



“Conference, conference...

If you’d told me a year ago that I’d be Shadow Chancellor, presenting an alternative budget in which we proposed to cut income tax to 15%, scrap capital gains tax and slash business rates and corporation tax, I’d have thought you were joking. If you’d told me a week ago that I’d actually be standing before conference as Shadow Home Secretary, I’d have thought you knew something I didn’t. Where is Dylan - where are you, Dyl?”

Douglas scans the crowd

“There he is, there he is. Thanks again for the advanced notice, Dyl!”

laughter

“It’s characteristic of Dylan’s management style that you’re kept on your toes. Which is a dramatic improvement, I have to say, over Ari Suchet’s management style, where **she’s** kept on her toes.”

more laughter

“So you’ll forgive me if the speech is a little meandering. You know, people ask me what my biggest achievement in the Shadow Cabinet has been. Well, it’s not my proposals to abolish prescription charges. It’s not my plan to scrap national insurance contributions. It’s not my offer of a huge investment in our armed forces. It’s actually persuading Dylan and the rest of the Shadow Cabinet that we should make our leaflets green again. Why? Because it’s the Conservatives that are committing to carbon neutrality by 2050. It’s the Conservatives that are committing to electric charging ports at every petrol station by 2020. It’s the Conservatives that want to make Britain the undisputed global leader in green technology. It’s also the Conservatives who want to protect our green open spaces and agricultural fields, where the

government proposes to carve through them with the tremendous white elephant that is High Speed 2.”

smattering of applause from nimbies

“As the backdrop says, it is the Conservatives that are ready to lead. Ready with sound economic policies and a plan for the future; ready with tough new measures on drugs and serious crime. Ready with a comprehensive plan to reform the tax system, and ready to inject much-needed discipline and rigour into our public services. In 2019, or quite possibly sooner, I have every confidence that it is the Conservatives who will win Britain’s trust.

I’ve never seen a more eclectic mix of fools running a country. The Prime Minister frightened of command. The Chancellor who spends more time on Twitter than on answering Parliamentary questions. The Deputy Prime Minister who voted for cuts and then voted to overturn them. The Foreign Secretary with no plan for Europe, and the Home Secretary who’s been declared missing in action. So many broken promises, and so much unfulfilled promise: the British people are right to feel disappointed.

The Conservatives offer a real alternative: a credible plan for Britain’s future. So let me spell out what I would do as the United Kingdom’s Home Secretary.

Conservatives believe in controlled immigration, not mass immigration. Immigration brings real benefits to Britain – to our economy, our culture and our national life. We will always be a party that is open, outward- looking and welcoming to people from all around the world. We also know that immigration must be controlled, When immigration is out of control, it puts unacceptably damaging pressure on schools, hospitals and transport; and it can cause social pressures if communities find it hard to integrate.

Between 1997 and 2009, under the last Labour Government, we had the largest influx of people Britain had ever seen. Their open borders policy, combined with their failure to reform welfare, meant that for years over 90 percent of employment growth in this country was accounted for by foreign nationals – even though there were 1.4 million people who spent most of the 2000s living on out-of-work benefits. Between 2010 and 2014, we worked hard to correct the situation we had inherited - but now the Coalition has opened the taps up again, and we must act to regain control of the situation.

Changes to welfare to cut EU migration will be an absolute requirement. We will ban housing benefit for EU jobseekers, and restrict other benefits, including Jobseeker's Allowance. We will insist that EU migrants who want to claim tax credits and child benefit must live here and contribute to our country for a minimum of four years. This will reduce the financial incentive for lower-paid, lower-skilled workers to come to Britain. We will introduce a new residency requirement for social housing, so that EU migrants cannot even be considered for a council house unless they have been living in an area for at least four years. If an EU migrant’s child is

living abroad, then they should receive no child benefit or child tax credit for that child, no matter how long they have worked in the UK and no matter how much tax they have paid. To reduce the number of EU migrants coming to Britain, we will end the ability of EU jobseekers to claim any job-seeking benefits at all. And if jobseekers have not found a job within six months, they will be required to leave in accordance with European Union law. We will negotiate with the EU to introduce stronger powers to deport criminals with greater emphasis on stopping them from being able to come back, and we will work with our international partners to implement tougher and longer re-entry bans for all those who abuse free movement to commit international crime. We want to toughen requirements for non-EU spouses to join EU citizens, including with an income threshold and English language test. And when new countries are admitted to the EU in future, we will insist that free movement cannot apply to those new members until their economies have converged much more closely with existing Member States

Being able to speak English is a fundamental part of integrating into our society. We will introduce generous new language courses with accompanying new language tests for migrants to enable councils to reduce burdensome spending on translation services. Next, we will legislate to ensure that every public sector worker operating in a public-facing role must speak fluent English to enable them to better assist members of the public in their day to day jobs. And to encourage better integration into our society, we will also require those coming to Britain on a family visa with only basic English to become more fluent over time, with expanded access to language courses leading to new language tests for those seeking a visa extension.

On crime, we will carry on making every community safer, even when resources are tight. We will continue reducing paperwork, increasing sentencing powers for the most serious offences, and making sure that prisons are places of both punishment and rehabilitation. We need to complete our revolution in the way we manage offenders in the community, using the latest technology to keep criminals on the straight and narrow. And we must also become smarter when it comes to crime prevention, dealing with the drivers of crime such as drugs and alcohol. So we will focus not only on punishment, but also on rehabilitating offenders and intervening early to prevent troubled young people being drawn into crime.

We will ensure proper provision of health and community-based places of safety for people suffering mental health crises – saving police time and stopping vulnerable people being detained in police custody. To speed up justice, we will extend the use of police-led prosecutions. We will allow police forces to retain a greater percentage of the value of assets they seize from criminals. We will improve our response to cyber-crime with reforms to police training and an expansion in the number of volunteer ‘Cyber Specials.’ We will enable fire and police services to work more closely together and develop the role of our elected and accountable Police and Crime Commissioners, overturning Labour’s proposals for their abolition. We will create a blanket ban on all new psychoactive substances, protecting young people from exposure to so-called ‘legal highs.’ And we will make sobriety orders available to all courts in England and Wales, enforced through new alcohol monitoring tags. We will tighten sentences on drug dealers and traffickers, with tough new penalties for consumption of Class A

drugs. We will continue to fight the war on drugs and win it - and will reverse Labour's decision to transfer control of drugs policy away from the Home Office.

We will strengthen victims' rights, with a new Victims' Law that will enshrine key rights for victims, including the right to make a personal statement and have it read in court before sentencing – and before the Parole Board decides on a prisoner's release. We will give all vulnerable victims and witnesses greater opportunity to give evidence outside court, and roll out nationally pre-trial cross examination for child victims.

We will continue to reform the way we rehabilitate prisoners. We will deploy new technology to monitor offenders in the community and to bring persistent offenders to justice more quickly. A new semi-custodial sentence will be introduced for prolific criminals, allowing for a short, sharp spell in custody to change behaviour.

To tackle those cases where judges get it wrong, we will extend the scope of the Unduly Lenient Scheme, so a wider range of sentences can be challenged. We will review the legislation governing hate crimes, including the case for extending the scope of the law to cover crimes committed against people on the basis of disability and sexual orientation

The next Conservative Government will continue to take a tough, intelligent and comprehensive approach to preventing terrorism and confronting extremism. We will update our counter-terrorism laws wherever necessary to make sure they properly reflect the threats we face. We will complete the establishment of a Centre for National Security, bringing our security and intelligence apparatus together under one roof. But we reject Labour's plan to give intelligence officers powers of arrest, and will retain the institutional independence of the intelligence community by avoiding direct ministerial leadership. We will keep up to date the ability of the police and security services to access communications data – the 'who, where, when and how' of a communication, but not its content. Our new communications data legislation will strengthen our ability to disrupt terrorist plots, criminal networks and organised child grooming gangs, even as technology develops. We will maintain the ability of the authorities to intercept the content of suspects' communications, while continuing to strengthen oversight of the use of these powers. To restrict the harmful activities of extremist individuals, we will create new Extremism Disruption Orders. These new powers might, for instance, prevent those who are seeking to radicalise young British people online from using the internet or communicating via social media. Finally we will develop a strategy to tackle the infiltration of extremists into our schools and public services. Just this year, the Government's own report spelled out the growing threat presented by radical extremists denying pupils of a real education in favor of teaching their agenda of hate. In typical fashion the Government has done nothing, a failure a Conservative-led Government will not repeat. We will strengthen Ofcom's role so that tough measures can be taken against channels that broadcast extremist content. We will enable employers to check whether an individual is an extremist and bar them from working with children. And we will take further measures to ensure colleges and universities do not give a platform to extremist speakers.

So for safety, security and sober, responsible government, there is only one valid vote. That vote is for the Conservatives, and for Dylan Macmillan as Prime Minister.

Thank you!"