

## 25 examples of Warwick being delivered .....

1. The Success at Work DTI strategy paper made a clear commitment to end the practice by some employers of counting the 8 Bank Holidays against the entitlement to four weeks statutory leave.
2. The government has committed to restoring the link between the basic state pension and average earnings
3. The Pensions White Paper also pledged to compel employers to contribute a minimum 3% of employees' wages across a defined salary band, provided the employee chooses to pay into the scheme.
4. The Government has made enormous progress on increasing family friendly rights
5. The Government is committed to legislating on corporate manslaughter – a draft Bill is in progress.
6. The two-tier workforce protection already existing in local government has been rolled out to the wider public sector.
7. The Treasury has reformed PFI credits through the new Value for Money appraisal guidance to ensure equality of funding for local authorities between PFI and conventional procurement.
8. Warwick committed the government to the Public Services Forum continuing to engage unions in workforce development.
9. Warwick committed the Government to reviewing NHS cleaning contracts on their expiry to ensure that they have due regard to quality of outcome as well as the price.
10. Warwick committed the Government to increasing training for NHS Staff. So far, £60million of funding has been announced for Health Care Assistants training.
11. The Government has given a firm commitment to work in partnership with modern trade unions and to help them grow through the union modernisation fund.
12. Protection from dismissal for strikers was raised from 8 weeks to 12 weeks in April 2005.
13. A major roll-out of childcare schemes has taken place.
14. The Women and Work Commission's February 2006 report "Shaping a fairer future" points the way to closing the gender pay gap with practical ideas including £20million in government funding to raise skill levels.
15. The DTI strategy paper announced a review, reporting within a year, to examine ways in which the role of union representatives should be adapted to the modern workplace and their contribution maximised.

16. The injustice to women and carers in the unreformed pensions system will be addressed, allowing more women to retire on a full basic state pension.
17. The Labour Government has honoured its commitment to equalise pension arrangements for same sex partners in the Civil Partnerships Act 2004.
18. The Government established the Financial Assistance Scheme to help some of the people who have lost their occupational pensions because their employer became insolvent.
19. The Government has taken the power to move to at least half of trustees being made up of members of the fund in the Pensions Act 2004.
20. In the 2004 Comprehensive Spending Review, £1 billion of extra spending on science was allocated, £178 million was made available for the Technology Strategy to 2007/08 and additional funding of £6million a year for the Manufacturing Advisory Service was announced.
21. At Warwick, the Government committed to review, and enhance where necessary, investment funds for support of manufacturing to ensure that manufacturers are given every opportunity to set up and to continue manufacturing in Britain and to ensure that the UK is not disadvantaged compared to other European countries.
22. The Government is committed to a strong skills agenda. So far, the "Skills White Paper" released in February 2005 announced the proposals for a massive expansion of apprenticeships, the rolling out of Employer Training Pilots to help employees gain qualifications up to NVQ level 2, a trebling in the number of Union Learning Representatives to 22,000 and Skill Sector Agreements to tackle sectors underperforming on skills.
23. The Government has ensured that all Regional Development Agencies are implementing plans to deliver the national Manufacturing Strategy in their regions, backed by increased funding and greater flexibilities.
24. At Warwick, the Government committed to giving support to an EU review of procurement policy.
25. The Government is supporting the commercial success of a publicly-owned Royal Mail by allowing it to invest in the modernisation of its businesses.

**Clearly these are headline points – but if you would like more detailed briefings on any of them please ring Laura's office 0n 526005**

## It is only a Labour Government that delivers for working people.

Since 1997 the Labour Government has made a sea-change in the levels of rights of working people.

Employment rates are at a record high with over 2 million jobs created since 1997.

- The National Minimum Wage
- Tax Credits
- The 10p income tax band
- The rights to paid holidays
- The right to time off for domestic emergencies
- The right to request flexible working hours
- Improved maternity pay

All these measures are helping to make work pay for millions of people across the UK. and are helping those people to create a better work-life balance.

The delivery of the Warwick agreement represents a continuation of that process.

### Labour Party Chair, Hazel Blears, said:

*“We are making good progress on the Warwick Agreement. Since becoming Chair I have ensured that the Government mechanisms for delivering Warwick are functioning and that we are focused on the issues that matter.”*

*“There are still some difficult issues to discuss and details that need to be finalised but we will deliver Warwick in its entirety over the course of this Parliament.”*

*“But the Warwick agreement is not some arcane process. Rather it is about transforming the lives of working people – improving the services they use, improving their working environment and ensuring they have adequate pension provision.”*



# Delivery of the Warwick Agreement

## Improvements in working rights, pensions, public services and manufacturing



**The ‘Warwick Agreement’ was the final report of Labour’s National Policy Forum in July 2004, subsequently endorsed by the Labour Party’s Annual Conference in September 2004.**

**That Agreement formed the basis of the May 2005 General Election Manifesto – a programme for four years of Labour Government. It included a range of measures from pensions reform to the Energy Review; from the increase in diversity of provision in public services to the introduction of ID cards.**

**This leaflet highlights some of the areas where the government has made progress on those commitments in the first year since the General Election and re-election of a Labour Government.**