

Liberal Democrat – key players and policies



Left to right: **Nick Clegg** (leader), **Vince Cable** (finance), **Lynne Featherstone** (youth and equality), **Chris Huhne** (home affairs)

■ **Economy:** Spending cuts rather than tax hikes to reduce forecast £167 billion budget deficit. No area of public spending to be protected. **Scrap replacement for Trident nuclear submarines, cancel Eurofighter Typhoon jet. Reform generous public sector pensions**

■ **Taxes:** Cut tax relief and loopholes to richest. Raise personal allowance from £6,475 to £10,000 – this will cut £700 from average tax bill

■ **Banking sector:** Separate retail and investment banking divisions to create greater competition. **Banks seen as “too big to fail” to pay supplementary tax on profits. High bonuses to be restricted**

■ **Afghanistan:** Continue to support military involvement in Helmand as long as troops are properly equipped and operating as part of co-ordinated international plan

■ **Social issues:** Boost primary school education, reduce class sizes. Funds to help children from poorest families. **Phase out student fees. Scrap National Identity card scheme, remove innocent people’s data from national DNA database**

■ **Electoral reform:** Cut size of parliament from 650 to 500 MPs. **Introduce single transferable vote to replace first-past-the-post system**

■ **International aid:** Boost spending from current 0.56% to 0.7% of GDP