

POLICY FOCUS

HOW THE BNP'S PROTECTIONISM WOULD COST YOU £3,300

KEY POINTS

Britain's GDP down by 8%
Incomes down by £2,000 pp
£1,300 extra in taxes

Up to 8 million people losing their jobs
Prices of manufactured goods sky-rocket
Long waiting lists for foreign goods

WHAT ARE BNP POLICIES?

The BNP believe that globalisation is responsible for the decline of British industry. They support protectionist **economic nationalism** whereby Britain would retreat from the world. Companies in Britain would be owned by Britons, employing only British workers. There'd be a new **supertax** on outsourcing and a series of **tariffs and quotas** to protect British manufacturing. The BNP believes that Britain should close down the City and media industries and go back to its manufacturing roots with British workers returning to the sort of secure and well-paid jobs in factories they had in the 1950s.

WHY ARE THE BNP WRONG?

With the **rise of the internet, decreased transport costs and increased automation**, manufacturing has never been more competitive nor more globalised. Take the iPhone, the hottest product of the last decade – components from over thirty countries, designed by a British man working in California. Globalisation means that **prices keep falling**, and households have **more choice** than ever. Without it, we'd be back to Sinclair Spectrums and Rovers rather than iMacs and Priuses. Increased efficiency frees up workers to focus on the **industries of the future** where British has a competitive advantage as an English-speaking, creative country: services, media, and new green technologies.

THE CONSEQUENCES FOR HOUSEHOLDS

Prices skyrocket. BNP tariffs would increase prices of manufactured goods like flat screen TVs, hybrid cars and kitchen appliances. The average person in Britain would be **£1,300 worse off**. This would hit hard-working families hardest.

Waiting lists for vital products. BNP quotas would limit the number of imports. There'd be long waiting lists for the gadgets, medicines and appliances.

Jobs lost. UK manufacturing has dropped from 40% of employment (the 1960s) to 13%. Turning back the clock on the economy would require **8 million workers** to move jobs, creating unemployment, dislocation and misery for Britain's workers.

Households poorer. Isolated countries are worse off by at least 8% of GDP. Their economies grow slower, their industries are less efficient and their goods more expensive. A drop in UK GDP today of 8% would **make every person in the country £2,000 worse off**.

