

Government must publish their post-Brexit strategy to protect jobs in the finance sector – McDonnell

John McDonnell MP, Labour's Shadow Chancellor, commenting on reports that 100,000 jobs in the City of London are at risk due to the failure of the Tories' Brexit negotiations, said:

"This threat to 100,000 jobs was all too predictable given the Tories' extreme approach to the Brexit negotiations. This is yet another major concern facing our country since Theresa May triggered Article 50, and yet Tory ministers appear stunned and unprepared when obvious issues arise.

"We need to know immediately from the Government what its strategy is to protect jobs in the finance sector, because all we have witnessed so far is silent bewilderment.

"Labour will fight for a Brexit that works for everyone, unlike the hard right Tory elite who want a low-wage, tax-haven bargain basement economy. Our six tests, including preserving existing benefits of membership, must be met before Labour will support any Brexit deal."

Ends

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Green Party

4 April 2017

Keith Taylor MEP: “Green MEPs were instrumental in securing an inquiry into the emissions fraud scandal on behalf of European citizens who have twice been the victims of Dieselgate”

Responding to the [vote on the findings of the Dieselgate inquiry](#), Keith Taylor, Green MEP for the South East and a member of both the European Parliament’s Environment and Transport committees, said:

“Greens were instrumental in securing an inquiry into the emissions fraud scandal on behalf of European citizens who have twice been the victims of Dieselgate; through their exposure to toxic fumes and the complete contempt for their consumer rights. Today’s vote is both a vindication and an important step forward in taking an EU-wide approach to ensuring that a similar scandal can never be allowed to happen again. It’s a reminder that Dieselgate was a problem of too little Europe, not too much.”

“The report adopted today by MEPs will help break the cosy relationship between national authorities, car manufacturers, and the technical bodies in charge of the testing. The legislation also contains welcome steps towards greater transparency, with the Commission required to make public when it questions the non-compliance of a vehicle, giving consumers a better understanding of emerging problems.”

“UK Conservative MEPs were the biggest opponents of the Dieselgate report and were responsible for watering down its findings, which excoriate their friends in the car industry. That and the UK Government’s promise of a bonfire of regulations offers British citizens an alarming insight into what kind of (lack of) protections we might look forward to outside of the EU.”

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Relationship support will not replace social security support stripped from struggling families – Cunningham

Alex Cunningham MP, Shadow Work and Pensions Minister, commented on the Government's plan to fund relationship support for unemployed families, said:

“Stronger relationships can help families to escape poverty, but the support announced today is a tiny response to funding the work that needs to be done to tackle rising inequality, child and pensioner poverty figures.

“All the evidence suggests that income is a central factor in poverty and inequality.

“Relationship support will not replace the social security support stripped from struggling families under seven years of failed Tory austerity.”

Ends