

Today's figures show the Government's debt still rising, seven years after the Tories started their austerity agenda – Peter Dowd

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Dowd MP, Labour's Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, commenting on today's ONS public sector finance figures, said:

"Today's figures show the Government's debt still rising, seven years after the Tories started their austerity agenda, and two years after they said they would balance the books.

"It's clear that their slash and burn approach to public spending has not only given us a crisis in NHS and social care but also failed as an approach to reducing Government debt.

"Labour's Fiscal Credibility Rule gives us a firm commitment to addressing the public finances while investing in our economy for the future as part of our programme to rebuild and transform Britain."