

# If these allegations are true, British taxpayers will be rightly outraged – Osamor

**Kate Osamor MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for International Development**, commenting on allegations that the British aid budget has contributed towards human rights violations and terrorist groups in Syria, to be aired tonight following a six month Panorama investigation, said:

"Spent properly, Britain's aid budget achieves incredible results and we must not shy away from working in conflict-affected countries. But if these allegations are true, British taxpayers will be rightly outraged.

"We need to understand how the Foreign and Commonwealth Office allowed this to happen, and why their mechanisms for properly managing aid projects failed. The opaque Conflict, Stability and Security Fund that financed this project also operates in 70 other countries – many with questionable human rights records.

"This investigation is likely to be only the tip of the iceberg: the Government must now open up its books so the public can understand the true extent of the problem."