

MEMBERS OF THE STRATEGY GROUP

1 July 1986

ISSUES FOR THE STRATEGY GROUP

It is important at the next meeting that we reach decisions on:

- the subjects and number of groups we wish to establish;
- their Chairmen and Ministerial members;
- the back-benchers and outsiders we would like to involve;
- the framework within which the Groups should undertake their work, and a timetable of work up to the Recess.

CHOICE OF SUBJECTS, CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS OF GROUPS

Choosing subjects which coincide with departmental boundaries runs the risk of giving too much prominence to the departmental view. On the other hand, the choice of themes as subjects for Groups (eg freedom of choice, enterprise) runs the risk of being too vague. The Groups need to develop specific policies, but they must also be free to transcend existing departmental boundaries. A useful approach therefore might be for each Group to cover a major area or cluster of subjects involving at least two Ministers.

The choice of subjects for Groups has been made partly with a view to our high ground and partly to strengthening our flank from being attacked from Labour's high ground (caring and supporting British industry). Many issues are deliberately handled by more than one of the proposed Groups, but this reflects different aspects, eg pensioners

as recipients of state pensions and pensioners as voters aged 60 or more.

If the Groups are to make a major contribution to the Manifesto, it would be helpful if the Chairmen - who need to be senior figures from within government - were members of the Strategy Group. It is important that Chairmen do not delegate responsibility to deputies, but make every effort to chair each Group meeting.

A list of subjects and Chairmen for Groups might therefore be as follows:

Education, Training and Industry

Schools, polytechnics, universities, science, YTS and post-experience training

Chairman: Sir Geoffrey Howe

Members: Kenneth Baker
Lord Young
Paul Channon/Peter Morrison/Geoffrey Pattie

Backbenchers: J Pawsey
Alan Howarth
Baroness Cox
Gerald Bowden
Douglas Hogg

Outsiders: John McIntosh
Stuart Sexton
Prof. Sir Bryan Thwaites
Malcolm Pearson
Oliver Letwin

The Environment

Countryside, pollution, development, Green Belt, nuclear issues, planning, derelict land

Chairman: Lord Whitelaw
Members: Nicholas Ridley/William Waldegrave
Peter Walker
Michael Jopling

Backbenchers: Robert Jackson
Michael Portillo
Tim Sainsbury

Outsiders: Christopher Jonas (Chartered Surveyor)

Ownership and Opportunity

Privatisation, share-ownership, pensions, housing (private)

Chairman: Douglas Hurd
Members: Nigel Lawson/Norman Lamont
John Patten
Norman Fowler/Tony Newton

Backbenchers:

Outsiders: John Redwood
Tony Doggart (Save and Prosper)
Sir Ralph Halpern
Sir Peter Thompson (Chairman, National Freight)

Care, Need and Responsibility

Health, housing (public), homelessness, welfare, pensioners,
inner cities, unemployed

Chairman: Nigel Lawson
Members: Norman Fowler/Tony Newton
Kenneth Clarke
John Patten
Nicholas Edwards
David Mellor

Backbenchers: Virginia Bottomley
Jill Knight
Peter Lilley

Outsiders: Professor Ian McColl (Surgeon at Guys)
Dr Clive Froggatt (GP, Tory Councillor)
Bob Bessell (Expert on Elderly, Tory Candidate)
Jeremy Shearmur (CPS)

Working Britain

Industry, trade, competition, enterprise, deregulation,
competition, trade, employment and mobility, R&D,
nationalised industries, infrastructure

Chairman: Norman Tebbit
Members: Lord Young/Kenneth Clarke
Nigel Lawson/Norman Lamont
Paul Channon/Geoffrey Pattie/Peter Morrison
Malcolm Rifkind

Backbenchers:

Outsiders: Bob Young
Professor John Goddard (Newcastle University)
Lord Hanson

Family and Society

Law and order, broadcasting, youth, sport, pensioners, tax,
drugs, charities

Chairman : Prime Minister
Members: Douglas Hurd
Patrick Mayhew
Backbenchers: John Wheeler
Outsiders: Emma Nicholson

FRAMEWORK FOR STUDY GROUPS

At the last meeting, the Chairman of the Party suggested, very usefully, a set of criteria against which each Group might develop its thinking:

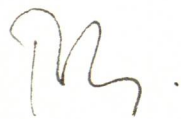
- extending property ownership
- increasing freedom of choice
- improving security
- adaptability
- developing responsibility
- instituting visible authority
- providing opportunity for adventure
- patriotism

TIMETABLE

Each Group should aim to report by the end of December, at the very latest. It might be useful for the remaining three Mondays before the Recess to tackle three of the major subjects, such as:

14 July	Working Britain
21 July	Education, Training and Industry
28 July	Care, Need and Responsibility

I would therefore like to invite the relevant Ministers to submit papers to these meetings.



BRIAN GRIFFITHS