

Green Party MPs seek to amend King's Speech to include measures to tackle the cost-of-living, climate change and inequality

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Hannah Spencer MP said:

My Green colleagues and I are so incredibly disappointed in this King's Speech, but it's not a surprise. In the wake of a devastating set of local election results for the Labour Party, the Prime Minister and the government should have used this opportunity to lay out an urgent, transformative, progressive programme to redistribute wealth, tackle the nature and climate crisis and make life affordable for everyone.

My Green colleagues and I will seek to amend the government's plans to include the urgent action needed to bring down people's bills – rent controls, nationalising water, freezing energy prices, and taxing wealth. We need to see these measures despite the Labour Party's drama, and even if there's a different Prime Minister this time tomorrow!

I'm disappointed that instead of using this opportunity to get behind the Green Party's demands, the government has laid out more of the same fiddling around the edges. There's some positive movement on democratic reform and EU alignment, but also worrying double-downs on airport expansion and their cruel, unworkable immigration policy.

I was elected to give a voice to a politics that represents everyone. This is the first King's Speech I have been in Parliament to hear, and I haven't heard anywhere near enough to make meaningful changes to people's lives. It's a missed opportunity, it's disappointing, and it's out of touch. The people of this country deserve so much more.

The amendment will include:

- Freezing energy prices in July to stop them going up by over £300
- New powers to control rents
- Funding for councils to buy existing homes from private landlords
- Water utilities to be brought back into public ownership
- Free bus passes for under 22s
- Universal free school meals
- Further measures to tax fossil fuel companies and the extreme wealth of billionaires and multimillionaires

ENDS

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