

## Labour call on Tories to guarantee police numbers – Diane Abbott

Ahead of the publication of the 2017/18 provisional Police Grant Report, Labour calls on Government to guarantee no further workforce reductions for the coming year.

**Diane Abbott MP, Shadow Home Secretary**, commenting on the provisional Police Grant report, said:

“The Tories’ reckless cuts to policing have left the service at breaking point. We have seen a growing chorus of senior figures in policing warn that the current funding settlement is simply not enough to meet the growing demands they face.

“Yet ministers continue to insist that police have the resources they need, and to claim they have protected funding. If the Conservatives truly believe what they are saying then they should have no problem guaranteeing workforce numbers over the coming year.

“Labour in Government will invest in community safety by recruiting 10,000 extra neighbourhood officers and ensure forces have the resources they need.”

Ends

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## This is an extreme and unacceptable executive bonus payment while home-buyers struggle – John Healey

Responding to the resignation of the chair of housebuilder Persimmon following a reported £100m remuneration package for the chief executive, Labour’s Shadow Secretary of State for Housing, John Healey MP said:

“This is an extreme and unacceptable executive bonus payment while home-

buyers struggle with high housing costs.

"Since 2010 the Conservatives' have outsourced responsibility for building the homes Britain needs to big developers which has inflated profits and reduced the number of new affordable homes.

"Labour would make continuation of Help to Buy conditional on a tough new government deal with the housebuilders, including on executive pay."

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## [Nobody wants to see Uber replacing local bus services except Chris Grayling – Andy McDonald](#)

Andy McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Transport Secretary, responding to comments made by Chris Grayling about bus services being replaced by services like Uber, said:

"For many people, especially the young and the elderly, those living in rural areas and those who do not own a car, bus services are a lifeline.

"But rather than addressing the buses crisis, Chris Grayling's solution is to say let them take taxis.

"This is a dim-witted approach from an out of touch Transport Secretary who hasn't lifted a finger to stop bus routes being withdrawn and funding for buses being slashed.

"Nobody wants to see Uber replacing local bus services except Chris Grayling."

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## [Theresa May must put country before party in Brexit talks – Jeremy Corbyn](#)

**Jeremy**

**Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour Party**, responding to confirmation that Brexit talks can now move onto the second phase, said:

"It is

welcome that the European Council has at last agreed to move to the crucial second stage of the Brexit negotiations.

“However, this should have happened months ago. The truth is that the Government’s chaotic handling of the Brexit talks has hindered progress, fuelled uncertainty and risked economic damage.

“Theresa May must learn from her mistakes, put the needs of the country before her party and prioritise negotiating a future relationship with the European Union that puts jobs and the economy first.”

Ends

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## [For too long the UK steel industry has been neglected by this Government – Gill Furniss](#)

**Gill Furniss, Shadow Steel Minister**, commenting on the publication of the Government’s study into the ‘Future Capacities and Capabilities of the UK Steel Industry’, said:

“For too long the UK steel industry has been neglected by this Government. Their Industrial Strategy merely paid lip service to industry whilst failing to provide any tangible solutions or to respond to the Steel Sector Deal proposal. The opportunities outlined in today’s report can only be harnessed with full Government backing and support.

“Labour will create a level playing field for the UK steel industry so it can compete globally and take full advantage of the opportunities on offer”.