

# Frank Field

My pledges to you,  
the voters in Birkenhead

The next parliament will be like no other in living memory. The public finances will dominate the public debate, whoever wins.

Elected Governments in our lifetime have spent more and more of our money. This recession has destroyed one tenth of our collective wealth and the reason why living standards have not been reduced accordingly is simply because we continue to amass record debts which will have to be repaid by future generations.

To prevent this spiralling debt becoming unsustainable, the next parliament has to be about reducing government expenditure to bring it into balance with what is raised in taxes.



## Campaigning for our country and for Birkenhead

### Public Spending

For the safety of our currency, and thereby our long term living standards, we must cut back on what government spends. I pledge that I will fight to make these cuts fair and simultaneously push for better spending of smaller budgets.

### Reducing Immigration

Now, with less money to spend, is not the time to grow our population any further by immigration. I pledge to continue to argue for immigration controls that prevent the population of our island growing above an unsustainable 65 million. At the same time, I pledge to fight for an asylum system that is fair and effective.

### Best Deal for our Troops

I will fight to ensure that there should be no defence commitments unless Parliament has voted an adequate budget to give our troops the very best equipment and supplies they need to do the job we demand of them. I also pledge to be active in the global strategy debate that should determine what these commitments should be, and to ensure that the debate is transparent and open to the British public.

### Best Start in Life

The reason why I spend so much time focusing on the quality of our local schools is that education is the single gateway offering all of us the chance of a better and more fulfilling life. I pledge in the next parliament to renew my efforts so that our children's centres, schools and colleges achieve the standards necessary to overcome the class disadvantages from which all too many young people suffer.





## Contact Details

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### Making Welfare Work

Welfare still awaits its transformation from a service that responds to disadvantage to one that actively helps claimants back into work that pays. I pledge to continue fighting for this goal and for a pension scheme that offers every citizen who plays by the rules a pension that pays above means-tested assistance.

### Anti Social Behaviour

I have consistently expressed my concern about the collapse of decent behaviour. I pledge, if I am re-elected, to continue to argue for a new framework that rewards positive participation in society and which recognises and deals with those who refuse to play by the rules.

### Parliamentary Reform

The electorate is entitled to expect that those who set its laws themselves obey them. The last parliament has highlighted the fact that not everyone has done so and I pledge to you that, if I am re-elected, I shall work on your behalf to ensure that the necessary reform of the rules governing how MPs behave are transparent and fair. I also pledge to campaign for a Parliament whose MPs have a greater influence on the laws which affect your everyday lives.

### Seizing Opportunities

Part of my work as your MP is to try to win whatever advantage I can for our town. I pledge to continue this work if I am re-elected. Likewise, I shall do all I can to help make the dream of a new city in Wirral Waters begin to take shape, and to expand our skill base at Cammell Laird.

My commitment to Birkenhead remains total and unqualified and comes before party loyalty. This is a pledge I have been more than happy to give you at each election and to carry out during the previous seven parliaments and I hope you will enable me to do so again.

FRANK FIELD