



Your Freedom

Labour has made Britain less fair by taking away our hard-won rights and freedoms, often supported by the Conservatives. They have made thousands of new things illegal, intruded into your privacy, and overthrown some of the basic principles of British justice such as the right to jury trial. They have turned Britain into a surveillance state. And they haven't even bothered to keep our information safe – every week we hear stories of lost data and laptops. The Liberal Democrats are the only party that believes in a fairer, freer Britain, where everyone gets fair treatment and everyone's privacy is respected. We will introduce a Freedom Bill to restore and protect your freedom. We'll stop treating innocent people as if they were criminals. We'll stop councils from snooping into your private affairs – and your bins. We'll scrap ID cards, and restore your rights to protest and freedom of speech. And we'll stop Government monitoring your emails and internet use.

Introduce a Freedom Bill to restore and protect our civil liberties. The Liberal Democrats have put together all the freedoms that have been undermined by Labour and the Tories in the last twenty years to restore them in a single Act of Parliament. We will scrap ID cards; get innocent people off the DNA database; regulate CCTV; allow people to protest at Parliament; stop councils from spying on people; and stop unfair extradition to the US.

Scrap intrusive Identity Cards and unnecessary Biometric Passports: more police instead. We are all going to pay through the nose for the Government to store our private information – which everyone knows they're bound to lose on a train some day. ID cards won't help in the fight against crime or terrorism. Getting rid of this illiberal, expensive and ineffective scheme, will free up money for thousands more police on our streets.

End plans to spy on your email and internet use. Labour want companies to store information about your email and internet use – even storing data about what you do on social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace. This is a huge waste of money and time, which we will scrap. We will ensure your private data is kept safe.

Get innocent people off the DNA database to focus it on criminals. Your DNA contains some of the most private, personal information about you. It can identify who's in your family, and even what illnesses you might get. And yet as many as a million innocent people have their DNA stored on a criminal database. Labour has created the biggest DNA database in the world, but it isn't focused on storing information about criminals, as it should be. We will clean the database up. We will remove innocent people from the database and stop storing DNA from innocent people and children in the future, too.