

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY

CPF: Conservative Policy Forum

Sunday 5.30pm, Hall 5

**Annual lecture given by Rt Hon Lord Young of Graffham,
Enterprise Adviser to the Prime Minister**

Monday 12.30pm, Hall 8a

**CPF in Conversation – come and quiz our panel of
Ministers**

Monday 12.30pm, Hall 11b

**CF Debate: ‘This House believes we need to focus less
on everyone going to university and deliver more
apprenticeships’**

Monday 4.30pm, Hall 1

**CPF takes the stage: Cutting the deficit and tackling
the ‘something for nothing culture’**

Tuesday 12.30pm, Hall 8a

**CPF Debate: ‘This House believes we all need to work
for longer’**

Tuesday 12.30pm, Hall 7a

Best practice workshop (invitation only)

Tuesday 5.30pm, Hall 5

CPF Dragon’s Den – bring a policy idea

*To find out how to take part, visit the CPF
at Stand P3 in the Party Zone in Hall 3.*



Welcome from David Cameron

We are marking the half-way point of this Parliament; so as we gather together in Birmingham, we can take pride in all our own achievements in Government too – putting into practice our Conservative values and changing our country to make it much more on the side of people who work hard and want to get on in life.

I am delighted to welcome you to Birmingham for our Party Conference in this momentous year for our country. We all remember the scenes of celebration as the nation came together to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee; the crowds which lined miles of road to cheer on the Olympic torch as it made its way throughout every part of the country; and, more recently, the success of the Olympic Games. These are all things we can take huge pride in – showing off the very best of Great Britain on the world stage.

We are also marking the half-way point of this Parliament; so as we gather together in Birmingham, we can take pride in all our own achievements in Government too – putting into practice our Conservative values and changing our country to make it much more on the side of people who work hard and want to get on in life.

While it is taking longer than anyone hoped to recover from the biggest debt crisis of our lifetime, our plan is working. In the two and a half years since we came to office, we have cleared a quarter of the deficit left by Labour. Our credible fiscal plan has helped us maintain our top international credit rating and – in contrast to many other European countries – we have interest rates at near record lows, which keeps down the cost of family mortgages and business loans.

We have cut taxes for working families, and capped welfare so that it always pays to work, not to sit at home. We are curbing immigration, shutting down bogus colleges and introducing strict new English language tests. We are putting discipline back in schools and teachers back in control, giving our children the skills they need to succeed. We are supporting the industries of the future so that we create good well-paid jobs. And we are standing up for Britain in Europe – vetoing an EU Treaty that would have harmed our economy, and stopping the UK from paying for Eurozone bailouts.

But this is not a Conference for us to just look back on our achievements – now is not the time to be complacent. We are half way into a five-year Parliament and our 'to do' list remains a list of battles unconquered and ambitions unfulfilled. We want to see Britain competing on the world stage as a hub of enterprise and innovation. We want to put teachers firmly in control in the classroom. We want to get our immigration numbers down further. And we want to end Labour's something-for-nothing culture once and for all.

So at this Conference, we are doing something new and exciting to increase opportunities for member interaction and involvement. In addition to the usual keynote speeches, the lively fringe, and social action opportunities, members will notice two big changes.

First, rather than hold our Conference in just one main hall, we have two. In Symphony Hall, you will be able to listen to Cabinet Ministers and invited special guests. But in Hall 1, we will be holding more interactive sessions with Q&A and debates on a wide range of issues.

Second, we are giving members an unprecedented opportunity to engage with Ministers, the Party Co-Chairmen, and top Party officials in special 'member only' sessions. You can be part of the Party's conversation about the road to 2015; join Oliver Letwin to debate our manifesto for the next election; and take part in a strategy presentation with my campaign team.

This Conference is your chance to discuss and contribute to our plans to win an outright Conservative majority in 2015; your chance to be heard. These sessions will be intimate, informative and interactive – I want to encourage a frank and honest exchange of views.

Members are the beating heart of our great Party, and Conference is your event. Without your generosity, hard work, belief and support, we would not be in government, delivering for our Party, and delivering for our country. So thank you for everything you continue to do. I look forward to seeing you in Birmingham.





Andrew Feldman & Grant Shapps

Co-Chairmen of
The Conservative Party

Our members are at the very heart of these campaigns, and it's our job as Chairmen to give them the support they need. That's why we're putting them in the driving seat.

Conference is a great opportunity to bring the Conservative family together, reflecting on the past year and sharing a vision for the future.

These are tough times for our country, but as Conservatives in government we're rolling up our sleeves and getting on with the job. We're balancing the books, cutting taxes for working people and making sure that work always pays. Most of all, we are putting government on the side of people who work hard and want to get on in life.

As we reach the halfway point of this Parliament and prepare for the battles ahead, a strong and dynamic Conservative Party will be more important than ever. We know that our Party can achieve incredible things. In May, we put everything into our fight to return a Conservative Mayor to City Hall. In November, we will bring about the most significant democratic reform of policing in our lifetime as we campaign for Conservative Police and Crime Commissioners. And, in 2015, we will take our record in government to the British people as we fight for an outright Conservative majority.

Our members are at the very heart of these campaigns, and it's our job as Chairmen to give them the support they need. That's why we're putting them in the driving seat – particularly this week in Birmingham. Conference is a chance for members to get involved in the decisions that will take our party forward, and this year there will be even more sessions reserved exclusively for them: meetings with Ministers and Cabinet Ministers, talks on campaign strategy and presentations from top Party officials on the Road to 2015.

We're also working to strengthen the support we can offer to members on the ground. We have reinforced the Conservative Policy Forum, affiliated more link groups and re-launched the Conservative Party in Northern Ireland. We've also introduced a modern system to register thousands of new and rejoining members and we are recruiting and training new Campaign Managers to get to work in our target seats across the country.

We'll be discussing all this and more during conference this week. We look forward to catching up with you and hope you enjoy every moment of this week in Birmingham.



Paul Swaddle

President of
The National Convention

Listening to the feedback from Party members, we have attempted to stage a conference that is both exciting to watch on television but also allows engagement and debate by Party members.

Welcome to what I hope will be a refreshed Conference format. Listening to the feedback from Party members, we have attempted to stage a conference that is both exciting to watch on television but also allows engagement and debate by Party members.

We will be using two halls for the Conference sessions, Symphony Hall and Hall 1. Also changed this year is the Party Members Dinner, replaced by a Members Party. The price has been slashed to only £20 a ticket. This is an opportunity to kick off Conference with a fun evening with your fellow volunteers, so please join me at what I hope will be the party of Conference.

I also want to know what you think of the changes we have made to the Party Conference. Do you like them or loath them? Were the Fringes good? Were the debates on the right topics? Let me know so that we can continue to make your Conference better. Please visit: www.j.mp/cpcsurvey2012.

I would like to thank all those who make the Conference happen, particularly Fingerprint Events – Azahar, Farzana and Shama – and Kate Jenkins and the Blueway production team. I know that you will all join me in thanking West Midlands Police and especially Chief Inspector John Mayne, who retires from the Force the day our Conference ends, to whom we all send our best wishes.

Finally, I also want to thank the magnificent teams at The ICC, The Hyatt Regency Hotel, Marketing Birmingham, Birmingham City Council and G4S for all their hard work in preparation for this Conference. I am sure this will be a great Conference – I hope you all enjoy it.