

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON POLICY

Notes on important policy points arising at a meeting held at 32 Smith Square on Thursday, 28th April, under the Chairmanship of the Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph, M.P.

1. Rates. Conservatives up and down the country still look for reform, but do not have a clear idea of the answer.
2. Tax and Social Security. There is a lot of steam behind pressure for a reform of the taxation of husband and wife.
3. Tax Credits. No strong feelings: we must certainly avoid an expensive solution. (Mrs Secombe)
4. Pensions. The Committee was on balance in favour of a manifesto commitment to indexation of the Retirement Pension.
5. Early Leavers Pensions. It was hoped that a start could be made in rectifying injustice.
6. Social Security. Moves should be made towards private arrangements wherever possible.
7. Welfare State. The Party must give more publicity to what it has already done.
8. Education. Enthusiastic welcome was extended to action on the technical education front.
9. Education Vouchers. The committee gave no very clear steer.
10. Small Business. The Party has a good story to tell. Not a lot more can be done except through general economic management.
11. Transport. Strong support for providing London with a new transport authority. Sir Russell Sanderson believed we must kill Serpell before the campaign begins.

Items that must be mentioned in the Manifesto.

Defence. Lord Renton strongly favoured a revival of Territorials and the Home Guard.

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Law & Order. We must have concrete proposals.

Trade Unions. Some members felt strongly that legislation was needed to outlaw industrial action in public services.

Unemployment. We must talk about "jobs" rather than "unemployment". Something must be said about youth employment.

Environment. We must paint with a broad brush and say how much the Government has already done.

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