

# The Government has conceded the need to protect rights in response to Tom Watson's landmark legal challenge but must go further

Amber

Rudd has today proposed changes to the new Investigatory Powers Act in response

to successful legal claim brought by Tom Watson MP but Government proposals do not

go far enough and only partially comply with this landmark judgment. Martha Spurrier, Director of Liberty, has described the proposals as "window dressing"

which does not provide the robust action needed.

**Tom**

**Watson MP, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, said:**

"The

current legislation fails to protect people's fundamental rights or respect the

rule of law. That's what my legal challenge proved, and I'm glad Amber Rudd is

making significant concessions today. But I will be asking the court to go further,

because today's proposals from the Home Office are still flawed.

"Ministers

aren't above the law – they don't get to pick and choose which rights violations they address and they can't haggle with the courts to avoid properly

protecting people's freedom. All of the fundamental safeguards demanded by the

court must now be implemented."