



Think Tent programme of events, Conservative Party Conference 2018

Sunday 30th October

14:30-15:45

Hosted by the TPA

A future without HS2: The Great British Transport Competition hosted by the TaxPayers' Alliance

Harry Fone (TPA)
Craig Tracey MP

16:15-17:30

Hosted by the IEA

After Brexit: how to create a prosperous and global Britain

Britain is at a crossroads. Will Brexit turn the UK into a prosperous, global and trade-centric nation, focused on reducing tariffs, scrapping burdensome regulation and fostering prosperity both at home and around the world? Or will the UK give in to protectionist inclinations, making us an inward-looking nation? How would alignment or divergence with EU rules impact on the UK's trading opportunities post-Brexit?

Steve Baker MP
Shanker Singham (IEA)
Camilla Tominey (The Telegraph)
Allie Renison (Institute of Directors)
Julian Jessop (IEA)

18:00-19:15

Hosted by the TPA

An ideal US-UK Free Trade Agreement hosted by The Heritage Foundation & Initiative for Free Trade

Ted Bromund (The Heritage Foundation)
Daniel Hannan MEP (Initiative for Free Trade)
Daniel Ikenson (Cato Institute)
Shanker Singham (IEA)

20:00-21:15

Hosted by the TPA and IEA

IEA drinks reception

Monday 1st October

8:00-9:00

Hosted by the IEA

Private breakfast – Northern Ireland and Brexit: what are the solutions?

Mark Littlewood (IEA)

Arlene Foster MLA

The Rt Hon Nigel Dodds MP

9:15-10:30

Hosted by the TPA

What does business want after Brexit?

John O'Connell (TPA)

Helen Dickinson (British Retail Consortium)

Lance Forman (H. Forman & Son Smoked Salmon)

Adam Marshall (British Chambers of Commerce)

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP, Chloe Westley (TPA)

11:00-12:15

Hosted by the TPA

Energy security: is shale gas better for Britain?

John O'Connell (TPA)

Mick Bradshaw (Warwick University)

Ken Cronin (UKOOG)

Natascha Engel (PYC)

Stuart Fegan (GMB Union)

Rt Hon Claire Perry MP

12:45-14:00

Hosted by the IEA

Housing policies to promote intergenerational fairness

For too long, politicians of all stripes have largely failed to address the fundamental problem of supply in the housing market. Stifling planning regulations will make it impossible for enough developers to build, no matter how much land councils are able to offer. How can the Government liberalise planning laws and realign incentives in favour of building? With average house prices having grown seven times faster than incomes of young adults over last two decades, what more can be done to improve access to housing for young people?

Kate Andrews (IEA)
Siobhain McDonagh MP
Sam Collins (Age Endeavour)
John Myers (YIMBY)
Eddie Hughes MP

14:30-15:45

Hosted by the TPA

Automating the public sector

Andrew Allum (TPA)
George Freeman MP
Ben Ramanauskas (TPA)
Alok Sharma MP
Cllr Edward Smith

16:15-17:30

Hosted by the TPA and IEA

In conversation with...the Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP, Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

With Mark Littlewood introducing and Iain Dale (LBC) interviewing

18:00-19:15

Hosted by FREER

FREER: Next-generation capitalism: attitudes to freedom and progress

Ben Bradley MP
Luke Graham MP
Rachel Maclean MP

Lee Rowley MP
Rebecca Lowe (FREER)

Tuesday 2nd October

9:15-10:30

Hosted by the IEA

Global trade: producers versus consumers. Where does the balance lie?

We have heard much from powerful business groups and institutions keen to protect their relationships with the EU and its protected markets. Yet Global Free Trade stands to benefit consumers through increases in choice, quality and price. Small and emerging economies outside the EU also hope for a 'Brexit bonus' should tariffs for their goods be dropped. Who stands to win and lose from a UK free to trade with the rest of the world?

Steve Baker MP
Gerald Mason (Tate and Lyle)
Liam Halligan (Telegraph)
Victoria Hewson (IEA)
Mark Littlewood (IEA)

11:00-12:15

Hosted by the IEA

The flexible economy: is the Conservative Party still standing up for the self-employed

The world of work is transforming at break neck speed and we are in danger of regulating yesterday's problems, not today's opportunities. What are the crunch issues facing the circa 5 million self-employed, contractors and freelancers who contribute over £270billion annually to the UK economy?

Kate Andrews (IEA)
Alok Sharma MP
Simon McVicker (IPSE)
Michelle Dewberry
Lee Rowley MP

12:45-14:00

Hosted by the TPA

Should we keep the European Arrest Warrant as we leave the EU?

Alex Dean (FTI Consulting)
David Campbell bannerman MEP

Martin Howe QC (Lawyers for Britain)
Joe Owen (Institute of Government)

14:30-15:45

Hosted by FREER

In conversation with...the Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss, Chief Secretary to the Treasury

With Rebecca Lowe, Director of FREER, interviewing

16:15-17:30

Hosted by the IEA

High time to legalise cannabis

The criminalisation of cannabis in the UK has failed. The black market is awash with high-strength, hazardous products. Seizures, prosecutions and health problems place a significant burden on the justice and health systems, whilst teenagers find it easier to buy cannabis than alcohol. On the flip side, a recent IEA report suggests that if cannabis were legalised, tax revenues alone could exceed £1 billion per year. Is it time for a rethink?

Crispin Blunt MP
Luke Graham MP
Tim Stanley (The Telegraph)
Chris Snowdon (IEA)
Nerissa Chesterfield (IEA)

18:00-19:15

Hosted by the TPA

How do we get value from the aid budget?

Andy Silvester (The Sun)
Ian Birrell
Theo Clarke (Coalition for Global Prosperity)
Pauline Latham MP
The Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
James Price (TPA)

19:30-21:00 (In the Hyatt Fortissimo Suite)

Hosted by the IEA

IEA drinks reception with The Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP

