

[Chris Williamson response to the Home Office's statement on adding fire and rescue inspections to HMIC's responsibilities](#)

Chris

Williamson MP, Labour's Shadow Minister for Fire and Emergency Services,
commenting on

the Home Office's statement on adding fire and rescue inspections to HMIC's responsibilities, said:

"After

an unclear Home Office statement, Ministers must tell the public exactly what extra resources, staff and expertise will actually be provided.

"If

today's statement is really a cloak for cuts to existing fire and rescue inspectors, and over-stretching the inspectors of the police services, it will

be strongly opposed. The police and the fire service both need expert and thorough inspection, and the public will be right to demand that they have it.

Labour will oppose any cuts to the inspection regimes under the guise of efficiency and savings."