

Dear Colleagues,

2024#2 Priorities: 2024 and Beyond

Thank you to everybody who let us know their Policy Story as part of our last consultation. Having taken a moment to look back, we now want to look ahead. As the Parliamentary session draws to a close and as the Party begins to formulate its next General Election manifesto, we have an important opportunity to make a positive and constructive contribution to the choice the voters have in the coming months.

Make sure that your Conservative Association or Federation has a date in the diary to be a part of this vital consultation—and, as usual, be sure to invite as many members and supporters as possible. Don't forget: 50% of voters are female, so we need to listen to female voices as well. If you don't usually have an equal representation of men and women at your meetings, then **we would challenge you to reach out to and invite female members and supporters in your constituency.**

Please submit your responses to the questions in this briefing paper to CPF.Papers@conservatives.com, using the associated response form published alongside the paper or the online response form provided, both to be found on the CPF website. The deadline for sending your response is 7th July.

We look forward to hearing your ideas,

The CPF Management Team

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Setting the scene

“My Ministers’ focus is on increasing economic growth and safeguarding the health and security of the British people for generations to come. My Government will continue to take action to bring down inflation, to ease the cost of living for families and help businesses fund new jobs and investment.”

(Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, 7 November 2023)¹

Since September 2022, CPF Groups have provided Ideas for the Next Manifesto and have helped to Make The Case for Conservatism—applying the Conservative values of capitalism, freedom and responsibility to the most immediate challenges facing the country: that is, the cost of living, energy security, healthcare and our global engagement (a huge topic that stretches from trade to defence). CPF Groups have also helped the Party’s policymakers and leadership to understand a frontline perspective on some of the longer-term challenges: deregulation, artificial intelligence, transportation and the welfare state. Most recently, we reviewed some of the Government’s achievements together.

Building on this ground, for this discussion we especially want to hear your thoughts for the near future. Groups might want to consider what issues the wider public consider to be the most important issues facing the country at this time and which government departments spend most of taxpayers’ money (see Charts 1 to 4) when deciding which areas need to be prioritised.

Questions for discussion

1. What do you think the Government’s priorities should be for the rest of 2024?
2. What do you think the Government’s priorities should be beyond the General Election?
3. Is there any other observation you would like to make?

Sources

¹ The King’s Speech 2023, Prime Minister’s Office, 7 November 2023, <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-kings-speech-2023>