



EUROPE'S LEADING CITY:

LONDON

EUROPE'S LEADING PARTY:

EPP

ELECTION COMMITMENT TO LONDONERS' JOBS

by **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)**

for the Election to the European Parliament

on Thursday 22 May 2014

in the London Region

&

CODE OF CONDUCT

PREFACE

We are about to engage in the most important European Parliament elections ever held.

Led by the mainstream, centre-right EPP (European People's Party), Europe's largest and strongest political family - whose platform we support - the next five years will see major

“People are coming through tough times. Britain's route to a better future is to lead, not leave Europe.”

reforms to strengthen Europe's economy, with a focus on areas such as financial services and the digital economy. These reforms will help to define London's future employment prospects, and the economy as a whole.

We therefore avoid the example of others whose “European Election Manifesto” deflects attention away from the European Parliament to powers of the British Government.

For example, the issues of a British referendum on EU membership, of whether a future British Government may or may not consider opting in or out of EU policies or of keeping the British pound have nothing to do with this election to the European Parliament.

The **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)** is the new, dynamic force in British politics. We are focussed on the future. We offer a strong voice for all Londoners' prosperity and security from within the mainstream centre-ground centre-right EPP family. Your future is our priority.

“Unlike Britain's hard right, we believe in the British people's ability to advance to a better future, not retreat behind a fictional past.”

“By far the best way to secure good jobs for future generations is for the economy to serve the people, and not the other way round.”

If you want a strong London in a reformed Europe, representing Europe's leading city within Europe's leading political family, the EPP, please vote for the **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)**.





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first, restore London's voice in Europe's leading party:

4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP) will be a strong voice for London inside the EPP European People's Party: we are Europe's largest political family, bringing together independent centre-ground and centre-right parties from across the European mainstream.

EPP leaders include Germany's Angela Merkel, Ireland's Enda Kenny, Poland's Donald Tusk and Sweden's Fredrik Reinfeldt: precisely those leaders who should be Britain's closest friends and allies in securing London's future prosperity, restoring and sustaining Londoners' job prospects.

The EPP is a staunch defender of what most Londoners want: a vigorous economy with protection and dignity for the vulnerable.

We see every person as having unique value and worthy of the greatest chance of fulfilment both in their work and in other aspects of human life.

There are two key strands to this core EPP policy: helping firms to offer good and sustainable jobs, and offering protection with dignity to the vulnerable.

For us, "We are all in it together" must be real public policy, not just a glib government sound bite. It is a harshness sapping the soul of society when billionaires are richer than ever, while food banks have become a tragic need for London's vulnerable: ultimately, this helps no-one.

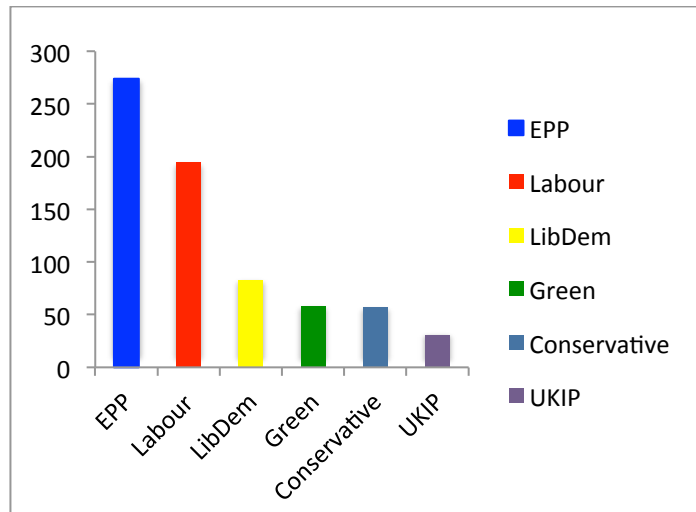
And in the end, it helps no-one if British politicians get away with blaming "Brussels" for domestic problems - for example, housing shortages, educational and training shortfalls, archaic transport, aircraft carriers without planes, substandard cancer care - for which British politicians are responsible.

We want responsible government, where the free market serves the common good and where the talents of small firms can thrive.

By far the best way to secure good jobs for future generations in our City is for the economy to serve the people, and not the other way around.

When she recently addressed Parliament in London, Chancellor Angela Merkel went out of her way to recognise our City's huge potential importance to Europe. If we work as a team within Europe to reform Europe, we all gain. **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)** believes in working together, not driving apart.

In contrast, the Conservatives' decision to leave the EPP in 2009 marginalises Londoners in the European Parliament - where their group is even smaller than the Greens:



Number of seats held by the political groups in the 2009-2014 European Parliament

Source: European Parliament

Here are some achievements of the mainstream centre-ground and centre-right EPP since 2009:

1. helping young people enter the job market by setting aside €2 billion to get young people into work, securing 40 per cent more funding for the Erasmus+ programme to help four million Europeans to study, train, gain work experience and to volunteer abroad; plus the provision of extra funds, loans and venture capital for 300,000 entrepreneurs (COSME)
2. helping smaller firms by directing funding for loans to business start-ups, ensuring the payment of invoices within 30 days, simplifying rules, safeguarding Europe's 4 Freedoms, abolishing tariffs and other trade barriers, and reducing roaming costs
3. protecting your consumer and health rights, and environment, by ensuring products for sale are safe - and that dangerous ones are rapidly withdrawn (RAPEX), requiring food products to have content and origin labels, improving online shoppers' rights, plus enforcing standards for cleaner air, safer healthcare and a stable global climate
4. stabilising the euro, and keeping the eurozone together
5. keeping you safer, by funding tighter external border controls against irregular immigration (FRONTEX), securing more cooperation on asylum, strengthening Europe's global voice - along with bolstering your rights and safety - when travelling.

Building on these significant EPP achievements, we have an ambitious agenda for reform during the next five years. By voting for us, you will make sure that London has a strong voice inside the EPP. With **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)** you will be heard at the heart of Europe.

Even one **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)** MEP for London would be far more valuable than all of UKIP's MEPs put together. The more MEPs we have, the more we can do for Londoners, and for all in Britain, who want to work and to provide work.

and then safeguard Londoners' jobs with five priorities

To support our second fundamental principle, we offer you five key priorities:

1 help Londoners to do business throughout Europe and across the wider world

Opening Europe's single market revived London as Europe's main commercial hub. As the EU currently negotiates a watershed transatlantic trade agreement, London stands to gain even more - but only by leading not leaving the EU.

The CBI Confederation of British Industry, Britain's leading business voice, published a detailed analysis of what business now needs from Europe. In *Our Global Future: the business vision for a reformed EU*, it says:

... Membership of the EU's single market remains fundamental to our economic future...

The EU Single Market is the biggest in the world ...

The EU also supports UK business ... providing significant influence over the rules, policies and priorities that allow British based firms to seize opportunities across the globe ...

The EU must be more outward-looking to facilitate new trade opportunities for business. It must be open and competitive, updating the Single Market for the 21st century and changing its regulatory approach to drive European competitiveness on the global stage.

... Attempting to reverse the process of increasing interdependence and return to a system of bilateral ad hoc arrangements will not create and keep the jobs the UK needs in order to maintain and improve living standards ...

TheCityUK, which represents the financial service sector, also recently said:

European policymakers can help drive jobs and growth by:

Adopting a strategy for jobs and growth over the 2014 - 2019 mandate

Assessing the impact of policies on the jobs and growth agenda

Consulting on draft legislation and attaching greater priority to growth when preparing legislation, including during the pre-legislative impact assessment phase

Completing the Single Market in financial services

Ensuring that investors are not barred from accessing global opportunities

Promoting global co-ordination of regulation

Enabling business to access the finance it needs – both from conventional and a range of alternative sources

4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP) agrees with both these leading British organisations.

As active MEPs inside the mainstream centre-right EPP, Europe's largest political family, we will be by far the best-placed MEPs to deliver on this combined agenda for jobs.

We shall pursue more open markets in Europe and beyond - especially in the culture, education, health, high-tech and service sectors. We will defend Londoners' jobs in the financial services when banking arrangements in eurozone countries are reformed. We support the early completion of trade deals - such as the ones between the EU and Canada and the USA - and ever improved access for London's firms into other rapidly developing markets.

2 increase London's digital strength: digital union not digital divide much faster broadband and free wifi across Europe

We need digital union, not digital divide.

600,000 people are employed in London's technology and digital sector in London. Tech City UK says more than one in four of Londoners' new jobs come from technology. The digital economy contributes more than 8p in every £1 to the British economy - and is likely to grow by fifty per cent in the next four years. An EU digital single market is a huge opportunity for future jobs and smaller businesses across London: there are 270,000 digital economy small and medium sized businesses in the UK.

Mobile commerce is almost doubling every year. Londoners are great at retail but less than ten per cent of internet users buy goods and services online from outside their own country.

By securing a single digital market, we will ensure that you can soon use your mobile phones across Europe without having to pay roaming charges. You should be able to access music, movies and sports events on your electronic devices wherever they are in Europe, regardless of borders.

And we will generate £400 billion additional growth in Europe during the life of the 2014-19 European Parliament, creating hundreds of thousands new jobs with a vibrant knowledge-based society.

In addition, **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)** MEPs will press for both free and open WiFi for everyone across Europe - and for much faster broadband for all Londoners.

3 improved education and training for all Londoners, regardless of postcode

CBI Confederation of British Industry analysis highlights:

Success for the UK in the modern global economy will not rest on competing for the lowest labour costs or subsidies for industry; it will instead be driven by boosting productivity through skills, technology and innovation.

Again, we agree. - London is the leading city in the world's largest economy and the world's single largest concentration of talent.

Londoners, regardless of postcode, must have access to the best education and training.

The **4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP)** will, for example, help Londoners to take full advantage of the forty per cent increase secured by the EPP in the Erasmus+ scheme and of other opportunities for education, training and work experience.

4 **lighter and smarter regulation for smaller businesses**

Most Londoners work for smaller businesses: they are vital to London's future.

The EPP has a very strong tradition of helping small and medium businesses to provide jobs: indeed, SME Europe is part of the EPP.

In Britain, the FSB Federation of Small Businesses is an independent representative voice for smaller businesses. Their *FSB Manifesto European Elections 2014* says:

We want to see a culture of entrepreneurship promoted and protected across Europe, which will help UK small businesses

We want to see smart, proportionate regulation decided at the most appropriate level, and cuts to the burdens on the smallest firms

We want to see decisions taken to promote economic growth, including the EU-US trade negotiations and support for start-ups.

This means investing in infrastructure. We need road, rail, air and waterways to keep trade moving; universal broadband so the digital economy can flourish; and smart grids to provide businesses with an advanced energy infrastructure.

It also means investing in skills and making sure employment and social law is flexible, manageable and created with small firms in mind, while ensuring a level playing field across the EU. Small businesses create 85 per cent of all new jobs in Europe and employ two-thirds of the workforce. Applying The 'Think Small First' principle to labour market policies is therefore essential.

Access to finance is crucial for businesses to start up or branch out.

We agree. For the sake of Londoners' jobs, we will work for what the FSB say smaller businesses need.

5 freedom, justice and environmental safeguards for all: now and in future

London absolutely depends on a healthy planet. Widespread flooding of the Thames this winter was a reminder that each generation must leave our planet at least as bountiful as we find it.

This includes working together in Europe to access affordable, secure, and sustainable sources of energy.

All people must be treated with dignity: from young Londoners needing a helping hand to get started, to vulnerable pensioners.

Dignity also includes safeguarding freedoms and human rights such as the right to privacy and protecting Londoners from terrorism and crime.

And the 4 Freedoms?

4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP) will fight for Londoners to keep core and essential legally protected rights, including the European Convention on Human Rights.

The essence of these rights is well summarised by the 4 freedoms contained in President FD Roosevelt's iconic 1941 address: freedoms of speech and religion, freedoms from want and fear.

We also support the 4 essential defined EU freedoms: movement of people, goods, services and capital. We do not support social security fraud.

These legitimate European freedoms have transformed Europe from the devastation of 1945 to the world's largest economy. They have already made life better for Londoners - they will continue to make Londoners more prosperous, better cared for in the NHS and able to live lives with far more choice.

Freedoms within Europe are Londoners' best future.



4 FREEDOMS PARTY (UK EPP) CODE OF CONDUCT

We will:

- comply with the letter and spirit of all rules of the European Parliament and of our party, the EPP
- be full-time MEPs: for example, as regards participation in key votes (as measured and reported by VoteWatch Europe) we aim to be in the top ten per cent, not the bottom ten per cent like the lead UKIP and Tory Candidates in London
- publish a relevant and accessible monthly e-Bulletin - and we will also supply a weekly e-update and regular relevant feeds on social media
- offer regular public meetings and surgeries across London for Londoners and smaller firms and maintain a local helpline monitored 24/7
- help the media, civil society and others to report on aspects of the European Parliament's work most relevant to Londoners
- treat your money as carefully as you do. For example, we will use expenses only to promote Londoners' interests and we will appoint a permanent and independent auditor to publish all relevant details and any recommendations on best practice
- fight for the conditions needed to assure good jobs and opportunities for Londoners
- maintain a regular programme across London of engagement with schools, universities, charities, NGOs and public services. We will take particular care to ensure students, trainees and apprentices have every opportunity to engage with us.