<u>Green Party responds to end of free</u> <u>covid testing</u>



31 March 2022

As the Government ends free covid testing from 1 April, Green Party deputy leader Amelia Womack said:

"The pandemic is not over and ending free testing will both hit the poorest hardest and prolong the impact of covid. The introduction of charges is penalising people for being responsible and will disincetivise people from testing.

"This move will also harm key workers who need to test regularly for their jobs, and will hinder the collection of data of the number of cases.

"Fundamentally, the introduction of charges is a further attack on the principles of free healthcare in this country.

"It is shameful that this Government, which has wasted billions on dodgy contracts to ministers' mates during the pandemic, is now once again making ordinary people bear the brunt of the financial cost of covid."

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