

Conservative Policy Forum

An introduction to its Policy and Process

Purpose

The Conservative Policy Forum enables members and supporters of the Party to contribute directly to the Party's policy-making. Through a process of discussions and debates we can assist our Member of Parliament and Party Officials formulate strategies on current subjects.

At the last general election, four-out-of-seven commitments in the published manifesto could be traced back to ideas proposed by CPF groups; and almost half of the proposals in the CPF Member's Manifesto were reflected in the published manifesto.

Methodology

Topics for discussion

The CCHQ's Conservative Policy Forum department will identify subjects that need to be discussed at Association level. In addition, we can add topics of our own which we consider to be of significant local interest.

Constituency Office will distribute list of topics to our Constituency Membership as and when these are received.

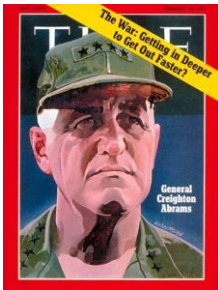
CPF Meetings

At CPF Meetings the DCCA will endeavour to provide a speaker who is knowledgeable on the subject under discussion and who will introduce the topic, respond to queries and lead the discussion on the topic.

The meeting will be Chaired by the DCCA CPF Chairman/Facilitator who will be supported by an assistant who will take notes of input provided by the attendees.

Comments offered by the Membership will be noted as bulleted items by the assistant. The recorded notes should be visible to all at the meeting and for this purpose the assistant will write on a flip chart or by the use of a personal computer and projector.

"You people are telling me what you think I want to know. I want to know what is actually happening" -
General Creighton Abrams, US Commander of Forces in Vietnam 1971



Membership input

Following the discussion period, members will then be expected to provide their thoughts based on their knowledge and the discussions.

Topic papers will be available prior to each meeting and members will find it helpful to review the topic for discussion and be aware of the issues as much as possible before the meeting. Awareness can be improved by involving contacts and collecting relevant information from them including any diverging views.

All views irrespective of whether positive or negative will be recorded.

Membership output

Following the discussion period, Members should submit their views for recording by the Meeting Assistant.

Following the meeting, the Chairman/Facilitator will collate all views and impacts submitted by the Members in a structured and objective manner.

The notes will then be submitted to CCHQ for their use in formulating strategies.

Forthcoming topics and time windows

1. Our relationship with the State - 6th September to 31st October
2. Planning and Housing – 1st November to 16th January 2022
3. Jobs and Pensions - 17th January 2022 to 20th March 2022
4. We can arrange additional session relating to topics of a totally local nature if you wish. Please feel free to let me have your suggestions.

Attendance charges

Members will be asked to contribute payment of £3 per person towards the setting up of the session and fund raising for the DCCA.

*“If you want
people to
understand, you’ve
got to explain”*

Joe J McKay