



Vote for  
Free Public Transport Party  
on 7th May 2015

## Transport

All **trains and buses to be free.**

**Exclusive bus lanes** on motorways and around towns and cities. Not shared by taxis and motorbikes.

**Segregated bicycle lanes**

Pedestrians always to have right of way. Roads will be treated like a **continuous Zebra Crossing**. Cars must stop.

Towns and City centres will be **car free**. Market stalls, tables, chairs, gardens and play equipment will replace traffic.

Emergency access and electric assisted hand carts for deliveries from a vehicle delivery hub.

Massive increase in number of buses, planned increase in number of trains and reopen Beeching stations and lines.

Obviously **nationalise the railways and buses**, not give away artificially generated profits.

Free transport will be funded by an increase in the cost of petrol and diesel and many policy savings e.g. the abolition of prisons. Subsidies will be put in place for rural drivers until full public transport becomes available.

Public transport will be upgraded to offer everything private cars offer but more. Buses will be more comfortable, more efficient, quicker and far less polluting and less dangerous to other road users.

Long distance busses will have toilets, cafes, wifi. Ultimately they will be driver-less and ultra safe.

Busses can very quickly be introduced as opposed to 20 years for new rail. We support new railway infrastructure, including HS2, HS3 to HSN+1.

There will be private bookable carriages on trains and buses for business meetings or whatever. **No first class**. It's incredible that we still have different classes in public transport. All passengers should experience first class travel.

Giving up car use and ownership will **not be a sacrifice**, it will be a vast improvement to individuals and to the environment.

**All vehicles will be clean.** Existing combustion engines to be fitted with 99% efficient scrubbers. These will collect pollutants such as NO's, carbon particulates, SO2, CO, releasing only water and CO2. We need to regard the **air like we regard the rivers**. Let's not dump anything toxic into either.

Transport can be seen as a single issue but its reform can radically improve how we live and relate to each other in our towns and cities. It's about quality of life.

**Cars kill about 1 million people** a year worldwide and injure 20 million. That's not justifiable as a means of transport.

Other parties are happy to continue as we are, coasting along, with only minor reforms. Politicians have no grand exciting vision. We may get a new supermarket or discuss airports and new rail lines for years. Whilst the wealth gap increases under all governments, Britain remains the same old place dominated by large cars and lorries.

Redundant public transport will be an essential part of the comprehensive transport service. Most car owners don't use their car most of the time. Nevertheless, the knowledge that we have a car parked on the road, gives us the freedom to know we can use it whenever we wish.

The same redundancy is needed for public transport. There may be busses and trains traveling that are empty. They give us comfort to know that every 10 minutes there is a bus at the bottom of our road, that we can take whenever we need to.

This can be made more efficient by having smaller vehicles on standby, so as to reduce larger empty vehicle use.

## Economy and Trade

### Fair Pay Fair Trade

It is financially almost impossible for any company in the UK to manufacture most electronic devices like mobile phones and computers, the same goes for most clothes we buy here. This is because labour in China and elsewhere is very poorly paid and conditions are often poor.

We would introduce import certification on every item. The certificate would show that workers had been paid the UK minimum wage and conditions of work including health and safety are similar to what we have. We would ask the European Parliament to legislate in the same way.

This certification will not only be fair but would again allow manufacturers in the UK and Europe to compete on a level playing field.

Fair Pay is a human right, anything less is exploitation of the developing world.

The current Fair Trade movement has little effect on the developing world at best. At worst it simply serves to make us feel good.

Certified Fair Pay and Fair Trade is the way forward.

The Party believes in Global Trade. But it must be a level playing field. Above all human rights and dignity must be respected by the buyer and seller.

Not only will Fair Pay and Fair Trade enable global partners to be trading equally and safely, it will allow Britain to again manufacture products that were not possible because of the abundance of very cheap labour in the Developing or more accurately the Exploited world.

This is not protectionism, as it is not one way, but will have a similar positive effect whilst promoting fair and safe trade for all. Britain will once again be a great manufacturing and exporting nation.

This policy will allow Britain to begin to address the massive and increasing Trade Deficit with China, India and other cheap labour countries. We continue to buy goods with IOU's. We have not earned the cash to pay for them.

This massive and increasing Trade Deficit is unsustainable. It is far more unstable and damaging than the Credit Crunch and the banking Crisis.

This was the headline policy of the Fair Pay Fair Trade Party. That party (now dissolved) polled over 7,500 in the SW Euro elections 2010. It had a similar manifesto to the Free Public Transport Party, which it morphed into.

### **Infrastructure Building**

Quantitative Easing aka printing money, will be used to pay for large scale infrastructure. Currently QE is used to pay banks for loan certificates - we do not see any direct benefit. Too much QE will be inflationary. Using the funds to improve our environment and quality of life will at the same time create jobs and opportunities. It makes sense to use QE for capital projects rather than revenue which would not be sustainable.

Infrastructure includes schools, hospitals, transport, community facilities, housing, small industrial units, sewage, environmental protection. etc.

## **Education**

End state funding for religion or religious schools.

Use the voucher system. Whereby parents can support any secular school they wish or use the voucher for resources supporting home education.

Children (and adults) to have access to high quality classes, both academic and practically based. The exam system makes most children fail. That's an awful thing to do to a child and unnecessary. All children should be able to excel during their education and feel high self-esteem and worth. That does not happen by failing exams or getting low grades. The only reasons for failure are either the teaching is poor, the student needs special help and support or the exam is not appropriate for that child.

Many children do not benefit from sitting at a desk in a room with 30 other children the same age. Some children may thrive in that environment. There are many alternatives to the classroom, forest schools, practical and outdoor lessons.

End extra judicial punishments in schools e.g. detentions. If a child or any student is disruptive in a lesson, they should be asked to leave and offered more appropriate classes or activities. Disruptive and violent behaviour may be a cry for help - that needs to be addressed.

Schools are left over from the industrial revolution. They were and continue to be used as both childcare and often a way of teaching discipline and obedience suitable for an old fashioned work place. We still need childcare but we need creative and free thinking children. So we need to design our education system to be diverse to cater for every child.

### **Entrepreneurial Loans**

These would be given to people as an alternative to a student loan. This is so that innovative and other new businesses can start, especially for people without the benefit of savings or family loans.

# Prisons and Punishment

Close 99% of all prisons.

Only incarcerate convicted people if the judge and the jury consider there is evidence to show the offender would be dangerous if free.

Make convicted people pay for the damage and misery they have caused. They need to work and earn money, not have us and their victims pay to lock them up.

Sentencing will include financial payment, rehabilitation, community work, therapy and medical treatment, if appropriate.

End all state punishment. It's a complete contradiction.

The state says it's wrong to hurt people and then hurts offenders by locking them up. Prisons and punishment not only don't work but they make people worse. They brutalise them further and tell them they are not cared for or loved. Deterrence does not work.

Revenge and retribution are understandable emotional responses for victims and friends and family. The state needs to be fair, unemotional, just and rational. It must act in the best interests of all of us.

# Healthcare

Massively increase the number of doctors and instigate a pay review. Some salaries are very high.

No artificial limit on the number of doctors trained. Doctors currently restrict the number of medical students to keep doctors scarce. This has an impact on pay, wasted costs in bringing in doctors from abroad and use of expensive agency staff.

Allow nurses and other paramedics easy access and academic credit if they want to train further to become doctors. This would be in line with other professions e.g. accountancy, law, engineering, architecture etc.

Allow same day access to consultants via self-referral, end GP filtering which often prevents early diagnosis.

Develop and use expert online computer diagnosis. This will have the wealth of knowledge of millions of doctors and current research. It will be linked to and immediately referred to a real doctor if a problem is detected.

Self-referral blood testing at GP or via take home kits - results can be a vital aid to early detection.

Access to see a doctor or expert paramedic within 5 minutes at A and E for initial consultation and immediate treatment if appropriate.

Increase taxation, if necessary, to pay for comprehensive healthcare.

Review of drug companies and ways to reduce high costs of drugs. More state funding of drug and medical research, so as to move it away from large pharmaceuticals.

## Homelessness

Massive increase in high quality hostels for temporary accommodation, so that nobody needs to sleep rough.

Bedroom tax is good in principle. But should not be applied if no alternative accommodation is available or if the extra bedroom is needed for health or would be very detrimental to normal quality of life to lose it.

## Hunger

Free basic food at every supermarket, paid for by government e.g. in season vegetables.

# Housing

Massive increase in house building by local and national governments. Both for rent and for sale. Funded by Quantitative Easing as part of the infrastructure programme.

Planning to allow each person to have permission for a self build house or flat.

Build preferentially on green field sites, allowing brown field sites within towns and cities to become green spaces and parks.

Only **7% of the UK is urban**, 93% is green fields, woods and not built on. It's not fair that only people who have enough money can live in the countryside.

All new developments outside the current settlement boundaries must have new or existing infrastructure. This includes transport, sports facilities, shops, schools and hospitals. In practice this means many will be adjacent to existing urban areas.

New buildings must be highly energy efficient, better than current building regulations, at least to EPC A.

## Insulation

Existing housing and other buildings to be upgraded via grants to EPC B. This is cost effective for the country, saves on fuel and reduces pollution.

## Land Tax

When land gets planning permission, its value soars overnight. A land tax will effectively reduce this increase to near zero. The result would be land for development would be far cheaper as profiteering would be removed.

# Welfare and Tax

Introduce the Citizen's wage. This is very exciting. Stolen from the Greens, who refuse to take it seriously, as it's probably a vote loser and journalist will laugh at it.

This will allow people to take time off from work when they need to. They may hate their job and want to spend time re-training or to search for a more fulfilling job. They may need a break for childcare or because of physical or mental illness. To build or draw beautiful works of art, invent amazing things, do voluntary work etc.

The Citizen's wage will replace 98% of all benefits. Each person will get it automatically. There will be no tax allowances. Tax will be payable on every pound earned. It will be funded by the cost of all the existing benefits, the huge administration savings, tax allowances, savings from measures in the manifesto and extra taxation if needed.

A living wage to be the national minimum wage.

Entrepreneurial loans as an alternative to free higher education. To be low interest and include business advice.

Encouraging and enabling entrepreneurs, especially those without inherited money, will enable exciting inventions and better ways to live.

A very high tax regime, similar to Sweden, paying for infrastructure and first class public services, including health, education, housing and transport. Social spending will enable all

of us to have a high standard of living in a safe, pleasant and zero pollution country. High taxation is not a penalty, it's a super efficient way of collectively spending money and using shared resources. Excellent infrastructure and a transparent judicial system are essential for our economy to thrive.

## Energy and Pollution

Electricity generation to be clean and safe. This simple principle and will determine policy. Gas, coal and biomass power stations to have exhaust filters and scrubbers. These will prevent any poisonous gasses from entering the atmosphere, apart from water and CO<sub>2</sub>. The air needs to be treated like the rivers. It is not a dumping ground for waste and pollution. We breathe it and live in it. So do the animals and plants. Other clean technologies to be funded via FITS or generation payments, so that solar, wind, tidal, river flow etc will proliferate.

Space heating is about generating the heat lost by the building. Installation of high levels of insulation, heat recover ventilation, passive solar and air tight buildings will be funded as part of the infrastructure project. see Economy and Trade. These measures will mean that virtually no space heating is necessary. Body heat and cooking will provide most of the heat. Green gas including hydrogen is one of the cleanest fuels for heating. Any polluting fuels will need scrubbers on the exhaust. This will make them less efficient and green gas more attractive.

Water heating by solar thermal will be encouraged with grants and gas heating as back up.

Nuclear power is great in principle. We use the sun for almost all our energy, that's a huge nuclear reactor. Nuclear power stations on earth must be shown to be safe and value for money.

Pollution from ships and other transport and indirect manufacturing from abroad will be taxed appropriately. The level of tax will be sufficient so as to make zero pollution technologies more attractive. Some pollution tax will be used to clean up the mess, where possible.

Profit making utility companies make little sense. People don't want choice, they want the lowest prices. Removing profit and allowing only non-profit energy companies will mean even lower prices. Private monopolies like the water companies and distribution companies make even less sense, they will be nationalised. or run by a non-profit company accountable to its users.

### **British Summer Time**

Make BST all year round, in line with Europe i.e. GMT + 1 hour.

It means less energy use and less road collisions and more pleasant with lighter evenings in the winter.

The main objection is from Scotland, we would support them using GMT or whatever time zone they chose.

### **Global Warming**

Our policies address low energy use and reduced or zero pollution. Global warming does not become the driving force behind policies. If it does, there would be a proliferation of private electric cars, with power generated renewably. Those cars will still kill and injure us.

Using simple logic and proven facts our policies make sense whether or not global warming is happening. If it is, we have the most radical and the safest least polluting policies of any party in the UK.

# Sex Workers and pornography

Many sex workers are not freely selling sexually services. Some may have been trafficked and imprisoned and been addicted to drugs.

Clients using these services would therefore be liable to be prosecuted for rape, because that is what it very often is.

They, mostly men, would have to demonstrate that, they knew beyond any reasonable doubt that the sex worker was providing their services freely and without coercion of any sort. This would mean that most men who currently use sex workers (prostitutes) would and should be prosecuted as rapists.

People who sell sexual services who are completely in control over what they doing will of course be free to practice and so will their clients.

Pornography would be similarly addressed. Users of pornography would be liable to be called upon to demonstrate that they have satisfied themselves beyond reasonable doubt, that the sex workers involved have been paid properly, are over 18 and have not been coerced in any way. Failure to do so would result in prosecution. Pornographic publications would have to publish the evidence with references. There would need to be independent licensing bodies for this sort of verification.

Both of the above policies do not get involved in the morality of using sex workers or consuming pornography. That is not the job of the state. What these policies do is to protect vulnerable people and try to prevent abuse.

## The State

**Declare a republic.** Select a professional queen or king for a 1 year period using x-factor or as part of general election. Their job would include having tea with tourists in the palace. This is one of the very few parties that is campaigning for a republic. Other parties may want it but because they lack integrity and don't want to lose votes they don't mention it.

**Abolition of all titles** and privileges given by the state via the Queen. e.g. Knighthoods, Lordships, MBEs. Other trade titles such as Doctor, Reverend, Professor, Captain, Admiral etc. - should only be used during the hours of practicing in that profession. They should not be used to give the holder undue status and privilege outside their work unless relevant.

Complete **separation of church and state.** Maintain the commonwealth and invite other English language countries to join e.g. Ireland and USA.

Have a **comprehensive constitution**, like a proper country. This constitution will declare that the role of the state and its institutions are to serve the people. As such, **the state will be accountable** for its actions. For example, we can ask why was a police car speeding down my road at 3.30pm yesterday? The constitution will protect us from ever having to carry ID. It is not for the state to check up on us, it is for us to check on what the state is doing and to be able to ask why and how much it costs.

**Police** will be far more present on the streets. Addressing the fear of crime is important. Police will be highly trained in inter-personal relationships and anti-racism. The public will be encouraged and invited to record any interrogation on a smart phone if they wish. Members of the public will be encouraged to intervene and get involved in our communities. Not vigilantes, but trained responsible volunteers. There are many of us who would love to volunteer in our communities and peacefully patrol our neighbourhoods, helping as we go.

Work towards **integrating the Emergency Services**, Police, Fire and Ambulance into one service with one local HQ. This would mean less duplication of vehicles, faster response time, cheaper and more efficient. Police officers would be trained in first aid up to paramedic standards as well as receiving fire fighting training. The same would apply to the other 2 services. This doesn't mean there would not be specialist from each of the core services.

Police officers will be taken from a much wider section of the population. Detective work does necessarily need the officer to be able bodied and physically fit. It often requires a certain type of intelligence and a logical minds like Sherlock Holmes. We desperately need an expert crime detection service to work with tough, physically fit officers when required.

Create a **comprehensive EU Army**, Air Force and Navy. Making a much larger and far more effective force. And saving billions on a UK only military. The army will take on much more social reconstruction work around the world, including getting clean water to 1.5 billion people with no access to it.

### **Nuclear Weapons and WMD**

The nuclear deterrent may or may not work.

However, we would get rid of these weapons on ethical grounds. It's simply wrong to kill thousands of people.

We would stay in NATO and argue for the removal of WMD. We would support a very powerful and well funded defense force.

## **Immigration**

Completely open borders and welcome to new arrivals on these conditions:

- 1) They pass a Dutch style vetting process (Equalities Test) to establish that they support equalities legislation. They must demonstrate they are not homophobic, misogynist, racist, uncontrollably violent etc.
- 2) New immigrants would not be able to claim benefits (or citizen's wage). They would need to show they can get employment or support themselves or have a sponsor or deposit sufficient for a return ticket. There would be a bar against claiming benefits for say 5 years, subject to appeal. They would be able to apply for citizenship after 5 years. They could be deported if they behave criminally before obtaining citizenship.
- 3) Asylum seekers would be welcome here as a sanctuary. They would be helped to return home if and when appropriate. If they failed the Equalities Test, they would not be given permanent residency. They would be able to claim benefits immediately if necessary. Asylum seekers to be processed by the EU and spread across the countries fairly.

## **Drugs and alcohol**

De-criminalise all drugs.

Criminals love illegal drugs, that's how they make their money.

There are many very dangerous substances that are legal now e.g. bleach, boiling water, alcohol etc.

We would continually monitor, educate and care for people who self harm. Whether they use drugs, over-eating, gambling or whatever.

Recreational drugs will be available from licensed shops, they would be safe, if used properly, cheap and taxed. Purchasers would have to read information leaflets beforehand and offered counselling if the licensed seller thought it appropriate. This would apply to alcohol sellers in the same way.