

Arbitrary cap on the number of children the Government will support is not only cruel, but is bad policy – Debbie Abrahams

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Abrahams MP, Labour's Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary, commenting on the Government's two child limit on tax credits, said:

"An arbitrary cap on the number of children that the Government will support is not only cruel, but is bad policy.

As 90 per cent of lone parents are female, it is a further example of how these six years of wasted austerity have been borne on the backs of low income mothers.

"Of equal concern is the lack of detail surrounding the so-called 'rape clause'. Should the burden of proof be placed upon survivors of rape by the Department for Work and Pensions, this would constitute a wholly unacceptable extension of the Department's remit into deeply sensitive areas of women's lives.

"People would be right to feel little confidence in the Government's competence when approaching this highly sensitive issue. More so when viewed in the context of the punitive DWP culture fostered by this government.

"The sum of these deeply concerning questions, which hang over the policy as a whole, suggests that the only solution can be to scrap this policy once and for all. I urge the Prime Minister to do so before it takes effect."

Ends