

# Today's High Court decision is a further demonstration of the failure of this government's austerity agenda – Jeremy Corbyn and Debbie Abrahams

**Jeremy Corbyn MP,**

**Leader of the Labour Party,** commenting on today's High Court judgement that the Benefit

Cap unlawfully discriminates against single parents with children aged two or under, said:

"Today's High Court decision is a further demonstration of the failure of this government's austerity agenda. It is failing in its own terms, it's failing our communities, and it's failing the most vulnerable in our country – including the victims of domestic violence and those facing homelessness.

"Labour has stood against the benefit cap, its discrimination against parents with children and the government's cruel austerity programme.

"Our Shadow Foreign Secretary, Emily Thornberry MP, tabled an amendment to the Benefit Cap legislation to exclude families with children under two from the cap when it came before parliament.

"The Government should have listened to Labour then, but I am pleased the High Court has listened to these courageous campaigners now.

"The Prime Minister should accept the High Court's judgement and end this discrimination against parents and children."

**Debbie Abrahams MP,**

**Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary,** commenting on the judgement, said:

"I welcome the court's decision on the Benefit Cap today, and commend the brave campaigners who took this case against the Government on behalf of the 17,000 families affected.

"This is another damaging blow to the Government's failing austerity agenda. While many families have struggled to make ends meet, this Government has given hand-outs to some of the richest in our society.

"The social security

system should be there for us all in our time of need.

“For too long this Government has pushed children into poverty, as punishment for their parent’s circumstances.

“I therefore welcome the High Court’s judgement that this policy is unlawful, which marks another blow in their failing austerity agenda.

“Labour will transform the social security system so that, like the NHS, it is there for us all in our time of need.”