

CPA WOULD TRANSFORM BRITAIN



SUPPORT MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

NHS: WE WOULD RESTORE (GP) FUNDHOLDING

RESPECT FOR LIFE

MAKE TAX FAIR & CARE FOR THE POOR

FIGHT POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS



Christian Peoples Alliance



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2024 General Election Manifesto



Christian Peoples Alliance

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Sid Cordle MBE - Leader's Introduction

The Christian Peoples Alliance is a business-friendly party that also cares for the poor. One of our key pledges is that taxation must be fair. We have identified a number of problems and proposed solutions. A key one is that mega companies — some trading online like Google, Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft, and others, like Shell and Starbucks — send all their profits abroad so pay no Corporation Tax in the UK. This gives them a tax advantage against UK companies. To overcome this our policy is a Turnover Tax. This will operate like a Sales VAT. In the same way as employers and employees both pay National Insurance, in future, VAT will be paid both by purchasers and sellers (as happens in many other countries). The same thresholds will apply, currently £85,000 turnover before any tax is payable. We will also offset this Turnover Tax or Sales VAT against Corporation Tax, so British Companies that currently pay Corporation tax will be better off than foreign companies, and there will be a tax incentive for companies to locate in the UK.



It is calculated that if we set the Turnover Tax at 5% we can raise substantial sums, around £44bn, this way. We will use it to scrap Commercial Rates completely to help city centres. We will restore the £12bn cuts to benefits to get rid of the 5-week waiting period for payouts, which is one major reason why people are sent to food banks. We will invest in the family with a £12,000 grant when people get married the first time (provided they go for 3 relationship training sessions), and another £6,000 when they have their first child (if it is born in wedlock and if they first go for parent training sessions). The training sessions will be free for anyone to attend.

We also want to invest around £2bn on working with people leaving prison, guaranteeing them good accommodation and help to get work and also help to break any addictions. Christian charities like Saltbox in Stoke and the Message Trust in Manchester have got reoffending rates down to around 10%, compared with a national average of around 30%, but which is as high as 62% for those imprisoned for less than 12 months. This investment works 3 ways: 1) there will be many fewer crimes committed so many fewer victims; 2) ex-prisoners will be able to live more fulfilled lives rather than spending years in prison; and 3) the cost of keeping a prisoner in prison is over £30,000 per year so there will be significant cost savings there and less pressure on the courts.¹

New to this manifesto is a policy to get rid of masses of wasteful quangos and put in their place a Professional Standards Authority covering most professions. We will get rid of all woke training courses and politically-motivated schemes in the public sector, and ban organisations which push destructive gender ideology, such as Stonewall and Mermaids, from schools and Government departments. We will restore parental rights over Relationships and Sex Education by removing it as a compulsory subject. As well as protecting our children and restoring common sense, these moves will save a lot of money. We will

¹ Ministry of Justice / ONS, *Proven reoffending statistics quarterly bulletin, July 2017 to September 2017*, 25 July 2019 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/820356/proven_reoffending_bulletin_July_to_Sept_17.pdf.

also use the funds from eliminating Government waste to bring tax relief to millions of hard-pressed families and to attack the National Debt.

Also new to this manifesto is a policy to revert to the 1990s GP fundholding system for the NHS. This system worked well but was scrapped by Tony Blair in 1998, which meant that, although he pumped a lot of money into the NHS, he failed to improve the service. A lot of new hospitals were built under his tenure but that was done under the PFI system, which in essence gave the land and buildings to the private sector in return for new buildings, which were then rented back at a long-term cost to the taxpayer for a short-term gain. Now we have a very expensive system which isn't working, so we need to go back to fundamentals and improving the service, which has to start with the GPs. One ambulance driver told me that 90% of his call-outs were unnecessary and could be dealt with by GPs. Think what it would do for hospitals if patients arriving unannounced were cut by 90%!

We also, as before:

- Maintain a strong pro-life stance — repealing the Abortion Act would save 220,000 babies a year.
- Support persecuted Christian worldwide and withhold aid from countries that do the persecuting.
- Guarantee free night shelters with meal provision, so sleeping rough will be a thing of the past.
- Ensure moral education in our schools and open debate in our universities.
- Use resources for a missile shield and technology to divert missiles, rather than updating Trident.

Since 2019 the Conservatives have implemented Brexit with a deal which got us over the line, but still left the EU with far too much power. Our position is that we should have left with no deal and complete freedom. We do a phenomenal amount of trade with the US (£272.9bn up 23.7% with £5.5bn deficit), as does the EU(\$762.9bn), with no deal. Our trade with the EU is £772bn, but with a £92bn deficit rising fast. So the deal done with the EU helps them, not us. Even now there is nothing to stop us leaving the deal and trading freely. Many lies are told about the damage to the economy of leaving. There is none.

The CPA is standing for crucial, transformative policies that no other party offers. We are standing for moral values throughout society, with marriage and the family as the most basic building block. We are standing for caring for the weakest and most defenceless, starting with babies in their mothers' wombs. We are standing for fair taxation, getting money from mega-rich companies that send their profits abroad and using it to help both the poorest in society and hard-pressed city centres. We understand the needs of business, but we also understand the needs of the poor and will care for them.

We offer you a clear coherent alternative that sets out a fresh vision for a revived society and I commend it to you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sid Cordle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Sid Cordle MBE

Leader, Christian Peoples Alliance

Basic principles

The Christian Peoples Alliance set out in this Manifesto a fresh vision for an alternative society — one based upon **six basic principles**, each and all of which work in harmony together to produce a happier, healthier and economically more prosperous society. These principles are:

- **The effective use of resources.**
- **The empowerment of the individual and communities.**
- **Active compassion.**
- **Reconciliation.**
- **Respect for life.**
- **Social justice.**

This is not the capitalism of Conservatism, or the socialism of Labour; it is not the licence of the Liberal Democrats, and it does not fit under any ‘right’, ‘left’ or ‘centre’ label. Instead, it is a distinct political philosophy, proposing actual solutions to current issues in order to increase the vitality and well-being of all in our society.

Over the following pages we will set out how these principles, as practised by the CPA in Government, will positively affect all aspects of life in Britain. Before doing so we set out our five key policies for the next General Election:

1. **Respect for life:** We seek to give full protection of the law again to unborn children, whilst providing genuine help and support to those in crisis pregnancy situations.
2. **Marriage and the family:** We will support couples when they get married, both financially and with training, and again when they have their first child. We will restore and protect parental rights over education and medical decisions for their children.
3. **Economic justice and care for the poor:** We will use the money generated from our proposed Turnover Tax to restore the £12bn cuts to benefits, abolish commercial rates to revitalise our high streets and help small businesses, strengthen marriage and the family, help people leaving prison and guarantee night shelters for people sleeping rough. The Turnover Tax will be levied on all sales in the UK above the VAT threshold, currently £85,000, so that tax is collected from those multi-nationals who divert their UK earnings to low-tax regimes by ‘licence fees’ or an overseas ‘invoice address’.
4. **Freedom and civil liberties:** We will empower individuals and communities against ‘cancel culture’, and defend and promote freedom of speech and expression; we will champion the right to work and to earn a living, to open and maintain a bank account, and have fair access to all appropriate financial services; we will defend medical and health freedoms, and oppose coerced or mandatory vaccination; we will support the right to peaceful protest, and to offer and seek prayer and counselling over any matter.

5. **Supporting persecuted Christians:** We would stop foreign aid to those governments which allow or practise persecution against Christians. We would use our influence at the UN to do all we can to end the persecution of Christians and other religious minorities. Religious freedoms and other basic human rights, especially the right to life, have for too long been sidelined by the west in pursuit of a secular liberal agenda that does more harm than good.

We now turn to these, and our other policies, in greater detail.

Promoting economic opportunity for post-Brexit Britain

The Government should be making more of the opportunities that have been given to us by Brexit; in particular, by:

1. The promotion and marketing of British goods.
2. Increasing investment in industry to increase our productivity.

It's time now to get on with effective planning to rebuild the economy and reduce inflation. We will:

- **Reverse inflation and reflate the economy by investing in capital spending.** We will invest in major industries (steel, ship building, car manufacturing, energy generation, etc) to increase production and efficiency, and therefore grow the economy, in a sustainable manner. As John Longworth, Director General of British Chamber of Commerce, said back in August 2014, "we need to invest and export more, innovate and build". We will do this by providing 0% loans for capital spending over a given period until new industries come into production. We have no problem, and will even promote, the state taking a share in private industry. However, we do not favour state ownership except where absolutely necessary.
- **Review the support we are giving to UK farmers** to make sure that they can compete fairly and effectively across the world.
- **Invest in research and development, and focus on the patenting and implementation of new products** (eg. different new forms of 'graphene' — a newly discovered material which promises to be as revolutionary and diverse as plastic once was).
- **Increase investment in UK digital infrastructure;** in particular, ensure super-fast broadband is rolled out to every part of the country. We will strongly encourage the development of new IT start-ups and the creation of new internet infrastructure which respects freedom of speech and Christian values.
- **Democratise banking and finance.** We will review how 'cryptocurrencies' are being used, which we believe are a democratising force and create more freedom of choice. We will seek to encourage and support their use amongst greater parts of society. **We oppose the creation of a central digital currency** which would potentially be a tool of overreaching and oppressive state control.

- **Conduct a review of all Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts** (covering hospitals, schools, government buildings, etc) to ensure that they are providing value for money. We will introduce primary legislation, where required, to rectify those arrangements where excessive charges or profits are being made at the expense of true social benefit.
- **Encourage whole-company bonus and share schemes.** We want ALL employees in a company to feel that they belong and that their work is valued. Bonuses and shares should not be for the benefit of executives only, but for everyone in a company, at whatever level, who has contributed to a company's success.
- **Address the waste and inefficiency of public spending** – We will make **value for money** the only test for Government procurement (the buying of goods and services for use by public authorities). As a result of the Social Value Act (2012), businesses, regardless of their size, must adhere to 30 pages of "social value" criteria, rather than simply offering the best quality product at the most competitive price. For example, the latest Social Value model used by the Government sets out five primary themes that must be "tackled" through procurement: Covid-19 recovery, economic inequality, climate change, equal opportunity, and well-being. Such rules unfairly disadvantage small to medium-sized British businesses, increase costs and delays to suppliers, and give poor value for money and accountability to taxpayers.

UK Government procurement costs £335bn a year (14.74% of GDP) and we would aim to save 10% of that, so £33.5bn a year spent on cutting tax and cutting debt. It costs just over £5bn to take 1p off income tax, so, with this policy, we could **take 5p off income tax, raise tax thresholds and still cut debt**. However, we will only cut tax after the money has been saved so there is no risk of increasing debt. We will reduce the budget for procurement by 10% which means that things can't be purchased unless there is money in the pot.

- **Undertake a major review to reform the regulatory system and quangos².** Now we have left the EU, the CPA wants a much-reduced regulatory system in every single industry, in order to increase enterprise and efficiency. We will ensure this review is conducted in an orderly and thorough fashion, and that there is also a robust appeals system both for and against regulatory changes.
- **Create one new overall regulatory body for public services, abolish the majority of quangos, and streamline the civil service.** We will thoroughly examine what each quango is doing, and which roles can be abolished, and only retain those which are truly necessary to remain in the public sector or operate at 'arms-length' from ministerial oversight. A new **Public & Professional Standards Authority** would take on the main tenets of their roles in a more effective and streamlined way. Every existing quango, or department of the PPSA, will be directly accountable to the minister whose department it is associated with, who in turn is answerable to Parliament.

² 'Quango' - A semi-public administrative body outside the civil service but receiving financial support from the government, which makes senior appointments to it.

- The public sector has become too bloated and unaccountable. There are currently (Jun 2023) 308 classified Arms-Length Bodies (“Quangos”)³ which we would aim to cut by half in our first term of office, saving an estimated £12 billion, with an aim to take this even further over time.⁴
- **Slash all politically-correct ‘non-jobs’ in the public sector, and end the abuse of tax payers’ money for divisive woke political campaigning and indoctrination programmes.**
 - A recent report by the Conservative Way Forward group identified at least £7 billion per year of taxpayers’ money that could be saved by ending politically-motivated campaigns and training programmes in the public sector. It noted how 10,000+ ‘Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity’ (EDI) positions amongst the state-funded workforce are costing the UK taxpayer £557 million per year (which could fund 12,500 nurses), with £5.5 billion spent by quangos on various woke diversity, LGBT and racial-political schemes.⁵
 - The CPA believes this is a complete abuse and waste of taxpayers’ money which should be spent improving front line services, rather than these socially-divisive and destructive schemes. The woke ‘diversity, equality and inclusion’ industry has predominantly been used to ruthlessly promote LGBT ideology, and persecute those who disagree with it, in our society, all at the taxpayers’ expense.

We aim to save £20 billion, with the aim to save more as time goes on, which we would use to reduce the annual deficit with the aim of breaking even as soon as possible, so that GDP is at the very least covering Government spending.

These policies are a practical outworking of the basic Christian Democratic principles of effective use of resources, small government and the empowerment of the individual and communities, and will lead to greater social justice as the (currently) more disadvantaged areas of the UK will benefit from regeneration and development.

³ In response to a Parliamentary question Jeremy Quin confirmed on behalf of the Cabinet Office that, “as of 2023, there are 308 classified ALBs, compared to 832 in 2009. This decrease is due to successive government efforts resulting in the closures of bodies, mergers of two or more bodies together, and classification changes that removed bodies from having ALB status (whilst still remaining operational)”. UK Parliament, UIN 187034, tabled on 2 June 2023; <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187034#>

See also Tim Ambler, ‘How many civil servants should it take to run the country?’, *Civitas*, 1 December 2022; <https://civitas.org.uk/2022/12/01/how-many-civil-servants-should-it-take-to-run-the-country/>

⁴ In its ‘manifesto’ for the 2010 General Election, the Tax Payers’ Alliance reported the existence of 1,148 quangos spending £90 billion of the taxpayers’ money per year. That amounts to an average of £78,397 per-year per-quango. Abolishing 150 x quangos in our first term of office could therefore save over £12 billion (£12,073,170) per year. *Tax Payers’ Manifesto* (2010), p.3; <https://www.taxpayersalliance.com/tpamanifesto.pdf>

⁵ Conservative Way Forward, *Defunding Politically Motivated Campaigns: Saving taxpayers billions by ending waste and division* (Dec 2022), p.3 ; https://www.conservativewayforward.com/files/ugd/acef4a_5b5ec1d9017f40b987a68110f70d276c.pdf

EU policy

CPA welcomes the fact that the UK has now left the EU. We welcome the fact that we now have a free trade agreement with the EU and that in the agreement we are treated as equals with the EU. We are, however, concerned about several aspects of the agreement.

Problems with the current post-Brexit trade agreements:

We are concerned about the fact that the **Partnership Council, Trade Partnership Committee and 18 new (Trade) Specialist Committees**, all of whose decisions are binding in both the EU and UK, **are not under any democratic control at all**. We are concerned they have to pay subservience to a variety of international bodies, none of which are under any democratic mandate.

These undemocratic bodies that the parties must consult include ‘civil society’. The Agreement states that it shall be implemented “by means of the Civil Society Forum”. The Agreement also says, “Each Party shall consult on issues covered by this Agreement and any supplementing agreement its newly created or existing domestic advisory group or groups comprising a representation of independent civil society organisations including non-governmental organisations, business and employers' organisations, as well as trade unions, active in economic, sustainable development, social, human rights, environmental and other matters.”⁶

It also says “The Parties shall facilitate the organisation of a Civil Society Forum to conduct a dialogue on the implementation of Part Two of this Agreement.”⁷ This also has no democratic control.

We are also concerned that there is **no judicial oversight** over anything anyone does under this agreement. The only oversight is an adjudication panel which is its own Supreme Court. It is not clear from the Agreement how they will be selected. We have no confidence at all that this will be impartial.

We are also concerned that the **section on fishing appears to favour the EU in the long run**. There are clauses in it giving the EU the same fishing rights as 2011 to 2016 or penalties to be paid by the UK which can be in the form of tariffs on exported fish or any other goods to the value of business deemed lost. The UK's quotas may have increased slightly but the EU is still entitled to a great deal of fish from UK waters.

The section on European Union programmes is particularly concerning, as it gives the EU intrusive powers of surveillance and action within the UK, which provides a strong reason not to participate in any of them. This really requires closer examination and scrutiny, with many aspects needing to be challenged. For instance, the Agreement gives the EU, on suspicion of fraud, the right to enter premises and seize goods in the UK with no judicial oversight.

⁶ Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, *Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, of the one part, and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the other part, Brussels and London, 30 December 2020*, Part 1, Articles 12-14 (en-18-20); https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/982648/TS_8.2021_UK_EU_EAEC_Trade_and_Cooperation_Agreement.pdf

⁷ UK/EU TCA, Part 1, Article 14 (en 20)

The lack of democratic control became very clear when the **Northern Ireland Protocol** was being discussed and then superseded by the Windsor Framework. In the Framework an arbitration panel set up by the EU can overturn a decision of the UK Parliament. Also, the whole framework is brought under 'international law' rather than the EU, which equally we have no confidence in. It does not bring Northern Ireland back under UK control which is what we want. The DUP had no say in forming the framework and their concerns were ignored when it was completed. This is wrong. Northern Ireland should come back under the sole control of the UK, with the will of its elected representatives being respected.

CPA reforms for the trade agreement

Overall, **our policy would be to bring the whole trade agreement with the EU under democratic control**, with no unelected bodies involved in overseeing the application of the agreement. We would give this decision-making role to the Parliaments of the UK and the EU. We would carefully examine any role 'civil society' is playing in this agreement and determine whether they should be removed entirely and/ or replaced. We would carefully examine the effectiveness of the adjudication panel and consult on effective judicial alternatives.

We would strongly resist any attempt to return us to the EU (as the Lib Dems, SNP and Green Party would, and Labour might), especially without another democratic referendum.

We warmly welcome the trade agreements being made with the rest of the world including 20 US States and the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which now includes us but doesn't include the EU. It's important to remember that when we were in the EU only the EU could negotiate trade deals for us, and they are very bad at it. We are now exporting more than when we were in the EU. In 2019 before Covid, and before leaving the EU, we exported a total of £689bn in goods and services. In 2022 that figure was £815bn.⁸ This proves the Remainers wrong who forecast a trade disaster if we left the EU. We must continue this process and press on with securing new trade deals with India and other major nations.

The political process

The CPA considers that the following reforms to our political process are currently needed:

1. **The reform of the House of Lords**, with all members of the Second Chamber being elected by the people using **Proportional Representation** with no threshold, together with a subsequent increase of the upper chambers powers where it can veto legislation and not be overruled by the Commons. Legislation could be introduced in either House but would require successfully passing through the voting and committee stages of both Houses, with roughly equal status, to pass through to Royal Assent. This would provide for a more faithful representation of the will of the

⁸ ONS, 'International trade in UK nations, regions and cities: 2019' 5 November 2021;
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/internationaltrade/bulletins/internationaltradeinuknationsregionsandcities/2019>

ONS, UK trade in goods, year in review: 2022, 17 February 2023;
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/balanceofpayments/articles/uktradeingoodsyearinreview/2022>

electorate, together with important democratic checks and balances of power; whilst also maintaining the traditional role of the constituency MP.

2. We would review the right of recall by the electorate of a sitting MP and how it is triggered. The figure of 10% seems too low — a figure of at least 20% would be more appropriate.
3. We would review the effectiveness of regional devolution, in terms of cost and democratic benefit.
4. We support the recent introduction of voter ID — all voters should provide proof of identity when voting to avoid impersonation and electoral fraud.

Strengthen marriage and the family

Natural marriage between one man and one woman has been and remains the fundamental building block for a successful and healthy society, and the safest and most beneficial environment for the raising of children.⁹

Even financially, defending marriage makes sense, since family breakdown has been estimated to cost the country around £51 billion each year in terms of the overall social impact.¹⁰ What is lacking is the political will to rise above political correctness and simply state the truth. The CPA has both the courage and the will.

Research shows that many couples are unprepared for both marriage and parenting. We therefore have detailed proposals to strengthen marriage and encourage its stability, as well as to support parenting:

- **First, we would give a grant (initially set at £12,000 per couple) to be made available to all couples on the occasion of their first marriage**, provided that they have attended at least 5 sessions of marital awareness training. In addition, our aim would be to make the training available to more couples, where there is demand and at a low cost, who may not necessarily be eligible for the grant.
- **Second, we would give a grant (initially set at £6,000) to be made available to all married couples before or just after the birth or adoption of their first child**, provided they go for at least

⁹ Research on the situation in Britain, for instance, shows that married, as opposed to cohabitating parents, are around 3 times more likely to still be together by the time their child is 5 years old; 3 out of 4 parents will still be together by the time their child does their GCSEs (as opposed to 1 in 4 who are not married); adults whose parents were married at the time of their birth are 16% less likely to ever receive benefits, 23% more likely to have been to university. See Harry Benson, *Married and Unmarried Family Breakdown: Key Statistics Explained* (Bristol Community Family Trust, 2009); Harry Benson & Spencer James, *The Long Term Effect of Marriage of Social Mobility* (Marriage Foundation, Jan 2018).

Statistically, very few horror stories of child abuse come from married households. Robert Whelan, *Broken Homes & Battered Children*, 1994, Family Education Trust). <http://marriagefoundation.org.uk/government-pressure-back-marriage-cost-family-breakdown-hits-51-billion/>

¹⁰ Relationships Foundation, 'Cost family failure 2018 update', 29 Jan 2018; <https://relationshipsfoundation.org/publications/pressreleases/cost-family-failure-2018-update/>

5 sessions of training in child raising, since the child is the priority. Again, all parents would be able to take advantage of the training.

- **Third, we want the tax threshold to be fully transferable from husband to wife** if there is a child under 5 in the family, so that there is a much greater tax benefit for one parent to stay at home with young children. As resources make it possible, we will extend this age limit preferably right up to age 12. We would also look at further schemes to support the ability of one parent within the marriage to raise their children at home.
- **Fourth, we will allow married couples to name 2 properties as their main home**, one each, to end the Capital Gains Tax anomaly where unmarried couples are better off. Presently, a couple who have two homes can retain each of their houses in their own names if they move in together but lose that right if they get married. This is unfair and acts as yet another damaging disincentive against marriage.
- **Fifth, we will make life and critical-illness insurance premiums, covering the parents of children under 12 years old, tax free**, so as to ensure that in the tragic circumstances of bereavement or incapacitation the single parent is in the best position to care for their children.

The reason for these measures is that research has shown that too many couples are sliding into cohabitation without realising the benefits of marriage; and, once married, finding it hard to persevere. Equally, many parents receive little or no training, and so are not always supported in catering for the needs of their children as they should. **The whole of society will benefit from a change of culture which these measures will help to bring about.** The training can be provided by any faith community. We will also publicise the benefits of marriage so that more people are aware of the benefits of entering marriage.

We have opposed all attempts to redefine the meaning of marriage and will repeal those laws which have already attempted to do this. As is normal in British politics we will not, however, make those laws retrospective. Anybody who undergoes a 'same-sex marriage' abroad will not have that 'marriage' legally recognised in this country.

Schools should not be used as an apparatus for social engineering and promoting the secular liberal agenda. They should respect the views of parents and the cultural background of pupils. Schools must not be able to take action against teachers who support real marriage, and neither should any employer, public sector or otherwise, be able to take discriminatory action against any individual on this basis.

Parental and family rights

Reform of the Family Court System

CPA will reform the Family Court System and legislate to protect the rights of parents, and in certain circumstances grandparents, by:

1. **Stopping the use of all targets and/or financial rewards for putting children in care.** This target culture incentivises against working to keep families together.
2. **Ending the Secrecy of the Family Court system**, which protects the system rather than families and children. Justice necessitates that proceedings and court hearings must be open and transparent, as with any other court process (this can be done whilst ensuring the children themselves remain publicly unnamed and anonymous).
3. **Ensuring there is a strict onus on keeping children with their parents**, who should only be removed from them in genuine cases of criminal abuse or neglect.
4. **Providing an advocate to assist vulnerable parents** with any paperwork and legal options as required.
5. Supporting the principle that where a **next of kin or other suitable relative** is able and willing to care for a child then that **should be the first option for alternative care**.
6. We will also ensure that, where possible, a request from natural grandparents or other close relatives for access to children will be considered favourably.

Adoptive families

The CPA believes that, where there are difficult family circumstances, **every priority and effort must be made to help and support children remaining with one or both of their natural parents**. For serious reasons (including parental death, or criminal abuse) **this may not always be possible, and adoption provides the most humane solution for children in such circumstances**. It also provides for a humane voluntary alternative to abortion, where the mother (or father), for whatever reason, is unable to care for and raise their child.

In such circumstances, the **CPA believes adoptive parents make a highly significant contribution to the lives of the children they adopt and to the community as a whole**. They provide a home for a child (or children) in need and may end a cycle of abuse and/or neglect within families. Potentially they save a lot of social work costs and so they need and deserve support from government at all levels.

The CPA believes **every effort should be made to ensure that once a child is placed with adoptive parents the placement succeeds**. The cost of an adoption placement breakdown, both in terms of emotional damage to the child and to the wider community, should be avoided if at all possible.

Therefore we propose:

1. **Legislation to require that couples who apply for adoption are married and of the opposite sex**. This is so that the adopted child can benefit both from a mother and father, and from the proven greater family stability that marriage provides. Single people, however, will also still be able to apply for adoption of a child in appropriate circumstances (such as a prior established relationship with the child).

2. We will seek to re-address the injustice done as a result of the Sexual Orientation Regulations (2007), where Catholic and other adoption agencies, who could not in conscience or best judgement place children with same-sex parents, were forced to close. **We will work to help re-establish Christian and faith adoption agencies who wish to be true to their values**, so that children and families may once again benefit from the excellent work that they do.
3. **We will investigate and address discrimination in adoption and fostering decisions, as well as in social work recruitment and employment**, against faithful Christians and others whose moral and political views may conflict with the ideological bias of the social work profession and Family Court System. It is unacceptable that Christians and others who rightly hold to the benefits of natural marriage are increasingly being barred from adoption, fostering, and the caring professions where they are most needed. This problem has been highlighted by the high-profile cases of social work student Felix Ngole and magistrate Richard Page, amongst others. We will conduct a review of the child and social care sectors to address such discrimination, with recommendations for possible new regulations. The welfare of children and families is at stake.
4. When advertising for new adoptive parents it should be recognised by government at all levels that a child's problems (such as learning difficulties, Attachment Disorder, ADHD, autism spectrum disorders, foetal alcohol syndrome or the effects of physical or sexual abuse) do not disappear because the child is moved into an adoptive family.
5. Post-adoption support staff should be actively encouraged to assist adoptive parents in matters such as school placements.
6. **Every school should be encouraged to have a specific policy on 'looked after' and adopted children** that recognises the unique needs of this group and sets out how these will be addressed in the school situation. (The views of agencies such as Adoption UK and similar groups may be considered when policies are made.) Reports by Ofsted on schools and other institutions should include an assessment of how well the body concerned meets the needs of 'looked after' and adopted children.
7. Council officials and social workers who have contact with adoptive parents or kinship carers should recognise the contribution the birth parents have made. **We believe it's essential that birth parents, where possible, should continue to have a role in bringing up the children** — something which is recognised already by some local authorities, but not all.
8. Courses in colleges and universities for the training of teachers, health professionals, social workers and others from the caring professions should cover how to meet the unique needs of adopted children and their families. Relevant agencies such as Adoption UK and the faith adoption agencies restored by the CPA should be included in the development of policies and training programmes.
9. Churches and other community groups should be encouraged to support adoptive families wherever possible.

10. Local authorities and other adoption agencies should be required to maintain a record of how many of the children they place with adoptive parents remain with those parents and how many are returned to 'care'.
11. **When an adoption placement fails there should be a full investigation by the local authority.** This investigation should lead to a report giving reasons for the placement failure and recommendations for future practice. It should be submitted to the department of the relevant Minister of State. A summary of these reports should be presented annually to Parliament along with recommendations for any legislative or other changes that may be considered necessary. If the adoptive parents are not satisfied with the investigation, then they should have the right to appeal to an independent inspector appointed by either central government or the family courts giving their reasons.
12. We believe it's essential that **kinship carers should be entitled to the same level of support as foster carers.** The financial situation of uncles, aunts and grandparents who take on a child full-time should not be taken for granted.

Our concern is focussed on the needs of children, and we should be doing all we can to rebuild a society where children live with their natural parents, and only in exceptional cases — where the children are without their natural parents, or are at a genuine and proven risk of harm — in a safe, secure and welcoming adoptive family. Of course, full help and support must and will be given to lone parents, but not at the expense of seeking to solve the reasons why families are breaking down in the first place.

Further family support

In order to give additional support to the family we will:

1. **Restore Sunday as a day of rest and family time.** We will make it obligatory to close most retail outlets by limiting the numbers that can be employed on any premises to 5 people on a Sunday, as well as at Easter and Christmas. We will also make it obligatory for Government and local authority workers to be given the day off on Sunday if they want it, and we will normally make it illegal to include compulsory Sunday working in any contract of employment. We would make exemptions, however, for emergency and essential services necessary for the smooth running of society and care of the sick and vulnerable. Such workers would be ensured an alternative day of rest whenever Sunday work is necessary.
2. **Make available free of charge counselling and treatment for drug and alcohol addiction**, in order to help individuals and families cope with, and overcome, the terrible pressures that come through drug and alcohol misuse.
3. **Tackle child poverty by introducing a new child income tax allowance of £2,373 per child up to the fifth child.** The cost of this has been estimated at £4 billion.
4. **Allow one of the parents who stays at home to receive enhanced child benefit** in the early years to encourage parents to spend more time with very young children.

5. **Set up ‘family hubs’ which would include respite centres for families experiencing breakdown,** and easy access to counselling and training in child rearing free-of-charge to anyone who wants to commit to participating in it.

These supportive measures would be funded by central Government out of our proposed Turnover Tax.

Valuing the life and health of all

Free, efficient and compassionate health care services for all

Caring for the sick and **providing healthcare** has always been an **integral part of Christian mission** - and the health system in this country is built on the foundations of what the Church first provided. However, the principles of good healthcare are increasingly being eroded.

We want to promote and provide health services in line with our core principles of empowering individuals and local communities, and to ensure the effective use of resources directed with **respect for life, the principles of natural health, social justice, and active compassion.**

One of the results of strengthening marriage and the family will be less sickness and therefore less pressure on the NHS, as well as overcoming the demographic problems caused by below-replacement-level birth-rates which make a free health-service, as well as other aspects of the welfare state, increasingly unsustainable. However, the policy of the CPA is to use resources consequently freed up to improve and expand treatment, not just to save money.

The CPA is committed to providing:

- a publicly funded, effective and value-for-money National Health Service;
- that is based on a strong pro-life ethic which respects the sanctity of human life;
- that promotes informed patient autonomy and choice, and is free from coercive practices;
- that is patient focussed; that promotes the true best interests of patients, in terms of the preservation of life and alleviation of suffering;
- that is free of conflicts of interest, such as between the pharmaceutical industry and its regulators;
- that promotes natural health and well-being, rather than the drug-dependency culture;
- that is free at the point of delivery for all UK citizens;
- that has adequate additional funding for long-term improvements to health and social care, as well as short term contingencies.

GP Fundholding

We are committed to finding ways of the developing the internal market within the NHS, to improve both quality and efficiency of health services. We will reintroduce ‘GP fundholding’ — a scheme which

operated between 1991 and 1998 and in our view worked very well. Under GP fundholding GPs held real budgets with which they purchased primarily non-urgent elective and community care for patients; they had the right to keep any savings to reinvest in their practices and had the freedom to deliver new services. The reintroduction of this scheme will lead to more efficient GP practices and make it easier for people to get appointments, without it costing the Government any further money. Private hospitals and healthcare providers will be able to offer their services within the internal market, for GPs to purchase in consultation with their patients. This scheme reflects our core principle of subsidiarity and empowerment where decisions are made at the most local level possible.

Essential care for all:

The CPA is completely committed to providing emergency treatment to all who need it, without first requiring payment. Whilst health insurance will be required by all coming to the UK, the CPA will require payment or proof of insurance after emergency treatment, or before non-emergency treatment, but subject always to that not affecting the wellbeing of the patient. This policy must be maintained in all cases for the first 5 years of living in this country.

Promoting the health of the nation through partnership

The CPA is committed to improving the health and well-being of all residing in the UK, to encourage personal responsibility and to provide high-quality healthcare whenever needed, regardless of through whom that is provided — the State, charities, voluntary organisations, or private companies. The CPA will seek to encourage and facilitate different forms of partnership, suitable for local circumstances, mostly involving the NHS with local authorities, charities, non-profit and for-profit organisations and, above all, with patients. Health innovations through such **partnerships will include:**

- **Promoting holistic patient-centred care** — the emphasis will be on encouraging and supporting individuals and families to take responsibility for their personal fitness, natural health and well-being.
- **Prevention and self-cure programmes** – in particular relating to smoking, obesity, and exercise; workplace health schemes and incentives; alcohol, excess sugar and salt.
- **Planning treatment (including prevention) in conjunction with individuals** (who are often experts by experience) so that it is an agreed course of action to which they are fully subscribed.
- **Involving carers** fully in that planning, including respite planning.
- **Providing integrated health care** on an appropriate geographical basis, breaking down the current barriers between primary and secondary care.
- **Encouraging and facilitating out-of-hospital services** (including GPs and community services) to find appropriate ways within their communities of working at scale, whilst still maintaining the personal link with ‘my GP’.

- **Better connecting services** to ensure the patient gets the most appropriate treatment at the most appropriate level, quickest. For instance:
 - a more effective dovetailing of urgent and emergency care from NHS 111 and GP out of hours service through the 999 and ambulance service urgent care centres to full A&E and major trauma centres.
- **Integrate health and social care funding, with clinical support.** We will run further pilot schemes where care homes and intermediate care homes can provide long-term patient accommodation at a lower cost whilst still having the clinical support there if required. This will free up several thousand beds for actual acute use.
- **Increase the provision of good quality terminal, palliative and respite care** for infants, children, and adults, whether in their own homes or in hospices, mostly by encouraging additional work to take place between the NHS and the voluntary sector. This care will be benchmarked against the world's best examples of each kind.

A Health Service that is efficient and value-for-money

- The CPA will institute a major consultation and review of NHS provision with a view to reducing bureaucracy, increasing efficiency, and managing change in a way that best enables the service to deliver according to our core principles.
- We will enhance the capability and capacity of the NHS to plan and deliver appropriate change without calling on expensive external consultants. This will involve increasing the influence of healthcare professional bodies, health staff and patient groups, and so restore responsibility for health planning to public health and clinical leaders.
- We will use the purchasing power of the NHS to get the best deals for all NHS procurement, whilst seeking to eliminate all forms of vested interest (such as that which exists between pharmaceutical companies, regulators and buyers), in favour of patient best interest.

Restoring a pro-life ethic of care to the Health Service.

Restoring a pro-life ethic across the NHS involves every member of staff doing their best to save the life and/or assist the healing of a patient, and, where life is coming to an end, to provide the best care for the best possible quality of life. **Our National Health Service should always provide care and never killing.** Such practices as abortion and euthanasia, whether by act or omission, as well as being wrong in themselves, always corrupt the culture of the medical profession and sap the will of society to care for its most vulnerable members.

We will also ensure respect for elderly people, and those with long-term illnesses, by working towards state-funded personal care for the elderly and disabled. As part of our 'partnership' proposals, domiciliary home care services must be improved, and the option of sheltered accommodation should be made available where it is the right solution for an elderly or vulnerable person. Where the best solution is for

an elderly person to move in with a relative or close friend, we would assess the possibility of a grant towards the cost of adapting the new premises or putting in an appropriate support package. The CPA would also reward those who stay at home to look after an elderly parent by increasing the Carers Allowance substantially from £39.90 per week and not linking it to any other benefit. We would consult on how that may best be increased over time due to the advancing age or frailty of the one being cared for.

Supporting parents in making the right medical decisions for their children:

The CPA will redress the state takeover of parenting that is taking place, not only in education, but also in the health service, with the authorities usurping the **natural right of parents to make medical decisions concerning their children**. Children, by nature of their physical and psychological immaturity, are vulnerable and reliant on adults to make the right decisions for them. By default, it is the sacred and rightful duty and responsibility of a child's parents to make such decisions, supported by the medical profession with their expertise and advice:

- We will introduce an **'Alife's law'** (named after Alfie Evans) so parents are able to act on a second opinion and transfer the care of their child, without obstruction, to another hospital (including in another country) where they have been offered a better prognosis and the chance of life-saving treatment. High-profile cases such as those of Charlie Gard, Ayasha King and Alife Evan have shown a dangerous trend of public bodies depriving parents and families of the right to make decisions they believe are in the best interests of their children. We will stop NHS trusts in such cases effectively turning their hospitals into prisons.
- We will **restore the right of parents to be fully consulted over, and to agree to, any medical treatment their child is to receive**; to be able to make decisions on their child's behalf up to their 16th birthday, and to retain the right to be consulted and access medical information up to when they are 18 years of age. This includes sexual health services. For too long decisions have been made behind parents' backs which may have disastrous life-long consequences, and it is often parents who are left to pick up the pieces.
- We will **oppose any move to introduce mandatory vaccinations** and, instead, **promote informed parental choice**. Every individual, or parent of a child, must have the opportunity to provide informed consent in relation to any kind of proposed medical intervention or treatment. Whilst public health authorities may advise and promote particular treatments based on a range of expert opinion, patients and parents must have the opportunity to research and look into different medical options themselves, if they choose, including natural health and immunity; and be able to weigh up the pros and cons of each, including all known side effects and consequences of pharmaceutical products. They must be free to make health decisions for themselves and their families without harassment, scapegoating or vilification from the authorities and the media.

Treatment and therapy relating to sex, gender & sexuality.

We will make it strictly illegal to provide or perform any kind of ‘gender reassignment’ treatment or surgery on children under 18 years of age. We will also make it a policy not to fund or make available any kind of ‘gender reassignment’ treatment or surgery on the NHS for adults. If adults over-18 want to spend their own money on such treatment for themselves, no matter how destructive, in a free society they should be permitted. This does not include those extremely rare cases where people are born with a physical intersex condition that requires corrective treatment and surgery.

We will, however, provide free therapy and counselling for those suffering from gender dysphoria to help them live a fulfilling life in their natural identity, based on their God-given biological sex. Similarly, people should be free to obtain counselling of whatever kind they choose (faith-based or otherwise) to deal with, and overcome, unwanted same-sex attraction. Attempts to ban so-called ‘conversion therapy’ are an infringement on the civil liberty of those freely seeking to change their lives in a way that they believe is for the better, and we would always oppose such measures. We wish to allow and encourage objective academic research and scientific enquiry on such matters.

Other issues that the CPA considers important for the NHS and public health policy

- We will conduct a review of the pharmaceutical industry’s role in the funding and outcome of research, and their influence on public health information and policy, to ensure that decision making for the health service is based as far as possible on credible medical requirement rather than commercial self-interest.
- We will focus on national standards of healthcare rather than targets.
- We will improve the means by which staff can identify and report their concerns about quality of care and patient safety without fear of recrimination for ‘whistle blowing’.
- We would institute a no-fault liability system to allow members of staff to admit to mistakes. This will do three things:
 - Allow any system malfunction, and subsequent rectification, to be for the benefit of future patients. Such a ‘system malfunction’ may be a member of staff who needs additional training, or needs to be moved to other duties.
 - Allow for the speedy compensation of the affected patient, without a lengthy legal battle in which the medical professional/institution seek to deny liability.
 - Remove the expensive legal costs in fighting such cases which can be far more than the compensation. This in itself will be a saving of £448 million (2020-21) for claimants’ lawyers, and to save as much as possible of the £3.6 billion a year the NHS spends on litigation cases.¹¹

¹¹ House of Lords Library, *Negligence in the NHS: liability costs*, 29 November, 2021; <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/negligence-in-the-nhs-liability-costs/>

Lane J, Bhome R, Somani B. ‘National trends and cost of litigation in UK National Health Service (NHS): a specialty-specific analysis from the past decade’ *Scottish Medical Journal*. 2021;66(4):168-174. doi:10.1177/00369330211052627; <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/00369330211052627>

- Such no-fault liability will not, however, apply to cases of proven malpractice or professional negligence.
- We will enhance the voice of the patient and improve responsiveness to their concerns by improving the NHS complaints process.
- We will eliminate completely all political campaigning, including the promotion of LGBT ideology, by the NHS, making savings which will go towards genuine frontline healthcare — for instance, the estimated £8.2m that NHS Trusts waste each year on ‘woke warriors’ employed in various ‘diversity and inclusion’ non-jobs.¹² With over 7 million people on waiting lists for NHS treatment it is a scandal that precious resources are being misused on programmes which alienate so many who rely on the state healthcare system.

Further efficiency reforms for the NHS

In order to get maximum value for money from our health service, the CPA will:

- Ensure the NHS makes demand and efficiency savings (cutting back on duplication of services, more efficiently utilising staff and resources) of at least 2-3% per annum.
- We would continue to use private contractors in the NHS where work can be carried out more efficiently for services like cleaning, laundry, meals, machine and building maintenance, and security etc. There is no reason whatsoever why the NHS should not buy in help and support from the private sector where savings can be made.
- The drug budget is exorbitant, currently around £16.7bn per year,¹³ and we would constantly look for savings in this area where they can be made without harming health care. Our review on the influence of the pharmaceutical industry (see above) will identify areas where commercial interests are overriding genuine clinical needs.

Public Support

It will be essential that this programme of enhanced health care receives public support, and changes are not seen simply as a ‘cost-cutting exercise’. In order to do this the CPA will:

- Maintain NHS spending at current levels with all proposed increases applied.
- Encourage engagement and genuine consultation with local populations as well as health professionals.
- Require improvements in local health care to be experienced before there is a transfer of resources.

¹² See ‘NHS spends more than £8.2m on ‘woke warriors’ in diversity jobs’, *The Telegraph*, 26 December 2022; <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/12/26/nhs-spends-82m-woke-warriors-diversity-jobs/>

¹³ ‘Prescribing Costs in Hospitals and the Community – England 2020/21’, NHS Business Services Authority, 11 November 2021; <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/statistical-collections/prescribing-costs-hospitals-and-community-england/prescribing-costs-hospitals-and-community-england-202021>

- Encourage personal participation – in personal prevention programmes, membership of health boards, or volunteering within the community.

In keeping with the core principles of the CPA, these improvements need to be, and to be seen as, empowering individuals and local communities whilst being a more effective use of resources for a more effective health service with better outcomes.

The sanctity of life from conception to natural death

No human life is unimportant or not worth living. The abortion statistics in the UK are both a national tragedy and a scandal. Over 10 million unborn children in the UK have lost their lives to abortion since the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act, as well as the imposition of abortion onto Northern Ireland by Westminster in 2019. In 2021 alone, there were 228, 690 registered abortions in the UK.

The Christian Peoples Alliance is unashamed to declare its total commitment to the principle of respect for life. God infinitely values every human life, made in His own image, and so every person from conception (fertilisation) to natural death deserves the protection of the law. The language of human rights is often heard in both our national Parliament and the United Nations, but rarely in relation to the most basic human need – to be born, nurtured, and protected without fear of death in utero.

Abortion leads to increased exploitation of women, not their 'liberation'. Abortion violates the dignity and integrity of women. It leaves a trail of anger, guilt, resentment, depression, and loss of self-respect. Whenever we act or speak, we pledge to do so, however, without judging or condemning any individual, especially any woman, who has been involved in abortion.

This compassionate Christian approach also requires that we speak up for those who, because of age or infirmity, are perceived to be a burden on others, and we will strongly oppose the growing euthanasia culture. Our nation which proclaims its commitment to equal opportunities for disabled adults, ignores its duty to afford equal protection to disabled pre-born human beings. We have adopted a double standard. We will use our voice in Parliament to challenge these primitive prejudices and fears concerning disability. Negative and defeatist, deeply insulting to the born disabled, eugenic abortion also often causes severe trauma to the mother.

There are already demographic consequences of an anti-life culture. With birth-rates falling dangerously below replacement levels, we now face major economic and social problems associated with an ageing population. The issue of live birth-rate in turn has implications for the question of migration. States which kill their unborn and do not support marriage and family life, are having to replace this missing workforce through liberalising the numbers of people they admit, with inevitable issues relating to integration.

Much western aid to developing countries is ruthlessly anti-life, with tens of millions of taxpayers' money being spent on promoting abortion and sterilisation in Africa, India and elsewhere. Since 2017 the UK

Government has been spending an average of £246 million per year on such programmes worldwide.¹⁴ The CPA deplores such 'aid' programmes: they do not provide solutions to poverty but merely export our 'culture of death' to recipient countries.

One of those countries is China, whose infamous one-child per family policy has created an estimated 30 to 40 million "missing women" through gendercide abortion.¹⁵ UK bilateral aid provided to China totalled around £82 million in 2019. The UK gave further sums of £55.3 million and £23.4 million in the most recent year available to IPPF and UNFPA, both of which have been implicated in China's coercive reproductive policies.¹⁶

The UK has been one of the biggest exporters of the culture of death around the world. Legal abortions have resulted in an estimated £1.72 billion deaths in the past four decades alone, more than all the wars in human history.¹⁷

In Parliament, we pledge ourselves to restore the UK as a nation in which all citizens enjoy equal status, in which the extended family is reinforced as the bedrock of social structure, where motherhood is once again respected, and where we use with wisdom the fruits of new scientific discoveries. This is also the culture of life we wish to export to the world.

The CPA in Government therefore pledges to:

- Completely repeal the 1967 Abortion Act and 1990 Human Fertilisation Act so that all unborn children are legally protected from intentional destruction. We would also repeal Section 9 of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation and Exercise of Functions) Act 2019, which was used to impose abortion on Northern Ireland, completely against the will of the electorate there.

¹⁴ "At the 2017 Family Planning Summit, the UK publicly committed to spend an average of £225 million on family planning each year to 2022. The UK has exceeded this commitment, spending an average of approximately £246 million every year between April 2017 and March 2022. New UK funding to the Global Family Planning Partnership 'FP2030' prioritises in-country programmes in regions including North, West, and Central Africa; East and Southern Africa; Asia and the Pacific; and Latin America and the Caribbean". Andrew Mitchell, Minister of State (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) (Minister for Development and Africa), Response to Parliamentary question UIN 104172, tabled on 6 December 2022.

¹⁵ "China still boasts the world's most skewed sex ratio at birth at around 110 males born for every 100 females as of 2021. That means there are about 34 million more men in the country than women"; "Sex ratio in China 2021, by age group", Published by C. Textor, Sep 29, 2023; <https://www.statista.com/statistics/282119/china-sex-ratio-by-age-group/#:~:text=Gender%20imbalance,there%20are%20about%20> [accessed 3 November 2023].

¹⁶ IPPF, *Financial Statements 2020*, p.43; <https://www.ippf.org/resource/financial-statements-2020> [accessed 3 November 2023]; UNFPA, *Top 20 Donors 2021 Global Statistics*; https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/2021_Global_Statistics.pdf [accessed 3 November 2023] (Note: the UK's Combined Core and Co-financing Contributions to UNFPA are given as \$28.8million, worth £23.4 million at time of writing).

¹⁷ See <https://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/1.72-billion-abortions-worldwide-in-the-last-40-years> [accessed 3 November 2023]; At least 108 million people were killed in wars in the twentieth century. Estimates for the total number killed in wars throughout all of human history range from 150 million to 1 billion. <https://www.nytimes.com/2003/07/06/books/chapters/what-every-person-should-know-about-war.html>

- Legislate for a new Offences Against the Person's Act if necessary to prohibit abortion, embryo experimentation and all forms of euthanasia. In this way we would challenge and overturn the culture of death by giving full protection of the law to all innocent human beings from conception until natural death.
- Until such a time as this legislation is achieved, to allow those who have philosophical or moral objections to abortion and other anti-life practices to be able conscientiously to object to any of the processes leading up to them.
- Seek the nationwide provision of pro-life pregnancy care services, including provision of accommodation for women made homeless by pregnancy, pregnant women with special needs, and one-parent families.
- We would divert the £400+ million of UK taxpayers' money spent each year on funding abortion here and abroad onto supporting any mother in a crisis pregnancy situation.¹⁸
- Ensure recognition for the millions of women who have had abortions. Post-abortion trauma affecting many women must now be recognised and non-judgemental post-abortion counselling will be made available for any woman who wants it, no matter how long ago the abortion took place.
- End the practises of cloning, embryo experimentation and all reproductive technologies which lead to the intentional destruction of human life.
- Support legislation to prevent the patenting of natural genetic material, modifications to the human germline and the trade in sperm, ova, and human beings at the embryonic stage of development.
- Outlaw voluntary, non-voluntary and involuntary euthanasia by omission or by direct act, including neonatal euthanasia and euthanasia of patients in a 'persistent vegetative (non-responsive) state'.
- Enable additional work to take place between the NHS and the voluntary sector to increase the provision of good quality terminal and palliative and respite care for infants, children, and adults, whether in their own homes or in hospices. This care will be benchmarked against the world's best examples of each.
- International aid will be ended to any agency or government which promotes abortion, euthanasia or forced sterilisation programmes, coercive contraception, or other grave violations of human dignity (e.g. arbitrary imprisonment or deportation, slavery, or sale of women or children).
- Legislate to ban the practice of surrogacy, since surrogacy commodifies children as well as women's bodies, destroys the sacred natural bond between mother and child, and deliberately denies a child's right to be brought up by his/her natural parents.

¹⁸ A report in the Daily Telegraph (22 November 2011) put the average cost of each abortion at £680, which, in the absence of official statistics, would constitute an estimated average spend for the NHS of £155.5 million, based on the 2021 UK abortion statistics. This is in addition to the £246 million the UK Government spends per year on "family planning" programmes overseas which incorporate abortion (see above).

The Economy and Economic Justice

Introduce a Turnover Tax and make tax fair

In order to fund our key policy proposals, as well as remedy the injustices of the current corporate tax system, the CPA will introduce a Turnover Tax at a rate of 5% of company turnover, payable quarterly in arrears along with VAT. The threshold will be the same as the VAT threshold, currently £85,000. This is intended to ensure that appropriate tax is collected from those multi-national companies who make their money by selling in the UK but transfer their profits overseas by way of 'licence' and other 'costs' or 'invoice' addresses. This will be a fairer company tax system across the board and eventually make buying online taxed at the same level as buying in shops, which will prevent the now constant trend of store closures and serve to revitalise our city centres.

How much will this raise?

The total turnover of the UK economy in 2022 was £2.3 trillion¹⁹ — 5% of which gives £114bn. The Turnover Tax would be offset against Corporation tax which raised £67bn in 2021/22.²⁰ Small companies would be exempt, using the current VAT threshold of £85,000, and we would look to introduce other fair exemptions.

Another way of looking at it is that the total raised from VAT in 2021/22 was £157 billion, so the Turnover Tax would raise roughly a quarter of that (5% rather than 20% VAT).²¹ We would estimate that by both calculations we would generate approximately £40bn which would be spent funding the following key manifesto pledges:

- £21bn to abolish Business Rates to help our city centres.²²
- £12bn on restoring most of the Government benefit cuts since 2015, so we can make Universal Credit work for those who most need it.
- £3bn on supporting marriage and the family through our grant system.
- £3bn on our policy to support ex-prisoners on their release from prison in order to reduce reoffending and crime.
- £2bn to provide guaranteed night shelters with a meal for all homeless people.

¹⁹ Statista, Gross domestic product of the United Kingdom from 1948 to 2022 (in million GBP); <https://www.statista.com/statistics/281744/gdp-of-the-united-kingdom/>

²⁰ Statista, Corporation tax receipts in the United Kingdom from 2000/01 to 2021/22 (in million GBP); <https://www.statista.com/statistics/284319/united-kingdom-hmrc-tax-receipts-corporation-tax/>

²¹ Statista, Value added tax receipts in the United Kingdom from 2000/01 to 2022/23 (in billion GBP) <https://www.statista.com/statistics/284317/united-kingdom-hmrc-tax-receipts-vat/>

²² Local authorities reported that the non-domestic rates income for 2021-22 was £20.5 billion. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-non-domestic-rates-collected-by-councils-in-england-2021-to-2022/national-non-domestic-rates-collected-by-local-authorities-in-england-2021-to-2022-provisional-data>

Balancing the Books

Aside from our cuts to Quangos and other public sector waste, we will observe the existing Government's spending limits on the Health Service, Education, Defence and Overseas Aid, Local Government, Transport and other headings. Concretely the CPA is committed to seeking to balance the Government's books over the medium term whilst steadily bringing down debt as a proportion of GDP.

Income Tax and National Insurance

In the meantime we want to make the tax system fairer and more productive for the economy, by incentivising work and increasing earnings to stimulate spending. In 2023/24 Income Tax and National Insurance contributions on the earnings of individuals are as follows:

- Up to £12,570: Income Tax 0% and National Insurance 0%
- From £12,571 to £50,270: Income Tax 20%; Nat Ins Employee 10% / Employer 13.8%
- From £50,271 to £125,140: Income Tax 40%; Nat Ins Employee 2% / Employer 13.8%
- Over £125,140: Income Tax 45%; Nat Ins Employee 2% / Employer 13.8%.
- For self-employed people National Insurance is charged at 8% on profits between £12,570 and £50,270, with 2% above that. Income Tax remains the same as employee earnings.

In our 2019 General Election Manifesto our policy was to address some of the anomalies in the tax system by making the NI thresholds the same as for Income Tax. The Government have since addressed this by making the thresholds the same, as above (another policy borrowed from the CPA).

We propose the following Income Tax and NI contributions on earnings:-

- Up to £15,000: Income Tax 0%; Nat Ins 0%
- From £15,001 to £50,270: **Income Tax 18%** up to £50,000; Nat Ins Employee 10% / Employer 13.8%
- From £50,271 to £125,140: **Income Tax 30%** from £50,000 to £150,000; Nat. Ins Employee 10% / Employer 13.8% 22,461
- Over £125,140: **Income Tax 40%**; Nat. Ins Employee 10% / Employer 13.8%.
- (For self-employed people we would keep the Nat Ins rates as they are currently, with Income Tax the same as our proposed employee rates above).

UK Government procurement costs £393bn a year and we would aim to save 10% of that via our policy to make value for money the only criteria for procurement (see above), so £37.9bn a year spent on cutting tax and cutting debt.²³ It costs just over £5bn to take 1p off income tax so with his policy we could **take 2p off income tax and raise tax thresholds** (and outlined above) **and still cut debt**. However, we will only cut tax after the money has been saved so there is no risk of increasing debt. We will reduce the budget for

²³ OECD, Government at a Glance-2023 edition: Managing public procurement;
<https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?QueryId=123848>

procurement by 10% which means that savings must be made on Government spending on goods and services, according to our new spending criteria.

The effect of this will be that:

- Everyone earning less than £50,270 will be up to £1,960 per year better off.
- Everyone earning less than £125,140 will be up to £3,457 per year better off (which is £9,446 less tax but £5,989 more National Insurance on an income of £125,140.)
- People earning over £125,140 will pay 3% more tax on their salary above that level but will have still saved £3,457 on their first £125,240 of earnings, so, for example, someone earning £200,000 a year will still be £1,211 per year better off.
- For self-employed people the new 30% band will mean those earning between £50,000 and £125,140 will keep 10% more of their salary. Those earning over £125,140 will save 5% on their salary
- Pensioners with a higher income who don't pay National Insurance will save 10% tax on income between £50,271 to £125,140 and 5% above that.

Corporation Tax

We will also review the effectiveness of Corporation Tax once the Turnover Tax is in place. We want to assist manufacturing companies, and, one way or another, we will ensure that they pay a lower rate of tax and this will be part of the review. We need to encourage the growth of manufacturing in the UK and this measure will do a lot to encourage large manufacturing companies to base themselves here.

Stamp Duty Land Tax

Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) changed from 1 April 2016, very much along the lines we proposed in our 2015 manifesto. It wasn't in the Conservative Party manifesto. It is welcome that they implemented our manifesto proposal on this issue rather than theirs. We would now change it further to introduce another SDLT rate above £4,000,000 at 20% (currently 12% over 1.5 million).

Where commercial or residential properties are being purchased as income-producing investments (eg buy-to-let) the SDLT would be 20%. The effect of this would be to decrease the price paid by the investor, leading to cheaper flats and houses for occupation and in the commercial field rebalancing of the price received by the seller and that received by the community. We want to stop, in particular, investors from abroad buying up properties, driving up house prices, and leaving the property ladder inaccessible for so many who are trapped in an ever upward spiral of increasing rent.

What effect will this have?

- Fewer people will buy residential property as an investment so demand and house prices go down.
- First time buyers will no longer be priced out of the market. Buy-to-let landlords tend to go more for cheap houses, as they provide a much better percentage return when they are let out than expensive ones.

- It rebalances the market in favour of first-time buyers and those who only own one home at a time.
- No-one without money is hurt because this form of tax is only paid when people have spare money to invest. We can then use the proceeds from this tax to help the poorest in society on our programmes, including restoring the £12bn benefit cuts and providing shelters and cheap move-on accommodation for those sleeping rough.

Council Tax

- We are not in favour of a 'mansion tax' as that would adversely affect those who are income poor but live in a large house (often for historic or sentimental reasons). However, a revaluation of the Council Tax Bands is now well overdue. We would schedule this for mid-way through the next Parliament, with new bands being introduced at £500,000 and every £250,000 thereafter to £5,000,000. This will allow for the re-adjustment of relative prices in different areas across the UK since the 1 April 1991 valuation some 26 years ago. We would consult on the mitigation of any consequential effects on the 'income poor' following such a revaluation.

Inheritance Tax

- We will review the inheritance tax levels to see if they are working effectively. Rather than a flat 40% rate we favour a scaled increase starting at 20% and then rising to 30%, 40% and 50% for larger inheritances. We would seek to maintain the overall revenue from inheritance tax but shift the burden more to larger inheritances.

Clamping down on tax avoidance and fraud

- The CPA will work with other countries to require 'country by country' reporting by companies; to make open records of beneficial ownership available, and to increase the automatic exchange of financial accounting information between different tax jurisdictions. The CPA will start with the Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories, where these do not already conform to these requirements. The CPA considers that the current framework, by which individuals and companies can avoid paying their fair share of tax, causes the costs of running our society to fall disproportionately onto the shoulders of others. This must be brought to an end.

We will clamp down on tax avoidance by making it illegal to offset losses from one company against the profits of another. In future each company will have to stand alone, and, if necessary, loss-making companies will have to close down. At the moment some people have created loss making companies as a means of tax avoidance.

Company pension schemes will continue to be given tax relief and encouraged, but a threshold will be placed on the amount of tax-free benefit that can be paid into a company pension scheme for an employee at £30,000 per tax year without incurring Corporation Tax. Sometimes these benefits have been used to make enormous payments to executives tax free. If those executives are over 55 they can effectively be receiving a massive tax free payment as 25% of the fund could immediately be drawn tax-

free and the rest taken immediately as an income. The idea of promoting company pensions is to help those in retirement across the board — they should not be used as a tax loophole.

Our tax policies overall are also designed to further social justice, whilst empowering the individual and encouraging the effective use of resources.

Wealth creation and employment

Our economic policies will also result in increased wealth, whether due to the effects of capital investment spreading down through the economy, or the increased innovation and efficiency of UK production, or the new trade routes which we will open up. That wealth must be spread throughout society. To this end the CPA will:

- Change the responsibility of company directors, such that they must consider best balanced interests to shareholders, employees, suppliers, the local community, and wider society, with everything there being considered in a business process audit to be carried out and published every 3 years. This process audit will include the rating of executives.
- Ensure the opportunity to receive bonuses is available to everyone in a company, proportionate to their basic salary. If bonuses are paid only to executives then they will be taxed at a rate of 50%, so that the benefit flows out to wider society.
- Ensure that company share schemes are allocated on the same basis to all employees (who have been employed for more than 2 years), with employee shares having enhanced voting rights, giving a greater say to employees on how their company is run.
- Reform taxation on capital allowances so as to simplify the system and concentrate it on future expenditure by barring claims for pre-April 2012 expenditure.

These policies are also designed both to encourage the effective use of resources and to promote social justice, whilst also empowering the individual.

Reform the banking system

Having debt-based economic growth is bad for society. Debt is getting out of hand at all levels and measures must be taken at all levels to deal with it.

The Christian Peoples Alliance proposes to:

- **End the right of the banks to create money** (known as ‘fractional reserve banking’). All money loaned out must either come from repaid mortgages, savings, or loans from the Bank of England.
- **Introduce limits on the amount of interest that can be charged on loans.** We will consult on the details, including the exact rate, but we would initially propose, for instance, a limit on interest rates higher than 15% above the Bank of England Base Rate (currently 5.25%) or 20% — whichever

is the higher. This level will be subject to review. An institution that routinely charges the maximum level would be subject to scrutiny with the power of the Regulatory Authorities to close it down. The aim of this is to tackle rogue lenders not good banks. 'Pay day loans' will be prohibited.

- **Give the Bank of England the power to impose maximum multipliers for home mortgage loans and/or loan-to-value percentages.** This will have the effect of dampening down (or increasing) house prices as is required by the economy and housing needs.
- **Consult on how the Bank of England can be made much more transparent** in its dealings and how measures can be introduced to **bring it under greater democratic control.** We will seek to install a supervisory board independent of Government that has the power to see any Bank of England documents and demand the reconsideration of a decision. The Supervisory Board would also have the power to interview Bank of England officials over any matter and veto appointments. The Supervisory Board could be called to account in the Administrative Court if it in turn overstepped its power. This accountability can and should be completely separate from the Government and at least some members should be elected. Others could be appointed by regulators.

Environmental Stewardship of the Economy and Transport

Whilst we firmly believe that the world is in the hands of God and does not face extinction because of what man does, nevertheless, we have a duty to be the best custodians possible of our planet and of its natural resources. We must have utmost respect for God's creation, both for our good and for that of future generations.

Energy and climate policy

We praise God for the abundant provision of natural resources He has given to mankind, and the immense progress that industrialisation has generated for human civilisation. But as many of those resources are finite, our aim is to progress as far as possible towards a circular economy, where raw materials and energy sources are re-used or recycled as far as possible, so we are not extracting more non-renewable resources from the earth than is genuinely required.

Our approach to '**climate change**' is a sensible and cautionary one. We want to do what's necessary to **safeguard the environment**, but need to be careful about being panicked or coerced into measures that in themselves would be catastrophic to our industries, economy, and human freedoms. Claims of a '**climate emergency**' or 'climate extinction' are **clearly alarmist** - and certainly require much more open scientific freedom, investigation and debate than is currently on offer. Claims that the 'science is settled' are themselves unscientific and a refusal to engage with the arguments and evidence in opposition to the theory of anthropogenic global warming.

However, it is right that we seek to **eliminate pollution**, continuously **improve energy efficiency**, **increase recycling**, and strive to further the use of **renewable sources of energy**, whilst ensuring that we have an adequate back-up of fossil fuel supplies and energy generation whilst renewable technology is being developed.

Therefore, in Government the CPA will:

- **Prioritise renewable sources of energy provision** (wind/solar/tidal), especially focussing on the research and development of more efficient, higher capacity and more environmentally friendly batteries, as well as other electrical storage processes and devices, from house level to regional generators. Technological innovation in better storage of energy from renewables is crucial for ensuring stability of supply of energy from these sources.
- **Ensure energy security by also reinvesting in fossil fuels** – especially coal and natural gas — whilst exploring (with focussed research and investment) those renewable and alternative energies. We will seriously look at the viability of ‘carbon capture’ technology, with a view to using this and other ‘clean’ use of fossil fuels where possible.
- **Pursue a diversity of fuel sources** (natural/shale gas, hydrogen, oil, coal, nuclear, minewater warming (in areas where this is possible), woodburning, and especially renewables (solar/wind/tidal).
- Ensure we are continuing to use the most cost-effective method of insulating all UK homes to cut down on heat loss and consequently on energy bills, and to provide financial incentives to achieve this.
- Use diplomatic and investment strategies to reduce deforestation and increase reforestation both abroad and at home.

Recycling

- Encourage research into far greater use of recyclable materials, and promote extensive and efficient recycling policies and recyclable materials used within local authorities.
- Seek standardisation of recycling policies and materials across all local authorities, unless local circumstances and views dictate otherwise.
- Recycling and waste processes should always be put out to tender, but local authorities may bid to provide these services. This ensures the greatest efficiency and value for money.
- Consult on ways to encourage reusing and creative recycling – particularly with electrical products, appliances, and furniture. For instance, ensure charity collection points at recycling centres for books, clothes, and working electrical appliances.
- Due to increasing concerns about the effects of microplastics in the human body (which researchers have even found present in human placentas)²⁵, we would promote a range of initiatives to reduce

²⁵ Ragusa et al, ‘Plasticenta: First evidence of microplastics in human placenta’, Environment International, Vol 146, 2021, 106274, ISSN 0160-4120, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2020.106274>.

(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412020322297>)

plastic waste in the environment and the food chain; for instance, supporting outlets selling plastic-free-produce and ensuring plastic wrappers are recycled, not simply incinerated.

Food and Agriculture

- Incentivise and encourage the predominant use of organic farming and food production.
- Refuse licences for genetically modified foods.
- Operate a 'safety-first' or 'precautionary principle' to all pesticides and insecticides (including neonicotinoids) such that they may only be used once shown beyond all doubt to be safe.

Animal Welfare

- Legislate for a much-improved standard of animal welfare, with stricter rules against factory farming methods which cause undue suffering and distress to animals.
- We support criminalising the abduction of dogs, cats and other pets/owned animals. Treating them merely as 'property' when stolen does not take into account the stress and suffering that can be experienced by the animal in such circumstances (as well as that of the owner).
- Dog on dog attacks should be a criminal offence and owners charged. Dogs that can't be controlled, off the lead, collar-less and attack other people's dogs, should be held accountable.
- Amend legislation to ensure rabbit breeders require the same licensing as dog breeders.
- Ensure greater safety and protection of horse riders, and their horses, on the road. We would make it law 'to pass by a horse wide and slow and take note of the horse rider's hand signals'. Horses are easily scared, particularly by car drivers not being as careful as they should when approaching and passing. Upon becoming frightened, they rear, throwing riders off them. This can also endanger the drivers and passengers of the cars, for instance, if it leads to a rider falling through a windscreen.

Transport

Environmental stewardship of the economy and transport are closely interlinked because our transport choices have a significant affect on the environment, as well as our health and well-being. Local government and communities would be involved, as far as possible, in implementing our transport strategies, as well as developing their own to meet the needs of local people.

At a national level the CPA would:

- **Invest in High-Speed Rail** to help revitalise the regions and reduce internal air travel. **We welcome the building of HS2** and would like to see it extended further where possible.

- Oppose the introduction of **Ultra Low Emission Zones**, and other similar measures, in city and town centres, without the express democratic support of those local communities.
 - We strongly agree with the principle of localism, where we encourage and facilitate the availability of local businesses and amenities; however, we are **strongly opposed to any coercive measures**, such as the imposition of “**15 Minute Cities**”, where people’s human freedom to travel, by private car or otherwise, outside a designated zone is impeded.
 - Schemes like ULEZ also disproportionately impact those who cannot afford to replace their vehicles but may rely on them for earning a living or essential travel. If there are continually higher emission standards for new vehicles then air quality will consistently improve over time, as older vehicles naturally fall out of circulation, but we will expedite this process, where possible, with a **fairly reimbursed scrappage scheme policy, especially for older diesel cars and vans**.
- Introduce the ‘**red, yellow, green**’ **sticker system of car pollution identification** and monitoring, which has been shown to move motorists from high pollution and low fuel-efficiency cars (red stickers) to low pollution and high fuel-efficiency cars (green stickers).
- **Oppose the proposed ban on the sale of petrol/diesel vehicles by 2035**, which we believe is damaging to the motor industry and highly unrealistic given the current level of consumer confidence in electric cars, as well as the uncertainties about the viability of all electric motoring by this point in time. If electric cars really catch on, with consumers being persuaded of the benefits of electric motoring, then the market will be the best driver of the switch over, rather than coercive Government measures.
 - The jury is still out on the efficiency and environmental benefits of electric vehicles, given concerns over the fuel sources of electricity generation used to charge them, as well as the manufacturing and disposal of lithium batteries. As the technology improves, we will review our policy and consider encouraging their greater ownership and use.

Road travel

In 2018 in Great Britain there were 165,100 road injuries (averaging 452 a day), with 26,610 people killed or seriously injured (73 per day) with 1,770 reported road deaths (5 per day).²⁶

- The CPA propose all vehicle drivers should be retested if they are shown to have caused a serious or fatal accident. Driving a half-ton of metal and glass on the roads, at speeds of between 30 - 70 mph is a privilege rather than a right and must be treated as such.

Air Travel

- The CPA considers there has to be one large hub airport in the South of England. We believe the ideal solution is to build a **new hub airport in the Thames Estuary** with six runways and linked to Crossrail and the Tube.

²⁶ Department of Transport, *Reported road casualties in Great Britain, provisional estimates: year ending June 2018*; <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/reported-road-casualties-in-great-britain-provisional-estimates-year-ending-june-2018>

- Sufficient initial work has already been done on design and costing by the Thames Estuary Research and Development Company. We will offer shares in the project and a bond to those who wish to lend money, as well as having a significant public share.
- This project will be integrated with the further regeneration of large parts of East London. When it is built Heathrow will be scaled down or redeveloped for housing. This project will create enormous wealth and help redevelop the East of London that is currently, despite Canary Wharf, still in the shadow of the West.
- The greatest cost will be in providing the necessary transport links to the new airport. They may not all arrive in one year but over time they can be made better and better. Links to the channel tunnel and France will be easy.

Cyclists

- We will encourage regional and local authorities, wherever possible, to physically separate cyclists and vehicles, have safer left-hand turns where appropriate, and introduce traffic-light **priority for cyclists**.

As with other road users (eg motorcyclists having helmets, car drivers and passengers wearing seatbelts), cyclists also have responsibility for their own wellbeing and the CPA will require:

- Helmets of a suitable standard and luminosity to be worn.
- Clothing and backpacks to be worn of a suitable reflective luminosity for times of darkness and poor visibility (as appropriate).
- Lights, both front and rear, to be of an appropriate power and position so the cyclist will be seen, and be able to be seen, but not to 'blind' motorists.
- In all cases we will consult on the actual standards to be adopted.

Housing and Development

The breakdown of families and marriage, coupled with increased immigration, has together put the need for housing in our society under increased strain. The first resort is not just to build more houses but to address some of the underlying causes of the increased need. This we have done elsewhere in our manifesto. Coupled with this, where wealth has increased there is also an increased likelihood that some people will own both a working home in a city and a rest home of some sort away from a city.

Despite this, even while the underlying causes are being addressed, there will still be a need for more houses to be built. The CPA proposes:

1. The process of encouraging **more new housing to be built in city centres** will be increased. As shopping habits are changing, and more people are either buying online or going to out-of-town shopping centres, old city centres can be re-invigorated by building as much housing as possible in city centres, which will include new shops with flats above them. This housing is useful for anyone who does not want a garden, particularly young people, and in many cases reduces travel requirements so easing congestion on road and rail. It also helps the shopping centres themselves by increasing the number of people who live nearby, and does away with places that are dead at night.
2. Unused development areas will be identified, and significant new sites will be made available for housing.
3. In an area where there are a significant number of empty houses, if these cannot be brought back into use, we will look at **redevelopment to improve and invigorate an area**. This will sometimes be painful in the short term but will always have long term benefits.
4. We will do our level best to **avoid turning green sites into housing estates**. This should only happen as an exception.
5. **Second Homes to be a different use class in planning to main residence** (to protect rural communities) with automatic planning permission for reversion from Second Home status to Main Residence status, but not the other way round. This will lead to an increase in current Second Home values faster than Main Residence values in the same area (as the supply of Second Homes is restricted), but that can be addressed, if need be, through Capital Gains Tax.

There is an urgent need to reform the Leasehold Reform legislation by which people may purchase the freeholds or extend the leases on their homes. This now dates back 50 years and is no longer fit for purpose. The CPA would:

1. Remove the concept of 'marriage value' from all lease extensions and freehold purchases. In relatively simple cases, of leases of less than 50 years outside of Prime Central London, this will reduce the cost to leaseholders by up to £100,000.
2. Reduce the complexity of the timetabling of all claims and remove all the 'traps' in the legislation (to prevent the 'game-playing' of solicitors) resulting in a far simpler process, reduced costs and fewer professional indemnity claims.
3. Reform the 'commercial' system so it is workable, and require all new blocks of flats, and blocks where the leaseholders purchase the freehold, to be on the new revised commercial basis.
4. Consult on bringing all leases of residential property under consumer legislation rather than just land law legislation, such that unfair terms in the lease can be voided by the courts. In particular, the CPA would introduce legislation such that all leases where ground rents increase by more than double every 25 years become a fixed ground rent for the remaining length of the lease.

Rented accommodation

- The CPA would provide landlord-liaison officers to support landlords where required, and to assist them where necessary with ensuring their homes meet the regulations and the required

standards, as well as support in handling disputes with tenants in a way that achieves a just resolution for both parties.

- We will review the practice of rent being paid directly to tenants from the local authority. We would ideally return to the position where, if rent has not been paid by a council tenant for 8 weeks, the council will pay it direct to the landlord, reimburse the landlord for missed rent, and take responsibility for legally recovering costs from the tenant. Local authorities should not be paying rent to a tenant who is not passing the money on to the landlord, and landlords should not be left responsible for evicting the tenant in such circumstances.
- For those vulnerable people who cannot cope with a normal tenancy, we believe license agreements, rather than assured tenancies, should be used.

Action against poverty: support for the homeless; help for those on low incomes, those who cannot work, and the elderly

Making Universal Credit work

We support the new Universal Credit system, but it is hopelessly underfunded. George Osborne back in 2015 decided to take £12bn out of the system as Chancellor. With the funding restored the system will work.

It is obviously desirable to get people off benefits and into work if at all possible. We will follow the Biblical principle of refusing financial help to those clearly capable of work who refuse any suitable work offered to them. To be clear, in justice we would exempt from benefit withdrawal:

- anyone who is physically disabled to the extent that they need assistance to move around.
- anyone who is registered mentally disabled and has not been completely discharged.
 - We will remove the test of being “able to do any work”, and replace it with the test of being “able to work in an occupation which the applicant is suited to perform.” If it is deemed by a doctor that an applicant previously able to receive benefits is now “able to work in an occupation which the applicant is suited to perform” then we will not cease benefits until a job offer is actually made, or until the applicant misses 3 interviews for jobs or at a job centre without reasonable cause. This will end the injustices portrayed in the film *I, Daniel Blake*.
 - If an appeal is made against a decision to remove benefits those benefits will be kept in place until the appeal is heard. (These benefits include the current provision of a Motability car).
- A single parent with a pre-school age child.

- Someone who cares for more than 35 hours per week for a sick, infirm or dependent person (who will be a recipient of a carer's allowance).

In addition, **we will introduce a new rule that anyone who applies for benefits is given immediate help if there is a reasonable prospect that their application will be successful.** This help will only be required to be paid back if it is shown that there has been serious dishonesty in the application and the authorities were misled. This should mean that the days when job centres are sending applicants to food banks are over. Where benefits are used to avoid taking responsibility and finding work then they can be counterproductive to the community, but we will always make sure that the poorest are cared for.

Fuel Poverty

- The daily standing charge on gas and electricity is proportionally greater for those with smaller bills which would include many on low incomes. Looking at average usage figures these charges could be removed and the shortfall made up by a 1.5 pence increase per kilowatt hour.
- This would help those on restricted incomes who are using less than average gas and electricity while increasing the incentive to reduce consumption.

A hand up for the homeless

- There is an urgent need for the provision of good quality and affordable move-on accommodation for those coming out of homelessness, using a mixture of voluntary, private, and state sponsored provision. As with other matters in this Manifesto it is about the quality of the provision, rather than who is the provider.
- We will also seek to guarantee free emergency night shelters, with a free meal, for anyone who would otherwise be sleeping rough, with the offer of affordable move-on accommodation and practical help with immediate Job Seekers Allowance and finding work. No one should be left hungry and out in the cold.
- For people with addiction, drink, or drug problems, we will provide specialist interventionist support.
- People who use night shelters, or who have been given specialist support will be made a priority for permanent housing, as it will be obvious that they are homeless.
- We would allocate at least £2 billion from income generated by our Turnover Tax to fund our support for the homeless.

A note on Food Banks

- Many CPA members are helping to run food banks. We understand why people are going to food banks and what needs to be done to remove the need for them. We would address the root causes:
 - Our national policy, outlined in 2019 GE Manifesto, is to restore the £12 Billion cuts in benefits, financed by our Turnover Tax.

- Our policies at all levels always seek to address family breakdown (especially our policies to support marriage and family life).
- We would address the problem of prisoners leaving prison unsupported.

Tackling the low wage economy and labour injustices

It is easy to assume that things cannot change for the British workforce. 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 employer forums, the CPA will seek to increase the working income of the poorest sectors of our society:

- We will **raise the minimum wage** (currently £10.42 per hour for over-22s) to the current '[Real Living Wage](#)' of £12 across the UK and £13.15 in London for ALL aged 18 and over.²⁷ We believe this is a key factor in our drive to tackle low-wage poverty.
- We will **make Zero Hours contracts illegal** except for employees under 21 or over 65. These distort the workforce by tying someone to a job from which they may be receiving no income at all and makes it very hard for them to find other work. Agencies are available for employers to get workers at short notice. The only reason for zero hours contracts is to have a reserve of cheap labour. It must stop. Where Zero Hours contracts do continue for the under 21s or over 65s, anyone called in must be paid for at least 2 hours work.
- We will also 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 spending quality time with family. Our policy (above) of restoring Sunday as a weekly National Day of Rest will go a long way to helping in this regard.

Christians have long been involved in many initiatives 'on the ground' in their communities, including foodbanks, debt counselling, and practical care for people on the streets. Low wages are not the only cause of poverty, and we will always look for ways to effectively assist people who need help for whatever reason. We don't just talk good policies; we act them out whether or not we are elected to public office. In everything we do we will seek to support all initiatives from the voluntary sector, including those from faith groups that help the poorest in our society.

Dignity and justice for the elderly and retired

The full new State Pension is currently £203.85. As finances allow the CPA will increase this to £235 per week at current prices, but thereafter the CPA would keep a double lock — the higher of either the increase in inflation or of average earnings, but we would remove the minimum increase of 2.5% a year. This is because once pensioners have a reasonable sum on which to live it is not right that there is a

²⁷ <https://www.livingwage.org.uk/what-real-living-wage>

transfer of resources (in real terms) from the young to the old that is greater than either average earnings or the rate of inflation.

The National Insurance record is used to calculate the new State Pension. Ten qualifying years are usually needed to get any New State Pension. The amount paid can be higher or lower depending on National Insurance records. Those born before 1951(men)/1953 (women) instead receive Additional State Pension on top of their Basic State Pension, which is determined by their level of contributions. We welcome these changes which finally put to bed all the arguments over SERPS.

In general, we consider the idea to allow people to cash in previously purchased annuities to be an ill-thought-out gimmick and we do not support it. However, there should be an exception for those who have annuities paying out small amounts, say less than £100 per month. Such amounts should not be offset against benefits.

Social Care

Personal Assistant Scheme

For elderly and vulnerable people who do not already receive adequate care, oversight or representation from relatives, partners and/or next of kin, and are in demonstrable danger of exploitation or neglect, the CPA would provide them with a personal assistant who will do regular checks, and always be available to respond to a phone message within 24 hours. These personal assistants would have the following responsibilities:

- To keep track of the elderly/vulnerable person's appointments.
- To advocate for them at every turn (except for medical and end of life decisions, where they will be protected by a restored Christian definition of patients' best interests, prioritising preservation of life along with alleviation of suffering).
- To assist them with day-to-day finances and to make sure they are not being cheated.
- To make sure they always have adequate food in the home and can feed themselves with it. If necessary, assistance will be given with food orders, or arrangements made for a meals-on-wheels service.
- To bring in someone from a church, community or befriending group who can help the elderly person, and who can apply for Government funds where appropriate.
- To ensure they are kept clean and well-cared for, and that their home is kept clean and tidy.

This provision will apply as soon as a doctor, in consultation with social services, has clear evidence that the elderly or vulnerable person has insufficient support and is at risk, and the help would then be allocated via a GP. When GP funding holding is applied, as is our national policy, they should welcome this additional means of support for the community.

There will be an initial assessment done before a personal assistant is allocated when a full financial review will also take place, as well an evaluation of their existing support network, including relatives,

friends, and neighbours. One of the personal assistant's responsibilities will be to do an annual update and log it with authorities. Too many elderly people are taken advantage of, and we will take steps to stop this.

The intention is never for the State to interfere with, or undermine, the responsibilities of family members (and further steps will be consulted upon to prevent this from happening) — but rather to provide appropriate oversight and care in situations where elderly and vulnerable people do not have such support in place, and would otherwise suffer neglect, exploitation, and maltreatment.

- The state would pay for a limited number of visits — the number of visits to be determined on a trial of the scheme before it is fully rolled out. We couldn't provide unlimited visits, but we would make sure the number of visits was adequate to cover normal requirements.

Additional help for the elderly

- The CPA will also provide capital allowance for building changes, security and safety equipment needed to assist for care for the elderly where they are being brought close to other relatives, following a full assessment of needs (eg. making sure that the free fire and carbon monoxide alarms supplied by the Fire Service are fitted).
- The CPA will review the process by which the purchase of medical equipment is outsourced. We are not against this if it can save money, but it must work efficiently and provide quality equipment.
- Where elderly people or disabled people need special equipment fitted in their homes a personal assistant, where employed, will meet with the fitter of the equipment to make sure that a proper assessment is done and what is needed will be provided in the right way. It is not acceptable for fitters to arrive and then go away saying they cannot fit what they have been asked to fit.
- We will review the efficiency of the private sector in providing care and make sure that regular quality checks are undertaken. If the private sector is not reaching the necessary standards in an area we would bring care services back in-house by getting service users to nominate their best carers, and would invest in a non-profit enterprise model.
- We would keep the personal alarm service as it is, as it works well to assist with any urgent medical needs.

Savings will be made from keeping people in their own homes and out of care homes for as long as possible. Money is being misspent as people are not being given the proper support to start with.

Travel support

- In addition, for all over-75s we would provide a **new taxi card service** so that each senior citizen can apply for a taxi budget to take them places. The service currently provided by ComCab and

Dial-a-Ride is inadequate and too cumbersome. Where necessary a personal assistant will provide help filling in applications. If younger people are registered disabled they may also be entitled to the service.

- The average annual budget for each person would be around £200, and £7 for each trip, which could be topped up, if necessary, depending on individual circumstances.

Carers

- All professional carers will have to consult with the personal assistant, if already in place, or family member, to make sure they are providing for the needs of elderly people, and they will also assist in an annual financial review to make sure that elderly people are not being taken advantage of.
- For friends and family who act as full-time carers we will provide a **carer's privilege card**, which would include many perks including free eye tests, glasses and winter fuel allowance, a computer voucher, free internet access and a free fortnightly cleaner. The card will also guarantee easy access to hospital wards to visit a cared-for relative at any time.
- Where an elderly relative is being supported by someone who is also caring for children, we will provide additional support services for the parent(s), which will serve to strengthen families to care for their elderly relatives if they so wish.

The disabled

The CPA would offer to provide registered disabled people with a **personal assistant** as required, with referrals to come from a GP:

- To assist with benefit and housing claims and to ensure they have the financial support they need.
- To assist with grants for adaptations to the home to provide for chair lifts and ramps, etc, as required.
- To assist them with management of their finances.
- To assist with job applications and attending job interviews as appropriate — the personal assistants having expertise in the sort of jobs that are suitable for disabled people.

Full consideration will be given to what support the disabled person already has available from family or friends when this service is arranged. Again, the intention is never for the State to interfere with the responsibilities and care provided by partners, family and other personal support networks, but rather to ensure that no disabled person is left vulnerable and without adequate support.

Single mothers

The CPA would offer to provide single mothers with a **personal assistant** at a visit before the birth of their child, and at regular intervals thereafter, with a minimum number of visits provided free of charge as appropriate:

- To assist them with claims to the Child Maintenance Service.
- To assist with benefit and housing claims and to ensure help is given for them to be settled in a home of their own.
- To assist them with the management of their finances.
- To assist them with job applications and attending job interviews as appropriate.

Full consideration will be given to what support the single mother may have available from parents, the father of the child, and/or any other partner and support networks when this service is arranged.

Support for those leaving prison

Rather than building new prisons our national policy is first to invest around £2.5bn (financed via our Turnover Tax) on working with people leaving prison, guaranteeing them good accommodation and help to get work, and also help to break any addictions.

Christian charities like Saltbox in Stoke, the Message Trust in Manchester, and Switchback in London, have helped get reoffending rates down to around 10% compared with a national average of around 30%, but which is as high as 62% for those imprisoned for less than 12 months. Charities like Hope in Action and Green Pastures have also done great work in this area.

We will also offer those leaving prison a **personal assistant**, after a full assessment, to assist them with the full range of help required (housing, benefits, and job applications) to facilitate their reintegration into society. The assistant will also support family reunification where appropriate.

This kind of support will succeed in three ways:

1. There will be many fewer crimes committed so many fewer victims.
2. Ex-prisoners will be able to live more fulfilled productive lives for the benefit of themselves and of society, rather than spending further wasted years in prison.
3. The cost of keeping a prisoner in prison is over £30,000 per year, so there will be further cost savings there, as well as less pressure on the courts.

Crime: getting our priorities right

For a real and lasting reduction in crime we need to tackle its root causes, and this is closely connected to our need to restore marriage and the family to the very centre and foundation of our nation's life. If Christian values of loving our neighbours and our enemies, and forming lasting stable relationships, are followed perfectly then real crime would effectively cease. Simply promoting such values, including through public policy, will positively impact our crime rates. Such values are first learned within the natural unit of the family, which has been deliberately undermined and deconstructed for far too long by

the failed social experiments of social liberalism. The by-product of our Christian-based social policies, rooted in marriage and the family, will be safer streets, better parenting, and a happier society. Our aim is to eliminate the yob culture and the 'me first' society. The CPA's focus is not simply on punishing, but also on restoring, the offender.

The current situation and the CPA's approach:

In the previous decade (2010-19) overall police funding nationwide has fallen by 19% in real terms, with a 30% reduction in funding from central Government. A third of this shortfall has been met by an increase in forces raising funds locally via the Council Tax (determined by Police and Crime Commissioners).²⁸ We welcome the greater democratic accountability that PCC's have brought to the communities they serve, and it is right that an appropriate portion of the budget is raised at a local level. However, at a time of rising crime and social problems, the overall reductions in public funding, including from central Government, are concerning.

Simply pouring more money into the system, however, will not in the long run be beneficial without tackling the root causes of crime. The CPA will provide both the resources required and the policies to tackle the causes of crime. We will provide at least £2.5bn of extra funding generated from our Turnover Tax in order to tackle reoffending through targeted programmes supporting those leaving prison (see above). These sorts of programmes have proven to have a major impact on crime reduction. Our policies on supporting marriage and the family will also have a positive effect on helping to overcome the majority of social problems, including crime, over time. We can all cite many examples of individual lone parents doing a fantastic job raising their children, but the proven social benefits of marriage means its promotion should be a central part of Government social policy. The evidence of a series of 6 UK longitudinal studies, for example, shows strong correlations between broken homes and juvenile delinquency with 70% of young offenders coming from lone-parent families.²⁹

End political correctness in policing — police must fight real crime, not 'thought crime'.

Recent newspaper reports, based on published figures and Freedom of Information requests, have demonstrated how Police are routinely "screening out" (in other words "ignoring") nearly half of all reported crimes - whilst at the same time forces are pledged to investigate every single so-called "hate

²⁸ National Audit Office, 'Financial sustainability of police forces in England and Wales 2018: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General', <https://fullfact.org/crime/police-funding-england-and-wales/>

²⁹ Iain Duncan Smith, *Social Justice Policy Group, Being Tough on the Causes of Crime: Tackling Family Breakdown to Prevent Youth Crime*, p.6; citing Wadsworth, M., 1979 National Survey of Health and Development 1946 cohort; Colvin et al, 1990, *Continuities of Deprivation: Newcastle 1,000 Family Study*; Farrington and West, 1990, *The Cambridge study in delinquent development*; Youth Justice Board, 2002.

incident”, which are not actual crimes but experiences of virtually any kind which are subjectively interpreted as being “hateful”.³⁰ According to these reports ³¹:

- Police across ten UK forces gave up investigating 431,000 reported crimes within a day — a figure which has more than doubled from the 194,500 recorded in 2014.
- While most of the reported offences which were dropped related to thefts, the number of violent crime cases shut within 24 hours quadrupled from 11,927 to 44,548 in the same period between 2015-18 while sex crimes being ignored by Police surged from 703 to 1,605 in this period (doubled).

National Police Chiefs Council (NCP) figures show officers wasted thousands of hours looking into almost 12,000 non-criminal ‘hate incidents’.

- NCP praised as “vital” the protocol which sees forces required to proactively solicit reports of “hate” from the public and to investigate every complaint with either phone interviews or sending officers out to make home visits.

This situation is completely unacceptable and cannot continue. It is an absolute scandal that investigations into so many violent crimes are dropped so quickly, and that if you have your property maliciously damaged, stolen or broken into you have little better than a 50% chance of the Police bothering to show up at all; whereas, if someone complains they have been “misgendered” on Twitter the accused can virtually guarantee being contacted and questioned by the Police for a “hate incident”. The role of the police force is to protect all the public from crime and disorder, not to act as the private militia of certain groups favoured by the establishment. Inciting violence or harassment against individuals or groups is, of course, wrong and should be prevented, but the freedom to robustly express and argue one’s point of view must be defended by the Police. We will ensure policing priorities are once again sane, sensible, and just.

Under the CPA everyone would be regarded as equal under the law and would receive the same treatment and justice according to the concrete circumstances and severity of the case. Every real crime has a victim, and we would abolish the concepts of “hate crimes” and “hate incidents”, which are subjectively determined, and which end up favouring certain categories of people over others. These categories are leading to a severe distortion of justice, including the actual persecution of minorities and

³⁰ ‘Victims of violent crime denied justice as figures show huge rise in cases closed within 24 hours’, *The Telegraph*, 23 Feb 2019, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/02/23/victims-violent-crime-denied-justice-figures-show-huge-rise/>

UK Police ‘Screen out’ Nearly Half of Crime Reports While Every ‘Hate Incident’ Investigated, *Breitbart*, 25 April 2019, <https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2019/04/25/uk-police-ignore-crime-probing-hate/#>

‘Police waste 3,750 hours dealing with ‘hate incidents’ that are too trivial to be considered actual crimes’, *Mail Online*, 8 June 2018; <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5823019/Police-waste-3-750-hours-dealing-hate-incidents-trivial-considered-actual-crimes.html>

those who disagree with the ideology of their accusers. The CPA wants to ensure we have a free society where no one has to fear the “thought police”.

Restorative justice

Relationships are absolutely key when we are talking about crime. Stable loving and caring relationships are needed in every society and are the fundamental basis of a Christian community. Marriage and the family are the main foundation on which they are built and cultivated outwards towards others.

Of course, everyone at some time in their life will make mistakes. When this happens as a society we should look towards restoration and not only punishment. At the moment, we too easily arrest people and bang them up in a police cell or jail without making any attempt to understand why the crime or misdemeanour has been committed. This frequently causes resentment and anger and needs to change, where appropriate, to a process of 1/ ask questions first 2/ seek to resolve the problem and 3/ arrest only as a last resort, where restoration cannot be achieved or where the perpetrator is a credible threat to others or their property. For minor crimes, as indicated above, 62% reoffend which shows prison isn't working. The second crime is likely to be much more serious than the first.

Where the criminal justice system is involved the central goal of the Christian Peoples Alliance is to repair the relationship between the offender and the victim. This process, where the victim is willing, ensures that victims can tell offenders the real impact of their crime and hopefully receive an apology. Offenders have a chance to understand the real impact of what they've done and do something to repair the harm. They will also have a chance to explain their motive to the victim and explain why they did what they did, whilst at the same time they are held to account by the justice system. The willingness of the offender to express repentance and agree to appropriate restoration can then be taken into account in sentencing. Helping the victim is central to the process. There is research which shows that this is the best way to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, reduce re-offending rates, and has the by-product of cost savings and less fear of crime. This is not done in isolation and is not a soft option: people can still be sent to jail and receive due punishment, but we would make it a vital part of the criminal justice system.

There must also be recognition that, when a life is taken, whether accidentally or on purpose, that something significant has happened:

- We propose (in addition to any necessary sentencing) a payment of £100,000 payable by the person or organisation causing the death as ‘life compensation’. That is not to say this is the value of a life, but that with their death something significant has taken place and that must be recognised by all concerned. It may be paid by the individual or others on their behalf or insured against. It will rest against the person causing death and against their estate (but no further) and survives bankruptcy.

- The three-year limit on any civil claim for damages, whether financial, physical, or psychological due to criminal activity, would be lifted.
 - There is no reason why, because a criminal wins the lottery or receives an inheritance or similar more than three years after committing the crime that they should still be free of any obligation to recompense their victim (for the injury or damage caused, no matter how long before).

Prison Policy and Reform

- We will Increase the resources spent on vocational courses in prisons to give prisoners the best possible chance of working an honest living when they are released. 47% of prisoners in the UK do not have any formal education, and 57% have low levels of literacy.³² Individuals who receive an education while in prison are 13% more likely to find employment opportunities upon release.³³
- We will look to implement the recommendations of Ian Acheson on radicalisation in prisons. This is a very serious problem which needs constant monitoring. CPA will ensure that all prison officers get appropriate training to spot radicalisation (which for us means the intention to commit acts of violence and terrorism). We will also initiate training prison officers in countering violent extremism through effective debate.
- We will consult on the introduction of mobile telephone and drone frequency blocking technology, preventing such devices being used in use, or close by, prisons.

At the moment 25% of all offenders are proven to recommit crime, so the prison system on its own is not working effectively.³⁴ New initiatives are desperately needed. In addition to our restorative justice system, and re-alignment of police priorities, outlined above, we will also commit to the following policy objectives to combat crime:

Radicalisation, terrorism and human rights

- Under CPA there will be freedom to leave or change religion for anyone at any time, and **freedom for anyone to express their views in a non-violent way**. We will do away with the notion of subjective ‘hate incidents’ which are being greatly abused to stifle legitimate freedom of speech on important matters.

³² OFSTED, Launching our prison education review, A joint commentary by Chief Inspectors Amanda Spielman (Ofsted) and Charlie Taylor (HM Inspectorate of Prisons), 10 September 2021; <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launching-our-prison-education-review>

³³ Davis, Lois M., Robert Bozick, Jennifer L. Steele, Jessica Saunders, and Jeremy N. V. Miles, *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Correctional Education: A Meta-Analysis of Programs That Provide Education to Incarcerated Adults*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2013. https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR266.html

³⁴ GOV.UK, *Criminal justice system statistics: Reoffending: Proven reoffending rate*, Oct-Dec 2021; <https://data.justice.gov.uk/cjs-statistics/cjs-reoffending#table-tab-proven-reoffending> [accessed 28 Nov 2023]

- **No tolerance or acceptance of any individual or organisation that supports offensive violence and terrorism**, and we will, if necessary, proscribe any such organisation as illegal in the UK.
- **Human trafficking** is an issue that has arisen in recent years and authorities have been very slow to get to grips with it. Also called “modern slavery” the CPA will **increase resources** to see it stamped out for good.

A community approach

- We are very keen to **re-invigorate Neighbourhood Watch Schemes** and these will be properly funded.
- Our **support for street pastors** and **special constables** will also support the community approach.
- CPA policy is to invest in social institutions which encourage a law-abiding lifestyle and especially to support the family, which forms the foundation of any healthy and stable society.
- We will launch a “**pathway out of crime**” initiative to help parents whose children have been lured into crime. This will be linked in with our overall policy to support marriage and the family outlined above.
- **Restore local authority licensing of the sale of alcohol** and **repeal the 24-hour licensing legislation** to seek to reduce the number of alcohol related offences and the number of people who become alcoholics.
- We will take a **stricter approach to drug use and dealing** because of the clear link between drug use and crime.
- **Gambling Act 2005 will be repealed** and new controls put on casinos, with mandatory warnings having to be placed in all betting shops that gambling can cause serious poverty. We will ban the advertising of all gambling, just as the advertising of smoking has been prohibited.
- **Oppose any attempts to relax moral laws such as legalising brothels or legalising prostitution.** This undermines the welfare of society as a whole by treating people as objects for abuse and exploitation. It also denigrates the true meaning and purpose of human sexuality.
- **Social Media providers will be treated as ‘publishers’ not ‘platforms’** of pornography or material promoting violent or otherwise illegal activity, such that they will become criminally liable for publishing it.

We make 2 further proposals relating to Extra Territorial Sovereignty:

1. Anyone who harms a British Citizen abroad may be brought back to the UK for trial.

2. Any British Citizen who acts illegally abroad can be tried in the UK (including consideration by the Attorney General and referral to the Court of Appeal if sentence abroad was too light), with all sex offenders convicted abroad also made to sign the Sex Offenders Register on return.

Youth policy

Britain's youth (16-24) unemployment rate current stands at 13 % (June 2024). Reductions in welfare provision for unemployed under 25's (who receive a lower rate of Job Seeker's Allowance) is creating a sense of hopelessness among some young people who have nowhere to turn.

At the same time the cost of living has increased (albeit at a slower rate), but it is still rising, whilst a lack of discipline in society has led young people to resort to loan sharks as a first option to manage bills. Social tensions have encouraged racism and class hatred among youth and even a gang psychology.

There are alarming reports of children engaging in emotional and physical abuse towards their parents and society. A breakdown of moral signposts from a very young age has become the norm. Knife crime has increased by 40% in the past decade, and, although the number has been coming down, there were 3,775 hospital admissions for knifings last year (2022/3).³⁵ In the meantime, youth programs and services have faced massive cuts to their funding.

The CPA proposes:

1. To reinforce and strengthen programmes to ensure unemployment is not an option for any young person. We want to see **more resources allocated to encourage apprentice schemes and voluntary placements** which, after a period, can lead to full-time employment. These placements must not be motivated by greed for 'financial sweeteners' or cheap labour, but the desire to give a young person a chance. Rogue employers will be weeded out.
2. We want **young people to have community mentors** who can help them make the right decisions. The ethos of loving our neighbour has almost become outdated whereby we may not even know who are living on our streets. If young people are engaged with their community, then it encourages safer neighbourhoods and involvement with the elderly, so they feel supported. We need more community spirit and less division. We want these community schemes to operate outside the police or social services.
3. We will divert some of the money collected from our Turnover Tax to provide **supervised activity centres** with properly funded activities for young people to engage in. Along with our pro-family social policies, these will be an important contribution in combating the gang, knife crime and drug cultures, which are destroying too many of our young peoples' lives.

³⁵ House of Commons Library, *Knife crime statistics: England and Wales*, 13 October 2023; <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/sn04304/>

These policies are also designed to empower the young within the context of increasing the quality of social justice within our society.

Education and opportunity for all

Basic principles

The CPA strongly believes that all children have the right to a suitable, quality education which equips them, as far as possible, for success in life, especially making the most of the unique skills, talents and aspirations which God has endowed and blessed them with. Children are not all the same – they are individuals. **A ‘one size fits all’ approach to education** with a monolithic comprehensive state education system **does not produce good results**.

We also affirm that **a child’s education is the prime responsibility of his/her parents** which it is the duty of Government to support but never to undermine. The family, by God’s design, is the foundation of a child’s social and learning environment. Parents allow their children to attend school in order for them to be educated by the school on their behalf, *in locus parentis*, and we hold that it is a God-given human right of parents to be able to choose the particular kind of education they regard as being best for their children.

Structuring the education system: ensuring parental choice and opportunity for children

1. There should be no change in the current basic education structure with a **mixture of private, state, and voluntary schools**. The issue is about the increasing the quality of educational outcome, not the means by which that is delivered. To this end public money must be spread fairly across the system, not favouring disproportionately any one form of school. We believe **every child should have the opportunity to receive a free education tailored as far as possible to their particular needs, abilities, and talents**, but also **support the right of parents to choose** to use their own resources for alternative or additional educational options that they believe are appropriate.
2. We welcome the **increasing diversity in state-sponsored school provision** which has come about as a result of the introduction of academies, city technology colleges, and the different types of free school (university technology colleges and studio schools). We would continue further to develop this model of school provision where pupils study central core academic subjects (always including English and Maths), whilst being able to **pursue more specialised trajectories of learning at secondary level** according to their different talents, interests and aspirations, and in line with the best judgement of their parents.
3. Whereas we want to continue to develop, for the better, the choice and opportunities available in our education system, we also recognise the **importance of stability in education**, without which

children can be left feeling insecure. Too many structural changes have been taking place over the past 20 or so years. Rather than further radical overhauls we want to develop what is best about these changes — **more autonomy to schools, greater freedom from central control, more parental choice, and greater specialisation for the benefit of pupils.**

School discipline and supporting teachers

- Discipline problems in our schools is a constant complaint of pupils, parents and teachers alike. Too many children are underachieving, with their learning impaired on a daily basis, because of regular disruption in the classroom.
- We will engage in a thorough consultation to review the effectiveness of the range of school discipline procedures, including exclusion, and to establish examples of best practice, including how the most challenging pupils can be most effectively helped and supported.
- Disruptive behaviour and discipline problems can have various causes, including family, home, and social problems, which our policies elsewhere in this manifesto seek to address. However, **our policy of greater flexibility and specialism in the education system is, we believe, one of the principal means by which school discipline can be improved.** When children, whose main talents lay elsewhere, are forced to try and achieve within a rigid timetable of academic subjects, then boredom, frustration and behavioural problems inevitably ensue. Whilst we should ensure children develop the best literacy and numeracy skills they can, it is also right that they have a greater opportunity to pursue more learning in practical, vocational, technical, sporting, or artistic areas that may make better use of their time, skills, and talents.
- **Class sizes and teacher workloads are also a factor in terms of both student achievement rates and discipline.** Figures show that nearly a third of new teachers are leaving the profession after just five years.³⁶ Too many teachers are over-worked, over-stressed, and forced into an unacceptable work-life imbalance that results in a high burn-out rate. Teachers face too much unnecessary admin and not enough time to plan and concentrate on their teaching. We will conduct a comprehensive review on how to readdress this balance in conjunction with our developmental reforms to the education system outlined above. Structural and curriculum reforms need to take place before simply pouring more money into the system.

Parental rights

Whereas parents rightly have a lawful duty to ensure their children receive a regular and suitably broad education, they also have the right to ensure that education is in line with their own religious and/or philosophical convictions. This is a principle recognised in International Human Rights Law and one that

³⁶ <https://www.tes.com/news/nearly-third-new-teachers-leave-profession-within-five-years-figures-show>

must be upheld by the UK Government.³⁷ As Christian democrats we oppose the encroaching interference by the state into the content of the curriculum and conduct of schools, often in a liberal and immoral way. As a result, the content of the school curriculum has become a key cultural battle ground instead of a way of equipping our children with the core knowledge base and skillset they need to succeed in life.

Parents should always have the right to know the details of the curriculum in their children's school and to withdraw their children from certain classes if the learning is against their convictions of what is best for their child (provided attendance is still regular).

Elective Home Education

- **Parents, as primary educators of their children, have an inalienable right to choose an elective home education.** We would seek to provide strong and effective support to home-educating parents, including facilitating networks, equal access to resources, sports, leisure, and examination facilities — especially in the case of children with Special Educational Needs.
- Whilst seeking to ensure every child has full-time education provision, **we would oppose the imposition of compulsory registration of home educators.** We strongly believe in the principle of educational responsibility being with parents, and such a move would inevitably result in intrusive inspection regimes and ever greater interference by the state into family life.

Relationships and Sex Education

The decision by the British Parliament to make Relationships Education (primary) and Relationships and Sex Education (secondary) compulsory, and take away the parental right of withdrawal, constitutes a serious violation of parents' human rights and is also highly questionable under international human rights law. This has been done on the basis of spurious, largely unevidenced, justifications, such as “keeping children safe”, helping children have “happy healthy relationships” or “equipping them for life in modern Britain”. In reality, the new subjects are further deconstructing marriage and the family, promoting destructive Cultural Marxist ideology, and putting children at risk of early sexualisation and the promotion of harmful lifestyle choices.

Compulsory sex education in the classroom also fails to consider that what is “age-appropriate” differs from child-to-child, and also undermines, disrupts, and damages the natural parent/child relationship. It is important that children have information on their reproductive development, health, and sexual matters at the right time, but **it is parents who must have both the responsibility and the opportunity to provide this learning in the context of their own beliefs and values, and at a timing of their best judgement.** The CPA believes that **schools have an important role to play in supporting parents to provide this learning** to their children (for instance, through training, peer-led workshops, and providing helpful

³⁷ See Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), Article 26 (1-3); European Convention on Human Rights [Incorporating] Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Paris, 20.III.1952), ARTICLE 2.

resources). Where parents are unable or unwilling to provide this learning in the home, for whatever reason, then there will be an **'opt in' system** where parents are able to choose to have it provided for their children in extra-curricular sessions at school.

The place of Christianity in schools

Christian worship in all schools was made an obligation by the 1944 Education Act, but is now rarely adhered to within the education system. The CPA believes that all children should know what Christian worship is and the role it plays in our society. Christianity forms an essential part of our cultural heritage and development as a nation, and the largest identifying share of the population (46.2% according to 2021 census) still identify themselves as Christian. To get a full understanding they must experience Christian teaching and worship, and be encouraged to engage with it if they wish. However, parents should equally always have the right to say they do not want their children to participate in Christian or any other worship or religious activity. If it is another faith school (Muslim, Sikh, etc) then teaching about Christianity and other faiths will be required, but the ethos and daily act of worship can be of their own religion.

Christian and other faith schools

Christian schools, and provision for children of other faiths, should be encouraged, and, if appropriate, state funded, but every effort should be made to ensure a broad enough basic curriculum in these and all schools. Other points of view, and different beliefs, should be taught in a factual way so that children learn and understand about other cultures, but parents also have a right to choose an education for their children where their own faith is given more focus and emphasis, and where their own form of worship is part of the school day.

Schools set up with a clear religious ethos should have the right to set their own admission policies which give priority to children who are adherents to that faith. However, they will also be required to allow in children of other faiths and none where they have spare places.

Education not indoctrination

As children mature and develop their critical faculties at secondary level, education means teaching and examining all points of view, otherwise it becomes indoctrination, not education. Sadly, today, too much of our education is beginning to fall into the indoctrination category at all stages of a student's education and development. An official state ideology is currently being imposed on our children (secular liberal, Cultural Marxist, LGBT-based) which is stifling freedom of thought, critical enquiry, and expression, and promoting destructive lifestyle choices, whilst also undermining parental rights and responsibilities.

Whilst we seek, for the good of children, to offer a morally framed education and to respect parental choice, it is not the aim of CPA to ‘indoctrinate’ something different but to educate properly. Most notably:

- Whilst Religious Education may be tailored and have an overall emphasis on the faith ethos of the school, it must explain what adherents of other religions believe in a clear way. It is good practice for adherents of a religion to be invited into a school to explain their views. At the same time, children can also be taught what critics of each religion argue, and this must apply to all religions, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, etc.
- Students should be able to critically examine and consider the practical outcomes of the moral codes they are presented with (whether the moral tenets of their faith, or secular notions of human rights).
- When teaching history, great care should be taken to examine history from different perspectives (including what motivated the people involved on different sides, etc) and also to teach history which is relevant to the child — both how their nation’s culture and systems developed, as well as examining more recent, including international, conflicts and developments.
- The idea of macroevolution should be taught as the majority position of the scientific community. However, students should be encouraged to critically examine all establishment views and so, for example, the strength of Intelligent Design — which caused the long-term leading atheist Antony Flew to side with Einstein and Aristotle in acknowledging God as universal creator — should also be considered.
- Teachers should be encouraged to teach from different perspectives not just their own, but they should have the right to express their views, as well as teaching the views of others.

OFSTED and the schools inspection system

It is right that schools are inspected by certain agreed national standards to ensure, at the very least, that sufficient standards of child welfare and educational practice are being maintained. However, there is also a problem when an over-centralised Quango-based inspection regime, such as OFSTED, is being misused to impose an official state ideology on all children and schools, or otherwise fails to recognise the possible diversity of education models. OFSTED have in their official inspections, for example, failed certain independent faith schools, purely for not promoting LGBT ideology, even when all genuine educational standards have been met, and even when excellent academic results have been achieved. This is unacceptable.

We will review, with intention to reform where necessary, OFSTED and the way that the inspectorate system is working. We would favour, example, more of a **peer-review inspectorate system**, along the lines of that used in higher education, which would better cater for a more diverse and specialised school system. The inspectorate team visiting a school, for example, should always include representatives from similar types of school, who would better understand the particular community and educational ethos and approach of the school.

At the same time such reviews must take into account such matters as support for violence and attitudes towards those of other faiths, if their people wish to convert. Whilst schools with either a secularist or a religious ethos have a right to exist, schools should never be allowed to become a breeding ground for violent extremism or terrorism.

Higher Education

For universities the CPA wants **open debate on all issues** and to **encourage close relationships between universities and the worlds of industry and the professions**. Our universities should become **national debating centres** and state funding should be given to encourage this process with certain debates and lectures being open to people from outside the university to come and participate. The CPA wants an open and free society where ideas can be expressed, and no-one lives in fear of expressing them.

The CPA is in principle **opposed to tuition fees** for a first course leading to a qualification at each educational level (eg. A-levels/level 3, undergraduate, postgraduate, etc). Tuition fees are saddling young people with debt from an early age. We will immediately consult on how we can increase funding for universities and maintain and increase student numbers without tuition fees. One way of doing this, for instance, will be to encourage an **increase in vocational courses and qualifications which are funded by industry**. Every school leaver should have the opportunity to pursue further training or a qualification that will help them pursue their chosen vocation. However, the Blairite goal of having half of all school leavers studying academic subjects for three years at university does not recognise the diversity of natural talent, and is leading to underachievement, dissatisfaction, and debt for far too many young people.

Integration Agenda

The CPA believes totally in freedom of religion. We will address all issues relating to other religions by encouraging and sponsoring national debate about the claims of different religions, whilst respecting those of faith who practice them. We will encourage the best minds in the world to come and take part in televised debates and encourage those debates to continue in our schools and universities. Under the Christian People Alliance there will be freedom to change religion for anyone at any time, and freedom for anyone to express their views in a rational non-violent way. We believe this is the process that will most effectively undermine and overcome Islamic terrorism, and other forms of violent extremism. We will, however, at the same time keep a very careful eye on any individual or organisation that supports violence and terrorism, and where necessary proscribe that organisation as illegal in the UK.

We would stop all state support for any organisations in the UK for which opposition to Christianity is part of their creed. We will give full support where we can to Christians, and other faith groups, who are being persecuted and offer them refuge wherever it is needed. We will seek international agreements to aid in their protection.

The CPA does not believe in state control of what people wear so we would not ban the burqa. There is widespread concern about the operation of religious courts in the UK. The CPA believes their operation should be reviewed, and, if need be, regulated-to ensure they operate in accordance within the basic concepts of British jurisprudence. A parallel legal system can be very dangerous and should only exist if the judgements made are reasonable, a necessary part of the religion, and within the basic concepts of British jurisprudence.

We believe these policies are in accord with the principle of social justice.

Immigration

The term **‘immigrant’** defines someone who has permanently moved into a country, while **‘migrant’** generally refers to someone who has entered an area (or country) from outside for a short-term work or educational objective. There are numerous instances where official migrants remain without permission beyond their legal term, and so become **‘illegal immigrants’**.

It is essential we have a mature and balanced approach to the issue of immigration and avoid emotional rhetoric that can lead to racism and hatred of others. The Christian Democratic position is based on all of humanity being made in God’s Image (Imago Dei). This is not over-ridden by nationalism, nor ethnicism, which, in themselves, can lead to social discord. Consequently, the CPA urges social peace within the global community and societal harmony within the UK.

The Christian Democratic position allows nationality change: indeed, the UK has undergone many such changes, including Romanisation, Saxonisation and Normanisation. However, such changes must be by fair means not foul. Immigration must be fair.

Immigration overall has provided certain significant benefits to our country — especially recently in addressing the labour shortages caused by our below-replacement-level birth rates, which the UK has maintained now over the past five decades, resulting in an ageing population and heavily imbalanced support-ratio (the number of retired people vs the number of younger workers required to support them). A UN report (2000) on the problem estimated that, if our birth rate continues below replacement level, then by 2050 the UK would require 1.2 million new migrant workers to enter the country annually, just to keep the support ratio constant.³⁸

However, such high levels of immigration also result in significant problems compared to natural population growth, where increasing demand for schools, public services and housing can be anticipated and planned for overtime. For instance, there were nearly 700,000 new GP registrations by migrants in 2019/20, which has impacted NHS capacity for everyone, and a body of research has consistently found

³⁸ United Nations Population Division, *Replacement Migration: Is it a Solution to Declining and Ageing Populations?* (2000), Section 7 UK, pp.71-76.

that immigration results in a huge overall cost to the UK Treasury (£13 billion per year, according to a UCL study, 2014/15). Unrestricted immigration therefore is unfair; both on existing citizens, and those who seek to settle here by legitimate and legal means, who may not be able to obtain the housing and services they need. There are also problems of social integration and cohesion, where very large numbers are arriving from countries with very different cultural backgrounds and expectations.

Consequently, **the CPA's immigration priorities are:**

- **To provide safe haven for a reasonable number of genuine refugees and to allow into the country those with the necessary skills who can contribute positively to our country and wish to live here.**
- Once they have arrived CPA policy is that immigrants are to be treated as we treat our native born.
- That, however, is not, and should not be, at the expense of the values, freedoms and culture of our society.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

- We will fulfil our obligations under the UN Convention on Refugees 1951, **offering first-port-of-call shelter for those perceived to be fleeing from unjust persecution** (and if other country's ports are overloaded)
- Give priority to those who have faced or may face genuine persecution.
- Prioritise unaccompanied children to ensure they receive adequate shelter, protection and freedom from exploitation (in line with principles of Kindertransport policy in WWII).

Economic/educational immigrants

The UK economy 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 to support marriage and family life which will reverse the catastrophic domestic de-population trend:

- Until the declining birth rate and demographic disadvantage is reversed, **the CPA will use a UK version of the American Green Card system for determining who can come to work in Britain** (based on the current 5 Tiers for non-EEA migrants) to assess how useful applicants are likely to be to the UK workforce, or how genuine their claim to student status.
- Tier 3, designed to monitor low-skill short-term economic immigration, has never been used since the European Economic Area (EEA) visa-free door remains open to EU citizens.
- Now Brexit has happened, future EEA access should have a monitored condition which makes migrant workers and their sponsors responsible for housing and medical cover independent of the State. This will broaden accountability and encourage self-responsibility for those without current citizenship status, whilst reducing the burden on the taxpayer.

- Also post-Brexit, EEA access (currently visa-free) will be treated in the system as non-EEA access, as the CPA considers all humanity should be treated equally.

People trafficking

This is a great and genuine evil. Economic migrants can, by stolen passports, be enslaved, their wages stolen by traffickers, and deprived of many of the protections relating to health, pay, housing, travel, and other welfare needs that many of us take for granted. They can end up homeless and completely disempowered. CPA would:

- widely publicise an official mechanism to help immigrants enslaved (trafficked) without passport protection.
- assist with funds those voluntary organisations who work in this field.

Illegal Immigrants

The real number of illegal immigrants in the UK is unknown now even to the Government, who have released official figures since 2005. Back in 2013 the Government estimated it to be 580,000, costing £330 million in healthcare provision. Migrant Watch UK estimate it to be as high now as 1.1 million.³⁹ The UK Border Agency is tasked with finding and deporting illegal migrants: it is costly and time consuming. We should not be legitimising illegal immigration but ensuring that the system is fair for those who wish to live and work here legally, and for genuine asylum seekers:

1. **We reject a one-off Qualified Amnesty.** It may cause financial and social problems down the line. Crime should not pay. There inevitably has to be a time, however, when illegal immigrants have been here so long without committing any crime and without recourse to the State that they should be allowed to remain. We consider this point to be 10 years though there should be a further limit of 5 years for such people before state benefits can be claimed.
2. **We will reward voluntary surrender by more sympathetic evaluation or free repatriation if required.** This more sympathetic evaluation will be especially so where the person coming forward voluntarily has the support of a significant part of the local community vouching for their positive commitment to society, and thus for their continued residence in the UK. We will, however, punish concealment with tough penalties. Attrition through enforcement could make it harder to obtain benefits such as paid employment, medical care, and formal education, significantly reducing the size of the illegal population at reasonable cost by making re-immigration the best option. We will then pay for the air fares of those returning on the condition that it is understood they will never be allowed to visit the UK again unless the cost is refunded.
3. It is crucially important that the **citizenship status of both parties to a marriage should be checked**, and both parties fully warned about the possibility of illegal immigrants being denied a right to remain, before any wedding is conducted. **Marriage should not be abused merely as a**

³⁹ Migrant Watch UK, The Illegal Migrant Population in the UK, 22nd April 2010

way of gaining citizenship status. However, there are valid marriages which are denied access to the UK by current rules; in particular ‘the financial requirement’. This is currently £18,600 per year for a spouse, with £3,800 for the first child and £2,400 for each subsequent child. Consequently, any British citizen who is on a low income, or who has been working overseas for many years in an unpaid or low paid voluntary aid programme and has married overseas (whether with or without children), is unlikely to be able to return to the UK without leaving his wife and children behind. The CPA will consult on how this destructive policy on marriage and family life may be rectified without allowing for the abuse of marriage for unlawful immigration.

- 4. We will greatly increase the efficiency and effectiveness in which our borders are managed.** The British people are rightly concerned about illegal migrants crossing the English channel in small boats, currently at an average rate of 1,000 a month, rising in the summer months. Such crossings in often dangerous conditions imperil lives. In 2023 the total crossing the channel by these means was 29,437. 90% of these claim asylum, even though they come mainly from Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and Albania, with numerous safe countries being nearer destinations for them than the UK.

To address the “small boats” problem the CPA will:

- Employ our intelligence services to work with European governments to better track and stop the operations of criminal gangs across the continent involved in people trafficking and illegal immigration.
- Enhance border and channel crossing patrols, turning boats containing illegal migrants back to France or other near country of origin, as allowed by international maritime law, and where it is safe to do so. The ECHR has been one barrier to doing this up to now. We will review our staying in the ECHR; however, at the moment the ECHR does also provide some recourse when the British courts fail to uphold human rights. For instance, the CPA has been concerned by the values of the British judiciary in a number of medical right to life cases.
- Give the experimental Rwanda policy of transporting certain asylum seekers for processing in a safe third country a reasonable trial period to see how well it works. We will see if it is cost effective, acts as a deterrent, and above all results in genuine asylum seekers being able to establish new lives of opportunity in Rwanda or another safe country.

Defence and Foreign Policy

The Christian Peoples Alliance seeks international peace and security by multilateral security initiatives, reducing the amount of armaments in the world and reducing the international arms trade starting with our own.

The danger of a nuclear weapons exchange by intention or accident remains a credible possibility. and nuclear proliferation among nations and into the hands of terrorist groups must be prevented. Furthermore, now nuclear weapons are in the hands of other states and there is a real risk they may proliferate further into non-state hands, the ‘Mutually Assured Destruction’ idea doesn’t work. Nuclear weapon states must take practical steps towards nuclear disarmament and thereby prevent nuclear

weapon proliferation in accordance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty. **The CPA believes that it would never be a Christian act to use weapons of mass destruction, nor ask others to do it on their behalf. We would cancel the Trident renewal programme saving around £50bn. We would, however, not dispose of our existing weapons except by negotiation.**

We believe that **the focus of our defence spending should now be on developing defensive systems including missile shields round the UK.** We must work with other countries in Europe to achieve an effective shield, similar to that being installed in South Korea and already installed in Israel. Technology exists which is currently able to shoot down 95% of all incoming missiles, but this will improve to take its reliability nearer 100%. We must aim to be able to destroy incoming missiles as near as possible to the launch site so any country thinking of launching them will know they are endangering their own people. We also want to develop technology that can lock onto incoming missiles and redirect them into the sea. **We will always seek to ensure that we are able to defend our nation and our people against all credible threats.**

We want a Britain that plays its full part in the world through the United Nations where we must maintain our permanent seat on the Security Council. We must be involved and give support to international peace agreements and international trade agreements. We must re-establish a close relationship with the Commonwealth and maintain the special relationship with the USA. We will also seek, however, to **maintain the principle of subsidiarity in our foreign policy and would oppose attempts by the UN to make decisions best left to individual sovereign nations. The UN should be a forum for co-operation and ensuring peace between the nations of the world — it should never seek to constitute in any way a One World Government.**

Fair Trade and Overseas Aid

We believe in fair trade worldwide so that developing economies have the opportunity to grow without the unfair disadvantage of competing with cheap subsidised products from elsewhere. In some circumstances fair trade will need to be supplemented by Overseas Aid. Grinding poverty still holds 2.8 billion people around the world in its grip. For the Christian Peoples Alliance, poverty is not an accident. The CPA will therefore **pursue policies, including grant aid, loans and other forms of diplomacy and finance, so as to challenge the root causes of poverty**, such as war, generalised violence, persecution, human rights abuses, the arms trade, corrupt government, the crippling debt burden, and unfair trade practices that distort the economies of poor countries.

Whilst maintaining our foreign aid budget at 0.7% of GDP we will refocus it on helping refugees and to ensure people don't become refugees. We will also **ensure that the emphasis of our foreign aid is on development for the recipient's self-sufficiency**, rather than rewarding inefficiency and corruption, funding politically correct causes, or pursuing forms of cultural neo-colonialism. We will do this by working in partnership with those organisations, charities and governments that have shown themselves to be effective in utilising resources to achieve genuinely positive outcomes. The response to numerous natural

disasters overseas shows that the British people do care about those abroad that need help. We must be ready to extend a compassionate hand to anyone in our human family who needs it, wherever they are in the world.

We will rebuild favourable trading relationships with any country in the world which wants to join with us for our mutual benefit, provided they do not have an unacceptable human rights record. Prior to our membership of the European Economic Community (EEC) this was granted to Commonwealth countries, and they will probably be the core of these new arrangements, but not necessarily so. The reality is that before we joined the EEC, or the EU as it now is, we had a small trading surplus with the other EEC nations. After we joined that quickly became a large deficit. That means that our membership of the EU had been more beneficial to other EU nations than it had been to the British.

We want to be a country that plays its full part in the world and seeks trade agreements with the new economic powerhouses of China, Russia and India, provided they are able to restore peaceful non-aggressive relationships with their neighbours and stop the persecution of internal minorities. Also the emerging powerhouses of Brazil and Africa. Now we have left the EU, we are in a stronger position to increase our trade with the rest of the world, especially the Commonwealth. Over time there is no reason why we should not develop mutually beneficial trading relations with the EU, as indeed Switzerland and Norway have done, both of whom have stayed outside the EU.

Support Persecuted Christians

While persecution of Christians is being carried out so obviously and clearly by foreign governments and non-government bodies (including Boko Haram and Islamic State), **we will give full support where we can to Christians and other faith groups who are being persecuted and offer them refuge wherever it is needed.** We will seek international agreements to aid in their protection. All direct aid to governments should be conditional on Christians and other faith groups not being persecuted. Thus, at present, the UK Government is giving £441million in aid to Pakistan whilst, under law 295C of the Pakistan Penal Code, if anyone criticises the prophet Muhammad they have to be put to death (mandatory punishment). Consequently, Mrs Asia Bibi was on death row because she said, “Jesus Christ died for my sins, what has Muhammad ever done for you?” This cannot continue. Only on the release of all Christians accused of blasphemy and with the repeal of this law could any aid to Pakistan resume, and we would work with other governments and agencies to ensure freedom of religious expression and the human right to change one’s religion here and throughout the world.

Israel

The CPA supports the nation of Israel and its right to live in peace, safe from attack by its neighbours, whoever they are. We utterly deplore the invasion of Israel by Hamas on 7th October 2023 and the massacre and kidnapping of innocent civilians. We believe it was absolutely necessary for Israel to respond militarily to that attack in order to protect its citizens.

Israel is a small country in the heart of the Middle East surrounded by some very aggressive neighbours. Since the modern state of Israel's foundation, these neighbours have on three occasions tried to wipe it out (in 1948, 1967 and 1973). There have been many attempts at peace, most notably with Egypt and Jordan, which have led to Israel returning land it has gained during war in return for peace. They also unilaterally withdrew from the Gaza strip in 2005 in an effort to make peace with the Palestinians. Despite all these efforts they still have enemies committed to wiping them off the map.

1. We assert the right of the nation of Israel to exist in peace, recognised by all neighbouring countries, as well as Iraq and Iran.
2. We assert the right of Palestinians, both Christian and Muslim, to live in peace and enjoy the benefits of fully democratic local government within the State of Israel. There cannot be a separate Palestinian state with military capabilities on Israel's borders because of the very grave security issues for Israel.
3. We assert the duty of all people within Israel and without, whatever their religious or racial identity, to engage in a democratic process to help bring peace in the region.
4. We assert the duty of the international community to support Israel and the Palestinians in seeking peace.
5. We assert the right of Israel to name its own capital and would therefore move the British Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

Support to the Palestinians must be given in surrounding countries, where they are currently located, and not just within the borders of Israel:

- Size of Jordan 89,341sq km — 3.24m Palestinians of which 2.1million are refugees out of 7.6m.
- Size of Lebanon 10,452 sq km — 300,000 Palestinians out of 6.2m.
- Size of Egypt 1,001,450 sq km — 270,000 Palestinians out of 100.39m.
- Size of West Bank 5,882 sq km — 2.5m Palestinians out of 3m.
- Size of Israel 20,770sq km — 1.8m Palestinians out of 8.2m.
- Size of Gaza Strip 365 sq km — 1.7m Palestinians out of 1.8m.

The solution to the situation of the Palestinians cannot be solved by looking at the state and territory of Israel in isolation. Jordan, especially, needs to be involved in improving the lot of the Palestinian people and increasing their democratic rights. In fact, in certain ways, Palestinians are treated worse in Jordan than Israel. If they refuse to integrate Palestinians into the country, then it may be necessary to create a separate Palestinian state within Jordan. Lebanon and Egypt should also be involved, given the number of Palestinians within their territories.



Christian Peoples Alliance