

YOUNGOV SURVEY OF LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEMBERS

Client: John Stevens

Fieldwork: February 7-9, 2006; sample: 401

The Liberal Democrats are electing their new leader. To which three or four of the following policy areas do you think he should give the highest priority? [Please tick up to four]

Protecting civil liberties	63%
Combating climate change	54%
Reducing poverty in Britain	48%
Transferring powers from central government to local communities	36%
Changing the voting system for the House of Commons	34%
Improving the National Health Service	29%
Making Britain's economy stronger	26%
Improving standards in state schools	23%
Tackling crime	19%
Improving pensions	18%
Working more closely with the rest of the European Union	17%
Reducing poverty in less developed countries	15%
Don't know	0%

Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

'So much needs to be done to improve public services and reduce poverty that the overall tax burden needs to rise'	26%
'There is a strong case for changing taxes so that the system is much fairer, and for different priorities in public spending, but not for increasing the overall burden of taxation'	72%
Don't know	2%

Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

'Green taxes, for example on petrol and airline flights, should rise in order to cut carbon emissions and pollution'	77%
'Taxes on private motoring and air travel are high enough already'	20%
Don't know	4%

Which of the following policies would you favour most, regarding the replacement of Britain's Trident nuclear missile system, when it reaches the end of its useful life?

Britain should replace Trident with an equally powerful nuclear missile system	8%
Britain should retain a minimum nuclear system, but it should be less powerful and cost less than replacing Trident	55%
Britain should give up nuclear weapons completely	34%
Don't know	4%

Which of these policies would you favour, regarding Britain's troops in Iraq?

All British troops should be brought home before the end of this year	54%
Britain should keep troops in Iraq as long as Iraq's government wants	39%
Don't know	7%

Here are some statements about the candidates. For each statement, and putting aside your own voting preference, please indicate which candidate you think it applies to most.

He has the right kind of experience to lead the Liberal Democrats

Sir Menzies Campbell	58%
Simon Hughes	21%
Chris Huhne	16%
Don't know	4%

He knows about real life outside politics

Sir Menzies Campbell	19%
Simon Hughes	23%
Chris Huhne	52%
Don't know	6%

He is honest

Sir Menzies Campbell	46%
Simon Hughes	14%
Chris Huhne	28%
Don't know	12%

He is committed to the right kind of policies

Sir Menzies Campbell	27%
Simon Hughes	31%
Chris Huhne	34%
Don't know	8%

He would make an effective government minister

Sir Menzies Campbell	50%
Simon Hughes	19%
Chris Huhne	25%
Don't know	7%

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

'Sir Menzies Campbell is too old to lead the Liberal Democrats'

Agree	36%
Disagree	52%
Not sure	12%

'Chris Huhne has too little experience of being a Westminster MP to lead the Liberal Democrats'

Agree	38%
Disagree	52%
Not sure	11%

'Simon Hughes is too unreliable to lead the Liberal Democrats'

Agree	40%
Disagree	46%
Not sure	14%

Which of the three do you think would be most likely to attract women to vote for the Liberal Democrats?

Sir Menzies Campbell	14%
Simon Hughes	20%
Chris Huhne	42%
Don't know	24%

Which of the three do you think would be most likely to attract young people to vote for the Liberal Democrats?

Sir Menzies Campbell	7%
Simon Hughes	43%
Chris Huhne	40%
Don't know	11%

Which of the three do you think would be best placed to lead a united Liberal Democratic Party?

Sir Menzies Campbell	48%
Simon Hughes	15%
Chris Huhne	26%
Don't know	12%

Which of the three do you think would challenge Tony Blair and David Cameron most effectively in the House of Commons?

Sir Menzies Campbell	36%
Simon Hughes	26%
Chris Huhne	27%
Don't know	11%

Which of the three do you think would come over best on television and radio, and in the press?

Sir Menzies Campbell	33%
Simon Hughes	25%
Chris Huhne	31%
Don't know	11%

Putting aside your own voting preference, which of the three you think would do most to boost the Liberal Democrats' chances of gaining seats at the next general election?

Sir Menzies Campbell	30%
Simon Hughes	22%
Chris Huhne	30%
Don't know	18%

Are you intending to vote in the Liberal Democrat leadership election?

Yes	92%
No	4%
Not sure	4%

(To all who will or might vote) **If you do vote, how are you intending to cast your first preference vote?**

Sir Menzies Campbell	29%
Simon Hughes	23%
Chris Huhne	32%
Undecided	16%

(Excluding undecideds)

Sir Menzies Campbell	34%
Simon Hughes	27%
Chris Huhne	38%

(To all who name a 1st preference candidate) **How are you intending to cast your second preference vote?**

(Campbell supporters)

Simon Hughes	23%
Chris Huhne	62%
Undecided	9%
Not intending to cast a second preference	6%

(Hughes supporters)

Sir Menzies Campbell	39%
Chris Huhne	36%
Undecided	13%
Not intending to cast a second preference	11%

(Huhne supporters)

Sir Menzies Campbell	53%
Simon Hughes	30%
Undecided	6%
Not intending to cast a second preference	11%

(To all) **Which of them do you think should definitely NOT be elected party leader?**

Sir Menzies Campbell	15%
Simon Hughes	28%
Chris Huhne	15%
None of these - all should be considered	48%
Don't know	2%