

Not by Bread Alone

**Policies of the
Christian Peoples
Alliance for the
General Election 2010**

**CHRISTIAN
peoples
ALLIANCE**

Choosing a Positive Alternative

**Our Manifesto Commitments
A More Equal Society
Greening the Global Economy
Marriage and Relationships Support
Restoring Faith in Politics
Respect for the Human Person**

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*Whoever would love life
And see good days
Must keep his tongue from evil
And his lips from deceitful speech.
He must turn from evil and do good;
He must seek peace and pursue it.*

**Psalm 34:12-14 &
1 Peter 3:10-11**

CHRISTIAN
peoples
ALLIANCE

Foreword

In 2009, the 'Christian ticket' in the European elections saw 250,000 people across Britain vote for social policies inspired by the teachings of the churches. In 2010, the Christian Peoples Alliance offers candidates in the General Election who stand in the European Christian Democratic tradition.

As an emerging party, the Christian Peoples Alliance is active in constituencies where members of the local Christian community share this distinctive vision. Our commitment is for the long-term. We therefore understand that time, prayer and hard-work is needed over time for candidates to emerge in every constituency, willing to serve their community in the selfless Spirit of Christ. We invite others to join us in this venture of faith.

This manifesto reflects the CPA's Christian Democratic priorities for government. It has been prepared by CPA Federal President, David Campanale, and published by the Federal Policy Committee of the Christian Peoples Alliance for the elections of May 6th 2010 to the House of Commons. They relate primarily to England. Policies for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are the responsibility of the CPA in those nations. Figures included are on a UK-wide basis. These have been calculated on the research and proposals of the PAPRI Pension and Population Research Institute and estimates already in the public domain.

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Choosing a Positive Alternative

The challenges facing Britain are not simply material or economic. As the electorate choose which path our nation must travel, the Christian Peoples Alliance invites voters to face up to the spiritual and moral bankruptcy of Britain, as much as our catastrophic financial situation.

Our nation's problems are relational. The policies in this manifesto therefore seek to bring justice to broken relationships which exist between individuals and society, within families and communities and also between nations. Unashamedly, we look to the Bible and church social teaching to guide us. It is not just that scripture provides insights and principles by which Members of Parliament can pursue the common good. The Bible also teaches the nations of the world that God seeks to enter a relationship with them, based on His love and gentle rule in Christ. Our manifesto does not do this wistfully, longing for an age long past, but hopefully, positively, looking to how God continues to speak to us today.

As Christian Democrats, the CPA writes programmes for government and not theological treatises. That is why in **Not by Bread Alone** you will find specific policy commitments. They build upon the conviction that our country will prosper when we restore just relationships between people and a right relationship between the planet and humanity.

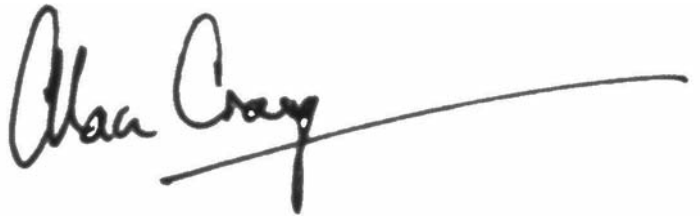
While Jesus did not run for public office, He did take a public stance on the social issues of the day. His radical stance was such that he became a major threat to the authorities, who did away with Him. Jesus did not just "stick to his private values and religious beliefs", as the secular parties expect Christian politicians to do. He talked about fair wages, unjust trade, oppression of widows and the economic injustices and corruption of his day, even overturning the tables of the moneylenders.

In being passionate about improving the human condition, our party responds to the feeling of many that there is more to life than personal consumption. Jesus began his public ministry in the desert, alone and without

food. When the tempter tried to persuade him to turn stones into loaves, he replied, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). At this time of financial crisis, the material things of life are still needed by all. But of even greater need is for our nation to look to the living God for the power that can transform us all; for His sustaining life which is food for the soul and hope for a planet stripped of its natural resources.

In doing this we recognise the Bible's expression of God's preference for the poor. Christian Democratic politicians choose to act on God's mandate for equality and the just distribution of resources, rather the words of fear that proceed from the mouths of the rich and powerful. That is why the Christian Peoples Alliance is committed to fairness, an end to deep inequalities in wealth and income and the payment of huge bonuses to top-level workers in state-owned banks.

A vote for the Christian Peoples Alliance is not just a decision to uphold the Judaeo Christian foundations of law and democracy in Britain. It will serve as a declaration that Christian Democracy should shape public truth around the revelation of God's word. It is also a choice for a positive alternative - a vote for life, freedom of conscience and the promotion of the common good. But above all, it is an act of faith in the power of God, for all who seek Him and His wisdom, for the good of our nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alan Craig", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Cllr Alan Craig
Leader, Christian Peoples Alliance



*“Each of you should look not only to your own interests
but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should
be the same as that of Christ Jesus”*

Philippians 2:4 – 5



A More Equal Society

Inequality under Labour has deepened. The ability of the state-rescued banks to continue to award huge bonuses to their staff, while millions endure a workless or highly taxed existence, struggling to make ends meet, this is a picture of modern Britain. To those who have, more has been given; to those with nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The Christian Peoples Alliance believes that Britain will return to economic prosperity when government chooses instead to put human relationships in right order. This requires power, income and wealth to be redistributed and for greater equality to be achieved. These are deeply spiritual convictions and reflect a Biblical pattern of priorities.

While doing all we can to encourage wealth creation which leads to more jobs the CPA will work towards a fairer society. By the end of the next Parliament, the CPA will establish the reduction of inequality as a national target, so that the ratios of the incomes of the top 20 per cent are reduced to no more than five and a half times the incomes of the bottom 20 per cent. At present, Britain has a high level of income inequality, with a current ratio of 7 times between top and bottom. We also seek a wider distribution of economic assets. In 2003, the bottom 50 per cent of the population owned just 1 per cent of the nation's wealth; in the next Parliament this must change.

Free market capitalism, if left to itself, does not produce a downward trickle from rich to poor. Over the past thirty years, under both Labour and the Conservatives, share of income and wealth has been transferred from the poor of Britain and the world, to the rich. *The Spirit Level*, by Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett, has demonstrated that increasing levels of inequality have led to an intensification of a whole range of social ills which affect everyone in society. These include low levels of social trust, mental illness (including drug and alcohol addiction), lower life expectancy and higher infant mortality, obesity, poor educational performance, teenage births, murder, imprisonment rates and reduced social mobility.

The damage done by deep inequality is not just to people living in poverty and deprived conditions. The ill effects extend throughout the social scale, from increased social distance between groups, a collapse of common identity, authoritarianism, heightened competition over status and an unhealthy emphasis on self-interest and material success. The Christian Peoples Alliance will tackle these through the adoption of

policies which build a new common purpose for Britain, where the equal worth before God of every person is recognised. Meaningful and well-paid work must be available to all. But the experience of low status and low esteem that encourages violence, obesity, transient relationships or teenage pregnancy must also be approached by policies that go beyond forcing people into the workforce. It will be tackled by a range of proposals to improve human relationships, including the restoration of respect to other unpaid vocations, such as raising children in secure and loving homes.

Greater social equality will not be found through penal rates of taxation nor increased government spending. Instead, the CPA in Parliament will argue for policies that tackle structural inequalities, such as gross differences in pay rates in both the private sector and public services, whether the banks, public companies, in local authorities, health or the world of quangos. We will challenge the market where it impoverishes people, rules by fear or concentrates power. We will ensure that anyone who works hard earns a decent standard of living, by ending the scandal of in-work poverty.

The Christian Peoples Alliance will not risk the economic recovery or a double-dip recession that will further blight communities and send more people into the ranks of the unemployed. We believe the government was right to use tax-payer funds to intervene to prevent a partial collapse of the banks from becoming a total one. While working to reform our economic and monetary system, the CPA will:

- Support levels of economic demand through central government spending, whilst aiming to halve the deficit within the lifetime of the new Parliament.
- Be honest with the public about the need for deep savings by refusing to ring-fence any area, including health and education.
- End PFI-funded schemes for public works and use primary legislation to take back into public ownership current contracts which are a waste of public money.
- Seek root-and-branch reform to public sector top salaries, beginning with local authorities and quangos. Non-productive posts will be abolished and a ratio of 5 to 1 will be introduced in public bodies between top pay and levels of average pay. This will end obscene inequality, build social solidarity and drive-up poverty rates of pay.
- We will back measures to introduce a new 50p tax rates on earnings over £150,000.
- A transaction tax, such as the proposed Robin Hood tax, will be introduced to generate funds for green and sustainable investment in both Britain and in the developing world.
- Land Value Taxation will be rolled out in preference to

income-based taxes. This will help ensure greater distribution of wealth, as those who benefit most from land value increases do so not from their own skill or industry, but as a consequence of public investment in transport links, health, education and other social spending. LVT will also provide an incentive for efficient use of urban infrastructure.

- Corporate governance rules will be changed to give employees a say in the running of the organisation. Reforms to company law will also be pursued to promote relational forms of business control, such as mutuals and worker co-operatives, so helping to distribute power and wealth.
- Financial capital for social enterprises will be raised through the formation and promotion of a Social Stock Exchange in the City.
- Labour are promising numerous new regulations under new quangos which they intend to set up at the same time as saving £6 billion from the cost of regulation. The two don't add up. The CPA will pursue a framework of encouraging and rewarding responsible behaviour. We are opposed to the idea of numerous new rules and regulations, policed by ombudsmen and committees. Minimum red tape is a pre requisite of an open and prosperous society.

Fairness in Banking

The momentum for reform of international capitalism must see significant changes in how wealth is generated and distributed. The Christian Peoples Alliance will ensure the opportunity is not lost by a return to 'business as usual'; the new Babylon will be confronted by God's standards of economic justice.

For a more equal society to emerge from the global financial crisis, the CPA will work for an end to debt-based economic growth. Labour's policies have led to boom and bust and were based on a bubble of business, government and consumer debt. Since the Thatcher era, £2 trillion has been added to M4 money supply by how the banks manage their loan books. Personal debt in February 2010 stood at £1,464bn – equivalent to an average household debt of £58,083 (including mortgages). Since 2002, the greatest proportion of the money created as interest-bearing loans by the banks has gone into fuelling our housing bubble. This in turn has led to many Britons living beyond their means, fuelling wasteful consumption through a 'buy now, pay later' mentality, bringing deep damage to ecological sustainability. We propose an end to the ability of the banking system to distort economic growth by how they create money for non productive purposes, including casino financial transactions.

We will also support measures that link the pay of corporate chief executives to equity in the company and which tackle the bonus culture. The CPA is guided by

research by the LSE which found the top 10 per cent of City earners are paid a total of £50 billion a year, almost a third of the UK's total wage bill. This is obscene. These "masters of the universe" will be dethroned, having benefited from a huge pay rise under Labour, taking home an extra £12 billion between 1998 and 2008.

If elected, Christian Peoples Alliance MPs will:

- Seek monetary reform so that the financial rewards of money creation do not go to the banks, which use this power to make unprecedented profit levels. It should instead become a prerogative of the people, through the appointment of an Independent Monetary Committee of the Bank of England. Money supply will be controlled not by the banks, but through Committee approvals.
- Laws allowing banks to create new digital money out of nothing in the form of interest-bearing loans will be revoked. Instead, banks must return to their role as financial intermediaries, lending money deposited with them by their customers. If they need new money to loan out for productive purposes in the real economy, banks must obtain funds from the Bank of England, at the Bank rate.
- To ensure development in the most deprived parts of Britain, there will be regional sub-committees of the Bank's Independent Monetary Committee, which will approve the creation of debt-free or interest free money by community or mutual banks, for the development of the real economy, especially green businesses.
- Advice by the Bank of England that banks should be separated into traditional deposit-based High Street banks and riskier investment banks, will be adopted.
- Bonus taxes and higher regulation as proposed by the G20 nations and the Financial Services Authority will be introduced, as these will not cause significant numbers of firms and workers to leave Britain.
- Seek a new global financial system which supports fair and sustainable use of resources. This will require the full regulation of investment funds such as hedge funds and sovereign wealth funds. Anyone trying to get round these controls will face the sanction of having their contracts made unenforceable in law.
- Limits will be introduced on damaging speculation by globally co-ordinated controls on derivatives trading, credit securitisation and other complex instruments. The bonus culture will be tackled as it produces damaging short-term decision-making.
- Unethical behaviour and excess will be tackled through the provision at the Post Office of a Peoples Bank, open to all excluded by current banks. Caps will be introduced on the top rate of APR interest that can be charged on loans and credit by door-step money-lenders. Maximum income multiplier limits will be restored for mortgages.

Greening the Global Economy

Hundreds of thousands of new green jobs will be created by a shift of social investment away from speculative enterprises on the capitalist banking model, towards green technologies and businesses. The Christian Peoples Alliance will see that the rules of the economy are re-written so that there is a humane future for everyone. We favour a new economic model based on biblical justice. The CPA seeks a global economy which operates within the ecological limits of the planet; eradicates poverty and tackles inequality; and ensures the human rights of all are met.

As Christian Democrats, we will act to challenge blind faith in the virtues of markets, the lack of accountability of financial institutions, offshore and non-transparent financial centres and inadequate regulation of finance, which have all played a part in the world credit crisis. In their place, the CPA will argue for accountable financial institutions, an end to 'shadow' banking and an international system of regulation of markets and products which outlaws rogue jurisdictions. We also acknowledge that the developed world has grown rich at the expense of others and pledge to restore justice.

The first and over-riding priority is to prepare for the end of the carbon-based economy, whether in energy consumption, agricultural production or the activities of industry. We favour a sustained programme of investment in energy conservation, localised energy generation and renewable technologies as the primary means to boost economic demand, rather than reliance on money-supply solutions.

Planning must be undertaken to see the national housing stock becomes carbon-neutral and CO₂ reduction targets are met. The scandalous failure of Labour to deliver new council housing will be addressed. All new developments will include 50 per cent affordable housing and homes insulated so that fuel bills are cut and people stay warm.

In Parliament, we will act to take the following steps:

- Challenge the 'business as usual' approach to running the economy, where increasing levels of consumption have eaten into the ecological capital of Britain.
- Invest in new technologies so that by 2015, an additional 250,000 green jobs are found nationally on top of current government commitments, through home insulation, carbon capture systems and electric cars.

- Multi-national companies will be compelled to act in a transparent and accountable manner. Governance and social and environmental impacts will be obligatory requirements for company listing and reporting.
- Acting on the deal at Copenhagen, we will implement substantial cuts in CO₂ and other greenhouse gases to meet the imperative of keeping global average temperature increases as far below 2C as possible. This requires cuts in the range of 25-40% below 1990 levels by 2020.
- We support the goal of 80 per cent decarbonisation and will use a mix of market signals, regulation and massive investment in energy efficiency and renewables to achieve this.
- Carbon rationing is needed. We back an EU trading system which sets a control total for the industries within the regime and lets the market in carbon allocations chase down the most efficient ways of making cuts.



The Rhythm of Rural Britain

Policies for the development and growth of the rural economy will be guided by our commitment to wise stewardship. The approach of the CPA is to measure every policy by the cost in oppression, of injustice, of ill-treatment of domestic livestock and over-exploitation of the land. This principle of restraint, on the use of land, livestock and labour, on the concentration of wealth, and on expansionism, is drawn from many Biblical themes, especially the sabbath. Our view of agriculture rests firmly on our understanding that "the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." (Psalm 24:1) We are therefore committed to policies that conserve biodiversity, sustain relationships necessary for the survival of the rural economy and which manage scarce resources in a more sustainable manner.

Our objectives are:

- To see a radical constraint on relentless production and consumption. We will ensure there is protection of those in rural Britain without a voice and without power - the poor, livestock and the land. Christian Democrats believe that the land is a gift entrusted to the people by God. The earth and everything in it are not ours to do with what we will, but the Lord's. We will therefore make conservation of the countryside a priority and support steps towards organic conversion and fairer prices to all producers.
- The market for rural products, including the food system is increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few large corporations, leaving producers powerless and, often, the environment wasted. To tackle this, the CPA will back local solutions that rest the future of farming on small farms and businesses.
- Our policies to green the economy will ensure that local consumption of food is sourced to local producers, so avoiding the costs of long-distance transport. We will back local branding, the purchase by public authorities like schools and care homes of locally sourced food, farmers' markets and marketing support for local producers.
- Unrestrained market forces are not compatible with care for the poor and stewardship of the earth. The CPA will therefore be a voice in favour of reform of the EU Common Agricultural Policy, so that it protects the environment, traditional farming, organic systems and the vitality of rural communities.
- The EU Common Fisheries Policy is failing both conservation of fish stocks and the viability of the fishing industry. We will back the case for a greater say in the management of national waters and will press for new conservation zones which protect fish stocks and place endangered marine wildlife like dolphins as a foremost concern. We will end fish discards and oppose whaling.
- The future dependence of the rural economy rests not just on support for local farming, but also on pursuing export opportunities for agricultural products. For this reason, we oppose the introduction of GM crops and will ensure consumers can make informed choices about GM by clearer labelling.
- We oppose the further development and introduction of germination-inhibiting Terminator Technology. The primary motivation of seed companies is product control and not the public good. The possibility of cross-species infiltration is not well understood and a serious risk to food security exists if the terminator technology gets out of control.
- The CPA recognises the need for diversification on farms and will therefore back measures in the rural economy that promotes tourism, more bed and breakfast accommodation and diversity of the rural economic base, such as sustainable bio-fuels. We also will keep post office facilities available to rural communities.
- There is a serious threat to the health of rural communities of young families being priced out of the housing market and from the unavailability of homes to rent. CPA proposes a dual approach. First, we will allow local authorities in rural areas greater freedom to build homes for rent. In addition, we will permit planning authorities to impose restrictions on house purchases, similar to those implemented in the English Lake District, so long as significant benefits to the economic and cultural health of the area can be demonstrated.
- Improvements in animal welfare will be pursued by CPA, including a ban on all live exports, a restriction in the routine use of antibiotics in livestock and by pressing for an EU-wide ban on all battery farming.
- The church in rural Britain, through its cycle of prayer and celebration, involvement at crucial stages of life, its ministers and buildings, contributes to a sense of belonging and well being for many people. The CPA will ensure that government and the voluntary and community sectors recognise and acknowledge this contribution of faith to the rhythm and vibrancy of Britain's rural community.



"Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you..."

Jeremiah 29:5-7

Tackling the Jobs Crisis

For Britain to stay competitive, sustained effort must go into preparing the workforce to face the challenges of the global economy. Our family and relationship policies will tackle educational under-achievement by direct improvement in the socialisation of children and young people; companies often complain that lack of character is as much a problem as lack of formal school qualifications.

A culture of workforce development will be developed among the business community to address the UK's skills needs and improve productivity. Too many of the working population have difficulties in finding gainful employment because they have no qualifications.

- The CPA will introduce commercially-run "career teleports" which will supply skilled labour for specific demand, so upgrading skills for all who enrol. They will be tasked with re-skilling people excluded from the active workforce.
- By rolling-out the Citylife's Zero-Coupon BOOST Bonds on a national basis, the CPA will raise new funds to bring people the skills they need to join the workforce and hope of finding meaningful work; the voluntary sector has a good track record of reaching out to those difficult to reach.
- We are committed to the provision of interest free loans and the start of mutual guarantee schemes. Services provided will include micro business start up funds, partnerships with corporate buyers and suppliers to get help in kind and start up facilities.

Young people have a diversity of talents and differing aptitudes that need to be properly recognised as of equal importance in sustaining the diversity necessary for a balanced economy. The government's aspiration for 50% of school leavers to enter Higher Education has damaged academic standards. It has also frustrated many students who would have been far more successful learning a trade or pursuing other vocational career pathways. The principle of day-release and apprenticeship is sound, but there has been little incentive for either large or small and medium enterprises to invest in their workforce. In place of apprenticeships have come a variety of short term programmes, with associated training too superficial to be of benefit to employers. Quick fixes have to end.

The CPA is convinced that Higher Education should provide future leaders within industry, commerce and government. This will come through research pathways for genuine creativity within the arts and sciences, which may not only have an immediate economic impact but enhance wisdom and societal values. We will

face up to the challenge of first degree graduates coming away with little understanding of the world they enter by giving them the discipline needed to stimulate and sustain the innovative spirit that is vital within a global competitive environment.

To encourage a vocational approach to learning, the CPA will support measures that:

- Encourage the identification of natural talents and aptitudes within students whilst at school and vocational routes where this is appropriate, rather than pushing all along the Higher Education pathway.
- Invest in national apprenticeship schemes embedded in the workplace, connected closely to Colleges of Further Education. Increase the focus of FE colleges on vocational training, and confine university courses to existing established universities.
- Remove the government's micro-management strategy of a 'push' culture of training from colleges so that course material is truly relevant to the needs of business and commerce.
- Build into all Higher Education first degree courses assessed preparation for entering the workplace, enhanced by input from regional and local employers, with training in entrepreneur skills.
- Ensure that university and college campus services, such as student union bodies, reflect the principles of freedom of reasonable speech and expression.
- Research Funding Councils must support programmes which move knowledge into new ground, even if there is risk attached, in order to discourage trivial and repetitive studies with little added value. Unethical research projects will be ended.

Fairness in the workplace

Our aim of seeing a more equal society will only happen when significant change happens in how work is shared out and how far society permits the free market to impact on social priorities. Under both Labour and the Conservatives, frequent promises have been made about "flexible working", "family friendly" working practices and rights to (unpaid) time off work. The intention is to help employers retain their best staff and give employees choice about when to work. But the stark reality for hundreds of thousands is that the only choice they have is to accept low paid jobs, in exploitative conditions and with unsocial hours. This will be faced up to.

Under Labour, a huge divide has grown between highly paid executives and their workforces. As a step towards ensuring fairness at work, the CPA will continue to act as the Champion of a Living Wage for all workers. We also want a better work and life balance for all, not just the well-off who can afford it. The hours of work undertaken in the United Kingdom are more than three hours a week

greater than the European average.

The Christian Peoples Alliance will highlight demands on many fathers and mothers who are effectively cut off from their children for much of their childhood and school years by the working and commuting hours to which they are committed by their job. To leave for work before the children are up and get home after they have gone to bed is a deep grief to tens of thousands of fathers and many mothers. Children experience a deep hunger for the time their parents cannot give them.

It is easy to assume that things cannot change, but it is possible, relatively quickly, to change the work patterns of substantial numbers of people for the better.

- Working with business organisations, unions and employers forums, the Christian Peoples Alliance will identify ways of overcoming problems related to over-work, so that time is released for people to spend in rest and recreation and in developing relationships, especially with older relatives and with children.
- Restoring Sunday as a day of rest would be a radical social revolution - slowing the pace of life, tackling the waste of resources and confronting empty consumerism. We will make it obligatory to close most retail outlets by limiting the numbers who can be employed on any premises to 5 people on a Sunday, at Easter and at Christmas.
- The human cost of unsocial hours will be recognised by the restoration of pay and a half or double pay for shift and essential weekend or bank holiday working. In many instances, transferable tax allowances for married couples will also liberate one partner from the need to bring in additional income through unsocial hours working.
- The CPA will enforce the provisions of the Working Time Directive, which prevents working in excess of 48 hours per week. We will end the UK's opt out option.
- Transitional tax credits will be made available to help unemployed people take jobs offered to them far from home, so they are not deterred from re-entering the jobs market by the cost of travel.
- The CPA will also support a Living Wage for all workers of £7.40 an hour to ensure those on low incomes are not forced to work excessive hours to make ends meet.
- The Trades Union Congress estimates that one in five British workers are low paid and without any form of collective representation. The CPA will act to improve the position of millions of workers who face low wages, poor conditions and major difficulties in organising at work, by improving collective organisation and giving them a political voice.
- We will act on behalf of many immigrants and agency workers who are vulnerable because of their immigration and/or employment status by our policy for a migrant amnesty, so driving up wages.

The Digital Economy

The media industries will play an important part in delivering future prosperity for Britain. The Christian Peoples Alliance backs measures that will see every household and business having access to broadband and the ambition of seeing superfast broadband by the end of this next Parliament. Labour's digital plans do not go far enough or quickly enough as large parts of Britain have operators delivering slow broadband speeds through existing cable networks, with mobile broadband filling the gaps. The CPA will not rely on laissez-faire market-led solutions, but will advocate interventionist policies to develop a modern digital fibre optic infrastructure.

We see an important part to be played by the BBC in increasing take-up of broadband, but we oppose "top-slicing" of the licence fee to fund the public service output of commercial broadcasters emerging into broadband or terrestrial television. As Christian Democrats, we also share deep public concern at the way Labour's digital legislation introduces illiberal and penal measures against individuals abusing internet-based commercial rights. We will seek to repeal and amend these measures so that legitimate entrepreneurial activities of individuals and smaller companies are protected, and the burden of innocence is reverted to demonstrating proof of guilt.

The CPA will argue for policies that tackle unequal access to the internet and which protect and enhance creative media industries for the wider public good.

- A levy will be placed on the hefty profits of mobile phone firms and of broadcasters such as Sky and Virgin, who currently have no obligation to provide public service content. This will be used to pay for children's, arts, religious and science programming, as well as news and documentaries, on C4 or any other broadcaster who wanted to bid for it. This will include Christian broadcasters, whether niche channels or development charities reporting on their work abroad through internet-TV. We will end discrimination against Christians from holding some TV and radio broadcasting licences.
- We oppose Labour's £6.00 a year consumer charge. Our preference is for a 1 per cent levy on Virgin Media and BSkyB revenues, which could raise an estimated £70 million per year for quality broadcasting. Another £210 million a year could be raised through a 1 per cent levy on mobile phone companies.
- Takeover applications in regional and local press must continue to be subject to Office of Fair Trading regulations; we oppose attempts by the monopoly providers to relax the rules. We will also end local councils distributing papers which promote

themselves. These tax subsidised newspapers lack impartiality, undermine democracy and create unfair competition.

- Australia's proposals for mandatory ISP-blocking of 18+ rated content will be introduced to create a cyber-wall around the nation, so tackling what the Home Office has called the 'pornification of Britain'. The CPA will put an end to the sexualisation of public spaces, by bearing down on imagery distributed through mobile phones, the internet, advertising and other media, including retail outlets.
- CPA MPs will use their votes in Parliament to support the independence of the BBC and the continued provision of the licence fee. But we will abolish the heavy bureaucracy of the BBC Trust and restore the Governors. They will have new responsibilities over openness, the maintenance of editorial standards and putting an end to trash programming, especially where it vilifies Christianity.

Getting Britain Moving

Conservative and Labour botched programmes of privatisation have left Britain's transport infrastructure in a costly mess. The CPA number one priority is to make the systems we have work for the whole public. Getting the nation moving again requires investment in high-capacity infrastructure. But improving the efficient use of existing bus, rail and road capacity is as much a management issue as investment. This means finding out why the record is so unreliable and then doing something about it. Clear lines of responsibility will be established for the whole rail network. Sympathetic consideration will be given to re-opening moth-balled railway lines, such as the Oxford to Bletchley Line.

Business knows the real costs of stressed out and often late employees. But rising fares will not pay for the work needed to bring transport into the 21st century. The CPA therefore favours precepts on business to help pay for major capital investment in the cities, such as London. In this way, the new east-west Crossrail line will be completed by means of LVT on businesses which will directly benefit by improved infrastructure capacity of 10 per cent. In addition, the CPA favours the use of Peoples Bonds to raise new finance for a new high-speed line going from North to South. Key stakeholders, the citizens of each conurbation, from Birmingham, Manchester, the East Midlands, Sheffield and Leeds up to the border with Scotland will each have the right to purchase a bond and so directly influence the improvement of their city.

Traffic movements around cities will be made faster by investing in orbital coach systems, served by a necklace of transfer points at radial roads and motorways. This will create an efficient alternative to the car. We will reduce transport demand and congestion by making walking and

cycling real choices. Congestion charging and road pricing will be used to manage peak car movements, in return for new investment in public transport.

Since 2004, the CPA has been concerned about the environmental damage and CO₂ emissions linked to the expansion of Heathrow Airport. CPAMPs will therefore do all they can to oppose a new third runway.

Greener and Affordable housing

Affordable housing is in increasingly short supply, with spiralling waiting lists and many households priced out of the private market. The CPA will lead the drive to make the ideal of affordable housing a reality by tackling both demand for units and insufficient supply. The approach we take is distinctive in that the secular parties discount the importance of relationship breakdown when it comes to the need for emergency housing units, or the general demand for new homes. Giving support to relationships and the permanence offered by marriage, will stem family and relationship breakdown, which accounts for as much as a third of homeless people who say they are seeking accommodation.

The CPA will take a radical and innovative approach to the national shortage of housing.

- Unused development areas will be identified and landowners, whether public or private, approached to deliver significant new build. We shall also promote shared-equity schemes and leasehold arrangements where key workers can buy homes but not the land on which they are built, so making property more affordable.
- Empty homes will be brought back into use and buildings converted to residential or mixed use. There are at least 300,000 such private sector homes and another 35,000 empty council homes which must be made available.
- Young people are willing to accept the choice of apartment or condominium-style living if it means having a home. Developers must accept that desire and not equate affordable housing with just semi-detached or detached solutions.
- Ensure that 90% of housing is CO₂ neutral by 2050 through housing developments that are carbon neutral and by shifting investment into insulation of existing housing stock.
- CPA will ensure that new developments do not place unrealistic burdens on existing infrastructure, or are built on vulnerable flood plains. Consideration will be given over re-using extant trackbed, to return it to the infrastructure.



Marriage and Relationship Support

Breaking the Cycle of Deprivation

Relationships are the missing piece of the political puzzle. To experience well-being, individuals need to have close and long-term social relationships. For society to flourish, government must ensure that close social bonds are supported and not under-mined. For these reasons, inequality will not be tackled successfully until the state backs family relationships. The Christian Peoples Alliance will ensure government wakes up to the powerful reality that the fastest way to deprivation and poverty of life experience is for a person's close relationships to break down. That is why the one policy that will make the most difference to improving the health and stability of modern society is for government to support and strengthen both marriage and family life and put it at the heart of all social policy.

Like Labour, when it comes to real definitions, the Tory notion of a family seems to be 'a group of people who share a fridge.' This isn't good enough. Cameron's Conservatives are deeply split over whether to tackle one of the key causes of Breakdown Britain, the collapse of married families. They could have listened to Iain Duncan Smith, who wanted to see £20.00 a week go into the pockets of hard-pressed families. Instead, they have fallen foul of the PC-brigade, by a promise of just £3.00 a week – the price for Notting Hill Conservatives of adding syrup to a latte. Their policy will make little difference in tackling the married couple penalty or in extending choice to women over whether to work. Neither will their proposals go far in tackling endemic child poverty.

The unequivocal commitment of Christian Democrats to marriage is based on overwhelming sociological evidence that marriage matters. The traditional family structure, centred upon a loving and faithful relationship between a husband and a wife, is the building block of our society. But it faces attack from every political quarter, left, right and centre. Families today are both more diverse and more fragile than a generation ago, leading to far-reaching consequences, especially for children and the elderly. Three-quarters of children in some parts of Britain will be born to unmarried mothers within the next parliament, according to data from the Office for National Statistics. Nationally, the number of births to single mothers and unmarried cohabiting couples is set to exceed 50% across the country in the next five years. More single parents are caught in poverty traps. And

married couples are also caught in poverty because of means tested benefits and tax credits. In Parliament the CPA will address this by assessing all legislation and policy for its impact on families, for instance whether it strengthens their relationships or undermines their capacity to survive and grow.

The CPA opposes Conservative and Liberal Democrat ideas to extend marriage to homosexual couples. Studies in the UK, US and Australia show that marriage has important social benefits that are not provided by alternative domestic arrangements such as co-habiting couples, same-sex partnerships or lone parents. Children brought up and nurtured within the stability and commitment of marriage are significantly more likely to be socially adjusted and educationally successful than those of any other arrangements. Children living with co-habiting couples for instance are 50% more likely to have mental health problems than those with married couples.

The CPA will support all parents whatever their status in the challenges they face in child rearing, especially through our measures to tackle poverty. However, there is a direct correlation between the decline of marriage in Britain and the rise of adolescent anti-social behaviour, the yob culture and teenage pregnancies. The Christian Peoples Alliance party will therefore ensure that marriage is centre-stage in any debate about social problems amongst young people.

There is also clear evidence to show that people can be encouraged to form stable family units as a result of changes to the tax and benefits system. Our financial programme backing marriage will therefore not be available to co-habiting couples and is deliberately intended as government recognition of the social responsibilities assumed by two people when they choose to marry. In drawing-up these proposals, we will ensure that widows or widowers or orphaned children are not disadvantaged.

In Parliament, the Christian Peoples Alliance will take the following action:

- Challenge piece-meal responses to deep fractures in society by addressing all the paths to poverty together; family breakdown, serious personal debt, drug and alcohol addiction, failed education, worklessness and dependency. We want a lasting solution to poverty that tackles all these paths at the same time. Marriage alone will not tackle poverty and it is for this reason we will advance support for families on all fronts.
- Give women real choice by making mothering at home pay. A child's education developmental score at 22 months accurately predicts their success in education at the age of 26. This means that government mandates to get women to work must take second-place to supporting a child's emotional

and cognitive development. The CPA will therefore introduce Transferable Personal Allowances for Income Tax (£6,475 for 2010-11) for married couples. This would allow the working spouse to take over the tax-free income allowance of the other spouse. For a typical married family with one earner this would boost take-home income by £1295 a year - £25 a week, reducing the financial pressure for carers to give up their role and re-enter the workplace before they are ready to do so. This will put £1.5 billion into families, depending on take up.

- Tackle child poverty and the financial causes of family breakdown through new Child Tax Allowances of £2,373 per child to all parents, with one of the parents to receive by agreement. For couples with 2 children aged up to 20 this could be worth £1000 per year. The cost of this will be £4 billion a year based on claims for 13.1 million under aged 18 and rate of tax at 31%.
- Front load benefits as a further way of allowing parents the financial freedom to stay at home to care for their children if they choose. We will do this through Child Benefit increases of £10 per week per child. Cost £6.8 billion a year based on claims for 13.1 million children aged under 18.
- Recognise that raising children is expensive. There is a clear public interest in the state supporting married couples who have children. The CPA will do this through a Child within Marriage Gratuity. This will be worth £1,000, with parents deciding on which of them is to receive it. Other help will be available to tackle child poverty regardless of parental marital status. This Gratuity will cost the Exchequer £37 million.
- Recognise the social value of marriage. The CPA will reverse the value-neutral attitude of the state towards marriage by introducing a First Marriage Gratuity. Many couples have to choose between the costs of establishing a home and making the public commitment involved in marriage. A grant of £2,000 to set up home will become payable when both parties are marrying for the first time. For 150,000 such marriages a year, this will cost £300 million.
- Take a radical approach towards improving the quality of family relationships and reducing family breakdown. We will support marriage preparation and preventative relationship and parenting education by the voluntary sector for 800,000 families per year at an annual cost of £200 million. We want to promote reconciliation where marriages enter difficulties, not mediation that's designed to facilitate divorce.
- Restore Sure Start programmes as a means of supporting needy families. Labour introduced the worst way imaginable of structuring financial support for childcare by creating one system (the childcare element of the Working Tax Credit) for helping low

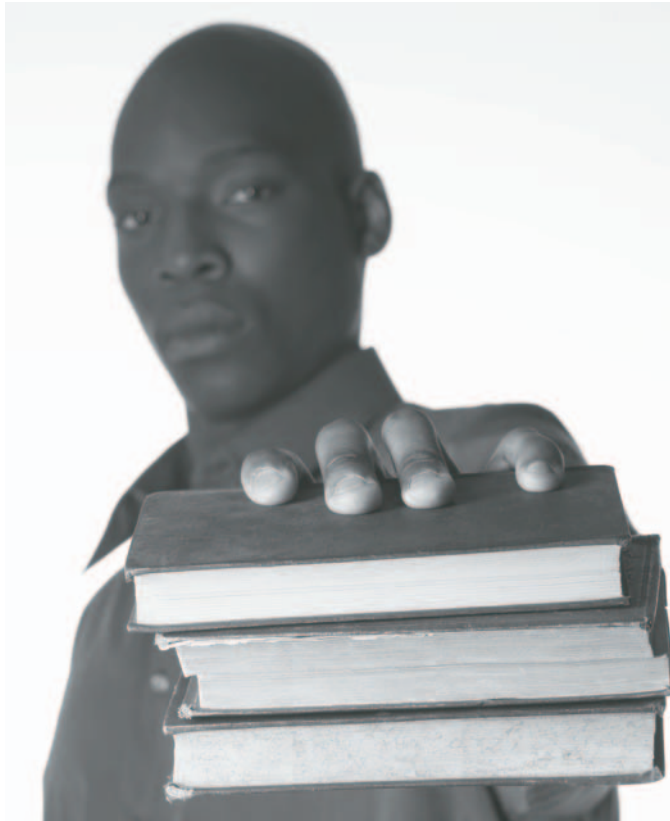
income households and another (tax relief on childcare vouchers) targeted primarily at middle-income households. It also made a mistake in allowing funds in the Sure Start scheme (designed to help youngsters in difficulties or trouble in damaged families) to be diverted to child care schemes.

- The social and emotional costs of relationship breakdown are incalculable. But the financial costs of family breakdown are thought to be in the region of £102 billion a year. It has been estimated that as well as the huge added demand for housing units, social costs are £24 billion per year, educational under achievement £18 billion a year and the costs of crime £60 billion per year. Family breakdown alone costs each taxpayer up to £800 annually. The Christian Peoples Alliance expects to pay for our family-friendly policies in part by making considerable long term savings in state expenditure through our policy solutions to tackle social breakdown.

There is a wider issue of paying for future welfare. The demographic changes since 2005 are clear. Most adult women are not now married. There is some recovery in the birth rate but it remains below replacement level. The financial strains of the burden of the aged both in respect of healthcare and pension provision will become much heavier in a further 5 years.

Raising pensionable age will do little to lessen this cost burden while it aggravates the problems of the unemployed young, especially young graduates seeking professional and administrative posts. It is therefore a priority to apply the "early intervention" principle, which will be achieved by our incentives to marriage at the point when a child is born. The cost of restoring balance to the UK population will be paid for by the savings outlined, together with:

- Reducing the personal allowance for unmarried income tax payers by £750 to produce £2 billion a year in added revenue.
- Tax bank bonuses to raise £1 billion for our marriage and family proposals.
- Pre-school education is a huge drain on family budgets, with the average cost of a nursery place for a child over two at £156 a week. Rather than financing the placement of children into such schemes, the CPA will put money back into the pockets of families who would rather they raised their own children than require the state to do so. We will increase age for state sponsored childcare from under 2 to 3, bringing savings of around £250million a year.
- Divert funds from state nurseries to mothers clubs for shared childcare. Church groups and other voluntary arrangements will also qualify for aid. No net cost.



Character-based Education

A child's education is the prime responsibility of its parents, which it is the duty of government not to undermine. As Christian Democrats, we oppose encroaching interference by the state on this sphere and will work instead to improve standards by supporting the choices parents make for their children, especially those based on Christian virtues. The CPA has resisted attempts by Labour, Liberal Democrat and Conservative politicians to impose anti-family values on even our youngest primary-aged children. In Parliament we will act as champions of faith-based education and defend church schools from interference by the state. The dangers are stark; if the Liberal Democrats have their way, parental opt-out from SRE on grounds of conscience will go and the imposition of quotas on church schools will destroy both their ethos and character.

The approach which marks out the Christian Peoples Alliance is our commitment to the highest ideals of liberal education - the formation of the whole person. Schooling at its best opens up new horizons, broadens the imagination, gives space to the flourishing of the human spirit and helps form the character of the individual. For this reason Christian Democrats do not believe that education is primarily about exam results and league tables. Our approach is to impart a clear sense of moral rights and responsibilities and foster the

*Instruct a wise man and
he will be wiser still;
teach a righteous man
and he will add to his
learning.*

*The fear of the Lord is
the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the
Holy One is
understanding.*

Proverbs 9:9-10

ideas of citizenship and the common good. We recognise these can be achieved just as well by home-schoolers.

Lack of self-esteem in young people is often paralleled by self obsessions. These are products of the pressures of our consumerist culture, where to be rich, attractive or powerful are held up as the highest goals of life. Space is needed in schools to allow worldly values to be tested and true self-love to be understood. The CPA will therefore cut back on the requirements of the National Curriculum in order to allow teachers to impart the gifts of their vocation. Schools cannot be expected to deal with every problem of society. This is why what happens in the home determines patterns of behaviour through life. The CPA will not rely solely on testing in schools and endless school re-organisation to improve educational outcomes. Just as important to children and raising standards is tackling poverty and supporting stability in the home, which comes through loving parental relationships. For this reason, schools will be places where honesty, motivation, self-worth, moral values and a respect for God and neighbour are valued as highly as prowess in others areas of school life.

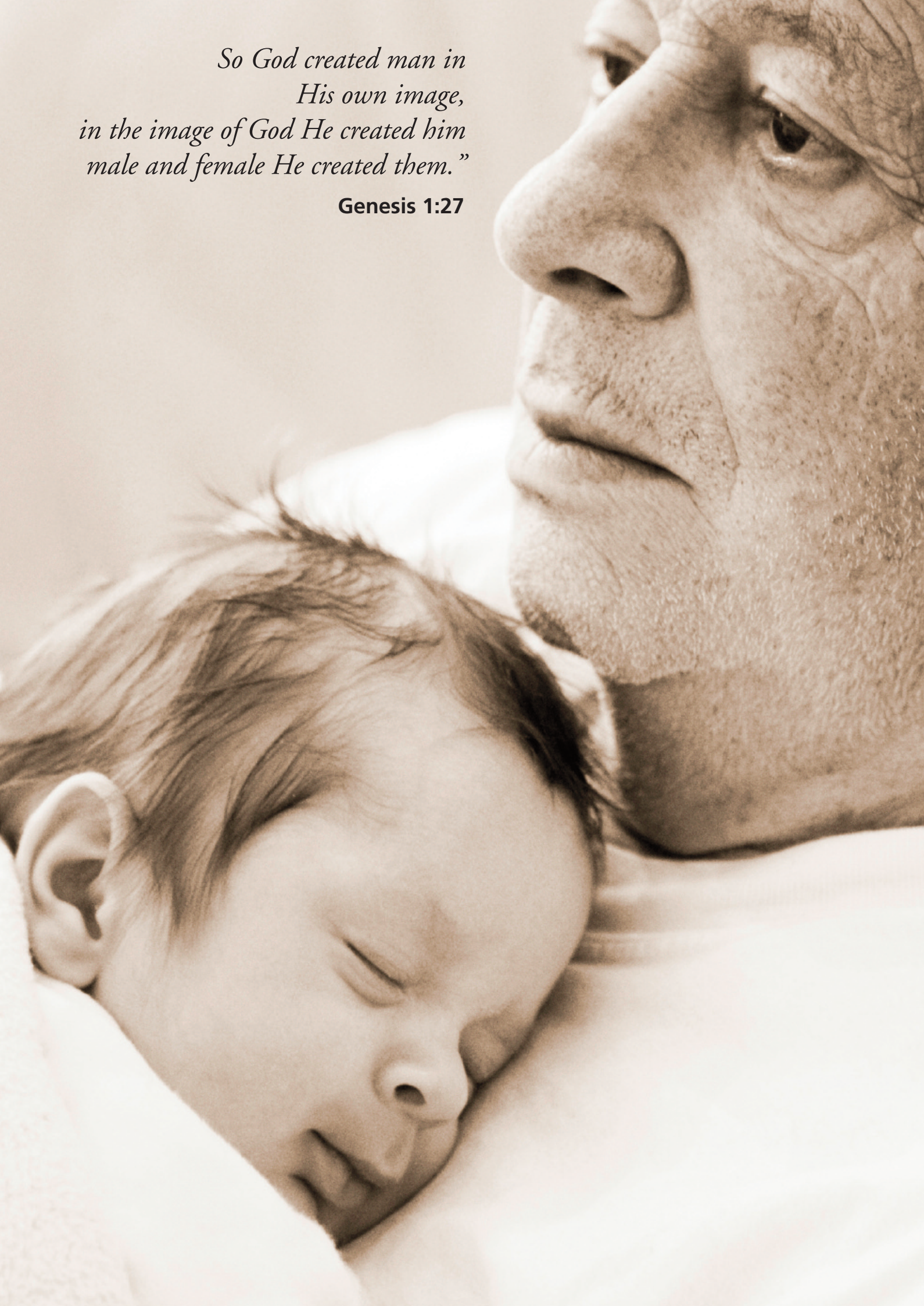
Faith-based schooling, reflecting all traditions, is one of the success stories of the British education system, bringing students together from different ethnic backgrounds and modelling the best of what all schools should be about. In this election, all the secular parties threaten church schools in one way or other. Not only will the CPA challenge this, our MPs will ensure new Christian schools are built in areas of high economic deprivation, open to all who agree with its values and mission.

In Parliament, the CPA will:

- Invest in mothers not state nurseries. The early years of a child's life are critical to their future well-being. But many women who would like to stay at home with their children are being forced out into the workplace by government policies. Placing their child in a nursery is not the preferred option and also denies the fundamental needs of the young child. Labour and Conservative policy is to shift resources just to the minority of women who prefer to work through placing their children in nurseries. Our approach is different.
- The CPA will act on research that shows 60-70 per cent of women reduce their hours of employment or leave the workplace completely when their children are young. Our tax allowances and child grants will work with the grain of the natural maternal instincts of most women, recognise the sacrifices made in child-rearing and give real choice to women as well as men.
- Scale back Testing and the National Curriculum. Unnecessary tests have undermined teaching. They are the equivalent of getting children to jump through hoops. The CPA will stem "teaching to the tests" by cutting back on them and will give greater freedom to schools to choose what subjects are offered on the timetable. Testing will be replaced by records of student achievement.
- So, Year 6 SAT testing in primaries will be replaced by peer-moderated teacher assessment, supervised by senior teaching staff with external assessors sitting in. Guidelines will be established and then by 'moderating' schools across a borough, we will ensure a standardisation of assessment is reached within each LEA. These will then be rolled out across the regions and then the nation.
- The CPA will replace Ofsted inspections by peer moderated assessments, using the model used by Universities and Primary Care Trusts in the health service. This is because Ofsted 'snapshots' of a school's performance often lack depth and focus. We favour a mixture of localization and external moderation, as such assessors know all the right questions to ask and 'tricks' that could be used in their answering. We will ensure good practice is fed back and implemented.
- Methods known to improve reading at primary level, such as systematic synthetic phonics, will carry our support. Giving greater freedom to schools will be mirrored in other ways, such as capital investment to allow new kitchens, with school meals made to nutrition standards set by the Soil Association.
- Revitalise the Christian contribution to all schools. Under the 1944 Education Act, every school may benefit from Christian worship and values. The CPA will ensure every LEA has the resources and expertise to uphold the law in creative and attractive ways that help meet the spiritual needs of children. This will relate to collective worship, Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education, relationships and Religious Education.
- Empower young people to resist social pressure. Only the CPA will ensure that Christian ethics in relationships are taught as normative for all school-children, regardless of the character of the school. The ambivalence of the secular parties over sexual morality is badly failing generations of children, when they most need guarding against me-first, consumerist choices.
- Schools will be expected to approach the issue of increased under-age pregnancies and STDs by teaching the stability offered by marriage and by encouraging sexual abstinence. Pupils will be taught the skills and confidence to make right choices, especially when faced by the challenges of alcohol and substance abuse. Parental responsibility must not be undermined, so aiding and abetting illegal sexual activity among under-16s will be penalised.
- Christian schools for deprived communities. The CPA opposes Conservative plans for state-funded 'independents', especially as new Swedish-style academies set up by Christian groups will be subject to government interference over admissions. We instead favour new cross-denominational schools with a Christian ethos and mission to serve deprived districts, accountable to the community through the local education authority. We will ensure they have admissions policies which are open to more non-church going families who subscribe to the Christian ethos of the school.
- The CPA will resist all attempts to interfere with the right of denominational schools to decide their own admissions policies. Working with the diocesan educational boards, we will renew Christian teacher training colleges as places where the highest standards of teaching are developed and the idea of Christian vocation restored.
- In the current economic climate, the nation cannot afford to abolish fees for students, as building a fairer society requires investment at earlier stages of a child's life. However, the vital role of universities in the sphere of education has to be protected from an emerging funding crisis. The Christian Peoples Alliance will therefore endow universities to ensure they remain world competitive and also establish a new, Christian university based on models successful in Europe.
- These goals will be achieved by allocating the anticipated windfall when terrestrial television broadcasting is ended in favour of digital broadcasting and then selling off the spectrum. We also favour a campaign of corporate giving.

*So God created man in
His own image,
in the image of God He created him
male and female He created them.”*

Genesis 1:27



Promoting a Healthy Society

At the heart of our policy to improve health in Britain is the CPA commitment to support relationships and families. Relationship breakdown impacts health, wealth and well being - the three things it is known people are most interested in. These in turn put more pressure on relationships, making the cycle of breakdown more likely to continue. Relationships contribute to health. More than that, relationships redefine what is meant by health. The aim of the Christian Peoples Alliance for the NHS is to create a more integrated, modernized service which will improve public health and provide high-quality care, through a decentralized healthcare system. But these objectives will only be achieved when government across all departments 'family-proof' their policies, with relationships guiding all decision-making.

The Christian Peoples Alliance is convinced that relationships and social support are critical to wellbeing. So any attempts to 'seek a healthier nation' must also include a concern for the relational fabric of society. It is known that caring is important for the wellbeing of patients. So, relationships with patients and working practices will be supported to enable effective caring by healthcare professionals to take place. Effective delivery requires collaboration between individuals, professions and organizations, so the obstacles to such collaboration will be overcome by the decisions CPA ministers take in government.

A compassionate society that values relationships above material possessions will be a slower and less dysfunctional society. We will ensure that health problems associated with the consumerist society will be made part of the economic equation and not just addressed once people become ill. This means watching out for the stress that modern life in Britain loads on people, especially the less well off, who are most likely to suffer health problems. Employers will be asked to address working hours, especially weekend working, so that time is released for people to spend in rest and recreation and in developing relationships, especially with older relatives and children. An economy less demanding of energy will see a reduction in pollution. Less reliance on industrialised food production will also have direct health benefits.

The preventative approach taken by the CPA will also see a reduction in spending on health, where £11.8 billion of NHS resources is directly linked to the health impact of relationship breakdown. But we would go further, whilst not harming front-line services.

With Treasury figures pointing to levels of national net debt of £1.4 trillion by spring 2015, it would be irresponsible of any political party to ring-fence health

spending. But that is what the two major parties have done. For example, from £4 billion a year in the early 1990s, spending on drugs is now in the region of £18 billion, with questions over how far we can measure real improvements in the nation's health. We would look hard to make savings here, by renegotiating contracts with the drugs companies and by tackling what has been called the "medicalisation of the normal". GPs who issue prescriptions would be required to take a firmer approach, as prescriptions have doubled in the nineties to an average 16 per head of population per year.

In Parliament, we will:

- End the culture of bureaucracy. The CPA will radically re-organise the NHS to replace central direction from Whitehall. It is patients and health professionals who can best determine what is best in each individual case. Bureaucratic considerations must not prevail over clinical judgements. We will lead an open and transparent dialogue between the medical profession and wider society over the affordability of non-essential treatments.
- Undertake the reconsideration of the mechanisms used by NICE to reach its decisions. We pledge to deliver the particular needs of wounded or traumatised UK service personnel. There will be an end to mixed-sex wards.
- Ensure hospitals, clinics and care homes become locally-owned, self-managing institutions on the model of voluntary societies under independent Boards answerable to the community they serve. The CPA will look to remove or reduce the Regional Health Authorities which add little or nothing to front line services except cost. We will commission a White Paper on moving towards a National Health Insurance Service to pay the costs of healthcare.
- End national collective pay-bargaining for health professionals, so allowing employers to pay local rates that attract the best staff. Bodies such as the General Medical Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council will lose their monopoly position, so that there is greater diversity of provision of qualified professionals. We seek the restoration of Christian providers of health-related training, so restoring the notion of vocation to health. These could be linked to new Christian colleges.
- Restore fair access to health care by ensuring that national standards of provision are the benchmarks rather than targets. National standards will also be applied immediately in relation to cleaning wards and tackling the scourge of antibiotic-resistant infection. There will be a shift in emphasis towards public health grounded in the principles of fair access, concordance/partnerships in health, lifestyle management, prevention measures, recovery and rehabilitation.

Respect for the Human Person

Under successive Conservative and Labour governments, life itself has become consumerised. The pervasive view pushed by secularists is that no individual has intrinsic value. We see this in every aspect of health care, from attitudes towards the unborn, through 'consumer choice' of treatments, to the demise of the terminally ill. It is no co-incidence that where euthanasia is practised, most killings of old or sick people happen in June, so that families aren't burdened over their summer holidays.

The Christian Peoples Alliance is committed to protecting the most vulnerable people in society, including children, born and unborn, all who are sick, or are older, or living with disabilities or addictions. So, the traditional Christian emphasis on care and compassion will be restored across health and social services. As God values everyone equally, full protection of the law will be given to individuals from conception (fertilisation) to natural death. This will not be left to the flawed consciences of individuals. The CPA is unashamed to make this the foremost priority of our party and so we have made it a mandate upon all elected in our name as Christian Democrats.

In Parliament, we will:

- Ensure an uncompromising pro-life ethic is re-established across the NHS. The right to life is the right from which all others flow. 'Doing no harm' will be restored as the paramount principle in health care. As a first step, we will seek to repeal the 1967 Abortion Act. An end will be put to the use of the morning after pill.
- Offer positive alternatives to abortion. To deter the back street abortionists, the CPA will provide direct support to pro-life caring agencies in their counselling and bereavement work with women. Our new child allowances will tackle financial reasons justifying abortion.
- In conjunction with local authorities, caring agencies and the faith communities, the CPA will ensure that no woman seeks an abortion because of a lack of accommodation, baby essentials, cots, prams or clothes or the availability of fostering and adoption services. All such agencies will be required to consider the interests of the child as paramount in his or her placement, including placing children in an appropriate faith relevant family.
- A public health campaign will be run warning of the consequences of abortion, such as post-abortion syndrome, health complications and the associated risks of breast cancer. The CPA will ensure the provision of a 24-hour, 7-day a week helpline for women and couples considering abortion.

- Embryo and hybrid human-animal experimentation will be outlawed, as will embryo stem cell research. The screening out of abnormalities in embryos will be ended and a commitment made to listening and acting on the needs, views and interests of people with disabilities or long-term illness.
- Greater investment will be provided for ethical and more successful work by the biotech industries, such as research and treatments involving the use of adult stem cells. Unlike embryonic stem cells, these continue to offer proven medical and therapeutic benefits to patients. So far 73 treatments for diseases and medical conditions have been derived from the use of adult stem cells and none from the use of human embryos.
- The CPA will develop ways of promoting the hospice movement, begun by Dame Cecily Saunders.
- Oppose all eugenic practises. Hospitals and residential homes will be subject to new standards in their care and treatment of older people. It is never justified to treat older people as less entitled to life and respect merely because of their age or because of frailty.
- Deliberate acts leading to the death of older people by healthcare professionals will be exposed and policies to introduce euthanasia by the back door will be rooted out. Best practice in palliative care will be adopted nationally across all health and social care authorities so that no patient need seek either assisted suicide or euthanasia.
- Ensure respect for older people and the long-term ill. We will fund personal care for elderly and disabled people from the health budget so no one will be forced to sell their home to pay for care. We will initiate a Commissioner for Older People, who will also be an advocate for the long term sick and those with enduring health problems. The Commissioner will make recommendations as to the best way to assess, review and provide care for these vulnerable individuals.
- A UK based Voluntary Services at Home Scheme will be introduced for people to give at least 12 months service utilising their skills for the community. We will pay a lump sum on successful completion for a resettlement grant and pension scheme contribution. In addition, those under 30 who undertake 2 years competent service will be given an educational voucher equivalent to 12 months full time study, whilst fees exist.
- Improve home care services. Working with the local authorities, the CPA is committed to the introduction of good quality and affordable home care services. We will provide home adaptations to enable older people and the terminally ill to remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible. When needed, older people will be offered a range of housing options including good quality and affordable sheltered housing or co-housing.

*“Blessed is the person who finds wisdom,
the one who gains understanding,
for wisdom is more profitable than silver
and yields better return than gold.”*

Proverbs 3:13-14



Restoring Faith in Politics

Politics in Britain is marked by deep levels of public mistrust. Jesus said "I have come among you as one who serves". Yet instead of public service, too many of our politicians have served their own financial interests, taking expenses they are not entitled to and questionable consultancies. The Christian Peoples Alliance intends to bring the light of Christ into the political process.

A good place for Parliament to start is to revisit the Christian principles which constrained the actions of the politically powerful, such as the rule of law. Reforms are needed into how our democracy works so that people are empowered. At present, too many people are disengaged from the political process, convinced that they are powerless in the face of a remote and unresponsive system. If this is to change then power needs to be taken from the few who wield it in the centre and for power to be put in the hands of ordinary people.

There is a clear lack of trust in the big parties, expressed by the fact that when fair systems of voting are used, such as PR last year for Europe, the big three won backing from just 57 per cent of those who voted. In the General Election 2005, Labour came to power with 35 per cent of the total vote but ended up with 55 per cent of the seats - 356. The Liberal Democrats, who received 22 per cent of the total vote, ended up with 9 per cent of the available seats. The CPA wants to see a Parliament that reflects the voting preferences of the electorate.

Christian radicals and reformers have historically been at the forefront of people-led movements in Britain, from the trade unions, to extending the franchise, to ragged schools and community hospitals to abolition of the slave trade. In the same spirit, the Christian Peoples Alliance intends to make Government more accountable to Parliament and Parliament more accountable to the people.

When elected, our MPs will work to ensure politics is open, transparent and free from sleaze or corruption. Our democratic reforms will be based upon distinctive Christian principles, such as service, wisdom, fairness, empowerment of individuals and the rule of law that has constrained the actions of the politically powerful. No-one, whether MP or in the Lords, will be able to claim that they are above the law.

In Parliament, CPA MPs will:

- Ensure MPs pay, conditions and job specification are defined through a transparent public process. No MP or Member of the Lords will be able to claim that they are above the law.
- Increase the sitting days of Parliament, allowing more meaningful debate and scrutiny of both primary and EU legislation.
- Vote for a more proportional voting system for elections. We want these to be based on multi-member constituencies in big conurbations, using Single Transferable Vote and Alternative Vote in the countryside, topped up to become proportional by using regional lists.
- Participation will be increased, through making voting compulsory. But the option 'None of the Above' will be added to all ballot papers.
- The public must have the right to initiate referendums.
- Gerrymandering will be ended by redrawing boundaries to equalise the population of constituencies.
- We favour the reduction of Statutory Instruments by Government to exercise legislative power. All Statutory Instruments remaining will be able to be amended, with no Statutory Instrument used to alter primary legislation
- We will reform the House of Lords, such that it becomes an efficient and effective 'revising chamber', whilst seeking to reflect the proportion of the total popular vote.
- Party funding will be reformed so that parties qualify for matched 'pound for pound' donations made by members of the public. This will be capped so that reliance on either big donors or large companies or trade unions is ended.
- We favour an increase in the decision making and taxation powers of local councils. Powers that are better exercised by national governments will be repatriated from Brussels.
- Reform at local authority level is needed to make Councils more accountable. This should be done by extending PR used in Scottish local elections to all of Britain.

Let the Third Sector do its Work

The Christian Peoples Alliance seeks to be a voice not just for Christians, but for the whole community. But we

note emerging disillusionment in the churches with the political system. We aim to address the causes of this.

All across Britain, churches and Christian people are working hard to help poor and vulnerable people. They are often the most active and effective groups reaching out to those in need in any community. Yet Churches rarely receive the support they need from secular politicians because there is an in built prejudice in the system against religious projects, especially Christian projects. Commendable efforts have been made by Christian groups to challenge this. But by electing Christian Democrat MPs, the wider community will have a direct voice in Parliament to challenge prejudice and ignorance.

Individual Christians in the secular workplace have suffered for expressing their faith, while church-based projects have been forced into silence over their faith motivation. Through the introduction of the Equalities Act and laws like it, a new heirarchy of rights has put the needs of sexual minorities above religious freedom. We will challenge this.

In championing the role of Christian projects, the CPA will ensure that they do not become dependent on government hand-outs or are captured by the hand that feeds them. Government funding to Third Sector voluntary organisations has doubled under Labour to more than £10 billion a year, making much of the voluntary sector dependent on government grants and contracts.

Our vision is to see a new age of philanthropy in Britain, where government works to leverage new funds from business and wealthy individuals to support progressive social change. We agree with critics of the Office of the Third Sector that it has become too close to vested interests. We want it to be scrapped and replaced with an Office of Social Innovation. This will work to improve corporate philanthropy budgets so that all companies devote 1 per cent of their profits to social innovation

and all companies drive up staff payroll giving. Our objective is to see a proportion of government spending reserved for match funding partnerships with philanthropists.

In Parliament, we aim to:

- End routine discrimination against Christian projects in applications for local and national funding of their projects.
- Introduce a Religious Liberties Bill so that no person of faith becomes a second class citizen in Britain.
- Help churches to improve and build on the projects which are effective in transforming communities. We are therefore proposing a Church Social Action fund, drawing funds from philanthropists, which will give match funding to churches undertaking social action work.
- Ensure politicians give proper recognition to the contribution that faith communities make to social cohesion and the establishment of moral values. The CPA supports the integrity of the faith basis and cultural identity of Britain's diverse communities.
- Give full backing to faith-based centres in the promotion of improved relationships and provision of support to people in crisis of various kinds, such as unsupported pregnancy, debt, divorce, homelessness, addictions, loneliness and bereavement.
- End reliance on the National Lottery, which is a tax on the poor, as an immoral means to raise funds for social projects.
- See a new Office of Social Innovation that will ensure match funding in the third sector from business. This will be achieved by government topping up private gifts and through direct support from British business for areas where cuts seem likely to fall, such as higher

Restorative Justice

For a real and lasting reduction in crime, the CPA is determined to tackle its root causes. Safer streets will be the by-product of better homes and parenting, by a renewal of the shared values which underpin society and by the offer of real hope to communities experiencing deep-rooted problems.

The me-first, 24-hour society and the amorality of unrestrained sexuality has dramatically altered the male role in society. We will therefore restore value to marriage and improve prospects of meaningful full time work as dual means of socialising young men. Our aim is to drain the swamps of yob culture and restore personal responsibility, individual accountability and the importance of close, committed relationships. The young boys and girls responsible for disproportionate levels of the crime statistics need fathers and deserve deeper parental love.

We welcome the interest of the secular parties in the concept of restorative justice, which has been at the heart of the Christian Democratic approach long taken by the Christian Peoples Alliance. Relational justice is a fresh vision of what doing justice means in a society where policies pursued by Labour and the Conservatives have undermined and undervalued the importance of relationships. It turns the spotlight on one of the goals of justice which is to restore and repair human relationships damaged by crime. For the Christian Peoples Alliance, the central goal of the criminal justice system is to repair the relationship between offender and victim.

There is evidence that restorative justice programmes have delivered greater satisfaction for victims of crime and are a successful way of tackling petty crime and anti-social behaviour, reducing re-offending rates and producing both cost savings and a decrease in fear of crime. It is not a 'soft option'.

Half of offenders go on to recommit crime. We propose radical solutions within the Prison Service that tackle repeat offenders' deep rooted problems such as the scourge of drugs. We will offer convicted drug offenders a choice between rehabilitation or prison. Backing will be given to prisoner-release and family support networks, as well as Christian rehabilitation programmes.

We stand against the constant liberalising of everything, which has led to the huge uplift in theft to feed drug habits and other addictions. Instead, we will take a tough no nonsense approach to law enforcement. As a

first step, we'll cut unnecessary bureaucracy and red tape that hold police back. Local police teams will forge effective policing through building community-based relationships. The Police will be instructed to challenge the 'anything goes' mentality by enforcing the law, whether the disorder caused by public drunkenness and cannabis use, or petty acts of vandalism and sex in view of families enjoying parks and open spaces. This will be done without recourse to elected police authorities as the Conservatives propose, which end the traditional operational independence of the police.

In Parliament, CPA MPs will:

- Outline a Christian version of a Restorative Justice Act. This will ensure that victims have the chance to tell offenders the real impact of their crime, ensure victims get answers to their questions and receive an apology. Offenders will have the chance to understand the real impact of what they've done and do something to repair the harm. A Restorative Justice Act will hold offenders to account for what they have done, personally and directly. But helping the victim will be central.
- Intelligence-led Stop and Search operations will be actively pursued, subject to extensive training and rigorous monitoring. For the safety and wellbeing of police officers and the public alike, the Christian Peoples Alliance opposes the use of the so-called "SUS laws" (Stop and Search based on a police officer's suspicion alone). Labour has sought to re-introduce these, yet history shows it fractures police and community relations - making neighbourhoods less safe. We would not scrap the Stop Form. We will restore discretion to borough commanders over sending out officers on single or dual police patrols.
- Neighbourhood Watch Groups will be properly funded and revitalised. Community support of local police officers will be improved through the extension of Street Pastors and Special Constable schemes. The benefits of crime will be reduced by increasing the risk of both detection and punishment. The approach of the CPA is to invest in social institutions which encourage a law-abiding lifestyle, especially the family.
- We will launch a "pathway out of the life of crime" initiative to help parents whose children have been lured into crime. We want to help families bring those children back to law-abiding living. Our priority is keep families together - so youngsters have fathers; mothers are empowered to choose to raise their children at home and where poverty is kept at bay by rewarding work fairly. Home Office studies link family breakdown and crime, but Labour, Liberal Democrats and Conservatives have done nothing to strengthen the family based on marriage. The Christian Peoples Alliance will change this.

- The scope of illegal-drug spittle testing for those arrested for robbery and burglary will be widened to include all Class B and C drugs. As a first step, we will introduce a spittle test for Cannabis. Annual figures will be published showing the relationship between specific illegal drug use and specific types of crime.
- To stem the rise in alcohol-related offences, we will repeal 24-hour licensing legislation by replacing it with local authority-based licensing. No alcohol advert will be permitted before the 9pm watershed on TV or in cinemas showing films rated below 18. We favour the principle of minimum pricing and a ban on below-cost selling.
- A different approach will be taken to prisons. We cannot keep building more and more prisons, as the big parties propose, without taking firm action to end offending. Two of the most effective means of reducing offending - providing prisoners with numeracy, literacy and vocational training leading to recognised qualifications and getting them off drugs - are not being fully implemented. We want this to change. American studies have found that inmates who acquire vocational qualifications re-offend 33 per cent less than other offenders.
- Prisoners will be assessed immediately on arrival in jail so they are prepared properly for release. All will be expected to get off drugs and alcohol and mandatory drugs tests must be imposed for all prisoners on admission to jail and regularly while in jail. Not only do we want proper therapy to get prisoners off drugs whilst in prison, proper support will be given when they leave.
- The Gambling Act 2005 will be repealed and controls restored on Las Vegas-style casinos, betting shops, slot machines and internet gambling. As advertising smoking is banned, so will gambling adverts.
- Steps to legalise prostitution or brothels will be firmly rejected.

Strangers into Citizens

The Christian Peoples Alliance holds to distinctive Christian values which guide our policies on asylum and immigration. Paramount is the biblical injunction to love our neighbour, whether they are a refugee or a migrant. Millions of people on all continents are fleeing their homes and countries. The social, economic and political factors behind these mass movements - persecution, human rights abuses, economic deprivation and environmental disasters - are certain to increase as globalisation accelerates and more and more countries close their doors to the fleeing dispossessed.

The Christian Peoples Alliance agrees with the late

Cardinal Basil Hume when he described protection of those fleeing persecution as a "benchmark of a civilised society". But relatively few refugees seek life and support from prosperous countries. As many people are internally displaced, or live as refugees in neighbouring countries we will ensure help reaches them where they are.

The CPA will legislate for full protection of asylum seekers in the UK, treating them equally and recognising their human rights and dignity. Where possible, we will encourage the placement of asylum seekers with families, rather than the alienating environment of hostels or barbed-wire detention centres. Newcomers to Britain will be helped in their understanding and commitment to British democratic values, language and culture. We will combat the criminal trafficking and sexual abuse of women and children by coming down hard on those controlling so-called 'sex industries, which are no more than a modern form of slavery.

With projected levels of net immigration set to lead to a national population of 70 million, deeper analysis needs to be made of why numbers have increased as they have done. In the past decade, net immigration in some years has been in the region of 200,000, with an estimated rise over 10 years of 2 million people. Labour has seen an economic case for this, on the basis that the British population is growing older and that fewer working people are supporting ever higher numbers of people living in retirement. So, migrants entering Britain are vital to generate the tax receipts essential for pension, disability and other welfare payments.

However, the Christian Peoples Alliance is asking in this election: if the 6.7 million people killed by abortion since 1967 had been alive and working today, would the case exist for immigration to replace them in the workforce? Unprecedented in human history, modern Britain is leading the way in killing generations of its own people. Missing from active employment are whole cohorts of the working population, who if permitted to live would by now be in work and contributing the tax receipts essential for our welfare system to function.

At the heart of the CPA migration policy is our policy to support relationships, marriage and the affordability of child-rearing, together with a determined pro-life ethic. In Parliament, the Christian Peoples Alliance will argue for the following priorities:

- We would tackle discrimination and embrace the talents of asylum seekers, as many successful asylum applicants are highly trained and dedicated individuals. It makes no sense to leave them on the scrapheap, unable to use their professional skills to provide for themselves, their families, or contribute to the British economy.

- The CPA will change our asylum regime as it leaves applicants in poverty and is discriminatory. Applicants will be treated as if they were British citizens with full access to state support and the right to work. We will tackle the distress and health problems suffered by children in Government detention centres as part of our commitment to improve the appalling conditions many applicants live under.
- Rights under the 1951 Convention on Refugees are inalienable, so asylum seekers must be assured of getting a fair hearing. The Christian Peoples Alliance will persist with efforts to speed up the process of application and reduce the burden on the appeal system.
- Justice must work both ways. Unfounded claimants will be returned to the country of their embarkation. There will be no right to automatic settlement and refugees will be helped to return home if conditions in their country improve.
- Action will be taken to tackle the domestic causes of economic immigration. The UK needs migrant workers due to declining and ageing populations. But it is unjust to take migrant professionals from developing countries to meet our own skills shortages, whether nurses, doctors or IT specialists. This long term issue will be addressed by our policies for major new child benefits and child tax allowances to reverse the domestic depopulation trend.
- We will tackle the problem of illegal immigration by an amnesty that brings irregular workers into mainstream society, paying taxes. We acknowledge that about 0.7 per cent of the total population of the UK and around four per cent of the London population will be affected. In this category will be overstayers, failed asylum seekers and those who have entered Britain illegally. This group of people are in a hidden socioeconomic sub-culture, vulnerable to exploitation by virtue of their status. As Christian Democrats, we believe an amnesty is both the right thing to do and the only realistic option.
- Until the declining birth rate is reversed, we favour what we are calling an Orange Card system for determining who can come to work in Britain. This would provide a merit based points system for skilled workers and a points system and random selection for unskilled workers, similar to the system used in the US.
- Like a traffic light, our proposal aims to lift irregular immigrants from their current position, red, to an intermediate classification status, orange, that will provide the right to work in the UK. Subject to satisfactory completion of the scheme's requirements, the candidate will then move on to green: Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK. All migrants will have had to been resident for 5 or more years continuously, and not been convicted of a serious criminal offence.
- The international experience of having an amnesty followed by further amnesties must be avoided. To do this, we will ensure the restoration of control over Britain's borders. Illiberal measures will be replaced by common sense policies, such as 24-hour surveillance at all ports of entry and the re-introduction of embarkation controls at the ports so that it is known when and if someone who has entered the country has left.
- Fear and insecurity cannot be overcome by measures which undermine racial harmony. We therefore oppose house arrests and would re-establish rights of *habeus corpus*, such as the right to be brought to public trial.



A Time of Jubilee for the World

The biblical mandate towards equality shapes a Christian vision for the world. It guides our understanding of how Britain should relate to our neighbours, especially in the developing world. This is why the CPA campaigns for trade reforms and sustainable use of scarce resources. Our outlook is not just for justice and equality through our membership of the European Union, but for the world as well.

The Christian Peoples Alliance is an internationalist party, opposed to the emergence of xenophobia, racism, religious hatred and the small-island mentality we have seen in Britain since the attacks of 9/11. Our values are instead formed by the Bible, which calls us to love the world as God does by seeking the global common good. The Bible makes it clear with over 3,000 references to poverty that God hates injustice and that to love our neighbours as ourselves is a mandate that Britain should follow. As Christian Democrats, we believe poverty is not an accident - it's driven by global inequality. We will use Britain's role in international bodies such as the United Nations, the European Union and the IMF to influence the policies of the world's financial institutions.

Our priorities are to ensure that richer countries become responsible stewards of creation, share the resources and wealth of our planet and protect the environment. We will promote the global common good through respect for the rule of law and by confronting ethical systems that treat death lightly. We will pursue policies

that challenge the root causes of injustice, such as wars, generalised violence, persecution, human rights abuses, the arms trade, continuing levels of crippling debt and unfair trade practices that distort the economies of poor countries.

Our priorities shape our attitudes towards the European Union, which is the biggest currency bloc that the world has ever known. Having currency, interest rate, money supply, tax and government expenditure decisions in Brussels, rather than retaining them within national communities, acts against subsidiarity. But it also indicates the EU has the global power and assertiveness to allow domination of poor countries through its trading strength and currency. The CPA opposes the development of Europe as an expansionist economic and monetary empire. Radical change is needed to tackle the underlying injustice of the international economic order, which causes death and environmental degradation.

- Aid will be given in grants and not loans and not tied to poor countries opening up their markets to powerful multinationals from rich countries.
- Britain has already pledged to reach the 0.7 per cent target of national income on aid to meet the Millennium Development Goals by 2013. But the timetable for change is too slow. We will work with our EU partners to ensure rich countries honour their pledge.
- We will press for reforms in trade, aid and debt and so release resources for developing countries to tackle vital issues such as HIV/AIDS and lack of access to safe water, sanitation, healthcare and education.
- We want the unpayable debts of the world's poorest countries to be cancelled in full without strings attached.



Global Justice not Globalisation

International trade laws which favour rich countries by robbing the world's poorest people will be tackled by a change in WTO rules. Export subsidies that damage the livelihoods of poor communities around the world will be ended. A rise in trade will generate many times more resources than given through aid or debt relief. Multi-national companies will be held to account for the way they do business, especially their treatment of the environment. We will press the WTO to oppose the designation of hard-won social and environmental regulations as "unfair barriers to trade." New rules will place environmental protection and sustainable development as the necessary base requirement for fair trade.

A pro-active foreign and trade policy that addresses the root causes of discontent in the poverty and injustice of the developing world is the best long-term strategy for tackling the threat of terrorism and international instability. Britain and its allies in the EU and US would do better to invest in schooling, a free media and environmental protection than bombing campaigns, spyware and ID cards.

Iraq shows the need for peace-making and ending wars. The Christian Peoples Alliance opposed the government's pre-emptive and illegal war against Iraq as a breach of Chapter 7 of the UN Charter. We warned it would lead to innumerable civilian casualties and make the West more vulnerable to terrorist attack. These mistakes must be avoided again.

Working with our Christian Democrat partners in Europe, reform of the EU will be pursued to make it more democratic and open. The CPA believes that sovereignty gained by the EU is sovereignty lost from member states.

Christianity has formed the fabric of European civilisation and so we will seek a new framework agreement that recognises the Lordship of Christ over Europe and the place of the Christian faith in supporting both the peace and stability of the continent. The EU must not become a rich man's club. We will judge every measure by reference to our love for poorer global neighbours. This will require opening up our markets, ending subsidised agricultural export dumping, less intensive food production and setting new standards of environmental protection.

As Christian Democrats we will demonstrate an

understanding of diverse religious motivations and acknowledge the alienation in the developing world, caused in part by the materialism and individualism of western society. We will do this whilst also confronting injustice and oppression on the part of foreign governments, and groups that are actively involved in, or support, terrorism, such as Iran. We will work for peace and reconciliation in the Middle East. This will not abrogate a responsibility to expose and alter all Islamist threats to the integrity and security of the State of Israel, which we will do nothing to compromise.

The CPA seeks increased dialogue between the West and Islam with a view to seeing Islam renounce violent jihad. We will support those progressive elements in the Muslim world that wish to take their place in peace alongside the other world faiths and those others of goodwill, settling disagreements with words and reasoned debate not guns or bombs.

The alleviation of poverty and the defence of human life and the family are particular areas in which Christian Democrats would seek to work closely with the governments of Islamic nations, with the goal of creating a human family based on fraternity and responsibility. Working towards the recognition of a 'Common Ethical Code', rooted in the natural law, which respects the innate dignity of the human person, is central towards the success of this vision. The CPA believes that promoting such integral human development requires that freedom of conscience and peaceful religious expression of all peoples is made paramount.

Despite positive engagement from the West, such as the latest initiatives by US President Obama, the Islamic world has made few concessions on human rights and religious freedom. This is because the West has too easily adopted a stance of muted appeasement. Politically expedient aims of gaining co-operation for anti-terrorism strategies and economic interests, especially the production and supply of Middle-Eastern oil, have badly let down Christian and other minorities. The CPA also sees a misguided religious relativism in western foreign policy, which assumes that Islam shares the same democratic values as the Judaeo-Christian tradition.

In Parliament, the CPA will seek first the interests of the household of faith by taking up the case of an estimated 40 million Christians in Dar al-Islam, who with other religious minorities live as second-class citizens. We refuse to overlook the discrimination they face in religious practice, education, jobs, the courts, as well as severe economic hardship, or the risk of death. We will expose how Muslim nations that forbid non-Islamic worship and religious expression have free reign to fund missionary activity and the building of mosques in the UK and the West.

We will overcome a crisis of national identity in Britain, where our Christian heritage faces marginalisation by a secularist political and media establishment. Our response to the Muslim world is based on robust principles of mutual respect and reciprocity. Whilst seeking to guarantee the right of peaceful religious expression for Muslims in the UK, the CPA in government will also negotiate reciprocal arrangements for religious freedoms with the Organization of the Islamic Conference. If missionary activities and the building of Mosques are allowed in the UK, then similar activities and the building of churches in Islamic nations must also be permitted.

Working for Peace and Reconciliation

As Christian Democrats our commitment and expectations are rooted in a vision of society which embodies the kingdom of God and goes beyond party politics. Ours is a politics of peacemaking justice. Our understanding of security is based on the view that all people are our neighbours, made in the image of God. We reject the model of security that rests on pre-emptive military intervention, the strength of arms - conventional and nuclear - and the demonisation of the other.

Wars kill millions and produce horrific suffering; about one in twenty of the total world population died a war-related death in the 20th century. Far more are left injured and defeated. Wars destroy cities and the environment.

We seek a model of security that puts life, justice and respect at its heart. Scripture tells us that real security does not come from weaponry but from justice. "Integrity will bring peace, justice give everlasting security" (Is 32:17). To be a nation that is known for providing real security in the world, to be a nation that truly defends the poor and needy, the CPA pledges to do all that we can to bring peace and justice to the world.

- The CPA will therefore expose the link between issues of security, poverty and injustice and will redirect resources and research away from military-based policies that take us to war and cause untold suffering towards policies that work for the elimination of poverty and the protection of the environment as a means of creating true human security.
- As part of our industrial strategy, the Christian Peoples Alliance would shift government investment and subsidies in the range of £500 million to £1 billion away from the unproductive and immoral arms trade, towards green technologies, where Britain lags

behind our global competitors in a growing market. The CPA would close the Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO), which has more staff devoted to arms sales than every other industry sector combined.

- Our objective of ending militarism will have the biggest world bonus possible against global warming. The full military adventure of weapons, armed forces, war destruction and rebuilding uses up something like 5-10% of world GDP. Perhaps 10% of the total world's CO₂ output comes from military manufacture and use, wars and restoring the damage caused by wars.
- We recognise that a nuclear weapons free world must be achieved carefully and in a step by step manner. We are convinced of its technological feasibility. Lack of political will, especially on the part of the nuclear weapons states, is the only true barrier. As chemical and biological weapons are prohibited, so must nuclear weapons be prohibited.
- The nuclear weapons states have failed to disarm, while other countries have harboured nuclear ambitions. The UK has a stated commitment to nuclear disarmament, yet retains four armed and operational Trident nuclear weapons submarines and describes these as 'the ultimate guarantor of the UK's national security'. The CPA therefore pledges to remove all reliance on nuclear weapons owned by other states and will oppose replacement of Trident.
- The CPA calls upon all states -- particularly the nuclear weapons states, declared and de facto -- to pursue the phased elimination of all nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework, with provisions for effective verification and enforcement.
- We will rapidly complete a truly Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty with a zero threshold and with the stated purpose of precluding nuclear weapons development by all states.

After nine years of war in Afghanistan, the CPA wants to see a greater emphasis on the new approach that moves beyond the military strategy. What works is well known, massive humanitarian assistance and sustainable development. This will re-build a broken nation, inspire confidence and trust and undermine the appeal of terrorism. This will cost less - far less - than continued war or battling to impose order. We propose that:

- Humanitarian and development assistance should be provided, as much as possible, by independent civilian and non-governmental organisations, both international and local, rather than using aid as a government adjunct to military operations.
- The CPA believes that important ethical issues must

be pursued with the ISAF command and Afghan civilian authorities - including protecting the Afghan people from the collateral damage of war, defending women from the Taliban, genuinely supporting democracy and saving innocent lives from attempts to 'de-capitate' the Taliban leadership by missiles from drones.

- A renewed diplomatic surge is required. This must pursue stable governance not just in Afghanistan, but in neighbouring Pakistan, its tribal regions and regional powers such as Iran. The CPA sees a greater role for the United Nations and other states in the region to build diplomatic and economic support for regional stabilisation and economic development.
- One of the most powerful weapons available - peace-making - is rarely tried. Where enemies do pose a direct threat to stability, the CPA wants to avoid military action as the first response. Instead, we favour Afghan-led solutions involving tribal compromise, as these may diminish the capability of the enemy rather than his humiliation.
- Afghanistan is confronted by challenges which military power alone will not overcome. Continued escalation of troop numbers will not on its own tackle the challenges of a corrupt Afghan government, a highly decentralised society, and a physical terrain that has confounded every other occupier in history. This is why we commend a different approach, while also holding the western powers to their responsibility in international law not to walk away and expose the current government to bloodshed and reprisals.
- After so much bloodshed in Afghanistan, a legacy must be left of a free, open and tolerant society with fully-functioning civil institutions. The CPA would therefore make the timetabled withdrawal of military support and reconstructive aid dependent on respect for human rights. This must include the abolition of the Islamic apostasy law and the constitutional guarantee and enforcement of freedom of religious belief and expression, including conversion from Islam to another religion.

Our Candidates for Parliament 2010

BOLTON SOUTH EAST

Navaid Syed

BRENTFORD & ISLEWORTH

Evangeline Pillai

CAMBRIDGSHIRE SOUTH EAST

Daniel Bell

ERITH & THAMESMEAD

Sid Cordle MBE

DOVER & DEAL

David Clark

HYNDBURN

Kevin Logan

ILFORD NORTH

Revd. Robert Hampson

KINGSTON & SURBITON

Anthony May

LEWISHAM EAST

Malcolm Martin

LEWISHAM WEST & PENCE

Stephen Hammond

LIVERPOOL WALTON

John Manwell

MILTON KEYNES SOUTH

Suzanne Nti

MILTON KEYNES NORTH

Revd. John Lennon

RICHMOND PARK

Susan May

SUTTON & CHEAM

Matthew Connolly

WEST HAM

Stan Gain

WEST SUFFOLK

Colin Young

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