



TAKING THE INITIATIVE PARTY

A MANIFESTO FOR CHANGE 2020

EDUCATION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

EMPOWERMENT

#onevoice

#TTIP

CONTENTS

OUR MISSION	5
WHO WE ARE	6
THIS IS AN INTERIM MANIFESTO	7
EDUCATION	8 - 9
ENTREPRENEURSHIP	10
EMPOWERMENT	11
POLICY AREAS	12
BUSINESS	12
Taxation	12
CHILDREN, FAMILIES, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY	12 - 13
Youth	13
Loneliness	13
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	13
Race Offenders Register	14
Reparations	14 - 15
Human Trafficking	15
Knife Crime	15
Stop and Search	15
Wrongful Arrest	15 - 16
Effective Policing and Accountability	16
Legal Aid	16
Judicial Review	16
Sentencing	17
Prisons	17
Paedophilia	18
DEFENCE AND THE MILITARY	18
Veterans	18
ECONOMY	18 - 19

Minimum Wage	19
Zero-hour Contracts	19
Corporation Tax	19
Local Corporate Businesses in the UK	19
ENVIRONMENT	19
5G network	20
Energy	20
Agriculture	20 - 21
Animal Welfare	21
GOVERNMENTAL ISSUES	21
Constitutional Reform	21
Elections	21
Trade Unions & (Trade Union Congress)	21 - 22
QUANGO (Quasi Un-Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisation)	22
HEALTHCARE	22
NHS	22-23
The Coronavirus Bill	23
HOUSING	23 - 24
Home ownership	24
Property Taxes and Stamp Duty	24
Private Renters	24
Council and Social Tenants	24
Derelict Properties	24 - 25
Green Belt Land	25
Homelessness	25
Grenfell Tower	25
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES	26

Brexit	26
Immigration	26
Foreign Aid	26 - 27
TRANSPORT	27
Congestion and ULEZ Charge	27
Cycling	27
Travelling for children	27 - 28
WOMEN AND EQUALITY	28
Women	28
Poverty	28
Discrimination	28
Disability	28 - 29
Disadvantage	29
Food Banks and Waste	29
WHAT NEXT?	30
Membership	30 - 31
Candidates	31
A Final Word	31
FEEDBACK	32
REFERENCES	33

OUR MISSION

Taking the Initiative Party aims to create real change in communities across the UK by setting the agenda in government. We want to do this by putting forward exceptional **candidates who truly represent their communities**, winning seats to create a parliament that looks like the society it leads.

We believe that career politicians who are failing to tackle crucial issues dominate the current political landscape. We see a Government that is in the pocket of Big Business and looking after its own interests, with an ineffective Opposition bogged down in one scandal after another. From where we sit, it seems that our elected politicians' bicker amongst themselves while **the country faces unprecedented challenges**:

- The world is stifled by the effects of a pandemic which has put untold pressure on our health service and our economy.
- We are preparing for one of the most significant political events in history now that Britain has left the EU and the transition period ends in a few short months.
- Digital technologies have transformed the industry, leaving some British communities decimated by the loss of manufacturing or the squeeze on farming.
- Tax avoidance by corporations is standard, and unprecedented levels of wealth are hoarded by a few super-rich.
- Meanwhile, inequality in UK society gets only worse, with children living in poverty and foodbank use being the norm.

We know the answer to these challenges can **come from our communities**. We want to be a new voice on the political stage to channel local knowledge and expertise, to come up with creative solutions, and to make sure that resources go where they are needed most.

Key domestic areas that need especially urgent attention are:

- Housing
- Education
- Benefits
- Taxation
- Knife Crime.

We are developing a manifesto that details our plans for these and all other challenges and opportunities that face the UK today, both at home and internationally.

We believe that Britain's **strength lies in its people**. You can join us in our mission by becoming a member, a volunteer, or a supporter with us today. You can also support our work by making a donation.

Let's come together with one voice to make a lasting change towards a better UK – for everyone

WHO WE ARE

Taking the Initiative Party was established by a group of British business people who felt, like many others across the country, that we had become politically homeless.

We founded the Party to create meaningful politics that will inspire people to get out and vote. We want to put forward candidates for election who truly represent their community AND who will deliver on campaign promises. We offer practical policies based in fact and detail, with honesty, transparency, and accountability at the core of everything we do.

Our background is in business and we believe that business has a positive part to play in the community through education, entrepreneurship, and empowerment. We also believe in responsible business that contributes to society through fair taxation, employment rights, and environmental accountability.

Taking the Initiative can see a brighter future for the UK, where everyone has a chance to make a difference and to thrive. We want to build a society where people who take the initiative to work towards a better Britain are rewarded with excellent schools, world-leading healthcare, and a flourishing economy.

THIS IS AN INTERIM MANIFESTO

The issues that have been covered are simply our views as a party and where we stand with some of the current issues affecting the UK. At this stage we have not gone into the financial, nor have we gone into depth as to how we are going to address some of the issues mentioned in this manifesto. Details of how we will deal with these issues will follow in a more detailed manifesto closer to the time of the next general election.

A feedback sheet is available which you can fill-in to cover any issues that have not been addressed within this manifesto. This is something other parties have not invited the public to do, their view has been to almost apply a blanket solution, not identifying the individual problems of the individual communities, we believe this clear lack of commitment has caused crisis levels which is a formula TTIP refuses to follow. We are committed to positive change and we welcome the People to contribute to this.

We would like to get the feedback from the communities in order to make sure we are addressing as many of the issues as possible as opposed to just trying to guess what the problems are.

EDUCATION

Education is one of the bedrocks of our Party's foundation and as such, there is a great deal of work to do in order to fully represent the interests and aspirations of our communities. Supporting petitions such as "Teach Britain's colonial past as part of the UK's compulsory curriculum" made by the people, we aim to make such changes.

Research by YouGov reveals that "three-quarters of teachers in Britain say their work-life balance is worse than they had imagined – and most would not recommend the job to a young person". It goes on to reveal that "four in ten teachers would not choose their profession again if they could start over". We should all be deeply concerned about this.

When asked what the positive aspects of the job were, the vast majority said being able to make a difference to children's lives (82%), doing a job that's different every day (67%), and being able to challenge yourself (52%). We want to grow and harness these figures by immediately seeking to create a protected status for teachers and youth leaders alike.

- We would seek to ensure that those who are charged with the great responsibility of teaching, training, and mentoring our young people have all the protections they require to be efficient and effective at the work that we ask them to do each and every day.
- We will work to engage individuals who take a teaching role to mould a career, not simply treat this as a job. We see it as much more than a job. It is a vocation and not one that everyone is called to do. We must recognize and reward this so that our teachers feel properly appreciated.

Evidently, the Curriculum that is taught in schools has been an area of concern to some. The rapid increase in the establishment of independent and free schools could be connected to this.

- We fully support anything that contributes to lifelong learning and fundamental rites of passage, identity, and security protections of young people. We also support providing schools with the freedoms to teach age- and culturally-appropriate materials from a holistic curriculum.
- We support home education for those who choose to embark upon this type of education for their children. For some parents we recognize that this can feel liberating. We will actively encourage work that helps or promotes children's self-confidence' and looking at finding new ways of working together in order to raise the level of our education system for all.
- We have become aware that there is a sense that some are currently disappointed by cultural inappropriateness and a lack of teaching young people to be more financially literate, which we would like to see, taught as a life skill (lifelong education).
- We will introduce entrepreneurship within the entire school system, which we feel will serve to harness the energies of potential entrepreneurs and build on the talents of existing ones. It will also be an opportunity to incentivize young people who have been hard to reach, particularly those in the classroom who find learning challenging.

- We will seek to bring about teaching that has time for every child and reduces class sizes so that young people can be taught with more focus on individuals to be self-sustaining, can explore hobbies, and bring out the best from within by drawing on their talents and strengths.
- With advice from those best placed to give it, we want to establish a peer-learning framework led by young people themselves. We have already started this conversation and will bring forward our further plans in this area as they develop and begin to take shape.
- We want Teachers to be empowered to focus on what is key and to do this we would reduce bureaucratic assessments and appraisals in collaboration and consultation with Head Teachers and wider teaching staff.

Education needs to re-focus on teaching children the basics.

- We would get rid of tuition fees for further education in subjects vital to our national life, Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM) at university, dependant on graduates working in the UK for a minimum period, which could be equivalent to the length of their degree.

Scottish students attending university in Scotland can be charged up to £1,820 per year for tuition. This will be paid in full if an applicant is eligible. This figure increases significantly in England and we would address this by adopting the Scottish model immediately.

EU students are currently entitled to the same free university tuition as Scots under European law. However, students from other parts of the UK are charged tuition fees. We would scrap them all together in most cases in line with the model that Scotland is able to thrive under or at the very least, we would decrease the amount that students are having to pay.

We must dedicate ourselves to the task of not just talking about early interventions but realizing this goal by funding and utilizing alternative education providers.

We will take a much more holistic approach to all the educational needs of young people, considering their mental and physical wellbeing.

In one part of London alone research suggests that one in six children are obese by the time they leave primary school. This is both shocking and, we feel, avoidable if we dedicate our efforts to creating and sustaining much better partnerships by working together and making it a priority to carefully coordinate our efforts.

We feel that a more physical lifestyle is prudent to success and we want to encourage people from an early age to be more conscious about what they eat and to be much more active and we believe that including this along with other challenges in the curriculum will help in this goal.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

At the start of 2019, there were 5.82 million small businesses (with 0 to 49 employees), 99.3% of the total business. SMEs account for 99.9% of the business population (5.9 million businesses).

SMEs account for three-fifths of the employment and around half of the turnover in the UK private sector.

Total employment in SMEs was 16.6 million (60% of the total), whilst turnover was estimated at £2.2 trillion (52%).

We feel that the interests and potential of small business is an area that is often overlooked, and we want to shift our focus so that small businesses and local communities thrive. The numbers really speak for themselves and we feel that it is exasperating to say the least, when it comes to the lack of joined-up thinking and movement in this area.

We will bring business leaders together and actively discuss, disseminate and act on winning opportunities that create independence.

We will use seminars and lectures, most of which will be free or of low cost to members, to teach, bring change, and highlight talent.

We have and will continue to create job opportunities while helping others towards collective and individual freedoms.

We believe that entrepreneurship is the way forward and will act as a much-needed gateway to widespread wealth, fuller employment, economic prosperity, economic empowerment, investment opportunities and above all, community sustainability. Entrepreneurship is the gateway enterprise. We must bear in mind that without the entrepreneur, enterprise would not exist. We feel it is important to encourage people to take the risk of becoming entrepreneurs, as we have seen in our society it is entrepreneurs that create brands such as Virgin, Sports Direct, Easy Jet and the list goes on.

We have already begun work to create the largest Business Network in the UK. The network will provide guidance and support to people who need it and will put people in touch with one another and provide a platform for the dynamic exchange of thoughts, ideas, events, services, and employment opportunities.

We are keen to help young people to explore their options in a different way and we feel that entrepreneurship, , can be the thing that makes a significant difference to people's lives.

We plan to embark on a program of wealth creation through Start-ups in tandem with bespoke Mentorship.

We will introduce a Business Awards program geared towards recognizing and nurturing talent.

EMPOWERMENT

Inspiration and creativity are at the heart of our plans to empower communities. We are passionate about building confidence, resilience, and self-belief by getting behind the individual drive to succeed.

We want to bring clarity and enable others to feel good. We believe that this is possible through encouraging people to go on a voyage of self-discovery of their entrepreneurial potential through business mentoring.

We want to feel confident about our country and believe that by empowering people and communities to take action for themselves – and for others – we can create a sense of pride and security that has probably not been enjoyed here since the Second World War.

Brexit has polarised this country and exposed deep divisions that have turned almost to hatred, the likes of which we have not seen for a considerable amount of time. It is time to repair that damage together, as honourable leaders we are prepared to lead the way.

We want to empower people by showing appreciation for what they do to help their communities and society.

By coming together and creating communities that work in coalition with each other, we will become stronger in all the areas of our lives that empower us to live meaningfully.

POLICY AREAS

BUSINESS

A shared background in business was part of what originally brought the founders of the Taking the Initiative Party together.

We believe that everyone has entrepreneurial potential and we are passionate about promoting opportunities for anyone who wants to take a leap into running their own business.

We will provide business support and guidance to aspiring entrepreneurs through some of the following initiatives and approaches:

- We will establish a national model of mentoring for those wishing to pursue self-employment by this route.
- We will encourage and actively support any ideas for a small business that is innovative, thought-provoking, and lawful.
- We will encourage – via Enterprise Investment/Seed Enterprise Investment schemes – existing businesses to support start-ups, in addition to looking at the option of creating a fund for this.
- We will review the aid that is currently contributed by the EU and look carefully at the allocation of funding from this stream.
- We will also undertake an analysis of which areas of businesses are supported and ensure that the distribution of available funds is equitable.
- We will get behind a revolution of business start-ups by encouraging youth and broader communities to think about their options in new and exciting ways.

We have seen that one of the main obstacles stopping people going into business for themselves is the debt they already carry by the time they finish their education.

We believe that the finance available to support people to go to university should also be available to those individuals who would prefer to go into business. We want to see young people with strong ideas and the will to execute these ideas being supported in their journey to becoming an entrepreneur through a business mentor and carefully guided funding.

Taxation

We will increase the taxation of the banking sector.

Borrowing arrangements for individuals concern us. The average mortgage payee may borrow approximately £200,000, but over a 25-year period, they could be obliged to pay back in excess of £1 million. This is a huge repayment sum in return for comparatively small borrowing.

The banking industry is one of the main businesses generating income in the UK. We believe that increasing taxes in this area will generate a substantial increase in tax revenue, which can be redistributed to other causes.

CHILDREN, FAMILIES, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY

Stable families are vital to a successful country and community.

In our consultations, we have seen recurring themes of discussion about the lack of provision of activities for young people, support for parents, and rebuilding broken families. We have heard that people feel their politicians do not

understand or care what families need to thrive.

We feel that there is an urgent need to map out better partnership working in this area and will set up community-led Parenting Education.

We want to see urgent reforms to the family courts to ensure that when families break down, for whatever reason, they are not further marginalized by a family court system in disarray. We want to see all families well supported.

We will initiate a program to acquire property for communities that will be held in Trust. This is to protect those resources and ensure they cannot be taken back in land grabbing efforts, which we see leads to gentrification and erodes or even eradicates community bases.

Youth

We do not see young people as a problem to be cured, but instead, consider them as one of our most precious resources.

We want to empower young people by supporting projects that clearly demonstrate they are filling gaps, which Government – whether Local or Central – cannot possibly do with a top-down approach alone.

We will look carefully at the Youth Council models across the country and bolster our support for the work that they do.

We believe that Youth Centres are a vital resource that provides a safe space and offers constructive activities for young people. We will implement a plan to ensure that Youth Centres are located in the most effective areas for access and availability. We will also support them to be able to deliver courses intended to empower young people and develop their skills and experience.

This is particularly important for young people who have been identified as being at risk to divert from anti-social or even criminal behaviour.

Loneliness

It is vitally important that we take action to tackle loneliness across all ages.

We want to bring people together as often as is practical, to share and celebrate what is good about our communities. We want to ensure that this includes young people so that they see they are at the heart of our plans for society.

We recognize that loneliness was an issue important to the late Jo Cox MP and that she dedicated much of her time in Parliament to tackle this concern. We will not duplicate the excellent work already being done by organisations in her name but will work in unison with them to complement and support their initiatives.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

We have a number of priorities in this area which we will outline in the following sections, including the appalling rise in knife crime and the relationship of police to their communities.

We are deeply concerned by the treatment of BAME individuals in the criminal justice system and will seek to implement all recommendations of the 2017 Lammy Report.

One of the things that we consider an early priority is to set up a community-led campaign to overhaul law that is simply no longer working for communities across the country.

Race offenders register

There have been a number of issues around racism and how best to deal with this individual pandemic. We will be promoting and supporting a race offenders register. This will allow anyone who has been accused or charged with any race-related crime to be registered in a similar way to the sex offender register. Racism is a huge issue that does not appear to be improving. We feel that this will act as a deterrent for people who do harbour thoughts and practices but more importantly, the systemic racism in our society, currently allowing these people to be educating our children and diagnosing our families, and policing our communities. As a result of these continued racist acts, the issue of racism will never and could never be stamped out.

We feel that the race offenders register will (a) establish accountability for racism in our communities and (b) go some way in aiding and changing our society to one that this not governed by systemic racism manifested in stereotypes which we use to make decisions every day. Although, we appreciate that racism will not be cured overnight and those who fall victim to racism will also not be cured overnight. We feel that this will go some way to change society for the better no matter class, colour, or creed in order to live together and require a level of understanding through education.

Reparations

Reparation is an issue that has been addressed for years. It has recently been

highlighted that UK taxpayers have paid tax which has contributed to the compensation made to slave owners for the loss of property (black slaves). The British slave owners were compensated 20 million pounds in 1835 which is the equivalent of 17 billion pounds today. Due to the country not having enough funds to pay the slave owners, the country raised bonds (borrowed money) in order to pay off the slave owners at the time. This money was paid back through UK taxpayers. This repayment of compensation has only been concluded in 2015 which would mean that everybody who has paid tax in the UK has unconsciously contributed to paying reparations to slave owners.

What is profound about this set of circumstances is that the victims of slavery who ultimately suffered unthinkable abuse, endured extreme trauma and indiscretions have not been compensated in any way, shape, or form. It is our view that there would have to be some form of reparation for the black victims of slavery and similar to that of the Jewish community. We do not feel this is an unreasonable request from the black community for reparations to be paid in view of the circumstances.

The question is to find a way that is a feasible method to pay these reparation payments. We are fully aware that the government will not be minded to pay a lump sum in compensation for the victims of the UK slave trade. There have been many things discussed such as a unique tax code under which descendants of slavery will simply not pay any or a reduction in tax. Or payments into the

various communities where UK Black Britons are prominent, to allow the creation of infrastructure for economic stability and community support for the Black Britons in the UK.

Human trafficking

Human trafficking is an outcome of the hostile environment and policies surrounding immigration. We feel that everyone deserves a right to have a safe, private family life, and a sense of belonging. There is a moral element that needs to be attached to human trafficking. Individual circumstances need to be taken into consideration to reduce the risk of these barbaric catastrophes resulting in countless deaths.

As much as we understand the need to reduce illegal immigration into the UK, we also need to be mindful of basic humanity when making decisions that could potentially result in extreme loss of life.

Knife Crime

We are deeply concerned by the continuing rise in knife crime and the number of associated deaths, particularly amongst our young people. As a result, we have already begun talking to those who have been directly affected by this scourge in order to develop a swift and decisive response to the issue.

Tackling knife crime is an issue of particular importance to The Taking the Initiative Party since we have members who have personally suffered loss as a direct result of it.

We know we must urgently develop a long-term strategy to deal with knife crime, not least because we have seen it hit a record high this year. We believe that

it is an issue that has been left unaddressed by those in leadership for far too long and we are committed to changing that unforgivable oversight.

Stop and Search

Statistics indicate that the stop and search powers used by police are not an effective method of preventing crime: only 10% of police stop and searches result in any further action, with the remaining 90% being without cause.

A 10% success rate is far too low to justify the widespread use of this approach in our cities, especially given that it is disproportionately targeted at BAME youth and adults.

We believe that police need to be motivated to follow proper procedure and only use stop and search where there are genuine grounds to do so.

Fairer use of stop and search could go some way to repairing the relationship between communities and police where it has broken down and become mistrustful.

We are also looking at the possibility of introducing youth-led peer supporters who would be involved in stop and searches affecting young people, with the aim of improving outcomes for young people stopped by police.

Wrongful Arrest

In keeping with our policy on stop and search, we believe that in the case of wrongful arrest a financial penalty should be levied against the relevant police service. Compensation would be paid to the victim to atone for the indignity, violation, and loss of liberty that they suffered in the course of their wrongful arrest.

Anything from £2,500 to £10,000 for wrongful arrest, depending on the

circumstances/severity of that arrest. This is for any arrest resulting in no further action.

£200 as a result of anyone being stopped and searched as a mandatory fine for any person again, stopped and searched with no further action.

This would encourage greater due diligence on the part of the police since they will be incentivized to ensure that wrongful arrests are not made. It could also ultimately lead to fewer police personnel being required since there will be less need to handle innocent detainees at police stations.

Effective Policing and Accountability

We fully support effective policing to keep the streets safe for all, but worry that limited resources and institutional prejudice have eroded the trust that communities have in their police service.

We want to work with police services to improve diversity in their employment to ensure that police reflect the communities that they serve. We would also encourage local recruitment of officers so that they have insight into the community that they are policing.

We would advocate for the re-establishment of the Community Police Consultative Group model, particularly in communities prone to volatility or tension between residents and police.

We would end the Police Community Support Officer role since we believe that this funding would be better utilized for additional Special Constables, who have powers of arrest. We would also prefer to see the funding currently allocated for PCSOs to instead be used to recruit and retain more full-time police officers.

Ultimately, we want to see a return to beat officers and neighbourhood policing, which has been decimated by years of austerity measures. Prevention is cheaper than cure, so investing in high quality, responsible policing will likely reduce expenditure on courts and custodial facilities.

Legal Aid

Legal aid must be available to everyone who requires support to access justice.

We will overhaul the current legal aid system which we think is too easily abused. We feel that some areas which have been stripped back have led to significant avoidable wastage and we will make changes to address this.

Judicial Review

One of the urgent changes that we will pursue is a review of the judicial system in order to make sure it is both fair and effective.

It currently seems that different levels of punishment are handed out in accordance with the ethnicity of the person who has committed the crime. We feel that the judiciary does not currently reflect the people that it represents, leading to discriminatory decision making – whether unduly harsh or inappropriately lenient.

We want to see a more diverse judicial system – including Judges, Barristers, and Solicitors – which more accurately reflects the community it serves.

This solution is a long-term plan. A more immediate step towards fairer sentencing that we would like to explore is to include the input of the jury in setting out parameters for the adjudicating judge to adhere to.

Sentencing

We are aware that sentencing is largely a matter for the Sentencing Council, and that Common Law for the most part derives from the Judiciary. However, we would like to see a sentencing regime in place that is consistent, efficient, and acts without bias.

The 2003 legislation on Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) was designed to allow for indeterminate (indefinite) imprisonment of offenders who posed a serious threat to the public. It was anticipated that around nine hundred individuals would be subjected to this type of imprisonment, but the reality is that ten times that number were ultimately detained under this justification. Today, more than two thousand people are still in custody under this legislation which was abolished in 2012.

While it remains controversial, we would seek to review the use of indeterminate sentencing as a means of dealing with the most serious, prolific, and violent offenders. We have already begun taking advice from former prisoners (some of them former IPP prisoners) and their families in order to better understand what needs to be done moving forward. Recent events suggest that there is a need for more robust sentencing regimes, and we would like to approach decision-making in this area having fully explored all the factors that were not studied before IPP was first enacted.

Prisons

Prisons are another area of the criminal justice system which we recognise is in need of urgent reform.

The Prison Service must be effectively resourced and equipped in order to do what it is supposed to do. Evidence

suggests that the main factors required to enable offenders to go on to lead more productive, law-abiding lives are: a stable home, healthy relationships and gainful employment. We will re-focus efforts to support those areas, which we feel must be considered a priority given that re-offending costs the UK in excess of £18 billion every year.

We are against the privatization of prisons and believe it is the responsibility of the state to run all imprisonment facilities.

We would seek to decommission dilapidated prisons and build more modern facilities where prisoners can be treated humanely. Ultimately we want prisons to serve as an effective tool for rehabilitation, and treating prisoners with dignity and respect is more likely to encourage their engagement with society and the rule of law on release.

We will establish a program of entrepreneurship development in prisons, leading to opportunities for ex-offenders to get into business through redeploying their skills and initiative into non-criminal enterprises.

We want to bring a greater level of uniformity to the way that prisons operate across the UK, for instance with consistent discharge grants regardless of whether a prisoner is released in England or Scotland.

We support a policy that would see the deportation of convicted foreign criminals so that they are repatriated to their country of origin to serve out their sentences. Similarly, UK nationals who commit offenses overseas could opt to return to the UK for imprisonment. To achieve this we will need to develop reciprocal agreements with other nations around the world.

Paedophilia

We disagree with the recent laws passed in Nigeria; Africa where they feel paedophiles should be given the death penalty. We feel that paedophilia is a very serious problem and anything that puts our young children at risk needs to be taken seriously.

With this in mind, we feel that anyone including paedophiles who is at risk to themselves or our communities should be (a) hospitalised in a secure facility or (b) imprisoned. If there is a medical remedy that the person is prepared to consider to alleviate that risk to the children of our society then we feel that they should have the option to take this remedy. This would be on a voluntary basis. We feel very strongly that any person who poses a risk to the children in our society should not be in a position to interact with our children in a predatory fashion.

DEFENCE AND THE MILITARY

We fully believe that Britain needs strong and well-resourced military organisations, and we will support all areas of this by strengthening the Covenant.

We will look carefully at increasing the number of personnel in all areas of the military: Royal Navy, Armed Forces, and Royal Air Force. We want to incentivize and encourage more employers to allow their employees to become Reservists.

We ask our soldiers to do a difficult and dangerous job, but too often they are not being given the appropriate tools and equipment they need to be safe and effective. We will take grassroots advice in order to know and provide what is needed.

The Taking the Initiative Party will always stand shoulder to shoulder with our international allies – most importantly the USA, with whom Britain has enjoyed a lasting and meaningful relationship.

We will honour our commitments to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), despite having left the European Union through Brexit.

Despite our commitment to a strong-armed defence, we do not believe that Britain belongs in any conflict that does not serve the national interest. We are also dismayed at some recent war efforts that have seemed to be a cynical exercise to steal the resources of other countries.

We feel that we have had a presence in Afghanistan for far too long without justifiable cause or purpose, and we would bring our troops back home without delay. We will support the USA with ongoing negotiations between the Taliban and the Afghan Government to ensure peace and stability for the Afghan people.

Veterans

We understand that one of the main challenges military personnel face after they retire from active service is finding and sustaining civilian employment. We will therefore support our military personnel to find sustainable and rewarding work.

We believe it is vital to recognize the contribution of all veterans who have served their country, regardless of whether they have spent time in an active war zone. Their sacrifice is our safety and strength, and the Taking the Initiative Party will support them every step of the way when they return to civilian life.

ECONOMY

We know that money is vitally important to each and every one of us, and never more so than in a time of recession and ongoing austerity. We want to make a number of changes to make everyday life more affordable for ordinary people.

Minimum Wage

Wages are not keeping pace with inflation and we are of the view that a great deal needs to be done to ensure that people are not constantly going short. Recent (April 2019) figures for the minimum wage are as follows:

Age	Pay per hour
25 and over	£8.21
21 to 24	£7.70
18 to 20	£6.15
Under 18	£4.35
Apprentice	£3.90

We want to see a minimum wage of at least £10 per hour, with apprentices paid at least £5 per hour. Perhaps more importantly, we also believe that if we can get a grip on inflation then people will have greater opportunity to prosper.

Zero-hour Contracts

The rise of zero-hour contracts has had a huge impact both on the economy and on people's lives. We would simply get rid of these contracts, with the only exception being when there is mutually agreed benefit to both employer and employee.

Corporation Tax

We know that huge international companies such as Amazon and Google constantly exploit loopholes in order to minimise their tax contribution to the UK and we firmly believe that this has to end. They must be held accountable to pay

sums that are fair and proportionate in relation to their operations and profit in this country. It is simply unacceptable that British citizens spend their money with these companies only to see no return to the public coffers. We want to ensure that responsible big businesses contribute meaningfully to the society it operates in and profits from. Our solution to this would simply be to tax these corporations turning over a certain amount of funds i.e. 10 million pounds a year on the amount they turnover, as opposed to profit.

Local Corporate Businesses in the UK

We feel that businesses that exist on a large scale across the UK – such as the big supermarket chains of Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrison and Waitrose – should be obliged to pay funds back to the communities that they are operating in. We want to see a percentage of branch income reinvested back into the local area they are situated in, allowing communities to benefit directly from the companies that profit from them.

ENVIRONMENT

We know that we face an uncertain future because of the challenges relating to the climate crisis. We recognize that this is a problem requiring bold and urgent action and we will look to promote entrepreneurial opportunity and reward initiative in the search for solutions. In particular, we are worried about the state of the UK's polluted air, which contributes to over 40,000 premature deaths each year. This is, quite simply, far too many.

We will introduce legislation and actively campaign to ensure that every possible measure to protect people from pollution is carried out.

We will strengthen the Climate Change Act (2008) and include a commitment to achieving lower rates of decarbonisation over a realistic timeframe. We would commit to achieving zero carbon emissions by 2030, in line with estimates that have been put forward by climate change experts and activists.

5G network

We feel that there needs to be extensive research and full transparency of the results of research into 5G, to ascertain the potential risks to humanity, as a result of advancing technology. Although we feel that technological advancement is important within our society, we do not feel it should be at the risk of human lives. There should be a requirement in this area for a lot more research before we can ascertain the potential risks as a result of 5G network.

Energy

Brexit presents an opportunity for the UK to set its own future energy policy, including the potential for lower prices.

We believe in the need for a mix of energy sources, comprising nuclear, conventional and renewable options. We will support renewable energy where it can deliver electricity at competitive prices. We would end subsidies for wind turbines.

We would also like to work with community initiatives such as Brixton Energy (see case study below), which we believe is the UK's first inner-city, co-operatively owned renewable energy project on a social housing estate. This is very much the type of innovation built on community cohesion that we want to see replicated all over the country.

Case Study: Brixton Energy

Brixton Energy is a not-for-profit co-operative based in south London.

The project involved the installation of a 37.24kWp solar power station on the roof of Elmore House in the Loughborough Estate.

The capital cost for the solar photovoltaic (PV) installation was raised through a community share offer.

The project was able to attract around 100 investors and raised £58,000 in less than a month.

We believe that the UK can be a leader in generating sustainable energy. We will work to raise awareness about energy efficiency and to tackle fuel poverty, which simply should not exist given the technology available today. All this will lead the way to lower energy costs and reduced CO2 emissions, vital for people and for the planet.

Agriculture

Agriculture is an area that requires significant policy to replace that, which was lost when we left the European Union.

We propose that the farming industry is empowered to organise itself into a Post-Brexit Farming Union that has the power to design an agricultural policy for the UK.

We believe that farmers have had a raw deal for a long time and that the best advocates for farmers are, of course, farmers themselves. Therefore:

- We would allow farming representatives to sit at any negotiation table where issues that affect them and the agriculture of the UK is concerned; and
- We would seek to formulate

legislation in consultation with farmers. No legislation would be imposed on any area without input from the Post-Brexit Farming Union.

The end of agricultural subsidies from the EU presents a significant challenge to UK farmers, making it even more crucial that they are part of the discussion and implementation of farming policy going forward.

Animal Welfare

The standard of animal welfare in this Country is already quite high.

Our focus for improvement would be to give greater powers to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, particularly where the removal of animals is concerned. Currently, if a domestic animal is believed to be neglected or abused then the owner is invited to allow the RSPCA to take the animal.

We would give the RSPCA power to take that action without the owner's permission in circumstances where an animal is being mistreated. We would also improve mechanisms to successfully prosecute those individuals.

GOVERNMENTAL ISSUES

Constitutional Reform

We have considerable concerns about the role of the House of Lords. While we agree in principle with the notion of a second chamber, as is the case in our bicameral system, we think the proportions of the two bodies are skewed and unfair. 650 Members of Parliament are elected to represent us in the House of Commons by an electorate of some 60 million people, while the House of Lords seats more than 800 individuals who are placed there by a small number of people on an unelected

basis. This is an issue that needs to be discussed and a conclusion reached quickly.

Our preference is for a time-limited body, representative of the diversity of life in the UK – e.g. young people, senior citizens, professionals, single people, married couples, etc. – and allow that group to look carefully at all areas of our lives that may benefit from reform.

The UK has a number of uncodified documents that amount to our nation's constitution, but some of the legislation contained within these documents is outdated, old-fashioned and benefits only a small select few. We think that for meaningful change to take place in the country will require modernisation of some of these archaic traditions.

Elections

We want to embrace the opportunity to engage the electorate with elections by using digital technologies to reach people and facilitate voting.

We still support the use of polling stations but believe that, as access to a smartphone, tablet, laptop or home PC is so common, making voting more convenient could potentially empower a wider number of people to have their voice heard in elections.

Trade Unions & TUC (Trade Union Congress)

Trade Unions remain a potent political force in the UK and are no doubt influential when it comes to politics, campaigning, and industrial action. We (aim to) have begun to engage with all trade unions to achieve a common ground balanced understanding on current regulations, National and

regional reforms, legislation and law's, on matters relating to, but not limited to:

- Employment and workers' rights
- Equality
- Minimum wage
- Health and safety
- Community Organising
- Building back the UK manufacturing industries while maintaining viable, safe, and affordable transport infrastructures to support the expedient trade needed in the UK as Brexit unfolds.

One of our first changes in relation to building a stronger economy will be to abolish zero-hour contracts giving more job security and basic rights to an EU free workforce.

The Trade Union Congresses role will become prevalent after the UK leaves the EU and as allies, with TTIP share common ground to advocate and influence worker protections while supporting business expansions in the open market we believe this union will drive the 21-century industries economic growth to stand strong in the overall world market.

QUANGO (Quasi Un-Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisation)

Ten years ago the government announced a "bonfire of the quangos". Despite these strong words, we have seen very little in the way of progress to make savings and increase efficiencies in this area.

We want to review the role of quangos and identify those that are limited in effectiveness and so merely serve as costly exercises in futility. We will boldly disband failing quangos without fear or favour. We want to free up this wasted money so that it can instead be spent where it is most needed.

We would launch a fact-finding exercise, which would seek to look at specific areas:

- powers of each body;
- impact each body has had since inception;
- cost to the taxpayer and by extension the value for money each body represents; and
- areas of duplication across similar bodies.

We would merge or disband bodies as appropriate following this review exercise. We would seek to complete the process within 18 months: one year to be spent on fact-finding, followed by a six month period to carefully scrutinise then act on the findings.

HEALTHCARE

NHS

The Taking the Initiative Party believes in a National Health Service (NHS) that is free to all at the point of delivery.

One of our main concerns for the NHS relates to its crippling debt linked to the introduction of PFI: Private Finance Initiatives that created public/private partnerships, with private firms contracted to deliver public projects at great cost.

Nursing remains one of the most trusted professions in Britain, with 95% of the public saying they trust nurses to tell the truth. We will ensure that we keep the best of our nurses and NHS staff by

improving their working hours, pay, and conditions.

We feel that the past scandals around political expenses are a national disgrace, leading people to lose faith in politicians and the political process. We would immediately seek to cap the pay and expenses of MPs, with the resulting savings put towards recruitment and retention of NHS staff.

We would give the NHS more powers to design and deliver the services that they are experts in providing. We would scrap the arbitrary targets set by politicians who don't have any direct experience of working in healthcare. We would devolve a significant proportion of control to individual NHS Trusts, who would in turn be accountable to one governing body charged with steering the direction of the nation's health and wellbeing.

We feel that the NHS has done an amazing job in supporting our society in these difficult times. Their skills, abilities and their bravery being likened to that of our army. We feel that the gratitude that has been shown to them, such as the clap for NHS, local fundraising, and general recognition for the NHS employees has been a great show of support. We also have to remember those NHS employees most of which are from the working class who have passed away, as a result of contracting Coronavirus. We feel that there should be financial remuneration for the families of those who have passed away, similar to those in the army or police force who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Although the government has expressed recognition, we also feel that this should be backed up by financial remuneration (pay rises). There is no amount of money that could be placed on human life. We

feel that the very least that the government can do, is offer a pay increase as I am sure the employees very much appreciate the weekly clap for NHS but we are sure that they would appreciate the financial remuneration more.

The Coronavirus bill

We feel that there have been a vast number of changes that impact the general public on a day-to-day basis.

We feel that these laws being implemented without consultation with the public could be an infringement of basic human rights. We feel strongly that the presentation of humanity is a serious issue; equally the facts, figures, and potential risks in some cases may be inaccurate or may have been misinterpreted. The truth is, we know very little and have had mixed messages about the potential spread transmission, as well as the fatality rate of this virus.

With this in mind, we sense that people under the basic laws of human rights should be able to (a) be provided with the information and (b) be able to make their own decisions in law, as individuals and family units in order to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. We do not have issues with guidelines being in place but we do feel that people should have the right to make their own decisions in how to address, tackle, and approach the issue.

HOUSING

Everyone deserves to have a home where they can be safe and comfortable, without exception. Sadly, it seems to be that for too many people the housing pressures

they face are only getting worse. Britain is in the grip of a housing crisis.

The Taking the Initiative Party benefits from having a number of founding members with a wealth of experience in property management, development, and investment. We intend to take that expertise into public service to make the building of new homes, including social housing, an achievable priority.

It is widely known that building and development are often held up at the planning stage, with Local Authorities creating lengthy delays in the applications process. We will ensure that the relevant departments are properly resourced in order to review and assess planning applications in a timely manner so that these significant decisions can be made without unnecessary delay.

Home ownership

The number of home-owning households has decreased dramatically in recent years. We will therefore introduce measures to enable more first-time buyers to buy a home of their own.

There is a significant lack of reasonably priced homes available in the UK, so we will develop and bring forward plans with our specialist housing and property experts to create more low-cost homes reserved for first-time buyers.

We will privilege the needs of local people by ensuring that at least half of new builds are dedicated to local people and Local Authority control. We will also seek to create Local Authority contracts that ensure no less than 33% of Local Authority new build properties are allocated as affordable homes, in line with the cost of council accommodation to people on low and medium incomes.

We will create Government-backed mortgages for potential help-to-buy tenants.

Property Taxes and Stamp Duty

We feel that excessive taxation on property sales has only served to slow the housing market.

We would implement a reduction in stamp duty and other taxes for second properties and buy-to-let investments. This will encourage a greater number of properties in the private rental market, giving more choice to those people who are not in a position to buy a home or who would simply prefer to rent.

We would abolish landlord taxation in order to promote and encourage entrepreneurship and independent wealth via the property market.

Private Renters

We will act to bring an end to insecurity for private renters, by introducing securer tenancies and controls on rent increases.

Council and Social Tenants

We will seek to remove Government restrictions that have stopped councils building homes and begin a long-overdue programme of council building.

We will abandon the ban on long-term council tenancies and in doing so give council tenants security in their homes. We want more people to have a secure tenancy in a home built and maintained to high standards.

Derelict Properties

It is our belief that the law change made some years ago regarding the occupation of vacant properties only serves to benefit a small elite of people.

We do not think that residential squatting should constitute a criminal offense and we would look to make legislative changes to address this.

If a property is vacant for a significant period of time and squatters are respectful, we believe it should be possible to reach an agreement between the parties. This would obviously have to be carefully managed to prevent abuses and to protect owners, but we believe it is achievable to find a constructive way forward to benefit all involved.

Green Belt Land

Britain is in the middle of a housing crisis and we recognise that some difficult decisions must be made to address that. We would therefore reclaim Green Belt land and re-purpose some of it to build new homes and ease the critical housing shortage.

We would also put wind turbines on these sites to drive our agenda of sustainable energy production.

Homelessness

Homelessness is an increasing problem in the UK. We believe that not one person should be homeless and that there most certainly should not be anyone rough sleeping on the streets in modern Britain.

We know that homelessness can often lead to poor health and to criminality, problems which ultimately cost society more in the long run. We will establish a focussed program to reduce homelessness, working in tandem with Local Authorities and relevant charities.

It did not go unnoticed that the emergency measures put in place during this year's coronavirus outbreak effectively ended rough sleeping overnight –demonstrating that it doesn't have to be like this. We can

clearly do better for all people without homes.

Grenfell Tower

The Grenfell Tower fire of June 2017 was a shocking tragedy. It should never have happened, but the best we can do now in the aftermath is to learn the lessons and ensure that nothing like that is ever allowed to happen again.

We will work with survivor groups (including Grenfell Survivors Group, Justice4Grenfell, and Grenfell United) in a respectful and understanding way to support them in their fight for justice. We will campaign with them so that the voices of the bereaved, survivors, and the community will be heard throughout the continuing Public Inquiry.

We believe that everyone should have a home and that their home should be safe. We are fully committed to acting on all changes recommended by the Grenfell Tower Inquiry to prevent future devastation as a matter of urgency. We will make all necessary changes to building and fire safety regulations to ensure that people are safe in their homes. We will remove dangerous combustible material from homes, arrange for the installation of a safe replacement, and take steps to ensure that similar materials are never used again in buildings of any kind.

We know from the Inquiry that residents raised concerns about the risks and dangers in their tower for several years before the fire, but they were ignored. Grenfell was an avoidable tragedy. We must make changes to the treatment of people living in social housing so that residents are treated with dignity and respect by the public bodies that are there to represent and support them.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Brexit

Brexit has been one of the most controversial and divisive political issues in the UK in recent memory and we think it is now vital to find a way to move forward and start to bring the country back together.

Our position on Brexit is to respect the result of the referendum that was taken more than three years ago. Regardless of our personal preferences, the outcome of that referendum was that the UK should leave the European Union – as we did in January this year.

Honouring the political promise that a vote to leave would mean leave was, in our view, essential. It respects the votes of those who participated in the referendum and adheres to the principles of democracy that we all hold to the utmost importance.

We would not rule out a later referendum to consider re-joining the EU, if there is a demand for it. We believe that any future vote on the issue would benefit from being based on facts and knowledge, rather than spin and speculation, given the realities of having experienced life outside of the EU.

Whatever happens in the future, we believe that Britain has an incredible opportunity right now to shape itself as a proud and successful independent nation. We see the incredible resources that we have available to us across British people, communities, businesses and industry. This pool of talent, skill, and expertise that we have to draw from means that the future is truly bright for Britain.

Immigration

The issue of immigration is a contentious one which is often used as a political

‘football’. We feel that the story that is repeatedly told in politics and the media about mass uncontrolled immigration is not only inaccurate but also damaging to the UK as it builds resentment and pits people against one another.

The Windrush scandal was appalling and highlighted that we need to effectively start from scratch in several areas of how we manage migration to Britain.

We are in favour of a points-based system of entry into the UK, which would be time-limited and dependant on the ability of the entrant to secure work or education in their chosen field.

We want to see strict controls in place to ensure that welfare support is first and foremost reserved for citizens. In these times where the people of the UK are struggling with debt and homelessness and foodbank use is at an all-time high, we do not believe that there are sufficient resources to justify prioritising the needs of newcomers over and above those who already live and work here. We will therefore take a firm stance on limiting migrant access to public funds and would seek to deport anyone who enters the UK purely to gain access to these resources.

There would be no right to reside for anyone who does not have a clear plan at six months after their arrival in the country.

Foreign Aid

Britain has an excellent record of supporting other nations through providing Foreign Aid and we are proud of this contribution to the global community.

We believe that we should continue to play a vital role in this area, but we would call a temporary halt to foreign aid in order to examine two very specific things:

1. a careful look at the levels of aid that are being provided; and
2. an impact assessment of the difference that British aid has made.

Given the realities of daily life for so many British people who are struggling without basics having lived through years of austerity, we want to be sure that any foreign aid is entirely justifiable.

TRANSPORT

With fairness at the heart of our agenda, the Taking the Initiative Party would bring an end to discriminatory parking fees and charging that unfairly penalize drivers.

We are fully committed to cutting emissions and promoting environmental sustainability.

We support the use of electric vehicles.

We would introduce free bus travel for school-aged children.

Congestion and ULEZ Charge

We believe that the London Congestion Charge is necessary and effective in the fight for cleaner air. However, we are concerned that the charge has not always been administered fairly and that it has impacted the poorest road users the most. We would lower the charge.

We do recognise the importance of some charges in the efforts to reduce pollution. However we think that the introduction of new charges and regular increases to existing charges are excessive and have become just another form of taxation against individuals. We would cap the charges and would not seek to introduce any more.

Cycling

Considering the rising numbers of tragedies caused by accidents on our

roads, we think changes are necessary to ensure safe cycling and to improve road safety for all in general.

We would look at whether an increase in the budget for cycling infrastructure could be helpful to create a safer environment for cyclists, and we would carefully assess how the current allocation is being used.

We want to identify how larger vehicles and cyclists can co-exist on the road, particularly during busy times.

We intend to assess all major junctions and roundabouts to improve safety, including considering giving cyclists priority at junctions.

We would do all this in conjunction with a public consultation to include the views of as many people as possible so that any decisions or proposals are both necessary and proportionate. We will listen to cycling groups to understand the risks they face when traveling.

Travel for children

There has been a very recent change in the law that has disallowed free travel for children traveling to school. We feel that this will impact mainly on low income/working-class families, thus increasing their potential expenditure by approximately £30.00 per child per month.

We understand the government needs to save money in certain areas but we also appreciate and feel strongly, that it should not be the lower-income families that should bear the brunt. As stated earlier, as opposed to taking away from the lower-income bracket families. We should be appropriately taxing the large corporations making billions from these

communities, such as Tesco's, Sainsbury's, Asda and Amazon.

WOMEN AND EQUALITY

We are a progressive party with equality firmly at the top of our agenda.

Women

We intend to work in partnership with women's equality groups to ensure that issues that are important to women are at the very heart of what we do.

One of the first areas that we feel must be addressed is to ensure the women are fully and adequately represented on all bodies of Governance in this Country. Women make up more than half of the UK population, and it is therefore our view that all representative and governing bodies, including Parliament, should include 50% of women members.

We also want to see increased and better use of funding towards helping victims of domestic violence.

Poverty

It is time that we took decisive steps to reverse the ever-widening gap between rich and poor. We are completely dedicated to closing the wealth gap, which would ultimately create greater prosperity for all.

It has become common for Local Councils to relocate people in social housing, pushing people from their homes to areas that are totally unfamiliar to them. We intend to tackle this by targeting and winning council seats for Taking the Initiative Party representatives, so that we can use our voice to vote against any policies that support this practice.

We also believe that the cost of bringing a claim before an Employment Tribunal

should be significantly reduced or abolished altogether.

Discrimination

There is still much work to do in fighting racism and all forms of discrimination. We are inspired by the recent energy in this area and feel this is the perfect time to drive forward for change. We passionately believe in equality for all people, regardless of gender, BAME, LGBTQIA+, disability, or any other difference.

Since we are a Party dedicated to promoting equality, many of our members and associates naturally come from a background of campaigning tirelessly and selflessly on these issues. They are perfectly placed to support us in developing practical strategies to combat continuing issues of inequality.

We support the work of the Equality and Human Rights Commission and would seek to give them more legislative powers to pursue and prosecute individuals and organisations that are in violation of the relevant laws.

We believe that by fielding ordinary people of all kinds in elections, we can achieve more diverse political representation that truly represents communities. This is a vital step towards fairer decision making in seats of power.

Disability

We will strenuously defend and support everyone in need, which includes protecting the rights of people with disabilities. We recognise that many challenges faced by people with disabilities are not due to their disability, but instead because of discriminatory behaviours and systems which restrict them. We will take decisive action to curb such discrimination.

We are also aware that the Bedroom Tax has disproportionately affected those with disabilities more than any other group.

We do not support this policy and would end the Bedroom Tax immediately.

Disadvantage

We can do more as a society to support disadvantaged people by redressing the imbalances that exist.

We will work hard to lobby for changes in legislation intended to stamp out the disadvantage. We are not so naive as to believe that disadvantage can be completely eradicated in practice, but we do believe that it can be significantly reduced.

We will strengthen legislation to ensure that people who commit hate crimes are dealt with more severely than is currently the case.

We will scrap the TV Licence altogether with immediate effect.

Food Banks and Waste

It is a scandal that people in the UK are still going hungry.

We know that one way to help tackle this crisis is to stop food waste. We will therefore provide meaningful support to all charities and businesses that work to reduce food waste and redistribute food to those in need.

This may become an even more pressing issue given the risk of supply chain disruption when the Brexit transition period ends.

WHAT NEXT?

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter”

Martin Luther King

The Taking the Initiative Party will launch formally at our very first Conference-style event which will be held in 2020.

We are building our online presence; we have a constitution, (available on our website) and we are recognised by and registered with the Electoral Commission.

We will also be holding a range of events over the next twelve months, with the aim of bringing people together to hear about the Party and be part of the journey with us. Please see our website for the latest information on upcoming events.

We are working towards fielding candidates in the next London Assembly elections, as well as in Local Council elections and Police and Crime Commissioner Elections nationally.

There’s never been a more exciting time to join us. There are many practical ways you can get involved with our mission, such as:

1. Becoming a member;
2. Making a donation;
3. Putting up a poster (especially at election time);
4. Delivering flyers in your area;
5. Helping us to canvass, either on the phone or in-person;
6. Providing practical support with administration or IT; or
7. Becoming one of our candidates.

Membership

As a Party founded in principles of equality, we are very clear that no one will be treated differently in our organisation and that all members will have access to the same benefits.

Membership with us includes a number of practical benefits that few other political parties offer. Our founding ideas are of community support and empowerment, so we make services available to our members that reflect those aims.

Members of the Taking the Initiative Party have access to:

- Entrepreneurial guidance and support
- Property and mortgage advice
- Free legal consultations
- Subsidised legal advice
- Counselling, guidance, and support
- Vouchers and special offers
- Access to events

- Discounted and free admission to seminars

Membership currently costs £60 as standard or £28 discounted (for youth, students and OAPs), renewed annually.

We also have an opportunity for a group of Founding 500 legacy members to subscribe with an initial joining fee of £100. This money is put towards our Fighting Fund which will be used to field Taking the Initiative candidates for elections.

We always welcome any additional donations from members or non-members alike.

Find out more at www.theinitiativeparty.org.uk.

Take the initiative and join us today!

Candidates

We intend to field candidates in the London Assembly elections in 2021 as our first official entry into electoral politics. As the Party grows we will look to expand on that with continued participation in both planned elections and unexpected by-elections.

We already have an amazing pool of talent amongst our founders and existing members, and we know there are lots more people out there with the same qualities: capable, experienced, passionate, and committed. We want to offer local representation so that our candidates really know what matters to their communities, so we are looking for outstanding individuals who have either lived or worked in the area they want to represent for at least two years.

If you would like to represent your community with the Taking the Initiative Party and think that you have what it takes to win local support, then we want to hear from you. Find out more and apply at our website.

A Final Word

This Manifesto reflects the issues and policy areas that we think are most important to British people right now... but this is just the beginning. We are committed to a lasting political conversation which will be purposeful and flexible.

We are focused on taking much-needed action to change British politics so – instead of publishing endless pages of policy that will only be read by journalists – we’re addressing the priorities now and will respond to emerging issues and challenges as they arise.

The path to change has to start somewhere and the Taking the Initiative journey starts in London, where many of our founders are based. Despite this, we are not a regional party and we are committed to working to improve lives across the UK. We want to see the same benefits and opportunities all over the country, whether you are in Bolton or Brixton, Harrogate or Hackney, Newcastle or New Cross.

This Manifesto is our plan for a better Britain.

Be part of our journey. Join us, feedback on what’s important to you; get involved in your politics, your country and your community. **Let's take the initiative together.**

FEEDBACK

We would like to thank you for taking the time to read our plans for Britain.

Taking the Initiative is all about representing the community, so we would really value knowing what's important to you.

Is there anything you would have liked to see in this Manifesto that we have missed out? Did you want to hear more about our plans for a particular area? You can tell us using this form, or online at www.theinitiativeparty.org.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Name:
Address:
Email:
Tel. number:
Feedback:

Send this form by post to: Taking the Initiative Party, Leonard Place Business Centre, 1
Westerham Road, Keston, BR2 6HQ

You can find details on our website of our Privacy Policy and how we look after your data.

REFERENCES

This Manifesto was put together with the help of community consultations as well as conversations with a number of interest groups and parties.

We reviewed a huge volume of publicly-available information, including the following websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-23279868>

<https://yougov.co.uk/topics/overview/all>

<https://www.ipsos.com/ipsos-mori/en-uk/news-and-polls/overview>

<https://www.grenfellunited.org.uk/> <https://justice4grenfell.org/join/>

<https://brixtonenergy.co.uk/projects/our-first-project/>

We were also inspired by the book *50 Campaigns to Shout About*, by journalist Ellie Levenson (2011, Simon & Schuster UK).

Note: This document covers Taking the Initiative's policies which are applicable across the whole of the UK. Policies relevant specifically to Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales will be developed and introduced by Taking the Initiative regional groups located in those areas.



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