

## Coalition Update: 6-12 September

### Cabinet Office Operations

**Government sets up partnership unit to drive business comms** (*PR Week*, 7 September)

The Cabinet Office is to host a "partnership unit" that will seek to build relationships between government and major brands.

<http://www.prweek.com/news/1089819/Government-sets-partnership-unit-drive-business-comms/?DCMP=ILC-SEARCH>

<http://www.platform10.org/2011/09/how-should-the-government-promote-its-message/>

### Maintaining Separate Identities

**Shun the 'seductive chorus' of rightwingers, Cameron warned** (*Times*, 9 September) **££**

Damian Green uses an Op-Ed in *The Times* to claim that the Lib Dems should not be allowed to present themselves as the caring face of the coalition.

<http://www.timesplus.co.uk/tto/news/?login=false&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thetimes.co.uk%2Ftto%2Fnews%2Fpolitics%2Farticle3158930.ece>

### NHS Reforms

**Clegg refuses to budge on NHS reforms despite Lib Dem unrest** (*Times*, 6 September) **££**

Clegg calls for 'probing questions' on NHS bill (*Guardian*, 6 September)

The Deputy Prime Minister has promised to stick by the deal that he negotiated with the Prime Minister and Andrew Lansley, the Health Secretary, say *The Times*. But *The Guardian* claims not, and that Clegg offered to consider concessions at a party meeting.

<http://www.timesplus.co.uk/tto/news/?login=false&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thetimes.co.uk%2Ftto%2Fhealth%2Fnews%2Farticle3155515.ece>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2011/sep/05/clegg-demands-probe-nhs-reforms>

**Health reforms face new challenge from Lib Dem rebels** (*Guardian*, 9 September)

Shirley Williams and Evan Harris are to table a conference motion calling for more concessions on the NHS legislation currently before Parliament.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2011/sep/09/health-reforms-lib-dem-rebels>

### Europe

**Tories are warned off trying to exploit crisis in eurozone** (*Times*, 7 September) **££**

Danny Alexander calls on the Conservatives to stop calling for the repatriation of EU powers.

<http://www.timesplus.co.uk/tto/news/?login=false&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thetimes.co.uk%2Ftto%2Fnews%2Fpolitics%2Farticle3157901.ece>

**Cameron risks coalition rift with plan to let MPs overrule human rights court** (*Times*, 9 September) **££**

David Cameron is reportedly considering allowing Parliament to override ECHR decisions, in a move that is likely to cause problems for the coalition.

<http://www.timesplus.co.uk/tto/news/?login=false&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thetimes.co.uk%2Ftto%2Fnews%2Fpolitics%2Farticle3159241.ece>

### **Will Cameron really square up to Clegg on ECHR?** (*Conservativehome*, 9 September)

Paul Goodman discusses conflicting media reports on David Cameron's position on Europe and claims he is unlikely to fight Nick Clegg too hard on the ECHR issue.

<http://conservativehome.blogs.com/thetorydiary/2011/09/will-cameron-really-square-up-to-clegg-over-the-echr.html>

### **Britain must rethink ties with Europe, says Hague** (*Times*, 10 September) **££**

In an interview with *The Times*, William Hague claims that the coalition restricts his ability to seek a change in UK relationship with the EU.

<http://www.timesplus.co.uk/tto/news/?login=false&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thetimes.co.uk%2Ftto%2Fnews%2Fpolitics%2Farticle3160292.ece>

## **Coalition Formation**

### **A manual for Coalition?** (*LibDemVoice*, 7 September)

Lord Tyler discusses the Cabinet Manual's position on who should be Prime Minister in event of a hung parliament.

[http://www.libdemvoice.org/?p=25163&utm\\_source=tweet&utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_campaign=twitter](http://www.libdemvoice.org/?p=25163&utm_source=tweet&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=twitter)

## **Banking and Tax Reforms**

### **Crack down on the banks or I'll quit...** (*Mail*, 10 September)

Vince Cable has warned he will resign if the government does not get tough on the banks.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2036075/Crack-banks-III-quit-Vince-Cable-tells-George-Osborne.html#ixzz1Xd9KMrh1>

### **Huhne attacks Tories helping their friends in the city** (*Prospect*, 11 September)

Chris Huhne has said he will not tolerate the abolition of the 50p tax rate.

<http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/2011/09/huhne-attack-osborne-50p-rate/>

## **A Yellow Tail Wagging a Blue dog?**

### **Pragmatism and consensus is the lifeblood of the coalition...** (*Conservativehome*, 6 September)

Stewart Jackson MP claims that Lib Dem activists caused the government not to support Nadine Dorries' abortion amendment.

<http://conservativehome.blogs.com/platform/2011/09/stewart-jackson-mp-pragmatism-and-consensus-is-the-lifeblood-of-this-coalition-but-do-conservatives-.html>

### **Why should a failed Lib Dem candidate hold sway...** (*Conservativehome*, 7 September)

The Tory Diary questions the influence of Lib Dem activist Evan Harris.

<http://conservativehome.blogs.com/thetorydiary/2011/09/why-should-a-failed-libdem-candidate-rule-the-roost-in-the-department-of-health.html>

**Police Commissioner elections delayed** (*Times*, 7 September) **££**

Nick Clegg has succeeded in his efforts to delay police commissioner elections until November 2012.

<http://www.timesplus.co.uk/tto/news/?login=false&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thetimes.co.uk%2Ftto%2Fnews%2Fpolitics%2Farticle3156695.ece>

**War breaks out in Downing Street** (*Observer*, 11 September)

Toby Helm examines the policy areas most likely to cause problems for coalition unity.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2011/sep/11/war-breaks-out-in-downing-street>

**Stroppy Tories seem to have forgotten they didn't actually win** (*Observer*, 11 September)

Andrew Rawnsley claims that Tory complaints about Lib Dem influence is misguided, and that it boosts the junior party to talk of them as too influential.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/sep/11/andrew-rawnsley-david-cameron-nick-clegg?>

**Miscellaneous**

**Polling Observatory #6: riots leave Coalition unscathed** (*Ballots & Bullets blog*, 7 September)

"Labour's estimated share has fallen consistently between 40% and 42%, the Conservatives between 34% and 36% and the Liberal Democrats between 8% and 10%. ... In other words, an eventful six months has produced nothing to alter the settled views of the electorate."

<http://nottspolitics.org/2011/09/07/polling-observatory-6-riots-leave-coalition-unscathed/>

**Government to investigate West Lothian Question** (*Guardian*, 8 September)

Mark Harper has announced a new commission to examine potential answers to the West Lothian Question.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2011/sep/08/government-investigate-west-lothian-question>

**The Liberal Democrats aren't especially liberal...** (*Telegraph*, 9 September)

Graeme Archer claims that "where the Lib Dems have been effective in the coalition, they have been anything but liberal" or copying a policy the Tories would implement anyway.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/liberaldemocrats/8753191/The-Liberal-Democrats-arent-especially-liberal-or-even-democratic.html>