








Business Network

Network information

Centre

Rebuilding the centre ground

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Part one

About



About us

We are an independent non-profit foundation and cross-party think tank. Our mission is to rebuild the centre ground and to create more centrist and moderate politics. We support better public services and a strong economy inspired by policies from the Nordic countries.

To achieve these goals, we work with people from across the UK and party politics. This includes engaging with politicians and our networks, which include academia, politics, and law.

Our work includes creating new conversations by hosting events and conducting interviews. We also produce new policy ideas to better inform debate, publish papers, and release articles. We aim to build consensus, shape public opinion, and work with policymakers to change policy.

Aims of our network

- Connecting businesses and individuals in business to our work.
- Supporting businesses that align with our goals of a sustainable and growing economy.
- Providing a forum and hosting events for businesses and individuals in business.

Relationship with Centre Think Tank Foundation

Business Network membership is a particular type of membership of the Centre Think Tank Foundation. Individual membership of the Centre Think Tank is not required to become a member of the Business Network.

Business Network membership falls under all of the rules followed by our members. This includes our Constitution and internal workings, Disability Access, Privacy Policy, Donation rules, and our Working with other organisations and individuals documents. It also includes all of our Safeguarding and Complaints documents; breaching these as an organisation when interacting with the Centre or internally could lead to the network member being removed. Members also need to follow the rules set in the “Team” section of this document. You can find more about the Centre Think Tank rules here:
<https://centrethinktank.co.uk/key-documents/>

Part two

Terms



Becoming a network member

All businesses need to be approved by our team before officially joining the Business Network. In the rare event that we do not accept your application, we will return the money originally paid by your company within ten working days of your original payment. All membership fees from the network must follow the "Donation rules" and the "Working with other organisations and individuals" documents.

Influence

We have influence across party politics and beyond. This is powered by a team of over 30 researchers who produce on a wide range of issues. They are supported by our network, which includes our supporters from across party politics, academics, those in law, those in business, and our partners, which include a mix of charities and non-profits. Alongside this, we also have extensive work streams, including papers, interviews, events, articles, and research programmes.



"I think that Centre Think Tank is where a lot of us should be. After all, Social Democrats and Liberals meet in the Centre, but we do also welcome those from other parties. I think it is a very good idea to have a centrist think tank."

Lord Taverne

Lord Taverne, Former Member of Parliament, former Director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Centre Supporter

At the heart of the centre ground

We have some of the best thinkers in the centre ground of UK politics, including politicians, academics, and lawyers. We also engage with party leaders, within political parties, and the government. Our influence also extends across the UK with supporters across every nation and influencing across devolved parliaments and assemblies.

Our proposals have directly created policies within manifestos, and our publications are both influential and policy-focused.

Business membership allows you to work with us closely, including:

- **Quarterly meetings with our Director or a Deputy Director.** Every three months we will contact you to set up a meeting with a member of your business. These meetings can be used to discuss the work the Centre Think Tank is doing, your policy ideas, and the challenges or opportunities facing businesses. This meeting is optional, and businesses can notify us that they wish to only receive updates by email.
- **Your organisation will be listed as a business partner on our website.** The logo of every business partner is included on our business membership page. You can also use the Centre Think Tank logo on your website to display that you are part of our network. We will also send you a graphic that can be used on your social media to announce that you have joined our network, alongside a quote from our Director welcoming you.



“Centre prizes and encourages discernment—the oxygen of democracy. That doesn’t get in the way of principles, but it does foster analysis and practicality.”

Lord Kinnock

Lord Kinnock, Former Labour Party Leader, Leader of the Opposition and Centre supporter Neil Kinnock

Insight

Membership of our business network gives you greater insight into the risks and opportunities of our current political landscape. This includes insight into our work through regular opportunities to meet with the most senior members of our team, the ability to exchange ideas, and a better understanding of political policies.

To help you gain insights, our business network includes:

- **Advanced copies of our papers and a private Q&A session with the author or a member of our team.** We will send you a copy of our papers between one and two weeks before publication. You will also have the opportunity to discuss the findings with a member of our team or the authors of the paper. This excludes some commissioned papers where the individual or organisation that commissions the paper requests that it is not shared before publication.
- **A quarterly briefing on business and network news, including opportunities to be involved in our work and highlights from the work of our members.** We send out monthly emails to update you on our work and opportunities to be involved. This can include everything from invitations to be on our event panels, case studies in our papers, podcast invitations, and invitations to our events.



“At a time when the need for fairness, justice, and opportunity across the world has never been greater, it’s hugely important to have organisations that can generate solutions to help resolve the crises that the world is facing. Centre Think Tank provides an opportunity to pool ideas that can gain the greatest possible support as we face these challenges together.”

Lord Jones

Lord Jones, Former First Minister of Wales and Centre supporter

A forum for discussion

As an organisation, we focus on creating discussions and bringing people together from across political parties. We are also uniquely positioned to do this as the “Centre” think tank alongside regular events. The benefits include:

- **Priority invites to events.** Invitations for members of your team to attend our events and occasional invitations to be on the panel for our events. These are a great chance to gain insights, ask policymakers questions, and engage in topical discussions.

Involvement in our work

As a non-profit foundation, your contribution supports further research into the main challenges we face as an economy and a society. We also release our spending each year to show our supporters where we focus our resources.

- **A discount and first refusal on event sponsorship and paper commissioning.** Business members receive a 30% discount on sponsorship of events or when commissioning papers. This is a discount on the full price of a Centre paper, including VAT, and it can be used a maximum of two times a year. Our members also receive first refusal on any events and papers we would like to seek funding for.



"Our paper with Centre Think Tank was pragmatic. What we talked about was strengthening some of the protections against loopholes...this is much more pragmatic than a one-size-fits-all or a black-and-white solution. The actual conclusions of our report were astonishing."

Gina Miller

Gina Miller, Co-founder of SCM Direct, former Leader of the True and Fair Party, and Centre supporter.

Part three

Team



The Business Network team is made up of a Chair, Deputy Chair, and the Head of Events.

Selection as a member of the team

To be selected as a member of the Business Network team, the Centre Think Tank team must vote to accept an individual into the position.

Benefits

Being a member of the Business Network team includes the following benefits:

- A free profile on the Business Network page.
- A profile on the Business Network website page.

Role of the Chair

The role of the Chair includes the following powers and responsibilities:

- Acting as the main spokesperson for the Business Network.
- The ability to invite new businesses to join the Business Network, which then needs to be approved by our team before officially joining the network.
- A non-voting member of our executive team with the ability to provide advice on policy issues.
- Chairing and selecting the topic for the yearly roundtable.

These powers can be expanded if needed by a vote of the Centre Think Tank team.

Deputy Chair

The role of Deputy Chair includes the following powers and responsibilities:

- Communicating with partners to understand their needs and to listen to their suggestions.

These powers can be expanded if needed by a vote of the Centre team.

Head of Events

The role of Head of Events includes the following powers and responsibilities:

- Organising events and speakers for our roundtables.

These powers can be expanded if needed by a vote of the Centre team.

Leaving as a member of the team

If a business team member notifies the Centre Think Tank Director that they wish to end their membership of the network, then the Centre Think Tank will:

- Remove your profile from our website.
- Remove all of your personal data from our website, excluding any payments that were made to us and have been added to our "yearly" or "How we are funded" page. These will remain publicly visible on our website as a permanent record. This will be done within ten days.

If, by a vote of the Centre Think Tank team, we ask you to leave your position in the team, we will notify you of this within three days. The Centre Think Tank will then follow all of the steps set out in the "leaving as a member of the team" section.

Entrepreneurs and business leaders

Our entrepreneurs and business leaders include business leaders, experts, entrepreneurs, and founders. Their role includes:

- Supporting the work our business network does, including advising the Centre Think Tank on topical events and activities.
- Working with us on events including as speakers or Chair events.
- Advising us more widely on issues around economic growth and the challenges facing large, medium, and small businesses.

Part four

Other information



Ending your membership of the network

If a member wishes to end their membership of the network, they may do so at any point.

As a result, we will:

- Remove your profile from our website.
- Remove all of your personal data, excluding any payments that were made to us and have been added to our "yearly" or "How we are funded" page. These will remain publicly visible on our website as a permanent record.
- We will return your payment if you request a refund within 30 days of your original payment. This will be done within ten days.

If requested within 14 days of payment we can also refund payments no questions asked.

If, by a vote of the Centre Think Tank team, we ask to end your membership, then we will return the money you originally paid to become a partner within ten working days.

Find out more

- Network page on our website: <https://centrethinktank.co.uk/business-network/>
- X: <https://x.com/CentreThinkTank>
- BlueSky: <https://bsky.app/profile/centrethinktank.co.uk>
- Podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/in-conversation/id1621895901>
- TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@centrethinktank>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjr98fBdipEd6CGvKoemwYg>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/70878554/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CentreThinkTank>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/centrethinktank/?hl=en> Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/show/7DbH3AZwJOBXEAFgdgGEOz>

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