

1997 Labour Party Manifesto

'Our case is simple: that **Britain** can and must be better'.

'The vision is one of **national** renewal, **a country** with **drive, purpose** and **energy**'.

'In each area of policy **a new and distinctive approach has been mapped out, one that differs from the old left and the Conservative right. This is why new Labour is new**'.

'**New Labour is a party of ideas and ideals but not of outdated ideology. What counts is what works.** The objectives are radical. The means will be modern'.

Over the five years of a Labour government:

1. Education will be our number one priority, and we will **increase the share of national income spent on education** as we decrease it on the bills of economic and social failure
2. There will be **no increase** in the basic or top rates **of income tax**

3. We will provide stable economic growth with low inflation, and promote dynamic and competitive business and industry at home and abroad
4. We will get 250,000 young unemployed off benefit and into work
5. We will rebuild the NHS, reducing spending on administration and increasing spending on patient care
6. We will be tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime, and halve the time it takes persistent juvenile offenders to come to court
7. We will help build strong families and strong communities, and lay the foundations of a modern welfare state in pensions and community care
8. We will safeguard our environment, and develop an integrated transport policy to fight congestion and pollution
9. We will clean up politics, decentralise political power throughout the United Kingdom and put the funding of political parties on a proper and accountable basis
10. We will give Britain the leadership in Europe which Britain and Europe need