jobs with funding already in place for equipment and adaptation that they need' – p. 24

Section 29: Taxation

The Government believes that the tax system needs to be reformed to make it more competitive, simpler, greener and fairer. We need to take action to ensure that the tax framework better reflects the values of this Government.

- 372 BOTH We will increase the personal allowance for income tax to help lower and middle income earners. We will announce in the first Budget a substantial increase in the personal allowance from April 2011, with the benefits focused on those with lower and middle incomes. This will be funded with the money that would have been used to pay for the increase in employee National Insurance thresholds proposed by the Conservative Party, as well as revenues from increases in Capital Gains Tax rates for non-business assets as described below. The increase in employer National Insurance thresholds proposed by the Conservatives will go ahead in order to stop the planned jobs tax.
- Con: 'raise the secondary threshold at which employers start paying National insurance by £21 a week' – p. 14
 - LD: 'To put in place the necessary tax changes in order to raise the personal allowance to £10,000 for the start of the financial year 2011-12' – p. 77
- 373 BOTH We will further increase the personal allowance to £10,000, making real terms

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2009/07/David_Cameron_How_we_can_make_life_better_for_disabled_people.aspx

steps each year towards meeting this as a longer term policy objective. We will prioritise this over other tax cuts, including cuts to Inheritance Tax.

- LD: 'To put in place the necessary tax changes in order to raise the personal allowance to £10,000 for the start of the financial year 2011-12' – p. 77
- Con: 'And we will raise the inheritance tax threshold to £1 million to help millions of people who aspire to pass something on to their children' – p. 17

374 COMP We will also ensure that provision is made for Liberal Democrat MPs to abstain on budget resolutions to introduce transferable tax allowances for married couples without prejudice to the coalition agreement.

375 LD We will reform the taxation of air travel by switching from a per-passenger to a per-plane duty, and will ensure that a proportion of any increased revenues over time will be used to help fund increases in the personal allowance.

- LD: 'Ensuring pollution is properly taxed by replacing the per-passenger Air Passenger Duty with a per-plane duty (PPD), ensuring that air freight is taxed for the first time. We will also introduce an additional, higher rate of PPD on domestic flights if realistic alternative and less polluting travel is available' – p. 10

376 LD We will seek ways of taxing non-business capital gains at rates similar or close to those applied to income, with generous exemptions for entrepreneurial business activities.

- LD: 'Taxing capital gains at the same rates as income, so that all the money you make is taxed in the same way' – p. 10

377 LD We will make every effort to tackle tax avoidance, including detailed development of Liberal Democrat proposals.

- LD: 'Tackling tax avoidance and evasion, with new powers for HM Revenue & Customs and a law to ensure properties can't avoid stamp duty if they are put into an offshore trust' – p. 10

378 CON We will increase the proportion of tax revenue accounted for by environmental taxes.

- Con: 'We will increase the proportion of tax revenues accounted for by environmental taxes' – p. 32

379 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will take measures to fulfil our EU treaty obligations in regard to the taxation of holiday letting that do not penalise UK-based businesses.

- 'From the 1st of April, the Government's plans to abolish Furnished Holiday Lettings rules will hit over 120,000 tourism businesses - most of them small companies. Last week, I announced that a Conservative government will undo this damage. We will reverse the abolition, and we will do it in a way that is responsible and fiscally neutral, for example by changing the thresholds for the relief or amending the interest deductibility criteria.' – Speech by George Osborne, March 2010⁵²

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2010/03/George_Osborne_Small_business_cant_afford_another_five_years_of_Gordon_Brown.aspx

- 380 LD We will review the taxation of non-domiciled individuals.
- LD: 'In addition we will reform the system of 'non-domiciled' status' – p. 10

Section 30: Transport

The Government believes that a modern transport infrastructure is essential for a dynamic and entrepreneurial economy, as well as to improve well-being and quality of life. We need to make the transport sector greener and more sustainable, with tougher emission standards and support for new transport technologies.

- 381 CON We will mandate a national recharging network for electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles.
- Con: 'we will introduce incentives for electricity network operators to establish a new national car recharging network' – p. 27
- 382 CON We will grant longer rail franchises in order to give operators the incentive to invest in the improvements passengers want – like better services, better stations, longer trains and better rolling stock.
- Con: 'We will grant longer, more flexible rail franchises to incentivise private sector investment in improvements like longer trains and better stations' – p. 26
- 383 BOTH We will reform the way decisions are made on which transport projects to prioritise, so that the benefits of low carbon proposals (including light rail schemes) are fully recognised.
- Con: 'We will abolish the unelected Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) and replace it with an efficient and democratically-accountable system that provides a fast-track process for major infrastructure projects' – pp. 23-24
 - LD: 'Create a new route to provide capital, guarantees and equity to infrastructure projects, using public money to attract upfront private investment' – p. 18
- 384 BOTH We will make Network Rail more accountable to its customers.
- Con: 'We will turn the rail regulator into a powerful passenger champion and reform Network Rail to make it more accountable to its customers' – p. 26
 - LD: 'Overhaul Network Rail to put the interests of passengers first and bring it under the Freedom of Information Act to make it more open' – p. 63
- 385 BOTH We will establish a high speed rail network as part of our programme of measures to fulfil our joint ambitions for creating a low carbon economy. Our vision is of a truly national high speed rail network for the whole of Britain. Given financial constraints, we will have to achieve this in phases.
- Con: 'A Conservative government will begin work immediately to create a high speed rail line connecting London and Heathrow with Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds' – p. 26
 - LD: 'Set up a UK Infrastructure Bank to invest in public transport like high speed rail' – p. 63
- 386 CON We support Crossrail and further electrification of the rail network.

- Con: 'We support Crossrail and the electrification of the Great Western line to South Wales' – p. 26
- 387 CON We will turn the rail regulator into a powerful passenger champion.
- Con: 'We will turn the rail regulator into a powerful passenger champion and reform Network Rail to make it more accountable to its customers' – p. 26
- 388 LD We will support sustainable travel initiatives, including the promotion of cycling and walking, and will encourage joint working between bus operators and local authorities.
- LD: 'Include the promotion of safer cycling and pedestrian routes in all local transport plans' – p. 63
- 389 LD We are committed to fair pricing for rail travel.
- LD: 'Cut rail fares, changing the contracts with Train Operating Companies so that regulated fares fall behind inflation by 1 per cent each year, meaning a real-terms cut' – p. 63
- 390 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will work towards the introduction of a new system of HGV road user charging to ensure a fairer arrangement for UK hauliers.
Con: 'We are determined that we will sort this out once and for all so all trucks which use our roads pay their fair share of tax for the wear tear they inflict. And we will use lorry road user charging to do it.' – Speech by the then-shadow transport secretary Theresa Villiers, January 2010⁵³
- 391 CON We will stop central government funding for new fixed speed cameras and switch to more effective ways of making our roads safer, including authorising 'drugalyser' technology.
- Con: 'We will stop central government funding for new fixed speed cameras, and switch to more effective ways to make our roads safer, including authorising 'drugalyser' technology for use in testing for drug-driving' – p. 27
- 392 BOTH We will tackle rogue private sector wheel clampers.
- Con: 'We will make companies that dig up our roads accountable for the congestion they cause and crack down on rogue clampers' – p. 27
 - LD: 'Regulate the parking system to remove unfairness and stop private sector wheel-clamping' – p. 43

Section 31: Universities and Further Education

The Government believes that our universities are essential for building a strong and innovative economy. We will take action to create more college and university places, as well as help to foster stronger links between universities, colleges and industries.

- 393 CON We will seek ways to support the creation of apprenticeships, internships, work pairings, and college and workplace training places as part of our wider

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2010/01/Theresa_Villiers_Our_plan_for_Britains_road_network.aspx

programme to get Britain working.

- Con: 'create 400,000 work pairing, apprenticeship, college and training places over two years' – p. 20

- 394 BOTH We will set colleges free from direct state control and abolish many of the further education quangos. Public funding should be fair and follow the choices of students.
- Con: 'We will set colleges free from direct state control and abolish many of the further education quangos Labour have put in place' – p. 21
 - LD: 'Cut education quangos and Administration' – p. 82
- 395 CON We will await Lord Browne's final report into higher education funding, and will judge its proposals against the need to:
- a) increase social mobility;
 - b) take into account the impact on student debt;
 - c) ensure a properly funded university sector;
 - d) improve the quality of teaching;
 - e) advance scholarship; and
 - f) attract a higher proportion of students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Con: 'consider carefully the results of Lord Browne's review into the future of higher education funding, so that we can unlock the potential of universities to transform our economy, to enrich students' lives through teaching of the highest quality, and to advance scholarship' – p. 21
- 396 COMP If the response of the Government to Lord Browne's report is one that Liberal Democrats cannot accept, then arrangements will be made to enable Liberal Democrat MPs to abstain in any vote.
- Con: 'consider carefully the results of Lord Browne's review into the future of higher education funding, so that we can unlock the potential of universities to transform our economy, to enrich students' lives through teaching of the highest quality, and to advance scholarship' – p. 21
 - LD: 'Scrap unfair university tuition fees for all students taking their first degree' – p. 30
- 397 BOTH (NON-MANIFESTO) We will review support for part-time students in terms of loans and fees.
- LD: 'It is right that part-time students should be treated equally in regard to tuition costs. We will therefore also abolish fees for part-time students studying for a first undergraduate level degree' – *Investing in Talent, Building the Economy: Policies for Adult Further and Higher Education*, March 2009, p. 27⁵⁴
 - Con: 'David Willetts described the lack of support available to part-time students as "indefensible" after a new report claimed nine out of ten such students receive no financial assistance from the Government' – News item on Conservative website, August 2009⁵⁵

⁵⁴ <http://www.libdems.org.uk/siteFiles/resources/PDF/conference/Conference%20archive/90%20-%20Investing%20in%20Talent.pdf>

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/08/Willetts_condemns_lack_of_support_for_part-time_students.aspx

- 398 CON (NON-MANIFESTO) We will publish more information about the costs, graduate earnings and student satisfaction of different university courses.
- Con: 'There needs to be a national student experience website would pull together searchable information on research ratings, drop-out rates, library facilities and university estates ... But more importantly, universities must be urged to provide some data that is not in the public domain. In particular students and parents want information on contact hours, class sizes and employability' – Speech by David Willetts, the then-shadow universities secretary, October 2007⁵⁶
- 399 LD We will ensure that public funding mechanisms for university research safeguard its academic integrity.
- LD: 'Safeguard academic freedom and the independence of scientific advisers by amending the Ministerial Code to prevent government from bullying or mistreating advisers and distorting evidence or statistics' – p. 29.

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http://www.conservatives.com/News/Speeches/2007/10/David_Willetts_Higher_Education_and_the_Student_Experience.aspx