

## These disappointing proposals fall far short of what is needed – Healey

### **Labour's Shadow**

**Secretary of State for Housing John Healey MP**, responding to the government's announcement on renting, said:

"These disappointing proposals fall far short of what is needed.

"Government figures show that affordable housebuilding has fallen to the lowest level in 24 years, with the number of homes being built for social rent now at the lowest level since records began.

"Ministers continue to do next to nothing to help people who rent from a private landlord and have consistently blocked Labour's attempts to change the law to control costs and give renters security.

"Ministers even voted down Labour's efforts to ensure that private rented homes were simply fit for human habitation.

"After seven years of failure on housing, renters deserve better than this."

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## Privatised rail has left us with a fragmented and inefficient network that drives up costs and under delivers – McDonald

**Andy McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Transport**, commenting on a report by the Commons Transport Select Committee, said:

"Privatised rail has left us with a fragmented and inefficient network that drives up costs and under delivers.

"A railway works best as an integrated network but privatisation and franchising have meant breaking it up to create opportunities for companies to extract a profit, resulting in costly inefficiencies. For

example, hundreds of people are employed full time on the railway to argue about which company is responsible for delays.

“It’s not just that money which should be used to improve services or keep fares down is syphoned off or wasted, we have a confusing fare structure and services are disjointed and difficult to use for passengers.

“The current system is broken. It is time for our railways to be run under public ownership, in the public interest as an integrated national asset with affordable fares for all and long-term investment in the railway network.”

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## Weekly Road Report – West End Ward



DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL – WEEKLY ROAD REPORT

**REPORT FOR WEST END WARD WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2017**

Blackness Road/Glamis Road – temporary traffic lights for one week for gas main renewal.

City Road (at Pitfour Street) – temporary traffic lights for one week from Wednesday 1 February for Hydro Electric cable fault.

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## Top procuratorate vows to get tougher with economic crimes

China’s Supreme People’s Procuratorate (SPP) has promised severe punishments for economic crimes that affect interests of lots of people, including illegally absorbing public deposits and fundraising fraud.

It also urged procuratorates to give more priority to the prevention of financial risks, cracking down on crimes such as money laundering and

underground banking, and take an active part in Internet financial risk management, according to an SPP statement.

The SPP also pledged to strengthen work against manipulation and insider trading in securities and futures markets, and in supervision of property markets.

High-profile cases of financial crimes have been reported in China in the past years, including the illegal fund-raising activity of Ezubao and the case of Xu Xiang, general manager of a Shanghai-based investment company indicted for allegedly manipulating the securities market.

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## **304 department-level officials receive disciplinary punishments in 2016**

In 2016, 304 department-level officials from central government bodies received disciplinary punishment, according to disciplinary authorities.

Among the 304 officials, 126 were punished for violating the “eight-point” guidelines against bureaucracy and extravagance, according to a work conference on disciplinary work of central government bodies.

In 2016, discipline inspection authorities dealt with over 22,500 tip-offs concerning disciplinary violations of central state agencies’ officials, four times that of the previous year.