

YouGov / Mail on Sunday Survey Results Politics

Prepared for Mail on Sunday

Sample Size: 1768

Fieldwork: 8-10 July 2002

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Do you think Tony Blair is doing well or badly as Prime Minister?

Very well	4%
Fairly well	36%
Fairly badly	32%
Very badly	25%
Don't know	3%

Do you think Michael Howard is doing well or badly as leader of the Conservative Party?

Very well	4%
Fairly well	41%
Fairly badly	29%
Very badly	12%
Don't know	14%

Do you think Charles Kennedy is doing well or badly as leader of the Liberal Democrats?

Very well	6%
Fairly well	43%
Fairly badly	25%
Very badly	11%
Don't know	15%

Do you think Gordon Brown is doing well or badly as Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Very well	19%
Fairly well	42%
Fairly badly	20%
Very badly	9%
Don't know	9%

As of now, do you reckon the Conservatives' chances of winning the next general election and forming the next Government are...

Excellent	2%
Fairly good	37%
Not very good	40%
Not at all good	15%
Don't know	6%

Michael Howard was interviewed with his wife Sandra on 'This Morning' with Fern Britton and Philip Schofield this week and talked about their relationship on 'Desert Island Discs' on BBC Radio Four.

How do you think Mrs Howard compares with Tony Blair's wife Cherie, and Charles Kennedy's wife Sarah Gurling? Which one of them...

Is the best role model for women.

Sandra Howard	18%
Cherie Blair	17%
Sarah Gurling	4%
Don't know	61%

Is the most interesting

Sandra Howard	20%
Cherie Blair	15%
Sarah Gurling	5%
Don't know	61%

Is the most intelligent

Sandra Howard	11%
Cherie Blair	29%
Sarah Gurling	2%
Don't know	58%

Is the most sincere

Sandra Howard	17%
Cherie Blair	7%
Sarah Gurling	8%
Don't know	67%

Would make you most likely to vote for their husband

Sandra Howard	12%
Cherie Blair	8%
Sarah Gurling	3%
Not applicable – would have no effect on my voting	78%

Would make you least likely to vote for their husband

Sandra Howard	5%
Cherie Blair	20%
Sarah Gurling	3%
Not applicable – would have no effect on my voting	73%

Mr Blair is understood to be planning a Cabinet reshuffle before the summer holidays. Which, if any, of the following Ministers do you think should be removed from the Cabinet or demoted? [Tick all that apply]

Geoff Hoon	45%
John Prescott	41%
David Blunkett	35%
Lord Falconer	29%
Tony Blair	23%
Margaret Beckett	23%
Jack Straw	22%
Alistair Darling	22%
Charles Clarke	20%
Gordon Brown	13%
None of these	23%

At present the Conservative Party's policy towards the European Union is for Britain to remain a member, but to oppose the new European Constitution. Do you think the Conservative Party should change its policy and promise to withdraw Britain from the EU if it wins the next election?

Should promise to withdraw Britain from the EU	28%
Should continue its present policy	36%
Should support continued membership of the EU AND support Britain signing the new European constitution	20%
Don't know	16%

The present Government has said it will hold a referendum on whether Britain should sign the new European Constitution. Do you think the referendum should be extended to ask a second question, so that people can decide whether to stay in or leave the EU?

Referendum should also ask about British membership of the EU	53%
Referendum should be only about the new constitution	37%
Don't know	10%

If a referendum were held tomorrow on whether Britain should stay in or leave the European Union, how would you vote?

Stay in	46%
Leave	40%
Would not vote	3%
Don't know	12%

Mr Blair is understood to be considering appointing former Cabinet Minister Peter Mandelson as a European Union Commissioner. Do you think Mr Mandelson would make a good or a bad commissioner?

Very good	5%
Fairly good	20%
Fairly bad	18%
Very bad	29%
Don't know	28%

Looking back, do you think the United States and Britain were right or wrong to take military action against Iraq?

Right	42%
Wrong	50%
Don't know	8%

Do you think that Iraq did or did not have weapons of mass destruction at the beginning of the war?

Did have	26%
Did not have	52%
Don't know	21%

Next week a report will be published on the information given to MPs and the public before last year's war about Saddam Hussein's weapons programmes. It is generally expected to conclude that much of the information produced by Britain's intelligence services was wrong about Saddam's 'weapons of mass destruction'.

Do you think that, before the war, Britain's intelligence services genuinely believed what they told Tony Blair about Saddam's 'weapons of mass destruction', or did they deliberately distort the evidence in order to exaggerate the threat posed by Iraq?

Genuinely believed what they said	44%
Distorted the evidence	42%
Don't know	14%

And do you think at the time, Tony Blair genuinely believed what he told the public about Saddam's 'weapons of mass destruction', or did he deliberately distort the evidence in order to exaggerate the threat posed by Iraq?

Genuinely believed what he said	47%
Distorted the evidence	43%
Don't know	10%

If next week's report does find that the public was given an exaggerated account of the threat posed by Iraq, then, leaving aside other political considerations, do you think such a report would justify the resignations of the following people:

Tony Blair, the Prime Minister

Such a report would justify his resignation	53%
Such a report would NOT justify his resignation	36%
Don't know	11%

Geoff Hoon, the Defence Secretary

Such a report would justify his resignation	67%
Such a report would NOT justify his resignation	21%
Don't know	12%

John Scarlett, then head of the Joint Intelligence Committee, and subsequently appointed head of MI6

Such a report would justify his resignation	70%
Such a report would NOT justify his resignation	16%
Don't know	15%

In January, Lord Hutton's report into the death of MoD scientist Dr. David Kelly following the BBC's report that the Government had 'sexed up' intelligence information about Saddam's weapons, led to the resignation of BBC director general Greg Dyke and chairman Gavyn Davies. Hutton's report, which largely cleared the Government of any blame, was criticised by some as a 'whitewash.' Do you think the Hutton report was a whitewash?

Yes – it was a whitewash	60%
No – it was a fair report	21%
Don't know	19%

Yusuf Al-Qaradawi, a Muslim cleric, who is reported to support suicide bombers and has been banned from the US for alleged terrorist links, was last week allowed into Britain to address a conference. Do you...

Approve	9%
Disapprove	82%
Don't know	9%

Do you believe that the law should be changed to prevent individuals from entering the UK, based solely on their public statements ?

Yes	70%
No	21%
Don't know	10%

David Blunkett has also announced the creation of an offence - designed to protect Muslims - of inciting religious hatred. Do you:

Approve	53%
Disapprove	31%
Don't know	16%

Do you think the time limit on abortions should...

Be abolished – abortions should be subject to medical need and choice, not law	33%
Remain the same	16%
Be reduced to 22 weeks	7%
Be reduced to 18 weeks	15%
Be reduced to 12 weeks	21%
All abortions should be banned	8%