

Fieldwork: 18th - 19th October 2012

	Voting intention			2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social grade		Region					
Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
Weighted Sample	1734	423	569	120	539	438	365	843	891	210	442	593	489	988	746	222	564	371	427	151
Unweighted Sample	1734	436	525	120	537	414	397	879	855	130	394	675	535	1162	572	234	620	344	373	163
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Thinking about the level of taxes in the UK and whether this encourages tax avoidance, which of the following best reflects your view?

- High tax rates in the UK on business and the rich encourage tax avoidance and should be reduced
- High tax rates in the UK on business and the rich encourage tax avoidance, but the government should crack down on avoidance rather than cut taxes
- Tax rates in the UK on business and the rich are not too high and don't encourage tax avoidance
- Don't know

19	31	12	5	30	15	11	19	19	19	22	17	19	19	19	24	19	18	17	19
52	52	57	65	53	52	62	54	51	42	50	53	59	57	47	52	52	55	51	52
13	8	18	25	8	20	15	15	11	10	11	14	15	14	12	11	12	12	16	14
16	10	12	6	10	13	12	11	20	30	17	16	8	11	22	14	17	16	15	15

Do you currently boycott the products or services of any companies in response to them not paying their fair share of tax?

- Yes - there are companies I actively boycott because they don't pay enough tax
- No - while I care whether companies pay tax I don't really know enough about the subject or which companies don't pay tax to boycott them
- No - when buying things price, quality and other considerations are more important to me than whether a company pays tax
- Not sure

15	12	20	9	13	19	17	19	11	12	11	17	16	17	11	16	13	17	13	18
35	35	34	53	34	32	44	30	39	29	33	33	42	38	30	29	33	35	39	33
37	45	32	34	42	33	33	39	35	39	41	37	32	34	40	43	38	35	34	36
14	9	14	5	11	16	7	12	15	21	15	13	11	10	18	11	16	12	14	13

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

In recent years some retired politicians, senior civil servants or senior military officers have gone on to work for private sector companies in lobbying roles - that is, using their knowledge and contacts in government to help promote the interests of clients to government ministers and civil servants

Thinking about former civil servants and military officers taking up jobs for lobbying companies, which of the following best reflects your view?

There is nothing wrong with former military officers or civil servants who have left their jobs using their knowledge of and contacts in government to earn a living

It is wrong that former military officers or civil servants should be able to use their contacts in and knowledge of government to make money and it risks conflicts of interest or corruption

Neither

Don't know

26	39	20	32	36	23	24	25	27	28	32	26	20	30	21	27	28	27	26	19
50	44	58	54	47	56	54	53	47	35	39	50	66	51	48	50	47	50	54	53
7	9	6	8	8	4	7	7	7	6	6	8	7	8	7	3	7	10	7	7
17	8	16	6	9	16	15	14	19	31	23	15	7	11	24	20	19	14	13	21

Would you support or oppose laws banning former civil servants and military officers from working for lobbying companies for a period after leaving their public sector role?

Support	47	46	52	44	49	52	48	51	44	27	31	51	67	48	47	51	47	46	46	50
Oppose	19	26	17	33	24	16	20	20	18	23	22	19	14	23	14	16	18	22	22	11
Don't know	34	27	31	23	27	32	32	28	39	50	47	30	20	29	39	33	35	32	32	39

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

In the previous question you said you would support a ban on former civil servants and military officers working for lobbying companies after leaving their public sector role. How long do you think this ban should be for?

[Only asked to those who said they would support a ban on former civil servants and military officers from working for lobbying companies for a period after leaving their role n=896]

A year	6	8	6	6	7	9	4	5	8	4	14	5	5	7	5	14	6	6	2	9
Two years	18	24	15	19	26	12	20	18	18	16	23	16	17	18	17	27	16	20	16	12
Five years	37	40	37	38	41	35	35	37	38	41	27	38	39	39	34	36	40	37	36	30
Ten years	12	10	13	24	7	13	18	14	10	15	12	11	13	13	11	8	13	12	13	16
A permanent ban	23	16	25	11	17	26	20	24	22	14	19	26	24	20	28	13	20	25	30	29
Don't know	3	2	4	2	2	4	3	2	5	10	5	4	1	3	4	3	6	0	3	4

Currently former civil servants, military officers and politicians have to consult with an independent body - ACOBA - before they take jobs in the private sector after leaving or retiring from public service. This body can advise they do not take a job because of potential conflicts or interest, or suggest restrictions, such as barring them from lobbying government and officials that worked for them. Currently ACOBA is only advisory, and doesn't have any legal powers to enforce its recommendations.

Would you support or oppose giving ACOBA powers to enforce tougher punishments against former civil servants and officers who ignore their recommendations, such as removing their honours?

Support	60	64	67	59	65	63	62	64	57	37	49	65	75	65	54	57	57	60	64	65
Oppose	9	13	8	15	12	10	9	11	7	18	12	8	5	10	9	10	9	11	10	6
Don't know	30	23	25	26	23	27	29	25	36	45	40	27	20	25	37	33	34	29	26	29

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

And would you support or oppose giving ACOBA legal powers to enforce their recommendations?

Support	57	63	62	58	64	58	59	63	51	32	44	63	72	62	51	51	54	60	60	61
Oppose	10	10	10	14	10	11	11	11	9	22	11	8	7	11	9	18	9	9	10	7
Don't know	33	27	28	28	26	30	30	26	40	46	45	30	21	28	40	31	37	31	30	32

Thinking about the standards of people in public life these days and also people and scandals in years gone past, do you think standards of behaviour of figures in public life have improved, worsened or are about the same as they were ten years ago?

Improved	4	6	4	8	4	4	3	4	4	6	5	4	1	5	1	7	2	3	5	3
Worsened	50	46	57	33	48	54	48	51	49	39	42	51	60	48	52	44	51	56	48	47
Stayed the same	38	45	34	56	43	37	44	37	40	31	42	39	38	43	33	43	37	33	41	43
Don't know	8	3	6	3	4	5	5	9	8	24	12	6	1	4	14	7	11	8	6	8

What do you think is MAINLY responsible for the rising cost in energy bills?

Energy companies taking bigger profits	58	56	67	47	55	67	57	53	62	37	54	64	63	59	55	57	58	56	57	62
The rising price of oil and gas	17	18	17	31	16	15	25	18	16	25	24	13	13	18	16	20	16	17	18	15
The cost of meeting government targets for reducing carbon emissions	11	13	5	13	17	9	7	15	8	9	6	11	17	10	13	10	10	13	13	8
The cost of building new infrastructure and power plants	4	5	4	4	4	2	5	4	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	2	4	5	3	4
Something else	2	2	2	3	3	1	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2
Don't know	8	6	6	2	6	6	4	8	8	23	11	6	2	6	11	8	10	7	7	9

Currently energy companies are obliged to meet the costs of meeting the government's energy targets for reducing carbon emissions, including things like offering subsidised insulation or boilers to customers to help them reduce their energy usage. The cost of all these measures is passed onto customers through higher bills.

Do you think this is justified or unjustified?

Justified	14	18	14	29	14	12	24	16	13	16	16	13	14	19	8	15	16	14	13	13
Unjustified	71	75	74	60	76	76	66	72	71	55	66	77	77	68	76	69	67	72	77	72
Don't know	14	7	12	11	10	12	10	12	17	29	19	10	9	13	16	16	17	14	10	15

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

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Thinking about the country's future energy provision, do you think the government should be looking to use more or less of the following?

Solar power

More than present	74	72	70	75	78	71	72	80	70	74	60	71	75	74	74	69	68	72	70	74	77
Less than present	6	5	6	4	3	6	4	2	7	3	5	5	4	6	6	4	5	6	7	2	4
Maintain current levels	12	12	18	12	13	16	14	9	14	10	15	10	11	14	12	12	16	10	12	14	6
Not sure	9	11	6	9	6	6	11	9	10	12	20	14	10	6	9	14	11	12	11	10	13

Wind farms

More than present	56	55	49	64	67	45	60	67	52	57	65	63	53	45	59	49	57	56	50	55	59
Less than present	19	21	28	14	18	34	17	11	25	17	9	12	19	36	19	22	19	20	24	21	18
Maintain current levels	15	14	16	13	10	16	13	14	14	14	10	12	17	14	13	15	13	14	15	14	13
Not sure	9	11	6	10	5	6	10	8	9	12	16	13	11	5	9	13	10	11	11	11	10

Nuclear power stations

More than present	35	40	57	36	33	58	34	34	54	26	26	35	38	52	42	37	38	40	44	41	30
Less than present	27	20	13	21	29	13	20	27	14	25	18	23	21	16	21	19	19	18	17	22	30
Maintain current levels	23	21	21	23	28	19	24	24	18	23	26	18	22	20	22	20	23	21	19	20	23
Not sure	15	19	10	20	10	10	22	15	14	25	29	24	18	12	16	24	20	21	20	17	17

Oil power stations

More than present	10	11	11	11	6	14	10	8	11	11	2	9	11	17	9	13	10	10	13	12	8
Less than present	47	45	48	49	57	42	52	49	53	37	63	47	43	38	49	40	52	44	45	44	43
Maintain current levels	27	23	28	22	23	29	20	25	23	24	9	18	27	29	24	22	19	26	21	23	23
Not sure	17	21	13	18	14	15	19	18	14	28	26	26	19	17	18	25	19	20	21	21	26

Gas power stations

More than present	17	20	16	12	22	16	14	18	16	8	13	17	23	15	19	24	17	16	15	13
Less than present	36	33	42	49	30	43	42	41	32	51	41	34	29	39	33	36	33	39	38	38
Maintain current levels	27	35	24	26	33	23	28	28	26	12	21	30	35	29	25	21	30	27	27	24
Not sure	20	11	17	13	15	18	16	13	27	29	24	19	14	17	24	20	20	19	20	25

Coal power stations

More than present	16	17	15	18	11	21	15	14	16	17	4	12	17	26	14	20	15	14	21	17	16
Less than present	43	43	47	46	54	41	47	49	49	38	59	49	41	34	48	37	45	44	39	44	47
Maintain current levels	25	19	25	18	19	23	20	20	21	18	9	15	23	23	21	17	22	21	19	19	14
Not sure	17	21	13	18	16	16	18	18	14	27	28	24	19	16	17	25	19	21	21	20	23

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Shale gas is natural gas trapped under sedimentary rock, which is extracted using a method known as hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking". There are large reserves of shale gas in Lancashire.

Some people think that using shale gas could be a solution to Britain's energy needs. Other people think that fracking is a dangerous technique that risks contaminating ground water and causing minor earthquakes.

From what you have seen or heard about the issue, do you think the government should or should not support the use of fracking in the UK?

Should	32	42	31	37	39	33	30	43	21	27	32	28	37	32	31	39	29	31	31	36
Should not	30	25	33	31	28	28	36	27	32	26	29	35	26	32	28	22	32	33	29	27
Don't know	38	33	36	32	33	39	34	30	46	46	39	37	37	36	41	39	39	36	40	38

Do you think it is acceptable or unacceptable for Prince Charles to write to government ministers to express his views?

Acceptable	73	79	70	70	78	72	75	71	74	61	71	76	76	74	71	70	76	75	68	74
Unacceptable	17	15	22	26	14	20	19	18	16	19	16	15	20	19	16	19	14	17	21	16
Don't know	10	6	8	4	8	8	6	10	10	20	13	9	4	8	13	11	10	9	11	9

Details of Princes Charles's letters to government ministers have not be released, but he has in the past expressed views about subjects like architecture, farming, climate change and alternative medicine. From what you have seen or read about his views, do you think his views would have a positive or negative impact on government policy?

Positive	33	40	33	43	36	32	37	33	33	26	34	37	32	35	31	32	31	36	35	34
Negative	18	16	20	21	17	20	16	21	14	17	15	16	23	19	16	18	18	18	16	21
Don't know	49	44	47	36	48	48	47	45	53	57	51	48	45	46	53	50	51	46	50	45

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Do you think the contents of Prince Charles letters to government ministers should or should not be published?

Should be published	42	38	52	36	37	47	43	45	38	38	39	39	49	43	39	48	42	38	41	42
Should not be published	44	53	38	46	54	41	43	41	48	34	44	48	44	45	43	38	44	48	45	46
Don't know	14	9	10	18	9	12	13	14	14	28	17	13	7	11	18	14	15	13	15	13

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease of cattle. It can be spread from cow to cow, but is also thought to be spread by infected badgers. The government are supporting a cull of badgers in order to reduce badger numbers and reduce the risk of them spreading TB to cattle.

Do you think the proposed cull of badgers should or should not go ahead?

Should go ahead	31	46	29	27	40	30	21	34	29	29	34	30	31	35	27	35	30	32	30	33
Should not go ahead	44	35	48	45	39	45	58	41	46	28	37	51	47	43	44	39	47	43	43	41
Don't know	25	18	23	28	21	25	21	25	25	42	29	19	22	22	30	26	24	25	27	25

And from what you have seen or heard about it, do you think the government are handling the issue of badgers and TB in cattle well or badly?

Very well	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	1
Fairly well	12	25	7	17	20	9	11	14	11	12	13	12	13	14	10	13	11	19	9	11
TOTAL WELL	13	25	8	17	21	9	12	15	11	12	14	12	14	15	10	15	11	19	10	12
Fairly badly	33	34	32	37	34	31	38	32	33	21	27	34	42	35	30	29	33	34	31	34
Very badly	19	9	25	20	14	25	21	20	18	13	12	23	22	19	18	13	20	19	22	13
TOTAL BADLY	52	43	57	57	48	56	59	52	51	34	39	57	64	54	48	42	53	53	53	47
Don't know	36	31	35	26	31	35	29	34	37	53	47	32	22	31	42	43	35	28	37	41