YouGov Survey Results January Euro Tracker

Prepared for Sunday Times

Sample Size: 1995 Fieldwork: 23rd - 24th January 2003

- If there were a general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for?
 - 37
 - Labour 37 Conservative 31
 - Liberal Democrat 24
 - Other 8

Thinking of the European Single Currency, which of the following statements would come closest to your own view?

- Definitely join as soon as possible 14
- Join if and when the economic conditions are right 35
- Stay out for at least the next four or five years 22
 - Rule out on principle 26
 - Don't know 3

How well do you think the present government has handled relations with the European Union?

- Very well 4
- Fairly well 29
- Neither well nor badly 30
 - Fairly badly 24
 - Very badly 11
 - Don't know 3

How much do you trust the government to make the right decisions on euro entry?

- Trust a lot 9
- Trust a little 24
- Neither trust nor distrust 12
 - Don't trust much 27
 - Don't trust at all 28
 - Don't know 1

If there were a referendum today on whether to join the euro, how would you vote?

- In favour of joining 34
 - Against joining 56
 - Would not vote 3
 - Don't know 8

Which way would you vote in a referendum if Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, recommended a YES vote on the grounds that it would be good for Britain's economy to join the euro?

- In favour of joining 41
 - Against joining 49
 - Would not vote 3
 - Don't know 8

Leaving aside whether or not you would vote to join the euro, do you think a referendum should or should not be held this year to decide the issue one way or the other?

- Referendum should be held 65
- Referendum should not be held 26
 - Don't know 8

- Has convinced you 26
- Has not convinced you 68
 - Don't know 5

Which of the following would provide sufficient cause for military action against Iraq?

- Only if the UN inspectors discover firm evidence of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons 72
 - If the inspectors do not discover such evidence but report to the UN 6
 - There is sufficient cause for military action already **16**
 - Don't know 7

Do you think George W Bush is determined to fight a war with Iraq, whatever the outcome of the UN inspections, or not?

- Is determined to have a war 90
- Has not yet decided definitely whether to have a war 8
 - Don't know 2

Do you think if George W Bush won a victory over Iraq he would try to overthrow other governments in the Middle East?

- Would try to overthrow other governments **44**
- Would not try to overthrow other governments **33**
 - Don't know 22

If the UN does decide to back a military action against Iraq, should Britain contribute troops to such an action?

- Should 72
- Should not 21
- Don't know 6

If the United Nations does NOT back the use of force against Iraq and the United States decides to launch a military action, should Britain contribute troops to the US-led force?

- Should 20
- Should not 73
- Don't know 8

Which of the following statements comes closer to your view?

- Behind the scenes Tony Blair is trying hard to influence George Bush to behave sensibly.' 41
- Tony Blair is George Bush's poodle and willing to do whatever the American President wants.'
 - Don't know 10

49

Do you think a successful war against Iraq would help defeat terrorism, or not?

- Yes, would help defeat terrorism 21
 - No, would not **73**
 - Don't know 6

Turning to universities and student fees, the government has announced a new policy. At present, most students must pay £1,100 a year in fees in advance. In future, universities will be able to charge up to £3,000 a year, but students will only have to start paying after they leave university. From what you have heard, do you support or oppose the new system overall?

- Support 26
- Oppose 57
- Neither 13
- Don't know 4

Do you think school-leavers from less well-off families will be more likely or less likely to apply to go to university than under the present arrangements, or will the new system make no difference?

- More likely to apply under the new system **10**
 - Less likely to apply 60
 - New system will make no difference 26
 - Don't know 4

The new plans aim to ensure more poorer students get into university. Which of these statements do you agree with most?

The plan is likely to lead to lower standards, as entry requirements for poorer students will have to be lowered.'

- The plan is likely to lead to a larger number of talented youngsters from poorer families applying to
 - go to university, and standards will not fall.' 31
 - Don't know 35

34

Do you think students from fee-paying schools should have to obtain better A-level qualifications to get into university than those from state schools, or not?

- Pupils from fee-paying schools should need better A-level results 10
- Pupils from fee-paying and state schools should be set the same entry qualifications **86**
 - Don't know 4

The government wants 50% of young people to go to higher education. Do you think...

- There should be a target of 50% of all young people going to university **5**
- There should be a target of 50% of all young people going into some form of higher education,
 - whether to study for a degree or a vocational qualification **49**
 - There should be no 50% target at all **43**
 - Don't know 3

Turning now to the issue of asylum... With the alleged involvement of asylum-seekers in the recent discovery of the poison ricin and the murder of DC Oake in Manchester, some people say Britain is a 'soft touch' for asylum-seekers. Do you agree, or not?

- Yes, Britain is a soft touch on asylum **80**
 - No, Britain is not a soft touch 14
 - Neither 6
 - Don't know 1

How serious a problem do you think it is of terrorists coming to Britain posing as asylum seekers?

- It happens a lot and is a serious problem **50**
- It happens occasionally but the terrorists would get in anyw 44
 - It is not really a problem 4
 - Don't know 2

Do you agree or disagree with this statement: 'All asylum seekers should be held in detention centres on arrival in the UK while their applications for asylum are processed'?

- Agree 80
- Disagree 15
- Don't know 5

Leaving aside the current debate over asylum, do you think immigration has generally been good or bad for Britain's economy?

- Good for the economy **30**
- Bad for the economy **46**
- Made little difference either way 19
 - Don't know 5