The TaxPayers’ Alliance will hold any Government to account and represent taxpayers’ interests. We will keep fighting for lower taxes and better value in public services.

Over the last decade, British taxpayers have been saddled with hikes in taxes on everything from driving to work to buying a new home. Business has also been hit, driving investment and jobs overseas. Despite that, the country is facing a fiscal crisis with a huge structural deficit in the public finances. Public spending is simply far too high and there need to be cuts.

Public sector staff are now paid more, get better pensions and work fewer hours than people in the private sector. Bureaucracies in councils and the quangos have grown out of all proportion and are increasingly beyond the control of the public who pay the bills. Public sector pay and perks need to be controlled and public services need to be made more accountable to ordinary people. Many organisations in the public sector should be scrapped.

The TaxPayers’ Alliance will keep working to change things so that taxpayers can get lower taxes and better services, now and in the future, so they can keep more of their money. This manifests to presents a benchmark against which we will judge the Government in the years to come.

www.taxpayersalliance.com
Our promise to the taxpayer

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Britain’s independent grassroots campaign for better services & lower taxes
**TAX & SPENDING**

**WITHIN FIVE YEARS**

- **Scrap the 50p tax rate**
  Independent forecasters such as the Institute for Fiscal Studies don’t think it will raise any revenue.

- **Institute clear fiscal rules with expenditure targets**
  Research by international institutions shows they help Governments balance the books.

- **Abolish a range of quangos**
  There are 1,148 quangos spending £90 billion of taxpayers’ money a year. Some could be scrapped, for example the School Food Trust, the Office for Fair Access, the Carbon Trust and the Government Equalities Office.

**WITHIN 3 MONTHS**

- **Cut government advertising spend in half**
  Ineffective advertising and propaganda should be ditched and money should be saved on essential advertising by shifting to lower cost channels such as the internet.

**FIRST YEAR**

- **Introduce a 2 year public sector pay freeze, increase contributions to unfunded public sector pensions from 6 to 8% of salary and cut pay for the top 10% of earners in the public sector by 5%**
  Public sector staff are better paid, get better pensions and work fewer hours than workers in the private sector.

- **Scrap Regional Development Agencies and cut other business spending**
  We can help businesses more by keeping down taxes rather than sustaining costly business support bureaucracies.

- **Reform climate change policy**
  Abandon the wasteful 2020 renewables targets and the EU Emissions Trading Scheme so that families aren’t hit with big rises in energy bills.

**SECOND YEAR**

- **Cut Corporation Tax to 15% or lower**
  Steady, pre-announced cuts in corporate tax will rapidly pay for themselves and mean big increases in economic growth.

- **Reform taxes and benefits**
  Make the system simpler, improve incentives to work and cut costs. The income tax threshold should be increased so that we don’t take people’s money in tax then give it back in benefits.

- **Abolish Inheritance Tax**
  Inheritance Tax is an unjust tax on the unwise and unlucky. It raises very little revenue, relative to the costs it creates.

**THIRD YEAR**

- **Reform the NHS**
  Giving select committees control over how quangos regulate and spend quango budgets and appointments would be a good first step. Cancelling Prevent grants for overseas, big increases in the budget for overseas, big increases in the budget that is calculated to be sustainable for the NHS and is able to trigger a referendum. And a sufficient number of people would have to choose the NHS in order to get rid of them.

**FOURTH YEAR**

- **Ref orm the EU relationship with the EU**
  Britain should move to towards a looser kind of association with the EU: free trade unions funding for the trade unions, free movement of goods and services with the EU. The Government should also undertake the renegotiation of the treaty. Referendum to decide whether we r etain our membership of the EU. The British parliament would greatly improve the scrutiny of departmental spending. Implement the Kelly review of public sector pay and conditions. Follow the example of the US on spending cuts, now more than ever with the EU.

**FIFTH YEAR**

- **Ref orm lobbying**
  We can help businesses more by keeping down taxes rather than sustaining costly business support bureaucracies.

- **Ref orm Quangos**
  The Office for Fair Access, the Information Commissioner’s Office, the Of fice for Fair Access, the Information Commissioner’s Office. Government finance for the Office for Fair Access, the Information Commissioner’s Office. To provide proper resources for the Office for Fair Access, the Information Commissioner’s Office. Impose sanctions for unauthorised spending cuts, now more than ever with the EU. A sufficient number of people would have to choose the NHS in order to get rid of them.

- **Ref orm the NHS**
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**RECOMMENDED READING**

- *A Year of Waste* by Tomorrows World
- *The Cost of the UK’s International Aid* by Financial Times
- *The Great European Rip-Off* by John Redwood
- *RD A Grants* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *How to Cut Public Spending* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Twelve Months to Renew Britain* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *The Great European Rip-Off* by John Redwood
- *The Gr eat European Rip-Off* by John Redwood
- *The Definitive Guide to the Barnett Formula* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Unequal Shares: Dynamic Model of the UK Economy* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *A New Approach is Urge nly Needed to Reform the Barnett Formula* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Ref orm the NHS* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Ref orm the EU Relationship with the EU* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Ref orm Lobbying* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Ref orm Quangos* by The Taxpayers Alliance
- *Ref orm the EU Relationship with the EU* by The Taxpayers Alliance
**WITHIN 3 MONTHS**

**Reform Quangos**
Giving select committees control over quango budgets and appointments would mean greater accountability for how quangos regulate and spend taxpayers’ money.

**Cancel Prevent grants from local authorities**
They aren’t an effective way of confronting extremism and a lack of control means some of the money may have supported extreme Islamist groups.

**FIRST YEAR**

**Reform prisons**
Give greater independence to public and private prisons, with performance based contracts. The prison service needs stronger incentives to rehabilitate offenders.

**School choice**
Give schools freedom from government control, with accountability to parents.

**Scrap fixed speed cameras**
Follow Swindon’s example. Speed cameras are ineffective and an unfair burden on motorists.

**WITHIN FIVE YEARS**

**Decentralise government finance**
We can get a fairer and more efficient public sector and faster economic growth if local authorities are given the kind of financial autonomy they have enjoyed before.

**Privatise Royal Mail**
This would deliver better value for customers.

**Reform the NHS**
A less centralised, politically managed and monopolistic NHS would deliver better results.

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*With huge amounts of aid money being wasted, spent on advocacy in the UK or supporting hate education overseas, big increases in the budget can’t be justified.*

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More information and reading available [here](http://www.taxpayersalliance.com/manifesto.html).
Within 3 months

1. Implement the Kelly proposals in full
   The Kelly Review produced a practical and sensible set of reforms of the MPs’ expenses system which should be enacted in full, immediately.

2. Start EU reforms
   A strengthened EU FOI law, changes to development aid and improvements in scrutiny in the British parliament would greatly improve things pending a more fundamental change in Britain’s relationship with the EU. The Government should also undertake a full cost-benefit analysis on EU membership.

3. End all taxpayer funding for the trade unions
   The unions are gearing up to fight spending cuts, now more than ever they shouldn’t be receiving public subsidy.

4. Publish full data on spending
   Follow the example of the US government and councils in the UK. Taxpayers have a right to know how their money is being spent.

5. Recall and citizens’ initiatives
   If the public don’t like their MP they should be able to get rid of them. And a sufficient number of people signing an online petition should be able to trigger a referendum.

6. Reform lobbying
   End taxpayer funded lobbying and political campaigning and require greater transparency for lobbying by public affairs companies.

7. Strengthen the Freedom of Information act
   Impose sanctions for unwarranted delays, remove the time limit on prosecution for breaches, and provide proper resources for the Information Commissioner’s Office.

8. Hold a referendum on fundamental renegotiation of our relationship with the EU
   Britain should move towards a looser kind of association with the EU: free trade and friendship rather than political integration.

First year

9. Wasting Lives
   TPA, January 2008

10. Making the NHS the best insurance policy in the world
     Reform, September 2008

11. Privatisation: Reviving the momentum, Asia, April 2008


13. Can tax increases solve the United Kingdom’s public finance crisis?, TPA, July 2009


15. Dynamic Model of the UK Economy, TPA, April 2007

16. Benefit simplification, CPS, August 2009

17. A Closer Union: The Political Abuse of Foreign Aid, IPN, January 2010

18. Reforming EU Development Assistance, TPA, April 2009

19. Ten Years On, TPA, November 2009

20. Reform Quangos
     Have enjoyed before.

21. The kind of /financial autonomy they have enjoyed before.

22. The police have to be accountable to parents.

23. The income tax threshold should be increased so that we don’t take money.

24. Increase contributions, TPA, July 2008

25. Refocuss transport

26. The kind of association with the EU: free trade and friendship rather than political integration.
About the TaxPayers’ Alliance

The TaxPayers’ Alliance was founded in 2004 as a grassroots campaign for better services and lower taxes. Under the leadership of Matthew Elliott, it has grown from operating as a small group of volunteers meeting in various coffee shops around London, to being “arguably the most influential pressure group in the country” according to The Guardian. With 35,000 supporters and fifteen members of staff working from offices in London and Birmingham, it attracts an average of 700 high-quality media hits every month and is a significant force in local government, Westminster and Brussels.