

Only a Labour government will fully protect the independence of DFID and its world-class expertise and leadership – Kate Osamor

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Osamor MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for International Development, commenting on the release of the National Audit Office report into aid spending, said:

"We should be proud that British aid is transforming millions of lives and working to make the world more peaceful and secure. This watchdog report shows that DFID has become a world leader in preventing fraud and managing aid effectively and transparently. But under this divided Conservative government, Ministers are fighting each other for control of the aid budget.

"This report highlights how the ever-increasing proportion of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) now being spent by other government departments isn't subject to the proper scrutiny or effective management that we know the Department for International Development (DFID) brings. The Conservative government needs to quickly make sure all aid spending by all departments meets key transparency criteria and is subject to scrutiny by Parliament's International Development Committee."

"Only a Labour government will fully protect the independence of DFID and its world-class expertise and leadership. We will keep to our commitment of spending 0.7% of national income, and ensure that we spend that we do so responsibly and effectively."