

If Government really cared about disabled people they would end austerity now – Abrahams

Debbie Abrahams MP, Labour's Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary, commenting on the Government's plans for disabled people, said:

"The Tories' cuts to social security support are pushing more and more disabled people into poverty. Last week's Budget failed to do anything for disabled people even though the recent Equality and Human Rights Commission report showed a disabled adult is over £2,000 a year worse off since 2010. Even the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities condemned this Government for causing a 'human catastrophe' in their failure to uphold the rights of disabled people.

"This 'plan' from the Government looks like nothing more than a guise for more cuts. The Tories have already hit disabled people who are not fit for work but who may be in the future in the Work Related Activity Group. I hope they are not going to now target the most disabled people in the support group, as their Green Paper hinted at.

"At the 2015 General Election, the Tories promised to halve the disability employment gap. Since then they have dropped this commitment.

"If this Government really cared about disabled people they would end austerity now which is disproportionately impacting upon disabled people and reform and extend Access to Work for those disabled people who are able to work."