

Labour Leadership Election – August 2015



ANDY BURNHAM

CONSTITUENCY: MP for Leigh since 2001

AGE: 45

IMPLIED ODDS: 13/8*

Secretary of State for Health, 2009-2010; Shadow Secretary of State for Health, 2011-present.

MANIFESTO: [*A Radical Labour Vision for the 21st Century*](#)

WHITEHOUSE ANALYSIS

Burnham has attempted to address the distrust many voters felt towards Labour by admitting that they spent too much before the financial crash. Burnham's campaign had early momentum as he secured the backing of 68 of his fellow colleagues in the Commons. However, he has suffered the most from the meteoric rise of Corbyn, including missing out on a number of trade union endorsements. He may still become Labour leader if Corbyn appears too risky a proposition.

A LABOUR GOVERNMENT UNDER BURNHAM WOULD:

- Introduce a moratorium on fracking.
- Gradually bring railways under state control.
- Give borrowing controls to local councils to enable housebuilding.
- Incorporate social care into a National Health and Care Service.
- Limit private sector involvement in the NHS to existing levels.
- Burnham has pledged a half-female shadow cabinet.



YVETTE COOPER

CONSTITUENCY: MP for Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford since 2010 (MP for Pontefract and Castleford since 1997)

AGE: 46

IMPLIED ODDS: 11/4*

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, 2009-2010; Shadow Home Secretary, 2011-present.

MANIFESTO: Unpublished

WHITEHOUSE ANALYSIS

Cooper has been labelled as a replica of previous incumbent Ed Miliband, whom she shared a flat with during their formative years working for the Labour Party. Her further association with Gordon Brown's tenure as leader is a blessing and a curse, marking her out as the candidate with the most top-level experience, but also very much part of the established seniority that lost the 2015 election. To counter this, Cooper has sought to appeal to voters as a strong first female Labour leader. She has gathered momentum with a number of significant endorsements.

A LABOUR GOVERNMENT UNDER COOPER WOULD:

- Bring back a 50p top rate of income tax to help reduce the deficit.
- Increase investment in science and research to 3% of national income.
- Aim to build 300,000 homes a year.
- Introduce a Living Wage in line with recommendations and give carers the Living Wage first.
- Bring back Sure Start centres as part of working towards a universal system of free childcare.
- End the growth of free schools.

*All odds taken from [Ladbrokes](#), next permanent Labour Party leader, 10/08/2015.

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Labour Leadership Election – August 2015



JEREMY CORBYN

CONSTITUENCY: MP for Islington North since 1983

AGE: 66

IMPLIED ODDS: 5/4*

MANIFESTO: *Vision for Britain 2020*; [Protecting our Planet](#)

WHITEHOUSE ANALYSIS

Originally nominated by MPs under the premise of “broadening the debate”, Corbyn’s lack of frontbench experience and far-left views meant few thought he posed a credible challenge. However, his apparent disregard for the conventions of mainstream politics has increased his appeal among Labour activists, and many identify with his simple, anti-austerity message. Remarkably, a Corbyn victory is now a distinct possibility, although his position on the left of the party would see him struggle to find support within the current Labour shadow cabinet.

A LABOUR GOVERNMENT UNDER CORBYN WOULD:

- Establish an Energy Commission to reform the energy market and prioritise tackling climate change.
- Scrap Trident, and possibly withdraw from NATO and the EU.
- End all tuition fees and restore student grants, EMA and the Disabled Students Allowance.
- Enforce a £10 National Living Wage.

LIZ KENDALL

CONSTITUENCY: MP for Leicester West since 2010

AGE: 44

IMPLIED ODDS: 66/1*

Shadow Minister for Care and Older People

MANIFESTO: Unpublished

WHITEHOUSE ANALYSIS

Kendall, the first person to formally announce her candidacy, has focused her campaign on remodelling Labour’s perception as a party of economic credibility. She is therefore prioritising a shift in policies that will encourage the support of businesses and attract middle-income voters. Kendall secured swift promotion to the shadow frontbench team following her election as an MP in 2010, and is seen as a rising star in the party – but her campaign approach is seemingly reinforcing her reputation as a Blairite. As a result she is struggling to garner significant support among Labour voters.

A LABOUR GOVERNMENT UNDER KENDALL WOULD:

- Devolve more power to local regions and reform the funding formula to support deprived areas.
- Reform tax reliefs and working tax credits.
- Remain at the centre of the EU to negotiate reforms.
- Maintain the commitment to spending 2 per cent of GDP on defence.
- Scrap the work programme and give responsibility to local councils.
- Continue to support a “welfare cap” on total benefits received.

*All odds taken from [Ladbrokes](#), next permanent Labour Party leader, 10/08/2015.

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