

It is crucial that there is effective judicial oversight of the security services' access to encrypted messages – Abbott

Diane Abbott MP, Labour's Shadow Home Secretary, speaking in response to the controversy over encrypted messages in the wake of the terrorist attack at Westminster, said:

"Labour opposes an open access trawl of all messaging. Good counter-terrorism measures are nearly always intelligence led.

"In the cases of suspects or perpetrators of serious crime or terrorism, it is crucial that there is effective judicial oversight of the security services' access to encrypted messages.

"Amber Rudd will be keen to set out exactly how the Government will ensure that law-abiding citizens' privacy is not breached.

"Fighting terrorism is a serious business, and should not be used for political grandstanding."