

## [Sue Hayman response to Ford's scrappage scheme announcement](#)

**Sue**

**Hayman MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,**

responding to Ford's scrappage scheme announcement, said:

"This is welcome news from Ford who are to be congratulated for their initiative and innovation with this scheme.

"Not only do schemes like these help to tackle the air pollution crisis in the UK, they also help to boost the car industry and our economy.

"However, action from individual manufacturers won't make up for a lack of leadership from the Government on air quality.

"With nearly 40 million people living in areas with illegal levels of air pollution, a joined up, strategic approach across the country is urgently needed."

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## [The Government are publishing bland, non-committal papers as a smokescreen – Keir Starmer](#)

**Keir Starmer MP, Labour's Shadow**

**Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union,** commenting on the Government's

latest Brexit policy papers, said:

"These papers come months after the EU published their plans and offer precious little new information or concrete proposals.

"It is increasingly clear that the Government are publishing bland, non-committal papers as a smokescreen to mask

their failure to make any meaningful progress on phase one's core negotiating issues – including citizens' rights.

“Instead of preparing the ground for failure, the Government should focus on reaching an early agreement to the first stage of talks and make an early commitment to establish strong transitional arrangements.”

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## [It doesn't take a genius to work out the Tories are wrecking the NHS – Madders](#)

**Justin**

**Madders MP, Shadow Minister for Health,**

responding to comments made by Stephen Hawking on the NHS, said:

“It

doesn't take a genius to work out the Tories are wrecking the NHS. Professor Hawking has given us answers to many of the universe's most challenging questions and even he can't work out why Jeremy Hunt is still in his job.”

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## [After seven years of failure, Conservative Ministers have no plan to fix the housing crisis – Healey](#)

**John**

**Healey MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Housing,** responding to Resolution

Foundation research showing an increase in the number of second home-owners, said:

“While

a growing number of people are now second home owners, the prospect of buying a first home remains a distant dream for many young people and families on ordinary incomes. The number of home-owning households rose by a million

under

Labour but has fallen by almost 200,000 since 2010, with the biggest fall amongst young people and families aged under 45.

"After

seven years of failure, Conservative Ministers have no plan to fix the housing

crisis. The number of affordable homes to buy and rent has fallen to the lowest

level in 24 years as Ministers have cut back housing investment.

"A Labour

government will build 100,000 discounted FirstBuy Homes targeted at first-time

buyers on ordinary incomes and give councils the power to put local people first in line for new homes built in their area and build 100,000 new council and housing association homes per year by the end of the Parliament, so the housing market works for the many not just the few."

Ends

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## [Khalid Mahmood statement on terrorist attack in Barcelona](#)

**Khalid**

**Mahmood MP, Labour's Shadow Europe Minister**, responding to the terrorist attack in Barcelona, said:

"Our

thoughts are with all those killed and injured in the cowardly attack on Las Ramblas in Barcelona.

"It

bears all the hallmarks of similar atrocities we have seen in other cities, from Nice to London, attempting to divide our communities and change our way of

life.

"But

in that aim, it will never succeed: instead, it will strengthen our solidarity,

stiffen our resolve, and leave the perpetrators of hatred and terror more isolated than ever."